

### **How do I keep from falling?**

**I Peter 5:8** "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about..."

**I Corinthians 10:12** "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

**2 Peter 1:5** "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall."

## *Basic Answers for Sincere Christians*

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### Dedication:

All the praise and glory belongs to our Heavenly Father and to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

*I would like to specifically express my gratitude for my parents and pastors and for the wisdom that God put in the hearts of: Dr. Jack Hyles, Dr. Kevin Cowling, and Bro. Jerry Pitsiledes.*

All scriptures are from the King James Bible.

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notice of something that did not need to be done right now, but we wanted to do it. Through our eyes we see, then meditate, then desire treasures. **Matthew 6:21** says, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." The love of money is one such distraction... You can not serve God and money. **1 Timothy 6:10** "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

**3. Pride of life:** One example of the devil using our pride is when we get angry quickly--our pride causes us to say and do things hastily. We also make bad decisions because we love ourselves, and love people respecting us. Our pride causes us to view other people only in terms of how what they can do for us, not what do they need from us.

**4. Fear:** Fear is like a fingerprint of the devil at work. (**I Peter 5:8** ...because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion...) The safe direction is actually the same direction we hear the roar of the toothless lion, because if we flee the direction he wants us to go, the young lions are waiting in the bushes. Fear is also a sign of the past sins OR sins done against us. Most of our fear is not of God. Our adversary uses fear to get us to disobey. Saul lost his right to be king through fear.

**5. Lies:** Probably all of the temptations we face are contain partial lies, deception, untruths that would mislead our decision making. Eve was deceived by partial truth and an outright lie.

### **Why seek God?**

**Isaiah 48:17-18** "Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:"

#### **4. Lack of control over your own spirit: Prov 25:28**

"He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls."

#### **How do I get joy back?**

**John 15:10-12** "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you."

**Ecclesiastes 2:26** "For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God. This also is vanity and vexation of spirit."

#### **Why pray if the answer is obvious?**

**Joshua 9:14** "And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD." (This decision resulted in many problems that lasted for many years, and later led to sin of idolatry.)

**Proverbs 3:5** "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."

#### **What tools does the Devil use to get Christians to sin?**

**1 John 2:16** "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

**1. Lust of the flesh:** this means of temptation includes laziness: after being tempted to do what we ought not (slothfulness), we at the same time sin by not doing the good that needs to be done. Then, we are also more likely to do other sins because we are in the wrong place and we become used to self-gratification (doing what pleases ourself.) One example is when King David fell into adultery after becoming lazy.

**2. Lust of the eyes:** Through our eyes we get distraction; often times we do things at the wrong time because we took

#### **Introduction:**

Dear friend, there are many people who are attending church, but do not know the answers to basic questions, important questions, even though God has already answered them in the Bible.

I believe that a Christian who reads his Bible every day should already know many of these answers, especially if they hear these topics preached on in church. If we can help you understand the Bible, you are invited to visit an independent Baptist Church. I hope that we can be a blessing to your family.

Sincerely,

*Your servant in Jesus Christ.*

### What will cause God to give you favor?

**Psalms 5:12** "For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with **favour** wilt thou compass him as *with* a shield."

**Proverbs 11:27** "He that diligently seeketh good procureth **favour**: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him."

**Proverbs 14:35** "The king's *favour* is toward a wise servant: but his wrath is *against* him that causeth shame."

**Proverbs 3:3-4** Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find **favour** and good understanding in the sight of God and man." (mercy and truth)

**Proverbs 8:35** "For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain **favour** of the LORD." (find wisdom)

First of all, the favor of God is for the just; a sinner can become just through faith in the grace of God. (See below how to become just and receive the forgiveness of God.) If you are not forgiven and saved through his Son, there is no favor with God; God sees your sins and cannot say that you are just! A righteous and wise man will admit the truth to God: "Dear Jesus, I am a sinner and I need your forgiveness--have mercy on me and save me!"

### What makes a person just?

**Romans 1:17** "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."

**Romans 8:33** "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that **justifieth**."

**2 Corinthians 8:9** "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

**Galatians 3:11** "But that no man is **justified** by the law in the sight of God, *it is evident*: for, The **just** shall live by faith."

**Galatians 3:24** "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be **justified** by faith."

**Romans 5:9** "Much more then, being now **justified** by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."

also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear."

**3. General: Proverbs 13:10** "Only by pride cometh contention..."

(humble yourself before talking to people.)

**Proverbs 25:8** "Go not forth hastily to strive, lest lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame." Proverbs 25:9 "Debate thy cause with thy neighbor himself; and discover not a secret to another:"

**Proverbs 26:4** "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him."

**Proverbs 22:10** "Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out: yea, strife and reproach shall cease."

**4. You cannot avoid all conflict**, but we should try to please others: 1 Corinthians 10:31-33 "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved."

### Why am I discouraged?

**1. physically weak and tired: 1 Kings 19:3-4** "And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers."

**2. Disobedience** (Saul, Moses): **Psalms 84:11** "...No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

**3. Not trusting in God: Psalm 84:12** "O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee."

**5. Remember that God will reward your good/evil that you do: Luke 6:35** "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil."

**6. Do not be envious of the foolish, because God will someday repay them. Psalms 73:2-3**, "But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. **Psalms 73:17**, "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; **then understood I their end.**"

**Why do I get mad?** (some of the reasons)

**1. Because of pride: Proverbs 19:11** "The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression."

**2. Lack love for God's law: Psalms 119:165** "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."

**3. Because of oppression: Ecclesiastes 7:7** "Surely oppression maketh a wise man mad;..."

**4. Because of hypocrisy and injustice: Isaiah 65:3-5a** "A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick; Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels; Which say, Stand by thyself, **come not near** to me; for I am holier than thou..."

**How do I avoid conflict?**

**1. Servants: I Peter 2:18-19** "Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully."

**2. Wives: I Peter 3:1-2** "Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they

**Romans 2:13** "(For not the hearers of the law **are just** before God, but the doers of the law shall be **justified.**"

(God justifies those who put their faith in Christ. But note those who decide to trust Christ also decide they want to obey God, because God puts his Holy Spirit in them, a new nature, a spiritual nature.)

**How do you know you are forgiven to go to heaven?**

God is love. because of His love, He is willing to forgive and has prepared a way to forgive our sins. But the first step to being forgiven by God may be to humble ourselves and admit how bad we have been, sinning against God.

**1. We are all sinners--humbly admit your sin to God. Romans 3:10**, "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:" **Romans 3:23**, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

(The Bible says that God gives grace to the humble—will you admit your sin to God?)

**2. The wages of sin is death...be honest with God how bad our sin is.**

**Romans 6:23**, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

**Hebrews 9:27**, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:"

These wages include a 2<sup>nd</sup> death, a spiritual death; our soul can die in a lake of fire...

**Revelation 21:8**, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

God loves us (**John 3:16**) and wants us to choose his mercy rather than judgment (**I Peter 3:9.**)

### **3. God has provided for our salvation through Jesus Christ, not through our merits.**

**Romans 5:8**, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

**II Corinthians 5:21**, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

**Romans 6:23**, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

God has a gift for you. You can't earn it. It is free. (**Ephesians 2:8-9**) Jesus died for us. (**Romans 5:8**) Jesus was buried. (**Acts 13:29**) God raised him from the dead. (**Acts 13:30**)

### **4. Call on Jesus for him to save you.**

**Romans 10:13**, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

**Romans 10:9-11**, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

**Since Jesus died on a cross for you, wouldn't you be willing to trust him to save you?**

#### **Example prayer:**

Dear Jesus, I accept you as my Saviour forever. Forgive me of all my sins. Please take me to Heaven when I die; and save me from Hell. Thank you for dying for me. I ask you to save me forever--with all of my heart, Amen.

**Ephesians 1:7** "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the **forgiveness of sins**, according to the riches of his grace;"

**The moment you believe on Jesus Christ, you are redeemed, forgiven, and saved from hell.** If you want him to forgive you, did you trust His promises this moment? Do not just "say a prayer," but put your faith in Him. Call on him with all your heart!

### **How do I find the hidden will of God?**

You do not find the hidden will of God while disobeying the revealed will of God. **Ezekiel 20:31** "...ye make your sons pass through the fire...and shall I be enquired of by you, O house of Israel? As I live, saith the Lord God, I will not be enquired of by you."

Often in the Bible God does not reveal his will until people obey him, trusting him to provide a way. (Such as when Moses came to the red sea.)

### **How do I do good to those who do evil?**

**1. Humble yourself: I Peter 5:6** "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." Loose your rights.

**Mathew 23:12** "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

**2. Forgiveness:** Prepare forgiveness **before** people sin against you. Prepare your heart...we should be ready to forgive. **Romans 12:19** "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. **Matthew 6:15** "But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." **Matthew 18:35** "So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye **from your hearts** forgive not every one his brother their trespasses."

**3. Prayer: Matthew 5:44** "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

**4. Do good: Look for a way to be a blessing! Luke 6:33** "And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same." **Galatians 6:10** "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

“Better is the poor that walketh in his **integrity**, than *he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.*“ It is more important that children learn how to decide, than how to make money! Integrity is when children fear God, and do right even when it is hard. In **Job 2:3** we see: “And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his **integrity**, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.” Note that because Job maintained his integrity, God latter blessed him doubly. If our children learn the ways of God, **what a blessings they will have from God!**

### Why can't we do good?

**1. We are not relying on Christ: John 15:5** "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

**2. We are accustomed to do evil: Jeremiah 13:23** "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil."

**3. We have cords of sin: Proverbs 5:22** "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.

### Why doesn't God give me a sign as to what to do?

**1. Unless God tells me to ask for a sign, I should not ask: Mark 8:11-12** "And the Pharisees came forth, and began to question with him, seeking of him a sign from heaven, tempting him. And he sighed deeply in his spirit, and saith, Why doth this generation seek after a sign? verily I say unto you, There shall no sign be given unto this generation."

**2. We need to ask for wisdom in faith: James 1:6** says, "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." (We normally should ask for wisdom, not signs.)

### How do you know if God will answer your prayer?

**Matthew 21:22** "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

**Matthew 7:11** "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give **good things** to them that **ask** him?"

**Matthew 7:8** "For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." (asketh is in the linear tense in the Greek language: keep asking until God answers.)

**John 15:7** "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be **done** unto you."

**Note below how to abide:** we must "**love one another**" as Jesus did!

**John 15:10-12** "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my **commandment**, That ye love one another, as I have loved you."

My love or lack of love affects how God answers my prayers. But if I ask for things in his will, I can be confident he will hear me.

**1 John 5:14** "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:"

### Why is baptism important for Christians?

**1.** Almost all mention of salvation in the Book of Acts also shows people immediately or rapidly getting baptized after salvation.

**2.** It is important to show our love for Jesus. Like the wedding ring shows publicly that we belong to a spouse, baptism publicly shows our faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. We show Jesus that we love him by obeying him. John 14:15 says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

3. We are commanded to follow Jesus (John 12:26.) Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness. Jesus commanded us to be baptized after believing on Him.
4. Faith is exercised in steps (Romans 4:12, Hebrews 6:1). If we do not obey the easy, how will we obey the harder commands?

### How do you break off iniquity and sin?

**Daniel 4:27** "Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity."

**Psalms 119:2-3** "Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart." They also **do no iniquity**: they walk in his ways."

### How do you know the will of God?

**Proverbs 3:6** "In all thy ways **acknowledge** him, and he shall **direct** thy paths."

**John 6:39** "And this is the Father's **will** which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day."

(It is God's will that Christians stay saved forever.)

**Proverbs 18:1** "Through **desire** a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom."

**Proverbs 2:3-6** "Yea, if thou **criest after** knowledge, and liftest **up thy voice** for understanding; If thou **seekest** her as silver, and **searchest** for her as *for* hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth *cometh* knowledge and understanding."

**James 1:5-6** "If any of you lack wisdom, let him **ask** of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him **ask in faith, nothing wavering**. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

**Luke 12:33** "Sell that ye have, and give alms; **provide** yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth." --God tells us to provide things in heaven.

### 6. Love -- Laying down our life for the good of our children.

**Proverbs 23:26** "My son, **give me** thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways."

It seems that most of the work is in vain unless the heart of the child is captured by the one who is training the child, whether it be mother, father, grandmother, Sunday-school teacher, etc. We need to get the heart, so we can bring a child into the land of wisdom, so we can teach the child to love and fear God.

Investment of life and time may start with praying for them. God said about Job "...and my servant Job shall **pray for** you: for him will I accept..."

There are many characteristics to love that we need. I **Corinthians 13:4-5** says, "Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;" Part of love is to make the child **feel loved**. Praise for doing right is often more powerful incentive than chastisement. We are trying to guide the child's heart to God, not just correct wrong actions.

### 7. Teaching right paths -- To show the way that God has chosen; and even better, how to make right decisions.

**Proverbs 3:7** says, "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil."

**Proverbs 4:11** says, "I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths." God wants children to learn integrity. God said to us in **Proverbs 11:3**, "The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them." **Proverbs 19:1** says,

good fruits, without partiality, and without **hypocrisy.**” Also note that it is important that we be good examples so that our discipline does not appear to be hypocrisy.

#### **4. Care -- protecting a child from evil, wrong, sinful influence and also emotional, physical harm.**

**Proverbs 29:15** “The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to *himself* bringeth his mother to shame.”

Protecting a child includes controlling which friends are talking to your child, what computer games they play, what (or if) videos and TV are allowed...

**Proverbs 23:7** says, “For **as he thinketh in his heart, so is he**: Eat and drink, saith he...” This verse mentions how the covetous man thinks. The covetous man thinks about money. This verse illustrates that what we focus on affects our life.

In both children and adults the result of bad companionship is always destruction. Look what the Bible says about bad companionship. **Proverbs 28:7** says, “Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father.” Note also **Proverbs 13:20**, “He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.” **Proverbs 28:24** says, “Whoso robbeth his father or his mother, and saith, *It is no transgression*; the same is the **companion of a destroyer.**”

How do children get to a point that they would rob their parents? If someone is a **companion with a destroyer**, they can get to that point. Part of caring for a child is protecting them from bad influences and the knowledge of the evil ways.

#### **5. Provision -- Meeting spiritual, physical, emotional needs in the way that God views our needs.**

1 Timothy 5:8 “But if any **provide** not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.” (Note the balance in Luke 12:33 that we can make heavenly provisions.)

#### **What are God's first two commandments?**

**Mark 12:29-30** “And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, *namely* this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. ”

#### **What does God warn us to keep with all diligence?**

**Proverbs 4:23** “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.”

**2 Corinthians 8:7** “Therefore, as ye abound in every *thing*, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all **diligence**, and in your love to us, *see* that ye abound in this grace also.”

**2 Peter 1:5-7** “And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.”

#### **How can you get God to guide you?**

**Proverbs 3:6** “**In all thy ways** acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

#### **How do you discern which wisdom is from God?**

**James 3:17** “But the **wisdom that is from above** is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”

#### **How do you find God?**

**Deuteronomy 4:29** “But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find *him*, if thou **seek him** with all thy heart and with all thy soul.”

### How do you get wisdom?

**Proverbs 2:7** "He layeth up **sound wisdom** for the righteous: *he is* a buckler to them that walk uprightly." (**Our actions affect how much wisdom we receive!**)

**Ecclesiastes 2:26** "For *God* giveth to a man that is good in his sight **wisdom**, and knowledge, and joy:..."

**Proverbs 14:6** "A scorner seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not: but knowledge is easy unto him that understandeth."

**Psalms 111:10** "The fear of the Lord is the **beginning of wisdom**: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever."

**Proverbs 17:16** "Wherefore is *there* a price in the hand of a fool to **get wisdom**, seeing *he hath no heart to it*?"

### What does God require of you?

**Micah 6:8** "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD **require** of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

**1 Corinthians 4:2** "Moreover it is **required** in stewards, that a man be found faithful."

**Ecclesiastes 3:15** "That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God **requireth** that which is past."

**Deuteronomy 10:12** "And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God **require** of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,"

**Deuteronomy 18:19** "And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will *require it* of him."

**Ezekiel 3:18** "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I **require** at thine hand."

### How does a person escape "the wrath to come"?

**Matthew 3:7** "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O

### 2. Training -- training a child to love doing right, to train a child to enjoy the taste of righteousness.

**Proverbs 22:6** "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." This is talking about training a child to savor and enjoy the ways that God wants him to go, and to enjoy the prudent and wise ways of fearing God.

**Proverbs 4:23** says, "Keep thy heart with **all diligence**; for out of it *are* the issues of life." As applied to raising children, this verse teaches us that we need to get the child's heart so we can train them. Someday they will make their own decisions; therefore, if they do not love to obey their parents, how can the parents teach them to love and obey God? Loving obedience is not very natural--**Proverbs 22:15** says, "**Foolishness is bound** in the heart of a child; *but* the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." (Note that the "rod of correction" is for correction, not for abuse, not a rod of anger.) The correct application of discipline shows love.

### 3. Discipline -- providing the correction necessary to protect from wrong, sinful, evil and bad ways.

God corrects us so that we learn holiness—why? Because God is love. God knows that sin will destroy us. Discipline is supposed to be an expression of love. Correction in anger is usually an expression of "I don't like you" or at best "I don't like your actions" and does little or nothing to help a child learn to love righteousness. Carefulness in discipline is necessary to show love.

Discipline with anger usually provokes anger and God commands us twice: **Ephesians 6:4** "And, ye fathers, **provoke not** your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." **Colossians 3:21** "Fathers, **provoke not** your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged."

It seems that the amount of love a child perceives determines how much correction and rules they can accept. James 3:17 "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and

**Proverbs 6:16-19** “These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven *are* an **abomination** unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”

**Proverbs 11:1** “A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.”

**Proverbs 17:15** “He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both **are abomination** to the LORD.”

**Proverbs 15:9** “The way of the wicked is an **abomination** unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.”

**Proverbs 28:9** “He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer *shall be abomination.*”

### What is our reasonable service?

**Romans 12:1** “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is your reasonable service.*”

### How should we overcome evil?

**Romans 12:21** “Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.”

### How do we raise children to do right?

These are only some of the precepts in the Bible...And remember that when Jesus walked the earth, He did not bring all sinners to himself. Similarly, even if you could be a perfect parent, still your children would not be perfect. Note that all of us parents have room for improvement!

### 1. Example -- showing a child how we have learned to obey God, please God, and do right.

Be an example of genuine love, humility, godliness, honesty, purity, pleasing God, show diligence to do right.

**1 Samuel 12:23** “Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will **teach you the good and the right way:**”

generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the **wrath to come?**”

**1 Thessalonians 1:10** “And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from **the wrath to come.**”

The only way to escape God's wrath is if Jesus pays for your sin.

**Romans 5:11** says, “And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the **atonement.**” Jesus died to pay for our sin, and we must receive him as our Saviour.

### How do we show God that we love him?

**John 14:15** “If ye love me, keep my commandments.”

### What is necessary to show love to God?

**1 John 4:20** “If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath **not seen?**”

**Matthew 22:39** “And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy **neighbour** as thyself.”

### What is necessary to please God?

**Romans 8:8** “So then they that are in the flesh cannot **please God.**” (God wants us to walk with him in the Spirit, not controlled by ungodly desires)

**Hebrews 11:6** “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.”

**2 Timothy 2:4** “No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may **please him** who hath chosen him to be a soldier.” My first preoccupation has to be how to please God, if I am going to serve him.

### What is necessary to understand scripture?

**1 Peter 5:5** Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth **grace to the humble.** (Humility is necessary to obtain wisdom.)

**Hebrews 4:16** Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. (Pray for understanding.)

### What are the principles that give victory over sin?

#### 1. Remember Christ's love.

**II Corinthians 5:14** "For the **love of Christ** constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:" (His love makes me do what my sinful nature does not want to do.)

**Jeremiah 17:1-2** "The sin of Judah *is* written with a pen of iron, *and* with the point of a diamond: *it is* graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars; **Whilst their children remember** their altars and their groves by the green trees upon the high hills." (Thinking on sin prevents me from getting victory over sin.)

#### 2. Meditate on the Bible, put it in my heart.

**Psalms 119:11** "Thy word have I hid in mine **heart**, that I **might not sin** against thee."

#### 3. Control my lips.

**Proverbs 10:19** "In the multitude of words there wanteth not **sin**: but he that refraineth his lips is wise."

#### 4. Fear God.

**Psalms 4:4** "Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah."

#### 5. Seek God's counsel, God's wisdom.

**Isaiah 30:1** "Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add **sin** to sin:"

#### 6. Do righteousness.

**Daniel 4:27** "Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and **break off** thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity."

**Proverbs 28:13** He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

### What can you do to cause God to promise you long life?

**Ephesians 6:1-3** "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

### What is the secret to being a disciple?

**John 8:31** "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word**, then are ye my disciples indeed;"

**Luke 14:33** "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that **forsaketh** not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." (Forsaking means that I give all to God, that He has control over everything.)

**Matthew 6:21** "For where your **treasure** is, there will your heart be also. "

### What can separate you from God's love if he accepts you?

**Romans 8:38-39** "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

### What are the sins that God hates most?

**Leviticus 20:13** "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an **abomination**: they shall surely be put to death; their blood *shall be* upon them."

**Deuteronomy 7:25** "The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold *that is* on them, nor take *it* unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it *is* an **abomination** to the LORD thy God."

**Proverbs 3:32** "For the froward **is abomination** to the LORD: but his secret *is* with the righteous."