

Rebellious unbelief - hardness of the heart

Mark 16:14 (NLT)

Still later he appeared to the eleven disciples as they were eating together. He rebuked them for their stubborn unbelief because they refused to believe those who had seen him after he had been raised from the dead (a)

Footnotes:

- a. 16:14 Some early manuscripts add: And they excused themselves, saying, "This age of lawlessness and unbelief is under Satan, who does not permit God's truth and power to conquer the evil [unclean] spirits. Therefore, reveal your justice now." This is what they said to Christ. And Christ replied to them, "The period of years of Satan's power has been fulfilled, but other dreadful things will happen soon. And I was handed over to death for those who have sinned, so that they may return to the truth and sin no more, and so they may inherit the spiritual, incorruptible, and righteous glory in heaven."

Mark 16:14 (NKJV)

New King James Version (NKJV)

Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen.

1 Samuel 15:23

23 Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft, and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols. So because you have rejected the command of the Lord, he has rejected you as king."

The Title

What do we mean by "Rebellious Unbelief"? We mean unbelief which is caused by deliberately refusing to believe. This is usually caused by hardness in the heart of that person. In it the outmost in haughtiness!

To illustrate the point, let's imagine a haughty Englishman in the Philippines. He decides to be rebellious and drive on the left side of

the road, as in his home country. A Filipino friend advise him, most strongly, that this would be very unwise and dangerous!

However he decides to be stubborn and persists with his foolish idea of driving on the wrong side of the road. Even he KNOWS this is extremely bad and can end with a disaster. So, we can see that haughtiness has two components; rebelliousness and stubbornness. And he will of course be in for a BIG fall. He will most surely crash and probably die.

Mind you we could have a called it "stubborn unbelief", but just chose this as the most appropriate.

Foreword

An enormous number of books have already been written about faith. Attempts to describe and to explain faith and belief have been made from A to Z. Actually, there is little to be said about belief and faith. These are already perfectly described in Hebrew 11, and elsewhere. Unfortunately, many misleading books have been written about faith.

Many people claim that they believe or have faith. But in fact what they have is merely a fleshy, feint hope. Also, many have tried to say that doubt is not the opposite of faith, explaining that this is unbelief. This, of course is wrong, because doubt and unbelief are two sides of the same coin. And that coin is produced by Satan.

Furthermore, today's teaching is that unbelief is to be pitied as a kind of sickness. And that lack of faith is a normal thing to have, even if you call yourself a "born again". This is the most pitted fault there is; not to treat unbelief and rebuke it, like Jesus does. Moreover, there is the big lie that doubt is a part of our faith. We shall address all these lies in this book.

In the last book written in Norwegian – "Hovmod" (Haughtiness) we address some of these issues. Some of these chapters will be translated and put in this book, where they belong as the Holy Spirit dictates.

Let us start by quoting a man of God led by the Spirit;

"Today (in the congregation) unbelief is treated as a "sickness" that ought to be pitied instead of being confronted as the sin that it is".

Unbelief is mentioned in the bible as "The Sin". It goes hand in hand with haughtiness and it has to be confronted, which indeed we will do

in this book. We will confront all those pastors who think they can twist the Scripture with no consequences and all those leaders and elders who do this deliberately. We will correct the congregation in their mistaken understanding and we will furthermore preach a simple, pure, full and true Gospel.

There are today mainly three (among many) kinds of false teachings which tend to spore atheistic churches, which pop up like mushrooms after the rain. This is so called "hyper grace" – the false grace gospel, witch walks hand in hand with the "once saved always saved" (OSAS), or "eternal safety" if you like. And the other is known as the "prosperity gospel". First and foremost, we should probably be mentioning the false doctrine of the Catholic Church. Then on top of these there are all the sects and cults.

They are all false, and those who preach them have accursed themselves and can expect a big fall. Many of those who have "bought into it" are confused and are lukewarm and they all have to repent.

As with "Hovmod" (Haughtiness), this book is not for the faint hearted. It is going to confront you big time, and hopefully make you want to repent. This is what Jesus calls "agape love" – divine love. It is not a loving attitude if you tell someone who is walking the highway to Hell that he is OK. That is cowardly and hateful to the Truth.

There will be many times in this book you will read; "If you believe, you obey" and it also follows that "if you don't obey you don't believe"

It will be mentioned so many times that you will probably get pretty tired of it. But before finishing the book you will give your heart and your will to the Lord. Or you will quit reading and continue to be disobedient, full of your own pride and rebellious unbelief.

Another comment you will hear often in this book is: "To go out and preach is a commandment, not a suggestion!"

Hell will one day be full of people to claim they believe in God.

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." (Underline added)

Mat 7:22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' (Underline added)

Mat 7:23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

All of these will claim they believe. But as the teaching of Jesus continues; He declares that it is those who do the will of the Father who will go to Heaven.

That means that those who choose NOT to do the will of the Father, purposely being disobedient, will not go there.

As I mention in the foreword of "Hovmod" (Haughtiness), it is of course not all the time pleasant to focus on the negative about being a Christian and being one who is constantly confronting and angle into the text in the Scripture to allow the negative side of the believer come to light. I believe on the other hand that it is time for books like this to appear more and more on the market, as the time is more and more imminent for the return of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Therefore, the reader has to bear over or be patient in a way that we can "overdo" sometimes. It can be too much. Our advice when that happens is to put the book aside, but not forget about it. Start reading again when the Holy Spirit reminds you. Bear over with us also if we should make the error of having belief that is negative or even wrong. After all, it is good if we are wrong when we address unbelief and haughtiness in the church.

When you are in Spiritual, emotional and even physical pain, when some of the members on the Body are in pain, you know what this means. What the Body needs today is the voice of all this who feel this pain. So many are controlled to be silent! So many have the teaching of "don't rock the boat"! So many have wrongly been thought to not oppose the leaders no matter what! So many are sitting idle when the ship is obviously going to hit an iceberg and sink!

So our hope is that you as a "churchgoer" will raise your voice after reading this book and first take the plank out of your own eye, and then remove the speck in your brother's eye. Then unison confronts the leaders and pastors in the church about their unbelief and haughtiness. **That you pastors and leaders, elders and what ever you call yourself, will be humble enough to admit your unbelief and haughtiness, repent and start to preach a pure Gospel and doctrine. Full of Faith and Truth!**

John 3:36 (KJV)

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 3:18 (KJV)

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

The fact is that the church is in a prophetic state of rebellious unbelief and haughtiness. It might be wrong to even say this about the Church where Jesus is the Head. But if the Church is the Body and the Body is those who believe, as the Scripture say, the born again, the obedient assembly of men of woman of God, then it is time to realize what we are facing approx. 2 billion (2000 million) people who think they are on the way to heaven but roam around on the highway to Hell.

John ends the Gospel of Jesus Christ this way:

But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. John 20:31 (KJV)

It seems to us that the Bible is crystal-clear about the fact that faith and belief come from hearing (or reading) the Word of God. It can't be many sound doctrines and preachers or evangelists, nor many who study their Bible.

We hope this book will open your eyes to your rebellious unbelief and harden of heart that comes from haughtiness and, by that, you will start to ask the Lord of the gift of discernment of spirits and then again also start to really, really STUDY your Bible.

Note:

Most of the time we will try to use New Living Translation. (NLT) It is our opinion that we should more or less stick to that version throughout the book, but it is also our experience that this translation can be too "contemporary" in its way to be helpful in the way to explain the readers of the church today. Some time we think that to get it "contemporary" have been done of the cost of it full meaning in concept of the original manuscripts. Like when the rhymes get more important that the meaning and some important truth might get lost.

We feel free to use other translations in these issues but will try to stick to NKJV in these cases. Of course, to really underline and emphasise sometimes we might use Amplified or something like that.

Samal Island/Oslo, May 2019, Kjell Sørsdal

Index

The Title	1
Foreword.....	2
Index.....	7
Chapter 1 - Who is not full of unbelief and pride?	8
Chapter 2 - The Letter to the Hebrews	10
Hebrew Chapter One	11
Chapter 3 - Hebrew two to nine	12
Hebrew Chapter two:.....	13
Hebrew Chapter three.....	14
Hebrew Chapter four and five	17
Hebrews Chapter six.....	20
Hebrew chapter seven to nine.....	31
Chapter 4 – Hebrews ten to thirteen	34
Hebrew chapter ten	34
Hebrew chapter eleven	39
Hebrew chapter twelve	43
Hebrew chapter thirteen	45
Chapter 5 - “The Sinner’s Prayer”	48
Chapter 6 - The letter from James.....	62
Chapter 7 – The Catastrophe	72
Chapter 8 – First letter from Peter	77
1. Peter 1.....	78
1. Peter 2.....	81
Chapter 9 – Prophetic Warning in the End Time.....	83
Chapter 10 - Second letter from Peter	94
Chapter 11 – The Letters from John and Jude	95
Revelation	103
Revelation chapter one to three	103
Revelation 17 and 18.....	112
The last warnings	114
Some few examples The four Gospels about Jesus	116
According to Matthew	116
Beatitudes.....	119
References alphabetic:.....	126
A – Prophecy by Stanley Frodsham (1882-1969).....	126
B - The Narrow Path by Frank Mangs (1897-1994)	131

Chapter 1 - Who is not full of unbelief and pride?

Let's just admit it and get it over with. With faith, genuine Faith, as a mustard seed, we can move mountains.

Matthew 17:19-20

19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?"

20 So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; [a] for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.(underlining added)

Footnotes:

- a) NU-Text reads *little faith*.

Not many do move mountains or even dare to pray for the sick in case "nothing happens". Furthermore, we don't even have faith enough to move anything except a few crumbs onto the collection plate. And if we give more, it's because of love of money, since we hope to get even more back. We claim to have faith for this, and faith for that, but our own actions give us away as cowards.

We could go further and further into this, but already by now the reader will probably have to admit that real, genuine faith is not found everywhere. Let me just give you Hebrew 11 because we are going to study the whole letter. It is about faith, and is the reason for this book, and the way the Holy Spirit revealed a lot to me one day, when I was reading it. The revelation was about unbelief in the body. As "Hovmod" was about haughtiness in the body.

These short verses also urged me to write this book.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Heb. 11:1

Hebrews 11:1

11 Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Heb.11:6

Hebrews 11:6

6 And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

Faith is a gift from God and it must be put into use by believing in what Jesus did on the cross, and that He rose again from the dead.

You cannot produce faith, but faith comes from hearing, and hearing the Word of God, Jesus.

With unbelief, on the other hand, we can produce as much of it as we like. It is the easiest thing in the world. It starts with not admitting that we are proud and arrogant and have haughtiness in our life in so many ways. Pride comes before a fall and the worst fall is not believing or unbelief if you prefer.

1 Peter 2:7-8

7 Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, [a]

*"The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone," [b]*

8 and

*"A stone of stumbling
And a rock of offence." [c]*

They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

Footnotes:

- a. 1 Peter 2:7 NU-Texts reads *to those who disbelieve*.
- b. 1 Peter 2:7 Psalm 118:22
- c. 1 Peter 2:8 Isaiah 8:14

Disobedience is equal to unbelief. Conversely, obedience is equal to belief. That is why obedience goes together with faith and belief, but unbelief goes hand-in-hand with doubt, disobedience, pride, arrogance and haughtiness.

The first sign of faith in a believer's life should be that we recognize Fear of the Lord. Even if we pray for the sick, cast out demons or do miracles, this is not absolute proof of true or saving belief (Matthew 7:21- 23). As we know, many of those who do this will be denied access to the Kingdom, because of rebellious unbelief.

Proverbs 1:7

*7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,
But fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

Fools are unbelievers.

In the next chapter we will start to study Hebrew. It will come to pass that we will understand the basis of the need of faith, not only for ministry, but to survive in these recent times. The false teaching and the wolves clothed in sheep's skins are taking over and all we shall have left very soon is atheistic "mega churches" without any Word of God.

Let us just sum up with one of the most important teachings of the Lord;

7John 16:7-11

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

So, we shall start talking about rebellious unbelief, hardening of hearts, disobedience, doubt and pride, arrogance and haughtiness. As we see, it is not to believe which is the sin, the errors that come from that are also sin, but will be avoided if we could believe and obey.

We will talk about this because we want to be sure that you are willing to repent and start to go down the Narrow Path to the Narrow Gate instead of roaming around on the highway to Hell. We want the reader to understand that faith comes from hearing and hearing the Word of God. And then unbelief or lack of faith or little faith, if you like it more, comes from NOT hearing the Word of God.

Also, to understand that if we claim to believe and that we hear and do not obey, we become worse than an unbeliever and gentile. Figure it out for yourself; what is worse? To know the truth but don't care or don't know the truth and don't care.

Chapter 2 - The Letter to the Hebrews

This is a special letter. All the letters in the Bible are special of course. But it is not to be "hidden in a corner" that the Letter to the Hebrews is very important. It was written to Hebrews who had a hard time

getting the message, and to really believe that God has given all power in Heaven and earth to Jesus.

To believe that Jesus is God, the Son and that He has deity along with the Father was hard for those under the Law given through Moses by angels. We must understand this.

Today also in many sects and "churches" the main problem is believing in the deity of Christ. Soon there will be very, very few who even teach this. Because in the end, and perhaps quite soon, there will be not the name of Jesus who will disappear, or to say correctly; people will try to make it disappear, but it will be His deity they will preach against. This is needed to make way for anti-Christ who will proclaim himself messiah.

Remember; Paul was a killer of Christians before he was converted. Paul experienced the greatest miracle of all and got born again. In three days, he changed from someone who hated Jesus to someone who loved Him by giving his life. When he was running around torturing Christians into denying their faith, he thought that he was doing God a favour. He could swear that he was working for God Almighty. He had been sitting as a pupil at the feet of Gamaliel, the famous Rabbi at that time, every day for years, probably from age 12 to 30. He could probably quote most of the five books of Moses by heart and sing most of the Psalms by heart.

Even though he was suffering from pure confusion and ignorance, his heart was right. All his wisdom learned over about 20 years, he later described as garbage compare to the knowledge he had now, which was given by the Holy Spirit about the secrets of God and the miraculous work of being born again into God's family, made possible by the Sacrifice of Jesus and His rising from death.

We confidently assume that most of the readers of this book will not be a rabbi or a devoted Jew who are still ignorant of Jesus. So therefore, we will study only those chapters that make a statement about faith and unbelief to enlighten us about these.

The rest, which is about the fact that Jesus is greater than the angels, greater than Moses, greater than Melchizedec and so on, we will assume this as already understood. If you are in doubt about these things, I recommend you pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal chapters two to ten to you. I will also touch on this chapter, but only the part that deals with unbelief and faith.

Hebrew Chapter One

JESUS is the one through whom God speaks.

JESUS (and we together with Him if we believe as the Scripture say) will inherit the Kingdom and all things.

JESUS was there when God created the universe.

JESUS radiates God's Glory

JESUS expresses the character and image of God

JESUS sustains all things by the mighty power of His command

JESUS cleans us from sin

JESUS is seated at the right hand of God

JESUS is born of God the Father

JESUS was brought into this world by God

JESUS is called God by the Father

JESUS' Throne endures forever

JESUS rules with a sceptre of justice

JESUS loves justice and hates evil

JESUS is anointed by the Father

JESUS laid the foundations of the world at the beginning of time.

JESUS made the heavens with His hands

JESUS will remain forever

JESUS will fold up and discard the heaven and the earth

These are just a few things the Bible says about our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

There can be no doubt about what the Scriptures say about Jesus. All this and more are repeated in the rest of the Scriptures.

Chapter 3 - Hebrew two to nine

In the next chapters in the Hebrew letter we will find many interesting things regarding unbelief. Before we go any further let us just agree that Israel in the Old Covenant (OC) is the Congregation in

the New Covenant (NC). The chosen people of God are Israelites and those who believe in Jesus and the work of Jesus. Actually, the OC people have to understand that they also have to be under NC and believe, to enter the Kingdom. Everybody must be Born Again.

We also must agree that the descendants of Abraham, who have the promise, are all those who believe as the Scriptures say. We will later share and go deeper into the study of this, but in a later chapter.

Also, there is the fact that the Author of the letter makes a great effort to remind the readers about what happened so long ago in the desert for forty years. Because of rebellious unbelief, hardening of their hearts and disobedience, they were not allowed to enter the Promised Land, or into the rest which God had promised them.

Hebrew Chapter two:

It states clearly that we must listen very carefully to this truth. And then the Holy Spirit comes with a warning: if you don't you will drift away:

Hebrews 2:1-4

Do Not Neglect Salvation

2 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

We also are reminded that the message given by angels, which is first and foremost the Mosaic Law, but also other messages, was of such radical importance that it was severely punished if not followed.

Stephen refers to this in his speech to the Sanhedrin:

Acts 7:51-60

Israel Resists the Holy Spirit

51 "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you. 52 Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, 53 who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it."

Stephen the Martyr

54 When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. 55 But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, 56 and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; 58 and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

(Underlining added)

There was a difference in the reaction of Mary and Zacharias when they got their messages delivered by angels. Mary believed, but Zacharias did not. Therefore, he was punished by being made dumb until the circumcision of John. Not that others didn't listen and got away with it, and had unbelief and got away with it, but he was the high priest and was supposed to be a believer.

In the whole Scripture there is rebuking and punishment to the death for hearing and not obeying. Just as Moses was not allowed into the Promised Land because of disobedience, so the whole congregation who walked out of Egypt at that time was in denial expect Caleb and Joshua and died in the desert.

So, there is no way anyone will escape punishment for neglecting the grace of God, or even worse, deliberately sinning and claiming grace in an attempt to cover up the sin. The punishment might not come before the Judgement Seat of Christ Jesus, which would be even worse.

Hebrew Chapter three

7 That is why the Holy Spirit says,

*"Today when you hear his voice,
8 don't harden your hearts
as Israel did when they rebelled,
when they tested me in the wilderness.*

9 There your ancestors tested and tried my patience,

*even though they saw my miracles for forty years.
10 So I was angry with them, and I said,
'Their hearts always turn away from me.
They refuse to do what I tell them.'
11 So in my anger I took an oath:
'They will never enter my place of rest.'"[a]*

*12 Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters.[b] Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. 13 You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. 14 For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ. 15 Remember what it says:
"Today when you hear his voice,
don't harden your hearts
as Israel did when they rebelled."[c]*

16 And who was it who rebelled against God, even though they heard his voice? Wasn't it the people Moses led out of Egypt? 17 And who made God angry for forty years? Wasn't it the people who sinned, whose corpses lay in the wilderness? 18 And to whom was God speaking when he took an oath that they would never enter his rest? Wasn't it the people who disobeyed him? 19 So we see that because of their unbelief they were not able to enter his rest.

Footnotes:

- a. 3:7-11 Ps 95:7-11.
- b. 3:12 Greek *brothers*.
- c. 3:15 Ps 95:7-8

There is no difference today under NC. It is just that Jesus came with grace and truth, and the punishment is postponed. The punishment for those who are rebellious and have unbelief will be the same. They will not enter. In fact, it is worse today since people keep on sinning until they stand in front of The Judgement Seat of Jesus and then it is way too late to do something about it.

Furthermore, what is stated here under is one of the most explained away verses in the whole Scripture.

Hebrews 6

4 For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, 5 who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come—

6 and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame.

Hebrews 10

26 Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. 27 There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies. 28 For anyone who refused to obey the law of Moses was put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit who brings God's mercy to us.

And again:

Hebrews 2

2 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

So, as we can read, it was because of unbelief and disobedience that they the OC did not enter. It is this rebellious unbelief and disobedience which makes God swear that they will not come into His rest. How much more do you think you will not enter if, knowing this, you continue to sin, to disobey and to have all this doubt and unbelief in your life?

The reason you have doubt and unbelief in your life is because you don't hear the Word of God. And even if you do hear it, you harden your heart against the truth and refuse to repent and obey.

Every day we should warn each other about this terrible thing called unbelief. It is evil and it will make us totally unfaithful and absolutely not to endure to the end. Furthermore, we have to be sure we are awaiting the Lord's return every day. We have to turn back to our first love. We have to believe as we did when we were newborn, if indeed

we ever were newborn. That is often the problem for people who have not really converted. They have not been born again.

One problem that can occur in connection to the doctrine of eternal safety; many are actually never born again. They pray a "prayer of salvation" or "the sinner's prayer", if you like, and think they have a free ticket to Heaven, because they are deceived by those "easy come" pastors who only have in their heart and mind agendas other than people's salvation.

It's as if people think they are on their way to Heaven because they use the phrase "God bless you" once every second week. They "go to church", meaning they visit the church building, once a month and claim to be born again. They have never witnessed even for a single person and are actually ashamed of the Gospel. How can such a person "survive" in front of the Judgement Seat when Jesus comes to deal with sin? The Scripture tells us; NO CHANCE AT ALL!

We hope and pray that they are never born again in the first place so that they don't come under the judgement of the Holy Spirit on a count of blasphemy. There is no possibility for forgiveness any more. And I am quite sure that they never have been born again. It is my hope and belief that there is still a possibility for repentance. The problem, on the other hand, is this:

They have been taught a false Gospel and they have, because of their lust and desires, "bought" into that. If you "buy" false things you will become confused. Confusion will nearly always lead to a lukewarm attitude and there is no room for repentance in lukewarmth, because you think you are OK. Or, even worse, you are full of self-righteousness in the first place so you think don't need a saviour, since you are good.

All of the above attitudes lead away from the narrow path, and keep you going further and further onto the Broadway that leads to destruction. So why don't we just admit it: we need to repent and get out of it. Check your life; do you have fruit? And if so; will it last?

We will use a later chapter to give you the text of a booklet. It is called "Let's reason". It is a good checklist for all of us.....dare I say even for me!

Hebrew Chapter four and five

Hebrews 4:1-2

Promised Rest for God's People

4 God's promise of entering his rest still stands, so we ought to tremble with fear that some of you might fail to experience it. 2 For this good news—that God has prepared this rest—has been announced to us just as it was to them. But it did them no good because they didn't share the faith of those who listened to God.[a]

Footnotes:

4:2 Some manuscripts read: they didn't combine what they heard with faith.

Hebrews 5:8-9

8 Even though Jesus was God's Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. 9 In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him.

How many times do we need to hear this? And still we probably will not believe it because we are so very stubborn.

1 Samuel 15:22-23

22 But Samuel replied,

*"What is more pleasing to the Lord:
your burnt offerings and sacrifices
or your obedience to his voice?"*

*Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice,
and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.*

23 *Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft,
and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols.*

*So because you have rejected the command of the Lord,
he has rejected you as king."*

We all know the story. That is because we all have studied the Word of God.

The message from the Lord through the prophet was very clear. Kill and destroy everything! As it was when Israel should conquer the land. But because of rebellious unbelief, self-righteousness and haughtiness, they got some of their own ideas in their heads, placed there by satan. They, on the other hand, thought it was from the Lord. Even King Saul replied to the prophet; "I HAVE SINNED", when he understood his disobedience. But at first, he thought; "I have obeyed"

The fact is that he was afraid of his own people. No one can serve the Lord without the Fear of the Lord. If you have plenty of Fear for the

Lord, you will not need to fear other people or the devil. Even satan believes in God more than many, and trembles in fear.

So, we need to tremble with fear because of the terrible fact that eternal Hell awaits those who refuse to obey and those who refuse to listen. We need to combine what we hear with our actions. If we do this, our faith is proven.

Even Jesus learned obedience. Mind you, He learned much of this from the things He suffered. It is because of this that there is Salvation at hand for those who believe and obey. He becomes qualified as our Saviour because of that obedience at the cross. Remember, it was not on the cross where He won the victory as a man. It was in the garden of Gethsemane. Mind you, Jesus has been victorious from before the creation of the world. He created that fallen angel Lucifer, now Satan. And he personally kicked him out of heaven. He never had to conquer him as God the Son.

And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou [wilt]. Matt 26:39 (KJV)

Three times he prayed this. And after that he gave his life. That is why the Scripture say:

Col 2:15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

My Norwegian Bible says; "showed Himself victorious".

Why do we even mention this? Because we must address false teaching wherever we find it. There is, after all, throughout most churches the false "concept" that "Jesus conquered satan on the cross". Well, were Jesus 100 % man and 100 % God when He was walking this planet He created, but that "concept" is not to be taken lightly. It is not to be understood as so many other things, it is to be believed and acted on in faith and obedience.

When Jesus came to John to be baptised in water, John refused and said, it is I who need to be baptised by you. After all Jesus is the One Who baptises in the Holy Spirit and Fire. But as a Jewish man He needed to be baptised. Jesus was Man when He was tempted by satan in the desert. The Scriptures say; God cannot be tempted. At that time it was Jesus the Man who was tempted.

When Jesus was transfigured he showed Himself as God the Son.

And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. Matt 17:2

Likewise, after His death and rising, He absolutely was God the Son 100%

We can also do all His miracles if we have faith, because He says; even greater than this I do you will do. That is to bringing people into eternal life by the process of harvest and regeneration. There is no greater miracle than one born again. That is why we are told not to marvel about it. We will never really understand it. But when He performed His miracles I will say it was in a combination of God the Son and God the Man, Son of Man, Son of God.

But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house. Matt 9:6 (KJV)

It is only God who can forgive sin. So what Jesus says here is a mystery for many.

Oh, how I pray that many shipwrecked believers in many disastrous conditions will be saved from this terrible "brain faith". To believe is just to decide to act in faith because you don't understand. If you understand, you don't have to believe. A hope that you see is not any hope at all. And faith is after all confidence in the fulfilment of what we hope for.

God qualified Jesus as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him. For all those obey Him. Obey Him. But doesn't the Scripture say, "for all that believed?" Yes exactly. It is the same. To obey is to believe, to believe is to obey!

Hebrews Chapter six

Heb 6

1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

2 of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

3 And this we will do if God permits.

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit,

5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.

7 For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God;

8 but if it bears thorns and briers, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.

9 But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.

10 For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,

12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

These are a few verses from the Scriptures that have been preached very seldom. It's because we don't like it. Yes, let's just be honest. We don't like it. It is too hard.

Let's split it up into three small chapters because there is something extra important we need to address. But first let's make a summary of the end of five and the beginning of six:

It should not be necessary to repeat the elementary principles, basic doctrine teachings and going over and over "Sunday school teaching" about Christ Jesus with you again. You should have gone on to perfection and more mature understanding by now and not be in need of the fundamental teaching again. Such as; it is impossible to be saved by doing "good" and we have to stop doing evil things.

There should be no need of explaining over and over that we have to place our faith in God. The elementary basics concerning the doctrine of baptism in water and Spirit you should know by now. Furthermore, everything about laying of hands, resurrection from the dead and eternal judgment. Because by know you should have become teachers, but instead you need these instructions again, the basic doctrine, because you are like babes, in need of milk. You are not able to digest proper food.

(Heb 6:1-3 and Heb 5:12)

This is sadly the condition of the church today.

Verses 1 to 3

This is the foundation or the principle or whatever we want to call them. They need to be lumped together, because we cannot have one without the others.

Let us list the basics:

- Repentance from dead works (not to be legalistic or think you can work yourself into heaven).
- Faith in God (We need faith to please God, derived from Fear of God, and vice versa).
- The doctrine of baptism (water baptism and Spirit baptism)
- The doctrine of laying on of hands (as in receiving Spirit baptism and receiving healing)
- Resurrection of the dead (as if it is not incredible that God raises the dead)
- Eternal judgment (The doctrine of Hell and the Judgement Seat of Christ)

Here, we will give you both translations again to make it easier to understand.

Hebrews 6:1-12

1 So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely we don't need to start again with the fundamental importance of repenting from evil deeds[a] and placing our faith in God. 2 You don't need further instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. 3 And so, God willing, we will move forward to further understanding.

4 For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of

heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, 5 who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— 6 and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame.

7 When the ground soaks up the falling rain and bears a good crop for the farmer, it has God's blessing. 8 But if a field bears thorns and thistles, it is useless. The farmer will soon condemn that field and burn it.

9 Dear friends, even though we are talking this way, we really don't believe it applies to you. We are confident that you are meant for better things, things that come with salvation. 10 For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other believers,^[b] as you still do. 11 Our great desire is that you will keep on loving others as long as life lasts, in order to make certain that what you hope for will come true. 12 Then you will not become spiritually dull and indifferent. Instead, you will follow the example of those who are going to inherit God's promises because of their faith and endurance.

Footnotes:

6:1 Greek from dead works.

6:10 Greek for God's holy people.

The fact is that today the Gospel as preached in most places, is so watered down and so misleading that we need to re-lay this foundation, as well as achieve unity on this. Because if we don't we cannot go further. If the foundation is not there, then all that we do will be wrong, since it is based on a false foundation.

Likewise, we need to take a stand to resist the new false doctrine about Ecumenism. Ecumenism has gone so far that it has turn into "Chrislam" and the so called "Kings Way". In translated chapters from the book "Haughtiness" we will address this. We need to stress this because it is indeed haughtiness, but also it represents a large lack of faith and belief.

Sadly, there is no unity in the above basic in the "world church" today. Only in the Philippines are there more than 40 denominations and of course on top of that the Catholic Church. (They refuse to be called a denomination so let them be called by their right name; Rome. And mind you Rome is still Rome ...)

Today we do not believe it is possible to agree upon this, so we have made up the big excuse; Ecumenical. This is a statement where we admit that we don't believe it is possible for believers to agree upon the basic, to have a true foundation. We have left the principles, but not to grow further, but to fall.

What a totally disobedient failure. What a crack in the fabric of belief. What a disastrous lack of faith. The Holy Spirit is deeply grieved. Jesus is puking out the lukewarm unbelievers, and God will exercise hard correction on the nations who understand the importance of foundation (and there are many who have based their constitution on the foundation), but they purposely have ignored it for their own desires, in order to have unity on a false basis. Put simply, it is a compromise.

That brings us to the rest of the quoted verses. Let us just pray in unity that it is not too late. Let us pray that it is not gone too far. Let us pray that there is still room for repentance. May God have mercy on us in the name of Jesus.

It is just a fact that God does not permit us to leave these basic and go further. We must go back to them. We must agree upon it. Also, this will be specified in a chapter taken from the book "Haughtiness"

We have left the *elementary principles of Christ* and are now preaching another gospel. It is a dangerous situation. We have left the basic and gone *on to perfection*, we think. But the fact is that we must go back to the foundation again

Because we have gone further without agreeing upon the basics, most of the churches are now in confusion. This is always the result when we do something like this; preaching and teaching falsely. It is most evil, and it has to stop. Jesus is coming soon, and He will not put up with this evil any more.

Jas 3:16 *For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.*

Either you will be cleansed from all rebellious unbelief, self-righteousness, haughtiness and arrogance, or you will be left behind. There is no alternative.

Verses 4 to 8

Here we will address the BIG question; can we lose salvation?

The case is; can we give it away? Or sell, like Esau:

Heb 12

12 Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees,

13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

16 lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright.

17 For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears. (underline added)

The promise is that no one can take away the hope of salvation, the certainty for what we believe, our faith, the new birth. We must remember that "saved into Heaven" is a concept which belongs to a time AFTER the Judgement Seat of Jesus Christ our Judge. Meanwhile we are saved out of this world or rather we should be, but we aren't because of unbelief. In the same way we must have faith in the idea that the promises are for those who believe as the Scriptures dictate, and that those people will not come under judgment.

But we can give it away. We have free will. God did not create us as robots. Robots are not in His likeness and in His image. To be in His likeness and image there must be free will. If we had no free will how can we sin? A lot of what is happening and what we do is not the will of God. God hates divorce and we divorce all the time, even more than once. It is impossible to be created in God's likeness without free will. That is the substance of God, the Will.

Those who preach the false election doctrine of John Calvin – predestination – have forgotten one thing when they claim that "The will of the Lord will happen in everything no matter what." They have forgotten that it is the Will of the Lord that we shall have free will.

It's as simple as that!

If we don't believe this, there is a great unbelief in our faith. Because what we believe is, if we buy this false doctrine, that He Who has the Power to write you into the Book of Life doesn't have the Power to

take you out of the Book. That is not only unbelief and haughtiness, but also blasphemy.

We have to address this, so we can be humble enough even to admit that it might be that everything is predestined. Who cares? BUT we cannot preach that, because of many things;

- Nobody knows for sure (let us be humble about that)
- It leads to no agreement in six the basics mentioned above
- It opens the concept of the eternal safety doctrine, OSAS – once saved always saved.
- It stops people from being obedient to the call of becoming a disciple and preaching the Gospel.
- It brings a lot of fear and confusion into the body of Christ
- And most of all, we want everybody to be sure they don't preach another Gospel, a false gospel.

So, when we address the Calvinistic, it is in order to stop people from preaching it. If you have this understanding, which we believe is wrong, keep it to yourself. We believe you have lack of faith.

It is not only Hebrew chapter 6 and 10 and more that warn about giving away our hope for salvation, our certainty. It is the whole Scripture.

David as a prophet and a man after the heart of God asked Jesus to take his enemies out of the book of life.

Psa 69:28

Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, And not be written with the righteous.

Everybody is written in the Book of Life from their birth, even before their birth. How can children be destined for Heaven when they die if they are not? It is only those written in the Book who go there.

Psa 139:16

Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

Moses and even God Himself say this:

Exo 32:32

Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.”

Exo 32:33

And the LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.

Furthermore Jesus say this:

Rev 3:5

He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

When He says I will, it is with the "if" and that again with an "I will do if NOT".

We will not give more than a few more references on this. If you are still full of doubt and unbelief about this, there is little hope anyway!

Again; it is pure blasphemy and rebellious unbelief if anybody thinks that He Who has the Power to write you in does not have the Power to blot you out.

We want to give you this story from Luke:

In Luke 9 we can read that Jesus sent out the twelve disciples, two by two. Judas Iscariot was going around doing good; preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, casting out demons and raising the dead together with another disciple. I wonder who?

Anyway, after that the Lord sent out seventy more:

Luke 10:1 After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

When they came back there where 82 disciples altogether who heard these words:

Luke 10

18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.20 Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the

spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.” (underline added)

Judas heard these words. He was asked to rejoice because His name was written in Heaven. You can say; well he was “elected” or “predestined” to be the traitor. Yes and I will say, still his name was in the book from birth and before. Still God wants everybody to be saved. Everybody still means everybody.

Why do we stress this and also the story in Luke 15 which follows? Because we want you to humble yourself and admit together with us that it is not all we understand. Like it says in the Scripture;

1Cor 13

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

10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (underline added)

Because we have to leave this sad unbelief that is;, we think we have to understand everything. There is no faith needed if you understand all. You don't have to believe in something you already see.

The bottom line in this will be; Don't preach “once saved always saved”, Don't pray a salvation prayer (a sinner's prayer) with anybody

Don't say to someone “you are saved”

Don't tell anybody that you will see them in Heaven.

Don't agree with all these pastors who claim at every funeral that the dead and all present will see one another in Heaven.

Don't say “go to Hell”

Don't even say “I AM SAVED”

The “Prodigal son” (or lost son, as some headlines say, which again probably will be the oldest since he was the one ending up not going in)

We all know the story. Even unbelievers know the story. Even Muslims and Hindu know the story. It has been told in hundred variants and preached in even more. Everybody likes to find their "own" revelation in this and many do. I think it can be read millions of times and every time you will find something new. Hopefully there will be something new here also.

First of all, it is about haughtiness and unbelief. Secondly it is about much more than one son. Thirdly there are one or two serious warnings here.

The youngest son left for a reason. The reason we shall probably find in the last part when we understand about an unforgiving and unbelieving older brother. How many have left the congregation because of that? How many are pushed into backsliding. How many dies in their pig pit? How many lives because of haughty, unbelieving, disobedient and unforgiving "believers" are lost for Eternity?

If they don't repent, this who practice this unforgiving haughtiness, they will end up outside.

So, the youngest son had faith in asking for his inheritance. I can tell you that it is a miracle that he got that. There is not such a thing in those days when the parable happened. But again, the Father is of course the Almighty in the parable, so He let the youngest have his will. We don't have free will? Come on! Be reasonable!

The young man was so tired of the unfriendly elder brother that he dared his father to give him the inheritance, so he could clear off as far away as possible from his unforgiving brother.

I am just going to ask you. What would have happened if he has not repented and walked back? I will give you the answer. He would have died in that pig pit. But he knew his father and even the mocking he probably would get from his brother didn't hold him back. But he didn't have faith for being accepted again. Only as a servant, he thought he could get back.

But where there is repentance there is forgiveness: And trust and forgetting. We know what happened. A big party, but probably without the self-righteous, unbelieving brother. Hopefully he repented also and knocked the door before it was too late. Or he might be the lost son.

The young one gave away his salvation or inheritance and got it back. The older one tried in a wrong way to keep it and probably lost it, or we have to say gave it away because of pride.

Verses 9 to 12

The writer warn drastically even he doesn't think they will fall out their hope for salvation. But even in these closing words, when the writer is convinced that they have been working and will continue to work on their salvation, he makes a statement that;

Our great desire is that you will keep on loving others as long as life lasts, in order to make certain that what you hope for will come true.

Then you will not become spiritually dull and indifferent. Instead, you will follow the example of those who are going to inherit God's promises because of their faith and endurance.

It is clear that you need faith and endurance to inherit the promises. It is so easy to become spiritually dull and indifferent. In other words; keep on loving your neighbour the rest of your life so, your hopes can come true.

Therefore, many will fall away in the last days when love will grow cold among many. Jesus is talking about the congregation!

1Ti 4

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

3 forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

Mat 24

9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.

11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. (underline added)

And many, many other places the Scriptures say likewise.

But for those who don't believe the above, that it is possible to give away your inheritance and become an unbeliever, they will never

believe that anyway so why give more references? For those who need more. Look it up yourself.

Jesus specifically says:

Mat 24:24

For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

Mat 22:14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

There is of course some who are specifically chosen for specific tasks and are elected. But that has nothing to do with the doctrine of election. That doctrine declares that all are elected who will one day inherit. OK so why write this book? So why even read the Bible. Why bother to preach the Gospel. There is nothing more to do. All is predestined. Unbelief we call such a "belief".

Hebrew chapter seven to nine

7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.

8 Because finding fault with them, he says: "behold, the days are coming, says the lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—

9 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in my covenant, and I disregarded them, says the lord.

10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the lord: I will put my laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their god, and they shall be my people.

11 None of them shall teach his neighbour, and none his brother, saying, 'know the lord,' for all shall know me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.

12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

13 In that he says, "a new covenant," he has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. Heb. 8

What we like to stress in this famous saying here is that if you are not under the law, that is the law of the new covenant, which of course includes things like the Ten Commandments, you are not born again. You don't believe.

These famous chapters here should always be put up and connected with another famous chapter or verse and teaching in the bible;

Rom 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

This verse in the Roman is used together with

Eph. 2: 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Even the words in brackets are used standing alone (part of verse 5) to teach that we are saved by grace ALONE. Just to make it clear; grace doesn't save anybody. Furthermore, it has gone so far that since we are under the grace and not under the law it is legalistic to do any work at all.

Even if you preach the gospel you are told that, yes you do that, I don't have a calling for that. It is the piteous depths of rebellious unbelief to have such a teaching and understanding.

All the writer of all these letters is trying telling us is that we cannot work ourselves into Heaven by being good and doing good deeds. Faith on the other hand produces good deeds and that is why James can write;

Jas 2:20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead.

And he repeated himself (like so often Jesus does)

Jas 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

A foolish man is one who don't believe or refuse to believe in God. That is why Jesus says:

Mat 5:22 But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Luk 12:20 But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

So yes, we are under the law, we have to work, and we have to have good deed. If not, you don't believe. But we are not under the more than 600 regulations in Judaism. But most people are under the Law; you shall not murder, lie, steal, make adultery, not covet, and you shall be nice to mama and papa. There is not many who will not say amen to that. But you don't need to be circumcised to be born again! And when you are born again the Law is written on your hearth by Jesus Christ.

Later we shall address through a chapter from the book "Haughtiness" what the bible means when it talks about believing and believing as the Scriptures say. Right now, we give you another verse of the Bible which is together with the one in Gal. 2 most misused:

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Standing alone, as so very, very often this is misused.

We must teach the whole chapter (3) as well as the next chapter (4) to make "sense". How many claims to believe and then claim that they are on the way to Heaven? Or even more if they die tomorrow they proclaim boldly they will end up in Heaven? And they are living in sin, but claim to believe.

Next time you hear someone proclaim boldly that he or she is not under the law but under grace you should ask them what they mean. They will look strangely upon you, but I can assure you they will have a problem

with explaining. It is just become a "phrase" in the Christian language.

Chapter 4 – Hebrews ten to thirteen

Hebrew chapter ten

We have come a long way already in studying the letter to the Hebrew. More than ten thousand words we have shared. The last four chapters are talking a lot about faith and obedience. Let start with the end of:

Hebrews 10:36-39

36 Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.

*37 "For in just a little while,
the Coming One will come and not delay.*

38 And my righteous ones will live by faith.[a]

But I will take no pleasure in anyone who turns away."[b]

39 But we are not like those who turn away from God to their own destruction. We are the faithful ones, whose souls will be saved.

Footnotes:

- a. 10:38 Or my righteous ones will live by their faithfulness; Greek reads my righteous one will live by faith.
- b. 10:37-38 Hab 2:3-4.

It is *after* we have done the will of God we will receive the promise. Some believe that first God shall deliver the promises and after that we will obey Him as a reward to God for giving us what we want. It is so many prayers in difficult situations who start with "Oh Lord, get me out of this misery and I will do whatever you ask of me". What a joke. Yes, let's call a lie for a lie and a joke for joke.

You cannot give any reward to God. You can give your life for Christ, but not as a reward. He will reward you big time on the other hand if you do that. So as verse 38 state; the just shall live by Faith. In other words; those who believe as the Scripture say, because it our faith that makes us righteous and our justification comes from that.

When God say; "my soul has no pleasure in him" it is those who don't believe He is speaking about. And since He is talking about the church the writer further state that we are not about those who don't believe and are domed for destruction (this word is NLT). So, there are after all a lot of people in church who claim to believe, but not really believe.

That is why we most of the time when we talk about belief add the sentence; "as the Scripture say". That is also when we read the end

of chapter ten should continue and make it clear what it means to believe or have faith if you like.

Many places in the Scripture we break up our reading and study after a Chapter. This chapters and verses are after my opinion not always at the best when it comes to make a break or a new chapter if you like. That is, if you stop after a chapter when the chapter really continue in the same story and teaching.

A good example of that will be i.e. Corinthians 12-14. Some use 12 only when it comes to concerning the spiritual gifts. The failed to read 13 who describes a better way and better gifts and to read 14 which describes the use of some spiritual gifts.

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

This statement will be repeated sometimes in this book. Just to make sure that we will not compromise on the meaning. I should be read just after these verses in Hebrew 10 of course. Just so we will be reminded of what faith really is.

We will come back to this after we have gone through the rest of chapter ten. That is the part which deals with the core of the unbelief.

Hebrews 10:19-31

A Call to Persevere

19 And so, dear brothers and sisters,[a] we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. 20 By his death,[b] Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. 21 And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, 22 let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. 24 Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. 25 And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

26 Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. 27 There is only the terrible expectation of

God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies. 28 For anyone who refused to obey the law of Moses was put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit who brings God's mercy to us. 30 For we know the one who said,

"I will take revenge.

I will pay them back."^[c]

He also said,

"The Lord will judge his own people."^[d]

31 It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Footnotes:

- a. 10:19 Greek *brothers*.
- b. 10:20 Greek *Through his flesh*.
- c. 10:30a Deut 32:35.
- d. 10:30b Deut 32:36.

Some of these verses have we used earlier in reference for unbelief. Let's go more into the core of them. I posted some of this at Facebook here the other day and one notorious OSAS come up with the following statement. (The verses were from 26 -27.) He said that all sinning we do is deliberately, so he wondered what these verses might mean. (All sin is not deliberately of course ...)

I can tell you what they mean. Exactly what they say! We forget that God is righteous and so are Jesus and the Holy Spirit. They All Three deal with sin. Always! Constantly!

Let us remind you about some few stories:

Numbers 25:6-13

6 Just then one of the Israelite men brought a Midianite woman into his tent, right before the eyes of Moses and all the people, as everyone was weeping at the entrance of the Tabernacle.^[a] 7 When Phinehas son of Eleazar and grandson of Aaron the priest saw this, he jumped up and left the assembly. He took a spear⁸ and rushed after the man into his tent. Phinehas thrust the spear all the way through the man's body and into the woman's stomach. So the plague against the Israelites was stopped, 9 but not before 24,000 people had died.

10 Then the Lord said to Moses, 11 "Phinehas son of Eleazar and grandson of Aaron the priest has turned my anger away from the Israelites by being as zealous among them as I was. So I stopped destroying all Israel as I had intended to do in my zealous

anger. 12 Now tell him that I am making my special covenant of peace with him. 13 In this covenant, I give him and his descendants a permanent right to the priesthood, for in his zeal for me, his God, he purified the people of Israel, making them right with me.[b]"

Footnotes:

- a. 25:6 Hebrew the Tent of Meeting.
- b. 25:13 Or he made atonement for the people of Israel.

You see how much it pleases the Lord when someone deals with sin.

Likewise, it is in the new covenanting:

Acts 5 is extraordinary proof how Jesus is pleased when we deal with sin, an especially The Sin; totally unbelief and blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. Peter makes a correct approach and two rebellious unbelievers with hardened heart and more lost their life and probably their Eternal Life. We leave the last assumption and give the Lord the right to judge about that.

After this the congregation was blessed in many ways.

Acts 5:11-16

11 Great fear gripped the entire church and everyone else who heard what had happened.

12 The apostles were performing many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers were meeting regularly at the Temple in the area known as Solomon's Colonnade. 13 But no one else dared to join them, even though all the people had high regard for them. 14 Yet more and more people believed and were brought to the Lord—crowds of both men and women. 15 As a result of the apostles' work, sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that Peter's shadow might fall across some of them as he went by. 16 Crowds came from the villages around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those possessed by evil spirits, and they were all healed. (Underline added)

And of course, persecution! They were blessed with the worthiness of being persecuted for the Name. And of course, they rejoice for that. And the rest of the chapter you can read how the Lord rescue them miraculously and told them:

Acts 5:20

20 "Go to the Temple and give the people this message of life!"

And peter preached to the elders:

Acts 5:33

33 When they heard this, the high council was furious and decided to kill them.

But moreover, Jesus protected them. It is an awesome chapter. All this is because they chose to deal with sin in the right manner and the Lord got ultra-pleased with them.

Timothy was blessed and rewarded with the death of a martyr because of his rage to sin. Even it was not in the church, but it was I the New Covenant Time. According to Fox's Book of Martyrs Timothy was so annoyed about some pagan festival and celebration with false gods in the streets of Ephesus so he rebuked them powerfully and told them to repent. He was killed by the mob.

The Lord could easily have protected him, but instead he rewarded him with the death of a martyr. That is how pleased he was with that. Yes, this is the way we must think and act if we want to obey God instead of man. After all Jesus has this to say;

John 2:15-17

15 Jesus made a whip from some ropes and chased them all out of the Temple. He drove out the sheep and cattle, scattered the money changers' coins over the floor, and turned over their tables. 16 Then, going over to the people who sold doves, he told them, "Get these things out of here. Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!"

17 Then his disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: "Passion for God's house will consume me." [a]

Footnotes:

- a. 2:17 Or "Concern for God's house will be my undoing." Ps 69:9.

When we read these verses in the letter to the Hebrews it was of no surprise to them. Why should it be to us? So much so that we try to find another way to interpret them?

Again, the writer reminds the Hebrews that it is the blood of Jesus that cleanses. We must act to motivate one another to love and have good works. Furthermore, we are told not to stay out of fellowship.

It is pure unbelief and haughtiness to think that God not is going to deal with sin wherever and whenever He pleases. It was at the cost of everything, His Only Begotten Son that He dealt with it for over 2000 years ago. And he is still dealing with it today in nations and among the churches. But the final judgement is postponed. That is the grace. Thank you Jesus!

Let's round up this with something from a man of God:

From the book "Heavenly man" page 286-287 (*Yun is telling*)

Once I spoke in the West and a Christian told me, "I've been praying for years that the Communist government in China will collapse so Christians can live in freedom."

This is not what we pray! We never pray against our government or call down curses on them. Instead, we have learnt that God is in control of both our own lives and the government we live under. Isaiah prophesied about Jesus, "The government will be on his shoulders." Isaiah 9:6.

God has used China's government for His own purposes, moulding and shaping his children as he sees fit. Instead of focusing our prayers against any political system, we pray that regardless of what happens to us, we will be pleasing to God. Don't pray for the persecution to stop!

We shouldn't pray for a lighter load to carry, but a stronger back to endure! Then the world will see that God is with us, empowering us to live in a way that reflects his love and power. This is true freedom!

Hebrew chapter eleven

Hebrews 11:1

Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (NKJV)

Make no mistake, this is the faith needed to Enter. Faith is needed to Enter and here is faith described. It is in the fact that Jesus took our sin upon Himself, died and rose again and in believing that we are made righteous. We are justified when we start to obey the simple commandments that come from that, like baptism in water, and will not come under judgment.

It is because of rebellious disobedience that we drift away from this. It is no problem with disobedience if we ask forgiveness and repent from it. But when we deliberately, day by day, year after year don't humble our self and obey simple obvious commandments we will have a problem one day.

I know many will start to disagree here but ask yourself a question; based on the one statement of Jesus and come back to me after that.

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

Don't you think all of those who will bang on the door, command it to be open, will say they believe and claim to believe? I can tell you; yes, they will all claim to believe.

We need to have confidence in your hope of Salvation. So much so that we are sure that it will happen. In many things in life we don't have that. That should make us humble enough to listen, study and meditate on the Word a lot, lot more. Day and night, actually!

The Holy Spirit has placed saving Faith in everyone who is born again. But on top of that we need more faith to operate more effectively in the harvest field. We also need to check our doctrines occasionally to really check if we are not led astray. Yes, it is easy to be led astray. Even the elect could be lead astray if it was possible.

Let start:

Heb 11:3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

Few really believe that today. They believe that God needed evolution help to create this planet and the universe. They think Charles got a revelation from God on Galapagos. They think that to be created in the image of God is to have an ape as a great, great, great grandfather. Many relate to evolution. Many will be confronted in this false belief one day. Let's pray it will not be at the Judgement Seat of Christ Jesus.

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

That is the faith mention in verse one! And we will ask you a question here and now: Do you diligently, or sincerely (NLT) seek Him? If not,

how can you expect to be rewarded. Now and tomorrow and in front of the Judgment Seat?

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith. (Underline added)

How many today actually claim that it was the grace in the Eyes of the Lord who saved Noah and again us?

Gen 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

When they are confronted with that grace don't save anybody those "saved by grace alone people" they will come short of an answer, or at least should be, when we talk about even the short story of faith and Noah in Hebrew 11.

It was of course Fear of God, faith and obedience that saved the eight. If Noah hadn't acted he would have died together with the rest. Still so many today take no action what so ever and claim that the grace of the Lord will save and are saving them in the middle of the "filthy living in bed". Hell will one day be full of people who claim faith in God, belief in Jesus and grace of the Lord.

As it goes for Noah it goes for you and me. Only those who do the will of the Father will enter.

Heb 11

17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, 18 of whom it was said, "IN ISAAC YOUR SEED SHALL BE CALLED," 19 concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. (capital letter added)

Will we believe like this if we are going to be tested like this? The answer is mostly no. God knows this and we had better be humble about it. There is no doubt a parallel with the death of Christ and the testing of Abraham. But the outcome and actions are different. There was nobody there to hold back the Arm of God like He did with the arm of Abraham. When God Himself plunged the knife into the Heart of His Son, nobody but He was there. So blood was spilt and remission of sins is a possibility.

Just to make you extra humble for the continues lessens; for you who have children or rather all of you have a father – think about someone have raped your daughter and killed her. Then you forgive him and on top of that offers your only son to make him understands you mean serious business in your forgiveness. UNTINKEABLE! But God did just that. When we were still sinners he killed his son for our freedom. That is how much He wants us. That is how much He loves us. And that is how much He wants a Bride for his Son. Free from error. Make sure you are free from error when Jesus returns to get His Bride.

That Jesus died for our sins we believe quite easily. That is because it is put there by the Holy Spirit when we accept the Gospel of Jesus. And that faith delivered from God, to the most costly price there is, has to be acted on in faith. That is what people don't believe today. They don't believe that inaction is a sin. They don't believe that inaction will be dealt with some day. Because of inaction from our leaders (mostly, there are other reasons of course) the church today is in a terrible condition. Full of unbelief and haughtiness!

Moses chose to share the oppression of God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasure of sin (verse 25 NLT) – How many do that today if they are given a choice? To suffer rather than to be rich and famous?

I can tell you: they who look forward to their reward in Heaven. Only those! Mind you, even Moses was not allowed to enter the Promised Land. Only to look at it from a distance. All because of disobedience.

Moses had faith, but also a temper. That in a combination can be either good or bad. There are many examples on that in the Scriptures. To be kept humble when given a lot of faith is not very easy. To understand that not all have been given the same amount of faith. But when we obey, we will all be given enough to endure. If we keep up our obedience. If not, unbelief sets in.

In the end of chapter eleven to the Hebrews we can read about all those who kept their faith in spite of terrible conditions, trials, torture and martyrdom. It is stated that they "refuse to turn from God in order to be set free" (part of verse 35) What about us, will we stand after such a test. Yes, that is what we must believe, because it is a promise that Jesus will not test us more than we can take.

On the other hand; do we believe that? No! Because we are so quick to turn away. If we "smell" some testing or correction, we hide. It will be more of this when we enter the second last chapter written to the Hebrews.

Hebrew chapter twelve

If you don't have, and are in a fight against the flesh, it is NOT because you are Holy. Many seem to think that. They live their lives without being tested at all. They have no trials. No persecution. Nothing. They have a "Christian" life which cost nothing and is worth noting. They go in a "church" every Sunday. It seems to be ultra-blessed, together with all their friends who they never call brothers or sisters. Never make a mistake (seen from the outside). I tell you, it is NOT because they are super Holy. It is opposite.

Jesus tells us that if we want to follow Him we must pick up our cross daily. He says He will prune those who bear much fruit. He says it is impossible to follow Him without being persecuted. He says it is a constant fight with the flesh. He says further; (through the Holy Spirit and through the pen of a brother and apostle)

Hebrews 12:1-8

God's Discipline Proves His Love

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. 2 We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.[a] Because of the joy[b] awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. 3 Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people;[c] then you won't become weary and give up. 4 After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin.

5 And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children?[d] He said,

"My child,[e] don't make light of the Lord's discipline, and don't give up when he corrects you.

6 For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child."[f]**

*7 As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? **8 If God doesn't discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children at all.*** (Bold and underline added)

Footnotes:

- a. 12:2a Or Jesus, the originator and perfecter of our faith.
- b. 12:2b Or Instead of the joy.

- c. 12:3 Some manuscripts read Think of how people hurt themselves by opposing him.
- d. 12:5a Greek *sons*; also in 12:7, 8.
- e. 12:5b Greek *son*; also in 12:6, 7.
- f. 12:5-6 Prov 3:11-12 (Greek version).

It is clear; "if God doesn't correct you, you are full of unbelief and haughtiness" You are not of His children. Still we despite corrections and mind you if it comes from a brother or sister we hate it. That makes us murderers. Yes, because if you hate your brethren you are a murderer.

This is a fact. It is not preached, and it is not understood. But we are told to take a new grip, so we shall not fall. Let's do that. Let us really, really dig deep into this truth and ask God for corrections and pruning. Welcome tests and trails. Be ready to die for Christ Jesus our Lord and saviour.

And most of all:

Hebrews 12:14

14 Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.

Hebrews 12:15-16

15 Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many. 16 Make sure that no one is immoral or godless like Esau, who traded his birthright as the firstborn son for a single meal.

Look after each other. Try to look after someone today and he will scream; "don't judge me!". That is because he has so much to hide. One with nothing to hide will say; "thank you" even if it was right or wrong without any bitterness if it was wrong and with great thankfulness if it was right.

Bitterness corrupts people and is one of the worst enemies to living a proper Godly life. It even brings physical sickness to the unbeliever. Again the writer warns us not to sell or to give away our salvation. There is awesome learning and teaching in the end of this chapter which end up with the following:

Hebrews 12:29

29 For our God is a devouring fire.

Yes, He is and you had better learn these chapters by heart, so that you are never going to fall into His wrath. He still shocks the earth when He speaks.

Hebrew chapter thirteen

Heb. 13:5 *Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have ...*

We end this by sharing from the letter to the Hebrews which what we started with;

“Who is not full of unbelief and pride?”

This is because “everybody” sins against these short texts. “All” love money – more or less – and “no one” is satisfied with what they have – from time to time may be a little bit ...

We can't really believe; “... For God has said, I will never fail you. I will never abandon you” (rest of verse 5)

And we cannot say verse six either without coming in danger of lying;

Because we “all” fear “everything else” other than God and we think that people can really harm us without God knowing it. We scream out in our prayers; “Where are you Lord? Why do you let this happen to me?”.

When we should rejoice in the testing that proves us real children. And when it comes to persecution, we hate it, but the Lord Jesus tells us to rejoice when we have trouble for His name's sake, and the same with corrections; especially when it comes from brethren. We hate it as we have said before, especially when it comes from brethren.

And when it comes to repeating ourselves here in this book; get used to it. We are just following our Lord! He is the repeater! If you haven't learned that, you haven't read the Bible!

It is very simple to be persecuted if you want to stand for the truth. And it will always come from the “religious brethren”. You don't believe me? Well log on to Facebook or any other social network/media and post the Truth. You will be called all kind of evil things because of the Truth, Jesus.

*And I beseech you, brethren, suffer the word of exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words. **Heb.13:22***

If you say this to someone today, they will claim you have no right and that you are judgemental. You will be reminded about that you

should first take out the log from your eye and so on and so forth. Why don't they say that to Paul or whoever wrote this letter to the Hebrews? They would never dare to do that if they met them face to face.

Let's take Paul. Later we can talk about Peter and all the other disciples.

We want to end this with this reminder and we want to shake the unbelief from all those who think that Jesus can't change a man or a woman totally, because it seems to me that that rebellious unbelief and haughty hardness of heart is rampant among third or fourth generation Christians. This is especially tragic in the Faith movement, Baptist and Pentecost, in the circles who definitely should think, believe and act otherwise. It seems to me that a Lutheran has an easier doctrine to believe than those who call themselves Bible-true.

I have heard elders and leaders cry (yes physically cry out, with tears) that they have problems with believing this. Mind you it should be approved as good to publicly admit unbelief, but it should also be cried out "Jesus; help my unbelief!" and then repent from it.

It is because of this inaction and unwillingness to confront that this sin is not dealt with the right way. It is pitied, and the one with unbelief wants to be pitied. It is a big tragedy, the unbelief in church.

So, let's sum up the life of Saul from Tarsus, Paul the Apostle, who many think came with the Gospel and too many nearly make into more than he was and eventually is more or less worshiped as a saint, which is of course is abnormal.

He described himself like this;

19 And I said, Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee: 20 And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him. Acts 22:19f

This [is] a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. 1 Tim.1:15

And in many other places, Paul admits his sinful life.

But this former killer and terrorist of Christians, him we can believe that Jesus changed. But we don't believe He can change sinners today? Come on. Jesus can do anything He wants. He is the Creator.

It is time for the church to start to recognize the prophets again, the judges, the ones who have got visions from Jesus, the ones who really, really have something to say. Today "none" are willing to listen to you before they check your background. Well why do you listen to Paul?

I'm not talking about myself, though I could do. I'm talking about all these well-known preachers and evangelists who really have been trying to warn the church for a long time. Like Smith Wiggelsworth, George Whitefield, Charles Spurgeon, John Wesley, A W Tozer, John Bunyan, Frank Bartleman, Stanley Frodsham and later David Wilkerson, Leonard Ravenhill to mention a few, and today there are many, many more.

Why don't you read them? Their word is and was; Fear of God, repentance, holy, faith, belief, obedience and "go out and preach the Gospel". Also of course love, grace, salvation, forgiveness and so on. These Words are all the same.

Yes, we should listen to those who have gone before us. Those have been preaching repentance. A certain beloved brother just asked me: What comes first; repentance or faith/belief? He refers to what Jesus says:

Mar 1:14-15 Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

This is my answer (the Holy Spirit I believe):

(Mind you, this brother has come to know many truths because he asks questions, mainly to the Lord.)

Repentance! (But mind you, the faith is there from birth.) This is how I see it; what Jesus does when He says this mentioned above is actually to preach the Gospel. This is what the Gospel is all about. Repentance and believing! When we preach the Gospel, the Holy Spirit will convince and convict about sin and urge for repentance. We have to say thank you, we like to repent. We must admit that we are sinners, who come short of the Glory of God, and that we need a Saviour, Jesus.

When we do admit to the Truth and Decision, the Lord will release the faith that we all are born with in our hearts, but up to now, we have denied as adults, (every child will believe) and increasingly, as we hear the Word spoken and we read the Scriptures, this will increase our faith.

The devil cannot rob us of our faith. It is gift from the Lord. You can give it away of course, or sell it, or spend it on prostitutes in a foreign country ("the inheritance in the prodigal son"). But he, the devil, can convince us that repentance is not necessary. In the parable of the prodigal son he didn't succeed in that. Furthermore, he also tries to make us not to preach and not to take a stand for repentance.

Unbelief is The Sin. We must call it rebellious and hardening of heart and haughtiness because we refuse to believe something we really can believe, deep inside.

Before we continue going through the Letters of James, Peter, John, Jude and Revelation and then in the end the Gospel of Jesus and the Act, (yes we will not go through Paul's letter in this book) I should like to add the first of the translated chapters from the book Haughtiness.

It is about the most common and known unbelief and haughtiness which is practised worldwide in churches. A "sinner's prayer" (prayer of salvation) and what is connected.

Chapter 5 - "The Sinner's Prayer"

The ultimate unbelief and haughty practice concerning - a "The Sinners prayer" - "Salvation Prayer" in the Christian churches.

To really fully understand what is happening, we need to get into the core of the concept of a "salvation prayer" and the haughtiness and unbelief required to subscribe to such theology, which is very sinful.

Everybody is extremely haughty in the period when the Holy Spirit is convicting us regarding sin and urging us to repent so that we can take the first steps on the Narrow Path of righteousness. It is the Love of God the Father that draws us to Jesus and to the finished work at the cross, His resurrection and His exaltation. We have no alternative but to let His Blood cleanse us from every sin and worldly desires and from the hard grip of our old friend, our ego has on us.

It is also the Blood of Jesus which cleanses us from haughtiness. The Blood cleanses all, if we allow it to. So, at that moment we repent and totally come under willingness to obey, provided we mean to in our heart, asking forgiveness of sins, especially the haughtiness.

Then haughtiness will start to disappear more and more from our lives. Christ will enter in and make us "new beings" and we will have a renewed mind and get born again. This can happen in any sequence as the Lord sees fit. After all, the Lord's ways are mysterious. This will of course bring faith and the unbelief must go.

This does not happen too often in the congregation in the western world, because a true, pure and simple Gospel is not preached. Everything else is preached instead.

Gal 1

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

Whatever we preach, provided we end up with the concept of a "Salvation prayer", we come under the above passage. That is if we deliberately do it after knowing the truth.

The "invention" of an "altar call" and a "salvation prayer" ("sinner's prayer") is very old stuff. If one is extremely studious, one can argue that it goes back to the Gnostic and the Nicolaitans, which Jesus hates. (Rev.2:6)

Certainly, this is seen in the period after Luther and of course increasingly from the times of Charles Finney (1792 - 1875) and Dwight Moody (1837-1899). We talk about time and definitely not the person, even if they started taking about those called by the Lord into the "back room" and serve them there.

There is no evidence to the contrary that these brethren adopted what we now call the altar call and then a salvation prayer. But the foundation was laid when the concept of "back room" was changed with water baptism, and water baptism did not always occur. It was only at the beginning of 1900 that the altar calls and especially the "sinner's prayer" was introduced on a large scale by Billy Sunday and at mass meetings held by Billy Graham. In recent times it is Reinhard Bonnke whom most people associate with this, but also evangelists at large.

Alter call and prayer room (backroom) should of course be replaced with a pool of water or the nearest lake or beach, or a bucket of water, for that matter. If the willingness remains to baptise believers, an opportunity for baptism will always be there. If you are in the

Sahara then bless sand as water. What also should be noted here is that it is sad that Luther did not take argument also against "infant baptism". He lacked at least two or three "theses".

We know that evangelists, (myself included) sometimes leave the water baptism to the local pastor, agreed upon at pastoral conferences before the meetings. That is a practice that we sometimes can accept. But not even that is according to the description in the First Church. 3000 were baptised on Pentecostal Day.

We really, really hope that a Godly form of "safety control" is the practice if such a practice is used, if not the evangelists for sure have to return to do the job themselves, which I had to do more than once. So because of that I have more or less stopped leaving it to the local pastor.

Acts 2

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We do not pinpoint some of these men of God, and evangelists who surely lead and are leading many thousands on the path to Heaven. But we will here explain the point of that haughtiness in this particular "phenomenon"; "salvation prayer".

Many of these also in their preaching concentrate on rebirth, which is what we need to concentrate on. But they also have what should not be there, namely the declaration that "now you are saved". And we're not talking about saved out of this world. We are talking about that being established that when you die you will go to Heaven.

The same thing applies when we speak of "eternal security", which will come back to. When we mention names, it is just to get the time period and the order in which it has occurred within this period. We put our finger on the haughtiness that occurs even in men of God who have "big" names in history. We want to get the "how long and how widely this has been going on" into the open.

We would also like to mention that there are studies showing that the number of backsliders after a "salvation prayer" and an "altar call" is around 84 to 97%.

Paul Washer revealed on a video that Billy Graham would be "happy" if just 5% of those who come to an altar call are actually "saved". What he forgot to mention was that 95 % then get lost, probably. Let's pray and hope for something better. Let's hope and pray the all will be saved one day. The problem is, many of them have been told they are "saved"

What we do is that we exalt ourselves to decide who goes to heaven. It is not only the haughtiness in this, which we shall deal with in this chapter. It is also unbelief, in more than one way. There are books today that deal with this "prayer of salvation" and a few examples are; "Ten indictments Against the Modern Church" by Paul Washer and especially "The Sinner's Prayer - Fact Or Fiction?" by Andrew Strom. Even a search online provides millions of hits and Wikipedia have even come up with an article in the latest entry.

2Co 5

7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Rev 20:15

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

It is Jesus who will execute judgment. He will one day let you know who goes where. It is the fact that we have taken on that role, which is the disaster. This is the arrogance, the haughtiness, the pride and the unbelief, not forgetting disobedience, of course.

Every priest and pastor at every funeral have taken on the role of Jesus and is judging the dead and those in sorrow into Heaven.

We can recite the many scriptures about the promises and explanations, but there's no denying:

John 3

5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Likewise;

John 4

23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

These passages deal with the same thing. If not, there would be contradictions in Scripture, and in fact there are none. It would also be arrogance if we were to think that there could be contradiction in the Scriptures. We must be humble enough and accept that we do not yet know everything.

Can anyone tell me how we are supposed to worship in spirit and truth without being in spirit and truth? And since it is Jesus who baptizes in the Holy Spirit, we must leave it up to Him when He does this. This is also the great mistake we make when we tell others the time when they were baptised in the Holy Spirit and Fire by Jesus. What we actually do is to tell Jesus when He baptises someone in the Holy Spirit.

It is Jesus who baptises, so how can we proclaim something like that in another believer's life? Some claim there is proof of this in speaking in tongues. But they are wrong simply because they should leave it to Jesus when He does these wonderful things. There is no such biblical truth either. You don't find it in the Scriptures for the same reason. Leave it to the Lord!

The preaching of repentance, baptism, remission of sins and Spirit baptism has long been shelved for a while. This is the fatal mistake that came after finger-pointing preaching also by famous evangelists.

It is strange that we cannot manage to keep ourselves in the middle of the road, in the centre of the well-lit area for more than a few years. Even the "Azusa Street" revival faded pretty fast, also because of arrogance and unbelief.

The moment we say; "Now you are saved and will go to Heaven when you die", then we exalt ourselves. Many believers are not aware of this, but it is definitely the case.

Mat 10:22 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.

It's that simple. It is Jesus who decides, no matter what others might think. We must humble ourselves to let Him decide who goes to Heaven and who goes to Hell, one day. It is of course a disaster also to tell someone to go to Hell or to think of them as deserving to go to Hell. Both suggestions are quite wrong. Both statements are judgmental. If only we could be so humble and admit that it is Jesus who decides. Yes, we have the promises, and the promises cannot fail, but still we must not tell God Almighty what He can and cannot do.

The fact of the matter is this: when you are born again, you do not need to constantly be reminded that "now you're saved". We thank Jesus 24/7 for our rebirth. What we talk about with Him is one thing, but what we proclaim in the lives of others is another thing. We cannot proclaim the saving faith in the heart. It's the Holy Spirit who does that. He is the Only One who can do that. And when given a guarantee from the Holy Spirit, we do not need to hear it from others.

It is the same people who criticize both the one and the other who pray a quick salvation prayer with people and send them out into the world with a pat on the back and a "Good luck" to follow. Just as if God Almighty is dependent on luck! It is most arrogant and full of disbelief.

These same people are also the ones who assume the following, as an explanation to justify "salvation prayer" and to give references in the Scriptures of this "phenomenon". Let us try to explain the phenomenon that is being used for verification that a salvation prayer has been a success. They are looking for gifts from the Holy Spirit, and when it is seen by one in his or her life, it is used to verify the success in those who have prayed this prayer. It is also sad to note that invitation to baptism is often omitted.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

For with this saying, they claim that they have produced something. They forget that it is the Holy Spirit who produces this, and it is His gift in one's life.

But when Jesus talks about fruit it is something quite different:

John 4:36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

NLT says: "... the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life..."

Further:

Mat 12:33 "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit.

Mat 13:8-9 But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Mat 13:23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

But they forget (like many others) and make the big mistake (like many others); they take things out of context. Therefore the verses of the fruit of the Spirit can't be used alone, as they do. The sum of God's Word is the Truth:

Gal 5

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

2 Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing.

3 And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law.

4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

5 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

7 You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

8 This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you.

9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

10 I have confidence in you, in the Lord, that you will have no other mind; but he who troubles you shall bear his judgment, whoever he is.

11 And I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still suffer persecution? Then the offense of the cross has ceased.

12 I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off!

13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

(A chapter is the minimum of what we have to deal with if we are to provide a solid reference for things that are very difficult).

Psa 119:160 The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

So, when someone then tries frantically to find scriptures that support a "salvation prayer" that they fall short, because it is more than the fruit of the Spirit. It is also very largely fruit of the harvest. But to take it further and use Gal. 5:22 to say that when one has prayed a "salvation prayer" with someone, it is simply to look for the Fruit of the Spirit. Furthermore, if you find any of this, then everything is in order. Similarly, we say that if one has one of the errors mentioned in Gal. 5:19-21, then you are not "saved". Both these statements are nonsense and arrogance, of course.

I can assure you that you might find many gangsters who will claim they have one or more of these things present in their lives; love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

The world can give these things in a worldly fleshy way. And many are mistaken.

We can assure you that we are therefore not looking to point out errors or defects in the preaching of anyone, but to "highlight" names among the "pillars" because what has been practised is something that we would call arrogance. We are all proud in some way and these "famous" preachers have, with the help of the Holy Spirit, perhaps led millions to Jesus. But that's not the point. The point is that we must understand that even the most "trusted" pillars fall into this haughtiness and unbelief.

It seems as if "easy" and "nice" "actions" have taken over, meaning to say that it seems to be the easiest thing in the world to get a free ride to Heaven. It is not so.

Who says that it should be so easy to get into Heaven? It has now reached such a stage that we do not even need to believe in order to get into Heaven. God's grace is enough. Well, this is a massive lie.

Not everyone will go to Heaven:

Rev 22

15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

So in addition to this we have all the parables of Jesus and a number of statements.

Mat 7

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.

19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' (underline added)

Luk 13

23 Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them,

24 "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. (underline added)

As we see, it's not just the Gate that is narrow, but Way too. When are we going to understand and accept this? Today, people think that the road to Heaven is so wide that it is almost impossible to go astray. Maybe we will refer to it sooner or later but read the second most read book in England after the Bible, namely *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan. Read at the same time how he came to write the book (and in prison). Try a "Google Search"

We do not need to give more references. Read the Scriptures carefully and you will find that the seductive, "easy and nice", convenient teaching which now characterizes such preaching, is not found in Scripture. Take for instance a couple of examples from Luke.

We just want to remind you that what is impossible with men is clearly possible with God, and that all need to be born again.

So we conclude this chapter by saying in short:

We must be humble enough to trust the Lord to give us assurance of Eternal Life.

Humility is courageous confidence in a God who keeps promises. We can have 100% confidence in Him. Humility is to have confidence in the Father. Humility is to entrust all things to Him. Humility is to Fear God.

So now gradually we begin to understand the tip of the iceberg when it comes to arrogance in unbelief. Eventually, we shall also take a little look at what is beneath the water and then leave it to the reader to assess whether pride and unbelief is important to get rid of it from everyone's life. This also applies to those who are born again. The flesh is after all fighting the Spirit. Constantly!

It is of course leaders, pastors and elders who must take the main blame for the current state of the church. That is because the few who come to faith are subjected to this hilarious, outrageous, false "salvation prayer", but having said that, each member has not done

his or her job to test everything. When we really analyse the "salvation prayer" and make claims that could be hard for many to swallow. We should go into prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to us only the truth, and whether it is according to Scripture or not.

There must now be an end to the lukewarm-ness, which is why today we may not have more than about 2% of those who claim to be born again who is in fact truly born again. This is because of one thing: unbelief / haughtiness.

What is required, rather than a simple salvation prayer, is the Gospel of total surrender. When Jesus can see in your heart that a total surrender has taken place, the Holy Spirit will do the rest. That's what promises are. It's this that is calling Jesus; Lord.

Joh 1

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

It is this that we need to take to our hearts. It is this that we need to believe, that we need to be born of God. Born Again!

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

This definition of faith implies total surrender, nothing less.

When a figure like 2% of the congregation being born again is mentioned, we do not want to go into detail about it, but the reader can begin to figure it out for himself and begin to test this claim.

Leonard Ravenhill goes this far in his claim, and we agree with this. He says, among other things, to put it very simply, "The Prayer of Salvation has led more people to hell than all the bars in America combined."

When someone says, "pray after me" and ends with "now you are saved", he preaches a false gospel.

Finally, in this Chapter, we should mention something about "God TV" (not the specific channel of that name; it is used in the generic sense) and certain websites. These media are experts in declaring that: "Pray after me so that you will go to Heaven when you die." But they have got it ALL wrong. For example, who will baptize those who "accept" a false "salvation prayer"? Never have I heard anyone tell the viewer to ask a local Bible-believing church to baptize him.. I have asked some friends and they can verify that this has very seldom happened. "God TV" therefore has a major problem. Or in fact, a double major problem that they have to answer for one day. And this is arrogance or haughtiness, as well as unbelief.

Even the devil believes in Jesus. Hitler believed in God. Muslims and Hindus believe in Jesus. There are many who believe in Jesus. How is it with you? Do you believe in Jesus? Well, that is no guarantee of not spending eternity in Hell. Hell would one day then be full of people who have declared that they believe in God. They claim to know about Jesus. But Jesus actually says You must be born again. -

Joh 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

What is worth noting here is that those who think that saying "I believe in Jesus" provides guaranteed admittance into Heaven, always supporting this with Paul's letters. Why on earth can they not see that these letters were written precisely to remove this lie of the diluted, "Lite" gospel? Over three tearful years, night and day, Paul had to exhort these churches. And this is what they refer to, in order to support their claims? I do not know whether to laugh or cry!

To explain how wrong and diabolical this is, here is a teaching from a website:

QUOTE:

How to become a Christian:

You can do this by praying a simple prayer:

"God, thank you for sending Jesus Christ and showing us who you are. Thank you that Jesus died and rose again for everyone and for me. Let me be your child and live the rest of my life as a follower of yours.

Thank you".

UNQUOTE

Not only do they compromise their own doctrines of course, but furthermore is all blasphemy against God's Word.

It is sad, so unspeakably sad. Such huge degree of haughtiness unbelief, and they are in for a big fall.

I have just bought and gone through a new "Spirit-Filled Life" "study Bible" 2002 edition that came in the mail yesterday. I was careful to buy a new one when we were in Norway, since Amazon is very quick on delivery of books there. The previous edition that I had, I gave away at Manila International Airport.

Yes, you should always be entitled to give away the Word of God. Freely, we have received it and freely, we give. When you come to talk to someone who needs a Bible, especially in this case, as it was a lady who was travelling alone to a Muslim country, we should be ultra-quick to respond, no matter how many yellow, blue, green and red personal underlines that we have in our "own favourite bible" ...

This new Bible, however, is almost an exact copy of the old one, and has been attributed to various extra material at the end that was not in the old version. A number of quite well-known evangelists and others have come up with some "To assist you" material as well. This one is, after all a "study Bible" so should this should be included.. But in one of those they have written, something that has been added called "How to lead a person to salvation," and it is what I would call a particularly sad idea.

I browsed quite quickly as one does with new things sometimes, and somehow my eyes fell on a section where it says:

"... you can now be sure that you will have eternal life in Heaven "-
When you pray after me, He will forgive you of sin and He will give you eternal life. "

So then the book suggests a fairly well known salvation prayer that contains the words, "I ask you to give me eternal life"

They have managed to sneak this extremely dangerous forgery into Bibles through the back door. The publisher boasts on the cover "over 2 million sold". So, what should have been a joyful message is now a less joyful message. How many millions of people have received this lie in churches, libraries, schools, bible schools? We can only weep!

Yet again, rebirth is sadly not mentioned. Yet again, water baptism and Spirit baptism go unmentioned. Yet again, you are given an assurance that, "Pray with me and you will go to Heaven when you

die." What arrogance! What haughtiness! Those responsible are in for a big fall.

I should like to add that I've just been reading the "Heavenly Man" for the second time. If you have not already done so, read it! Yun, the man who got this nickname from his guards and the authorities, is deeply troubled how far the western countries have defiled the Gospel by making it into something different. He, as many other Chinese, cannot recognise it when they hear it. Neither can I.

Chapter 6 - The letter from James

Jas 1:2-3 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

James 1:2-3

Faith and Endurance

2 Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.

So, when trouble comes our way we have to see it as an opportunity for great joy.

This is an extraordinary test of our faith. Next verse continues with that our faith is tested. But how can we understand this when we actually do not believe it? You see, it is only those who believe this who actually fall into various trials. Unbelievers are not obedient and therefore not children. They are not tested. They will not find themselves in trials for the name of Jesus.

People today think that trials are not being able to buy what they want. Not to have the same furniture and vacations as their neighbour. They claim to believe, but all they pray about is more satisfying of their own fleshy desires. They hide themselves behind the Scriptures, which say that we can pray about anything, and nothing is too small or too great, but they forget that they must pray in faith. And that faith, they don't have. Because if they had it, they would pray differently!

In this part, James is writing to brothers and sisters, because of their ignorance. But after reading the letter of James, they must repent from these things or they are no more sisters and brothers, only rebellious unbelievers, hardened in hearts.

Jas 2:1 My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality.

James 2:1

A Warning against Prejudice

2 My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others?

Very few believe this. Why? – Because our actions put us away as unbelievers in the way that we show partiality, ALL the time. We always favour some over others. It's as if it happens automatically! We break thereby the whole law and are going hand in hand with those we criticise the most; drunkards and gluttons, drug addicts, the divorced, adulterers and fornicators, murders, liars and thieves.

Again, we don't believe this is of importance, and refuse to obey. That is why we come under the sin of unbelief. Which of course is even more dangerous than partiality? We normally don't rank sin. But we should because Jesus does.

Think about what James writes:

Jas 2:9 but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

James 2:9 But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law.

This is because we don't believe it is the case. We are not willing to repent and start to ask Jesus to correct us. At this very moment you are thinking "I'm not that partial" Instead of going face down on the floor and repenting. Ask for forgiveness right away. Everybody falls into this sin from time to time. So, let's skip all the haughtiness and ask forgiveness and repent, every time we are partial.

This is what Jesus needs to see: the willingness to repent, the willingness to take up the cross every day, the willingness to die for Him. David is a good example of how this works. It is, after all, not our mistakes, or to say our error-free lives, that Jesus is busy looking for. What he is looking for is the willingness to live holy. We might think and even proclaim we are willing to live holy, willing to repent and ask forgiveness and give forgiveness, but the fact of the matter is that we need to be so humble that we admit we cannot even see our own heart.

Our mistake is that the rebellious unbelief, hardening of hearts shows that we know we make this mistake, but we are not willing to repent from it. To humble ourselves and to understand that if we don't repent we are to be counted as transgressors of the whole law. And don't come out with "I'm not under the law, but under grace" That of course is some piece of scripture taken out of context and you are a victim of confusion because of buying into false teaching. James writes to brothers and sisters, who have the law written on their hearts and in their minds.

But back to David; Jesus said about David that he was a man after His Own Heart. This story will be a short one. Jesus sees to the heart of David and makes a decision on what He sees. David, on the other hand, got haughty and instead of being with his soldiers, was bored and was roaming around on the rooftop looking at the stars. His eyes, on the other hand, fell onto another naked star and instead of turning around and fleeing the scene he looked more and began to fornicate in his mind.

It could have stopped there, but of course his thoughts went into further sin when he called to her. The rest is history. But we want to talk about what happened when Nathan the prophet came to him and told him about the rich man who took a lamb from the poor. And when David heard it he gave the sentence of death to himself. He got a clear message from Jesus. Here is what happened next:

2Sa 12:13 *So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.*

And after that, he wrote this:

Psalm 51

New King James Version (NKJV)

A Prayer of Repentance

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

*1 Have mercy upon me, O God,
According to Your lovingkindness;
According to the multitude of Your tender mercies,
Blot out my transgressions.
2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
And cleanse me from my sin.*

*3 For I acknowledge my transgressions,
And my sin is always before me.*

*4 Against You, You only, have I sinned,
And done this evil in Your sight—
That You may be found just when You speak,
And blameless when You judge.*

*5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
And in sin my mother conceived me.
6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts,
And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.*

*7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
8 Make me hear joy and gladness,
That the bones You have broken may rejoice.
9 Hide Your face from my sins,
And blot out all my iniquities.*

*10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
11 Do not cast me away from Your presence,
And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.*

*12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
And uphold me by Your generous Spirit.
13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,
And sinners shall be converted to You.*

*14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,
The God of my salvation,
And my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.
15 O Lord, open my lips,
And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.
16 For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it;
You do not delight in burnt offering.
17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,
A broken and a contrite heart—
These, O God, You will not despise.*

*18 Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion;
Build the walls of Jerusalem.
19 Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness,
With burnt offering and whole burnt offering;
Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.*

It is the same today. If we can admit our sin, we will not die. But if not we will for sure be worse than dead, we will be in Hell for eternity.

So, let's just admit our doubt and unbelief and get down on our knees and ask forgiveness and repent. The whole western church needs to do this!

It has been said that some scholars tried to hold the letters from James outside the Bible. There was a lot of dispute as to whether it should be there in this library of now 66 books. We could easily end up with 65, but as we know it is the Holy Spirit Who has put the Bible together. Thank you, Holy Spirit!

It is of course stated by Jesus more than properly many times in the Gospel, but I'm so glad and blessed that James, by the order of the Holy Spirit, really put the example of Abraham very clearly and states the following:

James 2:17-26

17 So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

18 Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

19 You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God.[a] Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. 20 How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

21 Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. 23 And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." [b] He was even called the friend of God. [c] 24 So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone.

25 Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. 26 Just as the body is dead without breath, [d] so also faith is dead without good works.

Footnotes:

2:19a Some manuscripts read that God is one; see Deut 6:4.
2:23b Gen 15:6.
2:23c See Isa 41:8.
2:26d Or without spirit.

Again, we will stress that a man who is a fool is one who doesn't believe in God. So you had better believe that faith without works is dead.

It is a fact that we are made righteous in the faith in Jesus and what He did when He took our sins and died as a Holy Sacrifice. Actually, we need to believe in the whole bible and specially to include the preaching of the Gospel.

Jesus is the Creator, Jesus was born into this world as a Saviour, and Jesus went around for about three years preaching the Gospel and healed the sick and raised the dead. Jesus died and rose and ascended to heaven and from there He sent the Holy Spirit and Fire. He is at this very moment sitting on the Right Hand Side of the Father and will return in due time to bring all who believe as the Scripture say back to Him to be with Him for ever and to Judge those who do not believe in the Gospel to eternal Hell.

The Holy Spirit is here on the earth and in a believer's heart to help him as his Helper. He is the One Who confront, convict and judge about sin and urges for repentance. Our commission and Jesus' commandment is to preach this Gospel, The Good News, on a daily bases to everyone we meet. We also need to live a life in humbleness and repentance and take up our cross every day. By this we will be more effective as fishers of men and more effective in bringing in the harvest of people for eternal life. This is a pure Gospel and we have to preach it.

And when we believe this it will automatically bring forth good works.

That I why James can write: "faith without works is dead". And that brings us to the statement that "we shall be known by our fruit!" So no fruit no faith. No inheritance! And no conversion has taken place. Salvation is no longer a hope because the one without good works is walking in flesh living out his own desires at the Broadway to Hell. He need to repent and that also very quickly indeed. Jesus is coming very soon indeed.

And again, so that NOBODY starts to write me letters about false doctrine: Salvation is by grace through faith. No one can work himself into Heaven. That is the doctrine of the Catholic Church, which we advice to repent from.

Let's just refer to another place than Eph 2:8 (Which is misused so much) Even 2:5 and only the words in clammers!

Tit 2:11-15 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

Titus 2:11-15

11 For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. 12 And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, 13 while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. 14 He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds.

15 You must teach these things and encourage the believers to do them. You have the authority to correct them when necessary, so don't let anyone disregard what you say.

Jas 3:13-18 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.

But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.

This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic.

For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Just to make it clear; if our "good" works which are supposed to come from our faith are not done in meekness and wisdom with the proof of purity, gentleness, bringing forth mercy and good fruits and of course without partiality hypocrisy and haughtiness, they are dead works; not good works at all. If it is possible we shall be at peace with everybody if it is up to us. That is, we cannot compromise the Word.

If all that mention above is not there, it is instead self-seeking, confusing and evil. In fact, it is actually total confusion and total evil, because The Sin of unbelief is there totally.

Further to that, it becomes rebellious and with hardness of hearts if we boast and lie against the Truth. It becomes demonic. Let's just allow this to sink into us. Let's praise the Holy Spirit for persisting with the letter from James, (actually it should be Jacob) so that Jesus can be Glorified by us relate to it and obey it. It has an awesome effect on the congregation if we really, really relate and live out this letter. Just to mention:

Jas 1:26-27 If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

and

Jas 3:1-12 My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body.

Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.

Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles!

And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind.

But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God.

Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening?

Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh.

Do we believe this?

And furthermore, this:

Jas 4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

The whole of chapter four is so challenging that the congregation should sit down when reading it, in case the conviction from the Holy Spirit is so strong that they faint. Especially when it comes to this:

Jas 4:17 Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

With all the unbelief that is in the congregation, we more-or-less sin all the time. This fact should make us humble for a while!

Today there are "Christian" seminars, schools, talks, teachings, books and everything possible that has the same headline:

"GOD WANTS YOU TO BE RICH", which of course is a lie. It is a lie in the sense that we cannot have the focus on "to be rich" because we will come into evil. The love of money is the root of all evil. To wish to be rich is, after all, entirely self-seeking and where all confusion and evil things are.

This is one of the reasons James, by the Holy Spirit, writes.

Warning to the Rich

James 5 (NLT) 1 Look here, you rich people: Weep and groan with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you. 2 Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags. 3 Your gold and silver have become worthless. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This treasure you have accumulated will stand as evidence against you on the day of judgment. 4 For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The wages you held back cry out against you. The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the Lord of Heaven's Armies.

5 You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire. You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and killed innocent people, who do not resist you.

Don't think he is not talking to the congregation. He is definitely talking to the congregation.

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

James 1:1

The whole letter is to these tribes which are the congregation.

"Nobody" believes this. "Nobody" believes that this is a warning to the rich people in the congregation. But it is.

The awful false prosperity teaching is taking over most of the congregation and if you stand up and read James in one of these places they will for sure throw you out.

I will declare to you that pastors, elders, and evangelists and like, who live in their 20 million-dollar mansions are not blessed by Jesus. They have stolen the money from their congregations either way you put it.

Also, those who claim that the money we had when we come to Christ is our blessing and we should keep it. Nothing is yours to keep. Nothing apart from the hope you are saved in.

James 5:14-16

14 Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven.

16 Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

Chapter 7 – The Catastrophe

Today more than a third of the inhabitants of the earth call themselves “Christians”. If this were the case, we would all be “born again” within a few weeks. But this will not happen because most of those who call themselves “Christians”, followers of Christ Jesus, are not. The catastrophe is that more or less everybody of the approx. 2.4 billion who make the claim to “be saved” are not even born again. But they think they are OK. They think they are on their way to Heaven, because they have been told a lie.

So, who and how many are on their way to Heaven? How many are born again? Well, only Jesus knows that. Let’s make a calculation. Let’s say 5% of this 2.4 billion are born again. According to the Baptists like Paul Washer he claims that Billy Graham would be pleased if 5 % “got saved” of those who came forward at the altar call in his campaigns. 5 % of 2.4 billion gives 120 million born again Christians. That should be 120 million burning-hot missionaries on this planet, and if that were the case, this planet would be totally born again in a few years.

1 Timothy 1:3-11

Warnings against False Teachings

3 When I left for Macedonia, I urged you to stay there in Ephesus and stop those whose teaching is contrary to the truth. 4 Don’t let them waste their time in endless discussion of myths and spiritual pedigrees. These things only lead to meaningless speculations,[a] which don’t help people live a life of faith in God.[b]

5 The purpose of my instruction is that all believers would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith. 6 But some people have missed this whole point. They have turned away from these things and spend their time in meaningless discussions. 7 They want to be known as teachers of the law of Moses, but they don’t know what they are talking about, even though they speak so confidently.

8 We know that the law is good when used correctly. 9 For the law was not intended for people who do what is right. It is for people who are lawless and rebellious, who are ungodly and sinful, who consider nothing sacred and defile what is holy, who kill their father or mother or commit other murders. 10 The law is for people who are sexually immoral, or who practice homosexuality, or are slave traders,[c] liars, promise breakers, or who do anything else that contradicts the wholesome teaching 11 that comes from the glorious Good News entrusted to me by our blessed God.

Footnotes:

- 1:4a Greek in myths and endless genealogies, which cause speculation.
1:4b Greek a stewardship of God in faith.
1:10 Or kidnappers.

When we preach a simple, full and pure Gospel, many will believe, and many will like to call it a revival. (Let's remember that the congregation who want to have a revival first need to have their own revival...)

In one of the meetings with Reinhard Bonnke there were once registered one million names for making a decision to devote their lives to Christ Jesus. We don't claim that all this fruit will endure to the end or were even converted there and then. But we claim it is a start for somebody, if the local congregation will follow up with baptism and sound teaching. And that we pray in the name of Jesus.

What one man who believes in Jesus can do, another man can do. Jesus is not a respecter of persons. It just depends if you are totally surrendered to the Truth. For the eyes of the Lord look for those who are totally with Him to powerfully strengthen them.

We need to use this example to make it clear that with 120 million fully surrendered believers, this planet will be turned upside down in a pretty short time. But of course, some will claim that we need to go out in teams, and that we need a team to make big revivals. Let's say that we need some to go together and make up around one million teams with 120 people in each. In that case with only some thousands added to the churches (teams) every week, it would be pretty much the same case. The newspapers and TV news will be full of stories of changed communities.

Likewise, we would have the same effect if every believer would preach to someone he met every week or every month. But this is

not the case, because the changes are not there, the changes that will come out of this accelerating, accumulating super-effect.

We can see some of this of course in places like China, South America and Africa and even in India and Pakistan, but that is not the point. The point is that worldwide there are very few totally surrendered followers of Christ, or "born again" if you like as few as maybe 5 % of those who call themselves "born again"! Maybe even only 2 % are in what we can call "charismatic" congregations. The backsliding is enormous in all these mass meetings we have, may be as much as 80-90 %, or may be even more. We will come back to this, but let's just agree; it is all because of unbelief and haughtiness.

A survey in USA once asked the following question to the congregation. It was done in 1000 churches; "What is the reason for attending church?" 90 % claimed it was to cover their spiritual needs and 10 % mentioned they were able and equipped to preach the Gospel. This was about 20 years ago. Today I think the number of those who have "got it" is more like 5 %. Or fewer! So it's like there are 5 % who have "got it" and even fewer who go out!

Therefore, we make this claim that the condition of the church is extremely negative, both when it comes to teaching and to fulfilling the commission. Also, let's consider how many are walking the narrow way to the narrow gate. Let me remind the reader that it is those who do righteousness who are righteous, and that your faith is dead without actions. Let's hope we are wrong in these figures, but sadly it seems that this is indeed the case. The catastrophe is therefore a fact.

We can't just say, "No it is not like this". There are too many who point to it beanlike this. May be over one billion (1,000 million) that think they are on the way to Heaven, but are roaming around on the highway to Hell, and all of this is because of haughtiness and unbelief. How many will be eternally lost because of this inaction from the church? This is a the worst catastrophe!

When will the church be aware of this catastrophe? I hope it's before they stand in front of the Judgement Seat of Christ.

For so many years now, we have been focused on un-reached nations (people), the "10/40 window", and there is much prayer for countries like China (rightly or wrongly), and so on and so forth. But nobody really talks about those who are led astray by false doctrines. We are responsible for those who have been led astray by "brothers" under a false flag. We need to ignore the one or two percent, and go after the other 98%, so to speak.

This mega-catastrophic problem doesn't seem to worry most people. But the most blessed thing to be heard that there is a kind of revival going on. One which is focused and pinpointed at the existing congregations. More and more people with Fire take responsibility and shout out about this problem. Ever heard that type of shouting before? It was Jesus who shouted out these, and before that it was John the Baptised.

There are already books on the market which are sharp enough to shake the most lukewarm out of his sleep. Congregations, large congregations take responsibility and throw themselves to the ground and cry out, mercy Lord, mercy!

Hopefully soon more congregations will come out of their cowardly inaction and join, before it is too late. The Ecumenical will be more and more rampant, if not to say "Chrislam". This is the start of the World Church. This is of course prophetic, and we shall not fight this, but we shall warn, and warn loudly! The shofar must sound! We must blow, so the night is turned into day!

If we don't do this we are haughty, and of course without any faith at all. We are in for a fall, a big fall. If we don't warn people, the snowball will continue its progress and build up as it runs downhill and end in a giant crash for the church. The crash will be so great that most will read in the morning newspaper next day; "all small children disappeared and many adults around the world. Many accidents are happening in every country and some are saying that Jesus has come back!"

Therefore, we have to stop being lukewarm and lazy, and pick up our Bible and start to read about the warnings. Especially:

1 Corinthians 5:1-13

Paul Condemns Spiritual Pride

5 I can hardly believe the report about the sexual immorality going on among you—something that even pagans don't do. I am told that a man in your church is living in sin with his stepmother.[a] 2 You are so proud of yourselves, but you should be mourning in sorrow and shame. And you should remove this man from your fellowship.

3 Even though I am not with you in person, I am with you in the Spirit.[b] And as though I were there, I have already passed judgment on this man 4 in the name of the Lord Jesus. You must call a meeting of the church.[c] I will be present with you in spirit, and so will the power of our Lord Jesus. 5 Then you must throw this man out

and hand him over to Satan so that his sinful nature will be destroyed[d] and he himself[e] will be saved on the day the Lord[f] returns.

6 Your boasting about this is terrible. Don't you realize that this sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough? 7 Get rid of the old "yeast" by removing this wicked person from among you. Then you will be like a fresh batch of dough made without yeast, which is what you really are. Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us.[g] 8 So let us celebrate the festival, not with the old bread[h] of wickedness and evil, but with the new bread[i] of sincerity and truth.

9 When I wrote to you before, I told you not to associate with people who indulge in sexual sin. 10 But I wasn't talking about unbelievers who indulge in sexual sin, or are greedy, or cheat people, or worship idols. You would have to leave this world to avoid people like that. 11 I meant that you are not to associate with anyone who claims to be a believer[j] yet indulges in sexual sin, or is greedy, or worships idols, or is abusive, or is a drunkard, or cheats people. Don't even eat with such people.

12 It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is your responsibility to judge those inside the church who are sinning. 13 God will judge those on the outside; but as the Scriptures say, "You must remove the evil person from among you." [k]

Footnotes:

5:1 Greek his father's wife.

5:3 Or in spirit.

5:4 Or In the name of the Lord Jesus, you must call a meeting of the church.

5:5a Or so that his body will be destroyed; Greek reads for the destruction of the flesh.

5:5b Greek and the spirit.

5:5c Other manuscripts read the Lord Jesus; still others read our Lord Jesus Christ.

5:7 Greek has been sacrificed.

5:8a Greek not with old leaven.

5:8b Greek but with unleavened [bread].

5:11 Greek a brother.

5:13 Deut 17:7.

"Your boasting about this is terrible. Don't you realize that this sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough? "

and

“When I wrote to you before, I told you not to associate with people who indulge in sexual sin. 10 But I wasn’t talking about unbelievers who indulge in sexual sin, or are greedy, or cheat people, or worship idols. You would have to leave this world to avoid people like that. 11 I meant that you are not to associate with anyone who claims to be a believer[j] yet indulges in sexual sin, or is greedy, or worships idols, or is abusive, or is a drunkard, or cheats people. Don’t even eat with such people.”

It is unbelief and haughtiness if we don’t take the above seriously. On top of that claiming to have clean hands., But in reality, we are not willing to lift a finger to make the church clean. Don’t’ we know that Jesus will come for a clean, white Bride?

It is time to look up into the sky and expect the return of the Bridegroom at any moment. It will be only, and we mean only, those who are ready and white who will be lifted up to meet Him. A lot of “believers” are interpreting the Scripture in that way that it is going to take time and that His return is not imminent at all.

Well the Scripture is clear. If you don’t await the Bridegroom and expect His early coming every day you have lost your first love and need to repent. If not, you will see the catastrophe first hand in the newspaper one day. As it is today it looks as if it will be mostly small children who will meet their Lord in the sky. All because of rebellious unbelief and hardening of hearts.

Chapter 8 – First letter from Peter

1 Peter 1

Greetings from Peter

1 This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.

I am writing to God’s chosen people who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. 2 God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy. As a result, you have obeyed him and have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

May God give you more and more grace and peace.

We are cleansed by the Blood, given more and more grace and peace, and all that because we choose to obey. It is because we choose to obey we are chosen. That is why the Spirit has made us Holy. He

chose to make us Holy, when we chose to obey and became Holy. You read this today because the Spirit urges you to be Holy, to obey, to be cleansed by the Blood because you choose to obey.

Listen; you might think you obey, but you compromise. This is the time to obey 100 %. That means you must stop compromising. Obedience today in today's contemporary church is not 100 %, if we pick only what we want and leave the rest.

2. Tim. 3:12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. (NKJV)

99 % of those who read this book have never been persecuted. Is that because they are not walking the Narrow Path? NO! It is because we compromise. One thing is to walk the Narrow Path to the Narrow Gate, but we are not all walking in the middle of the Road in the middle of the Light.

Let us also remind you that persecution will come from Pharisees, Scribes, and religious leaders.

We fall into compromising all the time. Let me tell you about a vision from a man of God called Frank Mangs. (B) He wrote a booklet about this because it was of outmost importance.

1. Peter 1

5 And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. 7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honour on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

One of the interesting parts here is also that Peter, led by the Holy Spirit, makes it clear that if you have unbelief, compromise and disobedience in your life to rule you constantly, you will be not protected by the Power of God until you can receive your salvation. You need faith to get that.

Furthermore if you don't have trials, many trials, you will not inherit, because it will not have been shown that your faith is genuine. No

trial, weak faith, or little faith or unbelief. So when we put it to you this way, you will understand that the time for compromising is over!

You don't have many trials? Well there is only one reason for that. You compromise! You are not persecuted? You compromise!

8 You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. 9 The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.

Do you trust Him? Do you trust your Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ? You need to live a life that reflects that you do. If you don't trust Him you will never ever have any Salvation. Yes, we really like to put these letters "up side down" to really extract a new understanding from the meaning. SO when it says the reward will be this when trusting, we like to let you know that the reward will be different if you don't trust.

There is no trust of course with unbelief, and if you know you should trust but don't want to trust because that makes things inconvenient, it is rebellious unbelief and hardening of the heart. On top of that, this will qualify for a fall because it is haughty.

A Call to Holy Living

13 So think clearly and exercise self-control. Look forward to the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. 14 So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. 15 But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. 16 For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."

"No one" preaches this today. It is not "politically correct" and if you don't, you find yourself without friends and in an empty hall of the church. Let's see what happens to our understanding when we put it the other way around.

If you don't think clearly and don't exercise self-control, it will not come any gracious salvation to you when Jesus is revealed to this world. And if you don't live like obedient children or slip back into the world to satisfy your own desires, you are not living in a holy way.

When the Lord says you must be holy, He says that because of a reason. You MUST be holy. That means here in this passage; exercise self-control! And you MUST be holy in EVERYTHING.

Some say, "No need". They are wrong.

Many will scream out in protest here because they claim to be saved by grace alone. First of all, it is by faith alone. Secondly, that kind of faith that saves one day; the faith that regenerates the believer will automatically produce the desire for a holy walk for Jesus in everything. It will furthermore desire that all flesh (read: ego) dies as soon as possible. Jesus, who looks to the heart see this, and the fact is obvious. We have started to walk holy. It is, after all, the holiness of hearts, not the flesh or even the holiness of hearts that will make self-control also of the flesh. The ego has, after all, to die more and more.

22 You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. [d]

Love each other deeply with all your heart. [e]

Footnotes:

1:22d Greek: "must have brotherly love"

1:22e Some manuscripts read: "with a pure heart"

This brings us back to the full, pure truth that is, those who do righteousness are righteous. What this passage actually says is that you were born again when you obeyed the truth. And to continue in this path you "must have brotherly love", "with a pure heart".

This is to do righteousness.

*23 **For you have been born again**, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God. (bold and underline added)*

Some have a lot of explanations about when a person is born again. And even if this passage gives us a clue, will always leave to Jesus when He makes this change. In our own life, on the other hand, we will get confirmation from the Holy Spirit Who is the One Who places this assurance of Salvation Faith in our heart.

No pastor or evangelist can place that there, no matter how much they preach and how much they explain all their doctrines. If they

place anything by their teaching and preaching of the good, it is given them to speak this by the Holy Spirit.

1. Peter 2

2 So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. 2 Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, 3 now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

New King James Version (NKJV)

2 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, 2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

There is a difference here which I'd like to point out. It is a difference between unkind speech and EVIL speaking. But let's concentrate on the basics, so will Jesus will also, if we let Him, make us even take away any unkind behaviour, no matter how badly people treat us. After all, that is the Will of the Lord.

Also, in the "upside-down" ("UD") angel it will say: if you really want to endure to the end, make sure that you let Jesus take away "all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking and also all unkind speech".

And to put it even more "UD" now that you know all this and you say NO, you are in a state of rebellious unbelief and really, really have to repent.

The next passage is one of my favourites when it comes to "proof" to all, without doubt, that unbelief is equal to disobedience.

6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture,

"Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame."

7 Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone," 8 and "a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence." (NKJV)

They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

Furthermore, we can read that they stumble and we will once again remind the reader that before a fall or a stumble comes haughtiness. And haughtiness is nothing but rebellious unbelief.

Chapter 9 – Prophetic Warning in the End Time

Prophetic Warning by Stanley Frodsham

THIS PROPHECY WAS GIVEN at the Elim Bible Institute USA, in 1965 by the late Stanley Frodsham. Brother Frodsham was one of those who received his Baptism in the Holy Ghost at Sunderland in 1908 where the

Pentecostal movement in Britain had its beginnings. (Ref. A)

We will here underline a couple of passages from that prophecy:

1. My people must be diligently warned concerning the days that are ahead. Many shall turn after seducing spirits; many are already seducing My people. It is those who DO righteousness that are righteous. Many cover their sins by great theological words. But I warn you of seducing spirits who instruct My people in an evil way. Many of these I shall anoint, that they may purify and sift My people; for I would have a holy people.

Already in 1965 a lot of false teaching was going on by those who already was “proven” to be men of God. Men you suppose to trust. Jesus continuing saying:

“Hearken diligently concerning these things” and “I warn you to search the Scriptures diligently these last days”– “Take heed to yourselves lest you be puffed up and think that you have arrived. Many shall be puffed up as in the olden days, for many then received My message but they continued not in it.”

2. Do you think a seducer will brandish a new heresy and flaunt it before the people? He will speak the words of righteousness and truth, and will appear as a minister of light, declaring the Word. The people’s hearts shall be won. Then, when the hearts are won, they will bring out their doctrines, and the people shall be deceived. The people shall say, “Did he not speak thus and thus? And did we not examine it from the Word? Therefore he is a minister of righteousness. This that he has now spoken we do not see in the Word, but it must be right, for the other things he spoke were true.”

This is spoken by Jesus directly into our time. The time is now! We can read that the Lord warns about haughtiness. – “Take heed to yourselves lest you be puffed up and think that you have arrived” –

Matthew 18:11-22

Parable of the Lost Sheep

12 "If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost? 13 And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he will rejoice over it more than over the ninety-nine that didn't wander away! 14 In the same way, it is not my heavenly Father's will that even one of these little ones should perish.

Correcting Another Believer

15 "If another believer[a] sins against you,[b] go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. 16 But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. 17 If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won't accept the church's decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.

18 "I tell you the truth, whatever you forbid[c] on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit[d] on earth will be permitted in heaven.

19 "I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. 20 For where two or three gather together as my followers,[e] I am there among them."

Parable of the Unforgiving Debtor

21 Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone[f] who sins against me? Seven times?"

22 "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven![g]

(Underline added)

Footnotes:

18:15a Greek If your brother.

18:15b Some manuscripts do not include against you.

18:18a Or bind, or lock.

18:18b Or loose, or open.

18:20 Greek gather together in my name.

18:21 Greek my brother.

18:22 Or seventy-seven times.

Leviticus 19:17

17 "Do not nurse hatred in your heart for any of your relatives.[a] Confront people directly so you will not be held guilty for their sin.

Footnotes:

19:17 Hebrew for your brother.

Luke 17:3

3 So watch yourselves!

"If another believer[a] sins, rebuke that person; then if there is repentance, forgive.

Footnotes:

17:3 Greek If your brother.

Galatians 6:1

We Harvest What We Plant

6 Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer[a] is overcome by some sin, you who are godly[b] should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.

Footnotes:

6:1a Greek Brothers, if a man.

6:1b Greek spiritual.

James 5:19-20

Restore Wandering Believers

19 My dear brothers and sisters, if someone among you wanders away from the truth and is brought back, 20 you can be sure that whoever brings the sinner back will save that person from death and bring about the forgiveness of many sins.

2 Thessalonians 3:6

An Exhortation to Proper Living

6 And now, dear brothers and sisters, we give you this command in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Stay away from all believers[a] who live idle lives and don't follow the tradition they received[b] from us.

Footnotes:

3:6a Greek from every brother.

3:6b Some manuscripts read you received.

2 Thessalonians 3:14

14 Take note of those who refuse to obey what we say in this letter. Stay away from them so they will be ashamed.

2 John 1:10

10 If anyone comes to your meeting and does not teach the truth about Christ, don't invite that person into your home or give any kind of encouragement.

1 Timothy 5:20

20 Those who sin should be reprimanded in front of the whole church; this will serve as a strong warning to others.

1 John 1:9

9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

This reference should be enough for a while if we wish to study what we need to do when we, and others, sin. It should be pretty clear that false teaching is sin. But let's add a couple of more to be sure.
Titus 3:10-11

10 If people are causing divisions among you, give a first and second warning. After that, have nothing more to do with them. 11 For people like that have turned away from the truth, and their own sins condemn them.

And of course, the letters from Paul to Timothy and furthermore from the OT:

Ezekiel 3:17-21

17 "Son of man, I have appointed you as a watchman for Israel. Whenever you receive a message from me, warn people immediately.

18 If I warn the wicked, saying, 'You are under the penalty of death,' but you fail to deliver the warning, they will die in their sins. And I will hold you responsible for their deaths.

19 If you warn them and they refuse to repent and keep on sinning, they will die in their sins. But you will have saved yourself because you obeyed me.

20 "If righteous people turn away from their righteous behavior and ignore the obstacles I put in their way, they will die. And if you do not warn them, they will die in their sins. None of their righteous acts will be remembered, and I will hold you responsible for their deaths.

21 But if you warn righteous people not to sin and they listen to you and do not sin, they will live, and you will have saved yourself, too."

And also, we will add a couple of writers in our time:

"We are told to love one another as Christ has loved us. Pop psychology trivializes that command by equating it with a 'positive' attitude. Forgotten is the first duty of love: to speak the truth (Ephesians 4:15).

Real love does not flatter or soothe when correction is needed but [rather] points out the error, which is blinding and harming the loved one. Christ said, 'As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; be zealous, therefore, and repent' (Revelation 3:19).

Instead, the idea is now current that love excludes rebuke, ignores the truth, and seeks 'unity' at any price. "Only disaster can result." – Dave Hunt (Author of numerous books)

And:

"When freedom is at stake, silence is not golden – it is yellow [i.e., cowardly]." - Tom Anderson (Writer)

But what happens today if anyone claims that some false teaching is going on? First of all, you will have the messages "Don't rock the boat". Not in plain text but hidden. And on top of that "It is the elders who control the teaching". Super haughty! So, what about the Holy Spirit? Doesn't He decide anything? Jesus, we pray for mercy and grace! I pray Holy Father in Heaven, in the name of Jesus, for mercy and grace and forgiveness.

Delusions today are many, and some are mentioned here and some in later chapters. But the case is quite clear. The "Don't rock the boat" tendency is widespread and thus controls. Desire for control is huge and it is haughty to desire it. Moreover, it is sectarian. This is just as prevalent in the Pentecostal church, charismatic and faith movements as it is in other larger groups, such as the Lutheran Church and the Catholic Church.

In many churches today, the teaching is so false that you start to believe that faith is no longer relevant or necessary. "Inclusive-ism" has taken over in so much as is no more "only one way to God", but

many. The World Church, to which the Ecumenical is the door opener. Everyone has a wish and a desire to be inclusive. I can no longer log on to Facebook without being confronted with that word and subject: "inclusive". Not even in the congregation is it possible (for past ten years) to not be confronted with this "must".

Before, it was "only" the New Age movement who had such teaching (of course based in Hinduism and Buddhism), but now it is everywhere. Let's have a look what the Scriptures say about this:

Matthew 12:30-33

30 "Anyone who isn't with me opposes me, and anyone who isn't working with me is actually working against me.

31 "So I tell you, every sin and blasphemy can be forgiven—except blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, which will never be forgiven. 32 Anyone who speaks against the Son of Man can be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven, either in this world or in the world to come.

33 "A tree is identified by its fruit. If a tree is good, its fruit will be good. If a tree is bad, its fruit will be bad.

John 6:44

For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up.

John 14:6

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

14 Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? 15 What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil[a]? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? 16 And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said:

"I will live in them
and walk among them.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.[b]

17 Therefore, come out from among unbelievers,

and separate yourselves from them, says the Lord.
Don't touch their filthy things,
and I will welcome you.[c]
18 And I will be your Father,
and you will be my sons and daughters,
says the Lord Almighty.[d]"

Footnotes:

6:15 Greek Beliar; various other manuscripts render this proper name of the devil as Belian, Beliab, or Belial.

6:16 Lev 26:12; Ezek 37:27.

6:17 Isa 52:11; Ezek 20:34 (Greek version).

6:18 2 Sam 7:14.

Amos 3

3 Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?

Matthew 7:15

15 Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves.

Matthew 24:11

And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people.

Matthew 24:24

For false messiahs and false prophets will rise up and perform great signs and wonders so as to deceive, if possible, even God's chosen ones.

Luke 6:26

What sorrow awaits you who are praised by the crowds, for their ancestors also praised false prophets.

So the false doctrines must be confronted. That is first and foremost as mentioned; it is not necessary to believe and everybody is included.

In these last days we can more and more see that many step forward and claim these false statements. They try in their fleshy ways to include both Jews and Muslims in Christianity. For Muslims is it even stated in the Roman Catholic Church Catechism (CCC):

- 841 The Church's relationship with the Muslims. "The plan of salvation also includes those who acknowledge the Creator, in the

first place amongst whom are the Muslims; these profess to hold the faith of Abraham, and together with us they adore the one, merciful God, mankind's judge on the last day." -

Neither Jews nor Muslims have the "same God" as Christians. We worship Father, Son and Holy Spirit and none of the others mentioned above does that. This goes for Buddhists, Hindu or New Age as well, for that matter. Unfortunately, the Roman Catholic Institution (RCI) doesn't have this Trinity either. They have added Mary, so they have a quadric falsehood.

There is no end to the falsehood found in the RCI. I remember the first time I got in touch with their apostasy. It was when my wife told me that the institution discourages people from reading the Bible. RCI says you will become insane if you read the Bible. We will not bore the reader with endless teaching about the endless falsehood in the RCI, since it is pretty well known already.

But very briefly we shall mention their claims and heresy; "Mary from Nazareth is free from sin. She is worshiped and prayed to". That in itself is such a huge rebellious unbelief and haughtiness that there is actually no need to mention any more, even the list is longer than the tower of Babel. We will end with this; Satan has made a copy of the first true Church and fooled billions of people for over 1700 years. Rome is always going to be Rome.

To walk in the same direction as the RCI is not possible for us. We focus on the RCI because it is actually close to the International Evangelical Lutheran Church. Actually, after they made their "faith agreement" in 1999 there is more that puts them equal than that which sets them apart. That is only on the paper. So, if you put together most of the Protestants and the RCI, you will end up with more than 2 billion (2,000 million) members. They are both heading in the wrong direction. Too much false teaching and practice.

There is also many other "denominations" and cults which contradict the written Word, and we will not mention all from New Age to Hindu and furthermore not all from Mormons to Jehovah Witnesses. In the Philippines there are more than 40 denominations and religious groups. We recommend the reader to take a closer look at the World information. It is just a search away.

This speaks for itself, so the reader will understand that we cannot, and will not go in detail over all the false and wrong teachings of all of this. But everybody has been asked and commanded to test everything so if you don't believe it is a lot of false and wrong

teaching here you have to check for yourselves. Remember also to check this book.

To refer to some of the things one can experience in the Philippines, we need to address a couple things. First, there is common practice to be half Muslim and half Christian. That is when, for example the mother is Christian, and father is Muslim. Furthermore, some make it a habit to convert to Muslim after a legal separation (it is rather difficult to get a divorce in the Philippines) to be able to remarry. The rich, on the other hand, can get the marriage annulled in Rome and by those means, get married again. There is no end to this kind of falsehood and trickery.

This means that those who don't want to compromise have to recognize the same facts as the Lord told to Joshua when he was going to conquer the Promised Land:

Jos. 1:6-9

It is not only rebellious unbelief and haughtiness that some will allow rule over them. Most of the leaders in congregations around the world are putting their ego and interests above the Law of God and are misleading their members to compromise, and are in for a big fall. Even Congregations like Pentecost, Assembly of God, Four Square are now cooperation with even RKI (and others) and have change their early doctrine to make it possible.

But it is more. In Revelation 17 & 18 the absolute haughtiness and falsehood is explained. The Lord Jesus took time to explain:

Revelation 17:4

4 The woman wore purple and scarlet clothing and beautiful jewelry made of gold and precious gems and pearls. In her hand she held a gold goblet full of obscenities and the impurities of her immorality.

Without using too much time, it has to be appropriate to lean to the conclusion that many before me have shared many times, and reminds us more than enough about the RCI. Other proof is not to be lightly looked upon:

Revelation 18:4-5

4 Then I heard another voice calling from heaven,

*"Come away from her, my people.
Do not take part in her sins,
or you will be punished with her.
5 For her sins are piled as high as heaven,
and God remembers her evil deeds.*

Revelation 17:9

9 "This calls for a mind with understanding: The seven heads of the beast represent the seven hills where the woman rules. They also represent seven kings.

Revelation 17:18

18 And this woman you saw in your vision represents the great city that rules over the kings of the world."

Well, more martyrs than we can even dream of have been murdered by the RCI. Under the Spanish inquisition alone, approx. 68 million were killed. We know that in Rome has slaughtered endless Christians. In no other city has this been planned and carried out in such a huge scale. Rome is built on seven mountains and had definitive lordship over the kings of the earth and was The Big City. I even know that Rome has lordship over all the countries that claim to be catholic.

Holy Father in Heaven, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ for all those who are willing to give their lives for the name of Jesus. Father we admit we have no words that can embrace our prayers and therefore we pray for Help from our Helper the Holy Spirit to make our prayer in context with Your Word.

We always must be prepared to die for the name of Jesus.

When it comes to interpreting these chapters in the Revelation everybody must test the Word and oneself to find the Truth. Are we ready?

It is solemnly clear, according to the Word, that we cannot compromise in any way by starting to cooperate with the RCI with or anybody else who has false teaching.

The main false teaching today, as mention before, is that you no longer really have to believe.

Because of cooperation with the above-mentioned and by starting to include the above mentioned in the fellowship, the Church of God has started to stumble. We must realize the seriousness of this and stop compromising and cooperating. We need to get out of this unbelief and haughtiness, urgently!

Holy Father in Heaven we pray for prophets to stand in the gap and not cowardly compromise. WE pray for power and strength to our weakened knees and admit that we have miserably failed in our warnings which should be made more and more powerfully. Thank you, Jesus that you are more than willing to forgive us and to strengthen us.

The time has come for those who are tired of the tricks of satan to stand up and be a witness, "a martyr". We will not go against the prophetic, such as "in the last days the fall away will be so rampant that even the elect would fall away if possible", but we are called to warn and not to compromise. WE KNOW that the devil has been conquered from the beginning of time and that the work Jesus did at the cross, resurrection from the dead and the ascending to Heaven is perfectly good for salvation for everybody who believes, as the Scriptures say.

Let us therefore understand what kind of Spiritual warfare needs to be done and GO OUT AND DO IT! Not only go out to the unreached, but to shake those who have been led astray by the grip of the devil. Let us make a stand against the haughty and rebellious once more before the Lord Jesus Christ returns and hope for an avalanche of born again in a last big revival.

Acts 26:17-18

17 And I will rescue you from both your own people and the Gentiles. Yes, I am sending you to the Gentiles 18 to open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God's people, who are set apart by faith in me.'

We must warn! If we don't, we are going to have some big problems one day. Let us imagine you are standing there in front of Jesus one day and the books are opened. The man in front of you is called forward. Soon, he is told to go to the left. It is now your turn and the question will be; "did you know that man?" I really, really don't want to be in your shoes if you knew him, but never did warn him properly.

Answer me please; "What is best? To warn one time too much and the man goes to Heaven, or to warn one too little and the man goes to Hell?"

Again:

It is time to take this very, very seriously indeed:

Revelation 18:4-5

*4 Then I heard another voice calling from heaven,
"Come away from her, my people.
Do not take part in her sins,
or you will be punished with her.
5 For her sins are piled as high as heaven,
and God remembers her evil deeds.*

"... or you will be punished with her" - You don't want that. Repent and go out NOW - You are not sure who she is? Well listen to some advice, don't take any chances to believe in who she is NOT.

Chapter 10 - Second letter from Peter

2. Peter 1:10 *So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things, and you will never fall away. 11 Then God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Let's be sure what "things" the Holy Spirit reminds us about!

5 In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge,

6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness,

7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.

There is no doubt here: We are again talking about obedience. Make every effort! And we have no excuse, because:

3 By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvellous glory and excellence. 4 And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable

you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires. (Underline added)

2. Peter chapter two is about false teachers and ungodly people who claim to know, but have gone way astray and, of course, this is because of rebellious unbelief.

Peter continues in chapter three by saying that they purposely overlook a lot of these things and become blasphemous and thereby also rebellious unbelievers. And he ended his letter with this, which is one of the most important statements in his letter and thereby in the whole NT. It is a powerful warning, not only to be humble in our doctrinal insurance, but also to test everything.

14 And so, dear friends, while you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to live a peaceful life that is pure and blameless in his sight.

15 And remember, our Lord's patience gives people time to be saved. This is what our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom God gave to him—

16 speaking of these things in all of his letters. Some of his comments are hard to understand, and those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters to mean something quite different, just as they do with other parts of Scripture. And this will result in their destruction. (Bold added)

17 You already know these things, dear friends. So be on guard; then you will not be carried away by the errors of these wicked people and lose your own secure footing. 18 Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All glory to him, both now and forever! Amen.

Again, a warning about being obedient and not being guilty of rebellious unbelief. "Make every effort" is rather strong wording. **Every effort!** Can we get this? **Yes, every effort!** Think about what that means

I can assure you that one of the things it means is NOT to twist the letters of Paul and make them into something they are not. Take heed all your doctrine-makers, so you don't end up like satan!

Chapter 11 – The Letters from John and Jude

1. John

We can probably sum up John's Gospel about Jesus and his three letters like this:

"Love one another! – Like Jesus's love and his death for the Church, you also have to live like he did – for the Father and the neighbour – if you love Jesus, you will keep His commandment – love one another!"

But we will comment on the passages in these three letters, and later also the Good News about the Father giving His only begotten Son when we end this book with the four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles.

John 2:3 And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. 4 If someone claims, "I know God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. 5 But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. 6 Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.

Many will fall into the trap of rebellious unbelief concerning verse six here in this passage. Why? Because they think and act in flesh! We must be in Jesus to be able to live like Jesus, to be able to obey, to be able to do the will of the Father like He does. That is because He is One with the Father.

Jesus has already prayed over us and for us to be One with Him and the Father, but it can happen only through rebirth. And in the rebirth we first must die; the ego with its haughtiness must die.

If we don't lay down that old life, it is because we are in rebellious unbelief. We know that it is true, but we refuse to act on it. We would rather try to go through the sermons of sacrifices and religious training than to really, really die.

Again, we should like to remind you: (these two passages you need to get used to) (KJV)

22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD [as great] delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey [is] better than sacrifice, [and] to hearken than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion [is as] the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness [is as] iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from [being] king.

1 Sam.15:22f

Matt 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen.

We will give it again later then from the NLT – so get used to it!

You don't love the Lord or your neighbour if you don't obey this. If you don't constantly tell your neighbours that it is Heaven to gain and Hell to flee you don't love them. That is to be a witness! Let me ask you. How much will it cost you to have a NT or five constantly in your car and every time you stop for gas you give it to the people who serve you, or to people you can see. It will cost you exactly nothing. And still you don't do it. You can get a NT for approx. 5 dollar.

Still most of those who read this book will in the end, after trying it for some months, give it up. I know for a fact that I will stand there in Heaven one day, that is if I endure to the end – which I intend to do – and have a conversation with a brother. And someone will come over to me and say; "Hey – you're the brother who gave me a Bible, and that is what triggered my Salvation. And I hope I can turn to that person and say, "Don't thank me as you know (he didn't give thanks he just stated a truth), I got the money to buy that Bible from this brother here". And we are all going to laugh and cry with happiness and greet the Lord Jesus for His mercy and Love. **So, if you're not going to give out Bibles yourself, give me some money and I will do it for you.**

1. John 3:4 Everyone who sins is breaking God's law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God. 5 And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. 6 Anyone who continues to live in him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know him or understand who he is.

Here we need to stress an awesome bad error in church and among believers.

This passage is difficult for many because they realize they have sin in their lives. The key is: "Those who keep on sinning" - they come under rebellious unbelief.

When the leaders, elders and pastors in churches cannot make the difference about stumbling, falling or purposely living in sin we have a huge problem.

1. John 3:7 Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous.

What is it to do that which is right? Not sinning; forget about that. We will always have a fight with the flesh. If you don't have that fight it is not because you are super holy. No, it is because you have become dull. To do right is to repent and ask forgiveness for sin and stop doing the sin over and over. To stop doing it takes a lot of humility because we must go on our knees and admit to our Lord that we are not able to do it by our own willpower, in our own strength. We must ask for help. Oh, how difficult some people find it to ask for help. It should be the opposite. We will not enter if we are not received as small children. They have to ask for help all the time and it is not any big deal at all. They like to ask for help.

The problem is too often that we want the sinful things. We say we don't want it and want to be free of it, but deep down in our heart we are not willing to do what is necessary. That is why we don't go down on our knees and ask for help with a fully surrendered heart.

This is called "the walk of holiness" (or the lack of walk of holiness). We will never stop sinning so long as we live, but we have a new-born Spirit that has a will not to sin. That is, if we are reborn. Many people go around as "believers" without being reborn, just because of this haughtiness and unwillingness. They can't humble themselves enough in order that the Holy Spirit can move in. The Holy Spirit does not share a heart with a rebellious unbelieving spirit!

8 But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.

9 Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God.

10 So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God.

This is very clear: "Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life is

in them. So, they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God."

If you don't live a daily repenting life you are full of rebellious unbelief and the best advice we can give you is that you skip the false-grace teaching you have been hearing for so long, and wash your ears for receiving some truth, because right now, you are walking the highway to Hell!

You need help. Get down on your knees right now and receive your salvation!

14 If we love our brothers and sisters who are believers, it proves that we have passed from death to life. But a person who has no love is still dead. 15 Anyone who hates another brother or sister is really a murderer at heart. And you know that murderers don't have eternal life coming to them.

16 We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters.

17 If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person?

This is not a joke. This is the Word of God. When will we start to believe this? How many live constantly in sin, practise this sin, all year around?

Frank repentance is what we all need. Today's church is full of goats that are entertained by some clowns and wolves in sheepskins. Why?
- Because they never ever preached repentance. They are full of rebellious unbelief. Yes, because many will fall away in the last days, says our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 John 4 New Living Translation (NLT)
Discerning False Prophets

4 Dear friends, do not believe anyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. **For there are many false prophets in the world. (underline mine)**

Here we go again. MANY! This was written about 1924 ago. Do we think there are many fewer or more today? How many priests do we have in the Jesuit Order? Well, it's about 60,000. They are ordered to convert or destroy all infidels, all those who are not a member of the Roman Catholic Institution. How many priests are there in the Roman Catholic institution with 1,2 billion members? Let's say one priest for

every 500. That is 2,4 million priests! Do you call that a lot? They do all they can to kill the Good News. We will not follow this pattern here, it is too sad. Just be sure, we say many here because the Jesus said many, and it is MANY! Just be sure you are not one of them.

20 If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? 21 And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.

We are about to end our studies about the Letters and turn towards Revelation, and then a few examples from the Gospels. But before we leave this letter there are a few more things we need to consider:

1 John 5 Faith in the Son of God

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too.

2 We know we love God's children if we love God and obey his commandments.

3 Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome.

4 For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith.

5 And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

"Loving God means keeping his commandments" – can it be simpler? There is even no need for any further comment on this.

6 And Jesus Christ was revealed as God's Son by his baptism in water and by shedding his blood on the cross—not by water only, but by water and blood. And the Spirit, who is truth, confirms it with his testimony.

7 So we have these three witnesses—

8 the Spirit, the water, and the blood—and all three agree.

9 Since we believe human testimony, surely we can believe the greater testimony that comes from God. And God has testified about his Son.

10 All who believe in the Son of God know in their hearts that this testimony is true. Those who don't believe this are actually calling God a liar because they don't believe what God has testified about his Son.

We should like to emphasize here that we shall use this passage in the teaching of importance of baptism in water. The teaching is very short;

There is no salvation in water baptism alone, but if you have come to believe, and you have received the teaching from the Word Of God about baptizing in water, and you refuse to be baptized, there is no salvation in that rebellious unbelief and behaviour either. Only hardening of the heart. And Jesus Christ will see that. He will not baptize you in the Holy Spirit.

Read this:

³⁷ Now when they heard [this], they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men [and] brethren, what shall we do?

³⁸ Then Peter said unto them, Repent, **and be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:37f (KJV) (bold added)

Just bear this in mind:

"Jesus Christ was revealed as God's Son by his baptism in water and by shedding his blood on the cross"

11 And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life.

Crystal clear! No comments needed. Just again, that reminder; faith equals obedience.

21 Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts.

This is one of the hardest things to do. The key is; never compromise!

2. John

4 How happy I was to meet some of your children and find them living according to the truth, just as the Father commanded.

5 I am writing to remind you, dear friends, [c] that we should love one another. This is not a new commandment, but one we have had from the beginning.

6 Love means doing what God has commanded us, and he has commanded us to love one another, just as you heard from the beginning.

7 I say this because many deceivers have gone out into the world. They deny that Jesus Christ came[d] in a real body. Such a person is a deceiver and an antichrist. 8 Watch out that you do not lose what we[e] have worked so hard to achieve. Be diligent so that you receive your full reward. 9 Anyone who wanders away from this teaching has no relationship with God. But anyone who remains in the teaching of Christ has a relationship with both the Father and the Son.

10 If anyone comes to your meeting and does not teach the truth about Christ, don't invite that person into your home or give any kind of encouragement. 11 Anyone who encourages such people becomes a partner in their evil work. (bold and underline added)

It speaks for itself; not very much to add! We have underlined and made bold instead.

Jude

«Og noen skal dere tale til rette fordi de tviler», Jude 22

Yes, I'm a Norwegian and I often read my Bible in Norwegian of course. I like to translate what this says: "And some you shall correct because they have doubt".

You don't find that specific wording in many translations, but I find it to be very correct.

NLT says: "You must show mercy to those whose faith is wavering".

And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.
Matt 28:17

There is a lot in Jude as:

I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. Jude 5

But since most of Jude is about false teaching and what is connected with it therein, we will not comment further on that here. We will concentrate on unbelief, doubt and disobedience, or rather obedience and faith, and the Fare of the Lord. After all this false teacher come under the first anyway.

Chapter 12 - Revelation

Revelation chapter one to three

Revelation 1:4-8 *This letter is from John to the seven churches in the province of Asia. Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come; from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne; and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen. Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. And everyone will see him— even those who pierced him. And all the nations of the world will mourn for him. Yes! Amen! "I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. "I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One."*

In the Norwegian language, we have a word called "unnfallen" which I have tried for a long time, together with the editor of this book, to really find a similar word for it, in English. I will use the opportunity to thank my brother in Christ, Simon, for the kind and good help he has offered to get this book out with as few errors as possible. If there is any error, it is my mistake.

We have ended up with this:

Complacency – opposite of vigilance - (nun) (Complacent – vigilant (ad))

Here, I shall briefly explain how it applies to the congregation, from the Norwegian point of view and translation and treasures. It is, of course, a good explanation of rebellious unbelief.

It will apply when leaders, and of course every believer, see something which is wrong. They recognise that it contradicts the Word of God, but then compromise and decide to wait when it comes to taking action for exhorting or rebuking. When that goes on over time it will turn into "unfallen".

We now are going to share from this awesome letter to the seven churches. And we will remember that, because of haughtiness, disobedience, compromising and complacency, the urgent needs were put forward from the Lord. And that not many years after he gave the messages; and taught them EVERYTHING I have commanded you:

Matthew 28:20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

By this, I mean to say, I think anyway, refuse to DO it, and I will not be with you. Well, these are harsh words when we turn them around, upside down as that. But let us just say; this is a book which is going to wake you up. Of course, Jesus will not abandon you. He is bigger than our mistakes. But this is what this book is all about. To really, really, put it "upside down", to try to let the reader understand that rebellious unbelief and hardening of hearts will have consequences. NOT that Jesus will leave us without salvation if we should forget to tell a couple of new disciples a couple of instructions, but every action will have a consequence and all complacency, or inaction, will have a consequence, either way. It could be so bad that we can back-slide and give away our salvation, the ultimate fall; The Apostasy. Therefore, we are writing and teaching about unbelief and not faith. Consequently, if you start to hate unbelief you will be given more faith.

Don't think that this doesn't apply to the New covenant believers when we stand in front of the Lord one day:

Ezekiel 3:20-22 "If righteous people turn away from their righteous behavior and ignore the obstacles I put in their way, they will die. And if you do not warn them, they will die in their sins. None of their righteous acts will be remembered, and I will hold you responsible for their deaths. But if you warn righteous people not to sin and they listen to you and do not sin, they will live, and you will have saved yourself, too." Then the Lord took hold of me and said, "Get up and go out into the valley, and I will speak to you there."

Yes, is the second time we tell you this, so that you will never forget. Maybe it will be mentioned again later. We are here, reading the Lord's instructions about how to behave in front of believers. It is right in line with the letters to the "messenger" – angel – for the seven churches.

Revelation 2:1-5 "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Ephesus. This is the message from the one who holds the seven stars in his right hand, the one who walks among the seven gold lampstands: "I know all the things you do. I have seen your hard work and your patient endurance. I know you don't tolerate evil people. You have examined the claims of those who say they are apostles but are not. You have discovered they are liars. You have patiently suffered for me without quitting. "But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first! Look

how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don't repent, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches.

The lampstand is described earlier in the letter, as the churches. The Holy Spirit is of course in these churches. When He leaves, there will be no more church. We can still have gatherings and singing, so-called worshipping, and preachers and teachers. But without Him, no church. That is the situation in so many churches today. It started in Spirit and is now, because of unbelief, haughtiness and again complacency; only flesh left. Someone started out in Spirit, but also started to compromise when the pressure from this world, which always tries to sneak into the churches, and has now culminated in purpose-driven churches, in the best Rick Warren style, and these do little more than to activate members.

To remove the lampstand will mean that they will lose their status as a church. That was what happened to Israel, because they didn't want to listen, obey and repent.

Rom. 11:8-10 As the Scriptures say, "God has put them into a deep sleep. To this day he has shut their eyes so they do not see, and closed their ears so they do not hear." Likewise, David said, "Let their bountiful table become a snare, a trap that makes them think all is well. Let their blessings cause them to stumble, and let them get what they deserve. Let their eyes go blind so they cannot see, and let their backs be bent forever."

In the tabernacle there was a seven-armed lampstand of gold, which was shining, night and day, as a picture of the presence of the Holy Spirit. It is also clear that when Jesus was talking about the ten virgins, the lamps with the oil was a picture which represents the presence or the absence of Him, the Holy Spirit.

Also remember that Jesus ends all His letters with this: "Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and what He is saying to the churches". Obviously if we don't listen there will be consequences. We all know what will happen if you ignore the Holy Spirit over time. You grow deaf to his messages.

Please test this explanation, and don't keep it if you don't find it in agreement with your understanding. What you certainly must keep and understand is that when Jesus will remove the lampstand, whatever meaning we put into that. It is an extremely serious action.

And it is done because of rebellious unbelief, here stated as a lack of willingness to repent.

So, as we understand, there are huge consequences for complacency. In this letter to the churches we don't have to "put it upside down" because Jesus is very clear. "If you don't do as I say, this will happen ...". Believers who don't desire to walk in a Holy way for the Lord doesn't like to read too much of this stuff. Since you are still with us, the Lord probably sees in your heart that you are not one of them. He will bless you for that faith. Remember that this faith is a gift from Him. Always remember; Jesus is a rewarding Saviour. And the reward for enduring to the end will be eternal life.

Furthermore, Jesus described Himself as; "the one with the sharp two-edged sword". (2:12) And as we, know the Romans where ruling Israel at this time and exercised ultimate authority with their two-edged sword. By this picture we understand that not to obey the Lord of lords and King of kings, Jesus Christ, there will be the most severe judgment; removal of the Holy Spirit.

We must consider this;

Revelation 3:5-6 All who are victorious will be clothed in white. I will never erase their names from the Book of Life, but I will announce before my Father and his angels that they are mine. "Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.

Exodus 32:30-35 The next day Moses said to the people, "You have committed a terrible sin, but I will go back up to the Lord on the mountain. Perhaps I will be able to obtain forgiveness for your sin." So Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Oh, what a terrible sin these people have committed. They have made gods of gold for themselves. But now, if you will only forgive their sin—but if not, erase my name from the record you have written!" But the Lord replied to Moses, "No, I will erase the name of everyone who has sinned against me. Now go, lead the people to the place I told you about. Look! My angel will lead the way before you. And when I come to call the people to account, I will certainly hold them responsible for their sins." Then the Lord sent a great plague upon the people because they had worshipped the calf Aaron had made.

And:

Rev 3:11 I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take away your crown.

We are now speaking to all those who say, "You cannot lose your salvation whatever you do, because when you are born again, it is impossible to lose new birth". You have this claim and explanation that those who backslide were never regenerated in the first place. You really, really must make up your mind who Jesus is talking to, in the three above passages; the congregation or some carnal Canaanites.

The ultimate severe consequence of rebellious unbelief and haughtiness is the removal of the Holy Spirit, and by that, automatic removal in the Book of Life and in the end, no Eternal Life. Yes, we cannot lose our salvation, but we can give it away. Hold on, so no one will take away your crown, understanding that you will end up giving it away if you don't bother to hold on to it.

In these late days, you must understand that you must make your election solid. If not you are going to be fallen away, as so many others are, and will do. That is why the second and third chapters in the book of revelations are so important today. We must read it every day. Study it with fellow believers and meditate on it. Not only this letter to the churches, but also especially chapters 17 and 18, to be able to understand and make up our mind where all evil comes from, so we can avoid it.

The last letter and perhaps the best-known and referred to is the one which was written to Laodicea. We will advise the reader not to fall into to trap of thinking that these letters are in place and time. They are not. Like the sum of the Word of God is the Truth, the fact that Jesus is and will always be without time or place. Yes, He left Heaven and walked around here for some time, but still His Word is for all places to all times. We must add that it can look as though some of Paul's instructions are in time and place, but that is another story. There is a reason for not commenting on Paul's letters in this book.

So back to the last letter, which is, as we all know, about being lukewarm.

Revelation 3:14-22 *"Write this letter to the angel of the church in Laodicea. This is the message from the one who is the Amen—the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's new creation: "I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other! But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth! You say, 'I am rich. I have everything I want. I don't need a thing!' And you don't realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked. So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been*

purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see. I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference. "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne. "Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches."

Why is it so bad to be lukewarm?

From one of my Study Bibles:

"There is nothing worse than a lukewarm Christian. A Christian who has one foot in the church and one foot in the world is totally miserable. He can't enjoy the peace and joy of God's kingdom, because he feels guilty about his sin, and can't even have a "good time" sinning, because he knows that it's wrong. Such "Christians" are useless spiritually. Jesus tells them to choose whom they are going to serve and to stop playing games."

I know what they are talking about. I was born and raised in a Pentecostal family. My father was a Sunday-school teacher. He had his tract mission, and was an elder in the church. On top of that, he was a leader in the main Norwegian Christian choir. My mother was always by his side. I grew up with a lot of hallelujah, laying on of hands, and speaking in tongues. I went to Sunday school from age 2 to 14 (I have a 12-year diploma with a lot of stars) and then in the brass band in a big church and then from there to a Christian "pop" band. The Salvation Army's "Joy Strings" from UK was our heroes. (For those who have heard of them. This was in 1966)

But very soon after this when I was about to reach seventeen (I'm born in late '51) I was more occupied by The Beatles and the hippie movement than by my church. We started to drink beer and do too many things with our "sisters", instead of studying the Bible. I had always been a rebel in church and was banned from the summer camp, more than once. At eighteen years old, I was no longer in the church. I had come-of-age, and didn't have to listen to mama and papa any more. I changed my religion to sex and drugs and rock'n roll. And soon later, I had tried whatever was on the market in the way of drugs. At twenty-four I was an alcoholic.

What have saved me from dying in my sin was my mother's and my father's prayers and that "I gave my heart to Jesus", as told by mum

and dad after church one Sunday, as a ten-year-old boy. I sincerely meant it on that occasion, I can remember that very well. I wasn't told to come forward. I didn't talk to anybody. I just made up my mind and heart about it. Later, I came forward to many altar calls and prayed many "prayers of salvation", but without my heart being in it.

When I was nineteen, I was called by Jesus to come back, and that I must not party any more. Indeed, there was full party 24/7 and I struggled. I had great fear, and couldn't enjoy partying any more, always very stoned or very drunk, or both. I got so frustrated and upset that I tried to kill myself by jumping out in front of a moving car. That car stopped dead in just two metres. Thank you Jesus! I suffered at least ten further close-to-death accidents over the next few years, and Jesus saved me from all of them. What a great God we have!

So, I had to make a decision, and one day I said: "After death there is nothing". Of course, that belief lasted for only one second. But sadly, it "set me free" to keep on sinning, without having so much guilt any more. For the following 30 years I had a fight with Jesus. But he never let me go. Oh Lord, thank you, thank you!

I came back to Jesus in 2002, now seventeen years ago, as I write. It happened like this:

I was at the lowest point of my life. A six-year-old relationship was over; I was engaged to be married, but my wise girl made up her mind not to marry an alcoholic. I couldn't stop drinking, no matter how hard I tried. I had been into various hospitals at least six times for overdosing on alcohol (including four times with about 0.05 % measured in my blood, a potentially deadly level). I had no job, no money, nothing. I had already started, about ten years ago, to pray an evening prayer and I started to read the Bible again. I knew what I had to do. I just wasn't ready yet.

But one day, I simply couldn't take it anymore. I surrendered. I said to Jesus, while standing in the middle of my living room; "Jesus, I cannot fix my life any more. Can you please take over the steering wheel and will go and sit in the back seat of this car". It was so easy to do that, but still I had already wasted more than thirty years of my life . Jesus baptised me there and then with the Holy Spirit and with the Fire to go out. I went down to a congregation and got baptised in water. And from that "day-one" I have preaching the gospel to the world every day. Glory to Jesus! (Incidentally, this is a very shortened version of the story).

[As I said "I know something about it!"] (Kjell, I think you should delete that sentence... sounds haughty!)

So, back to the question; why is it so bad to be lukewarm? Well, it's because there is no room or opportunity for repentance in the lukewarm person! We can say, "You can be cold, or buy gold". To be cold is easy; it is just to do as I did, as described above; leave the church. But it is much wiser to buy gold. When you are lukewarm you are self-righteous. You think that what you are doing is not really so bad, and you look around you to find a lot of errors in other people's lives, which of course if you really look, is very easy to spot. This is because have already surrendered to the lukewarm way of thinking.

What does it mean to buy purified gold? One must start to study the Word again, eating the Living Bread. That was what saved me of course. I started to read my Bible. I started to eat from the Word of Life.

Gold is one of the most valuable metals on earth and it is covering the streets in Heaven. The New Jerusalem is made of gold. The Word of God and our faith is described in the Bible as more valuable than gold. The Mercy seat and the cherubim were of pure gold. There is a golden alter in front of the Throne in Heaven. And we can go on forever to invest in gold or invest in the Word of God.

Jesus is described as "with a gold sash across His chest". As mention, the lampstands are of gold. Let us round it up with this;

Eph. 6:14 Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness.

Jesus is the Truth and Jesus is the Word.

Furthermore, we have been given the way to success when it comes to entering the Promised Land;

Joshua 1:7-9 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

It is obvious that anyone who wants to get out of lukewarm zone without having to take the ungodly mistake of being cold, he must start studying the Bible again. A lukewarm person will not be studying the Bible. He cannot do that; it is too confronting. He might read some part of the Psalms and think that Psalm 91 relates to him, but it doesn't because he is not actually living in the shelter of the Most High.

I recommend using Psalm 91, but to think of it in an "upside down" way; as in:

He who is NOT living in the shelter of the Most High will find NOT rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

Be afraid of the terrors of the night
Dread the diseases that stalk in the darkness

They will die around you and it will be a big problem for you.

Plague will come near your home ...

And so on and so forth – you get the idea!

If you are lukewarm, or have realized that you are on your way to being lukewarm, I say this to you: If you have one foot in the world and one in Word you will later, or rather sooner, fall head-long down into an ocean of haughtiness, and you might even drown.

So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see. I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference.

Also get some faith into your life, some righteousness and let the Holy Spirit move into your heart again by throwing out all the other stuff that it is so filled up with. Mostly, avoid love of money, which is the root of all evil.

Revelation is sprinkled with important terms like faithfulness, obedience and endurance like the rest of the Bible. But we can observe how we rather like security, assurance and freedom, which is also everywhere in the Scripture. Let's concentrate of God's promises, and give Glory to Him for His commendations. But let's not forget His warnings, criticisms, instructions and, **most of all, correction, which we supposed to love also.**

Let us also be aware of that when Jesus says He is at the door knocking to get in, He is speaking to the congregation, to the lukewarm congregation, and NOT to unbelievers. How many times have we used that term in our evangelizing? The term of evangelizing that speaks of inviting Jesus into your heart is out of context. The term is repent!

Let's hear the promises of what we receive if we repent:

Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne. "Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches."

What an awesome promise. How can we say no?

"I want both; The world and the Word". This is insanity, to have a confused attitude like that. I know; remember, I have been there, don't go that way. It can be a very long and dangerous detour, or sometimes even worse ...

Revelation 17 and 18

We will use some of this book to emphasise that we are looking at a clock that shows 23:59:59. It is soon over for this world as we know it, in two ways. One; the world church is soon in place and then of course second; Jesus is coming back very soon.

Revelation 18:4-8 Then I heard another voice calling from heaven, "Come away from her, my people. Do not take part in her sins, or you will be punished with her. For her sins are piled as high as heaven, and God remembers her evil deeds. Do to her as she has done to others. Double her penalty for all her evil deeds. She brewed a cup of terror for others, so brew twice as much for her. She glorified herself and lived in luxury, so match it now with torment and sorrow. She boasted in her heart, 'I am queen on my throne. I am no helpless widow, and I have no reason to mourn.' Therefore, these plagues will overtake her in a single day— death and mourning and famine. She will be completely consumed by fire, for the Lord God who judges her is mighty."

We will not discuss WHETHER the Harlot is the RCI, in this book. If you disagree; put down this book and find out for yourself who it is, but not until you have read this chapter, please. If you can't find another candidate, repent from your rebellious unbelief and start to read the rest of this book.

First of all, I want you to think and then answer; if you disagree that the Harlot mention in chapters 17 & 18 is the RCI, you most have another alternative. This is because Jesus doesn't play around with us to be in dark with this. He doesn't say that to get out of something it is very difficult to recognize! Find for us a state and an institution that fits to the description in chapter 17 & 18. I mean 100 % like RCI does. If you can't find it, please reason with us.

There is a certain responsibility to warn those who think they are brothers and sisters and on the way to Heaven. But because a lot of things, they have actions that give them away as unbelievers. Let's just start with saying that of course you have some brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic Institution (RCI) who we can say have been born again and are at this moment on the way out of her. To get out of her normally takes a couple of days. Not years and not months, not even weeks after one are born again. We believe the Holy Spirit will measure in each case the given time.

Why are we taking up this topic in this book about rebellious unbelief? Well, it's because there is an extreme confusion in the churches about this, and very, very little knowledge! And we'd also like to stress that hopefully there will be a lot of Catholics who will make up their mind about getting away from ultra-rebellious unbelief and hardening-of-heart instilled into them by the ruler of RCI; the devil. If RCI is the Harlot then her ruler is of course the devil.

There are enough books and materials readily at hand for those who need to really be sure whether we are talking the Truth about RCI. I suggest you start with the Jesuits, so you can have a kick-start of what we are talking about. And in that choice, start by Googling the "Oath of the Jesuit". Then go further to check out whether; "Is Alberto for real". There is a book with that title. Then go on to "Fifty years in the Church of Rome", and if you don't know anything about RCI doctrine read "Understand Roman Catholicism".

Now is the time for every believer to take a stand. Are you going with the mainstream and embracing the "world church" and the Ecumenical movement? Or are you searching the Scripture for revelation about what is going on? Is the ecumenical movement as we know it today from Jesus or not? What is Jesus having to say about this. Well most of it is in the Book of Revelation, but we should also look up Matt 24, Luke 21 and the book of Daniel.

You also must make up your mind about this; was the Reformation from God or from the devil? This is the question every Christian must

ask himself, because these days the Vatican, together with the Lutherans and Evangelicals, are proclaiming that the Reformation was from the devil, because it divided the church. They also say that everyone who does not agree that the Reformation was from the devil, is himself, demonic.

It is not likely that you will find yourself out of the mercy of Jesus, if you have doubt about these things. But the end is near, and you want to make your selection is strong and sure. It is hard not to go with the mainstream in these matters. A lot of other Christians will put a stamp on you as a fanatic today, if you choose not to compromise after finding the truth in the above mention material and Scriptures. Don't harden your heart for the truth in these matters. And even worse, as so many do today, don't start to cooperate with her, and even flirt with RCI. You can soon find yourself being punished by her.

Flirting with the Harlot can lead to devastating and catastrophic results. A prostitute will spit you out after she empties you and make sure you are afflicted with pain; physically, emotionally and spiritually. In the best case you will end up lukewarm and in the worst case you will be punished by her. So again, don't be in doubt about this; simply believe.

The last warnings

Revelation 22:10-15 *Then he instructed me, "Do not seal up the prophetic words in this book, for the time is near. Let the one who is doing harm continue to do harm; let the one who is vile continue to be vile; let the one who is righteous continue to live righteously; let the one who is holy continue to be holy." "Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." Blessed are those who wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life. Outside the city are the dogs—the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshippers, and all who love to live a lie.*

And to all those who love to live a lie. We will use some time to warn about some other extreme doctrines increasingly taking over those churches that are willing to compromise, because of love of money and position.

“Chrislam”:

For a long time, many have been flirting with the idea that Christians and Muslims have the same God. That is a lie from Satan.

According to the Bible, Allah doesn't exist and if so he is the devil and he has no son. The first statement is according to the Bible and the second to both the Bible and to the Koran. The Koran itself claims he has no son called Jesus and the Bible tells us that there is One God and He has a Son called Jesus. So, according to the word of God, Mary-worship and/or Allah-worship is to worship the devil because we are told to worship only One True God, that who has a Son named Jesus Christ.

So, when the Vatican and Mecca go together with Irvin, (Rick Warren) and other places like Houston and Sydney and many other like Toronto and with Kenneth Copeland to back up the invention of Rick Warren, Chrislam and Kings Way, we must at once take a stand against this. We should call out and warn as many as we can.

Muslims call their own prophet Isa (jesus) a liar in the way that The New Testament is proven and verified as one of the surest sources of history from the time Jesus was walking the Earth. Jesus makes a clear statement among others;

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:6 (KJV)

New Age:

New Age is one of the most sneaky false doctrines that exists. Just buy books about it and we can recommend starting with "Another Jesus calling".

Then we will mention some dangerous deceiving spirits from the Hindu world. "Kundalini" is rampant in many, many congregations and first of all in Toronto, Lakeland and Reading. Some "Charismatic" types have really turned half-crazy. "KUNDALINI WARNING – Are False Spirits Invading the Church?"

Furthermore, we will warn about the doctrines like: OSAS, Calvinism, Cessationism (which of course is in most of the Southern Baptist congregations) and finally, the Lutheran practice of baptism of infants. If you are not familiar with all this, look it up and buy some books.

Those are all living a lie, and we must stay away from cooperating with them. We will leave the judgement to Jesus Christ, but as we can read in many places in the Scripture, those who teach doctrines and lead people astray are better off never to have been born.

So, does the doctrine of baptism of infants lead anyone astray? Yes, because they say that when you are baptised as an infant you go to heaven when you die. This is what these doctrines do. They like to assure people that they are OK when they are not.

Some few examples The four Gospels about Jesus

According to Matthew

Matthew 3:1-2 In those days John the Baptist came to the Judean wilderness and began preaching. His message was, "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near."

This is the Gospel, the Good News – repent! Because there is no other way! We must get our sins washed away with the blood of Jesus. Jesus had to die so we should have the possibility to repent and to be born again. Make no mistake; Jesus had to leave His glory for only one thing; to pay the ultimate price for our sins.

Let's take it from the beginning. I trust I have the go-ahead from the Spirit to tell this story, even if it could be that it includes some assumptions. If I were not pretty sure about this, I would not do it. But let me just say that I'm humble in the way that I admit, I could be wrong in one or two suggestions here.

Before the creation, there must be some conversations in Heaven between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. It's like the Father said to His Son and His Spirit; "Let's make man in our likeness and image". Yes, that was the purpose from the beginning. They never planned to stop afternoon on the sixth day.

So, since God the Father said this, it might be a conversation up front. Like this; "I want a lot of children. I want someone who is born by me and I want you to have a Bride for My Son". The angels are not born, only Jesus is born by the Father. And the Word might have said; "You know if We do that, create something in our image and likeness that will be born into our family by their own free will, I will have to go down one day and make a sacrifice for the misuse of their free will".

"Yes", the Father would have answered, "are you willing to do that? Am I willing to let you do that? Is the Spirit willing to replace you on earth after that"?

"YES"; they would have agreed. Something like this must/could have happened. They know and could see what would happen, were they

to make this enormous, beautiful creation. It is a fact that we don't choose to be born of flesh, but we choose to be born of Spirit.

They could even see that if they were to do this, Lucifer, the most beautiful creation so far, will be so jealous that he would try to put himself above God to stop it, and that Jesus would have to him and one third of the angels out of Heaven and down to earth. The fact that Jesus kicked him out was the start of the trouble done here, but Satan, as he was now, had to go. He had sinned, and there is no room for that in Heaven.

What do we want to achieve by telling a "half assumption" story like this? And again, don't buy this story without testing it. It is not important. What is important is the following:

The father, Son and Spirit knew for sure what would happen if they were to create man. And they wanted it so much that they were willing to pay the price. Man had to be created with his own free will. That is to be in the likeness and image of God. If there were no free will, how could they choose to sin in the first place? Listen all you "TULIP freaks"; there is something in your false doctrine you have missed. You say, "In the end, the will of the Lord will always be realised anyway". Yes, you are right. And the will of the Lord is that His creation should have free will. Got it? So that his children will choose to be born into the family by free will! In this way, the Heavenly Family is above, and superior to, the worldly flesh family.

Here is my advice to all those who absolutely must preach the Calvin doctrine about predestination and election. Yes, there are some things predestined and there is someone elected. But that is not the general rule. If you absolutely must believe that, keep it to yourself. Do you hear?... Keep it to yourself, because you are doing no favours to the congregation. Your doctrine doesn't make more disciples, and doesn't win more people for Christ. You are putting out a dogma that people will think; "Since there is no free will, all is predestined and elected already. So, why preach the Gospel?"

So, to calm down; we will never understand what kind of decision they had to make before we enter Heaven. To try to understand it; I'm 67 now as I press the keys on this keyboard. For over 10 years ago the Lord blessed me with a wife for the first time in my life. Meaning to say I had never been married before. And He blessed us with a beautiful healthy daughter. She is more than the "apple of my eye". She is so valuable to me that about a week ago I searched my heart and talked to Jesus about this; do I put my daughter before you?

The thing is; to get this blessing in this late period of my life, and my wife (she is forty-seven now) makes me think of the sacrifice Abraham had to be asked to make, in order to make him be totally depended on the Lord. Am I willing to die for Jesus? Yes, of course! Am I willing to do that now and therefore see my daughter growing up without a father? Well I talked to Jesus about it and He assured me that if necessary He will give me the strength I need to do that. Hallelujah for the mighty God we have.

So here comes the next question. If I knew that my wife would be tortured and killed in front of my daughter and me, would I then be willing to kill my own daughter to make a sacrifice for sin for those who did that? Knowing this in advance; would I be willing to get married and let my wife give birth to a daughter, knowing that this was going to be the result? NO! – I would probably be 100 % sure; no, no, no. Well, if not, the Lord would give me strength to do that, also.

In other words, when They knew what would happen, and still did it, we should not regard salvation as some easy, loving gift rather like the way we judge carnal things. When Jesus left His Father and Spirit and the Glory He had, They all knew that He would be treated as if He were tortured and crucified, and left alone for the first time in Eternity. It is unthinkable that He was abandoned by the Father. But as He took away our sins, there was no other way. Actually, the moment They decided to have Children and Bride there was no other way because they were not creating automatons, and not creating small "gods", unable to sin.

They knew that the punishment was going be so hard that the Father had to keep His Son alive to walk to the cross. The Devil wanted Jesus to die before reaching the cross. But Jesus gave His Life. And He didn't give it before all was fulfilled. Oh, thank you our Lord and Saviour. Thank you my Lord Jesus!

Now, we might understand a little bit more about what it really cost that which we call Holy Trinity, to create man in their own image and likeness. So, when Jesus also says; "repent and believe in the Gospel" there will be severe consequences if we choose not to believe. All action and inaction will have consequences. This is very clear in the Word of God.

John 3:36 And anyone who believes in God's Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn't obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God's angry judgment."

After going through the rest of the chosen Scriptures for this book, the four Gospels and Acts, there will be no doubt in your heart and mind that rebellious unbelief will be punished with eternal Hell. This is, of course, if you don't believe that already.

God doesn't play games in this serious business. He has no room for disobedience after letting His Son suffer what He had to do; I can assure you of that. If we can't tolerate such a sacrifice in our own life, how much more will God NOT tolerate those who reject the sacrifices made by Him, the Spirit and His Son? They will have the same destiny as Satan and His angels. That is very clearly pointed out time-after-time, in the Scriptures.

We must understand that if we are going to get anywhere in this rebellious unbelieving time, we need to have preaching and conversations like this. The Lukewarm "Christians" are so rampant and their false teaching even worse, so we need the ultimate in hyper-confrontation too, if possible, to shake things up, one more time. Oh, we pray Lord; "Shake it all one more time before your coming".

Matthew 3:17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

Stop doubting and believe. Stop your rebellious unbelief and believe. Stop your haughtiness and believe. Stop reading right now and obey and repent, and kneel and ask forgiveness and ask for strength to stand strong in the coming days with persecution for the real CHURCH. Go and tell your brothers and sisters about your decision and rebuke the lukewarm church of yours and obey the commandment and commission; GO OUT. Time is short; make up for the lost time, by starting right now!

Matthew 4:17 From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near."

Beatitudes

We will not start to go through this wonderful teaching of Jesus in this book. But we will give a warning for those who teach that this is only for Jews. They must repent, or face the consequences one day. If you stand in front of the Judgment Seat and have gone through life with such teaching, I would think there is a possibility that you will be charged with rebellious unbelief?

Matthew 7:1-2 Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged.

When it comes to judging, there is one thing we cannot do; judge people in or out of Heaven or Hell, which we do all the time, unless we are really careful. But is Jesus talking about that here? Yes, partly, I think. Surely, Jesus teaches us not to do that kind of judging, within or outside of Heaven or Hell. But there is more to this:

It will be by the standard of Jesus that we will be judged one day. And thank you, Jesus for that! So, it not by the standard of men that we will be judged one day. So when Jesus says; *"The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged"*, He cannot mean Salvation. Neither can He mean that we will obtain salvation if we don't judge others. *"For you will be treated as you treat others."* We know that it is only by our faith in what Jesus did at the cross that we can be saved.

What does He mean by this; "Do not judge"?

I can't think of a more-used verse for those who really need to address their rebellious unbelief in their life. It comes together with "are you without sin, cast the first stone" and many others in that category. It is the religious hypocrites and the rebellious unbelievers, who use these verses out of context. A man of God who is confronted is never in any need of using these verses to "defend" or justify himself. He will search his life and ask the Holy Spirit about his case, and after that, act to either pray for those who persecute him, correct a brother who is way out of order, or repent from his sin.

Luke has another text in his reference to the beatitudes:

Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: Luke 6:37 (KJV)

Here is an important point, a "secret"; we need to understand the difference between judging and condemning.

This phrase "do not judge" must be seen in the light of "judge righteously" -

Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

John 7:24 (KJV)

Furthermore:

John 3:18-19 There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil.

Likewise:

John 3:36 And anyone who believes in God's Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn't obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God's angry judgment."

So, if we don't obey, don't believe, or are rebellious, we are already judged.

What does all of this mean; "Judge not"? There is no point of judging those inside because there is no judgment for them. And furthermore, there is no point in judging those outside, because they are already judged for not believing/obeying.

The type of judging, according to this, we cannot do: "We cannot judge who goes where and when" Every pastor who conducts a funeral sins against this. They say: "... so soon we will all see each other in Heaven"

Please understand; one of the gifts from the Holy Spirit, discernment, is especially given for judging righteously. Please use it. Please judge right from wrong. If you don't, you will have a problem on Judgement Day!

Jesus tells us not to judge people in or out of Heaven and He tells us to judge between right and wrong, and to judge righteously. So, what does he mean by saying; "Do not Judge" in His teaching here in beatitudes?

To practise unrighteous judging, to condemn, to be judgmental in the way we live, we are quick to point a finger. The Scripture tells us to test everything. That means to test everything against the Scriptures, but also "Don't take everything people say for granted". There should be witnesses. Even movies on YouTube can be manipulated, not to mention photos.

Let's round this up. We are told to judge or to make an account of, or to test and try out whether what people say is the truth. We are told

to use discernment of testing spirits, and so on and so forth. Let no one judge you for judging unrighteousness, if you exercise these things. Correct them, boldly.

But be slow to anger and in pointing a finger for how people act, or what you hear about them. Don't judge by listening to others. Don't be quick to judge any action, since there can be a reason even for the worse thing. Let's suppose someone has killed somebody, but it might turn out to be in self-defence. There is, in fact, a certain percentage of those who have been executed in the USA, who have been later found to be not-guilty. We have seen enough movies about people who sit on "death row", and after 20 years are given another trial, and are found not guilty.

But if a brother divorces his wife and marries another, you don't need to search the Scriptures before you judge him for sin and tell him to repent. You just don't need to look for reasons, since marriage is for life. Some will scream, "But my wife was unfaithful to me!". If your spouse is unfaithful, you forgive, and if the accused one humbles him- or herself and repents, you forget the transgression, and give new trust. That is the way Jesus tells us to handle that.

Why? Because if you don't forgive, Jesus will not forgive you and since there is no forgiveness without forgetting how can you not trust someone you can't remember having done something wrong?

Let's close this up with James 2, which starts with something called

"Warning against prejudice":

James 2:1-13 My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others? For example, suppose someone comes into your meeting dressed in fancy clothes and expensive jewellery, and another comes in who is poor and dressed in dirty clothes. If you give special attention and a good seat to the rich person, but you say to the poor one, "You can stand over there, or else sit on the floor"—well, doesn't this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives? Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters.

Hasn't God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith? Aren't they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him? But you dishonour the poor! Isn't it the rich who oppress you and drag you into court? Aren't they the ones who slander Jesus Christ, whose noble name you bear? Yes indeed, it is good when you obey the royal law as found in the Scriptures: "Love your neighbour

as yourself." But if you favour some people over others, you are committing a sin.

You are guilty of breaking the law. For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God's laws. For the same God who said, "You must not commit adultery," also said, "You must not murder." So if you murder someone but do not commit adultery, you have still broken the law. So whatever you say or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law that sets you free. There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.

This are some synonym-words to the word which describes the judging that people should avoid: prejudice, prejudging, prejudgment, bias, partiality, one-sidedness, lack of objectivity, favouring one over others.

Remember who it was to whom Jesus was talking when He held His preaching; not that He doesn't talk to all of us today, but just to make a clearer picture of what it was all about. Time after time, Jesus confronted not only his disciples, but also the hypocrites. Here is a good example:

Luke 18:9-14 Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: "Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. For I don't cheat, I don't sin, and I don't commit adultery. I'm certainly not like that tax collector! I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.'

"But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.' I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

This bring us, of course, to more characteristics of the hypocrites, which is that they despise others and are self-righteous. It is very easy to fall into the trap of despising other brethren. I don't know how many times I have prayed to be kept clear of that, and how many times I have asked forgiveness, in order to start to move in

that direction. It is extremely easy when you live in with situations and are surrounded by lukewarm and false-teaching people. But don't despise anybody. Hate the sin they are doing, but love them and pray for them to repent.

Many other stories in the Scriptures tell us the same thing over and over: "do not judge" – but judge righteously, and with the discernment given by the Holy Spirit.

And here is a warning; don't get into the same deception as the pope when he was asked about what the Scripture says about homosexuality; "who am I to judge?" If you can't judge things like sexual immorality as wrong today, you will be judged among them on Judgment day.

In the Norwegian language, we have three words which are helpful in this matter:

The Norwegian word for judging is "dømme" –

be_dømme - dømme - for_dømme

[Kjell, this is not clear!.... some bits missing??]

In English, you have the last two, which are of course "judge" and "condemn". But not the first, which can be described as; make an account of, and then decide, test, check every fact and then judge, but carefully, with the freedom of giving the benefit of doubt, where appropriate, to the accused.

It is of most important that we test everything and keep to the truth. So similarly, you must do those tests with this book. Judge whether this is according to the Scripture, or not. Then test yourself whether you are living in any kind of unbelief, or even worse rebellious unbelief. Then if you do, simply repent.

Jesus Christ blesses you and your family.

**Control and the sectarian in an organisation called the church.
Capt. 10 in "Haughtiness"**

Preach the gospel to the poor – do not entertain the rich
Seek mutual submission – not hierarchy
Serve one another - not leadership
Be a body - not an institution
Use the gift of grace - not office
Apply dialogue - not monologue
Carry the weak - do not idolize the "stars"
Charity work – not moralize
Community - not rhetoric
Test everything - not gag the most
Relationships - not organisations
Transparency - not closed
Tolerance - not conformity
True church - not a corporate Church

References alphabetic:

A – Prophecy by Stanley Frodsham (1882-1969)

THIS PROPHECY WAS GIVEN at the Elim Bible Institute USA, in 1965 by the late Stanley Frodsham. Brother Frodsham was one of those who received his Baptism in the Holy Ghost at Sunderland in 1908 where the Pentecostal movement in Britain had its beginnings.

With Great Judgments

With great judgments will I plead with the population of this country. Great darkness is coming upon the countries that have heard my gospel but no longer walk in it. My wrath shall come upon them. The darkness shall be so great, and the anguish so sore that men will cry out for death and shall not find it. There shall be a lingering death, famine, and great catastrophes.

My wrath shall be manifested against all ungodliness. It shall come with great intensity. You have known My love but have not known My wrath, My severity. My judgments are literal and not a thing to be lightly passed over. Realize the severity of My judgments and My intense anger against the sin in My household. My judgments shall begin in My house.

For I will cleanse My house that it be not partaker of My wrath against the iniquities of the cities. Before I visit the nations in judgment I will begin at My house. When I do cause My wrath to come upon the cities of the world My people shall be separate. I desire a people without spot or wrinkle, and such shall be preserved by Me in the time of My wrath coming upon all iniquity and unrighteousness.

Cry Out Continually

I am going to prepare you for the coming days by a hard path that will cause you to cry out continually unto Me. For when the going is easy, men do not seek Me, but rejoice in a temporary blessing. And when that blessing is removed they so often turn this way and that way but do not come to Me. I am showing you these things that you may seek Me continually and with great diligence.

As you seek Me, I will open up truths to you that you have not seen before; and these very truths will be that which will enable you to stand in these last days. As you are persecuted, reviled and rejected by your brethren then you will turn unto Me with all your heart and seek Me for that spiritual life you have need of. And when tribulation comes you will have that which will enable you to stand. For many shall be tossed to and fro. Men's hearts shall fail them because of

trouble on every hand. For these days shall be very terrible, the like of which has never been seen before.

Mighty Revival Power

When I visit My people in mighty revival power, it is to prepare them for the darkness ahead. With the glory shall come great darkness, for the glory is to prepare My people for the darkness. I will enable My people to go through because of the visitation of My Spirit. Take heed to yourselves lest you be puffed up and think that you have arrived. Many shall be puffed up as in the olden days, for many then received My message but they continued not in it.

Did I not anoint Jehu? Yet the things I desired were not accomplished in his life. Listen to the messengers, but do not hold men's persons in admiration. For many whom I shall anoint mightily, with signs and miracles, shall become lifted up and shall fall by the wayside. I do not this willingly; I have made provision that they might stand. I call many into this ministry, and equip them; but remember that many shall fall. They shall be like bright lights, and the people shall delight in them. But they shall be taken over by deceiving spirits and shall lead many of My people astray.

Seducing Spirits

Hearken diligently concerning these things, for in the last days shall come seducing spirits that shall turn many of My anointed ones away. Many shall fall through divers lusts, and because of sin abounding. But if you will seek Me diligently I will put My Spirit within you. When one shall turn to the right hand or to the left you shall not turn with them, but keep your eyes wholly on the Lord. The coming days are the most dangerous, difficult and dark, but there shall be a mighty outpouring of My Spirit upon many cities, and many shall be destroyed.

My people must be diligently warned concerning the days that are ahead. Many shall turn after seducing spirits; many are already seducing My people. It is those who DO righteousness that are righteous. Many cover their sins by great theological words. But I warn you of seducing spirits who instruct My people in an evil way. Many of these I shall anoint, that they may purify and sift My people; for I would have a holy people.

Many shall come with seducing spirits and hold out lustful enticements. You will find that after I have visited My people again, the way shall become more and more narrow, and fewer shall walk there in. But be not deceived, the ways of righteousness are My ways. For though Satan come as an angel of light hearken not to him; for those who perform miracles and speak not righteousness are

not of Me. I warn you with great intensity that I am going to judge My house and have a church without spot or wrinkle when I come. I desire to open your eyes and give you spiritual understanding, that you may not be deceived but may walk with uprightness of heart before Me, loving righteousness and hating every evil way. Look unto Me and I will make you to perceive with the eyes of the Spirit the things that lurk in darkness, that are not visible to the human eye. Let me lead you in this way that you may perceive the powers of darkness and battle against them. It is not a battle against flesh and blood; for if you battle in that way you accomplish nothing. But if you let Me take over and battle against the powers of darkness then they are defeated, and then liberation is brought to My people.

I Warn You

I warn you to search the Scriptures diligently these last days. For the things that are written shall indeed be made manifest. There shall come deceivers among My people in increasing numbers, who shall speak forth the truth and shall gain the favor of the people. For the people shall examine the Scriptures and say, "What these men say is true." Then when they have gained the hearts of the people, then and THEN ONLY shall they bring out these wrong doctrines. Therefore, I say that you should not give your hearts to men, nor hold people's persons in admiration. For by these very persons shall Satan enter into My people. WATCH FOR SEDUCERS.

Do you think a seducer will brandish a new heresy and flaunt it before the people? He will speak the words of righteousness and truth, and will appear as a minister of light, declaring the Word. The people's hearts shall be won. Then, when the hearts are won, they will bring out their doctrines, and the people shall be deceived. The people shall say, "Did he not speak thus and thus? And did we not examine it from the Word? Therefore he is a minister of righteousness.

This that he has now spoken we do not see in the Word, but it must be right, for the other things he spoke were true."

Be Not Deceived

Be not deceived. For the deceiver will first work to gain the hearts of many, and then shall bring forth his insidious doctrines. You cannot discern those who are of Me and those who are not of Me when they start to preach. But seek Me constantly, and then when these doctrines are brought out you shall have a witness in your heart that these are not of Me. Fear not, for I have warned you.

Many will be deceived. But if you walk in holiness and uprightness before the Lord, your eyes shall be open and the Lord will protect you. If you will constantly look unto the Lord you will know when the

doctrine changes, and will not be brought into it. If your heart is right I will keep you; and if you will look constantly to Me I will uphold you.

Great Dangers

The minister of righteousness shall be on this wise—his life shall agree with the Word, and his lips shall give forth that which is wholly true, and it will be no mixture. When the mixture appears then you will know he is not a minister of righteousness. The deceivers speak first the truth and then error, to cover their own sins which they love. Therefore I exhort and command you to study the Scriptures relative to seducing spirits, for this is one of the great dangers of these last days.

I desire you to be firmly established in My Word and not in the personalities of men that you will not be moved as so many shall be moved. I would keep you in the paths of righteousness. Take heed to yourselves and follow not the seducing spirits that are already manifesting themselves. Diligently inquire of Me when you hear something that you have not seen in the Word, and do not hold people's persons in admiration, for it is by this very method that Satan will hold many of My people.

Truth In The Inward Parts

The truths that I have revealed to you must become a part of you—not just an experience, but a part of your very nature. Is it not written that I demand truth in the inward parts? It is the truth of the Lord expressed in your very being that shall hold you. Many shall experience the truth, but the truth must become a part of you, your very life. As men and women look upon you they will hear not only the voice but see the expression of the truth.

Many shall be overcome because they are not constant in My ways, and because they have not permitted the truths to become part of them. I am showing you these things that you may be prepared, and having done all, to stand.

Fear not the days to come, but fear this only, that you shall walk in a manner pleasing to the Lord. In this time I am ordering and setting up My church and it shall indeed be pure, without spot or wrinkle. I will do work in My beloved that has not been seen since the foundation of the world. I have shown you these things that you may seek the Lord diligently with all your heart, and that you may be a preserver of His people.

Stanley Frodsham (1882-1969) - Brother Frodsham was one of those who received his Baptism in the Holy Ghost at Sunderland in 1908. He was a recognized prophet and teacher in the Body of Christ.

B - The Narrow Path by Frank Mangs (1897-1994)

It happened quite early in the morning for some years ago.

Without turning on the lamp I pulled up the blinds and sat down at the desk. Outside it was misty twilight. Actually I did not think of anything. But I was just listening to the gentle voice from my inner being.

Then it happened. All of a sudden my mind's eye saw a road, not a drive nor a path. It was the closest something like a better walk some meters width. No, there was no a sight in the Spirit. I was not in a trance or rapture, but wide awake. And yet I saw the road so clearly that whenever I want I can see the whole picture in front of me. I see it right now.

I saw that the road began at a narrow gate and knew that it ended in glorious world. But of that goal, I saw nothing. I just saw the gate and beginning of the road. And along the road centre was a glimmer of light that seemed to come from an endless source of a type I never seen. On the road both sides, it was pitch darkness.

The road had no ditches and no fences. But the line was marked of the shapeless area, which was where the light and the darkness were met. The boundary was blurred. I saw people walking on the road, both men and women, young and old. They did not go in groups.

They did not even go in pairs and in width, without all one by one. And it was then that the Lord, who called them into the road, had said: "If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me". (Rev 3:20 ...)

Anyone! "I with him and he with Me". That means that in Christ's true followers innermost is a room, as reserved only for him where no one else can enter. Those people were dressed in white robes. Dazzling white robes, which time after time got its purity renewed. Not because they asked for and hungered for purity in a worldly way and for good feelings, but because they wandered in the middle of the road.

Straight under the beam of the supernatural light. the purification of the blood of Jesus was an ongoing process. And I saw their faces. It was shining light on them too. Though many of them were marked by both age, sorrow and disease. And the glow was both a reflection of the inner light and a radiance of the light they carried within them. Gladly I had with my eyes wanted to follow these people walk all the way home. Even I did not. I had to turn our attention to the road's

beginning and the narrow gate. And there I saw a large amount of that stopped.

They had stopped before they passed through the gate and entered the road. And the strange thing was that many of them seemed to be happy. They were happy because they thought they be on the road.

Though they had never gone through the true repentances narrow gate. And perhaps the worst part was that in the midst of them moving figures in cassock and Pastor costume and evangelist gear. No, the worst part was that I saw the shadow of my own image in that cluster. For we have been cheated, we who are called to be living organs for Life from God. We have become religious talker instead of being functioning organs for Life.

We have guaranteed people of their salvation because they once baptized into Christ. We have ensured that seeking souls are born of the Spirit, though they only become born of human impact. We have said that they are children of God just because they're "nice". We have become religious quack, which prematurely voices guaranteed spiritual searchers they are born of God. Though they only are awakened.

And we have sometimes through just that severed the spiritual birth process. The result is that today there are lots of people, who believe themselves to be on the road to heaven even though they are not. But Jesus told you it would come to be so in this epoch of evening:

Then there was the kingdom of heaven is like ten virgins went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, they took no oil with them.

No oil! No Spirit! And no one are working the Life of the Spirit. Just the shapes and appearances. The name and creed. And they thought this was enough.

But I saw more. I saw people that have passed through the gate, experienced the new birth during and entered the road, but who then made way for something other than what it was meant to be.

They stopped and made way to a rest area in instead of letting it was a direction and a route. They had stopped, not in terms of age and time. But they had stopped when it comes to spiritual development and growth. They had stopped and started living on memories. And some people had just stopped. And fell asleep.

But all they had forgotten the Pauline words: However, as far as we already very slightly forward, so let's walk on the same road. But I

saw more. I saw the people who pulled out of the supernatural light that lay across the lane. They had pulled into the grey areas that were on the road both sides.

In the twilight zone, where the view of both sin and salvation was shrouded in mystery. Everything was foggy and grey and unreal. And the grey unreality made things that were a total impossibility of road centre now became toys for both mind and speech and actions.

And strange as it sounds, they were things that were in the dark on the side of the road subject of their interest. Like God's ancient Israel in the wilderness, the lust for flesh pots of Egypt, that they once had left. Their desire became not only an interest. The desire grew to covet. A hunger that captured their thoughts and feelings. Confiscated their dreams and fantasies. And did they in reality were on hand by the way, despite the apparently remaining on it.

Then it happened creepy. Slowly the shadows drifted away from the road, which lacks both fences and ditches. Away from the road, as they once during the tears and prayers flocked into. Away from the living hope and in despair. A hopelessness that they themselves were not aware of. For they were dead.

They had lost the ability to experience a spiritual crisis. Since I've seen all this I sank slowly down on his knees and burst into tears. I wished I was at least half a century younger than I am. And had the opportunity to better way than what I've done, done my utmost to God's Holy Spirit would be given the freedom to use me better than what He could.

// Frank Mangs