

KICK IN THE PANTS! ARE YOU VICTORIOUS? - PART 1

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A Life Filled With Sins And Mistakes, Apostle Paul's Battles With His Flesh, Don't Dwell On Past Sins And Mistakes Or Let Them Drag You Down, Satan Is Like A Prosecuting Attorney Who Loves To Pile On Guilt And Remorse, Accuser Of The Brethren, Self-Absorbed And Ineffective For The Lord, Christians Who Are Negative Spiritual Black Holes, True Meaning Of "Bear Ye One Another's Burdens, Hebrews 12: Lay Aside Every Weight And Sin And Look Unto Jesus, God Began His Work Of Salvation In Us And He'll Complete It, God Will Keep Us From Falling, The Unbearable Weight Of The Mosaic Law, Unbelieving Jews Tried To Establish Their Own Righteousness Without Christ, Power And Control Through The Laws Of Moses, Jesus Came To Free Us And Lift The Legalistic Burden, The Devil's Modern-Day Tactics To Neutralize Christians, Our Mind Is The Battleground So Take Control Of Your Thoughts, The Devil's 3-Step Conquest Plan In Psalm 1:1; Walk Stand Sit And Listen, Transformed And Renewed In Our Minds, New Creatures In Christ, Live In The Present And Don't Dwell On Past Sins, My Past Struggles, Exposing Sins Is Necessary To Point The Way To Jesus And Salvation, Christians Who Constantly Remind Others Of Their Sins, Manipulation Tool, Worn Down By Negativity, Apostles Were Not Sinless Saints, My Misguided Teenage Perception Of My Own Personal Righteousness, My Older Brother, Not Wise To Judge Someone Else's Salvation, Work Out Your Own Salvation With Fear And Trembling, My 1971 Prayer At A Jesus People House In San Jose California, Is An "Official" Salvation Prayer Really Necessary, Jesus People And The Jesus Revolution, We Are All Sinners With No Righteousness Of Our Own, Saved By God's Grace Alone Through Faith In Jesus

If we are truly honest with ourselves, I think we can all agree that we have each made our fair share of mistakes in this present life. Not only that, but it seems that as we move forward in our lives, the more mistakes we tend to make due to our inherent sinful nature. Indeed, those sins and mistakes of ours just keep piling up on us, don't they? I know that I certainly fall into this category. Some of my mistakes were made for stupid reasons, while others were

made due to selfish reasons. It is really a constant battle between mind, body and spirit. As some of my readers will know, the Apostle Paul was no stranger to these types of constant battles. In his own personal frustration, in his Epistle to the brethren at Rome, he thus wrote these wise words:

"For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin."

Romans 7:14-25, KJV

Could our constant, lifelong battle between mind, body and spirit have been stated any plainer than that? Similar to what Paul wrote in the previous verses, if there one thing I have also learned over the years, it is that we cannot and should not constantly dwell on our sins and mistakes as some people tend to do. We should definitely learn from them, of course. However, we should not continuously dwell on them. We cannot allow our sins and mistakes to condemn us, and to drag us down for the rest of our lives, and most certainly not allow them to steal our happiness from us.

My friends, as I have mentioned a number of times before, that is precisely what the Devil wants. That foul fiend just loves to pile on the guilt and the remorse like some heavy weight on our backs so that we can barely stand, if at all. Satan is constantly pointing his vile finger at each of us, and accusing us before God. He is like a very mean-spirited prosecuting attorney. Is it really any wonder then that in the Book of Revelation, that slippery serpent is described

as the "accuser of our brethren"? Consider these verses:

"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night."

Revelation 12:7-10, KJV

To reiterate, Satan wants us to be so down in the dumps, with our eyes so fixed on ourselves and our personal problems, and feeling so sorry for ourselves and our personal situation, that we become totally ineffective for the Lord. He wants us to be so totally self-absorbed, that we cannot even see that there is actually a great victory to be had, if we will just stand up and fight with the Lord's help.

Sadly, I have a few Christian friends on the social networks who are exactly like this. Rather than share the joy of the Lord, shine their lights brightly, and share the truth of the Scriptures, day after day, they are simply a constant source of negativity. They are always whining and complaining about their personal problems and seeking sympathy from others. Of course, we should certainly care about each other and pray for each other as the Scriptures command us to do. I am not saying that we should not do so.

However, when it becomes one endless pity party with certain Christians day after day, they are no longer a blessing to the Body of Christ. They have in fact become a spiritual drain on their brethren. Instead of lifting up the Body of Christ, such people are constantly dragging it down instead and sucking the life out of it like some spiritual black hole. Who needs that? Let's face it; we each have our own battles to fight, and we do NOT need other Christians piling their problems on top of our own. That is NOT what bearing each others' burdens means in the following verse. In fact, only a few verses later, the Apostle Paul makes this very clear, as we see here:

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ . . . For every man shall bear his own burden."

Galatians 6:2, 5, KJV

As you can plainly see, what Paul is actually saying is that we should try to help our brethren bear their burdens, and NOT throw our own burdens on top of them. Our burdens are our own to bear. So, my friends, what do the Scriptures really have to say concerning this issue? Are we simply supposed to sit down in a heap of complete misery and defeat, and just whine and complain about our situation to everyone all the day long? If that is what you think, well, I'm sorry, but that is certainly not what I read in the Bible. Consider the following group of Bible verses which reveal the truth regarding this matter:

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."

Hebrews 12:1-3, KJV

Can the solution be any clearer than that? We each need to lay aside or cast aside our personal problems and sins. We need to toss off the crushing weights of guilt and remorse. We need to chuck all of that depressing nonsense right out the window, and we need keep our eyes maintained on Jesus. Why? Because He is the Author and the Finisher of our faith. He began His work of Salvation in us, and He will likewise complete it to the end. In other words, He will perfect us. Not only that, but the Lord has promised to keep us through thick and thin. Jesus will not only embrace us in His loving arms of Salvation, but He will also keep us from falling, as we see by the following group of Bible verses:

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:"

Philippians 1:6, KJV

"Now unto him that is able to KEEP YOU FROM FALLING, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

Jude 1:24-25, KJV

"For the which cause I also suffer these things:
nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have
believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that
which I have committed unto him against that day."

2 Timothy 1:12, KJV

"If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny
himself."

2 Timothy 2:13, KJV

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me, and him
that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

John 6:37, KJV

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never
perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

John 10:28, KJV

Speaking of weights, two thousand years ago when Jesus first
shared His message of Repentance and Salvation with the lost
sheep of the house of Israel, He told the unbelieving Jews
several things which many of them did not understand at the
time. As I explain in a number of other Bill's Bible Basics
articles such as "Free From the Fear of Death: Law and Works
vs Grace", those Jews placed their full confidence for their
salvation in obedience to the strict mandates of the Mosaic
Law. As the Apostle Paul explains in the following verses,
they were trying to establish their OWN righteousness, and
NOT trusting in the righteousness which is obtained through
faith in the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ alone:

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel
is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that
they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For
they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about
to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted
themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the
end of the law for righteousness to every one that
believeth."

Romans 10:1-4, KJV

But the point is this: the Laws of Moses became a burden and
an unbearable weight which the self-righteous religionists
used to keep the common people under their strict power and
control. They also enriched themselves by the same. They set

the bar so high -- similar to some Christian denominations today -- that no one could ever possibly hope to achieve a state of Salvation outside of their false religion. Does it sound familiar? That is precisely why the Jewish spiritual hierarchy hated Jesus.

In a word, Jesus came to set free the captives, and to lift that terrible legalistic weight from off of all their tired shoulders. The Lord's central message was "Trust in me for your Salvation, and NOT in keeping the Law, which you can never fully do anyway." Thus, on several different occasions the Lord said the following to His listeners in the Gospels:

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30, KJV

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free . . . If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

John 8:31-32, 36, KJV

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,"

Luke 4:18, KJV

Today, two millennia later, Satan continues to use a very similar tactic to neutralize Christians, and to keep us so weak and discouraged, that we become ineffective for the Lord. As I already explained to you, in this case, he uses the weight of our very own shortcomings, failures and sins to press us so hard against the ground, that we are simply unable to stand up and fight for the Lord. As the previous verses we read in the first chapter of Hebrews state, if we fail to keep our eyes focused on Jesus, and if we place them on ourselves instead, and on our personal sins, problems and failures, then we will assuredly grow weary and faint in our minds, and we will be crushed by the same, which is exactly what the accuser of the Saints wants us to do.

However, what does the Apostle Paul inform us that we need to do? He writes that we need to bring every thought into captivity. In other words, we need to take control of our minds. Why? Because as I have pointed out before, our mind is the real battleground. It is where our battles actually begin. Furthermore, if we continue to entertain wicked and negative thoughts, they can eventually become actual sins in our lives if we are not careful and yield ourselves to them. Consider the following verses which verify these points:

"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;"
2 Corinthians 10:5, KJV

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."
2 Corinthians 11:3, KJV

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."
2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."
Romans 8:6, KJV

In fact, it may surprise some of my readers to know that the very first verse in the Book of Psalms clearly identifies the three-step battle strategy which the Devil uses to defeat the Lord's children. If you were not aware of this fact, consider the following verse:

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful."
Psalms 1:1, KJV

Now, instead of looking at this verse as meaning actual evil people, consider it to mean our own thoughts. Please notice that the verse uses three verbs in a very particular order. First the man is described as walking. Next, he is described as standing still. Lastly, he is described as sitting down.

And that is the formula for defeat! In short, first we are just walking along when certain thoughts enter our minds. If we are not wise, next we may stand still to actually listen to them and to entertain them. Last of all, we actually sit down and fully engage with them. That is all it takes, my friends! We are done for!

So as you can see, once the Devil gets into our thoughts, we are already on the way to defeat, unless we choose to resist him with God's help. Not only do we need to resist that foul fiend, but we need to actually be renewed and transformed in our minds through the Spirit of Jesus Christ. We need to put on the very mind of Christ. We need to become a new creature with a new mind, and totally regenerated by the very Spirit of God, as we see by the following set of Bible verse:

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

James 4:7, KJV

"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind . . . Neither give place to the devil."

Ephesians 4:23, 27, KJV

"Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;"

1 Peter 1:13, KJV

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"

1 Peter 5:8, KJV

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Romans 12:2, KJV

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the WASHING OF REGENERATION, and RENEWING OF THE HOLY GHOST;"

Titus 3:5, KJV

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

2 Corinthians 5:17, KJV

"And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

Ephesians 4:24, KJV

"And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:"

Colossians 3:10, KJV

"For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."

1 Corinthians 2:16, KJV

"And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight:"

Colossians 1:21-22, KJV

"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;"

Ephesians 4:22, KJV

"Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;"

Colossians 3:9, KJV

So again, it is all about keeping our eyes on Jesus, and the promises of His Word, and not allowing Satan to bog down our minds with constant thoughts of guilt and remorse, and weigh us down with our own past failures, shortcomings and personal sins. This is what makes us and keeps us victorious in our personal walk with the Lord. This is how we remain effective for the Lord. We need to live in the present, and not in the past, because there will be no end to it. As I already said, once Satan gets your ear, you are done for! Once he digs his claws into your mind, he will not easily let go. So as the Apostle Paul wrote to the brethren at Philippi:

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 3:13-14, KJV

Honestly speaking, there was a time in my own life quite a

few years ago when I was not so victorious. My eyes were completely on myself. This was partly due to the fact that there are certain Christians who seem to make it a regular practice to remind a person of what a terrible sinner they are, as if any of us really need any help in doing that to ourselves. Now, please don't misunderstand what I am saying here. Yes, it is part of our job to expose sin. After all, even John the Baptist, Christ and the Apostles warned the Jews to repent of their sin of unbelief, and of what would happen if they did not choose to do so. Furthermore, as some of my readers will recall, on a number of occasions, after healing certain people, the Lord himself warned them to sin no more, as we can determine by the following two Biblical examples:

"When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman [who had been caught committing adultery], he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: GO, AND SIN NO MORE."
John 8:10-11, KJV

"Afterward Jesus findeth him [the impotent man He had healed] in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: SIN NO MORE, LEST A WORSE THING COME UNTO THEE."
John 5:14, KJV

So as I explain in the article "The Nature and Consequence of Sin and God's Solution", sin, and the consequences of sin -- particularly the sin of unbelief -- need to be addressed by Christians. But, of course, equally important is the fact that in addition to that, we likewise need to point people to God's solution, which is faith in the atoning Sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We cannot simply expose people's sins, and then just leave them hanging without any kind of solution or resolution. We need to point them to God's own appointed Savior.

However, the kind of Christians I was referring to a moment ago are in a class of their own. I'm referring to Christians who even after a person has come to Christ, and is saved and sealed by the Spirit of God, will still constantly remind a person -- either openly or subtly -- of what a sinner they are. I think that in certain cases and in some denominations, it really amounts to a power trip and a control mechanism. It is a way for church leadership to retain control over people, not much different from the Scribes and the Pharisees of old

who constantly bludgeoned the common people with the Laws of Moses as a tool of manipulation and control.

But as we have already clearly seen, that kind of constant negative talk -- whether it's the Devil feeding thoughts into our own minds, or whether it originates with other Christians -- can eventually wear down an individual to the point where they begin to think to themselves "Wow, I am such a sinner. I am such a mess. God cannot possibly ever use me for anything. I am just a failure and will never amount to anything." Now tell me my friends, have you ever felt that way? If so, you need to stop doing it right now and look unto Jesus, and let Him work through you, despite yourself. Can you do that?

Let me also add that if you for even a minute think that any of the Apostles were walking examples of sinless perfection -- as some of the denominations like to paint them -- then I suggest that you read a few of my related BBB articles such as "Saints, Holiness and Perfectionism", "Peter: Faith Tried in the Fire" and "Striving for Perfection: Are You a Sinless Saint?", which you will find listed at the end of this same article.

I will also confess that when I was still a young teenager, due to my own misunderstanding of certain Scriptures, I was under the delusion that I had some kind of righteousness of my own. I believed that I had to do or not do certain things in order to prove my righteousness before God. For example, I did not drink, smoke, cuss, look at pornography, engage in sex, take drugs or do other stuff that boys my age typically did, so I erroneously and foolishly assumed that I was more righteous before God than certain other people. For example, I looked at my now-deceased older brother who did drink and womanize -- I don't recall if he smoked or not -- and I thus arrived at the conclusion that surely he could not possibly be saved, even though he informed me that he had accepted the Lord while he was traveling through California, USA during the very early 1970s.

You see, my frame of reference was somewhat misguided. While I was raised a Roman Catholic, began reading the Bible on a regular basis during my teenage years, and believed that a person must accept Jesus as their Savior in order to truly be saved, in my youthful confusion, I likewise apparently believed in a mixture of faith and good works. I suppose it may have had something to do with my own Catholic upbringing. I am not sure. But because of that, not only did I believe

that I personally had to do certain good things to be saved, but so did my brother, and it was very obvious to me that he was simply not doing them. Thus, I assumed that he was not really saved.

Well, one of the important lessons I have learned since that time, and which I've shared a number of times before, is that in my view, it is NOT wise to judge someone else's Salvation. That is God's domain alone, and not ours. He alone knows how He is working in that person's life, and whether or not said person is truly saved. Rather than question someone else's Salvation, we need to concentrate on our personal lives, and as the Apostle Paul wrote in his Epistle to the brethren in the city of Philippi, we need to work out our own Salvation with fear and trembling, as we see by this Bible verse:

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

Philippians 2:12, KJV

If you would like to better understand how I personally view the previous verse, please consider reading my article called "A Discussion Regarding Philippians 2:12". You will find it listed at the end of this same series.

At any rate, I had personally prayed a Salvation prayer at a Jesus People house while I was hitchhiking through San Jose, California back in July of 1971. In fact, my brother was also there with me at the time. However, for some reason which I don't remember now -- if I ever knew it -- he refused to pray as well, so I ended up repeating the Salvation prayer alone.

Please note that I had already believed in Jesus since a very young age. In fact, I honestly do not recall a moment when I did not believe. But those Christians in San Jose explained to me that I had to actually say a simple prayer in order to make my Salvation "official". Since that time, this topic has become rather controversial within certain Christian circles, and I have come across quite a few online debates where it is the subject of discussion. As for me, I discuss this subject in my article entitled "To Pray or Not to Pray? That is the Question", which you will find listed at the end of this same article.

Regarding the Jesus People I met at that time, I am not even sure who they were affiliated with -- that is to say, with

what church, if any -- or what their actual name was. I don't recall having ever been told. Back then, the so-called "Jesus Revolution" was in full swing in California, and so a variety of Christian youth groups existed which actively preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The blanket name "Jesus People" was simply used in reference to them all. They used coffee houses and music and such to attract the youth of that era. This is depicted to some degree of accuracy -- I am not sure how much -- in the 2023 Hollywood movie "Jesus Revolution".

But the point is, as I mentioned a moment ago, I compared the way I lived and behaved to the way my older brother lived and behaved, and I just could not understand how he could claim to be saved, considering the things that he did. In fact, when I told him this, I remember that he became rather angry with me for doubting that he was saved. Of course, since that time so many years ago, I've come to understand the rather plain truth of Bible verses such as the following which clearly state that we are all sinners, and that we have no righteousness of our own. As a result, we cannot possibly save ourselves by way of any good works we may strive to do, which is what the ancient Jews also foolishly believed:

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

Ephesians 2:8-9, KJV

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;"

Titus 3:5, KJV

"For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not."

Ecclesiastes 7:20, KJV

"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one . . . For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

Romans 3:10, 23, KJV

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me."

Psalms 51:5, KJV

"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a

leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."

Isaiah 64:6, KJV

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."

1 John 1:8-10, KJV

"If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?"

Psalms 130:3, KJV

Please go to part two for the continuation of this series.

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KICK IN THE PANTS! ARE YOU VICTORIOUS? - PART 2

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My Refrain From Worldly Habits, Bill's Bible Basics Ministry Is My Priority In Life, I Am No Sinless Saint, Striving To Win Merit Points With God, My Anti-Drug Anti-Doctor Healthy Lifestyle, Doctors And The Pharmaceutical Industry, History Of My Vaccinations, Decide And Live According To Your Faith, Our Common Trials Temptations And Afflictions, Past Whining, Are Your Eyes Focused On Your Personal Desires Or On Jesus?, The "I'm A Mess And God Can't Use Me" Mentality, Why Satan Beat You, My "Get Back Up And Fight" And "Get Up And Fight" Poems, God Uses Us In Spite Of Ourselves, Die Daily To Your Personal Desires And Needs And Take Up Your Cross, God Does Not Require Personal Perfection Before He Will Use Us, List Of Imperfect People God Used In The Bible, God's Unorthodox And Shocking Ways, God Knows And Has Heard It All Before, God Chooses Weak And Foolish Things So That He Alone May Receive

The Glory, My Personal Road To Victory, Be Content In Your Current Situation And Seek First The Kingdom Of God, Happy And Fulfilled Doing God's Work, I Am The Happiest Person My Mom Knows, Advice To Express Train Christians: Don't Complain And Find Out Why God Still Has You Here, Lord Please Give Me More Time, Use Your Time On Earth Wisely For God's Glory, Be Careful That You Don't Become Enticed Or Trapped By The World

Continuing our discussion from part one, of course, at this stage of my life, I still refrain from drinking, smoking and cussing. I particularly hate the f-bomb and a few other ugly expletives which take our Lord's name in vain. Neither do I watch pornography, take drugs or womanize. Of course, I very much doubt that there is even a sane woman who would want a scraggly, old, toothless dude like me. Ha! Seriously, I am not interested anyway, because there are much more important things for me to be doing with my life, as some of you will already know and fully understand. I have no idea how much time I have remaining in this world, and I still have a lot that I really want to accomplish. Thus, I dedicate as much of my time as I possibly can to the Lord's Work by way of the Bill's Bible Basics ministry which consumes most of my waking hours.

Now, despite what I said in the previous paragraph, please do not get the mistaken idea that I view myself as some kind of sinless saint, because I most certainly do not. I have got no holier-than-thou horn to toot in anybody's face. As I said at the very beginning of this series, we all have our personal history of sins and mistakes, and I am no exception. I won't go into explicit details -- because doing so would in no way glorify the Lord -- but there was about a 6-year period in my life where I failed the Lord in the past, and I did not live fully according to His Word. However, that was years ago -- decades in fact -- and I've traveled a much straighter course since that time.

While I refrain from the aforementioned activities, it is not for the exact same reasons as before. As I already explained to you in part one, when I was an idealistic, young teenager, I simply assumed that avoiding such activities would somehow win me special merit points with God, and thus strengthen and validate my personal righteousness before Him. However, for many years now, aside from the fact that such activities are not in accordance with God's Word -- and thus not pleasing to

the Lord -- my goal has been to live as long as I can, and as healthy as I possibly can, so that I can complete my personal mission for the Lord. That being the case, drinking, smoking, taking drugs, etc., are obviously and simply quite out of the question. Besides, I have absolutely no desire for any such things anyway.

As I have shared with my readers on previous occasions, as a matter of personal choice, neither do I take OTCs -- over the counter -- medications such as Aspirin, Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc. Likewise, I am supposed to be taking a medication due to previous occurrences of DVT -- Deep Vein Thrombosis, or blood clots in the legs -- and Acute Bilateral Pulmonary Emboli -- which is blood clots in one's lungs -- and another medication for hypothyroidism, which I never even showed symptoms for. I stopped taking both drugs a number of years ago at which time I also stopped seeing my personal physician.

Before I started seeing him in 2017 for my DVT, I didn't have a personal doctor for three full decades. Unlike many people today who are trained to rush to a doctor for every cough and sniffle, I chose to take a different route. I simply hunker down and endure whatever ails me until it passes. I allow my body to do its own work, no matter how long it takes. As I've mentioned before, I quit playing the customer-for-life game where doctors are constantly trying to convince a patient to take a drug for every symptom under the Sun, or when their lab report numbers don't match the established medical levels. You should know -- if you don't know already -- that a lot of doctors have very cozy relationships with the pharmaceutical industry. They will promote their products in order to get kickbacks. I came to realize that this is seemingly what my doctor was doing as well, so I stopped seeing him.

On a final note regarding this particular subject -- I know that I have gone off on a bit of a tangent; please bear with me a little longer -- it might interest some of you to know that I have not been vaccinated against anything since I was about ten years old, if not earlier than that. I'm now 72 at the time of this writing. Neither do I get annual flu shots, and I have never received a single COVID jab. Neither have I actually ever had COVID itself. I prefer to view it as God's blessings in my life. You may prefer to view it a different way.

In sharing these personal details with you regarding my own life, please understand that I am NOT criticizing anyone who

does take medications. I am simply sharing my own personal experiences and choices with you. Also, I fully understand that some individuals -- such as diabetics, for example -- must take a medication -- in this case, insulin -- simply to stay alive. Again, I do NOT condemn any of you for doing this. In the case of Christians, we must each live according to our personal measure of faith. We cannot pretend to have faith for the sake of appearing spiritual to others. While Apostle Paul was discussing observing Jewish kosher laws and holy days in the following verses, I think they can be equally applied to Christians who feel the need to take medications:

"Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth. And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin."

Romans 14:22-23, KJV

Returning to our primary topic of discussion -- which is how to live a victorious life in Jesus Christ -- if there is one thing which the Bible makes very clear, it is that we're all not only susceptible to the same human passions and desires, but we also experience the very same -- or at least similar -- trials, temptations and afflictions. Consider this group of verses which verifies this particular point:

"There hath no temptation taken you but SUCH AS IS COMMON TO MAN: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

1 Corinthians 10:13, KJV

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy . . . Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that THE SAME AFFLICTIONS ARE ACCOMPLISHED IN YOUR BRETHREN THAT ARE IN THE WORLD."

1 Peter 4:12-13, 5:9, KJV

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all."

Psalms 34:19, KJV

"And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? WE ALSO ARE MEN OF LIKE PASSIONS with you, and preach unto you that ye

should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:"

Acts 14:15, KJV

"Elias was a man SUBJECT TO LIKE PASSIONS AS WE ARE, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months."

James 5:17, KJV

"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:"

2 Peter 2:9, KJV

"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience."

James 1:2-3, KJV

So as you can plainly see by the previous group of verses, none of us are immune to such things, no matter the type of trial. The big question is how we each choose to deal with them when they arrive to test us. Our personal response is what will determine whether or not we are victorious. Will we just let that old Devil beat us over the head, overpower us, and drag us down into a dismal state of misery, despair and self-pity? Trust me when I say that there have indeed been times in my personal past when I have been sad, felt very lonely and even rather unloved, so I actually do quite understand what some of you may be going through.

In fact, I will be honest and tell you that there have been times in the past when I have whined and complained deep in my heart "Why can't I have what other people have? Why can't I have a special relationship like I see other couples have? Why can't somebody love me the way I see others being loved? Why can't I have that same kind of happiness? Why can't I have a wife who truly loves me for who I am, who respects and cherishes me, and who also supports what I do for the Lord?"

But you see, my friends, it was all about me and my personal wants, desires and needs. "Why can't I? Why can't I?" My eyes were just so totally on myself. They were obviously NOT very focused on Jesus as we are instructed to do in the Epistle to the Hebrews. Does that sound like any of you? Then there was

the second issue: "I am such a mess, and I have made so many stupid, terrible, selfish mistakes in my life! How can God possibly ever use someone like me? Humph! Maybe I should just surrender right now and forget about it."

Right! Guess who just won? It certainly was not you! It was the accuser of the saints who beat you down, and who totally smothered your flame! That's who! Why did that evil one win? Because you didn't resist him! You didn't gird up the loins of your mind as the Apostle Paul instructed Christians to do! You didn't bring every thought into captivity! Instead, you gave place to the Devil in your mind. You in fact invited him into your very own mental playground. Do you remember Psalm 1:1 from part one? Let me share that verse with you one more time for emphasis and to really drive the point home with you:

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful."

Psalms 1:1, KJV

First of all, you walked with that old fiend while he talked in your ear. Then you stood still to listen to him even more closely. And then worst of all, you pulled up a chair for him and told him to have a seat, and to just fill your mind with his doubts and self-pity. Everything I warned you about in part one of this series is exactly what you did. Of course, Satan was more than happy to oblige. He told you exactly what you wanted to hear. "Yeah, man, you are just a total mess! It is unlikely that God will ever be able to use you! Sorry, but you just don't fit the bill, kid! You are within your perfect right to feel sorry for yourself! Go ahead! Be miserable and bummed out! Enjoy it for a while!" That is why you are now so discouraged and in a state of terrible defeat. You refused to fight back, as in this simple poem I composed back in July of 2014:

GET BACK UP AND FIGHT!

by Bill Kochman

07-25-2014

Sure, you can sit there,
And feel sorry for yourself,
Like a useless vase,
Sitting on God's dusty shelf.

No one will hurt you,
You will never be marred,
No one will break you,
You will never be scarred.

But think out your plan,
Your strategy is not right,
Aren't you God's soldier?
So then get back up and fight.

Following is another related poem I wrote not quite three months before the previous one. It touches on the very same theme of not surrendering, enduring the battle, getting back up and fighting back, and launching an attack against that sly old serpent who does his very best to try to keep you down and defeated:

GET UP AND FIGHT!

by Bill Kochman

05-05-2014

You can complain, and you can rant,
You can whine, that you just can't,
But if God gave you something to do,
His Grace will help you see it through.

Quitters don't win, winners don't quit,
And that is really the gist of it,
So get off your lazy behind,
And prove you're the fighting kind.

God will reward you, it is sure,
But show Him that you can endure,
Up from the ground, no moping around,
It's time to get back into this war.

Now, speaking for myself, do you know what the solution was? First of all, I had to come to the realization that God does NOT use us because of who we are. He uses us in spite of who we are, and because of who Jesus is, and what the Lord can accomplish THROUGH us, if we will just get out of the way! I had to take up my symbolic cross, I had to deny myself, and I had to die daily to my own wants and needs, exactly as we read in the following set of Bible verses:

"And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

Luke 9:23-24, KJV

"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."

Romans 6:6, KJV

"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."

Romans 12:1, KJV

"I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily."

1 Corinthians 15:31, KJV

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

Galatians 2:20, KJV

"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:14, KJV

"He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal."

John 12:25, KJV

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:13, KJV

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he [Jesus] laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

1 John 3:16, KJV

I had to also realize that despite my personal imperfections, sins and shortcomings, God STILL wanted to use me anyway. My

gosh, my friends, please think about this! If God demanded absolute human perfection before He would consider choosing any of us for His holy service, then Jesus would have never been able to even select twelve Apostles, because they were all far from perfect, despite what some denominations like to claim. Peter definitely had his pride and ego. James and John were definitely on a power trip. After all, they thought that they should call fire down from the sky to destroy a certain village. Judas was an outright devil-filled thief. Matthew was a scumbag tax collector. Saul of Tarsus persecuted and killed Christians. Clearly then, from the start, absolutely none of them exactly fit in the human hall of fame, right?

Furthermore, if you want to dig even deeper into the pages of the Old Testament, well, Noah got drunk following the Flood. The Patriarch Abraham was a liar who purposely deceived the Pharaoh concerning his own wife Sarah so as to save his skin. Lot -- who was Abraham's nephew -- and his family decided to live right in homosexual-filled downtown Sodom. Lot also got drunk after the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and engaged in sex with his own two daughters. Jacob was also a deceiver who stole his brother Esau's birthright by tricking his own father, Isaac. Jacob later fought with an Angel and wouldn't let go until God blessed him.

Judah unknowingly engaged in sex with his own daughter-in-law -- Tamar -- who played the harlot. Then, one of the two sons which was born from that sexual union -- Pharez -- became an ancestor of Jesus Christ. Moses was very meek and lacked any degree of self-confidence. He was also slow of speech and did NOT want the job God had ordained for him. Oh, and by the way, Moses was also impatient. After all, he smote the Egyptian and later smote the rock at Meribah twice. Samson was a well-known womanizer. Jeremiah claimed that he was too young to be one of the Lord's Prophets. King David committed second degree murder and also committed adultery with the murdered man's wife, who eventually gave birth to King Solomon.

Need I go on? If you want to learn even more about the rather unusual people who God chose for servants, and the sometimes shocking and unorthodox things He had some of them do, then please consider reading my 2001 four-part series called "My God is a Shocker!", which you will find listed at the end of this same series. So as I'm sure you can see, your excuses are pointless and moot before the Lord, no matter what Satan tries to tell you. Whether we're talking about personal sins and shortcomings, or flabby excuses, God knows and has heard

it all before. Despite that fact, as I mentioned earlier, He STILL chooses to use us for His glory in spite of ourselves. In fact, as the Apostle Paul so eloquently wrote, it is in fact because of our weaknesses that God allows His Power to rest upon us. That way, He receives all of the glory, as we see by the following group of Bible verses:

"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, THAT THE POWER OF CHRIST MAY REST UPON ME. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

2 Corinthians 12:9-10, KJV

"But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."

1 Corinthians 1:27-31, KJV

So as I was explaining earlier, in my case, the solution and the victory was NOT found in seeking after those things which I mentioned. It was NOT in trying to fulfill my own selfish desires for love and companionship. It was in fact found in FORSAKING those things, and in being thankful and content in whatever situation God chose to place me in. If He wanted me to remain single for the remainder of my life so that I could better serve Him with few distractions, then so be it. This is precisely what the Apostle Paul states in this verse:

"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."

Philippians 4:11, KJV

In short, I had to really seek the Kingdom of God first above all, trust God for my future -- whatever it would hold -- and get my eyes off of myself and my personal needs and problems, and back on Jesus. I had to truly keep busy doing the Lord's Work and forget about everything else. Well, that's precisely

what I've been doing for the past three decades plus with my online ministry. I do not have time for my personal problems -- which in actuality are only my health issues -- because I have way too much to do for the Lord, and I am already so far behind. And do you know what, my friends? I can honestly say that I am happy and quite fulfilled in my particular calling and ministry. I enjoy the peace and quiet atmosphere. I enjoy my independence. I enjoy being able to delve into God's Word and write for hours at a time. And, of course I enjoy my two lovely kitties, Polo and Eljio.

You know, it is interesting that whenever my 90-year-old mom and I video chat, she is always commenting about how happy I am. In fact, to my surprise, she recently told me that I am the happiest person that she knows. Wow! What a compliment! In contrast, sometimes she falls into periods of depression and goes silent, which can last for weeks or even months at a time, even though she does know and love the Lord, and is thankful for His blessings in her life.

I really do not understand this. She should be living in a state of victory. After all, she is in a very good assisted living facility where they take care of all of her needs. She does not even have to make her own bed. They serve top quality food there. She has a number of close friends there, as well as others who visit her regularly. They keep their residents quite busy with lots of daily activities so that their minds remain alert, and so that their bodies get some exercise. And yet, despite this very positive environment, my mom still tends to fall into depression and silence. Of course, then I need to revert to my "Quirky Bill" persona in order to lift her spirit again with my silly antics.

On a related note, it has come to my attention that there are some Christians today -- I sometimes encounter them on the social networks -- who will outright complain and say something similar to "Oh Lord Jesus, this world is such a terrible place! Please take me out of here!" Well, that is in fact precisely why I wrote my July 2020 article called "Forget the Express Train!". My personal advice to those of you who feel this way is this: If you are still on this planet, and if God has not chosen to take you Home yet, I can only conclude that it is due to one reason: Apparently, you still have some unfinished business here. Of course, I cannot say what that is, because I'm not in your situation.

So it seems to me that instead of complaining regarding how

wicked the world has become, and instead of desiring a fast train to Heaven, perhaps what you should REALLY be doing is seeking the Lord in prayer, and trying to determine exactly why you are still here. God does NOT make mistakes. We each have both our allotted time here, as well as our assigned tasks. If you haven't completed yours yet, then you need to complete them, and you need to be happy while you are doing them. Capiche?

In contrast, my personal prayer is the exact opposite of the Christians who complain. I constantly say "Oh Lord, please give me more time. I still have so much more work to do for You. Help my mind to hold out. Help my eyesight to hold out. Help my body to hold out. Help my health to hold out." And I am very serious and mean every word of it. Sometimes I joke with my friends and tell them that I need to beat Moses in age, because that is how much work I still have left to do. Of course, I am a realist, and so I do realize that my total life span is entirely up to the Lord. He already knows and has determined my allotment of years. Thus, if He decides I have done enough, even if I do not feel that I am done yet, then so be it, and I will fly away, as in this verse:

"The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."

Psalms 90:10, KJV

So, because none of us really knows how long we have on this Earth, that is why it is so important that we wisely use the time that we do have for the Lord's glory. For us Christians, that obviously means sharing the truth of His Word with this lost world in whatever fashion He shows us, while at the same time, being careful that we do not become lost in the world ourselves, or trapped by the things of the world, as in this group of Bible verses:

"For Demas hath forsaken me, HAVING LOVED THIS PRESENT WORLD, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia."

2 Timothy 4:10, KJV

"LOVE NOT THE WORLD, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 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. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."

1 John 2:15-17, KJV

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the FRIENDSHIP OF THE WORLD IS ENMITY WITH GOD? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the ENEMY OF GOD."

James 4:4, KJV

"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."

2 Timothy 2:4, KJV

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

2 Corinthians 6:14-18, KJV

Please go to part three for the conclusion of this series.

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KICK IN THE PANTS! ARE YOU VICTORIOUS? - PART 3

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Brevity Of Our Human Life Span, Summary: God Wants Us To Live In a Victorious State Happy And Fulfilled In Our Service To Him, Recap Of All The Key Points, BBB Suggested Reading List

Continuing our discussion from part two, and before reaching the conclusion of this series, let me share some additional Bible verses with you concerning the subject of the brevity of our human existence, when we compare it to the unending vastness of eternity, and living in God's wonderful Kingdom of Light forever:

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

James 4:14, KJV

"Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away."

Psalms 144:4, KJV

"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Isaiah 40:7-8, KJV

"But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?"

Luke 12:20, KJV

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

John 6:63, KJV

"Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is always ready."

John 7:6, KJV

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

Hebrews 9:27, KJV

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of

incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."

1 Peter 1:23-25, KJV

In summation, my friends, God wants each of us to live in a state of victory. He wants us to be happy and fulfilled in our lives, and in our service to Him. I am convinced that it is NOT His will for any of His children to be in a constant state of misery, depression, self-pity or condemnation. So if you find yourself in a prolonged situation such as that, you need to seriously seek the Lord about it and find out why it is happening to you. Equally important, and to reiterate a few of the key points of this series, you also need to stop listening to the deceptions and lies that are being thrown at you by the devourer -- meaning the Devil -- or which may be born within your own mind or heart.

You just need to stand up and fight with every ounce of your God-given might and resist the Devil. You need to tell him that you are just not going to take it anymore. You need to get fighting mad, and stop letting him pound your brain with all of his negative, depressing thoughts. Again, your mind is the battleground where this war is being fought. As such, if you lose there, then you are pretty much sunk. So instead of letting him kick YOU in the head, you need to kick HIM in the pants, rebuke him, and tell him to scram! Furthermore, with God's help, you need to cast aside and throw off every heavy weight of sin, and run with patience the race that is set before you. If there is any unconfessed sin in your life, it is important that you confess it before the Lord, because any unyielded area can give Satan a foothold in your life.

How are these things even made possible? By remaining firmly grounded in God's Word, obedient to His Will for your life, and by having your eyes firmly fixed on Jesus Christ, who is the Author and the Finisher of your faith. It IS possible to be victorious, and you can be, if you truly put His Kingdom and His Work first in your life, instead of yourself and your personal wants, desires and problems. These are the things I have personally learned over the years during my walk with the Lord. I hope that they will help those of you who may be struggling in some way at this current time.

With these thoughts, I will bring this article to a close. It is my hope that you've found it informative and enlightening, and I pray that it has been a blessing in your life as well. If you have an account with Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr or with any other social network, I would really appreciate if you'd take the time to click or tap on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you abundantly!

For additional information and further study, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were either mentioned in this article, or which contain topics which are related to this article. All of these articles are likewise located on the Bill's Bible Basics web server. To read these articles, simply click or tap on any link you see below.

A Discussion Regarding Philippians 2:12
Are Personal Tragedies Due to Sin?
Are You Crucified With Christ?
Backsliding, Divine Chastisement and the Divine Agreement
Beholding the Evil and the Good
Do You Want Love and Light, or Rod and Wrath?
Forget the Express Train!
Free From the Fear of Death: Law and Works vs Grace
Light Up and Die: The Smoking Addiction!
Love, Mercy, Forgiveness and Chastisement
Peter: Faith Tried in the Fire
Pornography: Flee Youthful Lusts!
Saints, Holiness and Perfectionism
Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
Selfishness: A Prophesied Sign of Our Times?
Striving for Perfection: Are You a Sinless Saint?
The Battle is Not Yours Alone!
The Lord Will Lift You Up
The Nature and Consequence of Sin and God's Solution
The Parable of the Sower: Salvation and Service
To Pray or Not to Pray? That is the Question
What Does the Truth Shall Make You Free Really Mean?

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