

Job 25:6

*“How much less man, that maggot, And the son of man, that worm !”*

VS.

**“For such a one as I”**

Satan seeks to diminish the great sacrifice of Christ on the cross in two ways when it comes to the church. First – he attacks and diminishes the person of Christ. Second – he elevates man and seeks to diminish in man’s eyes his own depraved state. The better man is, the less Christ needs to be. It is no wonder then, that when the church begins to slide into doctrinal error that one of the first great doctrines to be laid aside is the total depravity of man.

Recently this was once again brought home to me when singing one of the great doctrinal hymns of the church. “At The Cross”. One of the stanzas reads as follows...

“Alas and deed my Savior bleed  
and did my sovereign die  
Would He devote that sacred head  
**For such a worm as I”**

I first notices this change almost 20 years ago. The last stanza was changed to, “for such a man as I” and then later to “for such a one as I”. Christ indeed may die for us, but it will be for something worthy, not for a worm or a maggot. Yet the Bible is all too clear. Without Christ we are but worms in God’s sight. David, the great Psalmist was led of the Holy Spirit to describe himself in these same terms in *Psalms 22:6 But I am a worm and not a man, A reproach of men and despised by the people.*” And again man’s depraved state is described in *Jude 10 “But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.”*

Modern man recoils from this. He views himself in his search for God neither as depraved nor unworthy. In his mind, of course Jesus died for me, who wouldn’t. And understand this, it was I who decided to become a Christian. I chose God, He did not choose me and having chosen Him I expect that He perform up to expectations. I chose Him and I can un-choose Him. And what about those others who have trusted Christ but not lived up to the calling as I have, well they certainly are unworthy of spending eternity in heaven with me. Thus man in his rejection of depravity affirms his depravity.

By depravity we mean that state of man where he is totally helpless and indifferent to God. So corrupted by original sin and its consequences that he cannot and will not choose God. It is only in understanding depravity that we understand *Romans 5:6 For while we were still helpless , at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.*

A man who can help himself is not helpless. Thus we all have a gross disgusting testimony. Having meditated on the great doctrine of depravity you will come to realize two great truths, which are the antitheses of satan’s lies revealed in the opening paragraph of this introduction...

1. Christ is indeed the Son of God, the sinless, pure and perfect sacrifice required due to our depraved state.
2. Man is so totally depraved that he is helpless in his state, his salvation and resulting worth to God based solely on the merit of Christ’s sacrifice without reference to man nor his works.

It is the authors hope that in meditating on your depraved state before salvation you will be driven to a great love and devotion to Christ who sacrificed Himself for one so unworthy as you. That in this realization you will be driven to a great love for God and that this love for God will result in obedience to Him and love of your fellow man. You were but a maggot, a worm when you were saved. What is left for you but to serve your Savior and proclaim this glorious message of salvation to all.

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – The Depravity of Man**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Totally Depraved Psalm 53:1 – 3; Ecclesiastes 9:3; Romans 3:10 - 18**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Imputation of Adam’s Sin Romans 5:15 – 19; I Corinthians 5:21 & 22**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Spiritually Dead, Physically Dying Ezekiel 18:4; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – The Depravity of Man**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Enslaved To satan Ephesians 2:1& 2; Hebrews 2:14, 15; II Timothy 2:25, 26**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: A Member of satan’s Kingdom Acts 26:18; Colossians 1:13;**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: An Enemy of God Romans 5:10; 8:7 & 8; Ephesians 2:15 & 16;**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – The Depravity of Man**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Spiritually Blind II Corinthians 4:4; John 3:36; Ephesians 4:17 - 19**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Freely Chose To Sin Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:23**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: In Total Rebellion To God Daniel 9:4 – 10; Hosea 8:1; Jeremiah 5:23 - 25**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – The Depravity of Man**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Enslaved To Sin John 8:34; Romans 6:16;**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Guilty Before God’s Holy Law – Galatians 3:10, 11; James 2:10**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Totally Hopeless/Helpless Ephesians 2:12; I Thessalonians 4:13; Romans 5:6**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – The Depravity of Man**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Total Separation From God – Isaiah 59:1, 2; Psalm 58:3; Ephesians 2:12- 15**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Under God’s Judgment – Hebrews 9:27; Romans 14:10; Hebrews 10:30, 31**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Condemned To Eternity In Hell – Revelation 14:10, 11; Revelation 20:7-15**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – The Depravity of Man**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Man's Depravity Realized Job 25:6**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Man's Depravity Realized Ecclesiastes 3:18; 9:3**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Man's Depravity Realized Psalm 22:6; 49:12; 73:22**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – The Depravity of Man**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Man’s Depravity Realized Isaiah 41:14; Jeremiah 51:17; Jude 1:10 - 13**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Man’s Depravity Realized Romans 1:18 - 32**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Man’s Depravity Realized Romans 3:10 - 20**

**What does this passage teach me about my helpless condition before my salvation?**

**Ephesians 2:8 & 9 teaches that we are saved by grace so that “no one may boast”. How will an understanding of this passage make me a more humble Christian?**

**When I think of my life as it once was (as described by this passage) and now as it is “saved by grace”, what is my response in my relationship with God?**



*1 John 4:10*

*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

Propitiation is that great doctrine by which the Christian comes to understand the total satisfaction of God in the substitutionary sacrifice of Christ, His punishment, His shed blood and His death on our behalf. God being so satisfied there is no sacrifice left for one to make to make oneself acceptable, worthy or loving to God, nor is there any action one can take to make oneself unacceptable, unworthy nor unlovely to God. In other words there is nothing the Christian can do to make God love him more, nor is there anything a Christian can do to make God love him less.

It is in understanding this great doctrine that we can understand that our salvation is truly by grace. In understanding the doctrine of propitiation we come to understand that the Christian life is lived out not in fear of God's punishment but rather in devotion to God out of love. Because of the propitiatory sacrifice of Christ on the cross whereby God's wrath and God's judgment is totally satisfied for all eternity we are free to obey God because of our love and not out of fear of punishment. The Christian then comes to two important conclusions:

1. Nothing I do will make God love me more.
2. Nothing I do will make God love me less.

As a result the disciple is free to obey God out of love rather than fear. The question the disciple asks himself when it comes to obedience, to good works changes from

1. "What works must I do to get God to love me (or love me more)?"
2. To "What works must I do to love God more?"

This doctrine, above all others, purifies motives. If the disciples response to propitiation - that "Nothing you do will make God love you more and nothing you do will make God love you less" is to then respond, "Then why am I doing all this junk, I can live like everyone else!" Then he knows something about himself – he does not love God.

Consider this illustration. A young husband is so happy because every morning his wife rises early to fix him his favorite breakfast. One day he overhears her talking with her sister and telling her that because of this her husband never beats her. The young husband, at the very next opportunity, explains to his wife that he loves her with all his heart, that he would never beat her and will never leave her. The young wife's response is, "Really, then why am I getting up early every morning and fixing you breakfast? From now on I am sleeping in!" How will the young husband feel? He suddenly realizes something about his wife, she doesn't love him like he thought. That is how the doctrine of propitiation purifies our obedience. It brings us to the crossroads of the great question "Why?". Jesus Christ gives us the correct motivation for obedience in His teachings on this subject to His disciples

*John 14:15, 21, 23 & 24*

*"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments...He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me... If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word...He who does not love Me does not keep My words..."*

Do you get the feeling Jesus is repeating Himself? Jesus wants His disciples to understand the great doctrine of propitiation. He is about to totally satisfy God's righteous judgment and wrath as it pertains to every sin ever committed and every sin that ever will be committed by mankind. That means something – His disciples are free to obey God out of love and not fear. In understanding this we understand *1 John 2:2 "and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world."* As you do the following quiet times alone with God it is the authors prayer that in coming to an understanding of the work of Christ, His propitiatory sacrifice whereby God is totally satisfied, that you will be driven by this great sacrifice to a great love for God. That as you love God more you will be more obedient to God. That you will once and for all follow Christ with all your heart, not to get Him to do something for you, not to keep Him from doing something to you, but because you love Him desperately – with all your heart, soul, mind and body.

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Propitiation (God Is Totally Satisfied) Hebrews 2:17; Romans 3:25; I John 2:1,2**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Imputation (Our Sin Is Placed In Christ) 1Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:6; 2Corinthians 5:21**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Substitutionary Death(Christ Died For Us) Isaiah 53:4, 5; Romans 5:6 – 8; Hebrews 2:9**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Exclusive (Christ Is The Only Way) John 14:6; Acts 4:12; I Timothy 2:5; Isaiah 43:11**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Believe – (Knowledge Is Necessary) John 5:24; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9, 10**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Receive (Volitional Act Is Necessary) – John 1:12; Romans 10:8 - 13**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Grace (We Receive That Which Is Not Deserved) - Ephesians 2:8, 9**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Mercy (We Do Not Receive That Which Is Deserved) -Titus 3:5**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Justified (We Stand Guiltless Before God At His Judgment) – Romans 5:1,9, 18; 8:1**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Redemption (Christ Paid The Penalty) – Ephesians 1:7; Mark 10:45; I Peter 1:18, 19**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Blood Romans 5:9; Hebrews 9:18 – 26; I Peter 1:18, 19; I John 1:7; Revelation 1:5**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Reconciliation(Wrath Of God Is Satisfied In Christ)Ephesians 2:13 – 16; Isaiah 53:11**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Election – Mark 13:20, 22, 27**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Chosen – John 15:16; II Thessalonians 2:13; Ephesians 1:4**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Book of Life – Philippians 4:3; Revelation 17:8; 20:15; 21:27**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Foreknowledge - Romans 8:29; I Peter 1:1 & 2**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Called – John 6:37, 39, 44, 65; 10:27 – 29; I Peter 2:9; II Timothy 1:9**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Predestination - Ephesians 1:5 & 11; Romans 8:30**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Propitiation**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Forgiven – Hebrews 10:18; Colossians 2:13**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Deliverance From Satan Hebrews 2:14,15; 2Timothy 2:26;Colossians 1:13;Acts 26:18**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Deliverance From Sin and Death Romans 6:5–11, 17, 18, 20–23;I Corinthians15:50-58**

**What does this passage teach me about the my salvation in Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**When I think of God’s great love for me and Christ’s great work of salvation, what is my response in my relationship with God?**



In contrast with the Doctrine of Depravity is the absolute love and provision of God for the sinner. The sinner says to himself, “What can I do to make myself better so that God will love me?” The answer, “Sorry, too late, God already loves you.” The sinner says to himself, “What sacrifice can I make so that God will accept me into heaven?” The answer, “Too late the sacrifice necessary for your salvation has already been made and there is nothing that you can add to it.” The sinner says to himself, “What can I do to keep God loving me?” The answer, “Too late, God already loves you infinitely. Nothing that you do will make God love you more, nothing you do will make God love you less.” The lists go on and on and on and the answer is always the same, “Too late to do works, God’s love and provision is both absolute and infinite.”

Meditations on the absolute love and provision of God through Christ’s sacrifice first and foremost purifies motives. It changes the question from, “What must I do to get God to love me?” to, “What must I do to love God?” As we understand more and more our total depravity as contrasted with God’s infinite love and provision a love for God will spring from our hearts that drives us to obey Him. Jesus Christ respectively told His disciples just this – that their love for God would be manifested in obedience. The essence of obedience has nothing to do with the heart of God and everything to do with the heart of man.

***John 14:15 If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.***

***John 14:21 He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.***

***John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, " If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.***

***John 14:24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.***

Unfortunately today, in a church shaped by the narcissist tendencies of the Charismatic and Pentecostal movements the response of man has shifted from, “God’s love and provision for me is both absolute and infinite, what can I do to show my love for Him?” to “God’s love and provision for me is both absolute and infinite, what then can God do to show His love for me?”

The author shudders at the thought that the disciple, as he meditates upon the great absolute love and provision of God will grow more and more proud, more and more selfish and more and more demanding. Instead of responding by prostrating himself before God and crying out, “How can I return so great a love?” He will instead shake his fist at God, cry out “In Jesus Name” and demand that God get with it. That God start living and providing on the disciples terms, and now!!

When did faith in and an understanding of the infinite love and provision of God change from the disciple, on his knees, the Bible open before him, crying out to God, “Show me from Your holy Word what you would have me do to show my love for you?” To a man on a stage, cameras fixed upon him, microphones blaring, spot lights shining, center stage, shaking his fist at God and crying out, “In Jesus name, in Jesus name” as he demands that God prove His infinite love and provision by doing the bidding of man.

It is my prayer for you, that as you spend time meditating upon the infinite love and provision of God that you will be so broken as to spend a lifetime on your knees, the Bible open, crying to God to reveal what He would have you do this day (and not vice versa).

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – God’s Love / Provision**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: God’s Love / Provision John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:4; I John 4:14 – 19**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Imputation (We Receive Christ’s Righteousness) – II Peter 1:4; Romans 5:17 & 19**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Salvation – Romans 1:16; Ephesians 1:13; I Thessalonians 5:8 - 11**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – God’s Love / Provision**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Regeneration (We Are Born Again) – John 3:3; II Corinthians 5:17; I Peter 1:3**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Adoption (God has adopted us) – Galatians 4:4 – 7; Ephesians 1:5, 6**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Sealed By The Holy Spirit At The Point Of Salvation – Ephesians 1:13, 14; Romans**

**8:9, 14, 16; I Corinthians 2:12; 3:16; 6:19, 20**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – God’s Love / Provision**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Eternal Life – John 3:15; Romans 6:22, 23; I John 5:11 - 13**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Peace With God – Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:14 - 18**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Freedom – (from sin and death) Romans 8:1 & 2**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – God’s Love / Provision**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Freedom – (from corruption) Romans 8:22 & 21**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Freedom – (futility of the Law) Acts 13:38 & 39; Galatians 5:1**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Freedom – (from satan) Hebrews 2:14, 15**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – God’s Love / Provision**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Abundant Life – John 10:10**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: New Covenant – I Corinthians 11:25; Hebrews 9:15**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Family of God / God our Father – Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – God’s Love / Provision**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Family of God / Jesus our Brother – Matthew 12:50**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Family of God / Church the Bride of Christ – Revelation 19:7**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Family of God / Children of God – John 1:12; Romans 8:16, 21**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – God’s Love / Provision**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: God’s Kingdom – John 3:3,5; Colossians 1:13**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Priesthood – I Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 1:6**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Universal Gifting – I Peter 4:10 & 11; Romans 12:3 – 8; I Corinthians 12:4 - 7**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**



*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – God’s Love / Provision**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Justified – Romans 3:21 – 24, 28; 5:1 – 9; Galatians 3:11 & 24; Titus 2:5 - 7**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Sanctified – John 17:17; I Corinthians 6:11**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Glorified – Romans 8:29, 30; Philippians 3:20, 21**

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Twelve Meditations On Christ**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Pre-existence – John 8:58; Colossians 1:15 – 17; Philippians 2:5 - 8**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Came To Earth Born Of A Virgin Luke 1:34 & 35; Matthew 1:18 – 23; Philippians 2:6 & 7**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Lived A Perfect And Sinless Life Hebrews 4:15; I Peter 2:22; I John 3:5; John 17:4; 19:30**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Twelve Meditations On Christ**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Freely Gave His Life As A Sacrifice For Sins John 10:11, 17, 18; 13:3**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Died And Was Buried On Behalf Of Mankind Luke 23:42; Romans 5:6 – 8; I Corinthians 15:3 & 4**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Rose On The Third Day Luke 24:1 – 8; John 20:19 – 21; I Corinthians 15:12 – 19; I Peter 1:3;**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Twelve Meditations On Christ**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revealed Himself To Men I Corinthians 15:1 – 10; Luke 24:1 – 53;**

**Acts 1:1 - 11**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ascended Into Heaven Acts 1:1 - 11**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Heavenly Ministry Hebrews 7:25; I Timothy 2:5; John 14:1 - 3**

**What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**THEME: Basic Doctrines of Salvation – Twelve Meditations On Christ**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Will Return Acts 1:11; I Thessalonians 4:16; Hebrews 9:27 & 28  
What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Final Judgment II Timothy 4:1; Revelation 20:7 - 15  
What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Eternal Reign Revelation 11:15; 20:10 – 22:21  
What Does This Passage Teach Me About Christ?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**Matthew 5:16** Light = Good Works, a generic form of witness which does not result in salvation

**II Corinthians 2:14 – 17** Fragrance = Knowledge, a specific form of witness, which results in specific knowledge and does result in salvation (Colossians 4:6; I Peter 3:15)

**Acts 1:8** Witness – A universal call and provision for all believers vs. Ephesians 4:11 Evangelist – A specific gifting and calling limited to those chosen by God

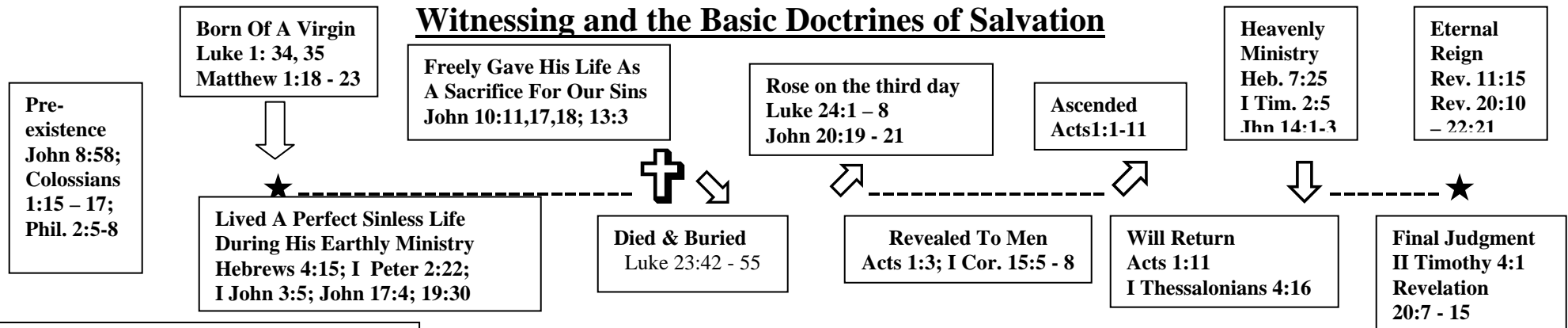
**Romans 1:16** – The “Not Ashamed” clause entails both Communication and Content

**I Corinthians 9: 20 – 23** Our bottom line for life decisions, yet framed within the Word of God and balanced by I Corinthians 15:33

**I Corinthians 1:23; I Peter 1:22 – 25; II Corinthians 4:5** Jesus Christ, The Risen Savior as revealed in the Word of God is the central aspect of our witness

**Hebrews 4:12, I Peter 1:23** Our witness is inseparable from the Word of God.

## Witnessing and the Basic Doctrines of Salvation



### Total Depravity

Romans 3:9 – 18

**Imputation (Sin)** - Romans 5:12, 19  
**Death** – Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1, 5  
**Enslavement** – Ephesians 2:1,2; Romans 7:23; II Timothy 2:26;  
**Spiritual Blindness** – II Corinthians 4:4  
**Volitional Sin** - Isaiah 53:6  
**Rebellion** – Daniel 9:4-10; Hosea 8:1  
**Guilty: The Law** – Galatians 3:10, 11; James 2:10  
**Enemies of God** – Romans 5:10; Ephesians 2:15, 16  
**Satan's Kingdom** – Colossians 1:13; Acts 26:18  
**Separation** – Isaiah 59:1, 2; Ephesians 2:12, 13  
**Judgment** – Hebrews 9:27  
**Hopeless/Helpless** - Ephesians 2:12  
**Hell** – Revelations 14:10, 11

**Further Study: Things Which Become Sound Doctrine - J.D. Pentecost; Major Bible Themes –**

### Propitiation

Hebrews 2:17; Romans 3:25; I John 2:1,2

**Imputation (Sin)** – I Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:6, 11, 12  
II Corinthians 5:21;  
**Exclusive Nature** – John 14:6; Acts 4:12; I Timothy 2:5; Isaiah 43:11  
**Believe** – John 5:24; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9, 10  
**Receive (Volitional Act)** – John 1:12  
**Substitutionary Death** – **Isaiah 53:4, 5;**  
**Romans 5:6 – 8; Hebrews 2:9**  
**Justified** – Romans 5:1,9, 18  
**Grace** - Ephesians 2:8, 9  
**Mercy** -Titus 3:5  
**Redemption** – Ephesians 1:7; Mark 10:45; I Peter 1:18, 19  
**Blood** – Romans 5:9; Hebrews 9:18 – 26 (22); I Peter 1:18, 19; I John 1:7; Revelation 1:5  
**Forgiven** – Hebrews 10:18; Colossians 2:13;  
**Reconciliation** – Ephesians 2:13 – 16  
**Election** – Mark 13:20, 22, 27  
**Chosen** – John 15:16; II Thessalonians 2:13; Ephesians 1:4  
**Foreknowledge/Predestination** - I Peter 1:1,2; Romans 8:29, 30  
**Book of Life** – Philippians 4:3; Revelation 17:8; 20:15; 21:2  
**Deliverance** – Revelation 1:5; Colossians 1:13

### God's Love / Provision

John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:4; I John 4:14 – 19

**Imputation (Righteousness)** – II Peter 1:4  
**Salvation** – Romans 1:16; Ephesians 1:13; I Thessalonians 5:8 - 11  
**Regeneration** – John 3:3; II Corinthians 5:17; I Peter 1:3  
**Adoption** – Galatians 4:4 – 7; Ephesians 1:5, 6  
**Sealed By The Holy Spirit** – Ephesians 1:13, 14; Romans 8:9, 14, 16; I Corinthians 2:12; 3:16; 6:19, 20  
**Eternal Life** – John 3:15; Romans 6:22, 23; I John 5:11 - 13  
**Peace With God** – Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:14 - 18  
**Freedom** – Romans 8:2, 21; Galatians 5:1; Hebrews 2:14, 15  
**Abundant Life** – John 10:10  
**New Covenant** – I Corinthians 11:25; Hebrews 9;15  
**Family of God...**  
**God our Father** – Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6  
**Jesus our Brother** – Matthew 12:50  
**Church the Bride of Christ** – Revelation 19:7  
**Children of God** – John 1:12; Romans 8:16, 21  
**God's Kingdom** – John 3:3,5; Colossians 1:13  
**Priesthood** – I Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 1:6  
**Sanctified** – John 17:17; I Corinthians 6:11  
**Glorified** – Romans 8:29, 30; Philippians 3:20, 21