

BLESSINGS AND CURSES – OBEDIENCE AND PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

Our Father in heaven, we give you thanks and praise for the knowledge of your truth, the knowledge of the plan of your salvation, for calling us out of this world and choosing to anoint us with your Holy Spirit as part of your first fruits and the promise of the gift of eternal life. Help us to learn the lessons we need to build holy righteous character, to overcome temptations of the flesh and the pride of life with its vanity and foolishness. Please give us understanding and divine wisdom through your Holy Spirit and written word. Mold us in the image and shape according to what you want us to be. We commit our lives into your loving hands and bless your Holy righteous, name in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ we pray, our high priest and coming king—Yeshua the Messiah. Amen.

Greetings! It is Bible study time. I've been watching the news this week. Since you've been watching the news too, you probably already know about the Gruber confession. The Fox News Channel with Bill O'Relley, Megan Kelly and Sean Hannity were discussing this yesterday. The *Wenatchee World* Opinion page (11.14.14) column by Charles Krauthammer, probably my number one favorite commentator had the following to say. "It's not exactly the Ems Dispatch (the diplomatic cable Bismarck doctored to provoke the 1870 Franco-Prussian War). But what the just-resurfaced Gruber Confession lacks in world-historical consequence, it makes up for in world-class cynicism. This October 2013 video shows MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) professor Jonathan Gruber, a principal architect of Obama-Care, admitting that, in order to get it passed, the law was made deliberately obscure and deceptive. It constitutes the ultimate vindication of the charge that Obama-Care was sold on a pack of lies." The government paid Gruber \$400,000 to be the architect of Obama-Care. Then the state exchanges people came to him for help to understand 3,000 pages of Obama-Care that was totally *not understandable*, and paid him another one and half-million dollars as a state consultant.

"Lack of transparency is a huge political advantage," said Gruber. "Basically, call it the stupidity of the American voter or whatever, but basically that was really, really critical to getting the thing to pass." First, Gruber said, the bill's authors manipulated the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which issues gold-standard cost estimates of any legislative proposal: "This bill was written in a tortured way to make sure CBO did not score the mandate as taxes." Why? "If the CBO scored the mandate as taxes the bill dies." And yet, the president himself openly insisted that the individual mandate—what you must pay the government if you fail to buy health insurance—was not a tax. Worse was the pretense that Obama-Care wouldn't cost anyone anything. On the contrary, it's a win-win, Obama insisted promising that the typical family would save \$2,500 on premiums every year."

Skeptics pointed out the obvious: “You can’t subsidize 30 million uninsured without someone paying something. Gruber admits that Obama-Care was a huge transfer of wealth – which had to be hidden from the American people. A law that explicitly said healthy people pay in and sick people get money would not have passed. The whole premise of Obama-Care was that it would help the needy, but if you were not in need, if you liked what you had, you could keep your plan. Millions discovered they were kicked off their plan and millions more were shocked when they discovered major hikes in their premiums and deductibles. It was their wealth that was being redistributed. Obama knew the falsity of his claim as far back as February 2010 when at a meeting with congressional leaders, he agreed that millions would lose their plans. Last week the Supreme Court agreed to hear a case claiming that the administration is violating its own health care law which clearly specifies that subsidies can be given only to insurance purchased on exchanges established by the state.” Just 13 states have set up such exchanges. Yet the administration is giving tax credits to plans bought on the federal exchange—serving 37 states – despite what the law says. If the government loses, the subsidy system collapses and, with it, Obama-Care itself. The Administration frantically argues exchanges established by the state is merely sloppy drafting, a kind of legislative typo, and the intent all along was to subsidize all plans on all exchanges.”

“On a separate video in a different speech, Gruber explains what Obama-Care intended: ‘If you’re a state and you don’t set up an exchange it means your citizens don’t get their tax credits.’ The legislative idea was to coerce states into setting up their own exchanges by otherwise denying their citizens subsidies. It was no slip. It is the law, as written, as enacted and as intended. It can be changed by Congress only, not by the Executive which is precisely what the plaintiffs are saying. Now we know what lay behind Obama’s smooth reassurances – the arrogance of an academic liberalism that rules in the name of a citizenry it mocks, disdains and deliberately, contemptuously deceives.”

Fox News (11/13/14) by –The president, our commander-in-chief is expected by as early as next week to announce executive action on U.S. immigration law that would protect roughly 5 million illegal immigrants from deportation, change federal law-enforcement programs and expand business visas for non-citizens. Obama made clear in the immediate aftermath of the Nov. 4 elections –he would move immediately on immigration and act alone without Congress using an executive order if necessary, saying he has waited too long for the GOP House to act. The plan calls for expanding deferred action for illegal immigrants who came to the U.S. as children — but also for the parents of U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents. The latter could allow upwards of 4.5 million illegal immigrant adults with U.S.-born children to stay, according to estimates. Critics in the Senate say those who receive deferred action, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, receive work authorization in the United States, Social Security numbers and government-issued IDs. Not to mention healthcare and other social assist programs.

Some have called Obama the “uber president” comparing him to being a dictator at the helm leading the world into chaos. *Wall Street Journal* reported Thursday that, according to people briefed on the letter, Obama wrote to Ayatollah Khomeini in the middle of last month and stressed that any cooperation on dealing with the Islamic State, or ISIS, was tied to Iran striking

a deal over its nuclear program. The U.S., Iran and other negotiators are facing a Nov. 24 deadline for such a deal. Obama “uses bullying words against Iran when he speaks to the media, but picks up a very friendly and kindly tone when he writes a letter” to Khomeini, parliamentary speaker Ali Larijani told state-run television. Obama’s Syria strategy is failing as “moderate Muslim rebels are reportedly either running from or defecting to terrorists. Now people think that whoever in the Free Syrian Army gets support from the U.S.A is an agent of the regime. Weapons dropped from the U.S. were shown landing in ISIS hands. Accounts have also accounts showed humanitarian aid and medical assistance was ending up in the hands of ISIS as well.

America’s leaders have turned their back on God, become anti-Christian, it is getting to the point anyone who criticizes Islam or Shari law or gay marriage could be considered guilty of a hate crime or labeled an extremist. Same sex marriage is legally embraced in America, Britain, and Canada. The world has rejected the laws of God, endorsed Satan’s wicked ways and is on the tipping point. I pray for our president and our leaders that they will repent. Many people today do not know their history, or the name of America’s leaders or what they do according to numerous interviews by *Waters World* for Bill O’Reilly of Fox News. People want to hear smooth things that make them feel good, and prophecies of deceit — they do not want to hear the truth that calls for repentance and obedience to God, but are eager to hear fables.

David was a mighty man of God and a mighty man of valor. **Psalm 109:4** (KJV)—“In return for my love they are my accusers, but I *give* myself to prayer.” The NKJV—“In return for my friendship they accuse me, but I am a man of prayer.” In Hebrew, the words say “I am prayer”. David’s whole life was devoted to and became an example of prayer. You will not find prophecy in the Quran that was written by a man who claimed to be a prophet, but what Moh “ammed taught was contrary to the Scriptures of God and the revelation of God. So his source of inspiration was not Divine, nor from an angel of God. Everything that is contrary to God and his teaching is from and of Satan, the devil. If you believe the Bible, then turn with me to Leviticus 26:3. If you don’t believe the Bible, this isn’t going to help you learn anything. But if you want to learn, and prove what the Bible says will happen, join me in turning to **Leviticus 26:3** and let’s read it together.

“**If you walk in my statutes and keep my commandments**, and perform them,⁴ then I will give you rain in its season, the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.⁵ Your threshing shall last till the time of vintage, and the vintage shall last till the time of sowing; you shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely.⁶ I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none will make you afraid; I will rid the land of evil beasts, and the sword will not go through your land.⁷ You will chase your enemies, and they shall fall by the sword before you.⁸ Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight; your enemies shall fall by the sword before you.⁹ For I will look on you favorably and make you fruitful, multiply you and confirm my covenant with you.¹⁰ You shall eat the old harvest, and clear out the old because of the new.¹¹ I will set my tabernacle among you, and my soul shall not abhor you.¹² I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be my people.¹³ I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that you should not be their slaves; I have broken the bands of your yoke and made you walk upright.” This is what God promises if we keep his commandments. It is the way to peace.

“But **if you do not obey me**, and do not observe all these commandments, ¹⁵ and if you despise my statutes, or if your soul abhors my judgments, so that you do not perform all my commandments, but break my covenant, ¹⁶ I also will do this to you: I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. ¹⁷ I will set my face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you.

¹⁸ “And after all this, if you do not obey me, then I will *punish you seven times more* for your sins ¹⁹ I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. ²⁰ And your strength shall be spent in vain; for your land shall not yield its produce, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit. ²¹ Then, if you walk contrary to me, and are not willing to obey me, I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins. ²² I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, destroy your livestock, and make you few in number; and your highways shall be desolate.

²³ ‘And **if by these things you are not reformed by me, but walk contrary to me** ²⁴ then I also will walk contrary to you, and I will *punish you yet seven times* for your sins. ²⁵ And I will bring a sword against you that will execute the vengeance of the covenant; when you are gathered together within your cities I will send pestilence among you; and you shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy. ²⁶ When I have cut off your supply of bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall bring back your bread by weight, and you shall eat and not be satisfied. ²⁷ And after all this, if you do not obey me, but walk contrary to me, ²⁸ then I also will walk contrary to you in fury and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins. ²⁹ You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters. ³⁰ I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and cast your carcasses on the lifeless forms of your idols; and my soul shall abhor you ³¹ I will lay your cities waste and bring your sanctuaries to desolation, and I will not smell the fragrance of your sweet aromas.

³² “I will bring the land to desolation, and your enemies who dwell in it shall be astonished at it. ³³ I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you; your land shall be desolate and your cities waste ³⁴ Then the land shall enjoy its Sabbaths as long as it lies desolate and you are in your enemies’ land; then the land shall rest and enjoy its sabbaths. ³⁵ As long as it lies desolate it shall rest—for the time it did not rest on your Sabbaths when you dwelt in it. ³⁶ ‘And as for those of you who are left, I will send faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; the sound of a shaken leaf shall cause them to flee; they shall flee as though fleeing from a sword, and they shall fall when no one pursues. ³⁷ They shall stumble over one another, as it were before a sword, when no one pursues; and you shall have no power to stand before your enemies. ³⁸ You shall perish among the nations, and the land of your enemies shall eat you up. ³⁹ And those of you who are left shall waste away in their iniquity in your enemies’ lands; also in their fathers’ iniquities, which are with them, they shall waste away.

⁴⁰ “**But if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers**, with their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to me, and that they also have walked contrary to me ⁴¹ and that I also

have walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies; **if** their uncircumcised *hearts are humbled, and they accept their guilt*—⁴² remember my covenant with Jacob, and my covenant with Isaac and my covenant with Abraham I will remember; I will remember the land.⁴³ **The land also shall be left empty by them, and will enjoy its Sabbaths** while it lies desolate without them; they will accept their guilt, because they despised my judgments and because their soul abhorred my statutes.⁴⁴ Yet for all that, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, nor shall I abhor them, to utterly destroy them and break my covenant with them; for I am the Lord their God.⁴⁵ But for their sake I will remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations, that I might be their God: I am the LORD.”

The Quran, the so-called holy book by Muslims and Obama identified it as such, says all those who do not convert to its teachings are infidels and are to be killed. Those are the words of Mohammed and the Quran. How can people be so deceived by the devil? In certain respects, a time can equal a year in prophetic fulfillment. God speaks here of seven times punishment. Could that be a reference to the last seven years of this age when God’s punishment comes down like a hammer on the world for seven years punishment? Could that year be starting this year October 2014 -2015 descending upon the earth? Is it the beginning of the Great Tribulation now, when the time of Jacob’s final troubles erupt? If so, that would mean we have seven years to go—2014-2015 plus 7 years brings us to 2021-2122. This year is a Shemitah year of the Sabbatical land rest and cancellation of debts beginning in September of this year, and the blood moon tetrad occurs this year.

If America does not repent, turn around and obey God, there will be seven more years of punishment and God says he will break America’s power according to the sins of her people. God will intensify the punishment seven times and deliver Israel into the hands of the enemy. How can God lay cities waste? Nuclear weapons of today can do this very quickly and the land will have its rest. Are we blessed in the cities today? Take a look at Detroit. Our cities are corrupted and full of trash. If we would obey God fully as he says, he would make us the head and not the tail—above only and not beneath. Our cities would be blessed and beautiful. All our storehouses and works of our hands would be blessed –all that we set to do. Every nation would see we were called by the name of the Lord and be deeply respectful and stand in awe.

God said not to borrow, but America is 17 plus trillion dollars in debt. We have brought all these curses upon ourselves because of disobedience to God and forsaking him. We have broken every commandment that God ever gave and are killing infants in the womb through abortion which is murder. We have not had respect or love for God, but have dishonored him. Either we believe God’s word or we don’t. If we believe, hear and fear, then we can do something about it. We can REPENT by crying out to God and change our ways and be diligent to keep his commandments and statutes. We have a defiant president, who defies Congress and the American people and has gotten away with everything so far. What’s to stop him? God is able to stop him. Prayer and turning totally back to God with our complete heart and mind as a nation. If we don’t repent as a nation and serve God with joy and gladness of heart, “the LORD will make the plague cling to the people until he has consumed them from the land which they are going to possess.”

Deuteronomy 28:21-68 lists the curses that God says he will bring upon Israel because of disobedience. ⁴⁵“Moreover all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you. ⁴⁶And they shall be upon you for a sign and a wonder, and on your descendants forever. ⁴⁷Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and gladness of heart, for the abundance of everything.” After WW II America departed from God, rejected his commandments, spurned his law and said we don’t believe in God.

⁵⁸ “If you do not carefully observe all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awesome name, THE LORD YOUR GOD,⁵⁹ then the LORD will bring upon you and your descendants extraordinary plagues—great and prolonged plagues—and serious and prolonged sicknesses. ⁶⁰Moreover He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt, of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you. ⁶¹Also every sickness and every plague, which is not written in this Book of the Law, will the LORD bring upon you until you are destroyed. ⁶²You shall be left few in number, whereas you were as the stars of heaven in multitude, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God. ⁶³And it shall be, that just as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing; and you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess.

⁶⁴ “Then the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other, and there you shall serve other gods, which neither you nor your fathers have known—wood and stone. ⁶⁵And among those nations you shall find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting place; but there the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul. ⁶⁶Your life shall hang in doubt before you; you shall fear day and night, and have no assurance of life. ⁶⁷In the morning you shall say, ‘Oh that it were evening!’ And at evening you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were morning!’ because of the fear which terrifies your heart, and because of the sight which your eyes see. ⁶⁸“And the LORD will take you back to Egypt in ships, by the way of which I said to you, ‘You shall never see it again.’ And there you shall be offered for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves, but no one will buy you.”

Judgment is set and we are found wanting in the balances. There are evil men living in the last days. **Jude 1:14**—“Now Enoch, the seventh (man) from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him. ¹⁶ “These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. ¹⁷ But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁸ how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time that would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.” They sow discord to cause turbulence among people, race and nations. ²⁰ “But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith [your system of belief—the law and word of God which includes faith in Christ/Messiah] praying in the Holy Spirit [led by God’s Spirit to pray], ²¹ keep yourselves in the

love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. I have been thinking today and many times recently that we need to be praying all the time. Pray and pray and pray—throughout the day. David said, “I am prayer.” How can you say that unless you are praying all the time? Pray as you go about your daily activities at home and at work, when you watch the news on TV or wherever you go.

We need to be praying in the Holy Spirit. Well how do we do that? If you belong to Christ then his Spirit dwells in you. **1 John 5:1**—“Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ, is born of God (a new creature), and everyone who loves Him who begot (this is the Father) also loves him who is begotten of Him (Christ). ² **By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments**, ³ **For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments**. And His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵ Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” We are to guard the avenues to our heart and mind and to keep ourselves continually thinking (meditating upon) and applying the scriptures and laws of God (God is love) to every thought and action as we patiently ask, wait upon Him and listen for his counsel bringing every thought into subjection to His will. We are to keep looking to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

“On some have compassion,” your brothers and sisters in the church, those people outside the church that are suffering, observing those that are beginning to doubt (straying, falling away), distinguish between the clean and unclean—what is right and what is wrong. Have compassion on them and save them with fear (grabbing them) and yanking them out of the fire from where they are headed.

Ephesians 3:20—“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” Christ is able to preserve and protect you, keep you faultless so that you can be before his presence and his glory. **2 Timothy 1:6 -7**—“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” This is the Spirit that we have.

Romans 8:9-11, 14, 22—“But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. ¹⁰ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.” ¹⁴ “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’ ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”

Matthew 24 is about the signs of the times, the end of the age, the beginning of sorrows, the great tribulation and the coming of Christ. The prophecies we see around us today are the beginning of

sorrows. In the Greek it is translated as birth pangs and the whole creation is groaning. **Romans 8:22-25**—“For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. ²³ Not only that, but we also who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. ²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance. ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

²⁸ “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.” He will glorify these at his second coming.

³¹ “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who **did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all**, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” ³⁶ As it is written: ‘For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.’ ” But it does not matter, Christ died for us. If we die in the faith we die in Christ, we are living for him and dying for him. God has the power of resurrection, and that which God allows to be taken He can give right back, with glory, honor, power and glory.

³⁷ “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, **shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**” Not even Satan can, who is a created being. God has given us his Spirit, and he has given us his love.

1 Thessalonians 5:4-11—“But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. ⁵ You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. ⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. ⁸ But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.”

Because of these things, we need to pull together and be strong and courageous in the power of God’s might. ¹¹ “Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.”

1 Thessalonians 4:1—“Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you

should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; ² for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.”

³ “For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, ⁵ not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶ that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. ⁷ For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. ⁸ Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.”

¹⁵ “For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (as he returns to this earth). And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

That is talking about the second coming of Christ and the rapture of the saints which is at the same time and at the very same occurrence and event as the second coming of Christ when he comes with a shout, the voice of the arch angel and the loud trumpet blast. That is when the righteous living are going to be changed to immortal spirit beings and all will rise up to meet Christ in the air at the same time. That is the real rapture of the saints after the Great Tribulation, after the 7 years of Daniel’s prophecy of 70—**Daniel 9:27-30**.

Do what is good. Rejoice always, be friendly and courteous, be kind and pleasant, and put a smile on your face. It’s a choice. Paul says rejoice always. Be happy, keeping in mind God on his throne. You are in the love of God, and you are being protected by God, you’re in the Spirit of God. Pray without quitting, pray without giving up, pray without hesitation, and pray without ceasing. Always be in a spirit of prayer and in everything give thanks for this is the will of God. Do not quench the Spirit, but stir it up. Allow the Spirit to reign in your life. Let it blossom and bring forth the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Check every prophecy and every teaching. Hold fast what is right according to the word of God.

Then may the God peace set you apart completely, and may your whole spirit and body be preserved blamelessly to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who has called you is faithful. He will do the work in us and keep his promises. He will bring us salvation. Brethren, pray for us. Pray for one another and the soon coming of Jesus Christ our Lord. Pray the Lord’s Prayer daily. Pray earnestly to Christ—Lord Thy kingdom come. The Holy Spirit of God is in us like a fountain of *living water*—life. Stir up God’s Holy Spirit that is in you and let it bubble and flow forth rejoicing without ceasing.

