

**Welcome to: -
Bible House of Grace.**



God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Rr

Bible Dictionary
And
Various Biblical Meanings.
2017

The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises
But, also shows how you can know God for yourself.

Teach it, don't demand it.

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Rabbi

Rabbi means, my master. Rabbi, is an official title of honour and can refer to an elder, prince or teacher (Matt 23:7-8) (John 3:2), a great or mighty man or a captain or officer. It carries the idea of abundance (in quantity, size, age, number, rank or quality). Rabbi is used in addressing John (John 3:26) addressing Jesus (Rabboni) (Mark 10:51) (John 20:16), but forbidden by Jesus to be used as a title to his disciples (Matt 23:8). It was a title Rabbi that was used pretentiously and superficially by the Pharisees. (Matt 23:7).

Race

Generally, the word race can apply to any struggle, contest or battle that is entered, into for a prize at the end, or to the arena and stadium of an assembly of the Greeks at their national games. It can also refer to a contention, an argument, a debate and a controversy etc.

Rafters

Rafters (*Hebrew r^echiyt*) means a panel (as resembling a trough), while (*Hebrew rahat*) means to hollow out a channel or watering-box, gutter or tough, or to a gallery, colonnade, corridor, walkway, verandah and porch.

Rainbow

The rainbow is set in the rainy sky to remind us of God's covenant with Noah? Noah was a man who stood alone in a godless culture, a man whom God chose to be the father of the new world, a man who found favour in God's sight and who walked with God. It is certain the godless wicked and corrupt society he lived amongst ridiculed him for building the ark, especially since it had not rained before, despite this scorn he stood alone in faith and obedience to God and refused to listen to the world.

The Bible calls Noah a preacher of righteousness (2 Peter 2:5). He tried to warn others about God's coming judgment for sin, but no one listened. The door of the Ark was open to anyone who wanted to be saved, until the day the rain came and God shut the door. Everyone on the Ark was saved. Everyone outside the Ark died. Only Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives were safe on the Ark. Except these eight people (1 Peter 3:20) every other person died. Just like then, preachers today are warning people of God's judgment for sin, the bad things we do when we know not to and the good things we fail to do when we know we should.

In the same way that there was a door on the Ark people could enter and be saved, there is a door of salvation today. That door is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only name under heaven and on earth by which all those descended from our earthly father Adam must be saved. There was only one door to the Ark and there is only one way to be saved from the judgment of our sin and those seeking eternal life should ask Jesus to save them from their sins while the door is still open.

Noah's wife and family stood by him even though everyone else scorned him and because of their obedience together they began a new world. Much like all those in Christ will do when Jesus returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice joy and peace on earth.

Raisins

Raisins (flagons in KJV) carries the sense of pressing down firmly or closely pressed together (i.e. a cake of raisins or other comfits).

Ram

The ram in some contexts represents a kingdom.

Ransom

Ransom from the English Dictionary: means a payment made for the release of a captured enemy.

Ransom

I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you: (Isaiah 43:3) the word ransom comes from the Hebrew word (*kopher*) it means to cover, to ransom, to buy back with money, to make right, to condone, to placate, cancel, disannul, forgive and pardon. To make an atonement, to purge and cleanse to be merciful, pacify, put away, put off and make reconciliation.

It carries the idea of exchanging one thing for another and of releasing, delivering, restoring and liberating and of setting an individual or nation free by buying them back with money or in some other way (i.e., exchanging one life for another). Since the Lord Jesus Christ is the only man that can ransom another back in the sense of cleansing them from sin, the word ransom here means to deliver liberate and set free from and enemy.

The word ransom and exchange in the LORD'S statement, "I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you," (v3) carry the same idea in that to save Israel others had to be put to death. It could be likened to a family that is being held hostage or being abused by a violent hostile and murderous man, for the father to save his family he is forced to kill the abuser. In this scenario, it could be said of the father, he exchanged the hostile man's life to save his family, or he took the hostile man's life to ransom his family.

It is in this sense that God gave Egypt Cush and Seba as a ransom for Israel's life and in exchange for them. God had brought ruin on Egypt, Ethiopia, and Seba nations more mighty and numerous than Israel was in, order to save them therefore they should have confidence that He will likewise deliver them from their captivity in Babylon.

The exact historical facts, times and dates concerning Egypt Cush and Seba is difficult to work out, because much of the historical detail remain obscure and lacking in specific detail and for this reason it is best to take the passage in a more general sense in that God often saved His people at the expense of other nations that He had to devote to destruction to save His people and in this sense exchanged the lives of those devoted to destruction for the lives of His people.

The LORD would sacrifice mighty heathen nations, when the safety of Israel required it. In this way God, had abundantly testified that Israel was precious and beloved in His sight and therefore they should have confidence that He will not forsake them as a nation or allow their nation to perish from the earth, but will at the appointed time deliver them from their oppressors and their Babylonian captors.

God, giving up corrupt and oppressive nations to destruction in, order to save His people, was a proof of his love for them, how much greater is the demonstration of His love when He gave up his own beloved Son to the lingering pains of a suffering death on a cross in order that His people may be redeemed.

Ransomed

Ransomed (redeemed in KJV) means, to ransom or redeem, to loosen or set free something with a redemptive price, figuratively, atonement (i.e., compensation amends and recompense).

Reading Scripture

Nine tips to help understand the Bible, always: -

1. Look to see who is talking, because they may not be saying a truth or correct thing.
2. Look for the sequence of thought in the chapter.
3. Be consciously aware of wider meanings, meaning, the hidden undesigned patterns that are deeper than what is superficially being said.
4. Keep in mind that the Scriptures contain the words of the greatest mind in the universe.
5. Single verses have, to be interpreted in the light of the Bibles core truth.

6. God talks to Israel, but the application can often apply to the reader personally.
7. Look for the power or meaning behind the message the words contain.
8. Words do not always carry the same meaning, often it is the context that gives the word its meaning.

All Scripture is breathed out by God: applies to the messages spoken by the prophets and apostles, it does not mean every individual or single word of the Bible, but it does mean the messages that the sum total of the individual words are teaching.

The Bible is to be used for: teaching and reproof, correction and training in righteousness so that the man or woman of God may be competent and equipped for every good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

A principal of Bible writers and authors: a common principal of Bible writers is to hide themselves in the letter they are writing. The writers very rarely use the word I, they will often say, "that disciple with them" or "him" when they are referring to themselves. It is a style of writing that avoids boasting and contrasts the natural spirit of the world and pride which desires to feel important, biblical writers deliberately avoid this by hiding themselves in their writings.

The Bible and Jesus: a lot of what the Bible or Jesus says, pre-supposes some things while other things are in place or happening.

Bibles translations: can translate the thought the words carry or translate it word for word.

Darby's Bible: uses the words, "congregation" or "assembly" instead of church some say the Darby Bible is a good literal translation, because the author had a big mind.

A Danger in Biblical Interpretation: it is all too easy to be beguiled by words into building a theological superstructure upon them, which the words were never designed to bear.

Bible Books: Kings, is the plain history while Chronicles shows how God was acting in history. The following is my perspective only. The Bible records history revealing how God works through world events and is telling a spiritual story from God's perspective, but even though it records snippets of history it is not a real historical book, rather it records accounts expressing a faith that says God is just, if there is punishment there is a reason for it.

The stories also contain another message of forgiveness for those who turn to God with all their heart and soul and obey His voice accept their guilt and change their ways. Throughout its pages it proclaims to mankind there is hope.

Biblical writers may expand the story to develop the meaning or leave out much of the detail so that the core focus of the story is in focus. The central focus or primary purpose of the Bible is not the historical account or the exact detail of the story, but the eternal lessons that the story communicates to the reader, it is about God's relationship with man and the good and evil in the human heart.

Keys to reading the Bible: no reader should be surprised that large chunks of history or unimportant details the story are not mentioned, as it is common for Scripture to leave matters not important to the story to the intelligence, reasoning and logic of the reader.

Had the original writers of the Bible manuscripts not taken this approach the Bible would be so thick it would take a lifetime to read it. When these gaps occur, it is left to the intelligence and common sense of the reader to fill them in.

A letter written to a loved one will be different in style to one that is written to a university. Who a person is that writes will determine the style and intellect and the emotion of that letter.

It is always important to take this principal into account when interpreting the Bible and to be aware of the danger of being beguiled by words, into building a theological superstructure upon them, which the words were never designed to bear, many false doctrines are built this way.

Biblical language: the main message of the Bible is man's way back to God and the proclamation of the Kingdom and the resurrection. The miracles and healings are only to authenticate the message and for a Jew and Bible writers if a thing or event is declared by God that it will happen, it can be spoken of or written about as though it has already happened, this is because it is sure to come to pass.

Reason

Reason in a good sense means, good for persuasion and something well done. There are people that cannot be reasoned with because they are so fixed in their position that it is impossible for them to reason. It carries the idea of being easy to appeal to, willing to compromise and make amends or change one's views according, to authority and evidence presented and inward certainty. In a bad sense, it carries the idea of convincing a person by flattery, compliment, argument and intimidation whether a thing is true or false.

Reasonableness

Reasonableness (moderation in KJV) means, appropriate, mild, gentle and patient.

Reasoned

Reasoned means, to say and discuss thoroughly, either by exhortation, preaching, debate or by argument.

Rebellion

Rebellion (*Chaldee marad the same as Hebrew m^erad*) means rebellion and rebellious. Rebellion (*Hebrew carah*) means apostasy, (i.e., a continual rebellion, revolt and turning to the wrong way of faith or of crime. Figuratively it carries the idea of a reduction, decrease, lessening and cutting back. Rebellion (*Hebrew cuwr*) means to turn off, to decline, depart, withdraw, be without, turn away or aside, leave undone rebel and revolt.

Rebellion (falling away in KJV) (2 Thess. 2:3). Falling (*Greek apostasia*) means defection from truth it refers to the state of falling away and forsaking a thing.

Falling (*Greek apostasion*) carries the idea of something that separates (i.e. written certificate of divorce). Falling (*Greek aphistemi*) means to actively remove, revolt, desist, desert, depart, draw away, refrain and withdraw self, while falling (*Greek apo*) means off (i.e. away from something near) it usually denotes separation, departure, cessation, and reversal, etc.

Rebellion (provocation in KJV) (Heb. 3:8), (Heb. 3:15). Provocation (*Greek parapikrasmos*) means irritation and annoyance, it carries the idea of provoking, inciting, goading, aggravating, while vexing and provocation (*Greek parapikraino*) means to embitter or make bitter, to exasperate and provoke.

Rebellion (gainsaying in KJV) (Jude 1:11). Gainsaying (*Greek antilogia*) means dispute, disobedience contradiction and strife, while gainsaying (*Greek antilego and anti*) means opposite and carries the idea of disputing, contradicting and speaking against (especially for one's own advantage and gain).

Summing it all up: generally, when the Scriptures speak of rebellion in the sense of apostasy it carries the idea of a defection from truth or forsaking what is true.

Recognition

Recognition (acknowledge in KJV) means to know well, perceive, recognise easily, to acknowledge and become fully acquainted with.

Reconcile

Reconcile means, to make different, to change mutually and jointly together, to bring together, reunite, resolve and put right, while reconciled means to change mutually, to win over or appease it carries the same idea as atonement which is to receive one into favour.

Redeemed

Redeemed means to ransom or redeem, to loosen or set free something with a redemptive price and figuratively atonement. It means to ransom or buy back and to rescue and regain something by discharging debt. Generally, it carries the idea of rescuing, delivering, releasing and preserving by any means.

Redemption

Redemption means, to pay a ransom that gives or brings a release, it refers to the act of paying a ransom in full that gets rid of any debt and carries the idea of deliverance and being loosened from something by paying a redemption price especially of Christian salvation (i.e., to make atonement for a debt by paying a price that makes compensation for the debt and satisfies the person the debt is owed to).

Refreshed

Refreshed means, to bring calmness, peacefulness, quiet and stillness it carries the idea of being at ease and at rest.

Refreshing

Refreshing literally means, a recovery of breath. Figuratively it carries the idea of restoration, revival and vigour or being relieved from oppression, stress and worry, etc., and feeling refreshed.

Refuge

Refuge comes from the Hebrew word (*manowc*) and means a retreat it carries the idea of a safe place to flee or escape to. In the book of Psalms, it is written: -

- Let the righteous one rejoice in the LORD and take refuge (trust in KJV) in him! Let all the upright in heart exult! (Psalm 64:10).

In this verse the words refuge and trust comes from the Hebrew word (*chacah*) and means to flee for protection, to hide for refuge, to trust in, to be confident and sure of. Until that glorious day when the Lord returns to gather the faithful to himself those who are patiently waiting for him are called to rejoice in the Lord and take refuge in him during whatever trials troubles or hardships may come upon them.

To take refuge in the Lord means to surrender our will to his will and trust that our lives are in his hand both in the high moments of joy and the low times of grief and sorrow and rest in his promise that he will raise us to eternal life and everlasting happiness.

Many, times when David prayed he complained and moaned before God he expressed his true feelings, emotions and thoughts (good and bad) and prayed for a positive outcome, but underpinning all, of his prayers was a deep-seated faith in God that no matter what did befall him he would continue to trust in the LORD and rest in the confidence that he would not be cast down to eternal destruction, but raised to eternal glory and everlasting happiness.

In the meantime, he continued to cast his burdens upon the LORD and the LORD would continue to uphold him, strengthen him and comfort him by His Spirit, His love and His grace. David had the same great faith as Habakkuk and Job, even though Job suffered great affliction his attitude was: -

- Though he slays me, yet will I trust in him (Job 13:15).

Habakkuk begins his prayer saying: “Even though his body trembles at the power of the LORD and he feels weak and feeble because of the enemies who are coming to invade his land, he will quietly wait for the day of trouble.” He then ends his prayer with the following great words of faith.

- Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, ¹⁸yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. ¹⁹GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places. (Hab. 3:17-19).

We make the Lord our refuge and fortress, in the same way that David, Job and Habakkuk did, which is by making him our greatest love, our best thought and the passion of our heart and mind and rest in the knowledge if everything fails in this life we will be raised to be with the Lord in eternal glory where happiness everlasting dwells and in this life rest in the confidence and faith that the Lord is with us by his Spirit, his love and his grace.

Regard

Regard (Know in KJV) means to see (literally or spiritually) to know, consider and be aware, to have knowledge, to behold, look on, perceive and be sure.

Reigned

Reigned means to exercise the highest influence of control.

Relationships

Personal relationship overrides rules: when you know someone well it is a lot harder to do something that offends or hurts them, because we care for people we know well. The more we know someone the more we are motivated to do good for them. When a person understands how much God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ love them they are motivated to do good for them.

Relationships and time: relationships take TIME and effort, the best way to spell Love is T-I-M-E because the most desired gift of love is not diamonds, roses or chocolate it is focused attention. Love concentrates so intently on another that you forget yourself at that moment. Attention says I value you enough to give you my most precious asset my T-I-M-E, whenever you give your TIME you are making a sacrifice.

Religion

False religion: in the book of James, it is written: -

- If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. (James 1:26)

Religion in this verse comes from the Greek words (*threskeia* and *threskos*), it refers to self-righteous, sanctimonious, holier-than-thou, hypocritical ceremonial observance and religious worship. In this verse, it refers to those who confess to be Christian, but speak and act corruptly.

True religion: in the book of James, it is written: -

- Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27).

True religion is religion that stems from an honest heart, acts from integrity and does what is right and good.

Religion and mystery: when people seek for religion they are pre-conditioned to expect mystery.

Remain

Remain means to continue or dwell, to abide in the state and condition as one is and not to become another or different, it carries the idea of not departing or perishing, but surviving and patiently waiting and enduring to live to the last.

Remphan

Remphan (Rephan) refers to a pagan deity worshiped by the Israelites in the wilderness (Acts 7:37-50) it is probably a name for Chiun or Saturn (Amos 5:26).

Remnant

Remnant means, a remainder, it often refers to the faithful amongst the rebellious of Israel, who are sometimes likened to a few trees left in a forest.

Repent

Repent carries the idea of having a compunction to feel or think differently after an event or thing and then reconsider.

It is to comprehend and understand a thing and then exercise the mind to think differently and afterwards feel morally remorseful, guilty, shameful and contrite (i.e., sorry and regretful).

Repentance

Repentance means to perceive, understand, consider, ponder and think upon with the mind, it is: -

- To change one's mind for better and have a great abhorrence toward one's past sins.
- To have an emotional change of the heart and change one's choice to their entire life.
- To have heartfelt regret that amounts to remorse, but is not just the reversal of moral purpose, but carries with it the fuller and nobler understanding outwardly expressed by a change in moral behavior and wrong actions.

Repentance in Scripture: The Bible states, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16). Though God loves humanity, sinners still must come to Him through honest repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. It matters not what wickedness a person may have done Christ will forgive whoever comes to him in true repentance. Following are a few verses that show that the entire message of salvation is based on repentance: -

- John the Baptist message is, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Matt 3:2).
- The twelve apostles proclaimed, "People should repent." (Mark 6:12).

Peter said: -

- Repent every one of you, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38).
- Repent and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out. (Acts 3:19).

Paul said: -

- God now commands all men everywhere to repent. (Acts 17:30).
- God declared to those in Damascus, in Jerusalem, throughout all the region of Judea, and to the Gentiles that they should repent. (Acts 26:20).

Jesus said: -

- Unless you repent you will all likewise perish. (Luke 13:3).
- Remember from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will remove your lampstand from its place unless you repent. (Rev 2:5).
- Repent or else I will fight against them. (Rev 2:16).
- I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. (Rev 2:21).
- Remember how you received and heard; hold fast and repent. (Rev 3:3).
- As many as I love, I chasten, therefore be zealous and repent. (Rev 3:19).

Honest and false repentance: David's heart was one that always sought the LORD and desired above all things His steadfast love. Though he like all of us was fully aware that he was not perfect before God he had a heart of integrity and desired above all thing to bring honour to God. This is one of the reasons why he prays that God would help him when he lifts, up his hands toward the LORD'S most holy sanctuary. (Psalm 28:2). John in his letters wrote: -

- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:8-10)

This is not something new, David's Psalms and prayers clearly show that he understood the principle of repentance and of acknowledging and confessing sin. Some might say, "If David can sin and repent and be forgiven why not do as we please since repentance covers." The answer to this is simple, we may fool man, but we cannot fool God, he perceives the honest motivation of the heart and will judge accordingly. It is almost certain those who deliberately use God's grace as an excuse to sin will find themselves standing in the group Jesus speaks of in the following verses: -

- Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." (Matt. 7:21).
- Why do you call me "Lord, Lord," and not do what I tell you? (Luke 6:46).

Rephan

Rephan (Remphan) refers to a pagan deity worshiped by the Israelites in the wilderness (Acts 7:37-50) it is probably a name for Chiun or Saturn (Amos 5:26).

Reproved

Reproved (rebuked in KJV) means, rebuke and reprove, it carries the idea of discussing, arguing, debating, admonishing and discussing for, the purpose of and convincing and convicting a person of their fault.

Resentful

Resentful (thinks on evil in the KJV) means evil, malice, injurious, depravity, vicious, bad, grievous, harm, lewd, malicious and wicked. It refers to a person who in their essential character is worthless and depraved; plots sin, iniquity, wickedness and is hurtful in effect or influence; is slack, derelict, vicious malicious, corrupt and morally failing in duty.

Resist

Resist means, to stand against, oppose, resist and withstand.

Respect

Respect (reverence in KJV) means, to be put in fear, fright, alarm, or to give reverence, respect or admiration (i.e., to be in awe).

Resurrection

Resurrection (*Greek anastasis*) means a standing up again and literally a resurrection from death, to be raised to life again and to rise from the dead. Figuratively, it can refer to a moral recovery of spiritual truth, while resurrection (*Greek anistemi*) means to stand up, to arise, lift-up, raise up and stand upright and resurrection (*Greek tithemi*) denotes an upright and active position.

The second death or second judgement: (Rev. 20:3-14) the following is a brief scenario of the "Second Death" which can also be titled, "the Second Judgement," and the Second Resurrection and the "Great White Throne Judgement." In the book of Revelation John is given specific details from the Angel of the LORD, regarding the judgement of the dead. At the end of the thousand-year reign of Christ and his Kingdom on earth (Rev. 20:3-7) God descends on a Great White Throne (Rev. 20:11) the sea, death and hades give up the dead and they are all seen standing before God's throne (Rev. 20:13).

The Book of Life is opened, if a person's name is not in the Book of Life; they are thrown into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal death (i.e. total extinction), but for the people whose name is recorded in the Book of Life, various other books that kept a record of their life are opened and the dead standing before God are judged by what is written in these other books according, to what they had done. At the end of this judgment, death and Hades are thrown into the Lake of Fire this is called the "Second Death." (Rev. 20:12-15).

The Great White Throne judgment is not the resurrection of the dead who belong to Christ we know this because that spectacular event took place one thousand years ago, added to this Jesus is not even mentioned in the Great White Throne judgment this event is all about God and the dead who died without Christ, being judged. For further information, see the title, "The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment," in Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Restitution

Restitution (restoring in ESV) means, to build up and restore the physical nature, character, health, vitality, memory, home, an organisation, laws or damages of any kind.

Restraining

Restraining (withholdeth in KJV) means, to hold down fast, to retain or withhold such things as possessions, abilities, circumstances, intimacy, relationships, friendship and financial standing.

Restoring

Restoring (restitution in KJV) means, to build up and restore the physical nature, character, health, vitality, laws, memory and home, an organisation or restore damages of any kind.

Restricted

Restricted (straightened in KJV) means, to hem in closely, cramp, distress, straiten or to the narrowness of room. Figuratively it carries the idea of calamity, anguish and distress.

Reprobate

In the book of Isaiah, it is written: "The LORD has poured out upon you a spirit of deep sleep," (Isaiah 29:10) the expression poured out denotes the vehemency of God's judgment. Isaiah sees in the people (especially the chief rulers) a spiritual blindness which is the retribution of those who wilfully close their eyes and set their minds against the light of God.

- As it is written, "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day." (Rom. 11:8).

The LORD poured out upon them a spirit of deep sleep (Isaiah 29:10), because they had not only set their hearts diamond hard against the world of the LORD that came to them through the prophets, but also scorned and mocked the prophets therefore God gave them up to a stupid frame of spirit; to a reprobate (i.e., degenerate and corrupt) mind void of judgment and spiritually blind.

This same type of hardness of heart was manifested in the Jews in the time of Christ and his apostles, who obstinately chose to reject their Messiah the Christ against the most glaring light and evidence and instead chose darkness rather than the light of Jesus and the Gospel that shone around them. These like those of Isaiah's generation were righteously given up to a reprobate mind

- Since they did not see fit to acknowledge God (to retain God in their knowledge in KJV), God gave them up to a debased mind (reprobate mind in KJV) to do what ought not to be done. (Rom. 1:28).
- Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind (reprobate in mind in KJV) and disqualified regarding the faith. (2 Tim. 3:8).
- They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient (abominable in KJV), unfit for any good work (unto every good work reprobate in KJV). (Titus 1:16).

The expression, "The spirit of deep, sleep," (Isaiah 29:10) carries the idea of prideful self-reliance, hardness of heart, spiritual sluggishness, inactivity and stupidity. Where these things prevail in, regard to the things of God, He withdraws his favour and grace (which alone can cure such prideful foolishness) and gives them up to their own hardness of heart and stupidity of mind.

The LORD has closed your eyes, and covered your heads: (Isaiah 29:10) closed your eyes embraces the great bulk of the people while covered your heads refers to the chief rulers and priests. Whoever covers their natural eyes cannot see, they are made blind. The blindness in the context of these verses carries the idea that they are not only spiritually blind to wisdom and the truth concerning God, but also lack good common sense and the ability to reason. It means that their mind is covered with a veil of ignorance and stupidity and to the words of the God's faithful prophets (the most intelligent men amongst them).

It means that the eyes of their understanding were so extremely dull that they could not see the danger they were in, or the ruin that was coming upon their nation. They continued to worship and trust their pagan gods and their alliances and covenants with pagan nations and go about their wicked ways such was the foolishness of their mind and the hardness of their hearts to the word of God that Isaiah was speaking to them.

Return

The return of Christ: Paul wrote, "If Israel's rejection (of Christ) means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?" (Rom 11:15). The Scriptures teach when Christ returns Israel will see the one they have pierced and weep in repentance (Zech. 12:10), therefore when Christ returns Israel will accept him and the dead in Christ will be resurrected. For further information concerning Christ's return, see the title, "A Brief Overview of the Return of Christ," in Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Revelation

Revelation means, to take off the cover and reveal, it carries the idea of having a thing revealed or enlightened to the mind or of a spiritual appearing or manifestation (of a thing, an event or a person) to the eyes or the mind. Simply put it means to unveil or uncover a thing.

Reverence

Reverence means, cautious, respect, godliness, devout and holy. It carries the idea of being careful or religiously cautious and by implication to dread and fear.

Rich

Rich literally refers to an abundance of money, wealth and material possessions. Figuratively it refers to being rich in God's love and grace and rich in spiritual truth. Paul in his letter to Timothy wrote: -

- As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life. (1 Tim. 6:17-19).

Many religions imply that it is wrong for a Christian to be rich, but Paul in these verses not only shows that there is nothing wrong about being rich, but also shows that those who are rich should personally enjoy their wealth. It only becomes wrong if the rich are selfish with their abundance, and indulge themselves in a lifestyle of excessive luxury and extravagant lavish opulence, rather than use their abundance to do-good, help the poor and aid in extending God's Kingdom and the spread of the Gospel. There is nothing wrong with being rich if those who are rich are generous with their riches and share their wealth.

The riches of God's glory: to be rich in the glory of God means to be rich in His character (i.e., His holiness, grace, mercy, justice and love).

Riddles

A riddle is a type of question that describes something in a difficult and confusing way and has a clever answer. It can be something confusing or a problem that is difficult to solve or a question or statement intentionally phrased in such a way that it requires some thought in ascertaining its answer or meaning. In the book of Numbers, it is written, "The LORD speaks in riddles to those who are unfaithful." (Num. 12:6-8).

Riddles (dark speeches in KJV), dark speeches (*Hebrew chiydah*) literally means a puzzle; a trick, conundrum, a moralizing, judgmental, disapproving or approving saying, proverb and truism. Dark speeches (*Hebrew chuwd*) means to tie a knot and figuratively to speak a riddle. It carries the idea of a sentence with an answer in the form of a play on words, a rule, principle or saying that is puzzling or confusing, but has some proven truth to it. It is because they are sentences that contain a hidden or mysterious message that they are referred to as dark sayings.

Righteous

The word righteousness (*Hebrew ts^edaqah*) means rightness, justice and moral virtue righteous (*Hebrew tsadaq*) means to make morally right, to cleanse, justify and be turned toward righteousness. In the New Testament, it comes from the Greek word (*dikaioisune*) and means to be innocent and holy (i.e., godly, pure and faithful) and just and fair in character.

To be counted righteous by God: means whoever by faith trusts in the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation to eternal life is counted righteousness not because of their righteousness, but because of Jesus righteousness.

To live a lifestyle of righteousness: means doing what is right and good; doing all things from a spirit of love; living a lifestyle that honours God and brings a good testimony to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Christian faith. It means living to fulfil Jesus command to love our neighbour as ourselves, meaning do-good and not harm. When the word righteous is used in regards to mankind it does not mean without sin, When the Bible uses the term, righteous or blameless in regards to humans it means the person in focus is a decent person who does not deliberately harm other humans physically, financially, sexually, emotionally or spiritually. A righteous person helps the poor and does what is right and good before God.

We know references in Scripture and the call to the faithful to live a lifestyle of righteousness does not mean being without sin, because the entire Bible teaches that there has only ever been one man who walked on earth without sin before God and his name was the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Lamb without blemish. Added to this if it was possible for us to attain to the glorious state of living without sin Christ died for no reason. Today we don't use the word righteousness, in regards to human behaviour, when we see someone who is kind, honest and giving and treats others with respect and decency we simply say, "They are a decent and honest person."

As one travels through the Scriptures it becomes clear that the word righteousness in regards to human behaviour not only embraces all the pillars of God's throne, but is also the foundation of what His Kingdom is built upon. These pillars and foundation stones are: -

- Love and holiness.
- Righteousness (meaning doing what is right and good).
- Justice and mercy.
- Grace and longsuffering.
- Joy and peace.

These pillars and foundation stones embrace honesty, moral virtue, integrity truthfulness, fairness for all and kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22). These are the foundation stones and pillars of God's throne which means that all who belong to His Kingdom should do all they can to make them the foundation stones and pillars of their life. (Psalm 89:14) (Psalm 97:2).

Righteousness

Righteousness literally means, integrity, virtue, justice, fairness, innocent, holy, purity of life and correctness of thinking, feeling and acting and impartiality (of character or act), it especially applies to Christian justification, repentance and pardon.

But, when used in the context of salvation righteousness refers not to the state of a person as they are or who they ought to be, but to the condition that they are before God by faith in Christ which makes them acceptable to God. Biblical righteousness refers to the doctrine concerning the way in which a person may attain a state approved of by God.

Righteousness that comes by the law: righteousness that comes by the law refers to those things a person can do themselves (Philip. 3:9) (i.e., under the law Paul was blameless) (Philip. 3:6) meaning he kept the Levitical ceremonial statutes, holy days, feasts, offerings etc., it does not mean that he was without sin, but that he did everything the Old Testament religious law required.

Blameless under the law: prior to Paul's conversion to Christ he considered himself righteous according, to the Law and blameless under it because he was a Hebrew from the tribe of Benjamin, circumcised on the proper day, was a Pharisee who knew the Law and was zealous toward God to enforce it on others in this sense under the law he was without fault (Philip. 3:2-6).

But, that does not mean he was without sin we know this because in the same chapter he goes on to say that he counts all the righteousness he had under the law as rubbish (dung in KJV) (Philip. 3:7-11), because to be righteous under the law requires self-effort and trusting in self to perform and keep every detail of the law and of this there is no end.

Paul is saying that he counts as dung all his religious self-effort to obtain righteousness when he compares it to the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ. When Paul made the statement, "He was righteousness and blameless under the law," it was in the sense that he kept all the outward requirements of the religious ceremonial law and not with the idea that he was without sin (though until he had a personal encounter with Christ he most likely thought he was blameless, righteous and without sin before God).

After Paul's encounter with Christ he says when he honestly looked inwardly at his thoughts, the intents of his heart, his attitudes and motives he cannot be counted as righteous before God (Rom 7:15-21). This clearly shows when he said he was "blameless under the law" he did not have in mind the inward intents, thoughts, and motives of his heart, but his outward actions only.

Righteousness that comes by the law, refers to those things a person can do themselves (Philip. 3:9), according, to the Pharisees if a person outwardly did what the law required they were counted righteous by the law and therefore righteous before God. According, to the outward actions the religious law demanded Paul could, be counted as righteous because he outwardly did what the ceremonial law required it is in this sense that Paul could say, "according, to the law he was blameless."

The following Scriptures show that righteousness is apart from the law and is a free-gift, Paul states: -

- The righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law. (Rom 3:21).
- Faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness. (Rom 4:9).
- Prior to circumcision Abraham was counted righteous so he would be the father of all who believe, and righteousness would be counted to them as well. (Rom 4:11).
- If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. (Rom 5:15-17).
- For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 6:23).
- For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God (Eph. 2:8).

Reason for keeping the Law (Colossians 1:10).

- To be a good testimony to the name of God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- To walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.
- To be fully pleasing to God.
- To bear fruit in every good work.
- To increase in the knowledge of God.
- It is the right and loving thing to do.

The spirit behind the law is love and protection because keeping the law will protect other humans from physical, emotional, financial and spiritual harm added to this it fulfils the, royal law, "love your neighbour as yourself," (James 2:8) and God's Commandments regarding mankind. (Mark 12:31).

Righteousness is the condition acceptable to God: righteousness comes in the following two ways: -

1. As a pure, undeserved and free-gift from God to those who have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and who belong to him (this is righteousness by faith).
2. In many context righteousness also applies to a Christian or secular person who lives a good life outwardly and who fulfil the royal law by loving their neighbour (James 2:8) and doing no harm to another human and helping those in need. This is not righteousness that leads to salvation; it is simply another way of saying, that a person is a decent human being. This type of outward righteousness comes about by teaching, because once taught the right way a person understands, believes and then acts.

Summary of righteousness: when used in a secular sense refers to those who do what is could and right according, to the law of the world and the law of justice. It embraces honesty, integrity, loyalty and treating all people with respect and decency. Today we do not use the word righteousness when referring the unsaved, we would simply say they are a good and decent person, meaning they have a compassionate and kind heart and do what is good and right.

When used of those saved it refers to the truth that those in Christ are by faith saved by his righteousness and not, their own, it refers to the faithful being made righteous not by self-effort or good works or by strictly adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days or keeping religious customs and traditions, but by Christ's righteousness and God's grace.

Ring

Ring (a nose and ear ring): (Gen. 24:22) the word ring in this verse comes from the Hebrew word (*nezem*) and literally means a nose-ring, earring and Jewel, which means it could refer to any type of jewelry worn in the nose or the ear. Both, of these were comely worn in the East. The single gold nose ring was not worn in the centre cartridge of the nose, but the side cartilage which would be pierced for this purpose. Such nose rings would often be made of gold or silver and have precious stones of turquoise, coral, rubies or pearls set in them.

I put the ring on her nose and the bracelets on her arms: (Gen. 24:47) not on the central cartilage of the nose, but on the left nostril, the flesh of which was pierced for the purpose. Rings of this type are still the usual betrothal present in Arabia, and are commonly worn there and in Persia. They are made of gold and silver and of coral, mother-of-pearl, and some of even cheaper materials. See also bracelets, in Bible Dictionary (ON WEBSITE MENU)

Signet ring (ring only in KJV) on Joseph's hand: (Gen. 41:42) the word ring in this verse comes from the Hebrew word (*taba'*) it literally means a seal (as sunk into the wax), (i.e. signet for sealing), but can also refer to a ring in general or a ring of any kind. The Pharaohs' signet-ring gave Joseph the delegated power of the

king himself and established him in the position of his prime minister. All in Pharaoh's kingdom were naturally aware that the king's royal signet ring was the final symbol of authority, when a document was stamped by it, whatever law or command that document contained became law throughout the entire land of Egypt. The royal signet ring was not only the token of the highest authority and power, but also the token of the highest honour and dignity. Placing the ring on Joseph hand gave him absolute authority to make and sign whatever decrees and laws he thought would benefit the kingdom of Egypt and its people.

Ringstraked

The following verses show that the King James Bible uses the word ringstraked while the English Standard Bible uses the word stripped, both these words carry the same idea. It simply means that the animal has strips on its coat (i.e., long thin rectangular marks) of different colours to the main colour of the animal.

- Laban removed the male goats that were striped (ringstraked in KJV) and spotted, and all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, every one that had white on it, and every lamb that was black (brown in KJV), and put them in charge of his sons. (Gen. 30:35).
- The flocks bred in front of the sticks (rods in KJV) and so the flocks (cattle in KJV) brought forth striped (ringstraked in KJV), speckled, and spotted. ⁴⁰And Jacob separated the lambs and set the faces of the flocks toward the striped (ringstraked in KJV) and all the black (brown in KJV) in the flock of Laban. He put his own droves apart and did not put them with Laban's flock (cattle in KJV). (Gen. 30:39-40)
- If he said, 'The spotted (speckled in KJV) shall be your wages,' then all the flock bore spotted (speckled in KJV); and if he said, 'The striped (ringstraked in KJV) shall be your wages,' then all the flock bore striped (ringstraked in KJV). (Gen. 31:8).
- In the breeding season of the flock (cattle in KJV) I lifted up my eyes and saw in a dream that the goats (rams in KJV) that mated with the flock (cattle in KJV) were striped (ringstraked in KJV), spotted, (speckled in KJV) and mottled (grisled in KJV). (Gen. 31:10).
- He said, "Lift up your eyes and see, all the goats (rams in KJV) that mate with the flock (cattle in KJV) are striped (ringstraked in KJV), spotted (speckled in KJV), and mottled (grisled in KJV), for I have seen all that Laban is doing to you." (Gen. 31:12).

Ringstraked (stripped in the ESB): comes from the Hebrew word (*`aqod*), it literally means striped with bands.

Speckled: comes from the Hebrew word (*naqod*) meaning spotted or speckled with the idea of marking by branding.

Spotted: comes from the Hebrew word (*tala'*) meaning spotted with different colours.

Mottled (grisled in KJV): comes from the Hebrew word (*barod*) meaning spotted (as if with hail).

From this list, it is easy to see that the words ringstraked, speckled, spotted, mottled and grisled all carry similiar ideas which is that the animal would have various size patches and shapes of different colours upon their coats, some of these patches would appear spotted in shape (i.e., circular) while others would appear more like strips on its coat (i.e., long thin rectangular marks) of different colours to the main colour of the animal.

Rivalries

Rivalries (variance in KJV) carries the idea of quarrelling, wrangling contention, debate and strife.

Rivers and water

Rivers and water often speak of God's power, to see more concerning rivers and waters see the title: "Rivers and Seas," in Map Locations and People of the Bible (ON WEBSITE MENU).

The following verses show that the devil (*diabolos*) is the personification of sin.

In the New Testament Peter says: -

- Your adversary the devil (*diabolos*) prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” (1 Peter 5:8) and James in his letter wrote, “Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

In the Old Testament Moses says: -

- If you (Cain) do what is right, will not you be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, “Sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must rule over it” or “Sin is lurking at the door and its desire is for you, but you must master it.” (Genesis 4:7).

The roaring lion and sin crouching at the door: James statement, “Your adversary the devil as a roaring lion is seeking whom he may devour,” and Moses statement, “Sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you,” Show that the devil and sin is the same thing.

Sin and the devil in the Old and New Testament: the book of Genesis says sins desire is for Cain, or seeking to devour Cain, but he should rule over it. The apostle Peter says, your adversary the devil as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking to devour you, and in other translations the devil's desire is for you, which shows that sin and the devil (*diabolos*) are the same entity.

The picture painted by these verses is that sin and the devil are waiting and looking for their opportunity and chance to pounce. God says we can master it, meaning control its behavior or bring it into submission. The Old Testament picture of sin is the same as the New Testament picture of the devil which means that the devil is the personification of sin (Gen. 4:7) (1 Peter 5:8). For further information see, “Death,” in, Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Robbers

Robbers (*Hebrew shadad*) means to be burly and figuratively to be powerful (impregnable) and by implication to ravage, destroy oppress, spoil and utterly lay waste while robbers (*Hebrew bazaz*) means to plunder, spoil, catch, gather and take for a prey and robbers (*Hebrew p^{er}iyts*) means violent and refers to a tyrant, a destroyer and ravenous robber. Robbers (*Greek leistes*) means to plunder and refers to a gangster, lawbreaker and thief, while robbers (*Greek hierosulos*), refers to a temple-despoiler and robber of churches.

Rock

Rock (*Hebrew tsuwr*) and literally means a rock, a boulder or a sharp rock or stone, a high and steep cliff. Figuratively it carries the idea of a refuge as a place of shelter and protection. Symbolically it can refer to the Almighty God or His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. Rock (*Greek petra*) means, a rock (as a mass of rock), while rock (*Greek Petros*) means a piece of rock also used as a name and rock (*Greek Petrus*) refers to an apostle (i.e., Peter the rock).

Rod

Rod (*Hebrew matteh*) means a branch (as extending). Figuratively a tribe; a rod for chastising and correction; a scepter for ruling; a lance for throwing; a stick for support when walking and figuratively a support of life (e.g. bread). Rod (*Hebrew shebet*) means to branch off; and literally refers to a stick for punishing, writing, fighting, ruling, walking, etc.) or figuratively a clan or tribe, correction, scepter and staff. Rod (*Greek rhabdos*) means a stick or wand (as a cudgel, a cane or a baton of royalty) a scepter and staff while rod (*Greek rhapizo*) means to let fall, to slap and to smite (with the palm of the hand).

The word discipline (*Hebrew muwcar and yacar*) means, chastisement, punish, reproof, restraint, warning, instruction, correction, reform and teach. It carries the idea of instructing and correcting so, as to warn and prevent a person from harm in the future. Solomon wrote: -

- The rod of discipline drives folly far from a child. (Prov. 22:15).

The reason Solomon says this so strongly is because he knows that a child without discipline will grow into a teenager that will fall into all sorts of trouble because they have not learned self control, or to rule over their own emotions. A parent who cares about their child's wellbeing and their future will take the time and effort to discipline, correct and train their child in the right way and what is good because they know if they don't the child will go astray

The rod of discipline: is not about cruelly beating a child, even God is against that. The rod carries the idea of making the child aware that what they are doing is wrong. It only takes a gentle smack on the backside for a child to get the message and learn that whatever behaviour they were doing will bring them harm in the future. Obviously, a gentle smack is not the only form of discipline that is effective. Many people have great success with other types of discipline.

It is the principal that is important, not the method or what is used to carry it out. To deny a child of some form of effective discipline is to ruin their future lives, that is why Solomon says the parent who loves their child will discipline them. Love will always do what is best for another person, even if it is something we may not find easy to do.

No parent likes to discipline their children, but they know that it is going to protect their child in the future and without correction the child is not going to learn self control and what good and acceptable behaviour is (Prov. 13:24) (Prov. 22:6) (Prov. 22:15) (Prov. 23:13-14) (Prov. 29:15).

Rome

Rome (*Greek Roma*) means, strength, and refers to the capital of Italy. Roman Caesar Claiger AD 40 wanted to be known as a god, he demanded grovelling worship and set himself in the Jewish temple at Jerusalem. Claiger was prepared to sacrifice the entire Jewish nation for this worship. Agrippa is a good example of this desire to be exalted as a god, when he left Rome to rule his own country to present himself as king he put on a garment of woven silver, then entered the theatre at day break when the sun's first rays touched his wondrous web of silver, Agrippa's flatterers immediately raised their voices addressing him as a god

The titles, Lord, Son of God, and Saviour: were not pious terms in the first century, but titles of Caesar. Rome believed Christians were taking the titles of Caesar and giving them to Jesus.

The parallel between Christ's first coming and his second: today Rome has diminished in power but it will rise again (with powerfully aligned nations) as the final world kingdom. The scenario of Christ's return will be very similar, to when he first came. When Christ first appeared, the religious system saw that they were losing their power and control of the people to him, so they enticed Rome to have him crucified.

When Jesus returns the second time as King of kings and Lord of lords to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth the false religious system, (called the prostitute woman and harlot) (Rev. 17:1) (Rev. 17:15) (Rev. 19:2) will entice the ten horned beast nations, (being Rome and the nations aligned to her), to send their armies against Christ, but here the similarity finishes because this time Christ is returning as King of kings and Lord of lords and not as the Lamb of God to be slain.

Christ will defeat the ten horned beast nations and establish God's Kingdom on earth during his millennial reign. For further information see the title, "Future Kingdom of God in the New Testament," in Kingdom (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Rome's Goal: King Arthur said of Rome, "The greatest minds in all the world have come together to set mankind free" (ultimately King Arthur was disillusioned by the governments of Rome) but their initial goal was to create a New World.

Rome's private belief and state religion: The Romans made a fundamental distinction between state and religion (primarily Roman state religion). Roman state religion was considered the formal link between men and the gods, it was, seen as

a contract between Numa, the first priest-king of Rome and Jupiter-king of the gods. Under the terms of this contract the god would look after Rome's security and progress, while the state would look after the god's needs by supplying the proper sacrifices and worship.

Rude

Rude (behave itself unseemly in KJV) means to be or act unsuitably, behave inappropriately, indecent, improper or wrongly.

Ruler

Ruler (prince in KJV) means, first (in rank or power) chief (ruler) magistrate or prince.

Bible House of Grace