

To flee
1 Corinthians 6:18
“Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.”

Believers are instructed to flee from worldly cultures, customs and self-satisfying practices of the world.

To run
1 Corinthians 9:24
“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.”

A believer should constantly stay in the race that pertains to following Jesus.

To obey and submit
Hebrews 13:17
“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”

A believer is instructed to obey and submit their lives to God.

To honor
1 Timothy 5:17
“Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.”

God will always use a man when blessing a believer. The way we receive from a man is through honor.

To study
2 Timothy 2:15
“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

A believer should ensure to constantly study the gospel in order to grow in their effectiveness as they walk in Christ.

To meditate
1 Timothy 4:15
Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all”

Believers should focus their minds on Christ-related things in order to profit and increase in their effectiveness as well.

To take heed
1 Timothy 4:16
“Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.”

Believers should take heed to these instructions and to the things that Jesus calls them to do.

To wrestle, and put on
Ephesians 6:10-12
“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

Believers are instructed to put on the armor of God, which suggests that we are in a fight with the enemy.

To fight
1 Timothy 6:12
“ Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses”

As we fight, we have the assurance that Jesus already has already secured victory through his death on the cross, therefore nothing can stop us. We just have to fight and contend.

To contend
Jude 1:3
“ Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”

As we fight, believers should hold on to their truth and contend for the faith in the battle.

To be anxious for nothing
Philipians 4:6
“ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Believers should walk without fear of anything that is to come.

To follow
Ephesians 5:1
“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children”
1 Corinthians 11:1
“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.”
Believers should also follow Christ.

3. The Future Tense- What God Will Do
These actions are things that God has not yet done, but will do in the days to come.

We will be changed
1 Corinthians 15:52-55
“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.
54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.
55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?”

Someday, our bodies will no longer be an agent that sickness can touch. As believers, we have we will not die, but live on after death. Our bodies will be forever changed and restored. This is why believers have the ability to heal the sick, as it gets us closer to the state that we will dwell in after death.


We will be quickened
Romans 8:11
“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

Quickened means to be made alive. Our bodies will be made alive by the Holy Spirit.

It is important that we pay attention to all the tenses pertaining to our faith. When reading and interpreting the scriptures, we are able to see all that God has done, what he is doing, and what he will one day do.

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Tenses of the new Testament





As we read and interpret the Bible, it is essential to know that our understanding creates the core of Christian doctrine. The Bible shows us all the amazing things that Jesus has done on the behalf of mankind. But for believers to grow and truly understand those things, the interpretation of the Bible is necessary, because it guides our theology and lifestyle that we subscribe to on a day-to-day basis.

Without the interpretation of the Bible, we are left unable to conduct our Christianity lives to its fullest potential. Therefore, a proper foundation must be laid and constantly built upon with Bible interpretation.

2 Timothy 3:15 (KJV)

And that thou from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make these wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

One of the things that we can do in Bible interpretation is to refer back to the original language which the Bible was written is to understand the essence behind the translation that we read today. For the Old Testament, we can refer to the Greek language to find these explanations.

The phrase “holy scriptures” in Greek means hagios gramma. The word hagios typically means to sanctify, set apart or to separate. However, in the context of that verse, the word hieros was used which means sacred. The usage of this word shows us that the context that this book is written in is different from other books. The Greek word gramma translates to a written document in context. The translations of these words and that scripture shows us that the Bible isn’t just a regular book of literature that was made to be enjoyed. **Instead, the Bible is sacred because it holds meaning and was written with the intent to make us wise unto salvation through our faith in the identity of Jesus Christ.** With this in mind, it is important for us to understand the past, present and future tenses of Christ’s actions so we can understand what God has done in him for us. Akin to the English language, there are three tenses of Christ’s actions which include the past (what has already been done), the present (what is ongoing), and the future (what is still to come).

1. The Past Tense- What God Has Done

He saved us.

Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God...”

The man who has believed the gospel is saved by God.

Mark 16:15 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”

What is the gospel?

This is described in **1 Cor 15:1-4**

“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 by which also ye are saved, if we keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.
3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;
4 and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures”

The gospel is the message behind the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. So any man who believes that he did that is saved.

2 Timothy 1:9

“who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began”

These scriptures assure us that we are saved.

He delivered us

Colossians 1:13

“ who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son”

This verse assures us that we have been delivered from the shackles of sin, so we do not have to pray for deliverance. No matter the issue, we have delivered from it.

He forgave us

Ephesians 4:32

“and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.

God has forgiven us. We are forgiven. God is not holding a record of wrong against us. **Hebrews 8:12** assures us of this fact as it says:
“For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, And their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more” **1 John 2:12**
“I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name’s sake.”

This is a fact that we can share with people as we are preaching the gospel on outreaches. People can be welcomed into the house of God because our sins have been forgiven.

He sanctified us

Hebrews 2:11

“For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren”

This text shows us that God isn’t ashamed to call us brothers and sisters. As believers, we are all brothers and sisters because we are all from the same spirit.

1 Corinthians 6:11

“And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.”

As a result of our identity from the spirit, we have been washed, sanctified, and justified.

He justified us

Romans 5:1

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Because we have been justified. We have peace with God.

He blessed us

Ephesians 1:3

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ”

God has blessed us. Today, the word blesses is used in many mantras in the English language, but we can hold onto the fact that God blessed us from the very day we got born again, “with all” blessings. Glory to God!

He made us perfect

Hebrews 10:14-19

“ For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified
15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,
16 This is the covenant that I will make with them After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts And in their minds will I write them;
17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.
18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin
19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus

We are the ones that he has perfected because he sanctified us. We are perfect.

He sealed us

Ephesians 1:13

“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise”

So many things occur in that microsecond of a person believing in God. After believing in the gospel, God quickly sealed us and gave us our salvation. When are sealed, this means that nothing can take us away from our salvation. We as humans tend to find fault with what was preached to us, and to push ourselves away from God. However, he is fast to save a man, and dwells in us forever upon our belief. The proof of our salvation is the Holy Ghost in us. Therefore you cannot lose your salvation.

He redeemed us

Because we are sealed, we have been bought with a price.

2. The Present Continuous Tense- What God is Doing

These actions are ongoing activities that require the present participation of a believer.

2 Corinthians 5:10

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body,

according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”

The ones that will be rewarded at the end of the day will be the believers who understand the present tense. Included are the things we are instructed to do that Jesus will not do for us as told in the New Testament;

To walk

Ephesians 5:2

“and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.”

Galatians 5:16

“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.”

Galatians 5:25 KJV

“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

Ephesians 4:1

“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,”
These scriptures instruct believers to walk in the calling of God in our lives.

To grow

1 Peter 2:2

“as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.”
A believer should aim to constantly grow in their identity in Christ.

To perfect

Ephesians 4:11-12

“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
12 for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”

2 Timothy 3:17

“that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

A believer should strive to stand perfect in their identity in Christ.

To pray

Ephesians 6:18

“praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”
Colossians 4:2
“Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;”

A believer should always continue in prayer

To forgive

Ephesians 4:31-32 KJV

“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:
32 and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”
When Jesus died on cross, our sins were forgiven. Since he has forgiven us, we are forgiven to forgive others.