

**B**asic

**I**nstructions

**B**efore

**L**eaving

**E**arth



# Basic Information For New Believers In Christ

(revised August 21<sup>st</sup> 2021)



**Soldiers For Christ Global Community Church**

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## You're In The Royal Army Now, **Soldier!**

**Matthew 16:24-26**

**Take Up Your Cross and Follow Jesus**

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For whoever would save his life<sup>[a]</sup> will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

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**BY FAITH**

I will not believe what I see, But what God has promised me

**BY FAITH**

I will receive courage to step out And gain strength to go through

**BY FAITH**

I will live by God's word each day And His instructions I must obey

**BY FAITH**

I am confident and assured with certainty, That all my desires, hopes and dream  
Can become a reality through God's will for my life

**BY FAITH**

I will not be afraid, worry or doubt, Believing, trusting and depending on God's power to  
Work all things out to His own glory

**BY FAITH**

I will receive God's promise  
And be a blessing to others

**BY FAITH**

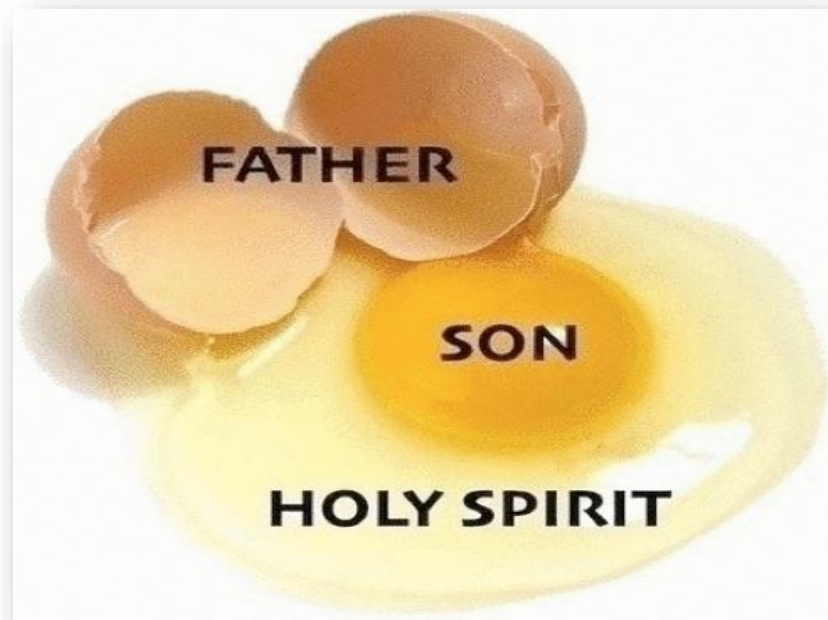
I will trust God to keep His promise and  
Give me my rewards stored up for me since the foundation of this world

**For without FAITH it is impossible to please God**

Poem taken from "Jesus, The greatest Name I Know" Vol.2 by: Donna M. walker (c) 1996

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[1 John 5:7-9](#)

[New King James Version](#)

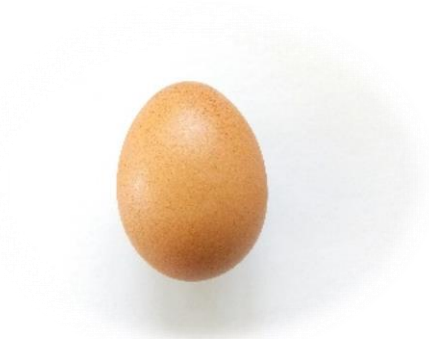
(7) For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.

[New King James Version](#)

(8) And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one

[New International Version](#)

(9) We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son



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**John 7:37**

**New American Standard Bible**

Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink"



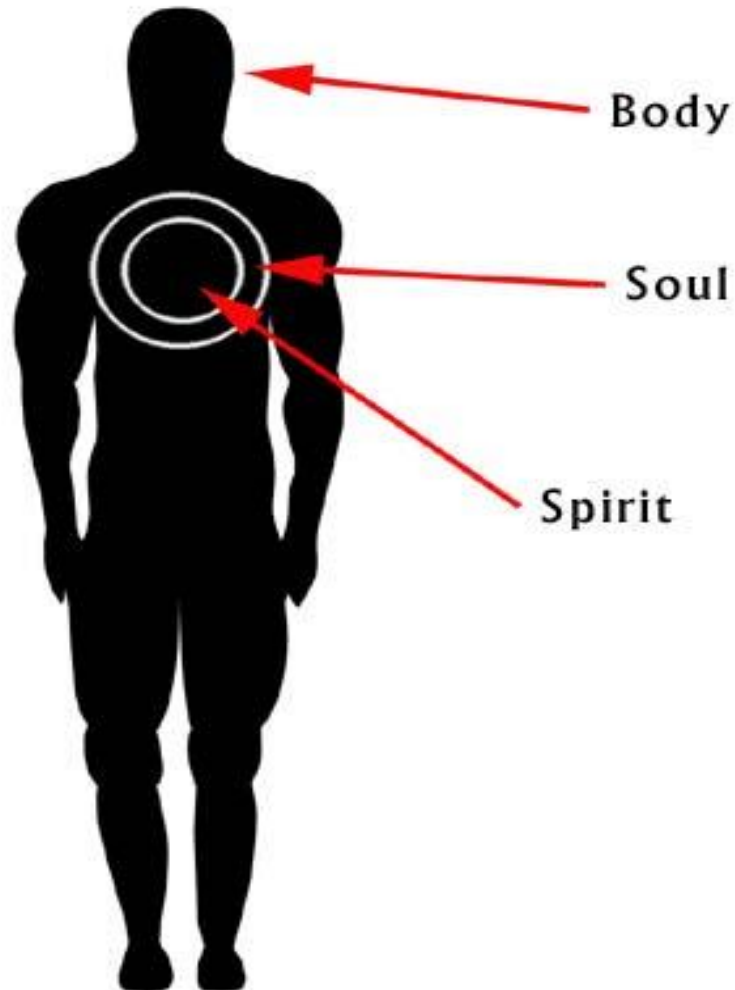
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# THE TRIUNE MAN

The Bible says that man is a three-part being



Genesis 1:27

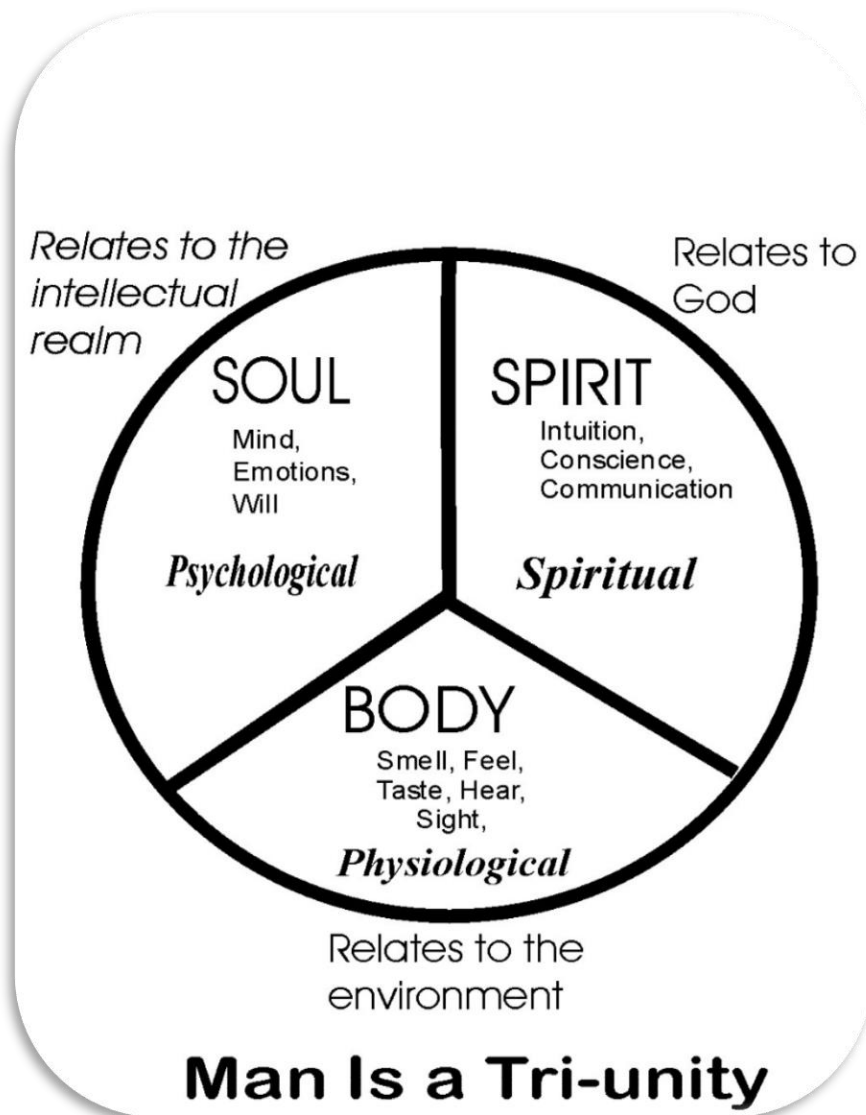
[New American Standard Bible](#)

God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them

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**1 Thessalonians 5:23**  
**International Standard Version**

May the God of peace himself make you holy in every way. And may your whole being—spirit, soul, and body—remain blameless when our Lord Jesus, the Messiah, appears.

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“For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome” (1 John 5:3). As His children we must keep His commandments, obeying Him, always remaining faithful. So, as we endure the inevitable trials, pains, heartaches, and tribulations—as long as we live—may we ever move forward, always “looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith” (Hebrews 12:2) and receive the crown of life that awaits us

1. Incorruptible Eternal Blessings
2. Righteousness by faith in Christ
3. Rejoicing in the completed work of Christ
4. Access to the Glory of God
5. Eternal life

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## The Imperishable or Incorruptible Crown

[1 Cor 9:24-25](#), [Matt 6:19-20](#), [1 Peter 1:3-4](#)

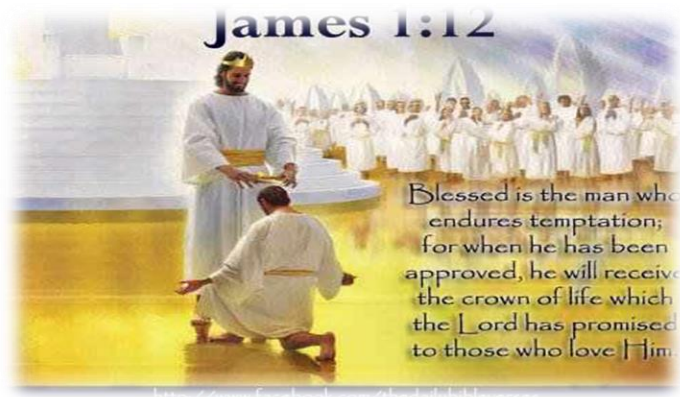
In the Apostle Paul's 1st letter to the Corinthians, he uses a metaphor to the Christian life referring to a race. In Rome and Greece, people loved public games. Paul writes:

The Imperishable Crown – ([1 Corinthians 9:24-25](#)) "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate [disciplined] in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown" (NKJV). All things on this earth are subject to decay and will perish. Jesus urges us to not store our treasures on earth "where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal" ([Matthew 6:19](#)). This is analogous to what Paul was saying about that wreath of leaves that was soon to turn brittle and fall apart. But not so the heavenly crown; faithful endurance wins a heavenly reward which is "an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you" ([1 Peter 1:4](#))

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## Crown of Righteousness

### 2 Tim 4:7-8, & Romans 1:17

The Apostle Paul writes to Timothy about receiving a crown of Righteousness.

**I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is reserved for me the crown (stephanos) of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing. 1<sup>st</sup> Tim 4**

The Crown of Righteousness – (2 Timothy 4:8) “Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” We inherit this crown through the righteousness of Christ which is what gives us a right to it, and without which it cannot be obtained. Because it is obtained and possessed in a righteous way, and not by force and deceit as earthly crowns sometimes are, it is an everlasting crown, promised to all who love the Lord and eagerly wait for His return. Through our enduring discouragements, persecutions, sufferings, or even death, we know assuredly our reward is with Christ in eternity (Philippians 3:20). This crown is not for those who depend upon their own sense of righteousness or of their own works. Such an attitude breeds only arrogance and pride, not a longing, a fervent desire to be with the Lord.

**For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written: “But the righteous one will live by faith.” Romans 1:17**

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The Crown of Rejoicing 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20

## Crown of Rejoicing

[Phil 4:4](#), [1 Thes 2:19](#), [Rev 21:4](#), [Luke 15:7](#)

The Apostle Paul encouraged the church to rejoice! Joy is a fruit of the Spirit. It is different than happiness. Happiness is based on your external circumstances. Joy comes from within. Rejoicing exists in the life of the believer despite our personal challenges because of the assurance we have in Christ.

**Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Phil 4:4**

When he wrote the Thessalonians, Paul explains that joy can be found through the finished work of Christ, which they were all seeing manifest in the first century.

The Crown of Rejoicing – ([1 Thessalonians 2:19](#)) “For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?” The apostle Paul tells us in [Philippians 4:4](#) to “rejoice always in the Lord” for all the bountiful blessings our gracious God has showered upon us. As Christians we have more in this life to rejoice about than anyone else. Luke tells us there is rejoicing even now in heaven ([Luke 15:7](#)). The crown of rejoicing will be our reward where “God will wipe away every tear . . . there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away” ([Revelation 21:4](#)).

There was a whole lot of hardship in the first century for Christianity. The early church feared for themselves and those that they were losing. Despite this, Paul says “Rejoice!” He encourages them to be joyful amidst their struggles. Imagine that? Someone reading right now needs to be encouraged.

**He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.” Rev 21:4**

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## Crown of Glory

1 Peter 5:4, Acts 7:55, Romans 8:18

In 1<sup>st</sup> Peter, the apostle encourages the elders to keep serving the church diligently and not get tempted into going after worldly things.

**And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. 1 Peter 5:4**

**But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, looked intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; Acts 7:55**

The Crown of Glory – (1 Peter 5:4) “And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.” Though Peter is addressing the elders, we must also remember that the crown will be awarded to all those who long for or love His appearing. This word “glory” is an interesting word referring to the very nature of God and His actions. It entails His great splendor and brightness. Recall Stephen who, while being stoned to death, was able to look into the heavens and see the glory of God (Acts 7:55-56). This word also means that the praise and honor we bestow to God alone is due Him because of who He is (Isaiah 42:8, 48:11; Galatians 1:5). It also recognizes that believers are incredibly blessed to enter into the kingdom, into the very likeness of Christ Himself. For as Paul so eloquently put it, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us” (Romans 8:18 NKJV).

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## Crown of Life

[James 1:12](#), [Rev: 2:10](#)

**The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. John 10:10**

Satan and the rulers of this present world are the thief who comes to steal, kill, and destroy. One day our physical lives will end, but the promise of the new covenant is eternal life. When you come to Jesus, you receive the crown of life, which can never be taken away from you.

***And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life. 1 John 2:25***

Just like our physical lives need things like food and water, Jesus is what we need to sustain our spiritual lives. He refers to Himself as “the Life” (John 14:6). Also, the “living water” and the “bread of life” (John 4:10, 6:35). James also talks about the crown of life is our blessing despite the challenges we face.

***For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Romans 8:18***

The Crown of Life – ([Revelation 2:10](#)) “Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.” This crown is for all believers, but is especially dear to those who endure sufferings, who bravely confront persecution for Jesus, even to the point of death. In Scripture the word “life” is often used to show a relationship that is right with God. It was Jesus who said, “I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly” ([John 10:10](#)). Just as things such as air, food, and water are vital for our physical lives, Jesus provides us what is required for our spiritual lives. He is the One who provides “living water.” He is the “bread of life” ([John 4:10, 6:35](#)). We know that our earthly lives will end. But we have the amazing promise that comes only to those who come to God through Jesus: “And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life” ([1 John 2:25](#)).

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## *Some Names Of God*

### Elohim (God)

First seen in [Genesis 1:1](#) – Used 2599 times in the Bible

This is the very first name given to God found in the very first verse of Genesis. This name shows that God is the majestic ruler over all. Elohim is actually a plural word and it's use as the first name of God and sets him high above all other gods. It also foreshadows the later revelation of the triune Godhead – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

### Yahweh (Lord, Jehovah)

First seen in [Genesis 2:4](#) – Used 6519 times in the Bible

Yahweh is the promised proper name of God. It means *Lord and Master*. By Jewish tradition this name is too holy to pronounce or write. Therefore they just wrote four letters without any vowels: YHWH. Jews stopped saying the name all together in the third century AD. They stopped saying this name because they were afraid of violating the fourth commandment that prohibits misusing, or taking the Lord's name in vain. Therefore scholars today don't know for sure if the original pronunciation was Yahweh or Jehovah

### El Elyon (The Most High God)

First seen in [Genesis 14:18](#) – Used 52 times in the Bible (sometimes without El, simply as Elyon)

El is likely related to the word Elohim and is used in conjunction with other descriptive words to specifically reference a particular characteristic of God. Elyon means highest or most high. Used together El Elyon means *The Most High God*. It refers to the characteristic of God that is above everyone and everything. This name describes his position as sovereign majestic preeminent God.

### Adonai (Lord, Master)

First seen in [Genesis 15:2](#) – Used 434 times in the Bible

Because the Jews have a tradition of not pronouncing nor spelling out the promised proper name of God they often would use Adonai instead of YHWH. Adonai means *Lord, Master, or Owner*. This name emphasizes that God is in charge of his creation and his people, Lord of lords

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## El Shaddai (Lord God Almighty)

First seen in [Genesis 17:1](#) – Used 48 times in the Bible (sometimes without El, simply as Shaddai)

El is likely related to the word Elohim and is used in conjunction with other descriptive words to specifically reference a particular characteristic of God. Shaddai derives from the word for a woman's breast (*shad*) and literally means "many breasted one." This denotes God as provider, supplying, nourishing, and satisfying his people with their needs as a mother would her child. God our sustainer.

## El Olam (The Everlasting God)

First seen in [Genesis 21:33](#) – Used 439 times in the Bible

El is likely related to the word Elohim and is used in conjunction with other descriptive words to specifically reference a particular characteristic of God. Olam means forever, always, continuous existence, perpetual, everlasting, evermore, perpetual, indefinite or unending future, eternity. Used together El Olam means *The Everlasting God*. He exists beyond time and space. We can take comfort in the fact that God always was, and always will be God. Nothing we can ever face will change that because God is unchangeable

## Jehovah Jireh (The LORD Will Provide)

Only occurs once in [Genesis 22:14](#)

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Jireh means to see or provide. When Isaac asked Abraham where the lamb was for the sacrifice, Abraham replied that the Lord would provide. After God provided the ram for the sacrifice Abraham named that place on Mount Moriah Jehovah Jireh, meaning *The LORD Will Provide*. God is quietly arranging things behind the scenes so that they will be in just the right place exactly when we need them

## Jehovah Rapha (The LORD Who Heals You)

Occurs only once in [Exodus 15:26](#)

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Rapha means to heal or make healthful. Together Jehovah Rapha means *The LORD Who Heals You*. God is the Great Physician who heals his people. This truth in God's name applies equally to emotional, psychological, and physical healing as well as to nations and individuals alike

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## Jehovah Nissi (The LORD Is My Banner)

Occurs only once in [Exodus 17:15](#)

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Nissi means flag or banner so together Jehovah Nissi means *The LORD Is My Banner*. God himself is our banner and victory. He gives us hope and a focus, and is the one who wins our battles

## El Qanna (Jealous God)

First seen in [Exodus 20:5](#) – Used 6 times in the Bible

El is likely related to the word Elohim and is used in conjunction with other descriptive words to specifically reference a particular characteristic of God. Qanna means jealous, zealous, or envy. Used together El Qanna means *Jealous God*. God's jealousy is a holy, loving jealousy without any of the insecure manipulation or control that comes packaged with worldly jealousy. It draws from the marriage relationship with a picture of a husband jealous for his wife. God longs for each of us to put him first in our lives in priority and importance, not out of ego, but because he knows that is truly what is best for us

## Jehovah Mekoddishkem (The LORD Who Sanctifies You)

First seen in [Exodus 31:13](#) (Only other occurrence is in [Leviticus 20:8](#))

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Mekoddishkem means holy or set apart. It is the process of sanctification, which is the separation of something so that it is holy. Used together Jehovah Mekoddishkem (can have the variant spelling Jehovah M'Kaddesh) means *The LORD Who Sanctifies You*. God sets us apart as his children when we become believers. He sanctifies us and makes us holy because we are incapable of it on our own.

## Jehovah Shalom (The LORD Is Peace)

Occurs only once in [Judges 6:24](#)

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Shalom means peace, absence of strife, complete, or sound. Used together Jehovah Shalom means *The LORD Is Peace*. When it seems like the whole world is against you or that you are completely unable to deal with whatever problem is in front of you, turn to the God of peace to find comfort and strength

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## Jehovah Sabaoth (The LORD of Hosts)

First seen in [1 Samuel 1:3](#) – Used in the Bible more than 285 times

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Sabaoth means an army going out to war. Used together Jehovah Sabaoth means *The LORD of Armies* or *The LORD of Hosts*. The Lord reigns over a vast well ordered host in the heavenlies. God is always there to defend us, fight our battles, and win our wars. There is no enemy he cannot defeat

## Jehovah Raah (The LORD Is My Shepherd)

Occurs once in [Psalms 23:1](#). (Raah is also used in reference to God in [Genesis 48:15](#), [Genesis 49:24](#), and [Psalm 80:1](#))

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Raah means to shepherd or feed, to supply with food, and to be a good friend. Jehovah Raah means *The LORD Is My Shepherd*. God is a friend who provides extravagant nourishment, protection, as well as rest for our weary bodies and souls

## Jehovah Tsidkenu (The LORD Our Righteousness)

First seen in [Jeremiah 23:6](#) – Only other occurrence is in [Jeremiah 33:16](#)

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Tsidkenu means justice, rightness, righteousness, deliverance, victory, and prosperity. Used together Jehovah Tsidkenu means *The LORD Who Is Our Righteousness*. God himself stands for us and provides us with His righteousness and justice when we don't have any in ourselves. He is the one who provides victory and our prosperity

## Jehovah Shammah (The LORD Is There)

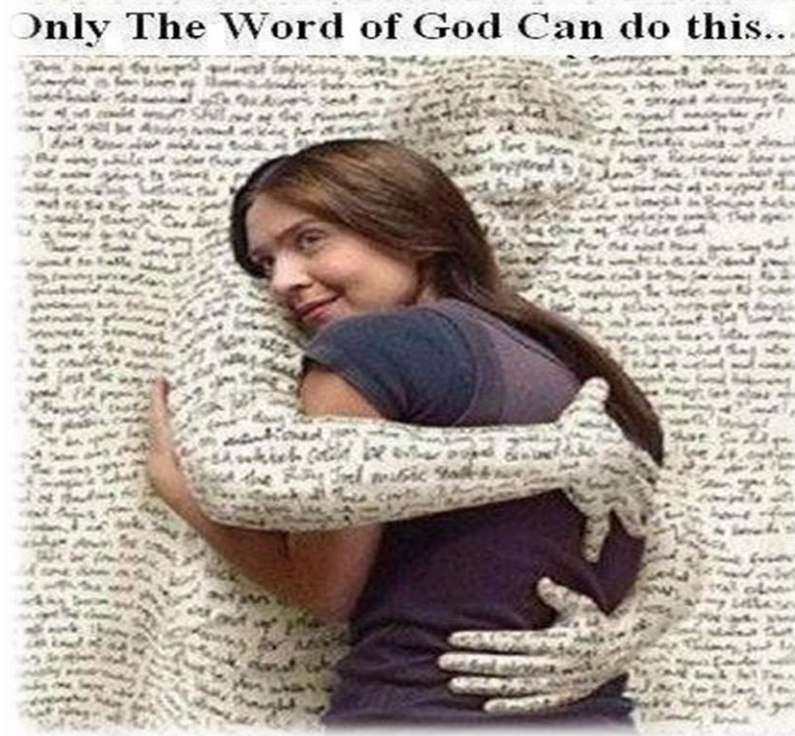
Occurs only once in [Ezekiel 48:35](#)

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Shammah is an adverb that simply means *there*, although when it's used in relation to time it means *then*. Together Jehovah Shammah means *The LORD is There*. God revealed this name at a time when Israel was in rebellion and in captivity. God was letting the Jews know that he had not forsaken them and that he was still there, both in their present as well as in their future. Regardless of what you are going through, or what you are heading into, you can take comfort knowing that God is already there.

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You say: 'It's impossible.

**God says:** All things are possible. (Luke 18:27)

You say: 'I'm too tired.

**God says:** I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28-30)

You say: 'Nobody really loves me.

**God says:** I love you. (John 3:16 & John 3:34 )

You say: 'I can't go on.

**God says:** My grace is sufficient. (II Corinthians 12:9 & Psalm 91:15)

You say: 'I can't figure things out.

**God says:** I will direct your steps. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

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You say: 'I can't do it.

**God says:** You can do all things. (Philippians 4:13)

You say: 'I'm not able.

**God says:** I am able. (II Corinthians 9:8)

You say: 'It's not worth it.

**God says:** It will be worth it. (Roman 8:28 )

You say: 'I can't forgive myself.

**God says:** I Forgive you. (I John 1:9 & Romans 8:1)

You say: 'I can't manage.

**God says:** I will supply all your needs. (Philippians 4:19)

You say: 'I'm afraid.

**God says:** I have not given you a spirit of fear.  
(II Timothy 1:7)

You say: 'I'm always worried and frustrated.

**God says:** Cast all your cares on ME. (I Peter 5:7)

You say: 'I'm not smart enough.

**God says:** I give you wisdom. (I Corinthians 1:30)

You say: 'I feel all alone.

**God says:** I will never leave you or forsake you.  
(Hebrews 13:5)

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## Signs You Might Be a Lukewarm Christian

**You** think mostly about how to be comfortable and happy on this earth with little thought of Heaven and eternal life.

**You** give God the leftovers rather than the first fruits of yourself.

**You** seek God but usually only if you are in a bind.

**You** don't share your faith with the lost but you have really good excuses why this is.

**You** say you believe in God but if we were to record your Monday-Saturday it would reveal that you live as if God doesn't even exist.

**You** spend more on your cell phone bill than you give to God.

**Someone** outside of who you see on Sundays asks you what you love most and Jesus doesn't even get mentioned.

**You** would rather your kids be happy and popular rather than holy and devoted to God.

**You** are quick to volunteer at your kids school or sporting event but make excuses why you cannot volunteer at church.

**You** know you practice sin but justify by saying "doesn't everyone?"

### Revelation 3:16

'So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth

"And you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I am going to vomit you from my mouth."

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## What does the Bible say about anointing oil?"

Anointing oil, mentioned 20 times in Scripture, was used in the Old Testament for pouring on the head of the high priest and his descendants and sprinkling the tabernacle and its furnishings to mark them as holy and set apart to the Lord ([Exodus 25:6](#); [Leviticus 8:30](#); [Numbers 4:16](#)). Three times it is called the "holy, anointing oil," and the Jews were strictly forbidden from reproducing it for personal use ([Exodus 30:32-33](#)). The recipe for anointing oil is found in [Exodus 30:23-24](#); it contained myrrh, cinnamon and other natural ingredients. There is no indication that the oil or the ingredients had any supernatural power. Rather, the strictness of the guidelines for creating the oil was a test of the obedience of the Israelites and a demonstration of the absolute holiness of God.

Only five New Testament passages refer to the practice of anointing with oil, and none of them offer an explanation for its use. We can draw our conclusions from context. In [Matthew 6:17](#) Jesus mentions the everyday practice of anointing oneself with oil. In [Mark 6:13](#) the disciples anoint the sick and heal them. In [Mark 14:3-9](#) Mary anoints Jesus' feet as an act of worship. In [James 5:14](#) the church elders anoint the sick with oil for healing. In [Hebrews 1:8-9](#) God says to Christ as He returns triumphantly to heaven, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever," and God anoints Jesus "with the oil of gladness."

Most likely the use of oil, as reflected in this passage, was a symbolic act. In Bible times the practice of anointing with oil was frequently representative of God's approval (see 1 Sam. 10:1; Psalms 89:20). Many biblical scholars are fairly confident, therefore, that the application of oil in James 5:14 was a symbolic act invoked in conjunction with supernatural healing.

Should Christians use anointing oil today? There is nothing in Scripture that commands or even suggests that we should use similar oil today, but neither is there anything to forbid it. Oil is often used as a symbol for the Holy Spirit in the Bible as in the [Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins](#) ([Matthew 25:1-13](#)). Christians have the Spirit who leads us into all truth and "anoints" us continually with His grace and comfort. "But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth" ([1 John 2:20](#)).

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## What is the purpose of The Tallit?

A tallit (also called tallit gadol or by its Yiddish name, tallis) is a Jewish prayer shawl worn by men and women during morning prayer services and on the Sabbath and on holidays. They are used to prepare the mind and heart for prayer and inspire elation and reverence for God. Like yarmulkes, Jewish prayer shawls or tallit can be very simple or very complex in design. A vibrantly decorated wool or silk tallit can reflect specific symbols, stories, places and events in Jewish culture or simply indicate states such as contemplation or celebration. The only requirements of Jewish tallit construction are that it be a shawl long enough to be worn over the shoulders, as a garment and that it not be made of a combination of wool and linen. Many women choose to wear silk tallit, which are lightweight and often decorated with gorgeous detail.

Many Jewish tallit feature the Hebrew blessing for donning a tallit across the atarah (the long side that lays closest to the neck). One quirk to note: Since sacred writings are not permitted to be taken into a bathroom, if the blessing is written on your tallit, you'll have to remove it (and most likely hang it on a nearby tallit rack) before proceeding into the restroom!

## Religious Significance of a Jewish Tallit

The religious significance of Jewish tallit lies not in itself, but in the specifically-detailed fringes, or tzitzit, that are tied to each corner based on a passage in the Torah (Numbers 15:37-41) instructing wearers of "four-cornered garments" to do so in order to remember God's commandments. Because they are exempt from any mitzvah that involves time constraints and considered innately closer to God by their very nature, women are not required to wear a tallit as a preparation for prayer or reminder of their faith. Therefore, wearing a Jewish tallit is a woman's personal choice based on her own desire for contemplation and expression of reverence.

## The Blessing for Donning a Jewish Tallit

Hold the tallit outstretched in both hands and recite the blessing before throwing the tallit across your shoulders and briefly covering your head and face with your hands. The blessing in Hebrew is "Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam asher kidishanu b'mitz'votav v'tzivanu l'hit'ateif ba-tzitzit." ("Blessed are you, Lord, our God, sovereign of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to wrap ourselves in the tzitzit.") Once the blessing is said, the tallit is thrown and the head is covered, you can then adjust the tallit as needed over your shoulders.

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That there is but one true and living God: maker of heaven and earth and all that is in them, Alpha and Omega (the beginning the end) who ever was, and is and shall be, time without end Amen. That he is Infinitely **H**oly, **M**ighty, **T**ender, **L**oving and **G**lorious. Worthy of all possible love and honor, confidence, and obedience, majesty, dominion, both now and forever, and that in the unity of the Godhead there are three equal in every divine perfection, executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

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## **The Father**

Whose glory is so exceedingly bright that mortal man cannot look upon his face and live, but whose heart was so filled with love and pity for his lost and sin-benighted: (overtaken by darkness – unenlightened, ignorant – moral or intellectual darkness) children that he freely gave his only begotten son to redeem and reconcile them unto himself.

**John 3:16**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**Job 37:1-24**

God's Works and Wisdom

**Job 38: 1-3**

God challenges Job

**Job 38: 4-41 (&) Job 39: 1-30**

God challenges Job, while showing him his own ignorance.

**John 1: 1-5**

In the beginning the word was God and the word was with God.

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Co-exist and co-eternal with the Father, who, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary took upon Himself the form of man, bore our sins, carried our sorrows, and by the shedding of His precious blood upon the cross of Calvary, purchased redemption for all that would believe in Him. Then, bursting the bonds of death and hell rose from the grave and ascended on high leading captivity captive, that as the great mediator between God and man. He stands at the right hand of God the Father making intercession for those whom he laid down His life.

**Matthew 8: 28-34**

When Jesus speaks, demons must obey

**Luke 4: 41**

Devils cry out, “Thou art Christ the Son of God”

**1 John 5: 7-12**

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost and these three are one.

**Genesis 1: 26-27**

And God said; Let Us make man in our image, after our likeness ...

(Regaining a likeness of God is one of the accomplishments of salvation. Our spiritual likeness is restored in justification).

**Revelation 19: 11-16**

... KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

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The third person of the Godhead, the Spirit of the father. Omnipotent, Omnipresent, performing an inexpressibly important mission upon earth, convicting sin, of righteousness, and of judgment drawing sinners to the Savior. Rebuking, pleading, searching, comforting, guiding, quickening:(to come or return to life), teaching, glorifying, baptizing and enduing:(to provide with some quality or trait) with power from on high those who yield to His tender ministrations, preparing them for the great day of the Lord's appearing.

**John 15:26**

But when the comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me.

**Romans 8:14-17**

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

**Matthew 28:19**

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

**John 16: 7-14**

... for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you, but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove: (to rebuke for fault or misdeed) the world of sin ...

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# The Fall Of Man



We believe that man was created in the image of God, before whom he walked in holiness and purity, but that by voluntary disobedience and transgression (violation of a law, rule, command), he fell from the Eden of purity and innocence to the depths of sin and iniquity (**wickedness, sinfulness, grossly immoral acts,**), and that in consequence of this, all mankind are sinners sold unto Satan. Sinners not by constraint but by choice shaped in iniquity and utterly void by nature of that holiness required by the law of God. Positively inclined to evil, quality and without excuse justly deserving the condemnation of a just and holy God.

## Genesis 1:28

And God blessed them and God said unto them. Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

The first dispensation (divinely appointed or revealed) was governed by the “Edenic covenant” Adam had six obligations: (1) to replenish the earth with children V.28 **(2)** to use nature for his physical needs including food and shelter V.28 **(3)** to have dominion over animal life V.28 (4) to eat fruit and vegetables V.29 (5) to labor for his sustenance

Ch: 2 V.15 (6) to obey God by abstaining from eating the forbidden fruit. Adam’s failure under this covenant results in his expulsion from the garden and in the fall of the human race from a state of innocence into a condition characterized by sin Ch: 3 V.15

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## The Plan Of Redemption

We believe that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us, the Just for the unjust; freely, and by divine appointment of the Father. Jesus taking the sinner's place, bearing mankind's sins, receiving mankind's condemnation and dying mankind's death fully paying the penalty, and signing with His life's blood the pardon of everyone who should believe upon him.

Upon your faith and acceptance of the atonement purchased on Mount Calvary by Jesus Christ, the vilest sinner can and will be cleansed of all their iniquities (sins, no matter what they are) and made whiter than snow. This gift is extended to **all people** no matter what your sin, no matter what your age, no matter where you are when you ask him, no matter what you're doing when you ask, just come as you are right now. If you ask God for forgiveness the gift of salvation is yours, and God will take you from that point (no matter what) and make you into what he desires for you and what he has made you to truly be for him, Guaranteed. God wants all people no matter what they are or think they are God said he would save you NOW! Just ASK! God in Jesus name.

**Isaiah 55:7**

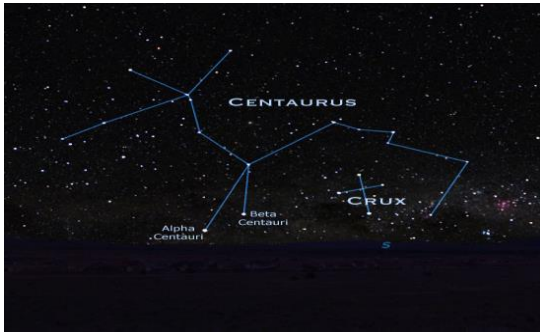
Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, ...

**Titus 2:14 / Isaiah 53:5 / Isaiah 1:18 / Hebrews 7:25**

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## *Salvation Through Grace*

We believe that the salvation of sinners is made whole through grace. That we have no righteousness, or goodness of our own wherewith to seek divine favor, and must come therefore, throwing ourselves upon the unfailing mercy and love of Him who bought us, and washed us in His own blood, pleading the merits and the righteousness of Christ the Savior. Standing upon His word and accepting the free gift of love and divine pardon that only comes from above, by the blood of the lamb.

**By Grace are ye saved**

**Ephesians 2:8**

**...There is none righteousness, no, not one**

**Romans 3:10**

**... All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God**

**Romans 3:23**

**Verily, verily I say unto you, he that believeth on me hath everlasting life**

**John 6:47**

**For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord**

**Romans 6:23**

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## **Repentance & Acceptance**

We believe that upon sincere repentance, Godly sorrow for sin, and a whole-hearted acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ. They who call upon Him may be justified by faith, through His precious blood, and that in place of condemnation they will receive divine salvation (no longer sentenced to Hell) grace, mercy, peace, joy, and assurance of favor with God. That with open arms of mercy, and pardon, the Savior waits to receive each penitent who will in unfeigned (genuine), Contrition (sincere remorse), and supplication for mercy. Open the door to your heart and accept Him as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

**If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness**

1 John 1:19

**Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through Jesus Christ ...**

Romans 5:1-2

**There is therefore now no condemnation to them, which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit**

Romans 8:1

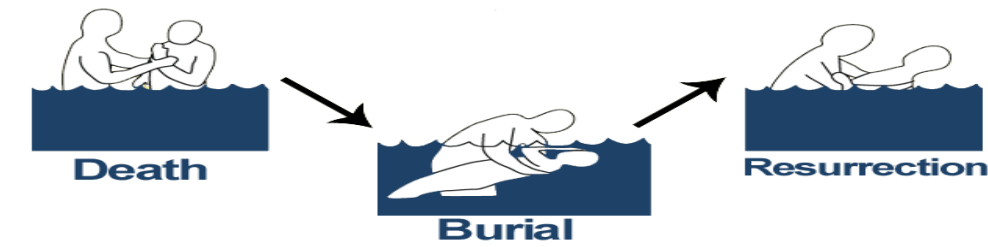
... Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out

Luke 1:77-79

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## Baptism

In the New Testament, baptism was practiced by John the Baptist and Jesus' disciples, and commanded by Jesus himself (see [Matthew 28:16-20](#)) as a permanent ritual, or sacrament, that would introduce people into the Christian church. Those who are baptized are considered Christians, whether baptized as infants or as adults.

Baptism itself is a ritual of *cleansing*. As originally practiced, it involved being fully immersed in flowing water such as the Jordan River. In non-religious terms, baptism is a bath. The purpose of a bath physically is to clean the body of dirt and impurities.

Spiritually, therefore, baptism represents the cleansing of a person from evil, falsity, and sin. This is the first step in the process of being born again, or spiritual rebirth.

That is why baptism is presented in the New Testament as "the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (see [Matthew 3:11](#); [Mark 1:4](#); [Luke 3:3](#); [Acts 2:38, 13:24, 19:4](#)). Baptism is not about mere *physical* cleansing; it is a ritual symbolic of the *spiritual* cleansing of repentance from our sins, and thereby accepting God's forgiveness, entering into the Christian religion, and being born again as a new creation in Christ (see [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)).

In Christianity, baptism takes the place of all the Old Testament rituals of washing and purification.

Luke 3:16 and [Matthew 3:11](#) speak of three forms of baptism:

**Baptism with water – Baptism with The Holy spirit – Baptism with Fire**

Since baptism in generally represents a cleansing of Christian believers from evil, falsity, and sin, each of these forms of baptism represent a cleansing at a different level of a Christian's life

([John 14:16,17](#) / [Acts 1:5-8](#) / [1 Corinthians 3:16](#))  
 ([Luke 3:16](#) / [Mark 1:8-9](#) / [Mathew 3:11](#) / [John 1:33](#))

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## “For mental healing”

- **Pulling down strongholds in the mind.** You have given us weapons with divine power to utterly destroy strongholds. We demolish arguments and every lie that sets itself up against the knowledge of You, and we take every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ. - [2 Cor. 10:3-5](#)
- **The devil is a liar. He blinded the minds of those who are perishing and placed** ([John 8:44](#); [2 Cor. 4:4](#); [2 Cor. 11:3](#))
- **Renewing of their minds so they are able to agree with the Lord’s good and perfect will.** ([Rom. 12:2](#))
- **Open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light.** ([Acts 26:18](#))
- **Drive out any fears they experience with His perfect love.** ([1 John 4:18](#))
- **The mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.** (“Now the mind of the flesh is death [both now and forever—because it pursues sin]; but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace [the spiritual well-being that comes from walking with God—both now and forever];” [ROMANS 8:6 AMP](#))
- **Knowing the extent of the Lord’s love.** (“So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” [Ephesians 3:17-19 ESV](#); “Every single moment you are thinking of me! How precious and wonderful to consider that you cherish me constantly in your every thought! O God, your desires toward me are more than the grains of sand on every shore! When I awake each morning, you’re still with me.” [Psalms 139:17-18 TPT](#))
- **Knowing the Lord.** (“that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,”. [Ephesians 1:17 NKJV](#))
- **That their hearts may be flooded with His light.** (“I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope He has given to those He called—His holy people who are His rich and glorious inheritance.” [Ephesians 1:18 NLT](#))
- **Staying in the sweetness of His presence.** (“Here’s the one thing I crave from God, the one thing I seek above all else: I want the privilege of living with Him every moment in His house, finding the sweet loveliness of His face, filled with awe, delighting in His glory and grace. I want to live my life so close to Him that He takes pleasure in my every prayer.” [Psalms 27:4 TPT](#))
- **Meditating on the Word.** (“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” [Joshua 1:8 ESV](#); ““Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.” [Psalm 1:1-2 ESV](#); “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” [Philippians 4:8](#)
- **Guard you words.** (“Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips [to keep me from speaking thoughtlessly].) [PSALMS 141:3 AMP](#)...**why we need to watch what we say** - “Death and life are in the power of the tongue. And those who love it and indulge it will eat its fruit and bear the consequences of their words.” [Proverbs 18:21 AMP](#)
- **The joy of the Lord.** “These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.” [John 15:11 ESV](#)
- **Declaration against suicide.** “I will not die, but live, And declare the works and recount the illustrious acts of the LORD.” [Psalms 118:17 AMP](#)
- **Breaking anxiety** - [Isaiah 26:3](#), [Matthew 6:34](#), [Proverbs 12:25](#), [Philippians 4:6](#), [Luke 12:24](#), [Psalms 37:23](#), [Psalms 139:16](#), [Matthew 11:28](#), [Psalms 55:22](#)
- 
- **Having the same mindset as Christ Jesus** - [Philippians 2:5](#)

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## For physical healing:

- **Requesting the indwelling of the Holy Spirit & the fruits of His Spirit** - [Galatians 5:22-23](#)
- **Persistence in prayer.** ("For everyone who keeps on asking receives, and he who keeps on seeking finds, and to him who keeps on knocking, it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will [instead] give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will [instead] give him a snake? If you then, evil (sinful by nature) as you are, know how to give good and advantageous gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven [perfect as He is] give what is good and advantageous to those who keep on asking Him." [Matthew 7:7-11 AMP](#))
- **Healing through the cross.** "Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness— by whose stripes you were healed." [1 Peter 2:24 NKJV](#); "In fact, it was our diseases He bore, our pains from which He suffered; yet we regarded Him as punished, stricken and afflicted by God. But He was wounded because of our crimes, crushed because of our sins; the disciplining that makes us whole fell on Him, and by His bruises\* we are healed." - Yesha 'yahu [\(Isa\) 53:4-5 CJB](#)
- **The Lord is our Healer.** ("If you will diligently listen to the voice of the Lord your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, your healer." [Exodus 15:26 ESV](#))
- **The Lord restores our health.** "You will bring [us] to health and healing; you will heal [us] and reveal to [us] the abundance of peace and truth." [Jeremiah 33:6 ESV](#); "For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, declares the Lord, because they have called you an outcast: 'It is Zion, for whom no one cares!'" [Jeremiah 30:17 ESV](#))
- **The Lord is our shield.** "He hides away sound and godly Wisdom and stores it for the righteous (those who are upright and in right standing with Him); He is a shield to those who walk uprightly and in integrity," [Proverbs 2:7 AMPC](#); "The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand."- [Psalms 121:5 NKJV](#))
- **The Lord is an all consuming fire.** "For our God is a consuming fire." [Hebrews 12:29 ESV](#)
- **The authority of healing given to believers.** ("Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues;" [Mark 16:16-17 ESV](#); "They will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."" [Mark 16:18 ESV](#)))
- **Placing infirmities under your feet.** "Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all."-[1 Corinthians 15:28 NKJV](#).
- **The Lord liberates.** ("The breaker [the Messiah, who opens the way] shall go up before them [liberating them]. They will break out, pass through the gate and go out; So their King goes on before them, The LORD at their head." [Micah 2:13 AMP](#); "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." [2 Corinthians 3:17 ESV](#); "So if the Son makes you free, then you are unquestionably free." [John 8:36 AMP](#))
- **The Lord will destroy the works of the enemy.** "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." [1 John 3:8b NKJV](#)
- **Victory through Christ Jesus.** "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." [1 Corinthians 15:57 ESV](#)
- **Prospering in all things.** [III John 1:2](#), "I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in good health, just as your soul prospers."
- **Wisdom for better health.** "For by me (wisdom from God) your days will be multiplied, And years of life shall be increased." [Proverbs 9:11 AMP](#)

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## Who Is satan In The Scriptures?

He is constantly represented in the Bible as a **personal entity**. Personal names and personal pronouns as well as personal acts are so frequently attributed to him that it is impossible to view Satan as the mere **personification** of evil.

The great enemy of God is most commonly referred to in the Bible as “**the devil**” or “**Satan**.” He is termed the devil thirty-three times in the New Testament, and called Satan thirty-six times.

But he is also designated by many other titles. He is:

- Abaddon, Apollyon, the great dragon, the old serpent, the deceiver of the whole world (Rev. 9: 11; 12:9),
- the adversary (1 Pet. 5:8),
- the accuser of our brethren (Rev. 12:10),
- Beelzebub (Mt. 12:24),
- Belial (2 Cor. 6:15),
- an enemy (Mt. 13:28),
- the evil one (Mt. 13:19),
- the father of lies, a liar, a murderer (Jn. 8:44),
- the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4),
- the ruler of this world (Jn. 12:31),
- the prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2), and,
- the tempter (Mt. 4:3).



## Why did God create a Devil?

The book of Genesis records Satan (which means 'accuser') in the guise of a serpent orchestrating this tragedy. But this raises an important question: Why would God create a 'bad' devil (which means 'adversary') to corrupt His good creation?



## Lucifer – The Shining One

In fact the Bible records that God actually created a powerful, intelligent, and beautiful angelic being (the chief among all angels) called Lucifer (meaning 'Shining One') – and that he was very good. But Lucifer also had a will with which he could freely choose. A passage in Isaiah 14 records the choice before him.

*How you have fallen from heaven,  
morning star, son of the dawn!  
You have been cast down to the earth,  
you who once laid low the nations!  
You said in your heart,  
"I will ascend to the heavens;  
I will raise my throne  
above the stars of God;  
I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly,  
on the utmost heights of the North.  
I will ascend above the tops of the clouds;  
I will make myself like the Most High."* (Isaiah 14:12-14)

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Lucifer, [like Adam](#), had a choice. He could accept that God was God or he could choose to decide that he would be god unto himself. His repeated “I wills” show that he chose to defy God and declared himself to be ‘Most High’. A passage in Ezekiel gives a parallel account of the fall of Lucifer:

You were in Eden, the garden of God.  
 ... I ordained and anointed you  
 as the mighty angelic guardian.  
 You had access to the holy mountain of God  
 and walked among the stones of fire.  
 “You were blameless in all you did  
 from the day you were created  
 until the day evil was found in you.  
 ... and you sinned.  
 So I banished you in disgrace  
 from the mountain of God.  
 I expelled you, O mighty guardian,  
 from your place among the stones of fire.  
 Your heart was filled with pride  
 because of all your beauty.  
 Your wisdom was corrupted  
 by your love of splendor.  
 So I threw you to the ground. (Ezekiel 28:13-17)

Lucifer’s beauty, wisdom and might – all the good things **created in him by God** – led him to pride. His pride led to his rebellion and fall, but he never lost (and thus still retains) any of his power and traits. He is leading a cosmic revolt **against his Creator** to see who will be God. His strategy was to enlist mankind to join him – by tempting them to succumb to the same choice that he made – **to love themselves, become autonomous from God, and defy Him.** The heart of the [test of Adam’s will](#) was the same as Lucifer’s; it was just arrayed with a different garb. They both chose to be ‘god’ to themselves. This was (and is) the ultimate **‘god delusion’**.

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## Satan – working through others

The passage in Isaiah is directed to the 'King of Babylon' and the Ezekiel passage is addressed to the 'King of Tyre'. But from the descriptions given, it is obvious that no human is addressed. The "I wills" in Isaiah describe a being who was cast to the earth in punishment for wanting to place his throne above the stars of God. The passage in Ezekiel addresses one who is an 'angelic guardian' who once moved in Eden and the 'mountain of God'. This tendency of Satan (or Lucifer) to position himself behind or through someone else is consistent. In the Genesis fall he speaks through the serpent. In Isaiah he rules through the King of Babylon, and in Ezekiel he possesses the King of Tyre.

## Why did Lucifer revolt against God?

But why would Lucifer want to defy and usurp the rule of the One omniscient and omnipotent Creator? An important aspect of being 'smart' is to know whether or not you can defeat a potential opponent. Lucifer may have had (and still has) power, but even his limited creature-power would have been insufficient for a successful revolt against His Creator. So why risk all and go for something he could not win? I would think that a 'smart' angel would have recognized his limitations pitted against Omniscience & Omnipotence combined – and held back his revolt? So why didn't he? This question puzzled me for many years.

What helped me was to realize that Lucifer could only come to the conclusion that God was His omnipotent Creator by faith – the same as for us. Let me explain. The Bible associates the origin of angels with the first week of creation. We see this in Isaiah 14 above, but this is consistent through the Bible. So for example a creation passage in Job tells us:

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Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm. He said...  
 “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?  
 Tell me, if you understand....  
 while the morning stars sang together  
 and all the angels shouted for joy? (Job 38:1-7)

Picture Lucifer being created and becoming conscious sometime in creation week, somewhere in the cosmos. All he knows is that now he exists and is self-aware, and there is also another Being who *claims* to have created him and all the cosmos. But how does Lucifer know that this claim is true? Perhaps, this alleged creator popped into existence in the cosmos just before Lucifer had popped into existence. And because this ‘creator’ arrived earlier on the scene, so to speak, he was (perhaps) more powerful and (perhaps) more knowledgeable than he was – but then again perhaps not. Could it be that both he and the alleged creator had both popped into existence? Lucifer could only accept God’s Word to him that He had created Him and that God himself was eternal and infinite. And in his pride he chose to believe the fantasy that he had birthed in his own mind.

You might think it fanciful that Lucifer would believe that both he and God (and the other angels) just ‘popped’ into existence. But this is the *same* basic idea behind the latest and greatest of modern cosmology. There was a cosmic fluctuation of nothing – and then out of this fluctuation arose the universe – that is the essence of modern atheistic cosmological speculations. Fundamentally, everyone – from Lucifer to Richard Dawkins & Stephen Hawkings to you & I must decide **by faith** whether the universe is self-contained or was brought forth and is sustained **by The Creator Jesus Christ**.

In other words, seeing is *not* believing. Lucifer would have seen and conversed with God. But he still would have had to accept ‘by faith’ that God had created him. Many people say that if God would just ‘appear’ to them then they would believe. But through the Bible, many people saw and heard God – that was never the issue. But the crux of the issue was whether they would accept and trust His Word about Himself and themselves. From Adam & Eve, to Cain & Abel, to Noah, to the Egyptians at the first Passover, to the Israelite crossing of the Red Sea all the way to those who saw the miracles of **Jesus** – ‘seeing’ never resulted in trust. The fall of Lucifer is consistent with this.

## What is the Devil doing today?

*So God did not make a 'bad devil', but created a powerful and intelligent angelic being who through his pride has led a revolt against God* – and in so doing was corrupted (while still retaining) his original splendor. You, I, and all of mankind have become part of the battleground in this contest between God and his 'adversary' (devil). The strategy on the part of the devil is not to go about in sinister black cloaks like the 'Black Riders' in the Lord of the Rings and put evil curses on us, but with his retained splendor he simply seeks to deceive us from the redemption that God has signaled at the [beginning of time](#), through [Abraham](#), through [Moses](#), and then accomplished in the death and [resurrection of Jesus](#). As the Bible says:

satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness.  
(2 Corinthians 11:14-15)

### Satan in the Old Testament

The Hebrew term **satan** etymologically denoted "**adversary**," being related to a verb suggesting the idea of "**lying in wait**." The word was frequently used in a very general sense of adversary.

### Satan in the Garden

Our first knowledge of Satan is derived from the temptation account in Genesis. Numerous attempts to refute the historicity of this narrative have been attempted. Professor Melancthon Jacobus speaks to this very point:

"That there was a real serpent in this transaction cannot be doubted any more than we can doubt the real history throughout. Here, where the facts speak, further explanations are not necessary, nor fitted to the time of the beginning. (1) The real serpent is contrasted with the other animals, (vs. 1). (2) In the New Testament allusion is made to a real serpent in referring to the history, (2 Cor. 11:3, 14; 1 Jn. 3:8; Rev. 20:2). Yet (3) that there was in the transaction a superior agent, Satan himself, who only made use of the serpent, is plain from his being referred to as 'the Old Serpent, called the Devil and Satan,' (Rev. 12:9) — 'a murderer from the beginning,' (Jn. 8:44). Satan is also spoken of as the arch seducer, who is even transformed into an angel of light,' (2 Cor. 11: 14). The reference may be to this event. Almost all the Asiatic nations hold the serpent to be a wicked being that has brought evil into the world.

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# Satan in the New Testament

## Satan Tempted Christ

As the serpent seduced Eve (Gen. 3:6) through the manifold channels of lust of the flesh, lust of the eye, and the vainglory of life (1 Jn. 2:16), so he sought to solicit Christ to sin similarly (Mt. 4:1-11).

Interestingly, he is denominated “**the tempter**” in that narrative. The Greek term is **peirazon**, a present tense participle literally expanded, “**the always tempting me**,” which suggests his characteristic activity.

Had the devil succeeded in causing Christ to sin, the Lord could not have served as the spotless sin offering (2 Pet. 1:19; 2 Cor. 5:21), and the entire human race would have been forever lost!

## Satan's Affliction on Mankind

Disease, infirmity and death are ultimately the responsibility of Satan. How? By his introduction of sin into the world, he brought about such woes and hence, he is really the murderer of the human family (cf. Jn. 8:44).

This is why it is said that a certain Jewish woman, who had been afflicted with an infirmity for eighteen years, was bound of Satan (Lk. 13:16), and Peter declared that Jesus went about doing good “healing all that were oppressed of the devil” (Acts 10:38).

## Satan: Enemy of the Apostles

The New Testament represents the devil as a deadly foe of the apostles of Christ, who by their saving message, opposed his work.

The Lord informed Peter: “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan asked to have you, that he might sift you as wheat” (Lk. 22:31).

Many commentators have over-looked the fact that the pronoun “you” (**humas**) is plural, revealing that Jesus was issuing a warning regarding all the apostles. Yet, recognizing the special weakness of Peter, the Master adds: “but I made supplication for thee (**sou**, singular) that thy faith fail not”

Moreover, Paul's thorn in the flesh was a “messenger of Satan” (2 Cor. 12:7), and when the apostle would have visited the Thessalonian brethren, Satan hindered him (2 Thes. 2: 18).

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You must ALWAYS remember that the devil can only do what he is permitted to do by God.



The promise of Genesis 3:15 will then be totally fulfilled:  
 “He [the woman’s seed, i.e., Christ] shall bruise thy [the serpent’s] head.”

## Satan is not Deity

It is certainly clear that Satan is not of the nature of deity. Deity is all powerful (Gen. 17:1). Deity cannot be restrained (Job 42:2).

On the contrary, however, the devil is clearly not omnipotent as evidenced by the following:

- *His power to afflict was limited (Job 1:12; 2:6).*
- *When rebuked by the messenger of Jehovah, he had to remain silent (Zech. 3:2).*
- *His authority over world kingdoms was “delivered” to him (Lk.4:6).*
- *He had to ask for the apostles (Lk. 22:31).*
- *He can “snatch” no one from the Lord’s hand (Jn. 10:28).*
- *When resisted, he flees (Jas. 4:7).*
- *When cast into hell he will be powerless to resist (Rev. 20:10).*

Moreover, Scripture plainly affirms that He that is in us (i.e., God) is greater than he (i.e., Satan) that is in the world. (1 Jn. 4:4).

So, to sum up: Deity is all powerful. But Satan is not. Thus, he is not of the deity class.

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## Satan was created

“[F]or in him were all things created, in the heavens and upon the earth, things visible and things invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers” (Col. 1:16).

This would include Satan as he originally was. It might be mentioned also at this point that all created things had their origin at some time during the creation week of Genesis 1. This Moses states in Exodus 20:11:

“For in six days Jehovah made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is ....”

This included the great host of angels. Incidentally, the angels:

“must have been created at the very beginning of the first day of creation, for Job 38:6, 7 tells of their singing and of their shout of joy at the creation of the earth” (Whitcomb 1972, 43).

## Michael's war with Satan

In Revelation 12:7-9 John sees a vision of war in heaven between Michael and his angels and the devil and his angels, the result being that Satan was cast down to earth (this will happen in the middle of the 7 years tribulation).

## Satan's Mission

The devil's self-appointed mission, very simply stated, is to destroy the human race in hell. It is little wonder he has been denominated by inspiration as the “Destroyer” (Rev. 9:11).

He attempted the ruin of humanity by the temptation of Christ (Mt. 4:1-11), and the seduction of His holy apostles (Lk. 22:31).

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