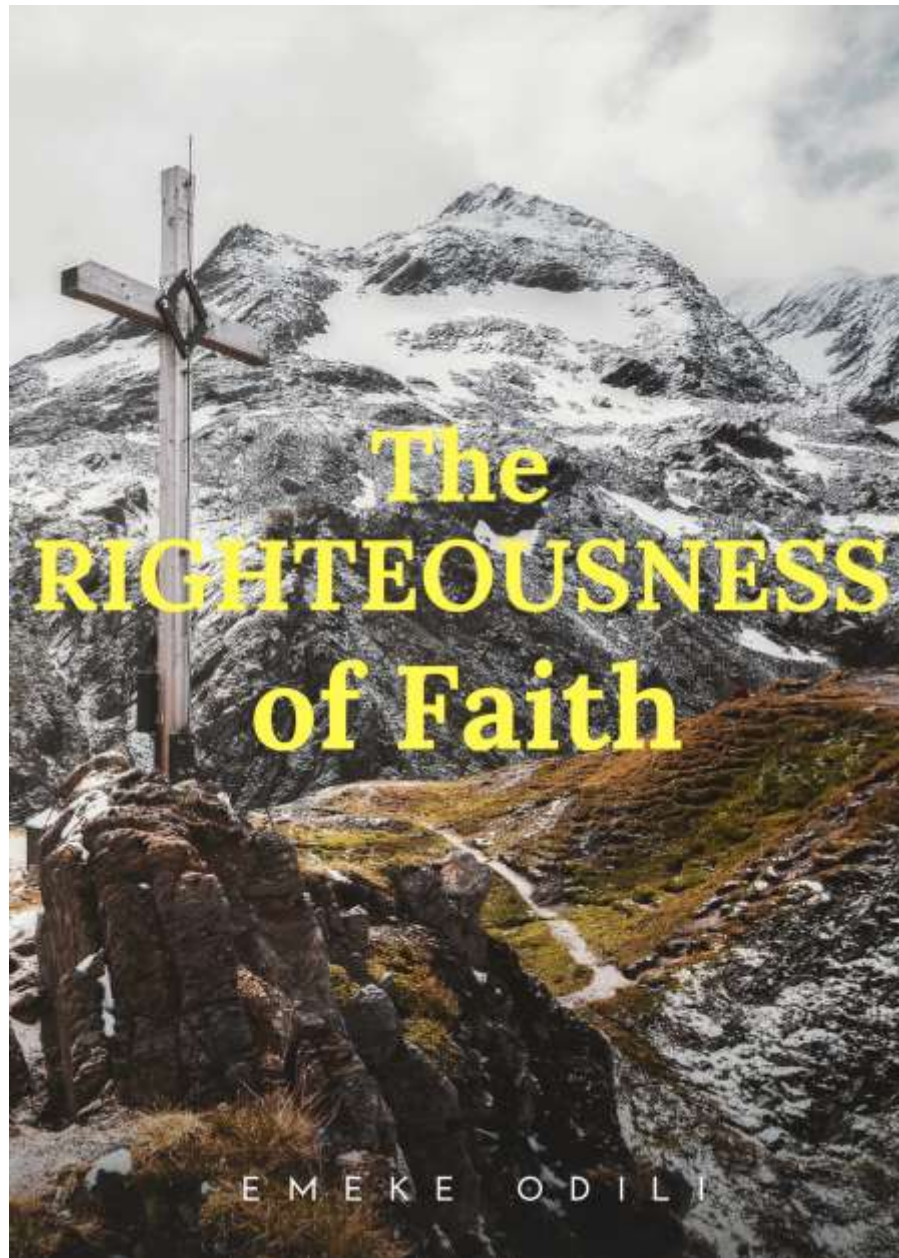




The Righteousness of Faith

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1 Introduction

In the current Christian age, Christians are on different extremes about righteousness. On one polar extreme, there are those who believe, the righteousness of God, is unattainable by anyone, in this present world.

Then on the other hand, there are those who try to attain unto righteousness, by their personal performance. While on another polar extreme, are those who believe, because they already have imputed righteousness in Christ Jesus, whatever sin they commit no longer count.

As a matter of fact, someone once said in an online discussion, that even if a believer commits suicide, he will still head straight to heaven; obviously, because of the imputed righteousness of Christ. These are the group of people that believes in the doctrine of once saved always saved (OSAS).

They say, a believer can never lose his salvation, no matter what he does or does not do; because of the imputed righteousness of Christ.

So given these extreme believes about Christian righteousness, this book scripturally, sheds light on the true meaning of righteousness. Specifically, on the righteousness of faith; which the scriptures recommend to all believers.

Then after the scriptural expounding of the true meaning of the righteousness of faith; it goes on to reveal the ways to live out, or practice this righteousness of faith, as a lifestyle; to the glory of God, in our Christian lives. And ultimately, for the preservation of the Christian salvation, till the second coming of the Lord or till physical death.

2 What is The Righteousness of Faith?

As we begin to discuss the Righteousness of faith, it is important we first understand the meaning of the word "Righteousness".

Righteousness Defined

The Biblical word 'Righteousness' is translated from the Greek word "dikaiosyne" which means, Christian Justification. So righteousness means justification from sin. In other words, Righteousness means acquittal from guilt. Righteousness means, being declared guilt and offence free. In much the same way, a judge in the court of law, declares an accused person free of the charges brought against him.

What Then Is The Righteousness of Faith?

"What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, who followed not after righteousness have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. But Israel, who followed after the law of Righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. Why? Because they sought it not by faith but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense: and whosoever believes on him shall not be ashamed" –Romans 9:30-33

Having understood the meaning of righteousness, the above scripture reveals the two major approaches mankind follows, towards attaining or obtaining justification from God. For some groups of individual, they try to obtain it by the works of the Law. That is, the Law of Moses in the old covenant, which was delivered in Mount Sinai.

While the other group, obtain it from God, through the Abrahamic approach of faith. They follow the step of the Patriarch, Abraham, of believing in God, to obtain righteousness.

This second approach to obtaining righteousness from God, by Faith in God, similar to the Patriarch Abraham, is what is referred to as the Righteousness of Faith.

And this approach to righteousness is what God approves in the New Covenant of Righteousness. Because it is the best possible way, to obtain or attain to true and absolute righteousness before God. God brought this perfect approach to righteousness, after the failure of the law, to make the practitioners righteous, according to God's standard.

The Law demands so much from the followers, but never lifts a helping hand for its

performance or obedience. The law demanded the ordinary man, to keep spiritual commandments, without any spiritual empowerment. The law is good and perfect, but the followers were weak and imperfect; as a result of their fallen nature—Romans 8:12-13.

The law condemns the best of us. No matter how hard anyone tried under the law to please God, his best was never enough, to meet up to God's standard of righteousness. Thus, the word of God tells us in the book of Isaiah 64:6 that; "***we are all as unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags...***"

Under the law, we may do so well in so many areas, but a single failure, disqualifies all the other good done. The word of God tells us, the law was our schoolmaster, to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith—Galatians 4:24.

In other words, the law was given to prepare the way for true and absolute righteousness. The law by itself cannot give true righteousness; but it was used to point the way to true and absolute righteousness; which is Justification by Faith.

And this Justification by Faith is what the word of God refers to, as the righteousness of faith. This righteousness of faith is not attained or obtained by any self-merit; rather, it is received freely by faith. Because it is an undeserved gift of God. The word of God tells us in Romans 5:17 "***For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one Jesus Christ***"

Then in the same book of Romans 10:10, the word of God says; "***For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation***"

So true and absolute righteousness is the one that is received freely from God, through faith in Jesus Christ. That is, faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, his merits of righteousness on earth, and his atoning work on the cross.

So then, another definition we can easily give to the righteousness of Faith is the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. 2 Corinthians 5:21 says "***For he has made him, who knew no sin, to be sin for us; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him***"

As I conclude this chapter on the meaning of righteousness of faith, let me quickly reiterate, that the righteousness of faith means the following:

1. Justification by Faith—Galatians 4:24
2. Imputed Righteousness—Romans 4:5-6

3. Gift of Righteousness—Romans 5:17
4. Undeserved or Gracious Righteousness
5. The Righteousness of God In Christ Jesus—2Corinthians 5:21
6. True and Absolute Righteousness

Righteousness that is attained or obtained any other way is imperfect before God. Especially in this dispensation of God's Grace.

Yes, the righteousness of faith seems so simple, but it is not as simple as it seems. The true faith, which is the Abrahamic faith that confers this absolute righteousness, is not a simple or ordinary virtue to come by. It is a supernatural gift of God's Grace that requires true and quality commitment, to maintain to the very end.

Many folks in Christendom do not know this, thus, they have let the seeming simplicity of this righteousness of faith, to fool them into self-delusion. This eventually leads them to holding the truth in unrighteousness.

In the Next Chapter, we will be discussing about "The New Covenant of Righteousness"

3 The New Covenant of Righteousness

"Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt;

because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord; For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind and hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his brother, saying, know the Lord: For all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." –Hebrews 8:9-12

"And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh and will give them an heart of flesh: that they may walk in my statutes and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord God." –Ezekiel 11: 19-21

"For if by one man's offence death reigned by one, much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one Jesus Christ.

Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one, the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." Romans 5:17-19

The new covenant of God with mankind is the covenant of grace. That is, the unmerited favour or kindness of God towards man, in order to bring them to the inheritance of his kingdom.

God having known and proven that the ordinary man could not, and cannot keep his commandments, as entrenched in the old covenant, eventually cancelled the old covenant. And gave us a gracious new covenant, through the death and resurrection of his only begotten Son –Jesus Christ; by his divine Love for mankind (John 3:16).

In this new covenant, God himself promises anyone who believes on his only begotten Son—whom he sent into the world to die for the sins of mankind. That he himself will put his commandment in his or her heart, and cause (help) the person to keep his commandments by his Holy Spirit.

And also, as they walk with the help of his Holy Spirit to keep his commandments, if they err, he will be merciful to them.

Thus, in this new covenant, immediately you honestly from your heart, accept Jesus as your Lord and personal Saviour, you will receive forgiveness of all your sins, through the shared blood of Jesus. And instantly, God will give you his righteousness and eternal life as free gift.

And as you submit to this righteousness, you will gain supernatural power or dominion over every form of sin. This submission to the spirit of righteousness, given to the person that is born again, is what is called: walking in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16); walking in the newness of life (Romans 6:4); being led by the Spirit (Galatians 5:18); sanctification (1Thessalonians 4: 3) and holiness.

And as you submit yourself to the direction of the Holy Spirit, if you eventually stumble and sin, God says he will be merciful unto your unrighteousness. That is, he will forgive all your sins. So as you walk with the Spirit of God and eventually err; as you acknowledge your sin and ask for forgiveness, God will definitely forgive you. No matter the magnitude of the sin.

If you are walking with God in terms of this his new covenant, you are said to be under grace, and not under law (Galatians 5:18).

And the Lord also says, if you are under grace, which is also called the law of faith (Romans 3: 27) you will never come under any condemnation; neither now or after death; or at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 8:1).

With all these said, does grace now give anyone license to sin? The answer is NO. On the contrary, this grace empowers you to keep all the commandments of God. Including the Ten Commandments and much more — that God will give to you, through his Holy Spirit that is in you (Romans 3:31).

How Then Can I Know Who Is Under Grace?

Anybody can claim to be under grace, but according to our Lord Jesus Christ, we shall know them by their fruits. The bible says in 1 John 3:7; “***Little children let no man***

deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he (Jesus) is Righteous".

So, if someone is truly under the grace of this new covenant, and is actually submitted to the Spirit or walking in the Spirit, the fruits of the Spirit must be observable in him or her (Galatians 5: 22-23). The person will naturally hate unrighteousness.

While on the other hand, we can know who is not under grace, by the works of the flesh as enumerated in Galatians 5: 19-21. So if you see someone who is manifesting the works of the flesh, and as you try to correct him, he tells you, what he or she is doing does not matter, because he is under grace, rebuke him; and tell him, he is a liar...

Because grace does not celebrate or embrace sin. And according to the scriptures, anyone who indulges in the works of the flesh, in the name of grace or because he is not born again, will not inherit the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:21)...

And certainly, if he does not inherit the kingdom of God, he will definitely have his part in hell and in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone. There is no two ways about that (See Revelations 21: 8).

By the works of the law shall no flesh be justified (Romans 3:20); and at the same time, by the works of the flesh, shall no man inherit the Kingdom of God (Romans 8: 13; Galatians 5:19-21)

4 The Saving Faith

"For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" Ephesians 2:8

The major essence of God's gift of righteousness or justification is—Eternal Salvation.

From scriptures, we understand that the major salvation of God, through the Lord Jesus Christ, is salvation from sin and its consequent punishment. Thus, even the very name of our Lord Jesus, means saviour.

The bible tells us in Matthew 1:21:

"And she shall bring forth a Son, and you shall call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins".

Then again, the bible is also very clear, that the only way to receive this eternal salvation from God, through Jesus Christ, is faith.

Let us see some scriptures that assert this fact, apart from our opening text:

John 3:16 ***"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life".***

"And he said unto them, go you into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be condemned"—Mark 16:15-16

"And brought them out, and said Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved, and your house"—[Acts 16:30-31](#).

But the question here is: what kind of faith or believe is the bible referring to, that gives this eternal salvation? To understand the kind of faith that is required for salvation, we need to examine two kinds of faith as presented by Saint James.

"Even so faith, if it has not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, you have faith, and I have works: show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that there is one God; you do well: the demons also believe, and tremble. But will you know O vain man, that faith without works is dead?"—James 2:17-20

From the above scripture, Saint James helps us differentiate between two kinds of faith. These are: the demonic faith and the perfect faith.

The Demonic Faith

The demonic faith is the faith that believes in God, but regardless, is not submissive or obedient to God's commandments. It is the faith that says, Jesus is Lord, but does not treat him as Lord indeed. It is the faith that says, Jesus is the Lord with the mouth, but denies him in deeds.

The demonic faith is the faith without corresponding good works or actions. The demonic faith is a dead faith.

And unfortunately, this kind of faith is what has become dominant in Christendom today. A greater percentage of Christ's believers, walk in this kind of faith. Yes, they believe and have even confessed Jesus as their Lord and personal saviour.

They confess they are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. They even preach the gospel with all vigour. Most of them are involved in service groups in the church. They even include: Apostles, Prophets, Pastors, Teachers, Evangelists, Deacons and Deaconesses, Choir Masters and Mistresses.

But in spite of all these, they deny and reproach Christ in their actions and daily lifestyles.

They deny and reproach him in their words, in their dressing; they deny him in their relationship with their spouses and neighbours. They deny and reproach Christ in their business dealings. Yet they believe in Jesus and even profess same with their mouth. To the folks that belong to this group, with this kind of faith, the Lord Jesus asks; "***And why call me, Lord, Lord; and do not the things which I say?***"—Luke 6:46.

So to believe in Jesus and not do his commandments is to be walking in demonic and dead faith. And of course, this kind of faith does not justify, neither does it give eternal salvation.

The Perfect Faith

"Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his Son upon the altar? See how faith worked with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?"—James 2:21-22

The scripture above tells us clearly how our father in the faith, Abraham was justified. The scripture tells us that Abraham was justified by faith, but his faith was a perfect faith. His faith was perfected by his work of obedience and love for God.

Thus, we can define the perfect faith to mean—the faith that is backed with obedience or compliance to God’s instructions. The perfect faith is the faith that works with the fear of God. For after Abraham laid Isaac on the altar, the Lord said to Abraham, I know that you fear God (Genesis 22:12).

The perfect faith is the faith that works with love for God and people. James 2:15 says:

“If a brother or sister be naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, depart in peace; be warmed and filled; yet give them not those things which are needful to the body; what does it profit?”

Thus, perfect faith sacrifices for God and man. The perfect faith is the faith that bears or shares the burden of others. As such, the Apostle Paul, by the Spirit tells us in Galatians 5:6; ***“For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision avails anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith which works by love”***.

So the perfect faith is the justifying and saving faith in Christ Jesus. Put the other way, the saving faith is the perfect faith. And it is the faith that goes along with good works. The word of God tells us that a man is not justified by faith alone, but also by works—James 2:24. And of course, works here means: Love, Obedience and godliness or holiness.

The bible also tells us in that same book of James 2:26 that; ***“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also”***.

So my beloved friend, if you already believe in Jesus Christ, congratulations! You have faith. But to obtain absolute or perfect justification according to scriptures, engage your faith in good works for God. And as you do and continue doing so to the very end, you are guaranteed of eternity with Christ in paradise.

5 Understanding Forgiveness

“For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more”—Hebrews 8:12

The above scripture is a part of the New Covenant. The Lord promises to be merciful to our unrighteousness, and to forget completely all our sins and iniquities. And this his act of compassion and pardon for sins, is an act of grace, as a result of the price of Jesus’ death, and shared blood on the cross of Calvary.

But What is Sin?

The word of God tells us that all unrighteousness is sin (1John 5:17). Then we are told in scriptures again, that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Every human being, born of a human, God had concluded to be sinners. Thus, the scripture says, there is none righteous, no not one (Romans 3:10). So anyone without Christ in his or her life is a sinner—in this dispensation of the New Covenant.

How Then Can We Receive Forgiveness of Sins From God?

Yes, it is true the Lord says, he will be merciful to our unrighteousness and forget our sins and iniquities. It is also true the bible says, the Lord Jesus Christ is the propitiation (expiator) for our sins. And not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world (1John 2:3).

But this gracious forgiveness and atonement of Christ, is not for everybody. It is only for those who believe in Jesus Christ, and his shed blood on the cross. To receive God’s gracious forgiveness, you must receive Jesus in your heart and confess him as your Lord and personal Saviour.

Once you do that, this forgiving grace is activated on you immediately; and all your past sins—no matter how ugly or dirty—are instantly cleansed and remitted. This is what the bible tells us in Romans 3:24-25; it says;

“Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him who believes in Jesus”

How to Remain in His Mercy and Forgiveness

Having received mercy and forgiveness, the word of God shows us how to remain in his mercy and forgiveness, all our lives; even until death or the coming of Christ.

Let us consider the following two scriptures:

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”—Romans 8:1

“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin’—1 John 1:6-7

The first scripture tells us that we will never come under condemnation so long we are in Christ Jesus. But on the condition that we walk in the Spirit or under the control and direction of the Holy Spirit. And do not walk in the flesh.

The second scripture is similar to the first. It says we can secure fellowship with God and with one another; and also secure continual cleansing of all our sins, with the blood of Jesus Christ. Only on the condition that we continually walk in the light, as he is in the light. The condition in the two scriptures is the same. To be walking in the Spirit, is to be walking in the light of the truth of God’s word.

The Holy Spirit helps us with illumination in God’s word, and as we make up our minds and yield ourselves continually to him (the Holy Spirit)... He helps us to masterfully walk in the light, as God is in the light. As we walk in the light as he is in the light, we are guaranteed of continued cleansing of all our sins, by the blood of Jesus Christ.

And if this positive statement is true, then of course, the reverse is also true. That is, if we do not walk in the Spirit or in the light as he is in the light. But rather walk in the flesh; we can come under condemnation; and we can also lose our justification and pardon.

About Confession of Sins

While being in Christ Jesus, is confession of sins still a requirement for obtaining forgiveness from God? The answer is, yes. Why? Because the bible says so. 1 John 1:8-9 says:

"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"

Let us analyze the above scripture. It says "if we say we have no sin" who is the 'we' here? Of course, it is we Christians. We who are in Christ Jesus (including John and myself). Then it goes on to say, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Well, for this statement to be true, the person that commits the sin, has to be fully aware or convicted of sin. Thus, this part of the scripture is referring to the person that is convicted of sin; and he is very aware that he has erred. If he denies the fact that he has sinned with bold-face, then he is involved in self-delusion. And the word of God says the truth is not in him.

But then on the other hand, if he confesses or acknowledges his sin before God, the word of God says, God is faithful and just forgive us our sins. Thus, the person can be assured that his sins are forgiven as he acknowledges his error before God. And once the confession is made, and forgiveness is received by faith, he should repent and forget about the sin, and move on in the Spirit; and continue walking in the light.

As such, confession of sins that we are convicted of or that we are fully aware of is a part of the Spirit and light walk; that keeps us under the cleansing and atoning blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

What About Forgiving Others?

Sometime ago, I read an online forum post that was titled; "***Forgive, if you don't forgive, you go to hell—false doctrine***" By this, the poster says you can receive forgiveness for your sins, even if you do not forgive others; as against the Lord Jesus' teaching...

According to him, the grace of God to forgive, is without boundary or condition. But of course, we read from the scriptures, that God has some conditions for continual forgiveness of sins. We have already explored two of them. Which are: walking in Spirit and confession of known sins. Then again, another condition the Lord gives us for forgiveness of our sins, is forgiving others their offence against us. As is written in Matthew 6:14-15

"But if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly father will also forgive you: But if you forgive not men their trespasses neither will your father forgive your trespasses"

So from the authority of Jesus and scriptures, you have to forgive others their trespasses against you, so God can as well forgive you of all your sins against him continually. This is also another way to walk in the Spirit and in the light, as God is in the light.

Next, we will be looking into “**The Law of the Spirit of Life**”

6 The Law of The Spirit of Life

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death"—Romans 8:2

"But if you be led of the Spirit, you are not under the law (the law of sin and death)" – Galatians 5:18 (addition in parenthesis, mine)

As we begin to discuss this topic, "The Law of The Spirit of Life" it is important we understand the meaning of the term "Law" in the context which it is used here.

The word law, is from the Greek word 'nomos' meaning—regulation or principle. Thus, law is a working principle.

If you read the entire chapter of Romans chapter 7, and then get to chapter 8 of the same book of Romans; it is clear that the Apostle Paul (by the Spirit) was giving a distinction between the man that is under the Law—The law of the flesh—and the man under grace—The Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus.

The Apostle Paul contrasted his life under the Law of the flesh, with the present life of a believer, who is consciously walking under the grace of God (walking in the Spirit).

But many in the body of Christ wrongly believes – like I did for a very long time—that what the Apostle Paul was saying in Chapter 7, applies also to the believer under grace in chapter 8.

And as a result, they find their selves struggling to overcome sin, instead of gaining absolute dominion over sin (Rom 6:14).

To be obeying the Law of God in the mind, and that of sin in the flesh, clearly depicts the character and lifestyle of the man under the law of the flesh that the Apostle Paul was explaining to us in Romans chapter 7.

I am expounding this fact, because the outcome of our Christian walk has so much to do with what and how we believe— either wrong or right. So many believers, who believe what the Apostle was saying in Romans chapter 7, applies also to the person under grace—The Law of The Spirit of Life in Christ— are bound to be easily overcome by temptation to sin.

And before and after they fall into sin, they console their selves with the wrong notion of what the Apostle Paul said in Romans 7: 25 and Galatians 5:17.

But when you believe the right thing the Apostle meant, it will definitely change your mind set about sin and temptation to sin. It will give you a superiority complex about sin; thereby leading to greater victory over sin and sinful habits.

Because the word of God tells us "sin shall not have dominion over us" (Rom 6:14); and that we should reckon ourselves to be dead to sin and alive unto righteousness (Romans 6:11).

So What was the Apostle Paul Saying?

The keys to quick understanding of Paul's distinction of the life under the law of flesh and under grace, in Romans chapters 7 and 8; and Galatians 5:17 and 18 are the words; THEN (Rom 7:25), NOW (Rom 8:1) and BUT (Gal 5:18).

In Romans 7:25, the Apostle says; "***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***"

So the Apostle concluded all he was saying in Romans chapter 7 about his walk with God under the law of the flesh with verse 25. And that can be clearly understood with his use of the word "Then" (Past tense).

Then in Romans 8:1-2, here is what the scripture says; "***There is therefore NOW no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ has made me free from the law of sin and death***"

The above scripture is the status of the man under grace—NOW. The Law of the Spirit of Life (Grace) has made him free from the Law of sin and death.

Then the Apostle Paul repeats the same distinction in Galatians 5:17 and 18 thus:

"For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other; so that you cannot do the things that you would. BUT if you be led of the Spirit, you are not under the Law (the Law of sin and death)".—words in parenthesis, mine.

From the above scripture, the Apostle makes the distinction again, exactly the same way he made it in Romans. Verse 17 talks about the struggle of the flesh of the man under the law with the Spirit; thereby, not allowing him do the right things he is supposed to do.

Then in verse 18, he contrasts it with the man under the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ; being led by the Holy Spirit or walking in the Spirit (under Grace); starting with the word "But" which introduces a contrary point from the former in verse 17.

So there you have it. The Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus, has made us free from the law of sin and death.

Walk in the Spirit and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. But if you be led of the Spirit, you are not under the law. Sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under the law but under grace.

So from now onward, jettison the wrong believe, that you are to be struggling to live a Holy Life; or to overcome sin and sinful habits. Instead, receive a superiority complex or mindset over sin. Receive a master mindset of Holiness.

Begin to meditate and confess all the listed scriptures in the light of this revelation you have just received about godliness. And as you do, you will soon begin to see a dramatic change in your walk with God, in Jesus precious name.

7 Righteousness Consciousness

"Awake to Righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame"—1Corinthians 15:34

The above scripture calls us to awaken to righteousness. That is, we should be righteousness conscious. As it is the ultimate cure to sin.

This clarion call is so crucial, as many today, in the Church of Christ, are sin conscious. And that is the major reason, many of them are still struggling fruitlessly with sin. Many Christians still believe and confess, they are sinners like every other person. They say, everybody is a sinner, including themselves. And somehow, they believe they are being honest...

When you ask them, are you righteous? They quickly answer, no—nobody is righteous; even the bible says so. And this is because of their lack of proper understanding of God's righteousness.

They believe the scripture that says; ***"there is none righteous, no, not one"*** (Romans 3:10) and the scripture that says; ***"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God"*** (Romans 3:23) still applies to them, as believers in Christ Jesus.

Then on the other hand, many are struggling to attain to righteousness, by their own self works. Hoping that as they keep on struggling to live right, someday, if God keeps them alive long enough, they may attain unto righteousness.

This group of people are ignorant of the scripture that tells us that we are not justified by our own self works. And that our righteousness is as filthy rags before God (Isaiah 64:6).

They are ignorant of the scripture that says, ***'by the deeds of the Law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight'***—Romans 3:20. And these delusion of many a believer about God's righteousness, is the major reason, among others, for the multiplication of sin in the Church.

Because no one can actually gain dominion over sin or sinful habits, with these kind of sin and self-work (the works of the Law) consciousness. So we will be exploring the true meaning of righteousness the word of God calls us to awaken to in this dispensation of God's grace...

How Do We Attain to Righteousness?

Righteousness is a gift of Grace that is freely received by faith in Christ Jesus (Romans

5:17). We do not get righteous on our own qualifications, but by the merits of Jesus. By the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ on earth, and by the price of his death and shared blood on the cross of Calvary, every believer in Christ Jesus, is made absolutely righteous by God.

Here is what the word of God says concerning this in 2 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"***

Thus, any and everybody can easily obtain righteousness by faith in Christ Jesus. No matter how evil the person has been; even if he had murdered a million persons in the past. Even if he had fornicated for years; even if he cursed God in ignorance or said there is no God...

Immediately he believes in Jesus and confess him as his Lord and saviour, he becomes as righteous as Jesus—Romans 10:10.

So if you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and saviour, you are born again; and you are absolutely righteous. Now that you know you are righteous—that you are a saint—God's clarion call in our opening scripture, is that you should awake to righteousness...

That is, you should awaken to the consciousness of whom he has made you to be—a saint. Let this consciousness saturate and change your mindset. Let it change the picture you have about yourself. Let this consciousness inform your action. Let it inform your choice of words, dressing, places and events to attend.

Being made the righteousness of God, is similar to a great king, picking out a condemned criminal from prison, cleaning him up, and adopting him as his son. Then to be righteousness conscious or awakening to righteousness, is likened to the adopted son, comporting himself, in tandem to his newly conferred, gracious, royal status.

He is to jettison his past personality and identity; and put on his present personality and status as a prince. Along this line, the word of God tells us in Romans 6:11...

"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord".

Now that we are in Christ Jesus, we are to reckon or consider ourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord in righteousness. Then another scripture buttresses this very fact thus...

“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” Ephesians 4:22-23

The word “conversation” in the above scripture refers to behaviour. The Lord is saying, now that you are in him, you should jettison your former, corrupt behaviours which are pertinent to unbelievers...

And that after putting off these corrupt behaviours, we should be renewed in the spirit of our mind (our hearts). In other words, we should change our consciousness and mindset from corruption to righteousness.

The remaining part of the chapter spells out specifically, how this change should go thus:

“Wherefore putting off lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be ye kind one to another even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you”—Ephesians 4:25-32

The above scriptures depict righteousness consciousness in pin-point detail. So there you have it. Awake to righteousness and sin not. Do not see yourself anymore as a sinner. Never confess again that you are a sinner. That is who you used to be. But now you are righteous. You are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. That is what the word of God says you are. And that is what you should confess.

Yes, it is true that if we say that we have not sinned, we make him (God) a liar (1John 1:10). At the same time, it is also very true, that after we have come into Christ, we still say we are sinners; we are also calling God a liar.

So from now on, begin to confess to yourself and whoever cares to hear, that you are righteous—the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. And as you do continually, it will soon

practically become evident in your life in Jesus Name!

8 Walking in the Flesh

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For if you live after the flesh you shall die: but if you through the Spirit do put to death the deeds of the body, you shall live”—Romans 8:1&13

The above scriptures tell us that a major condition for us not to come under condemnation in Christ Jesus, is that we should not walk after the flesh. Then the other verse, (verse 13) specifically tells us the judgement for walking or living in the flesh. And that is death.

Which death is the scripture referring to here? It is second death or eternal death. It is eternal judgment in the lake of fire. So if someone is in Christ Jesus, as believer, and regardless, walks in the flesh, he can lose his justification and come under condemnation. And eventually partake of the second death with the unbelievers.

With this dreadful consequence, it becomes very important for us to critically study what constitutes walking in flesh. So we can learn how to avoid such lifestyles.

What Does Walking in the Flesh Mean?

To understand what is meant by walking in the flesh, we must understand the term, walk. The term ‘walk’ means, to live or be occupied with something. So walking in the flesh is to be occupied with the works of the flesh. That is, a lifestyle that is characterized by the works of the flesh.

Thus, the person that is said to be walking in the flesh, is the person that gives himself to the practice of the works of the flesh. In other words, he is habitually into unrighteous acts.

The Works of The Flesh

Now that we have explained walking in the flesh, to mean a lifestyle characterized by the works of the flesh. Let us see what and what, constitute the works of the flesh scripturally. These works of the flesh, are what many people call the works of the devil. But the bible tells us, they are actually the works of the flesh.

Let us see what the bible calls the works of the flesh:

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest which are these; Adultery, fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, strife, jealousy, wrath, selfishness, divisions, heresies, envyings, murders,

drunkenness, revellings and such like: of which I tell you beforehand, as I have also told you in time past, that they who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God'—Galatians 5:19-21

According to the above scripture, the works of the flesh include—but are not limited to – All sexual pervasion such as adultery, fornication and licentiousness. And of course these sexual sins include the ones performed in our thoughts and imaginations. Because the Lord Jesus tells us, if a man looks at a woman to lust after her in his heart, he has committed adultery. And this also applies to fornication. Then the worse aspect of sexual pervasion we see today, is homosexuality and lesbianism (sodomy).

Then licentiousness talks about behaving in a way that is considered sexually immoral. Such as sexually provocative dressing and the likes. Impurity covers every action that defiles a man. Some of which may not be written in the bible. Such as watching of pornography and masturbation; drug addiction, smoking, immoral conversations and thoughts, e.t.c.

Idolatry is the deification of anything or person, other than the Almighty God. It includes image worship and financial or monetary idolatry; which is greed or covetousness (the bible also calls it, mammon).

Witchcraft has to do with all forms of magical practice. Including soul power, manipulation practices, such as hypnotism, astral travel, palm reading, mind reading, reading of horoscope, visualization, e.t.c...

Concerning hatred, the only persons we are to hate, is the devil and his cohorts (mainly demons). We are not to hate our fellow humans. However, we can hate people's evil character; and if we have the opportunity, we should rebuke them sharply in love. But if they are not ready to change, we are not to hate them; but rather, we are to put them in prayer, for God to take out such habits from them.

The bible teaches us that, no matter what anyone does to us, we are not to hate them; but love them and do them good. Doing otherwise is a work of the flesh.

Strife is faction; which is opposition or disagreement, that is characterized by bitterness and rivalry. Then jealousy is self-explanatory. Wrath means passionate or fierce anger. The word of God says, we can be angry, but not sin. But wrath is definitely a sinful anger.

Among the list, is selfishness, divisions, heresies—pervasive belief, envyings, murders, drunkenness and revellings (wild partying e.g clubbing).

The word of God says all practitioners or performers of such acts shall not inherit the

kingdom of God.

So to be walking in the flesh, is to make the works of the flesh a lifestyle. And of course, if someone gives himself to the works of the flesh continually, without repentance, he is sure to attract the devil or his agents into his life.

And when that happens, he or she is bound to be obsessed or addicted to the evil habit, unto eternal destruction.

But the good news is, the word of God gives us the panacea or cure to the works or lusts of the flesh. And that cure is, "*walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh*"—Galatians 5:16

So in the next chapter, we will be digging into what it means to walk in the Spirit, scripturally.

9 Walking in the Spirit

"This I say then, walk in the spirit and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh"—Galatians 5:16

"For if you live after the flesh, you shall die but if you through the Spirit do put to death the deeds of the body, you shall live." Romans 8:13

From the above two scriptures, and other similar scriptures, the Lord reveals to us the cure for the works (lusts or deeds) of the flesh—Sin. And this cure is—walking in the Spirit...

So in this chapter, we will be digging into what and what, constitute walking in the Spirit. So we can be better equipped with the right knowledge, on exactly how to walk in the Spirit, for absolute dominion over the works of the flesh or sin.

The Constituents of Walking in the Spirit

There are six basic biblical consciousness that make up or constitute what it means to be walking in the Spirit. These include:

- **Consciousness of the Indwelling Spirit:** The number one thing that constitutes walking in the Spirit is a full persuasion of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, in the spirit of the believer. That is, the realization of the permanent residence of the Holy Spirit in a believer; and walking in this reality.

This is basically where walking in the Spirit starts. Without this first reality, walking in the Spirit is not in view. The believer must realize that the Holy is not only residing in heaven, but also in his or her Spirit.

Here is what the bible says concerning the indwelling presence of the Spirit of God, in the life of a believer:

"Know you not that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?"—1 Corinthians 3:16.

This scripture says, believers are the temple or the house of God. And that the Spirit of God (The Holy Spirit) resides (dwells) in us. And of course, he dwells in all of us individually. So to walk in the Spirit, you must always live in the consciousness that the Holy Spirit of God is always residing in you.

- **Death or Sacrifice Consciousness of The Body:** *"Likewise reckon you also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin but alive unto God through*

Jesus Christ our Lord'—Romans 6:11

"For you are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God"—Colossians 3:3

So to walk in the Spirit, you must live with the consciousness that you are dead to sin in the flesh, and now alive unto God in Christ Jesus. You must see yourself as a living sacrifice in Christ Jesus, at all time. This is a great part of what is meant to be walking in the Spirit.

- **Working Consciousness of The Indwelling Spirit:** To walk in the Spirit, also means to be walking in the reality that the indwelling Holy Spirit in you, is always working in you. And he is working in you, to help you please God in your lifestyle, and in every action—Philippians 2:13. This consciousness helps you always yield yourself to the works of the Spirit in your daily life.
- **Submission Consciousness (Yielding Consciousness):** Having realized the Holy Spirit's residence in you; and that he is always working in you for God's good pleasure; you need to also live or walk in submission to his works and guidance in your heart and life.

Concerning this, the bible says, we should present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, and acceptable unto God, which is our reasonable service—Romans 8:1.

So to walk in the Spirit, is to be consciously and consistently yielded to, or submitted to the Holy Spirit; his works, and continual guidance. And to do this effectively, we must diligently learn how to discern his works and guidance at all time. To learn how the Spirit works and leads, you can study the bible and relevant Christian books that treats the topic. Such as "*How to be Led By The Spirit*" By Kenneth E. Hagin.

- **Fruit Consciousness:** Another constituent of walking in the Spirit, is fruit consciousness. Fruit here, refers to the fruit of the Spirit as enumerated in the scriptures, as we can see in Galatians 5:22-23...

"But the fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, Self-Control: against such there is no law."

Walking in the consciousness of the fruit of the Spirit as enumerated above...

That is, always benchmarking or judging all your actions with the above listed fruit of the Spirit, is to be walking in the Spirit.

Every of your action must and should conform to any, and all of the above listed fruit of the Spirit. And any of your character or action that does not conform, should be dropped as soon as possible. And this character assessment must be a lifestyle. These lifestyles constitute what is meant by walking in the Spirit.

- **Repentance Consciousness:** Among other things, walking in the Spirit, is living in repentance consciousness, on daily and continual basis. The Greek word that is translated in the New Testament as repentance is “metanoia”, meaning, compunction (guilt) or reversal of decision. Thus, repentance is being penitent or remorseful for sin.

It is reconsidering and changing your way, action or character on conviction that it is wrong. Making this repentance from sinful attitudes or character a lifestyle is what is meant by repentance consciousness.

The word of God tells us that repentance is what the Lord is sent to give, along with forgiveness of sin—[Acts 5:31](#). Then the same chapter in the very next verse, tells us the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to us, is a witness of this fact—[Acts 5:32](#). So a penitent or repentant lifestyle, is surely a walk in the Spirit. Which definitely is a cure for works of the flesh.

So here you have it. The six consciousness in the list above, are the major scriptural ways to walk in the Spirit, as the word of God instructs. And as you do that, sin shall no longer have dominion over you, in Jesus Name!

10 Living Above Sin

"Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh, And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and you shall keep my judgments, and do them"—Ezekiel 36: 25-27

When the light of the above scripture and other scriptures entered my spirit, I went about declaring—'I am through with sin all my life'.

I declared it to my best friend. To my sister in-laws that came visiting. And then finally, as I got to school (I was still in the university then), I went about announcing to everyone I could get across to that "I'm through with sin!"

As I made this declaration to people, some could not understand why I could make such a seemingly absurd statement. I even shared the scriptures I am basing my faith on with my best friend, but he just could not accept the fact that anyone—including believers—can ever be through with sin.

But personally, by the illumination of scriptures—such as the opening scriptures—by the Holy Spirit in my heart, I totally believe that I am through forever with sin. And I am already walking in the reality of a life above the dominion of any sin.

And this chapter, shares my scriptural insight on exactly why I believe I am through with sin. To the intent that God will also illuminate you with it. And deliver you forever from any besetting sin in your life, in Jesus Precious Name!

So Why Do I Believe I am Through With Sin?

The scriptural facts in which I base my faith of living forever above sin are as follows:

1. **The New Covenant:** In the new covenant of God's grace, as can be seen in the book of **Ezekiel 36: 25-27** and **Hebrews 8: 7-12**, God says he will Sprinkle clean water upon us (a type of the blood of Jesus) and make us clean. Then he also promises to take away our hearts of stone and give us a heart of flesh—which I believe he has already given me—then he will put his Spirit within me, and cause me to keep his statutes.

And of course, I know I have the Holy Spirit within me, who is always working righteousness in me.

So therefore, with this covenant, I do not see how sin can ever dominate me. Then in the final part of the covenant in **Hebrews 8:12**, God promises to be merciful to all our unrighteousness; and that all our errors (sins) he will remember no more.

So as I walk with the Lord in Holiness, if I stumble, there is forgiveness for me, no matter the gravity of the fall. And as he forgives me, he will strengthen me by his grace, never to do it again (**Hebrews 4:12**).

2. **Other Scriptures:** Other scriptures that guarantee that I (and you) can never come under the dominion of sin are: Romans 6:14:

"Neither yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For SIN SHALL NOT HAVE DOMINION OVER YOU (me): for you are not under the Law, but under grace"

1John 3:9;

"Whosoever is born of God does not commit sin, for his nature remains in him: and HE CANNOT SIN, because he is born of God"

The first scripture says that as we yield ourselves unto God (The Holy Spirit) and our members (that is, our bodies) as instruments of righteousness unto God, sin shall not have dominion over us.

The second scripture says anyone that is born of God does not commit sin—that is, does not make a practice of sin—because his nature (God's nature) remains in him. And he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

And because I know I have new heart. Because I know the word of God is engraved in my heart. Because I have the nature of God in me (Love). Because I know the fear of God is in my heart. Because I know I am a vessel of mercy. Because I am under grace and not under the Law... My eternal conclusion is...

"I AM FOREVER THROUGH WITH SIN!"

And dear friend, you have to believe that too, because God cannot lie. He says what he

means, and means everything he says. This revelation I just shared with you, is the ultimate cure for sin. It is the only way to live above sin.

To live above besetting sin, you need to believe what I have just shared with you and start walking in this consciousness. This is what the Apostle Paul meant when he said; “***Awake to righteousness and sin not***” (see [1 Corinthians 15:34](#)). In other words, he was telling us to be righteousness conscious...

Because we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)). Let this consciousness inform your actions; your choice of words; and your behaviour. Let this consciousness guide your every thought. And as the devil ministers vain imaginations to your mind, jettison them in the name of Jesus. Thus, we are told to fight the good fight of faith ([1 Timothy 6:12](#)).

Then finally, as you walk in this consciousness and gain mastery over sin, if you do err—no matter how many times and gravity—remember you are a vessel of mercy. And that God’s mercy is for those who fear him...

Remember that Jesus has promised never to turn his back on you for any error. Just ask for forgiveness, receive it by faith, repent immediately; and carry on with the Holy life.

Right now, I declare you a master over sin, in the mighty name of Jesus Christ!

I pray that the very God of peace sanctify you wholly. And I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calls you, who also will do it—[1 Thessalonians 5:23-24](#).

There are certain people who can never have dominion over sin. If you are not yet born again, there is no way you can ever gain dominion over sin. So if you are tired of living in sin; and you want to receive grace from God to live above sin, you need to accept Jesus as your Lord and Personal Savior.

To receive salvation by faith, please place your hand on your chest and say out this prayer:

Lord Jesus, I agree I am a sinner. But today, I repent totally of my sins. And I accept you into my heart as my Lord and Personal Saviour. Wash me clean with your precious blood. Write my name in the book of Life. Thank you Father for saving me. In Jesus Name!

If you said that prayer, Congratulations! You are finally on your way to paradise; and have received eternal dominion over sin. You are finally through with sin forever!

11 Walking in Perfection

"For by one offering he has perfected forever them that are sanctified"—Hebrews 10:14

From the above scripture, the word of God tells us, the Lord Jesus Christ has perfected us forever, by the offering of his life on the cross.

The word of God above says, He has "perfected" (past tense). It does not say, 'He is perfecting' or 'going to perfect'. It says, He has already perfected us. So it is a done deal.

Who does the word of God say has been perfected?

The sanctified—the believer that has been purified or justified by the blood of Jesus Christ through faith...

How long is this perfection? The word of God says; "He has perfected forever", thus, the perfection the Lord has given to the saved (believer) is forever, not temporary.

The word 'perfected' as used in our opening text, was translated from the Greek word "teleioo", meaning 'to complete'. That is, accomplishment or consummation.

Thus, by the offering or sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross, he has consummated or completed every believer in character and power. Character, such as: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, faith, meekness, self-control (The fruit of the Spirit).

Power, such as: Healing Power, Miracle Working Power and Revelational Power (Gifts of the Spirit). The believer is already perfected in the character and power of the Spirit of God. That is, in divine character and power.

So the believer can confidently, on the authority of God's word, proclaim or confess that he or she is perfect. Because against the orthodox (and unscriptural) notion that nobody is (can be) perfect, the word of God says we are perfect. And we are perfect forever.

Now being already perfected, the Lord will have us walk in the consciousness of this perfection or completeness in Christ Jesus – **Colossians 2:10**. We are to walk worthy of this great work of grace, which our Lord accomplished for us by the offering of his body and life on the cross. So his offering and accomplishment for us would not be in vain.

That is why he says we should be perfect, even as our Father in heaven is perfect. He did not say 'try or struggle to be perfect'. Instead he says, Be you therefore perfect, even as your Father who is in heaven is perfect ([Matthew 5:48](#)).

So How Do We Walk in Perfection?

Below is a list of what scripturally constitute walking in perfection as Christians:

- **Walking By Faith:** From the same scriptural chapter, where we took our opening text for this chapter, the word of God says; "Let us draw near with a true heart ***in full assurance of faith***, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water"—[Hebrews 10:22](#).

So walking by faith or a lifestyle of faith, is a scriptural way to walk practically in perfection. A man of faith is a perfect man.

- **Walking in Love:** "***And above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection***"—[Colossians 3:14](#). This scripture tells us that love is the bond of perfection. So to be walking in love towards God and men, through a sacrificial and selfless lifestyle, is to be walking in God's standard of perfection. A man of love—divine love (agape)—is a perfect man.
- **Walking in Righteousness (Godliness):** Against the general unscriptural notion that no man can be perfect, the word of God says there was a man perfect before God. And that man's name is Job. God reckoned him perfect and upright, because he feared God, and eschewed evil ([Job 1:1](#))...

In other words, he walked in righteousness or godliness. So a man that walks in righteousness or godliness (Holiness) is a perfect and upright man before God. Thus, walking in righteousness or godliness is walking in perfection.

- **Walking in Self-Control:** "***For in many things we all offend. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body***"—[James 3:2](#).

This scripture here tells us that if any man offend not in word, he is a perfect man, and also able to bridle or control the whole body.

From here, we conclude that a perfect man is the man with tongue and Self-Control. So, walking in self-Control is walking in perfection.

- **Walking in The Revelational Knowledge of God's Word:** "***And that from a child you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration***

of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfected, thoroughly furnished unto all good work"—2 Timothy 3:15-17.

From the above scripture, we see that knowledge—Revelational knowledge of God's word— makes a man or woman of God (the believer) perfect. And as we walk in the revelational knowledge of God's word—in the scriptures—we are walking in perfection.

- **Walking in Repentance:** All through scripture, we see people that walked in perfection before God, such as Abraham, Job, David and Peter. These men in their walk with God, they did stumble at one time and the other...

But the striking difference between them and other people was that they were repentant. When Job was rebuked by God, he repented. When David was rebuked by the prophet Nathan—by the word of the Lord—he was repentant (*2 Samuel 12:1-13*).

When Peter realized he had denied the Lord Jesus, the word of God says, He wept bitterly (*Matthew 26:75*). He wept bitterly in repentance. Thus, a repentant or penitent man, is a man walking in perfection before God.

So the Lord will have us walk in perfection before him all the days of our lives. And the list above—amongst others—is the basic ways to walk in perfection before God; while we remain here on earth, until we gain immortal perfection...

...That is the changing of our natural bodies to spiritual bodies, at the second coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ (*1 Corinthians 15:40-54; 1Thessalonians 4:15-17*).

From now on, you will be walking in perfection all the days of your life in Jesus name!

12 Walking in The Fear of God

“Therefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire” – Hebrews 12:28-29.

The above scripture, tells us that godly fear is a work of grace. Nowadays, there are very few teachings about the fear of God. And most of the few teachers that teach about the fear of God, define the fear of God, to mean the same thing as the love of God. Others interpret it to mean reverence. But the above opening text, clearly differentiates reverence from godly fear, with the word “And”.

The fear of God is distinct from the love of God, and reverence for God. We can clearly see this distinction, by checking through the original words, which they were translated from.

The love of God is from the Greek word “Agape”, meaning affection. Reverence for God, as used in our opening text, is from the Greek word “entrepo” meaning, to respect. While the fear of God which we are now discussing, is from the Greek word “eulabeia” meaning caution or dread.

Thus, we are to walk in the fear or dread of God for our own good. The Lord does not want us to fear anyone or anything, but he does want us to fear and tremble before him. That is why in the new covenant, he says he will put his fear in our hearts, so we should not depart from him (Jeremiah 32:40).

Then the Lord Jesus tells us again, that we should not fear those that kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather we should fear him (God) who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell (Matthew 10:28).

So Why Should We Fear God?

Sometime back, while I shared this message of the fear of God with a young man, he asked me; “can you love and fear your father at the same time?” I replied, “Yes, I loved my parents for whom they were to me, but at the same time, I feared them, because if I messed up, I would be rebuked or punished”

When John talks about perfect love casting away fear, he meant condemnational fear (1John 4:18). And this condemnational (bond) fear, that John says perfect love casts away, is different from the godly fear, we are talking about here.

I have experienced both of them. Condemnatorial fear, like John says, has torment. It leads to self and people condemnation. It also leads to struggle with sin. It kills faith. As I struggled with this kind of fear some years ago, like John says, my encounter with the divine love of God, by revelation, gave me eternal victory from the clutches of condemnatorial fear.

While godly fear on the other hand, is a gift of the Spirit of Grace. It confers mastery over sin. Godly fear helps you depart from sin; and perfect holiness ([2 Corinthians 7:1](#)). Godly fear stabilizes love and faith in the heart of a believer.

As a matter of fact, many Christians who confess righteousness with no practical evidence of righteousness, in their characters and words, are actually suffering from the missing link of the fear of God. They get carried away with God's love, goodness and faith. But pay absolutely no attention to the fear of God, divine severity and eternal judgment...

Because they have been wrongly taught or wrongly believe, that the fear of God, is the same thing as the Love of God, or mere reverence or awe.

Now let us see the scriptural reasons why we need to fear God...

- **Securing Our Eternal Salvation:** *"Therefore, my beloved, as you 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](#).

From scriptures, we see that a saved soul can be cut off if he does not work out his salvation with caution and trembling ([Romans 11:20-22](#)). For instance, Judas Iscariot, lost his bishopric because he did not work out his salvation, with fear and trembling.

- **Mastery in Holiness:** From scriptures, we see that the fear of God, is the master or perfect key for holy or godly living. Here is exactly what the word of God says concerning this:

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" [2 Corinthians 7:1](#).

So it takes the fear of God to gain mastery in our pursuit of holiness, as the scriptures commands.

- **Enjoying Divine Wisdom:** The bible tells us, the fear of God gives us access to divine wisdom, which is uncanny wisdom. As a matter of fact, the bible defines wisdom to mean the fear of God. Here is the exact scripture: *"And unto man he*

said, behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding"—Job 28:28.

Thus, to be walking in the fear of God, is to be walking in divine wisdom.

- **Enjoyment of Divine Blessings:** *"Praise you the Lord, blessed is the man that fears the Lord that delights greatly in his commandments. His descendants shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endures forever"—Psalm 112:1-3.*

So the man or woman that walks in the fear of God, enjoys divine blessings amongst which is, wealth and riches.

So the list above, are the major biblical reasons we must have to walk in the fear of God. God does not want us to be afraid of anyone or anything. Neither does he want us to have condemnational or tormenting fear. But he does desire and instructs us to fear him for our ultimate and eternal good.

13 Walking in Love

"Be you therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and has given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling fragrance"—Ephesians 5:1-2

From the above scripture, the Lord instructs us to walk in love, as Christ also has loved us. So when we talk of love here, we are talking about God's love (Agape)...

This divine order of love can only be experienced and expressed in our lives, by the help of the Holy Ghost in us. This kind of love is different from other kinds of natural affection mankind are used to.

It is different from the love between spouses. It is different from the love between brothers and sisters. It is also far different from the love between best of friends. Apart from the God's kind of love we are considering here, every other kind of affection is at best, self-centered...

God's love can be best understood from what the word of God says in **Romans 5:5-8**;

"And hope makes not ashamed; because the love of God is shared abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die. Yet perhaps for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commends his love towards us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us".

The above scripture reveals God's love to us in very clear terms. It clearly contrasts the love of God with the self-centered, natural human love we have on earth. The scripture tells us that in due time, Christ died for the ungodly, not the godly.

It goes further to say, hardly can someone even die for a just man—no matter how much affection we claim for the person, along natural lines. But on the other hand, concerning God's love; God demonstrated his perfect and impeccable love towards us...

In that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Christ died for us, even while we were still living in offence to him and his father. You definitely would not find this kind of love in any human relationship. Along natural lines, people love only those who please them; and hate those who offend them.

But the Lord commands that we love our neighbours, in exactly the same manner, he has loved us. The word of God from our opening scripture says we should walk in love, as Christ also loved us. In other words, the Lord demands we walk exactly in his order or kind of love. So in this chapter, we want to scripturally see what constitutes walking in love.

How to Walk In Love

We have seen from our opening text that the Lord commands that we walk in love. But the question is: what constitutes walking in love, according to God's standard? And how do we actually walk in love?

The list below constitutes what is meant to be walking in love; and how to walk in love scripturally:

1. **Forgiveness and Forbearance:** *"Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do you"—Colossians 3:13.*

The greatest love God showed and still shows to mankind is forgiveness and forbearance of sin. As a matter of fact, forgiveness of sins is a major tenet of God's new covenant (Hebrews 8:12). As such, the Lord seriously demands that we forbear and forgive one another, even as he forgave, and still forgives us in love.

As a matter of fact, the Lord says, If we do not forgive others their trespasses against us, he will not also forgive us our trespasses against him (Matthew 6:14-15). So to be walking in forgiveness and forbearance with people, is a major way to walk in love.

2. **Obedience to God's Commandments:** *"He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me. And he that loves me shall be loved of my father, and I will love him and will manifest myself to him"- John 14:21.*

From the above scripture, the Lord clearly defines love for him, to mean having his commandments or words, and doing or practicing them. The love of God is not just hearing and speaking the word of God; but rather, it is hearing and doing. The Lord says, anyone who does not keep or practice his sayings, does not love him (John 14:24).

So to be practicing the word of God in our daily lives is to be walking in love, as the Lord commands.

3. **Sacrifice:** Our opening text tells us to walk in love as Christ also has loved us, and has given himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God. So God's love is a

sacrificial love. Christ loves us so much; he had to sacrifice himself for us.

The Lord also tells us, greater love has no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends ([John 15:13](#)). And the most remarkable thing about Christ's sacrificial love, is that he did not just sacrifice his life for only his friends or the godly...

But much more, for the ungodly and his offenders. Thus, to walk in love as Christ did, we also have to follow this sacrificial example. To walk in Christ's order of love, we must sacrifice for God and our neighbours. We must bear the burden of God's work, especially soul winning.

We must also bear our fellow believers burden. Then to be perfect in love, we must bear the burden of the ungodly as well.

We must sacrificially pray for the ungodly; including those that offend and despise us. We must cunningly use our words and attitude to draw them from their damnation. So sacrificial lifestyle, is a major way to walk in divine order of love.

4. **Zealousness:** Christ's love, the Lord instructs us to walk in, is a zealous love. In [John 2](#), we see the Lord's love for the father, expressed in his indignation towards those that bought and sold in the temple of God...

In verse 17 of that book of John chapter 2, the word of God says; "***And his disciples remembered that it was written, the zeal of your house has consumed me***". Just as the Lord's love is a zealous one, the same way, we are to be zealous or heated up in our love for God. To walk in divine love, is to be zealous for God and the things of God.

The Lord does not want a lukewarm attitude towards him and his work. Instead, he requires a fervid or passionate love from us. We are to be consumed by the zeal of his house; and everything concerning him. We are to be zealous in godliness. We are to be zealous in soul winning. We are to be zealous in our exercise of faith.

Passivity is not acceptable in God's order of love. That is why to the lukewarm, the Lord says:

"Be zealous therefore, and repent"—Revelations 3:19.

5. **Chastisement:** In [Revelation 3:19](#) the Lord says; "*As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten...*"

God's love is a rebuking and chastening love. And to walk in his love, we must also rebuke and chasten people in love. If someone is in error or offence towards you, others or God, it is your responsibility to rebuke him. And as the scripture says, as

you rebuke the person and he repents, you should forgive him (Luke 17:3).

But if you rebuke someone and he is recalcitrant, if you can find a subtle way to discipline the person in love, do so. Then if the person remains unrepentant in spite of your rebukes and disciplinary measures, still forgive the person for your own good.

So the above list, is the major ways to walk in divine love, as the Lord commands us.

14 The Secrets of Infallibility

“Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ”—2Peter 1:10-11

The word translated as “fall” in the above opening text, is from the Greek word ‘ptaio’ meaning ‘to trip’. Which in other words means: to err, sin, fail or stumble concerning salvation. So the statement “ye shall never fall”, as used in our opening text means:

1. *You shall never fall into error, such as heresy and delusion.*
2. *You shall never fall into sin, especially habitual sin.*
3. *You shall never fail or stumble concerning your eternal salvation. Such as falling into apostasy and agnosticism.*

These definitions are flawless, given the preceding statements and the immediate accompanying verse as stated in the opening text...

The preceding statement says: “Give diligence to make your calling and election sure”. Your calling and election here, refers to our calling and election of grace. Which in a phrase means, “Eternal Salvation”. The immediate following verse confirms this. It says, “For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly, into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ”—2Peter 1:11

Thus, the Apostle Peter—by the Spirit—reveals to us, that there are certain spiritual secrets or keys, which if we diligently engage, can certainly make us infallible. These spiritual secrets make us infallible to spiritual errors. They make us infallible to sin—especially habitual sin. And most importantly, they make us infallible from our calling and election in Christ Jesus; which is our call to Eternal Salvation and Life.

So What Are These Infallibility Secrets?

“Simon Peter, a servant and an Apostle of Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

*Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 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**: for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ"—2Peter 1:1-11*

From the above quoted scripture, the Apostle Peter by the Spirit delivers eight powerful, spiritual secrets; that guarantees our infallibility, from our calling and election of Grace. So we are going to consider these secrets; so we can better understand them. And consequently be able to diligently walk in them, as the word of God admonishes us.

Here are these infallibility keys.

- **Faith:** First on the list of these infallibility keys is faith. Every born again child of God has the same measure and spirit of faith, given to him or her, at salvation. And no believer has more quantity of faith than another.

We all have the mountain moving faith (**Romans 12:3**; **2Corinthians 4:13**). Then to live an infallible life, you must always engage your faith. You must walk by faith and not by sight, concerning every area of life (**1 Corinthians 5:7**). The word of God says, The Just shall live by faith (**Hebrews 10:38**).

- **Virtue:** The word translated as 'virtue', in the context of the second book of Peter, as I quoted earlier, is from the Greek word, "arête" properly meaning, manliness or valour. In other words, excellence. That is, being extremely good or being the best in everything we do.

You know, the Lord says, We shall be the head and not the tail (**Deuteronomy 28:13**). A very good scriptural example of virtuousness is the virtuous woman described in **proverbs 31:10-29**. So another great key of infallibility, according to scripture is excellence, through diligence in everything we do. Including our service to God. To this end, the word of God tells us, whatsoever your hand finds to do, do it with thy might (**Ecclesiastes 9:10**).

- **Knowledge:** Knowledge here refers to the revelational knowledge of God's word; as revealed by the Holy Ghost from scriptures. And it comes by consistent bible study, meditation and prayers.

To walk in spiritual infallibility then, you must as a lifestyle, hunt for the revelational knowledge of God's word. And as you receive these revelational knowledge, you must live them out to be infallible.

- **Temperance:** Another word for temperance, is self-control or self-discipline. The word of God tells us, we already have the spirit of sound mind or self-discipline ([2 Timothy 1:7](#)). And the Apostle Peter, also lists it here as one of the secrets of infallibility.

Thus, to walk in infallibility, we must walk in self-control; which is another word for temperance, sound mind, self-discipline or sobriety. We must discipline ourselves in what we say, how we eat; sexually; in how we dress; and in every other things.

- **Patience:** Patience as used in the book of Peter we are expounding here, is from the Greek word, "hypomone" meaning, cheerful or hopeful endurance or constancy. It is also translated as patience continuance.

To be infallible in our calling and election in Christ Jesus, we must exercise patience in our walk with God. We are to hopefully endure whatever affliction or tribulation that comes our way, without any iota of wavering; even unto death. We must be patient in our profession and exercise of faith and love...

...Even when we do not get the desired result the word of God promises. We must not for any reason cast away our confidence, and draw back unto perdition. Rather, we must patiently believe unto the saving of our souls ([Hebrews 10:35-39](#)).

- **Godliness:** Godliness is another key, we are admonished to add to our faith for infallibility. Godliness is another word for holiness. That is sanctification. Godliness is Separation from sin and separating to God. It is living above sin. The word of God says we must pursue peace with all men and holiness, without which, no man shall see God ([Hebrews 12:14](#)). So if we want to see God in our lives now and in eternity, we must walk in godliness or holiness (sanctification).
- **Brotherly Kindness:** Brotherly Kindness is from the Greek word "Philadelphia", which means, fraternal affection. It is another word for brotherly love or love of the brethren.

It is the love or kindness between brothers and sisters. It is the burden bearing love between brethren in the Lord. If we walk in this affection, the word of God says, We shall never fall. This is one of the secrets of infallibility. It is this kind of love that obeys God's second greatest commandment – Love thy neighbour as thyself ([Matthew 22:39](#)).

- **Charity:** Charity is from the Greek word 'agape' meaning Love. I believe this key should top the list of the secrets of infallibility, which is why the Apostle Peter listed it last. Charity in most scriptural context encapsulates or includes brotherly kindness, as we just expounded above...

It is an affection poured in the heart, only by the Holy Ghost. It is affection from God, towards God, and people. Charity is affection or benevolence that goes beyond brotherhood. Charity is divine affection that spreads even to the undeserving. To this end, it is superior to Philadelphia, which is just brotherly love.

Charity (agape) is a forgiving and forbearing love. And it is the greatest key for infallibility in Christ. But however, it must be combined with the other seven keys for maximum manifestation and effect.

So here you have it. According to the scriptures, these eight secrets or keys are the biblical secrets to infallibility from our calling and election of grace.

15 The Blessedness of Righteous Living

“Even as David also describes the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputes righteousness without works, saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.”—Romans 4:6-8

The word ‘blessedness’ is from the Greek word “Makarismos” meaning, attribution of good fortune. From the opening text, the word of God says, the man whom God imputes righteousness—the justified—is blessed. That is, he is in a position of good fortune. In other words, he is positionally fortunate.

But in as much as this is an absolute scriptural fact, the justified believer in Christ, may not actually realize this blessedness in his practical life, if he does not live out his gift of righteousness as lifestyle. Because the imputed righteousness, brings a person into the blessed position in God. But it is righteous living, that activates divine blessings (James 1:25).

So in this chapter, we want to scripturally see these blessedness or blessings that accrue the man or woman, who walks in righteousness or godliness.

The Blessings of Righteous Living

The list below constitutes the blessings that accrue the man or woman who walks in righteousness or godliness, scripturally:

1 Peace and Quietness: *“And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever”—Isaiah 32:17*

From the above scripture, we see that righteousness or right living, works peace. Then the second part says; the effect of righteousness is quietness and assurance forever. Thus, the man or woman, who lives a righteous life, enjoys divine peace and quietness; in all areas of life.

2 Prosperity: *“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. But his delight is in the Law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper” – Psalm 1:1-3*

From the above scripture, it is crystal clear, that divine prosperity is the portion of the man

or woman, that walks in righteousness or godliness. The word of God says; *"Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper"*

3 Faith: *"Surely he shall not be moved forever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord. His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies"*—Psalms 112: 6-8

So absolute faith or assurance or persuasion in God, is another blessing the man or woman who walks in righteousness enjoys. The word says; *"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings, his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord"*

4 Answers to Prayers: *"For he that will love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile : let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil"*—1 Peter 3:10-12

Thus, from this scripture above and others, it is very clear that the man or woman that practices righteousness, enjoys speedy answer to prayers. Which the practitioners of evil do not enjoy.

5 Honour *"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work"*—2 Timothy 2:19-21

The above scripture starts off by admonishing that everyone that names or calls on the name of Christ, should depart from iniquity. Then it goes on to say, in a great house—especially God's house—Some vessels are to honour, while others are to dishonour.

The very next verse, quickly identifies the vessels that are for honour. And that vessel, is the one who purges himself from iniquities. The word of God says; *"He shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified (consecrated), and meet for the masters use, and prepared unto every good work"*

6 Eternity with God: The crowning blessing of righteous living or godliness, is gaining access to the paradise of God, after death; or at the second coming of Christ. Ungodliness

can stop someone from inheriting the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:19-21). While godliness or holiness on the other good hand, guarantees access to the kingdom of God. Here is exactly what the word of God says concerning this:

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation"—Psalm 24: 3-5

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord"—Hebrews 12:14

The list above constitutes amongst several others, the blessings which accrues the man or woman, who makes righteousness a lifestyle, not just in words or confession. As you diligently commit yourself to a life of godliness, through the help of the Holy Spirit in you... you are guaranteed to enjoy the above listed blessings; and much more, in Jesus perfect name!

Final Words

There is a great delusion, sweeping through the church of Christ, all over the world, concerning the righteousness of God, through Faith. And this delusion is what I wrote in one of my articles title; "The Extreme Grace Error". As I conclude this book, it is very important I reproduce the content of that article here. Below is a copy of that particular article with a few modification.

The Extreme Grace Error!

The Lord opened my eyes to His awesome grace; as contained in the new covenant of God, which was ratified by the shed, precious blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ (Ezekiel 36: 26-29; Hebrews 8:7-12).

And to be very honest, God gave me this revelation after reading a book on grace teaching. Only that the grace message I read was pushed to the extreme. The revelation came from God to that man of God – quite alright – only that it was pushed to the extreme. Thereby, leading to mutilation of other scriptural truths.

If this great man of God, had taught this great scriptural revelation, in harmony with other balancing scriptural truths, most of the errors in this grace doctrine, that have been proliferated all over the place, would have been mitigated.

This pushing of the grace doctrine to the extreme, has led so many people into devastating heresies. It has pushed many folks into getting off on very dangerous tangents.

And I am sure it is from this extreme grace teachings that the heretic doctrine of OSAS (Once Saved Always Saved) was born. I am also sure it is from teachings such as this, that led someone to share a forum post that read "Forgive, if you do not forgive, you go to hell—False doctrine". By this message, the author falsified the eternal truth of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. Which says, If you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you (Matthew 6:15).

Thus, this article is written with the intention (and a great burden) in my heart, to point out these extremism and smoothen them out. So people do not get deluded—believing a lie about the truth.

The Major Errors of The Extreme Grace Doctrine

Error 1: The Commandments of Jesus Before Death and Resurrection, Are No Longer Relevant Under Grace

The extreme grace doctrine says that all the Commandments of Jesus, before he went to the cross, are no more relevant under this dispensation of Grace. And that Jesus's teaching before going to the cross was to bring the law to its pristine position, with the intention that we could fully recognize that we cannot keep the law...

There is truth in this point of view, but it is half-baked (and half-baked truths, are worse than no truth at all). Yes, Jesus did bring the law to its pristine position by his teachings; and by so doing, it was obvious we cannot keep them with our own strength, or the energy of the flesh. But to say that we cannot keep them at all is false. Because, if it is so, the Lord would not demand that we should keep them in his own very words (see Matthew 7:24-27).

And yes, even the disciples observed the human inability to keep the Lord's commandments, in its pristine state. But right there and then, the Lord gave them the key to the obedience. He clearly told them that he knows that keeping the commandments is impossible with men, but it is a possibility with the help of God (Mark 10: 25-27).

In other words, Jesus was telling them they could keep all his commandments, through the help of the Holy Ghost, who is the Spirit of Grace. Thus, the bible tells us we can establish (or keep) the law of Christ by Faith (Rom 3:31). That is, Faith in the New Covenant of Grace, through the death of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ (Ezekiel 36: 26-29; Hebrews 8:7-12, 9:15-22).

And by the grace of God, I am a living testimony of this eternal truth, of establishing the law by Faith. By faith in the New Covenant of grace, I live above sin. I do not struggle to keep the commandments of Christ. All I just do is lean on the abundance of Grace and the gift of righteousness, which I have received from Christ; through his Holy Spirit that indwells me (Rom 5:17). And that automates my lifestyle of holiness.

And if I err, I just quickly receive mercy and forgiveness from the throne of grace (Hebrews 4:16) and repent of the sin; and move on by faith.

But to say we should disregard all the injunctions of Christ before going to the cross, because we are under grace, is a great error. And anyone involved in spreading such doctrines, should desist as fast as possible for their own good.

2. Error 2: "*There is now no more condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus—whether you Walk in the Spirit or Not*"

Another error which I have discovered from these extreme Grace teachings is that they say, if you are in Christ Jesus, you can never come under any condemnation; whether you walk in the Spirit or not.

And by that, they re-state Romans 8:1, which says ***"there is now no more condemnation among them that are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit"***

Instead, they mutilated this scripture to say what they want to believe thus; ***"There is now no more condemnation among them that are in Christ Jesus"***. The other completing part was mutilated. And to support their point, they quote the New American Standard Bible (NASB) version.

But I am still wondering if they also mutilated the other scriptures which re-stated the fact that we should walk in the Spirit in order to live above sin (Galatians 5: 16, 18). And that if we walk in the flesh, we will lose our inheritance of the Kingdom of God (that is we will miss heaven and consequently be condemned to hell—Gal 5:19-21).

And again, one more question I want to ask, Are the teachers of this doctrine, by anyway saying that someone in Christ Jesus, who commits suicide will head straight to heaven? Because there is now no more condemnation in Christ Jesus? And also, is it possible that someone who is in Christ Jesus, and eventually dies in the very act of Adultery or Fornication, will head straight to heaven?

Obviously, "there is no snowball chance in hell" of such an individual making it pass the pearly gate of paradise.

Unless they want to make God a liar. Because he says; "But the fearful, and unbelieving and the abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and Idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: which is the second death"—Revelations 21:8.

3. Error 3 " All your sins have been Forgiven- Past, Present and Future- so there is no need to ask for forgiveness"

As I read the book of the great man of God—Charles Spurgeon- Titled; "All Of Grace". It confirmed the eternal truth that the Lord revealed to me concerning grace. And what is this truth? That grace is not without repentance. That forgiveness of sin, goes hand in glove with repentance. That this works of grace are inseparable twin. The bible says, Jesus came to give repentance and forgiveness of sin (Acts 5: 31). And this is in present continuous tense.

And of course, for someone to repent of something, there must first be acknowledgement. Repentance of sin can never be passive. And more so, there would not be a true sense of conviction, of receiving divine forgiveness that does not come from a genuine heart of penitence (repentance).

But the teachers of this extreme doctrine say, A believer ought not acknowledge their errors and ask for forgiveness, with a repentant heart.

They term the conscious act of acknowledging sin and asking for forgiveness; "sin consciousness". But that is not true. On the contrary, it is righteousness consciousness that makes a genuinely penitent heart.

And the fruit of this erroneous teaching is that it has turned many of the practitioners into self-deceivers. They go on living in sin, and keep on excusing their selves with "bold-face, righteousness".

4. Error 4: "God does not judge people under this Dispensation of Grace"

One other error which I have discovered from these extreme grace teachings is that they claim that under the new covenant, God no longer judges anyone as a result of sin. But if this point of view is to hold water, what explanation can they give for the killing of Ananias, and Sapphira his wife, by the Holy Ghost? (Acts 5:1-10).

How can they explain the sleeping (death) and sickness of the folks who took the communion unworthily in 1 Corinthians 11:29-30? That particular scripture calls the act of God on those people- Judgment. How come they are trying to twist it? So the truth remains that under the New Covenant, God can judge us, if we do not fear him and judge ourselves...

If we do not judge ourselves, God will have to judge us (1 Corinthians 11:31).

In conclusion, I want to exhort that as we get revelation from God, we should diligently meditate on it and balance it with other scriptural truths, before we start running with them. We should ensure that our doctrine does not contradict or mutilate other scriptural truths.

About The Author

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OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

“Keys to The Kingdom Success: The Biblical Secrets for Unparalleled Success in Life: Here and In Eternity” (Paper Back Version Available at Amazon)

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