Romans 1 -16 NASB
Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas
The Gospel Exalted
1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

2 which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,

3 concerning His Son, who birth placed Him in the genealogy of David according to the flesh,

4 who the Father had declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,

5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake,

6 among whom you also have received the calling of Jesus Christ;

7 to all who have become the beloved of God in Rome, called as saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because people proclaim your faith throughout the whole world.

9 For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son, witnesses as to how unceasingly I make mention of you,

10 always in my prayers making request, if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you.

11 For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may become established;

12 namely, that I may receive encouragement together with you while among you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine.

13 I do not want you to remain ignorant, brethren, that often I have planned to come to you (but something has prevented me so far) so that I may obtain some fruit among you also, even as among the rest of the Gentiles.

14 I feel under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

15 So, for my part, I eagerly reach the gospel to you also who live in Rome.

16 For I do not feel ashamed of the gospel, for it brings the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

17 For in it the righteousness of God has become revealed from faith to faith; as the scriptures declare, " BUT THE RIGHTTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."
Unbelief and Its Consequences

18 For the wrath of God has emanated from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,
19 because that people know about God they see within them; for God made it evident to them.
20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, people have clearly seen, understanding through what God has made, so that they have no excuse.
21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart darkened.
22 Professing to have wisdom, they became fools,
23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.
24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would suffer dishonor among them.
25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who we blessed forever. Amen.
26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which we deem unnatural,
27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.
28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which we do not consider proper,
29 filled themselves with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they gossip,
30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,
31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;
32 and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things make themselves worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

Romans 2 NASB E-Prime DFM
The Impartiality of God

1 Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

2 And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things.

3 But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God?

4 Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

5 But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you have stored up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,

6 who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS:

7 to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life;

8 but to those who act selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation.

9 There will come tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek,

10 but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

11 For God does not show partiality.

12 For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will receive judgment by the Law;

13 for God does not justify the hearers of the Law, but justifies the doers of the Law.

14 For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, act lawfully by themselves,

15 in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,

16 on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

The Jew Condemns himself by the Law

17 But if you bear the name "Jew" and rely upon the Law and boast in God,
and know His will and approve the essential things, receiving instructions out of the Law,

and have confidence that you yourself can guide the blind, a light to those who dwell in darkness,

a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth,

you, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one shall not steal, do you steal?

You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?

You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God?

For "THE NAME OF GOD HAS BECOME BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU," just as the scriptures read.

For indeed circumcision has value if you practice the Law; but if you transgress the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision.

So if the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision become equivalent to circumcision?

And he who has not undergone physical uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision a transgressor of the Law?

For he cannot claim Jewishness who has the outward characteristics, nor does outward fleshly circumcision qualify him.

But he can call himself a Jew who behaves lawfully inwardly; and has received circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise does not come from men, but from God.

Romans 3 NASB  E-Prime DFM

All the World Guilty

Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what benefit does circumcision have?

Great in every respect. First of all, that God entrusted them with His oracles.
3 What then? If some did not believe, their unbelief will not nullify the faithfulness of God, will it?

4 May it never happen! Rather, let us find God true, though every man lie, as the scripture reads,
   " THAT YOU MAY FIND JUSTIFICATION IN YOUR WORDS, AND PREVAIL WHEN YOU RECEIVE JUDGMENT."

5 But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? The God who inflicts wrath does not act unrighteously, does He? (I speak in human terms.)

6 May it never happen! For otherwise, how will God judge the world?

7 But if through my lie the truth of God abounded to His glory, why has God judged me as a sinner?

8 And why not say (as some have slanderously reported of us and as some claim that we say), " Let us do evil that good may come"? They deserve their condemnation.

9 What then? Do we have more value than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks have placed themselves all under sin;

10 as the scriptures read,
   " THERE EXISTS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;

11 NO ONE UNDERSTANDS, NO ONE SEeks FOR GOD;

12 ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; NO ONE DOES GOOD, NOT EVEN ONE."

13" THEIR THROAT RESMBLES AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING,"  
" THE POISON OF ASPS RESIDES UNDER THEIR LIPS";

14" WHOSE MOUTH FILLS WITH CURSING AND BITTERNESS";

15" THEIR FEET SWIFTLY SHED BLOOD,

16 DESTRUCTION AND MISERY LURK IN THEIR PATHS,

17 AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN."

18" NO FEAR OF GOD EXISTS BEFORE THEIR EYES."

19 Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who live under the Law, so that every mouth may close and all the world may become accountable to God;

20 because by the works of the Law no flesh will receive justification in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

Justification by Faith
21But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has manifested, witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,
22even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there no distinction exists;
23for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
24receiving justification as a gift by His grace through the redemption which we find in Christ Jesus;
25whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith This demonstrated His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;
26for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would act justly just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.
27Where can we boast? We exclude it By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.
28For we maintain that a man receives justification by faith apart from works of the Law.
29Or do we consider God the God of Jews only? Do we not consider Him the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also,
30since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith we recognize as the same God.

Romans 4 NASB E-Prime DFM
Justification by Faith Evidenced in Old Testament
1What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found?
2For if Abraham received justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.
3For what does the Scripture say? " ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND GOD CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."
4Now to the one who works, his wage does not credit as a favor, but as something due.
5But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credits as righteousness,
6just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:
7"GOD BLESSES THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HE HAS FORGIVEN, AND WHOSE SINS HE HAS COVERED.
8"GOD BLESSES THE MAN WHOSE SIN HE WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT."
9Does God bless then on the circumcised, or on the uncircumcised also? For we say, "FAITH ACCRUED TO ABRAHAM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."
10How then did God credit it? While he had undergone circumcised, or while he remained uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised;
11and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, so that he might designated as the father of all who believe without having undergone circumcision, that righteousness might be credited to them,
12and the father of circumcision to those who not only have received circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.
13For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would become heir of the world did not attain it through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith.
14For if those who consider themselves of the Law become heirs, faith becomes void and the promise remains nullified;
15for the Law brings about wrath, but where no law exists, no violation exists.
16For this reason it comes by faith, in order that it may accord with grace, so that God will guarantee to all the descendants, not only to those who rely on the Law, but also to those who rely on the faith of Abraham, who we designate as the father of us all,
17(as the scriptures read, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence that which does not exist.
18In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had received reputation, "SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS NUMBER THEMSELVES."
19Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he had become about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb;
yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but
grew strong in faith, giving glory to God,
and receiving full assurance that what God had promised, He could also
perform.
Therefore GOD ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.
Now not for his sake only did the scriptures say that God credited it to
him,
but for our sake also, to whom it will accrue, as those who believe in Him
who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,
He who our transgressions delivered over, and God raised because He
justified us.

Romans 5 NASB E-Prime DFM
Results of Justification
1 Therefore, having received justification by faith, we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this
grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.
And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that
tribulation brings about perseverance;
and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;
and hope does not disappoint, because the God has poured out His love
within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who He gave us.
For while we still felt helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good
man someone would dare even to die.
But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we still lived
as sinners, Christ died for us.
Much more then, having now received justification by His blood, we shall
receive salvation from the wrath of God through Him.
For if while we acted as God’s enemies we received reconciliation with God
through the death of His Son, much more, having received reconciliation,
we shall receive salvation by His life.
11 And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

13 for until the Law sin existed in the world, but we did not impute sin when no law existed.

14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who serves as a type of Him who would come later.

15 But the free gift does not resemble the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

16 The gift does not resemble that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification.

17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many became made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will become righteous.

20 The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

21 so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Romans 6 NASB E-Prime DFM
Believers Die to Sin, Become Alive to God

1What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may increase?
2May it never happen! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?
3Or do you not know that all of us who have received baptism into Christ Jesus have received baptism into His death?
4Therefore we have received burial with Him through baptism into death, so that as God raised Christ from the dead through His glory, so we too might walk in newness of life.
5For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also join him in the likeness of His resurrection,
6knowing this, that our old self suffered crucifixion with Him, in order that our body of sin might expire, so that we would no longer enslave ourselves to sin;
7for he who has died has freed himself from sin.
8Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,
9knowing that Christ, having resurrected from the dead, will never die again; death no longer will rule over Him.
10For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.
11Even so consider yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.
12Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,
13and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.
14For sin shall not have rule over you, for you do not feel under law but under grace.
15What then? Shall we sin because we do not feel a threat from the law but under grace? May it never happen!
Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you enslave yourselves to the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?

But we thank God that though you had enslaved yourselves to sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you committed yourselves,

and having found yourselves freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.

For when you enslaved yourselves sin, you became liberated in regard to righteousness.

Therefore what benefit did you attain derive from the things of which you now feel shame? For the outcome of those things constitutes death.

But now having received liberation from sin and enslavement to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

For the wages of sin equates to death, but God gives us eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord as a free gift.

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Romans 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Believers United to Christ

1 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has jurisdiction over a person as long as he lives?

2 For the married woman has bound herself by law to her husband while he lives; but if her husband dies, she will become released from the law concerning the husband.
3 So then, if while her husband lives she joins herself to another man, people will call her an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she has freedom from the law, so that people will not call her an adulteress though she joins herself to another man.

4 Therefore, my brethren, you also died to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might join yourself to another, to Him who God raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God.

5 For while we lived in the flesh, the sinful passions, which became aroused by the Law, went to work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death.

6 But now we have received liberation from the Law, having died to that by which we felt bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

7 What shall we say then? Does the Law equate to sin? May it never happen! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, "YOU SHALL NOT COVET."

8 But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin dies.

9 I felt once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died;

10 and this commandment, which God intended to result in life, proved to result in death for me;

11 for sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me.

12 So then, the Law has holiness, and the commandment has holiness and righteousness and goodness.

13 Therefore did that which we considered good become a cause of death for me? May it never happen! Rather sin, in order that it might reveal itself as sin by effecting my death through that which we considered good, so that through the commandment sin would become utterly sinful.

**The Conflict of Two Natures**

14 For we know that the Law has spiritual characteristics, but I consist of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.

15 For what I do, I do not understand; for I do not practice what I would like to do, but I do the very thing I hate.

16 But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law has inherent goodness.

17 So now, no longer do I do it, but sin which dwells in me.
18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, namely, in my flesh; for the willing takes place in me, but the doing of the good does not.
19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.
20 But if I do the very thing I do not want, I no longer do it, but sin which dwells in me.
21 I find then the principle that evil dwells in me, the one who wants to do good.
22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man,
23 but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which dwells in my members.
24 Wretched man that I feel myself to have become! Who will set me free from the body of this death?
25 We thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind serve the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

Romans 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

Deliverance from Bondage

1 Therefore there exists now no condemnation for those who dwell in Christ Jesus.
2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.
3 For what the Law could not do, weak as it seemed through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,
4 so that the requirement of the Law might receive fulfillment in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.
6 For the mind set on the flesh leads to death, but the mind set on the Spirit leads to life and peace,
7 because the mind set on the flesh shows hostility toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it cannot even do so,
8 and those who live in the flesh cannot please God.
9 However, you do not dwell in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.
10 If Christ dwells in you, though the body dies because of sin, yet the spirit lives because of righteousness.
11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit which dwells in you.
12 So then, brethren, we have obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh--
13 for if you live according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.
14 For all who allow the Spirit of God to lead them constitute the real sons of God.
15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"
16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that God considers us His children,
17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also receive glorification with Him.
18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time do not compare with the glory that will take place in us.
19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.
20 For the creation suffered subjection to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope
21 that the creation itself also will have liberation from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.
22 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.
23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.
24 For in hope we have received salvation, but hope that we see does not have hope; for who hopes for what he already sees?
25 But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

Our Victory in Christ

26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;

27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit desires, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who have received a calling according to His purpose.

29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would become the firstborn among many brethren;

30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God supports us, who can oppose us?

32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God alone justifies;

34 who condemns? Christ Jesus died, yes, rather who became raised, who dwells at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 Just as the scripture reads,

" FOR YOUR SAKE WE SUFFER DEATH ALL DAY LONG; GOD CONSIDERED US AS SHEEP AWAITING SLAUGHTER."

37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

38 For I feel convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will have the capability of separating us from the love of God, which dwells in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 9
NASB-E Prime DFM

Solicitude for Israel

1 I tell the truth in Christ, I do not lie, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit,

2 that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart.

3 For I could wish that I myself received a curse, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh,

4 who have the lineage of Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the temple service and the promises,

5 whose family produce the fathers, and from whom comes the Christ according to the flesh, who rules over all, God (P) blessed forever. Amen.

6 But it does not seem as though the word of God has failed For they do not constitute all Israel who descend from Israel;

7 nor can they all claim family membership because they descend from Abraham, but: "THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL HAVE DESIGNATION."

8 Namely, it does not depend on fleshly lineage who can claim the title children of God, but the children of the promise can rightfully claim membership in the family.

9 For this constitutes the word of promise: "AT THIS TIME I WILL COME, AND SARAH SHALL HAVE A SON."

10 And not only this, but Rebekah also, when she had conceived twins by one man, our father Isaac;

11 for though the twins had not yet become born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls,

12 God said to her, "THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER."

13 Just as the scriptures read, "JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED."

14 What shall we say then? There exists no injustice with God, does it? May it never happen!

15 For He says to Moses, "I WILL HAVE MERCY ON WHOM I HAVE MERCY, AND I WILL HAVE COMPASSION ON WHOM I HAVE COMPASSION."

16 So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy.

17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "FOR THIS VERY PURPOSE I RAISED YOU UP, TO DEMONSTRATE MY POWER IN YOU, AND THAT PEOPLE MIGHT PROCLAIM MY NAME THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE EARTH."
18 So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires.

19 You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who resists His will?"

20 On the contrary, who do you presume, O man, who answers back to God? The thing molded will not say to the molder, "Why did you make me like this," will it?

21 Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use?

22 What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction?

23 And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,

24 even us, whom He also called, not from among Jews only, but also from among Gentiles.

25 As He says also in Hosea,

" I WILL CALL THOSE WHO I DID NOT CALL MY PEOPLE, 'MY PEOPLE,' AND HER WHO I HAD NOT LOVED, 'BELOVED.'"

26" AND IT SHALL HAPPEN THAT IN THE PLACE WHERE THE SCRIPTURES SAID TO THEM, 'I DO NOT CALL YOU MY PEOPLE,' THERE I SHALL CALL THEM SONS OF THE LIVING GOD."

27 Isaiah cries out concerning Israel, "THOUGH THE NUMBER OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL AUGMENT LIKE THE SAND OF THE SEA, ONLY THE REMNANT WILL RECEIVE SALVATION;

28 FOR THE LORD WILL EXECUTE HIS WORD ON THE EARTH, THOROUGHLY AND QUICKLY."

29 And just as Isaiah foretold,

" UNLESS THE LORD OF SABAOTH HAD LEFT TO US A POSTERITY, WE WOULD HAVE BECOME LIKE Sodom, AND WOULD HAVE RESEMBLED GOMORRAH."

30 What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness, even the righteousness which comes by faith;

31 but Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at that law.

32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it came by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone,

33 just as the scriptures read,

" BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE,
AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT SUFFER DISAPPOINTMENT."

Romans 10  
NASB E-Prime DFM  
The Word of Faith Brings Salvation  
1Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them I offer for their salvation.  
2For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.  
3For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.  
4For Christ serves as the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.  
5For Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which has its foundation in the law shall live by that righteousness.  
6But the righteousness based on faith speaks as follows: "DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, 'WHO WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN?' (namely, to bring Christ down),  
7or 'WHO WILL DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS?' (namely, to bring Christ up from the dead)."

8But what does it say? "THE WORD DWELLS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART"—in other words, the word of faith which we preach,  
9that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will receive salvation;  
10for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.  
11For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT HAVE DISAPPOINTMENT."  
12For no distinction exists between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord we know as Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him;  
13for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL RECEIVE SALVATION."
14 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?

15 How will they preach unless someone sends them? Just as the scripture reads, "HOW BEAUTIFUL APPEAR THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"

16 However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?"

17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

18 But I say, surely they have never heard, have they? Indeed they have; "THEIR VOICE HAS GONE OUT INTO ALL THE EARTH, AND THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD."

19 But I say, surely Israel did not know, did they? First Moses says, "I WILL MAKE YOU JEALOUS BY THAT WHICH DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A NATION, BY A NATION WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WILL I ANGER YOU."

20 And Isaiah became very bold and says, "PEOPLE WHO DID NOT SEEK ME FOUND ME, I BECAME MANIFEST TO THOSE WHO DID NOT ASK FOR ME."

21 But as for Israel He says, "ALL THE DAY LONG I HAVE STRETCHED OUT MY HANDS TO A DISOBEDIENT AND OBSTINATE PEOPLE."

Romans 11
NASB E-Prime DFM
God did not cast Israel Away
I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never happen! For I too come from Israelite stock, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew Or do you not know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?

"Lord, THEY HAVE KILLED YOUR PROPHETS, THEY HAVE TORN DOWN YOUR ALTARS, AND I FEEL ALONE, AND THEY SEEK MY LIFE."

But what does God respond to him? "I HAVE KEPT for Myself SEVEN THOUSAND MEN WHO HAVE NOT BOWED THE KNEE TO BAAL."

In the same way then, there has also come into existence at the present time a remnant according to God's gracious choice.

But if it comes by grace, it can no longer come into existence on the basis of works, otherwise grace does not exist.

What then? What Israel seeks, it has not obtained, but those who God has chosen obtained it, and the rest became hardened;

just as the scriptures read,

"GOD GAVE THEM A SPIRIT OF STUPOR,
EYES TO SEE NOT AND EARS TO HEAR NOT,
DOWN TO THIS VERY DAY."

And David says,

"LET THEIR TABLE BECOME A SNARE AND A TRAP,
AND A STUMBLING BLOCK AND A RETRIBUTION TO THEM.
"LET THEIR EYES BECOME DARKENED TO SEE NOT,
AND BEND THEIR BACKS FOREVER."

I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never happen! But by their transgression salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous.

Now if their transgression leads to riches for the world and their failure leads to riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment lead to!

But I speak to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I serve as an apostle of Gentiles, I magnify my ministry,

if somehow I might move to jealousy my fellow countrymen and save some of them.

For if their rejection leads to the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance produce but life from the dead?

If God made the first piece of dough holy, He made the lump also; and if the root has holiness, the branches have holiness too.
17 But if God broke some of the branches off, and God grafted you, a wild olive, in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree,

18 do not show arrogance toward the branches; but if you show arrogance, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.

19 You will say then, "God broke the branches off so that He might graft me in."

20 Quite right, God broke them off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith Do not have conceit, but fear;

21 for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either.

22 Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, if you continue in His kindness; otherwise He will cut you off.

23 And they also, if they do not continue in their unbelief, God will graft them in, for God has the ability to graft them in again.

24 For if God cut you from what by nature constitutes a wild olive tree, and grafted you contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will God have the capability of grafting the natural branches into their own olive tree?

25 For I do not want you, brethren, to not know of this mystery--so that you will not seem wise in your own estimation--that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

26 and so all Israel will receive salvation; just as the scriptures read,

" THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION,
HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB."

"I WILL MAKE MY COVENANT WITH THEM,
WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS."

27 From the standpoint of the gospel they have become enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of God's choice He loves them for the sake of the fathers;

28 for the gifts and the calling of God do not cease.

29 For just as you once disobeyed God, now God shows them mercy because of their disobedience,

30 so these also now have disobeyed, that because of the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy.

31 For God has shut up all in disobedience so that He may show mercy to all.

32 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable we find His judgments and unfathomable His ways!
34 For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR?

35 Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT THEY MIGHT PAY IT BACK TO HIM AGAIN?

36 For from Him and through Him and to Him exist all things To Him belong the glory forever. Amen.

Romans 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Dedicated Service

1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which constitutes your spiritual service of worship.

2 And do not conform to this world, but become transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove the will of God, that which proves good and acceptable and perfect.

3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

4 For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function,

5 so we, who appear many, comprise one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

6 Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us should exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;

7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching;

8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

9 Let love occur without hypocrisy Abhor evil; cling to good.
10 Show devotion to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;
11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;
12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,
13 contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.
14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.
15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.
16 Have the same mind toward one another; do not exercise haughtiness in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not consider yourself wise in your own estimation.
17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect right in the sight of all men.
18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, remain at peace with all men.
19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for the scriptures read, "VENGEANCE BELONGS TO ME, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.
20 "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY HUNGER, FEED HIM, AND IF HE THIRSTS, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD."
21 Do not let evil overcome you, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 13
NASB E-Prime DFM
Subject yourself to Government
1 Every person should subject himself to the governing authorities. For no authority exists except from God, and those which exist God establishes.
2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.
3 For rulers do not cause fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do good and you will have praise from the same;
4 for the authority serves as a minister of God to you for good. But if you do evil, have fear; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for he serves as a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.
Therefore you should subject yourselves, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.

For because of this you also pay taxes, for rulers serve God, devoting themselves to this very thing.

Render to all what you owe them: tax to whom you owe taxes; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if any other commandment exists, we sum it up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love fulfills the law.

Do this, knowing the time has come, namely the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation has come nearer to us than when we believed.

The night has almost gone, and the day approaches Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

**Romans 14**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**Principles of Conscience**

1 Now accept the one who shows weakness in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions.

2 One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who has weakness eats vegetables only.
The one who eats should not regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat should not judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him.

Why should you presume to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord can make him stand.

One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Each person must convince himself in his own mind.

He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God.

For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; therefore whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might become Lord both of the dead and of the living.

But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

For the scriptures read, "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD."

So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this-- not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

I know and have conviction in the Lord Jesus that nothing has uncleanness in itself; but to him who thinks anything unclean, to him it has become unclean.

For if because of food you hurt your brother, you no longer walk according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.

Therefore do not let what you consider a good thing gain the reputation as evil;

for the kingdom of God does not consist of eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

For he who in this way serves Christ has made himself acceptable to God and approved by men.

So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.
Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed have become clean, but they become evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

It shows good sense not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.

The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy dwells he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.

But he who doubts condemns himself if he eats, because his eating does not come from faith; and whatever does not come from faith leads to sin.

Romans 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

Self-denial on Behalf of Others

1 Now we who have strength ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves.

2 Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to his edification.

3 For even Christ did not please Himself; but as the scriptures read, "THE REPROACHES OF THOSE WHO REPROACHED YOU FELL ON ME."

4 For whatever scripture said in earlier times we received for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

5 Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to have the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus,

6 so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.

8 For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises given to the fathers,
and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as the scriptures read,
" THEREFORE I WILL GIVE PRAISE TO YOU AMONG THE GENTILES,
AND I WILL SING TO YOUR NAME."

Again he says,
" REJOICE, O GENTILES, WITH HIS PEOPLE."

And again,
" PRAISE THE LORD ALL YOU GENTILES,
AND LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE HIM."

Again Isaiah says,
" THERE SHALL COME THE ROOT OF JESSE,
AND HE WHO ARISES TO RULE OVER THE GENTILES,
IN HIM SHALL THE GENTILES HOPE."

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so
that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also feel convinced that you
yourselves abound in goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to
admonish one another.

But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you
again, because of the grace that God gave me,
to serve as a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a
priest the gospel of God, so that my offering of the Gentiles may become
acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things
pertaining to God.

For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has
accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word
and deed,
in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from
Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have fully preached the
gospel of Christ.

And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where they already named
Christ, so that I would not build on another man's foundation;
but as the scriptures read,
" THEY WHO HAD NO NEWS OF HIM SHALL SEE,
AND THEY WHO HAVE NOT HEARD SHALL UNDERSTAND."

For this reason God has often prevented me from coming to you;
but now, with no further place for me in these regions, and since I have
had for many years a longing to come to you
whenever I go to Spain--for I hope to see you in passing, and receive help on my way there by you, when I have first enjoyed your company for a while--

but now, I go to Jerusalem serving the saints.

For Macedonia and Achaia have willingly made a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.

Yes, they took pleasure in doing so, and they owe a debt to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they owe a debt to minister to them also in material things.

Therefore, when I have finished this, and have put my seal on this fruit of theirs, I will go on by way of you to Spain.

I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,

that I may receive rescue from those who act disobediently in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints;

so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and find refreshing rest in your company.

Now the God of peace remain with you all. Amen.

Romans 16
NASB E-Prime DFM
Greetings and Love Expressed

1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who serves the church at Cenchrea;
2 that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also helped many, and of myself as well.
3 Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,
4 who for my life risked their own necks, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles;
5 also greet the church that meet in their house Greet Epaenetus, my beloved, who came in the first convert to Christ from Asia.
6 Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you.
7 Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners, who have outstanding reputation among the apostles, who also dwelt in Christ before me.

8 Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord.

9 Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys my beloved.

10 Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ. Greet those who meet in the household of Aristobulus.

11 Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet those of the household of Narcissus, who dwell in the Lord.

12 Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, workers in the Lord. Greet Persis the beloved, who has worked hard in the Lord.

13 Greet Rufus, a choice man in the Lord, also his mother and mine.

14 Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the brethren with them.

15 Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who meet with them.

16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

17 Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them.

18 For such men enslave themselves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.

19 For the report of your obedience has reached to all; therefore I rejoice over you, but I want you to have wisdom to do good and innocent in committing evil.

20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet The grace of our Lord Jesus remain with you.

21 Timothy my fellow worker greets you, and so do Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen.

22 I, Tertius, who write this letter, greet you in the Lord.

23 Gaius, host to me and to the whole church, greets you Erastus, the city treasurer greets you, and Quartus, the brother.

24 [ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ dwell with you all. Amen.]

25 Now to Him who can establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has stayed a secret for long ages past,
26 but now becomes manifest, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has become known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith;
27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, belong the glory forever. Amen.
9 God remains faithful, through whom you received calling into fellowship
with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

10 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that
you all agree and that you should have no divisions among you, but that
you may reach consensus in the same mind and in the same judgment.

11 For I have received information concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's
people, that quarrels erupted among you.

12 Now I mean this, that each one of you say, "I belong to Paul," and "I
belong to Apollos," and "I belong to Cephas," and "I of Christ."

13 Has Christ become divided? Paul did not submit to crucifixion for you, did
he? Or did someone baptize you in the name of Paul?

14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,
so that no one would say you received baptism in my name.

15 Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not
know whether I baptized any other.

16 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in
cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not become void.

The Wisdom of God

18 For the word of the cross seems foolishness to those who perish, but to
us who receive salvation, we recognize it as the power of God.

19 For the scriptures state;
"I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE,
AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE."

20 Where do we find the wise man? Where do we find the scribe? Where do
we find the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the
world?

21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come
to know God, God expressed pleasure through the foolishness of the
message preached to save those who believe.

22 For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom;

23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles
foolishness,

24 but to those who have received the calling, both Jews and Greeks, Christ
the power of God and the wisdom of God.

25 Because the foolishness of God proves wiser than men, and the weakness
of God proves stronger than men.

26 For consider your calling, brethren, that God did not call many wise
according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble;
27 but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which seem strong,

28 and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that do not amount to much, so that He may nullify the things that seem to amount to much,

29 so that no man may boast before God.

30 But by His doing you dwell in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

31 so that, just as the scriptures state, "LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD."

1 Corinthians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Reliance upon the Spirit

1 And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God.

2 For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

3 I stayed with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling,

4 and my message and my preaching did not come in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

5 so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

6 Yet we do speak wisdom among those who have matured; a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who pass away;

7 but we speak God’s wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory;

8 the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;

9 but just as the scriptures stated,

"THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,
AND which HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN,
ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."
For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which resides in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which comes from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they appear foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because one can only spiritually appraise them.

But he who has spiritual resources appraises all things, yet no one can appraise him.

For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 3
NASB E-Prime DFM

Foundations for Living

1And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ.

2I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you could not yet receive it. Indeed, even now you don’t seem able to consume it,

3for you still find yourself with fleshly drives. For since jealousy and strife exist among don’t you still have flesh, and do you not walk like mere men?
For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," do you aspire to more than mortal humanity?

What then does Apollos represent? And what does Paul represent? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one.

I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused the growth.

So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters consists of anything, but God causes the growth.

Now he who plants and he who waters show a unity of purpose; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

For we serve as God's fellow workers; you represent God's field, God's building.

According to the grace of God which He gave to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another built on it. But each man must show care how he builds on it.

For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which God laid, namely Jesus Christ.

Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because will become revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.

If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.

If any man's work burns up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will receive salvation, yet so as through fire.

Do you not know that you represent a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God has holiness, you have holiness too.

Let no man deceive himself If any man among you thinks himself wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise.

For the wisdom of this world proves foolishness before God For the scriptures state, "HE CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS";

and again, " THE LORD KNOWS THE REASONINGS of the wise, THAT THEY PROVE USELESS."

So then let no one boast in men For all things belong to you,
whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you,
and you belong to Christ; and Christ belongs to God.

1 Corinthians 4
NASB E-Prime DFM
Servants of Christ
1 Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.
2 In this case, moreover, we require of stewards that one should prove trustworthy.
3 But to me it seems a very small thing that you may examine me, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself.
4 For I have not had consciousness of nothing against myself, yet I have not become acquitted by this; but Lord alone examines me.
5 Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes, Who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.
6 Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us you may learn not to exceed what the scripture states, so that no one of you will become arrogant in behalf of one against the other.
7 For who regards you as superior? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?
8 You have already become filled, you have already become rich, you have become kings without us; and indeed, I wish that you had become kings so that we also might reign with you.
9 For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.
10 We have become fools for Christ's sake, but you show prudence in Christ; we seem weak, but you seem strong; you seem distinguished, but we seem without honor.
11 To this present hour we have become both hungry and thirsty, and look poorly clothed, and receive rough treatment, and have no homes;
and we toil, working with our own hands; when we receive revilement, we bless; when we receive persecution, we endure;

when we suffer slander, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, even until now.

I do not write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children.

For if you would have countless tutors in Christ, yet you would not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

Therefore I exhort you, imitate me.

For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who has become my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, and he will remind you of my ways which dwell in Christ, just as I teach everywhere in every church.

Now some have become arrogant, as though I did not come to you.

But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who arrogantly use their power.

For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power.

What do you desire? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?

1 Corinthians 5
NASB E-Prime DFM

Immorality Rebuked

It We have actually heard reports that immorality exists among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed you would remove him from your midst.

For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I had come in your midst.

In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you assemble, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus,

I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may receive salvation in the day of the Lord Jesus.
Your boasting does not seem good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough?

Clean out the old leaven so that you may become a new lump, just as you have in fact become unleavened. For Christ our Passover also suffered sacrifice.

Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;

I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world.

But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he proves an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a one.

For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who remain within the church?

But those who remain outside, God judges. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES.

1 Corinthians 6
NASB E-Prime DFM
Lawsuits Discouraged

Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous and not before the saints?

Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If you will judge the world, do you not feel competent to constitute the smallest law courts?
3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more matters of this life?
4 So if you have law courts dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as judges who have no respect in the church?
5 I say this to your shame Doesn’t any of you have the wisdom to decide between his brethren,
6 but brother goes to law with brother, and that before unbelievers?
7 Actually, then, you already suffer defeat , that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather allow yourself to become wronged? Why not rather allow yourselves to become defrauded?
8 On the contrary, you yourselves wrong and defraud. You do this even to your brethren.
9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not deceive yourselves; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,
10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.
11 Some of you used to have this description; but you became washed, but you became sanctified, but you received justification in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

The Body Belongs to the Lord

12 All things prove lawful for me, but not all things profit. All things prove lawful for me, but I will not become mastered by anything.
13 Food belongs to the stomach and the stomach craves food, but God will do away with both of them Yet the body you should not use for immorality, but for the Lord, and the body belongs to the Lord.
14 Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.
15 Do you not know that your bodies belong to the body of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never happen!
16 Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For He says, " THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."
17 But the one who joins himself to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him.
18 Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits he commits outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.
19 Or do you not know that your body you regard as a temple of the Holy Spirit which dwells in you, whom you have from God, and that you do not belong to yourself?

20 For God bought you with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 7
NASB E-Prime DFM
Teaching on Marriage
1 Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it proves wise for a man not to touch a woman.

2 But because of immoralities, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband.

3 The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

4 The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

5 Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

6 But this I say by way of concession, not of command.

7 Yet I wish that all men could live as I do However, each man has his own gift from God, one in this manner, and another in that.

8 But I say to the unmarried and to widows that they should remain even as I.

9 But if they do not have self-control, let them marry; for it shows better sense to marry than to burn with passion.

10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else become reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

12 But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.

13 And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away.
14For the unbelieving husband receives sanctification through his wife, and
the unbelieving wife receives sanctification through her believing husband;
for otherwise people would consider your children unclean, but now people
regard them as holy.
15Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister
has not placed themselves under bondage in such cases, but God has called
us to peace.
16For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or
how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?
17Only, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each, in this
manner let him walk And so I direct in all the churches.
18Did any man receive a calling when he had already undergone
circumcision? He should not try to become uncircumcised. Has anyone
receives calling in uncircumcision? He does not have to become circumcised.
19Circumcision equates to nothing, and uncircumcision equates to nothing,
but what matters consists of the keeping of the commandments of God.
20Each man must remain in that condition in which he received his calling.
21Did you receive your calling while a slave? Do not worry about it; but if
you can become free, rather do that.
22For he who the Lord called when he still served as a slave, becomes the
Lord's freedman; likewise he who received his calling as a free person
becomes Christ's slave.
23God bought you with a price; do not become slaves of men.
24Brethren, each one should remain with God in that condition in which he
received his calling.
25Now concerning virgins I have no command of the Lord, but I give an
opinion as one who by the mercy of the Lord proves trustworthy.
26I think then that this seems good in view of the present distress, that it
seems good for a man to remain as he finds himself now.
27Have you bound yourself to a wife? Do not seek release. Have you
released yourself from a wife? Do not seek a wife.
28But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not
sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I have tried to spare you.
29But this I say, brethren, the time has shortened, so that from now on
those who have wives should live as though they had none;
30and those who weep, as though they did not weep; and those who rejoice,
as though they did not rejoice; and those who buy, as though they did not possess;
and those who use the world, as though they did not make full use of it; for the form of this world passes away.

But I want you to have freedom from concern. One who remains unmarried has the opportunity to concern himself about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord;

but one who marries concerns himself about the things of the world, how he may please his wife,

and his interests become divided. The woman who has not yet married, and the virgin, concerns herself about the things of the Lord, that she may demonstrate holiness both in body and spirit; but one who has married concerns herself about the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what we consider appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.

But if any man thinks that he acts unbecomingly toward his virgin daughter, if she has passed her youth, and if it must take place so, let him do what he wishes, he does not sin; let her marry.

But he who stands firm in his heart, feeling no constraint, but has authority over his own will, and has decided this in his own heart, to keep his own virgin daughter, he will do well.

So then both he who gives his own virgin daughter in marriage does well, and he who does not give her in marriage will do better.

A wife has bound herself as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she has the freedom to marry whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

But in my opinion she remains happier if she remains single; and I think that I also have the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

Take Care with Your Liberty

Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies.

If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know;

but if anyone loves God, God knows him.
4Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that we don’t recognize any such thing as an idol in the world, and that we have only one God.

5For even if people have so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed people have many gods and many lords,

6yet for us we have but one God, the Father, from whom come all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom come all things, and we exist through Him.

7However not all men have this knowledge; but some, having become accustomed to the idol until now, eat food as if we had sacrificed to an idol; and their weak conscience being becomes defiled.

8But food will not commend us to God; we do not make ourselves neither the worse if we do not eat, nor the better if we do eat.

9But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

10For if someone sees you, who have knowledge, dining in an idol’s temple, will not his conscience, if he has weakness, have the boldness to eat things sacrificed to idols?

11For through your knowledge he who has a weakness becomes ruined, the brother for whose sake Christ died.

12And so, by sinning against the brethren and wounding their conscience when it has weakness, you sin against Christ.

13Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause my brother to stumble.

1 Corinthians 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul’s Use of Liberty

1Do I not have freedom? Do I not serve as an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Do you not represent my work in the Lord?

2If others do not regard me as an apostle, at least I you do; for you represent the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

3My defense to those who examine me consists of this:

4Do we not have a right to eat and drink?

5Do we not have a right to take along a believing wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?
6 Or do only Barnabas and I not have a right to refrain from working?
7 Who at any time serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat the fruit of it? Or who tends a flock and does not use the milk of the flock?
8 I do not speak these things according to human judgment, do I? Or does not the Law also say these things?
9 For the scriptures read in the Law of Moses, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE THRESHES" God does not concern Himself about oxen, does He?
10 Or does He speak altogether for our sake? Yes, for our sake it appeared in scripture, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher to thresh in hope of sharing the crops.
11 If we sowed spiritual things in you, does it seem too much if we reap material things from you?
12 If others share the right over you, do we not more? Nevertheless, we did not use this right, but we endure all things so that we will cause no hindrance to the gospel of Christ.
13 Do you not know that those who perform sacred services eat the food of the temple, and those who attend regularly to the altar have their share from the altar?
14 So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.
15 But I have used none of these things And I do not write these things so that it happen in my case; for I would rather die than have any man make my boast an empty one.
16 For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I feel under compulsion; for woe to me if I do not preach the gospel.
17 For if I do this voluntarily, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have a stewardship entrusted to me.
18 What then constitutes my reward? That, when I preach the gospel, I may offer the gospel without charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.
19 For though I have freedom from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more.
20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not considering myself under the Law, so that I might win those who live under the Law;
21 to those who live without law, as without law, though not living without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who don’t have law.

22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.

23 I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.

24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.

25 Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

26 Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air;

27 but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not receive disqualification.

1 Corinthians 10
NASB E-Prime DFM

Avoid Israel's Mistakes

1 For I do not want you to have ignorance, brethren, that our fathers all passed under the cloud and all passed through the sea;

2 and all received baptism into Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

3 and all ate the same spiritual food;

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock we have identified as Christ.

5 Nevertheless, with most of them God did not feel pleased; for they met their demise in the wilderness.
Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved.

Do not become idolaters, as some of them practiced; as the scriptures say, "THE PEOPLE SAT DOWN TO EAT AND DRINK, AND STOOD UP TO PLAY."

Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day.

Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and suffered destruction by the serpents.

Nor grumble, as some of them did, and suffered destruction by the destroyer.

Now these things happened to them as an example, and they appeared in scripture for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

No temptation has overtaken you but such as we see common to man; and God demonstrates faithfulness, who will not allow you to endure temptation beyond what you can endure, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will have the capability to endure it.

Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

I speak as to wise men; you judge what I say.

Can we not consider it the cup of blessing which we shared in the blood of Christ? Can we not consider the bread which we had broken sharing in the body of Christ?

Since there exists one bread, we who have grown to many become one body; for we all partake of the one bread.

Look at the nation Israel; do not those who eat the sacrifices share in the altar?

What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols amounts to anything, or that an idol amounts to anything?

No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons.

You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? We do not have more strength than He, do we?
All things I deem lawful, but not all things profit. All things I deem as lawful, but not all things edify.

Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor.

Eat anything that you buy in the meat market without asking questions for conscience' sake;

FOR THE EARTH BELONGS TO THE LORD, AND ALL IT CONTAINS.

If one of the unbelievers invites you and you want to go, eat anything that people set before you without asking questions for conscience' sake.

But if anyone says to you, "This meat we sacrificed to idols," do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for conscience' sake;

I mean not your own conscience, but the other man's; for why should my freedom receive judgment by another's conscience?

If I partake with thankfulness, why do people slander me for which I give thanks?

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Give no offense either to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God;

just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit but the profit of the many, so that they may receive salvation.

1 Corinthians 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

Christian Order

1 Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

2 Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.

3 But I want you to understand that Christ serves as the head of every man, and the man serves as the head of a woman, and God serves as the head of Christ.

4 Every man who has something on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head.
5But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she behaves the same as the woman who shaves her head.

6For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it seems disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head.

7For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he reflects the image and glory of God; but the woman reflects the glory of man.

8For man does not derive from woman, but woman from man;

9for indeed man did not become created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake.

10Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

11However, in the Lord, neither does woman make herself independent of man, nor does man make himself independent of woman.

12For as the woman originates from the man, so also the man has his birth through the woman; and all things originate from God.

13Judge for yourselves: does it seem proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered?

14Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it dishonors him,

15but if a woman has long hair, it glorifies her? For her hair serves as her covering.

16But if one feels inclined to act contentiously, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of God.

17But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse.

18For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it.

19For there must also develop factions among you, so that those who God approves may become evident among you.

20Therefore when you meet together, you do not do so to eat the Lord's Supper,

21for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one feels hungry and another gets drunk.

22What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.
The Lord's Supper

23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He suffered betrayal took bread;

24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This represents My body, which I give for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

25 In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup represents the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall have guilt of the body and the blood of the Lord.

28 But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he will eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

29 For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly.

30 For this reason many among you have become weak and sick, and a number sleep.

31 But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not receive judgment.

32 But when we receive judgment, we receive discipline by the Lord so that we will not receive condemnation along with the world.

33 So then, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

34 If anyone hungers, let him eat at home, so that you will not come together for judgment The remaining matters I will arrange when I come.

1 Corinthians 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Use of Spiritual Gifts

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to remain ignorant.

2 You know that when you lived as pagans, they led you to the mute idols, however you became led.

3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus receives a curse"; and no one can say, " I acknowledge Jesus as Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.
Now there exist varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.
And there exist varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.
There exist varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons.
But to each one God gives the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
For to one the Lord gives the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit;
to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,
and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.
But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.
For even as the body consists of one entity and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they have grown to many, constitute one body, so also does Christ.
For by one Spirit we all received baptism into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we all drank of one Spirit.
For the body does not constitute one member, but many.
If the foot says, "Because I cannot function as a hand, I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason become any the less a part of the body.
And if the ear says, "Because I do not function as an eye, I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason consist of any the less a part of the body.
If the whole body functioned as an eye, where would the hearing come from? If the whole consisted of hearing, where would the sense of smell come from?
But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.
If they all consisted of one member, where would the body form?
But now there exist many members, but one body.
And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."
On the contrary, it seems much truer that the members of the body which seem to have weakness have necessity;
and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable,

whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked,

so that there may exist no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member receives honor, all the members rejoice with it.

Now you belong to Christ's body, and individually members of it.

And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.

All do not function as apostles, do they? All do not function as prophets, do they? All do not function as teachers, do they? All do not work miracles, do they?

All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?

But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.

1 Corinthians 13
NASB E-Prime DFM

The Excellence of Love

1If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I
2If I become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I become nothing.
3And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to become burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.
4Love has patience, love has kindness and does not act jealously; love does not brag and does not become arrogant,
does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, does not become provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,

does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails; but if one has gifts of prophecy, they will disappear; if people have tongues, they will cease; if they have knowledge, it will dissipate.

For we know in part and we prophesy in part;

but when the perfect comes, the partial will disappear.

When I lived a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have become fully known.

But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these consists of love.

1 Corinthians 14

Prophecy a Superior Gift

Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries.

But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.

One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church.

Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater proves one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.

But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching?
Yet even lifeless things, either flute or harp, in producing a sound, if they do not produce a distinction in the tones, how will people know what one plays on the flute or on the harp?

For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle?

So also you, unless you utter by the tongue speech that which sounds clear, how will people know what you speak? For you will speak into the air.

There exist, perhaps, a great many kinds of languages in the world, and no kind exists without meaning.

If then I do not know the meaning of the language, I will seem to the one who speaks a barbarian, and the one who speaks will seem a barbarian to me.

So also you, since you desire spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church.

Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind proves unfruitful.

What constitutes the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also.

Otherwise if you bless in the spirit only, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you say?

For you give thanks well enough, but the other person does not receive edification.

I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all;

however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Instruction for the Church

Brethren, do not act like children in your thinking; yet in evil imitate infants, but in your thinking demonstrate maturity.

In the Law it the scripture says, " BY MEN OF STRANGE TONGUES AND BY THE LIPS OF STRANGERS I WILL SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE, AND EVEN SO THEY WILL NOT LISTEN TO ME," says the Lord.

So then tongues serve as a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy serves as a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe.
23 Therefore if the whole church assembles together and all speak in tongues, and un gifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you appear mad?

24 But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an un gifted man enters, he receives conviction by all, he receives a calling to account by all;

25 the secrets of his heart become disclosed; and so he will fall on his face and worship God, declaring that God dwells certainly among you.

26 What happens then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things occur for edification.

27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should occur by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret;

28 but if one can find no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.

29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment.

30 But if one makes a revelation to another who sits, the first one must keep silent.

31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may receive exhortation;

32 and the prophets keep under their under control;

33 for God does not rule in confusion but in peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

34 The women should keep silent in the churches; for they do not have permission to speak, but should subject themselves, just as the Law also says.

35 If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it seems improper for a woman to speak in church.

36 Did it come from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only?

37 If anyone thinks he functions as a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you come from the Lord's commandment.

38 But if anyone does not recognize this, he will not receive recognition.

39 Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues.

40 But all things must occur properly and in an orderly manner.
1 Corinthians 15
NASB E-Prime DFM
The Fact of Christ's Resurrection

1Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,
2by which also you receive salvation, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.
3For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
4and that He became buried, and that God raise Him on the third day according to the Scriptures,
5and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.
6After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;
7then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;
8and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.
9For I consider myself the least of the apostles, and not fit to receive the calling as an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
10But by the grace of God I have turned into what I have turned into, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.
11Whether then it came from me or them, so we preach and so you believed.
12Now if we preach Christ, that He God has raised Him from the dead, how do some among you say that no resurrection of the dead will occur?
13But if we have no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has undergone resurrection;
14and if Christ has not undergone resurrection, then we preached in vain, your faith also has proved vain.
15Moreover people can charge us as false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead will not undergo resurrection.
16For if the dead do not rise, not even Christ has risen;
17and if Christ has not risen, your faith proves worthless; you still remain in your sins.
18Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we of all men should receive pity.

The Order of Resurrection

But now Christ has risen from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ God will make alive.

But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who belong to Christ at His coming,

then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.

For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.

The last enemy that He will abolish we recognize as death.

For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET But when He says, "All things He put in subjection," it has become evident that He remains excepted who put all things in subjection to Him.

When all things become subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will subject Himself to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may become all in all.

Otherwise, what will those do who receive baptism for the dead? If the dead do not rise at all, why then do they baptize for them?

Why do we find ourselves also in danger every hour?

I affirm, brethren, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead do not come to life, LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE.

Do not deceive yourselves: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

Become sober-minded as you ought, and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of God I speak this to your shame.

But someone will say, "How do the dead rise? And with what kind of body do they come?"

You fool! That which you sow does not come to life unless it dies;

and that which you sow, you do not sow the body which will eventually form, but a bare grain, perhaps of wheat or of something else.
But God gives it a body just as He wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own.

All flesh does not have the same composition, but one flesh appears in men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish.

There appear also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly manifests itself one way, and the glory of the earthly manifests itself another way.

All flesh does not have the same composition, but one flesh appears in men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish.

There appear also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly manifests itself one way, and the glory of the earthly manifests itself another way.

There exists one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

So also resembles the resurrection of the dead. It becomes sown in a perishable body, it becomes raised in an imperishable body;

it becomes sown in dishonor, it becomes raised in glory; it becomes sown in weakness, it becomes raised in power;

it becomes sown a natural body, it becomes raised a spiritual body. If a natural body exists, there will also emerge a spiritual body.

So also the scriptures say, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL."
The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

However, the spiritual does not come first, but the natural; then the spiritual.

The first man comes from the earth, earthly; the second man comes from heaven.

As exists the earthy, so also exists those who consists of the earthy; and as exists the heavenly, so also exist the heavenly.

Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

The Mystery of Resurrection

Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all undergo change,

in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and God will raise the dead imperishable, and we will undergo change.

For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.
But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that the scriptures say, "LIFE SWALLOWS DEATH UP in victory."

O DEATH, WHERE DO YOU FIND YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE DOES YOUR STING OCCUR?"

The sting of death comes from sin, and the power of sin comes from the law;

but thanks goes to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, remain steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that you toil not in vain in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 16
NASB E-Prime DFM
Instructions and Greetings

Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also.

On the first day of every week each one of you should put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections should take place when I come.

When I arrive, whomever you may approve, I will send them with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem;

and if it fits me to go also, they will go with me.

But I will come to you after I go through Macedonia, for I will travel through Macedonia;

and perhaps I will stay with you, or even spend the winter, so that you may send me on my way wherever I may go.

For I do not wish to see you now just in passing; for I hope to remain with you for some time, if the Lord permits.

But I will remain in Ephesus until Pentecost;

for a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and many adversaries have appeared.

Now if Timothy comes, see that he dwells with you without cause to have fear, for he does the Lord's work, as I also do.

So let no one despise him But send him on his way in peace, so that he may come to me; for I expect him with the brethren.
But concerning Apollos our brother, I encouraged him greatly to come to you with the brethren; and he did not desire to come now, but he will come when he has opportunity.

Stay on alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, remain strong.

Let all that you do take place in love.

Now I urge you, brethren (you know the household of Stephanas, that they counted themselves the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves for ministry to the saints),

that you also subject yourselves to such men and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.

I rejoice over the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have supplied what you lacked.

For they have refreshed my spirit and yours Therefore acknowledge such men.

The churches of Asia greet you Aquila and Prisca greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that meets in their house.

All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

The greeting I write in my own hand--Paul.

If anyone does not love the Lord, he should receive a curse Maranatha.

The grace of the Lord Jesus go with you.

My love go with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

2 Corinthians 1-13
Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Introduction

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God which meets at Corinth with all the saints who live throughout Achaia:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We bless the name of God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

who comforts us in all our affliction so that can comfort those who have any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves receive comfort from God.
5 For just as the sufferings of Christ have become abundantly ours, so also we receive abundant comfort through Christ.

6 But if we suffer affliction, we have received it for your comfort and salvation; or if we receive comfort, we receive comfort for you, which proves effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer;

7 and our hope for you we acknowledge as firmly grounded, knowing that as you share our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

8 For we do not want you to have ignorance, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we felt burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life;

9 indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;

10 who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,

11 your also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that many persons may give thanks on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many.

Paul's Integrity

12 For our proud confidence consists in this: the testimony of our conscience, that in holiness and godly sincerity, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God, we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially toward you.

13 For we write nothing else to you than what you read and understand, and I hope you will understand until the end;

14 just as you also partially did understand us, that we represent your reason to feel proud as you belong to us, in the day of our Lord Jesus.

15 In this confidence I intended at first to come to you, so that you might twice receive a blessing;

16 namely, to pass your way into Macedonia, and again from Macedonia to come to you, and by you to receive help on my journey to Judea.

17 Therefore, I had not vacillated when I intended to do this, did I? Or what I purpose, do I purpose according to the flesh, so that with me we will have yes, yes and no, no at the same time?

18 But as God demonstrates faithfulness, our word to you has not become yes and no.

19 For the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who Silvanus, Timothy, and I preached among you—did not consist of yes and no, but only yes in Him.

20 For as many promises God has made, in Him they become yes; therefore also through Him we recognize our Amen to the glory of God through us.
Now God establishes us and anointed us with you in Christ,
who have sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.
But I call God as witness to my soul, that to spare you I did not come again to Corinth.
Not that we lord it over your faith, but work with you for your joy; for in your faith you stand firm.

2 Corinthians 2

Reaffirm Your Love

1But I determined this for my own sake, that I would not come to you in sorrow again.
2For if I cause you sorrow, who then makes me glad but the one whom I made sorrowful?
3This very thing I wrote you, so that when I came, I would not have sorrow from those who ought to make me rejoice; having confidence in you all that my joy would radiate to you all.
4For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears; not so that you would sorrow, but that you might know the love which I have especially for you.
5But if any has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but in some degree—in order not to say too much—to all of you.
6Sufficient for such a one do we regard this punishment which the majority inflicted,
7so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a one might succumb to excessive sorrow.
8Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him.
9For to this end also I wrote, so that I might put you to the test, whether you obey in all things.
10But one whom you forgive anything, I forgive also; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, I did it for your sakes in the presence of Christ,
11so that no one would take advantage of us by Satan, for we have no ignorance of his schemes.
Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and when a door opened for me in the Lord,
I had no rest for my spirit, not finding Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I went on to Macedonia.
But I thank God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.
For have become a fragrance of Christ to God among those who receive salvation and among those who perish;
to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life And who proves adequate for these things?
For we do not like many, peddle the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.

2 Corinthians 3
NASB E-Prime DFM
Ministers of a New Covenant
Do we begin to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some, letters of commendation to you or from you?
You represent our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men;
We maintain that you constitute a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.
Such confidence we have through Christ toward God.
Not that we feel adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy derives from God,
who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.
But if the ministry of death, in letters engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading as it seemed,
how will the ministry of the Spirit fail to appear even more glorious?
For if the ministry of condemnation has glory, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory.
For indeed what had glory, in this case has no glory because of the glory that surpasses it.
11 For if that which fades away came with glory, much more that which remains does so in glory.

12 Therefore having such a hope, we use great boldness in our speech,

13 and do not behave like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the sons of Israel would not look intently at the end of what would fade away.

14 But their minds became hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because Christ removes it.

15 But to this day whenever they read Moses, a veil lies over their heart;

16 but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the Lord takes away the veil.

17 Now the Lord consists of Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord dwells, there dwells liberty.

18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, will undergo transformation into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

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2 Corinthians 4
NASB  E-Prime DFM
Paul's Apostolic Ministry

1 Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart,

2 but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3 And even if we veil our gospel, we veil it to those who perish,

4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who constitutes the image of God.

5 For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," has become the One who has shown in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.
But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will emanate from God and not from ourselves; we have suffered affliction in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may manifest in our body.

For we who live receive constant deliverance over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may manifest in our mortal flesh.

So death works in us, but life in you.

But having the same spirit of faith, according to what the scriptures say, "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak, knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you.

For all things occur for your sakes, so that the grace which has spread to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.

Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man decays, yet our inner man renews day by day.

For momentary, light affliction produces for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,

while we look not at the things which we see, but at the things which we don’t see; for the things which we see prove temporal, but the things which we don’t see prove eternal.

While we look not at the things which we see, but at the things which we don’t see; for the things which we see prove temporal, but the things which we don’t see prove eternal.

2 Corinthians 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Temporal and Eternal

For we know that if the earthly tent which serves as our house becomes torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

For indeed in this house we groan, longing to become clothed with our dwelling from heaven,
Inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not find ourselves naked.

For indeed while we dwell in this tent, we groan, feeling burdened, because we do not want to feel unclothed but to feel clothed, so that what we know as mortal will become swallowed up by life.

Now God prepared us for this very purpose, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

Therefore, always having of good courage, and knowing that while we dwell at home in the body we find ourselves absent from the Lord—

for we walk by faith, not by sight—

we have good courage, I say, and prefer rather to remain absent from the body and to become at home with the Lord.

Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to please Him.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we becoming manifest to God; and I hope that we manifest also in your consciences.

We do not again commend ourselves to you but give you an occasion to have pride in us, so that you will have an answer for those who take pride in appearance and not in heart.

For if we seem beside ourselves, we do it for God; if we have a sound mind, we have it for you.

For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died;

and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer.

Therefore if anyone dwells in Christ, he has become a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Now all these things come from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,

namely, that God performed through Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.
Therefore, we serve as ambassadors for Christ, as though God had made an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, to reconcile yourselves to God.

He made Him who knew no sin to represent sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 6
NASB E-Prime DFM

Their Ministry Commended

1And working together with Him, we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain--

2for He says,

"AT THE ACCEPTABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU,
AND ON THE DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU."

Behold, now constitutes "THE ACCEPTABLE TIME," behold, now has come "THE DAY OF SALVATION"--

3giving no cause for offense in anything, so that the ministry will not receive discredit,

4but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God, in much endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses,

5in beatings, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in hunger,

6in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love,

7in the word of truth, in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left,

8by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; regarded as deceivers and yet true;

9as unknown yet well-known, as dying yet behold, we live; as punished yet not put to death,

10as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing yet possessing all things.

11Our mouth has spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, our heart has opened wide.

12We have not restrained you, but you restrained yourselves in your own affections.
13Now in a like exchange--I speak as to children--open wide to us also.
14Do not bind yourselves together with unbelievers; for what partnership does righteousness have with lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?
15Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?
16Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we make up the temple of the living God; just as God said,
   "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM;
   AND I WILL RULE AS THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BECOME MY PEOPLE."
17"Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND SEPARATE YOURSELVES FROM THEM," says the Lord.
   "AND DO NOT TOUCH ANYTHING UNCLEAN;
   And I will welcome you.
18"And I will become a father to you,
   And you shall become sons and daughters to Me,"
Says the Lord Almighty.

2 Corinthians 7
NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul Reveals His Heart
1Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
2Make room for us in your hearts; we wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we took advantage of no one.
3I do not speak to condemn you, for I have said before that you remain in our hearts to die together and to live together.
4I have great confidence in you; I boast greatly on your behalf I have much comfort; I overflow with joy in all our affliction.
For even when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we suffered affliction on every side: conflicts without, fears within.

But God, who comforts the depressed, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

and not only by his coming, but also by the comfort with which he received comfort in you, as he reported to us your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me; so that I rejoiced even more.

For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it--for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while--

I now rejoice, not that you felt sorrowful, but that you sorrowed to the point of repentance; for you received sorrow according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

For the sorrow that accords to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to have proven innocence in this matter.

So although I wrote to you, I wrote not for the sake of the offender nor for the sake of the one offended, but that your earnestness on our behalf might become known to you in the sight of God.

For this reason we have received comfort And besides our comfort, we rejoiced even much more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has received refreshment by you all.

For if in anything I have boasted to him about you, I did not suffer shame; but as we spoke all things to you in truth, so also our boasting before Titus proved true.

His affection abounds all the more toward you, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling.

I rejoice that in everything I have confidence in you.

2 Corinthians 8
NASB E-Prime DFM
Great Generosity
Now, brethren, we wish to make known to you the grace of God which He gave to the churches of Macedonia,

that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality.

For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord,

begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints,

and this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.

So we urged Titus that as he had previously made a beginning, so he would also complete in you this gracious work as well.

But just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, see that you abound in this gracious work also.

I do not speak this as a command, but as proving through the earnestness of others the sincerity of your love also.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He had riches, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

I give my opinion in this matter, for this proves your advantage, who became the first to begin a year ago not only to do this, but also to desire to do it.

But now finish doing it also, so that just as you had the readiness to desire it, so you may complete it by your ability.

For if the readiness has presented itself, we find it acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

For this occurs not for the ease of others and for your affliction, but by way of equality--

at this present time your abundance providing a supply for their need, so that their abundance also may become a supply for your need, that there may come equality;

as the scriptures say, "HE WHO gathered MUCH DID NOT HAVE TOO MUCH, AND HE WHO gathered LITTLE HAD NO LACK."

But we give thanks to God who puts the same earnestness on your behalf in the heart of Titus.

For he not only accepted our appeal, but showing himself very earnest, he has gone to you of his own accord.
We have sent along with him the brother whose fame in the things of the gospel has spread through all the churches;

and not only this, but he has also received appointment by the churches to travel with us in this gracious work, which the Lord administered by us for the His glory, and to show our readiness,

taking precaution so that no one will discredit us in our administration of this generous gift;

for we have regard for what proves honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.

We have sent with them our brother, whom we have often tested and found diligent in many things, but now even more diligent because of his great confidence in you.

As for Titus, he serves as my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brethren, they serve as messengers of the churches, a glory to Christ.

Therefore openly before the churches, show them the proof of your love and of our reason for boasting about you.

2 Corinthians 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

God Gives Most

For I find it superfluous to write to you about this ministry to the saints;

for I know your readiness, of which I boast about you to the Macedonians, namely, that Achaia has completed preparation since last year, and your zeal has stirred up most of them.

But I have sent the brethren, in order that our boasting about you may not have emptiness in this case, so that, as I said, you may prepare yourselves;

otherwise if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we--not to speak of you--will suffer shame by this confidence.

So I thought it necessary to urge the brethren that they would go on ahead to you and arrange beforehand your previously promised bountiful gift, so that the same you would have ready as a bountiful gift and not affected by covetousness.

Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
And God can make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;
as the scriptures read,
"HE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR,
HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ENDURES FOREVER."
10Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;
you will receive enrichment in everything for all liberality, which through us has produced thanksgiving to God.
12For the ministry of this service does not only fully supply the needs of the saints, but is also overflows through many thanksgivings to God.
13Because of the proof given by this ministry, they will glorify God for your obedience to your confession of the gospel of Christ and for the liberality of your contribution to them and to all,
14while they also, by prayer on your behalf, yearn for you because of the surpassing grace of God in you.
15We thank God for His indescribable gift!

2 Corinthians 10
NASB E-Prime DFM
Paul Describes Himself
1Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ--I who seem meek when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!
2I ask that when I meet you face to face I need not show boldness with the confidence with which I propose to show courage against some, who regard us as if we walked according to the flesh.
3For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh,
4for the weapons of our warfare do not derive from the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
5 We destroy speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,
6 and we have readiness to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience reaches completion.
7 You look at things as they appear outward. If anyone has confidence in himself that he belongs to Christ, let him consider this again within himself, that just as he belongs to Christ, so do we.
8 For even if I boast somewhat further about our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you, I will not endure shame,
9 for I do not wish to seem as if I would terrify you by my letters.
10 For they say, "His letters sound weighty and strong, but his personal presence seems unimpressive and his speech contemptible."
11 Let such a person consider this, that what we seem in word by letters when absent, such persons we prove also in deed when present.
12 For we do not have the boldness to class or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves; but when they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they have no understanding.
13 But we will not boast beyond our measure, but within the measure of the sphere which God apportioned to us as a measure, to reach even as far as you.
14 For we do not overextend ourselves, as if we did not reach to you, for we came to you first in the gospel of Christ;
15 not boasting beyond our measure, namely, in other men's labors, but with the hope that as your faith grows, we will become, within our sphere, enlarged even more by you,
16 so as to preach the gospel even to the regions beyond you, and not to boast in what another has accomplished in his sphere.
17 But HE WHO BOASTS SHOULD BOAST IN THE LORD.
18 For he does commend himself, but the Lord commends.
Paul Defends His Apostleship

1 I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you bear with me.

2 For I feel jealousy for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.

3 But I fear that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will go astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

4 For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.

5 For I consider myself not in the least inferior to the most eminent apostles.

6 But even if I seem unskilled in speech, yet I have knowledge; in fact, in every way we have made this evident to you in all things.

7 Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself so that you might receive exaltation, because I preached the gospel of God to you without charge?

8 I robbed other churches by taking wages from them to serve you;

9 and when I found myself present with you and felt in need, I did not become a burden to anyone; for when the brethren came from Macedonia they fully supplied my need, and in everything I kept myself from becoming a burden to you, and will continue to do so.

10 As the truth of Christ resides in me, this boasting of mine will not stop in the regions of Achaia.

11 Why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!

12 But what I do I will continue to do, so that I may cut off opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to take advantage in the matter about which they boast.

13 For such men prove themselves false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

14 No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

15 Therefore does not surprise us if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will accord to their deeds.

16 Again I say, let no one think me foolish; but if you do, receive me even as foolish, so that I also may boast a little.

17 What I say, I do not say as the Lord would, but as in foolishness, in this confidence of boasting.

18 Since many boast according to the flesh, I will boast also.

19 For you, becoming so wise, tolerate the foolish gladly.
For you tolerate it if anyone enslaves you, anyone devours you, anyone takes advantage of you, anyone exalts himself, anyone hits you in the face.

To my shame I must say that we have shown weakness by comparison. But in whatever respect anyone else behaves boldly—I speak in foolishness—I behave just as boldly myself.


Do they call themselves servants of Christ?—I speak as if insane—I more so; in far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death.

Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes.

Three times I they beat me with rods, once they stoned me three times I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have spent in the deep.

I have gone on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren;

I have labored in hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

Apart from such external things, I have the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches.

Who has become weak without my becoming weak? Who gets led into sin without my intense concern?

If I have to boast, I will boast of what pertains to my weakness.

The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He who we bless forever, knows that I do not lie.

In Damascus the ethnarch under Aretas the king who guarded the city of the Damascenes in order to seize me,

and they let me down in a basket through a window in the wall, and so escaped his hands.
Paul's Vision

1 Boasting may become necessary, though it does not profit; but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.

2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago--whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows--such a man became caught up to the third heaven.

3 And I know how such a man--whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows--became caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man does not have permission to speak.

4 On behalf of such a man I will boast; but on my own behalf I will not boast, except in regard to my weaknesses.

5 For if I do wish to boast I will not feel foolish, for I will speak the truth; but I refrain from this, so that no one will credit me with more than he sees in me or hears from me.

A Thorn in the Flesh

7 Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, God gave me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me--to keep me from exalting myself!

8 Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.

9 And He has said to me, "My grace proves sufficient for you, for power perfects in weakness" Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

10 Therefore I feel well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I seem weak, then I have strength.

11 I have become foolish; you yourselves compelled me Actually I should have received commendation by you, for in no respect did I prove inferior to the most eminent apostles, even though I seem a nobody.

12 The signs of a true apostle you had performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.

13 For in what respect did you receive treatment as inferior to the rest of the churches, except that I myself did not become a burden to you? Forgive me this wrong!

14 Here for this third time I find myself ready to come to you, and I will not burden you; for I do not seek yours, but you; for children do not have the responsibility to save up for their parents, but parents for their children.

15 I will most gladly spend and expend myself for your souls If I love you more, do you love me less?
But though it may seem, I did not burden you myself; nevertheless, crafty fellow that I have prove myself, I took you in by deceit.

Certainly I have not taken advantage of you through any of those whom I have sent to you, have I?

I urged Titus to go, and I sent the brother with him Titus did not take any advantage of you, did he? Did we not conduct ourselves in the same spirit and walk in the same steps?

All this time you have thought that we defended ourselves to you. Actually, it has proved in the sight of God that we have spoken in Christ; and all for your edification, beloved.

For I fear that perhaps when I come I may find you to have become not what I wish and you may find me not what you wish; that perhaps there will occur strife, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances;

I fear that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and I may mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.

2 Corinthians 13
NASB E-Prime DFM
Examine Yourselves

This constitutes the third time I come to you EVERY FACT SHOULD RECEIVE CONFIRMATION BY THE TESTIMONY OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES.

I have previously said when present the second time, and though now absent I say in advance to those who have sinned in the past and to all the rest as well, that if I come again I will not spare anyone,

since you seek for proof of the Christ who speaks in me, and who does not show weakness toward you, but mighty in you.

For indeed He suffered crucifixion because of weakness, yet He lives because of the power of God For we also seem weak in Him, yet we will live with Him because of the power of God directed toward you.

Test yourselves to see if you remain in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ dwells in you--unless indeed you fail the test?

But I trust that you will realize that we ourselves do not fail the test.
7Now we pray to God that you do no wrong; not that we ourselves may appear approved, but that you may do right, even though we may appear unapproved.
8For we can do nothing against the truth, but only for the truth.
9For we rejoice when we ourselves seem weak but appear strong; this we also pray for, that you may receive completion.
10For this reason I write these things while absent, so that when present I need not use severity, in accordance with the authority which the Lord gave me for building up and not for tearing down.
11Finally, brethren, rejoice, receive completion, receive comfort, have like-mindedness, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will dwell with you.
12Greet one another with a holy kiss.
13All the saints greet you.
14The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, remain with you all.

Galatians 1-6

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Introduction
1Paul, an apostle not sent from men nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead,
2and all the brethren who dwell with me, To the churches of Galatia:
3Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,
4who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,
5to whom we acknowledge the glory forevermore. Amen.

Perversion of the Gospel
6I feel amazed that you have so quickly deserted Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel;
7which we can’t really call another; only some have disturbed you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.
8But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he should receive a curse!
9As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man preaches to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he deserves a curse!
10For do I now seek the favor of men, or of God? Or do I strive to please men? If I still tried to please men, I would not yield myself as a bond-servant of Christ.

Paul Defends His Ministry
11For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which I preached did not come from man.
12For I neither received it from man, nor did any man teach it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.
13For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it;
14and I had advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my countrymen, acting more extremely zealous for my ancestral traditions.
15But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, took the pleasure
16to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood,
17nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who became apostles before me; but I went away to Arabia, and returned once more to Damascus.
18Then three years later I went up to Jerusalem to become acquainted with Cephas, and stayed with him fifteen days.
19But I did not see any other of the apostles except James, the Lord's brother.
20(Now in what I write to you, I assure you before God that I do not lie.)
21Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia.
22The churches of Judea which had loyalty to Christ still did not know me by sight;
23but only, they kept hearing, "He who once persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy."
24And they glorified God because of me.
Galatians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Council at Jerusalem

1 Then after an interval of fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along also.

2 I went up because of a revelation; and I submitted to them the gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but I did so in private to those who considered themselves of reputation, for fear that I might have run, in vain.

3 But not even Titus, who accompanied me, though a Greek, did they compel to undergo circumcision.

4 But because of the false brethren secretly brought in, who had sneaked in to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, in order to bring us into bondage.

5 But we did not yield in subjection to them for even an hour, so that the truth of the gospel would remain with you.

6 But from those who considered themselves of high reputation (what they thought of themselves makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)--well, those who considered themselves of reputation contributed nothing to me.

7 But on the contrary, seeing that God had entrusted me with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had ministered to the circumcised

8 (for He who effectually worked for Peter in his apostleship to the circumcised effectually worked for me also to the Gentiles),

9 and recognizing I had received the grace, James and Cephas and John, who had the reputation of pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we might go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

10 They only asked us to remember the poor--the very thing I also had eagerly sought to do.

Peter (Cephas) Opposed by Paul

11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.

12 For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision.
The rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas became carried away by their hypocrisy.

But when I saw that they did not act in a straightforward manner about the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all, "If you, considering yourself a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, how do you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?

"We live as Jews by nature and not sinners from among the Gentiles; nevertheless knowing that a man cannot receive justification by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may receive justification by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will receive justification.

But if, while seek justification in Christ, we ourselves have also sinned, do we consider Christ then a minister of sin? May it never happen!

"For if I rebuild what I have once destroyed, I prove myself a transgressor.

"For through the Law I died to the Law, so that I might live to God.

I have suffered crucifixion with Christ; and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

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**Galatians 3**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**Faith Brings Righteousness**

1 You foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ had become publicly portrayed as crucified?

2 This I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?
3 Have you become so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, do you now desire to achieve perfection by the flesh?

4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it seemed in vain?

5 So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

6 Even so Abraham BELIEVED GOD, AND GOD RECKONED IT TO HIM AS RIGHTeousness.

7 Therefore, know that those of faith represent the real sons of Abraham.

8 The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "ALL THE NATIONS WILL RECEIVE BLESSING IN YOU."

9 So then those who live by faith will receive blessings with Abraham, the believer.

10 For as many as depend on the works of the Law fall under a curse; for the scriptures say, "EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM RECEIVES A CURSE."

11 Now that no one receives justification by the Law before God becomes evident; for, "THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

12 However, the Law does not take the place of faith; on the contrary, "HE WHO PRACTICES THEM SHALL LIVE BY THEM."

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for the scripture says, "WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE HAS RECEIVED A CURSE"—

14in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

**Intent of the Law**

15 Brethren, I speak in terms of human relations: even though it represents only a man's covenant, yet when it they have ratified it, no one sets it aside or adds conditions to it.

16 Now when God spoke the promises to Abraham and to his seed He does not say, "And to seeds," as referring to many, but rather to one, "And to your seed," namely, Christ.

17 I say: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise.

18 For if we base the inheritance on law, we no longer base it on a promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise.
19 Why the Law then? God added the Law because of transgressions, having received ordination through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom God had made the promise.

20 Now a mediator does not decide for one party only; whereas God represents only one principal in the mediation.

21 Does the Law then contravene against the promises of God? May it never happen! For if God had given a law was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have derived from law.

22 But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might accrue to those who believe.

23 But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, having acquiesced to the faith which later God revealed.

24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may receive justification by faith.

25 But now that faith has come, we no longer need a tutor.

26 For you have all become sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For all of you who received baptism into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

28 There exists neither Jew nor Greek, there exists neither slave nor free man, there exists neither male nor female; for you have all become one in Christ Jesus.

29 And if you belong to Christ, then you have become Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

Galatians 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Sonship in Christ

1 Now I say, as long as the heir remains a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he owns everything,

2 but his parents place him under guardians and managers until the date set by the father.

3 So also we, while we remained children, suffered bondage under the elemental things of the world.
But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,

so that He might redeem those who lived under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Because you have now become sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

Therefore you serve no longer as a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

However at that time, when you did not know God, you became slaves to those which by nature do not really have any claim as gods.

But now that you have come to know God, or rather that God knows you, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire enslavement all over again?

You observe days and months and seasons and years.

I fear for you, that perhaps I have labored over you in vain.

I beg of you, brethren, do as I do, for I also have become as you have become. You have done me no wrong;

but you know that because of a bodily illness that I preached the gospel to you the first time;

and that which I considered a trial - my bodily condition you did not despise or loathe, but you received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus Himself.

What then has become of the blessing you had? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me.

So have I become your enemy by telling you the truth?

They eagerly seek you, not commendably, but they wish to shut you out so that you will seek them.

But it feels good always to have someone seek us out in a commendable manner, and not only when I dwell with you presently.

My children, with whom I feel again in labor until Christ becomes formed in you--

but I could wish to join you presently and to change my tone, for I feel perplexed about you.

Tell me, you who want to live under law, do you not listen to the law?

For the scriptures say that Abraham had two sons, one by the bondwoman and one by the free woman.
23 But the son by the bondwoman had become born according to the flesh, and the son by the free woman through the promise.

24 This represents an allegory, for these women represent two covenants: one proceeding from Mount Sinai bearing children who will become slaves; we acknowledge her as Hagar.

25 Now this Hagar represents Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she lives in slavery with her children.

26 But the Jerusalem above has attained freedom; she represents our mother.

27 For the scriptures declare,
   "REJOICE, BARREN WOMAN WHO DOES NOT BEAR;
   BREAK FORTH AND SHOUT, YOU WHO DO NOT FIND THEMSELVES IN LABOR;
   FOR MORE NUMEROUS HAVE INCREASED THE CHILDREN OF THE DESOLATE
   THAN OF THE ONE WHO HAS A HUSBAND."

28 And you brethren, like Isaac, have become children of promise.

29 But as at that time he who came into life born according to the flesh persecuted him who came into life born according to the Spirit, so it has now occurred.

30 But what does the Scripture say?
   "CAST OUT THE BONDWOMAN AND HER SON,
   FOR THE SON OF THE BONDWOMAN SHALL NOT RECEIVE AN INHERITANCE WITH THE SON OF THE FREE WOMAN."

31 So then, brethren, we should not consider ourselves children of a bondwoman, but of the free woman.

Galatians 5
NASB E-Prime DFM
Walk by the Spirit

1 For our freedom Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not subject yourself again to a yoke of slavery.

2 Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will not benefit you.
3And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he placed himself under obligation to keep the whole Law.

4You have severed yourself from Christ, you who seek justification by law; you have fallen from grace.

5For we through the Spirit, by faith, wait for the hope of righteousness.

6For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.

7You had run well; who hindered you from obeying the truth?

8This persuasion did not come from Him who calls you.

9A little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough.

10I have confidence in you in the Lord that you will adopt no other view; but the one who disturbs you will bear his judgment, whoever he may represent.

11But I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still receive persecution? Then the stumbling block of the cross has become abolished.

12I wish that those who trouble you would even mutilate themselves.

13For God called you to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

14For the whole Law we can fulfill in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

15But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you do not consume one another.

16But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

17For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these oppose one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

18But if the Spirit leads you, you will not find yourselves under the Law.

19Now the deeds of the flesh become evident, namely: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

20idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

21envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22But the fruit of the Spirit consists of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23gentleness, self-control; against such things no law exists.
24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.
26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

Galatians 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Bear One Another's Burdens

1 Brethren, even if anyone catches himself in any trespass, you who have the spirit, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not fall into temptation.

2 Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

3 For if anyone thinks he has become something when he has achieved nothing, he deceives himself.

4 But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

5 For each one will bear his own load.

6 The one who has learned the word should share all good things with the one who teaches him.

7 Do not deceive yourself, No one mocks God; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

9 Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.

10 So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who reside in the household of the faith.

11 See with what large letters I write to you with my own hand.

12 Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh try to compel you to undergo circumcision, simply so that they will not receive persecution for the cross of Christ.
For those who have become circumcised do not even keep the Law themselves, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh.

But may I never boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has endured crucifixion to me, and I to the world.

For neither avails circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

And those who will walk by this rule, peace and mercy rest upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

From now on let no one cause trouble for me, for I bear on my body the brand-marks of Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ remain with your spirit, brethren.

Amen.

Ephesians 1-6

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

The Blessings of Redemption

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who dwell at Ephesus and who remain faithful in Christ Jesus:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We bless the name of God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,
just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would attain holiness and blamelessness before Him In love
He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,
to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace
which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight
He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him
with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, namely, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him
also we have obtained an inheritance, having become predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,
to the end that we who first hoped in Christ would do so to the praise of His glory.
In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation--having also believed, you received His seal in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,
who He gives as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.
For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints,
do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers;
that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.
I pray that the eyes of your heart may receive enlightenment, so that you will know the hope of His calling, which consist of the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
and we recognize the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These correspond with the working of the strength of His might
which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name one can name, not only in this age but also in the one to come.
And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,
which consists of His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 2
NASB E-Prime DFM

Made Alive in Christ
1 And you had died in your trespasses and sins,
2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that now works in the sons of disobedience.
3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and behaved by nature as children of wrath, even as the rest.
4 But God, having rich mercy and great love toward us,
5 even when we had died in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have received salvation),
6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
8 For by grace you have received salvation through faith; and that not of yourselves, God has given it to you;
9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.
10 For we represent His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who people referred to as "Uncircumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision," which takes place in the flesh by human hands--

remember that you formerly had become separated from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly had become estranged had become brought near by the blood of Christ.

For He Himself consists of our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall,

by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which came from the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace,

and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.

AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO DRIFTED FAR AWAY, AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO DREW NEAR;

for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

So then He does no longer consider you strangers and aliens, but you have become fellow citizens with the saints, and have entered God's household,

having become built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself as the corner stone,

in whom the whole building, which God fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,

in whom God placed you also building together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.
Ephesians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Stewardship

1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--

2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which God gave to me for you;

3 that by revelation I came to know the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.

4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

5 which in other generations the sons of men had not known, as God has revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;

6 For example, that the Gentiles have become fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,

7 of which God made me a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which He had given to me according to the working of His power.

8 God gave to me, the very least of all saints, this grace, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,

9 and to bring to light the administration of the mystery which for ages has remained hidden in God who created all things;

10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now have revelation through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

11 This accorded with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

12 in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.

13 Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they occur for your glory.

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,

15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,

16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to receive strength with power through His Spirit in the inner man,

17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, find yourselves rooted and grounded in love,

18 may have the capability to comprehend with all the saints the breadth and length and height and depth,
19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may receive fulfillment up to all the fullness of God.

20 Now to Him who can do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,

21 to Him belong the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 4
NASB E-Prime DFM
Unity of the Spirit
1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling from God,

2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love,

3 showing diligence to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

4 There exists one body and one Spirit, just as also God called you in one hope of your calling;

5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 one God and Father of all who rules over all and through all and in all.

7 But to each one of us we received grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

8 Therefore it says,

"WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN."

9 (Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth?

10 He who descended has ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.)

11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,

12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.
As a result, we can no longer consider ourselves children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in all aspects into Him the head, even Christ,

from whom the whole body, fit and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

The Christian's Walk

So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind,

having become darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that exists in them, because of the hardness of their heart;

and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

But you did not learn Christ in this way,

if indeed you have heard Him and have received instruction in Him, just as truth emanates from Jesus,

that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which becomes corrupt in accordance with the lusts of deceit,

and that you receive renewal in the spirit of your mind,

and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God He created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we have become members of one another.

HAVE ANGER, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

and do not give the devil an opportunity.

He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what proves good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word which proves good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you received a seal for the day of redemption.
31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander disappear from you, along with all malice.

32 Show kindness to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Ephesians 5
NASB E-Prime DFM

Imitate God
1 Therefore imitate God, as beloved children;
2 and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.
3 But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even have association among you, as has proper decorum among saints;
4 and there must proceed no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which do not seem fitting, but rather giving of thanks.
5 For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who practices idolatry, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.
6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.
7 Therefore do not become partakers with them;
8 for you formerly walked in darkness, but now you receive Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light
9 (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),
10 trying to learn what pleases the Lord.
11 Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;
12 for it has become disgraceful even to speak of the things which they do in secret.
13 But all things become visible when the light exposes them, for everything that becomes visible receives light.

14 For this reason it says,
   "Awake, sleeper,
    And arise from the dead,
    And Christ will shine on you."

15 Therefore show care how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,
16 making the most of your time, because the days seem evil.
17 So then do not act foolishly, but understand what the Lord wills.
18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that shows dissipation, but become filled with the Spirit,
19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;
20 always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;
21 and subject yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ.

Marriage Like Christ and the Church

22 Wives, subject yourselves to your own husbands, as to the Lord.
23 For the husband guides the wife, as Christ also leads the church, He Himself serving as the Savior of the body.
24 But as the church subjects itself to Christ, so also the wives ought to subject themselves to their husbands in everything.
25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,
26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,
27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would emerge holy and blameless.
28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;
29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church,
30 because we have become members of His body.
31 FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL JOIN TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.
This mystery has greatness; but I speak with reference to Christ and the church.

Nevertheless, each individual among you also should love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

**Ephesians 6**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**Family Relationships**

1. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this demonstrates right behavior.

2.) HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (the first commandment with a promise),

3. SO THAT IT MAY GO WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.

4. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

5. Slaves, show obedience to those who serve as your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ;

6. not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

7. With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men,

8. knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

9. And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours dwells in heaven, and no partiality exists with Him.

**The Armor of God**

10. Finally, have strength in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

11. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will have the capacity to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

12. For we do not struggle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

13. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will have the capacity to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.
Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,

and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;

in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will have the power to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which consists of the word of God.

With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, stay alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

and pray on my behalf, that God may give me utterance in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,

for which I serve as an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

But that you also may know about my circumstances, how I do, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you.

I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know about us, and that he may comfort your hearts.

I send peace to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace remain with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.
Philippians 1-4

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Thanksgiving

1 Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who dwell in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,

4 always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all,

5 in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.

6 For I feel confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

7 For it seems only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all partake of grace with me.

8 For God has served as my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment,

10 so that you may approve the things that prove excellent, in order to remain sincere and blameless until the day of Christ;

11 having become filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Someone has Preached The Gospel

12 Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel,

13 so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else,

14 and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.
Some, surely, preach Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will;
the latter do it out of love, knowing that I have received appointment for the defense of the gospel;
the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment.
What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, someone has proclaimed Christ; and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice,
for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not have shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, receive exaltation in my body, whether by life or by death.

**To Live Comes Through Christ**

For to me, to live comes through Christ and to die leads to gain.
But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose.
But I feel hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and join Christ, for that seems very much better;
yet to remain on in the flesh seems more necessary for your sake.
Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith,
so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.
Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;
in no way alarmed by your opponents--which represents a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God.
For to you this has happened for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,
experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to occur in me.

**Philippians 2**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**Imitate Christ**
1Therefore if we have any encouragement in Christ, if we have any consolation of love, if we have any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,

2make my joy complete by having the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

3Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;

4do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

5Have this attitude in yourselves which existed also in Christ Jesus,

6who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing at which to grasp,

7but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and made in the likeness of men.

8Finding himself in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

9For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which exalts above every name,

10so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who dwell in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11and that every tongue will confess that we acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

12So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling;

13for God works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

14Do all things without grumbling or disputing;

15so that you will prove yourselves blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

16holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.

17But even if I feel myself poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all.

18You too, I urge you, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.

Timothy and Epaphroditus

19But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also have encouragement when I learn of your condition.
For I have no one else of kindred spirit who will have genuine concern for your welfare.

For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus.

But you know of his proven worth, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child serving his father.

Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things go with me;

and I trust in the Lord that I myself also will come shortly.

But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who has also served as your messenger and minister to my need;

because he longed for you all and felt distressed because you had heard that he had fallen sick.

For indeed he become sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow.

Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly so that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may feel less concerned about you.

Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold men like him in high regard;

because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what had lacked in your service to me.

Philippians 3
NASB E-Prime DFM

The Goal of Life

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again seems no trouble to me, and has proved a safeguard for you.

Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;

for we represent the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh,

although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:

circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;
as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which lies in the Law, found blameless.

But whatever things became gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

More than that, I count all things a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,

and I may find in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,

that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, conforming to His death;

in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,

I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Let us therefore, as many as have reached perfection, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;

however, let us keep living by that same standard to which we have attained.

Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they prove themselves enemies of the cross of Christ,

whose end leads to destruction, whose god has become their appetite, and whose glory has become their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.

For our citizenship locates in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.
Philippians 4
NASB E-Prime DFM

Think of Excellence

Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.

2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord.

3 Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names we read in the book of life.

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

5 Let your gentle spirit have reputation with all men. The Lord draws near.

6 Have anxiety for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let you make your requests known to God.

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brethren, whatever has truth, whatever has honor, whatever has righteousness, whatever has purity, whatever has loveliness, whatever has good reputation, if any excellence exists and if anything may seem worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

9 The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will remain with you.

God’s Provisions

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you felt concern before, but you lacked opportunity.

11 Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to have contentment in whatever circumstances I find myself.

12 I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of having enough and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.

13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

14 Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction.

15 You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone;

16 for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for my needs.
Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.

But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I feel amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God.

And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Now to our God and Father belong the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who dwell with me greet you.

All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ accompany your spirit.

Colossians 1-4

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Thankfulness for Spiritual Attainments

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

2To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who dwell at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

3 We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints;

5 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel

6 which has come to you, just as in all the world also it constantly bears fruit and increases, even as it has increased in you also since the day you heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth;

7 just as you learned it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who faithfully serves Christ on our behalf,

8 and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit.
For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may become filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously
giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

The Incomparable Christ

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
He comprises the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

For He created all things, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have entered creation through Him and for Him.

He existed before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

He also serves as head of the body, the church; and He has become the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

For the Father desires for all the fullness to dwell in Him,

and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

And although you formerly felt alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds,
yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach--

if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which we proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, the church, in filling up what lacks in Christ's afflictions.
25 Of this church I became a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God,

26 namely, the mystery which has remained hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now has become clear to His saints,

27 to whom God willed to make known the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which consists of Christ in you, the hope of glory.

28 We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

29 For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which works mightily within me.

Colossians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

You Have Become Built Up in Christ

1 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who live at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face,

2 that their hearts may receive encouragement, having become knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, namely, Christ Himself,

3 in whom hide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

4 I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument.

5 For even though I have become absent in body, nevertheless I feel with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

6 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

7 having become firmly rooted and now becoming built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you received instruction, and overflowed with gratitude.

8 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

10 and in Him you have reached completion, and He has become the head over all rule and authority;
and in Him you also received circumcision with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

having undergone burial with Him in baptism, in which you also became raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

When you died in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which demonstrated hostility to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

Therefore no one should act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day--

things which serve as a mere shadow of what will come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,

and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, becoming supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which comes from God.

If you have died with Christ to the elementary principles of the world, why, as if you lived in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees, such as,

Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!"

(which all refer to things destined to perish with use)--in accordance with the commandments and teachings of men?

These matters which have, surely, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but have no value against fleshly indulgence.

Colossians 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Put On the New Self

Therefore if God has raised you up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ resides, seated at the right hand of God.
2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things on earth.
3 For you have died and your life has become hidden with Christ in God.
4 When Christ, who has become our life, becomes revealed, then you also will become revealed with Him in glory.
5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.
6 For because of these things the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,
7 and in them you also once walked, when you lived in them.
8 But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.
9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices,
10 and have put on the new self who receives renewal to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him--
11 a renewal which shows no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ resides in all.
12 So, as those whom God has chosen, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;
13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.
14 Beyond all these things put on love, which consists of the perfect bond of unity.
15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you received calling in one body; and have thankfulness.
16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Family Relations
18 Wives, subject yourselves to your husbands, as seems fitting in the Lord.
19 Husbands, love your wives and do not have bitterness against them.
20 Children, obey your parents in all things, for this pleases the Lord.
21 Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.
22 Slaves, in all things obey those who serve as your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,

24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance You serve the Lord Christ.

25 For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

Colossians 4
NASB E-Prime DFM

Fellow Workers

1 Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness, knowing that you too have a Master in heaven.

2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;

3 praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also received imprisonment;

4 that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.

5 Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.

6 Let you speak always with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

7 As to all my affairs, Tychicus, our beloved brother and faithful servant and fellow bond-servant in the Lord, will bring you information.

8 For I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts;

9 and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who belongs to your fellowship. They will inform you about the whole situation here.
10 Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, sends you his greetings; and also Barnabas's cousin Mark (about whom you received instructions; if he comes to you, welcome him);

11 and also Jesus who people refer to as Justus; these constitute the only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who have remained with me from the circumcision, and they have proved an encouragement to me.

12 Epaphras, who belongs to your fellowship, a bondslave of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God.

13 For I testify for him that he has a deep concern for you and for those who are in Laodicea and Hierapolis.

14 Luke, the beloved physician, sends you his greetings, and also Demas.

15 Greet the brethren who dwell in Laodicea and also Nympha and the church that meets in her house.

16 When you read this letter among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and you, for your part read my letter that comes from Laodicea.

17 Say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it."

18 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand Remember my imprisonment. I send grace to you.
1 Thessalonians 1-5

Thanksgiving for These Believers

1 Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers;

3 constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,

4 knowing, brethren beloved by God, His choice of you;

5 for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to work among you for your sake.

6 You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

9 For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,

10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, namely Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul’s Ministry

1 For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you did not happen in vain,
but after we had already suffered and suffered mistreatment in Philippi, as you know, we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid much opposition.

For our exhortation does not come from error or impurity or by way of deceit;

but just as God had not approve us to entrust us with the gospel, so we speak, not to please men, but God who examines our hearts.

For we never came with flattering speech, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed-- As God can witness--

nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority.

But we proved gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children.

Having so fond an affection for you, we felt well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, how working night and day so as not to seem a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

You witness, and so does God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;

just as you know how we exhorted and encouraged and implored each one of you as a father would his own children,

so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really consists of, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that live in Judea, for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they did from the Jews, who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out. They do not please God, but hostile to all men,

hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may receive salvation; with the result that they always fill up the measure of their sins But wrath has come upon them to the utmost.
17 But we, brethren, having become separated from you for a short while-- in person, not in spirit--were all the more eager with great desire to see your face.

18 For we wanted to come to you--I, Paul, more than once--and yet Satan hindered us.

19 For who do we consider our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Does it not even consist of you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming?

20 For you represent our glory and joy.

1 Thessalonians 3

Encouragement of Timothy’s Visit

1 Therefore when we could endure it no longer, we thought it best to stay behind at Athens alone,

2 and we sent Timothy, our brother and God’s fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith,

3 so that no one would feel disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that God has destined us for this.

4 For indeed when we dwelled with you, we kept telling you in advance that we would suffer affliction; and so it came to pass, as you know.

5 For this reason, when I could endure it no longer, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the tempter might have tempted you, and our labor would seem in vain.
6But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you,

7for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we received comfort about you through your faith;

8for now we really live, if you stand firm in the Lord.

9For what thanks can we render to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice before our God on your account,

10as we night and day keep praying most earnestly that we may see your face, and may complete what lacks in your faith?

11Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord direct our way to you;

12and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you;

13so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

1 Thessalonians 4

NASB  E-Prime DFM

Sanctification and Love

1 Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

2For you know what commandments we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

3For God wills, your sanctification; namely, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

4that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

5not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

6and that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord avenges in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you.

7For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.

8So, he who rejects this does not reject man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.
Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves had received teaching from God to love one another;

for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who dwell in all Macedonia But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more,

and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and to tend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you,

so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not have any need.

Those Who Died in Christ

But we do not want you to remain in ignorance, brethren, about those who have died, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who live and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who live and remain will join them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always remain with the Lord.

Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 5
NASB E-Prime DFM

The Day of the Lord

Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of our writing anything to you.

For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

While they say, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

But you, brethren, do not dwell in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief;

for you all represent the sons of light and sons of day We do not belong to the night nor of darkness;
so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us become alert and sober.

For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night.

But since we represent the day, let us show sobriety, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

who died for us, so that whether we live or die, we will live together with Him.

Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also have done.

**Christian Conduct**

But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,

and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.

We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, show patience with everyone.

See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which works good for one another and for all people.

Rejoice always;

pray without ceasing;

in everything give thanks; for this represents God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Do not quench the Spirit;

do not despise prophetic utterances.

But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which proves good;

abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We acknowledge as faithful He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

Brethren, pray for us.

Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.
We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as seems only fitting, because your faith has greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater; therefore, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.

This plainly indicates God's righteous judgment so that you God will consider you worthy of His kingdom, for which indeed you suffer.

For after all it seems only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who suffer affliction and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will reveal Himself from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

when He comes to receive glorification in His saints on that day, and to receive adoration among all who have believed--for our testimony you believed.

To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power,

so that you will glorify the name of our Lord Jesus, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
2 Thessalonians 2

NASB  E-Prime DFM

Man of Lawlessness

1 Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,

2 that you not become quickly shaken from your composure or become disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness reveals himself, the son of destruction,

4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as equivalent to God.

5 Do you not remember that while I still remained with you, I told you these things?

6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will reveal himself.

7 For the mystery of lawlessness already work; only he who now restrains will do so until God takes him out of the way.

8 Then that lawless one will become revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

9 namely, the one whose coming accords with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,

10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to receive salvation.

11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe falsehood,

12 in order that they all may receive judgment who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

13 But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

14 For this sanctification by the Spirit He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you received instruction, whether by word of mouth or by letter from us.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace,

comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.

II Thessalonians 3
NASB-E Prime DFM
Exhortation

1 Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and receive glorification, just as it did also with you;

2 and that we will have deliverance from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith.

3 But the Lord remains faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

4 We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you do well and will continue to do what we command.

5 May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ.

6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you,

8 nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we kept working night and day so that we would not burden any of you;

9 not because we do not have the right to this, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example.

10 For even when we dwelled with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone does not show willingness to work, then he should not eat, either.

11 For we hear that some among you lead an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.

12 Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.
But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that person and do not associate with him, so that he will suffer shame.

Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord remain with you all!

I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, and this distinguishes my mark in every letter; this demonstrates the way I write.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ remain with you all.

1 Timothy 1-6

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Misleadings in Doctrine and Living

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, who we acknowledge as our hope,

To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus so that you may instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines,
nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the administration of God which comes by faith.

But the goal of our instruction consists of love emanating from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

For some men, straying from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussion,

wanting to teach the Law, even though they do not understand either what they say or the matters about which they make confident assertions.

But we know that the Law has goodness, if one uses it lawfully,

realizing the fact that law does not hinder a righteous person, but for those who practice lawlessness and rebelliousness, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers

and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else proves contrary to sound teaching,

according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which He entrusted me.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service,

even though I formerly blasphemed and persecuted and became a violent aggressor Yet God had mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief;

and the grace of our Lord proved more than abundant, with the faith and love which I found in Christ Jesus.

I make a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I lead the pack.

Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, belong honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

This command I entrust to you, Timothy, my son, in accordance with the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you fight the good fight,

keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.

Among these we include Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan, so that they will learn not to blaspheme.
A Call to Prayer

1 First of all, then, I urge that you make entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings on behalf of all men,
2 for kings and all who exercise authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.
3 This proves good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,
4 who desires all men to receive salvation and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
5 For one God exists, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,
6 who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.
7 For this He appointed me a preacher and an apostle (I tell the truth, I do not lie) as a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.
8 Therefore I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension.

Women Instructed
Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments, but rather by means of good works, as we deem proper for women making a claim to godliness.

A woman must quietly receive instruction with submissiveness.

But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.

For God created Adam first created, and then Eve.

Adam did not fall into deception, but the woman became deceived and fell into transgression.

But women will preserve themselves through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.

1 Timothy 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Overseers and Deacons

1 We make a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, he desires to do a fine work.

2 An overseer, then, must live above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

3 not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money.

4 He must manage his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity

5 (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?),

6 and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.

7 And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

8 Deacons likewise must behave with dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain,

9 but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.
These men must also first submit to testing; then let them serve as deacons if they prove beyond reproach.

Women must likewise show dignity, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.

Deacons must have only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households.

For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith in Christ Jesus.

I write these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; but in case something delays me, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

By common confession, great we regard the mystery of godliness:

- He who revealed Himself in the flesh,
- Received vindication in the Spirit,
- Viewed by angels,
- Proclaimed among the nations,
- Believed on in the world,
- Taken up in glory.

1 Timothy 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Apostasy

1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

2 by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,

3 men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to for people to gratefully share by those who believe and know the truth.

4 For everything created by God has goodness, and we should reject nothing if they receive it with gratitude;

5 for it receives sanctification by means of the word of God and prayer.

A Good Minister’s Discipline
In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will become a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have followed.

But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness;

for bodily discipline brings only a little profit, but godliness profits for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

I make a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance.

For this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who saves all men, especially of believers.

Prescribe and teach these things.

Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.

Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching.

Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which God bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.

Take pains with these things; absorb yourself in them, so that all will notice your progress.

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

1 Timothy 5

Honor Widows

1 Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers,

2 the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

3 Honor widows who actually need assistance;
4 but if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to their parents; for God accepts this.

5 Now she who has become widow indeed and who has become abandoned, has fixed her hope on God and continues in entreaties and prayers night and day.

6 But she who gives herself to wanton pleasure has, in effect, died even while she lives.

7 Prescribe these things as well, so that they may remain above reproach.

8 But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and behaves worse than an unbeliever.

9 We should put a widow on the list only if she has reached sixty years, and had only married one man,

10 having a reputation for good works; and if she has brought up children, if she has shown hospitality to strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has assisted those in distress, and if she has devoted herself to every good work.

11 But refuse to put younger widows on the list, for when they feel sensual desires in disregard of Christ, they want to get married,

12 thus incurring condemnation, because they have set aside their previous pledge.

13 At the same time they also learn idleness, as they go around from house to house; and not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, talking about things not proper to mention.

14 Therefore, I want younger widows to get married, bear children, keep house, and give the enemy no occasion for reproach;

15 for some have already turned aside to follow Satan.

16 If any woman who we recognize as a believer has dependent widows, she must assist them and the church must not become burdened, so that it may assist those who we recognize as true widows indeed.

**Concerning Elders**

17 The elders who rule well we should consider worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.

18 For the Scripture says, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE THRESHES," and " The laborer deserves his wages."

19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses.
Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will have fear of sinning.

I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality.

Do not lay hands upon anyone too hastily and thereby share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin.

No longer drink water exclusively, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.

The sins of some men become evident, going before them to judgment; for others, their sins follow after.

Likewise also, good deeds become quite evident, and bad deeds we cannot conceal either.

1 Timothy 6
NASB E-Prime DFM
Instructions to Those Who Minister

1 All who find themselves under the yoke as slaves should regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that they will not speak against the name of God and our doctrine.

2 Those who have believers as their masters must not show disrespect to them because they recognize them as brethren, they must serve them all the more, because those who partake of the benefit we recognize them as believers and beloved Teach and preach these principles.

3 If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness,

4 he shows conceit and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions,

5 and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that they can use godliness as a means of gain.

6 But godliness actually can lead to great gain when accompanied by contentment.

7 For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

8 If we have food and covering, with these we shall have contentment.
9 But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.
10 For the love of money resembles a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many grievances.
11 But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.
12 Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you received your calling, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
13 I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate,
14 that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
15 which He will bring about at the proper time--He who we acknowledge as the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
16 who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen.
17 Instruct those who have grown rich in this present world not to have conceit or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.
18 Instruct them to do good, to become rich in good works, to show generosity and ready to share,
19 storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which life consists.
20 O Timothy, guard what I have entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what people falsely call "knowledge"--
21 which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. May grace accompany you.

2 Timothy 1-4
Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day,

longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may fill with joy.

For I stay mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I feel sure that it dwells in you as well.

For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which dwells in you through the laying on of my hands.

For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

Therefore do not feel ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,

who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which God granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

but now has become revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

for which He appointed me a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.

For this reason I also suffer these things, but I do not feel ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I feel convinced that He can guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which dwell in Christ Jesus.

Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which God has entrusted to you.

You realize that all who live in Asia turned away from me, among whom we number Phygelus and Hermogenes.

The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and did not have shame because of my chains;

but when he came to Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me--
18 the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day--and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus.

2 Timothy 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Remain Strong

1 You therefore, my son, remain strong in the grace that dwells in Christ Jesus.

2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will have the capability to teach others also.

3 Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

4 No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.

5 Also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules.

6 The hard-working farmer ought have the first opportunity to receive his share of the crops.

7 Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel,

9 for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but no one can imprison the word of God.

10 For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who God has chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which comes from Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

11 I make a trustworthy statement:
   For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him;
12 If we endure, we will also reign with Him;
   If we deny Him, He also will deny us;
13 If we show faithlessness, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

An Unashamed Workman

14 Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which proves useless and leads to the ruin of the hearers.
15Show diligence to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to feel ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.
16But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness,
17and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them we number Hymenaeus and Philetus,
18men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.
19Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, "The Lord knows those who belong to Him," and, "Everyone who names the name of the Lord should abstain from wickedness."
20Now in a large house we find not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.
21Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will become a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.
22Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.
23But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels.
24The Lord's bond-servant must not quarrel, but show kindness to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,
25with gentleness correcting those who oppose, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,
26and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having suffered captivity by him to do his will.
"Difficult Times Will Come"

1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.
2 For men will love themselves, become lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,
   unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,
3 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
4 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.
5 For among them we count those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses,
6 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.
7 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith.
8 But they will not make further progress; for their folly will appear obvious to all, just as Jannes's and Jambres's folly became evident.
9 Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance,
10 persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!
11 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.
12 But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and becoming deceived.
13 You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them,
15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which have the capacity to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which dwells in Christ Jesus.

16 All Scripture receives inspiration by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

17 so that the man of God may become adequate, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 4
NASB E-Prime DFM

"Preach the Word"
1 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

2 preach the word; remain ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

5 But you, keep sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

6 For I already have become poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;

8 in the future God has laid up for me the crown 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.

Personal Concerns
9 Make every effort to come to me soon;

10 for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.

11 Only Luke remains with me Pick up Mark and bring him with you, for he has proved useful to me for service.

12 But Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.
When you come bring the cloak which I left at Troas with Carpus, and the books, especially the parchments.

Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.

Stay on guard against him yourself, for he vigorously opposed our teaching.

At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me; may no one count that against them.

But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might reach full accomplishment, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I escaped out of the lion's mouth.

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him belong the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus.

Make every effort to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, also Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brethren.

The Lord go with your spirit. May you have grace.

Titus 1-3

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Salutation

Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which leads to godliness,

in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago,

but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which God entrusted me according to the commandment of God our Savior,

To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Qualifications of Elders

For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you,

namely, if any man lives above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion.
For the overseer must live above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain,

but hospitable, loving what we know as good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled,

holding fast the faithful word which accords with the teaching, so that he will have the capability to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

For we can identify many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,

who you must silence because they upset whole families, teaching things they should not teach for the sake of sordid gain.

One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, Cretans always lie, acting like evil beasts and lazy gluttons."

This testimony seems true. For this reason reprove them severely so that they may become sound in the faith,

not paying attention to Jewish myths and commandments of men who turn away from the truth.

To the pure, all things appear pure; but to those who have become defiled and unbelieving, nothing seems pure, but both their mind and their conscience have become defiled.

They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, behaving detestably, disobediently and worthlessly for any good deed.

Titus 2

NASB  E-Prime DFM

Duties of the Older and Younger

But as for you, speak the things which prove fitting for sound doctrine.

Older men need to show temperance, dignity, sensibility, soundness in faith, in love, in perseverance.

Older women likewise need to show reverence in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what proves good,

so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,

to behave sensibly, purely, becoming workers at home, kind, subjecting themselves to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not become dishonored.

Likewise urge the young men to show sensibility;
7in all things show yourself as an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified,
8sound in speech which people cannot reproach, so that the opponent will suffer shame, having nothing bad to say about us.
9Urge bondslaves to subject themselves to their own masters in everything, to have a pleasant demeanor, not argumentative,
10not pilfering, but showing all good faith so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.
11For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,
12instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,
13looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,
14who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.
15These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Titus 3

NASB E-Prime DFM
Godly Living
1Remind them to subject themselves to rulers, to authorities, to show obedience, to show readiness for every good deed,
2to malign no one, to behave peaceably, gently, showing every consideration for all men.
3For we also once demonstrated foolishness in ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.
4But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared,
5He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,
6which He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
7so that receiving justification by His grace we would become made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
8I make a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will carefully engage in good deeds. These things prove good and profitable for men.

9But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they prove unprofitable and worthless.

10Reject a factious man after a first and second warning,

11knowing that such a man has become perverted and has sinned condemning himself.

Personal Concerns
12When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.

13Diligently help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way so that they lack nothing.

14Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not become unfruitful.

15All who dwell with me greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith. May grace abound with you all.

Philemon 1

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Salutation
1Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved brother and fellow worker,

2and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

3Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon's Love and Faith
I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers,
because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints;
and I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which lies in you for Christ's sake.
For I have come to have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have receives refreshment through you, brother.
Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to order you to do what we consider proper,
yet for love's sake I rather appeal to you--since I make this request as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus--

Plea for Onesimus, a Free Man
I appeal to you for my child Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my imprisonment,
who formerly proved useless to you, but now has usefulness both to you and to me.
I have sent him back to you in person, namely, sending my very heart,
whom I wished to keep with me, so that on your behalf he might minister to me in my imprisonment for the gospel;
but without your consent I did not want to do anything, so that your goodness would not result, in effect, by compulsion but of your own free will.
For perhaps he for this reason separated himself from you for a while, that you would have him back forever,
o longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.
If then you regard me a partner, accept him as you would me.
But if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to my account;
I, Paul, write this with my own hand, I will repay it (not to mention to you that you owe to me even your own self as well).
Yes, brother, let me benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.
Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, since I know that you will do even more than what I say.
At the same time also prepare me a lodging, for I hope that through your prayers I will come to you.
Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you,
25 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ accompanies your spirit.

Hebrews 1-13
Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas
God's Final Word in His Son

1God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,
2in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.
3And He radiates His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
4having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.
5For to which of the angels did He ever say,
   "I ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AS MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"?
   And again,
   "I WILL SERVE AS A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL REGARD ME AS HIS FATHER"?
6And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, 
   "AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."
7And of the angels He says,
   "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS, AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE."
8But of the Son He says,
   "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, LASTS FOREVER AND EVER,
AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER WE ACKNOWLEDGE AS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM.

9"YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS."

10And, "YOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS REPRESENT THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS;

11THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; AND THEY ALL WILL BECOME OLD LIKE A GARMENT,

12AND LIKE A MANTLE YOU WILL ROLL THEM UP; LIKE A GARMENT THEY WILL ALSO CHANGE BUT YOU REMAIN THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT COME TO AN END."

13But to which of the angels has He ever said, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET"?

14DO they not all serve as ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

Hebrews 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Give Heed

1For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it.

2For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty,

3how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it initially became first spoken through the Lord, those who heard confirmed it to us,

4God also testified with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

Earth Subject to Man

5For He did not subject to angels the world to come, concerning which we speak.

6But one has testified somewhere, saying,

"WHAT DOES MAN CONSIST OF, THAT YOU REMEMBER HIM?
OR THE SON OF MAN, THAT YOU CONCERN YOURSELF ABOUT HIM?

7"YOU HAVE MADE HIM FOR A LITTLE WHILE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS; YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR, AND HAVE APPOINTED HIM OVER THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS;
YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET" For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that has not become subject to him But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.

Jesus Briefly Humbled

But we do see Him who God the Father made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

For it seemed appropriate for Him, for whom came all things, and through whom came all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

For both He who sanctifies and those who receive sanctification come from one Father; for which reason He does not feel ashamed to call them brethren,

saying,

"I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN,
IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE."

And again,

"I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM"
And again, "BEHOLD, I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME."

Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, namely, the devil,

and might free those who through fear of death felt subject to slavery all their lives.

For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham.

Therefore, He had to become made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

For since He Himself received temptation in that which He has suffered, He has the capability to come to the aid of those who undergo temptation.

Hebrews 3

NASB  E-Prime DFM

Jesus Our High Priest
Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession;

He remained faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also remained faithful in all His house.

For we count Him worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.

For someone builds every house, but God builds all things.

Now Moses remained faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which became spoken later;

but Christ remained faithful as a Son over His house—whose house we have become, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.

Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says,

"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,

DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME,

AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS,

WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED ME BY TESTING ME,

AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS.

THEREFORE I BECAME ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION,

AND SAID, 'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART,

AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS';

AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH,

'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.'"

The Peril of Unbelief

Take care, brethren, that there not exist in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

But encourage one another day after day, as long as we still acknowledge "Today," so that none of you will become hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end,

while the scripture says,

"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,

DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME."
16 For who provoked Him when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses?

17 And with whom did He become angry for forty years? Did it not occur with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?

18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who disobeyed?

19 So we see that they could not enter because of unbelief.

Hebrews 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Believer's Rest

1 Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it.

2 For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it did not connect to faith in those who heard.

3 For we who have believed enter that rest, just as He has said, "AS I SPORED IN MY WRATH, THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST," although His works came to a conclusion from the foundation of the world.

4 For He has said somewhere concerning the seventh day: "AND GOD RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY FROM ALL HIS WORKS";

5 and again in this passage, "THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST."

6 Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience,

7 He again fixes a certain day, "Today," saying through David after so long a time just as the scriptures has said before,

"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,
DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS."

8 For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that.

9 So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

10 For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.

11 Therefore let us show diligence to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience.
For the word of God lives and acts and seems sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

And no creature can hide from His sight, but all things have become open and lay bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has suffered temptation in all things as we have, yet without sin.

Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Hebrews 5**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**The Perfect High Priest**

1 For every high priest taken from among men receives appointment on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins;

2 he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided, since he himself also experienced weakness;

3 and because of it he has an obligation to offer sacrifices for sins, as for the people, so also for himself.

4 And no one takes the honor to himself, but receives it when God calls him, even as He called Aaron.

5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him,

   "I ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AS MY SON,
   TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU";

6 just as He says also in another passage,

   "I APPOINT YOU AS A PRIEST FOREVER
   ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."

7 In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and God heard him because of His piety.

8 Although God confirmed Him as a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.
And having grown into perfection, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,
Receiving designation from God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.
Concerning him we have much to say, and we find it hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.
For though by this time you ought to serve as teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.
For everyone who partakes only of milk has not familiarized himself to the word of righteousness, for he resembles an infant.
But solid food we reserve for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

Hebrews 6
NASB E-Prime DFM
The Peril of Falling Away
Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,
of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.
And this we will do, if God permits.
For in the case of those who have once have received enlightenment and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have partaken of the Holy Spirit,
and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,
and then have fallen away, it has become impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.
For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it has received tilling, receives a blessing from God;
but if it yields thorns and thistles, we regard it as worthless and subject to receiving curses, and it ends up burned.
Better Things for You
But, beloved, we have conviction of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this way.
For God does not act unjustly so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.

And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end,

so that you will not show sluggishness, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,

saying, "I WILL SURELY BLESS YOU AND I WILL SURELY MULTIPLY YOU."

And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.

For men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as confirmation proves an end of every dispute.

In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,

so that by two unchangeable things in which God has proclaimed it impossible, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,

where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

**Hebrews 7**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**Melchizedek's Priesthood Like Christ's**

For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham as he returned from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

to whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth part of all the spoils, was first of all, by the translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then also king of Salem, which means king of peace.

Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, He remains a priest perpetually.

Now observe how great this man seemed to Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils.
And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest's office have commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, namely, from their brethren, although these have descended from Abraham.

But the one whose genealogy has not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises.

But without any dispute the greater blesses the lesser.

In this case mortal men receive tithes, but in that case one receives them, of whom we witnessed that he lives on.

And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes, paid tithes,

for he existed in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.

Now if perfection came through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need did we have for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not receive designation according to the order of Aaron?

For when the priesthood becomes changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also.

For the one concerning whom these things people have spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar.

For it has become evident that our Lord had descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.

And this becomes clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek,

who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life.

For God attested of Him,

"I APPOINT YOU AS A PRIEST FOREVER
ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."

For, on the one hand, there appears a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness

(for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there will occur a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.

And inasmuch as it did not occur without an oath

(for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath through the One who said to Him,

"THE LORD HAS SWORN
AND WILL NOT CHANGE HIS MIND,
'I APPOINT YOU A PRIEST FOREVER'");
so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

The former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because death prevented them from continuing,

but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently.

Therefore He has the ability to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

For it seemed fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;

who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

For the Law appoints men as high priests who have inherent weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the Law, appoints a Son, made perfect forever.

Hebrews 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

A Better Ministry

Now the main point in what we have said consists of this: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.

For every high priest receives appointment to offer both gifts and sacrifices; so it becomes necessary that this high priest also have something to offer.

Now if He lived on earth, He would serve as a priest at all, since there exist those who offer the gifts according to the Law;

who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as God warned Moses when he intended to erect the tabernacle; for, "SEE," He says, "THAT YOU MAKE all things ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN WHICH I SHOWED YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN."

But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He serves also as the mediator of a better covenant, which God has enacted on better promises.

A New Covenant
7For if that first covenant had no fault, there would have existed no occasion sought for a second.
8For finding fault with them, He says,
   "BEHOLD, DAYS COME, SAYS THE LORD, WHEN I WILL EFFECT A NEW COVENANT WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND WITH THE HOUSE OF JUDAH;
9NOT LIKE THE COVENANT WHICH I MADE WITH THEIR FATHERS ON THE DAY WHEN I TOOK THEM BY THE HAND TO LEAD THEM OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT; FOR THEY DID NOT CONTINUE IN MY COVENANT, AND I DID NOT CARE FOR THEM, SAYS THE LORD.

10"FOR THIS COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MINDS, AND I WILL WRITE THEM ON THEIR HEARTS. AND I WILL RULE AS THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BECOME MY PEOPLE.

11"AND THEY SHALL NOT TEACH EVERYONE HIS FELLOW CITIZEN, AND EVERYONE HIS BROTHER, SAYING, 'KNOW THE LORD,' FOR ALL WILL KNOW ME, FROM THE LEAST TO THE GREATEST OF THEM.

12"FOR I WILL HAVE MERCY FOR THEIR INIQUITIES, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE."

13When He said, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete But whatever becomes obsolete and grows old, ready to disappear.

Hebrews 9
NASB E-Prime DFM
The Old and the New
1Now even the first covenant had regulations of divine worship and the earthly sanctuary.
2For people prepared a tabernacle, the outer one, in which stood the lampstand and the table and the sacred bread; this we called the holy place.
3Behind the second veil there stood a tabernacle which we called the Holy of Holies,
4 having a golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which stood a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant;

5 and above it appeared the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat; but of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

6 Now when people have prepared these things, the priests continually enter the outer tabernacle performing the divine worship,

7 but into the second, only the high priest enters once a year, not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance.

8 The Holy Spirit signifies this, that the way into the holy place has not yet become disclosed while the outer tabernacle still stands,

9 which serves as a symbol for the present time. Accordingly both gifts and sacrifices priests offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience,

10 since they relate only to food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation.

11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, in other words, not of this creation;

12 and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

13 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have become defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh,

14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

15 For this reason He serves as the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that people committed under the first covenant, those who God called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

16 For where a covenant takes place, there must of necessity occur the death of the one who made it.

17 For a covenant becomes valid only when men die, for it had never become enforced while the one who made it lives.

18 Therefore even the first covenant had not become inaugurated without blood.

19 For after Moses had spoken every commandment to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with
water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,

28 saying, "THIS REPRESENTS THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT WHICH GOD COMMANDED YOU."

21 And in the same way he sprinkled both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry with the blood.

22 And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things become cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood no forgiveness takes place.

23 Therefore it became necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to become cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

24 For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

25 nor would He offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy place year by year with blood that does not belong to him.

26 Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He manifested Himself to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

27 And inasmuch as men have an appointment to die once and after this comes judgment,

28 so Christ also, having offered himself once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.

Hebrews 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

One Sacrifice of Christ Is Sufficient

1 For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near.

2 Otherwise, would they not have ceased to offer them, because the worshipers, having once undergone cleansing, would no longer have had consciousness of sins?

3 But in those sacrifices a reminder of sins exists year by year.

4 For it proves impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

5 Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says,

"SACRIFICE AND OFFERING YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED,
BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME;

6 IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND SACRIFICES FOR SIN YOU HAVE TAKEN NO PLEASURE.

7 "THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME
   (IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT SAYS OF ME)
   TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.'"

8 After saying above, "SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS AND WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, NOR HAVE YOU TAKEN PLEASURE in them" (which are offered according to the Law),

9 then He said, "BEHOLD, I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL." He takes away the first in order to establish the second.

10 By this will we have received sanctification through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11 Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins;

12 but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,

13 waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BECOME A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET.

14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who receive sanctification.

15 And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying,

16 "THIS DESIGNATES THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM
   AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD:
   I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART,
   AND ON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM,"
   He then says,

17 "AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS
   I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE."

18 Now where no forgiveness of these things exists, there can no longer exist any offering for sin.

A New and Living Way

19 Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus,

20 by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, namely, His flesh,
and since we have a great priest over the house of God,
let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised demonstrates faithfulness;
and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as has become the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Christ or Judgment
For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,
but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.
Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.
How much severe punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he received sanctification, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?
For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE BELONGS TO ME, I WILL REPAY"
"And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE."
It proves a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.
But remember the former days, when, after receiving enlightenment, you endured a great conflict of sufferings,
partly by serving as a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who received the same treatment.
For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one.
Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.
For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what He had promised you.
FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE,
   HE WHO COMES WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.
BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH;
AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

But we do not shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

Hebrews 11
NASB E-Prime DFM
The Triumphs of Faith
1 Now faith proves the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
2 For by it the men of old gained approval.
3 By faith we understand that the worlds received preparations by the word of God, so that what we see did not appear out of things which have visibility.
4 By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he acted righteously, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he has died, he still speaks.
5 By faith God took Enoch up so that he would not see death; AND NO ONE COULD FIND HIM BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM UP; for he obtained the witness that before God took him up He found Enoch pleasing.
6 And without faith one finds it impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.
7 By faith Noah, when God warned him about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which proves according to faith.
8 By faith Abraham, when God called him, obeyed by going out to a place which he would receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where God planned to lead him.
9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise;
10 for he looked for the city which has foundations, which God planned and built.
11 By faith Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised.
12 Therefore there became born even of one man, and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN IN NUMBER, AND INNUMERABLE AS THE SAND WHICH EXIST BY THE SEASHORE.
All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they considered themselves strangers and exiles on the earth.

For those who say such things make it clear that they seek a country of their own.

And indeed if they had thought of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return.

But as it turned out, they desire a better country, namely, a heavenly one. Therefore God does not feel ashamed to serve as their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son;

God said of Abraham, "IN ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL RECEIVE THEIR CALLING."

He considered that God can raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.

By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding things to come.

By faith Jacob, as he died, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff.

By faith Joseph, before he died, made mention of the exodus of the sons of Israel, and gave orders concerning his bones.

By faith Moses, when he entered the world, remained hidden for three months by his parents, because he appeared a beautiful child; and they did not fear the king's edict.

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused people to call him the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who remains unseen.

By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that he who destroyed the firstborn would not touch them.

By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though they passed through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, drowned.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after Joshua had encircled it for seven days.
31 By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish along with those who disobeyed, after she had welcomed the spies in peace.

32 And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions,

34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness received strength, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

35 Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others endured torture, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection;

36 and others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment.

37 They suffered stoning, their torturers sawed them in two, they endured temptation, they endured death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, having become destitute, afflicted, ill-treated (men of whom the world did not deserve), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground.

39 And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive their promises, because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not receive perfecting.

Hebrews 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus, the Example

1 Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race set before us,

2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfe (perfecter) of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

A Father's Discipline
4You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin;
5and you have forgotten the exhortation which God addresses you as sons,
   "MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD,
   NOR FAINT WHEN HE REPROVES YOU;
6FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES,
   AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES."
7For discipline you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son lives whom his father does not discipline?
8But if you have no discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you seem more like illegitimate children and not sons.
9Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather subject ourselves to the Father of spirits, and live?
10For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness.
11All discipline for the moment seems not joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have endured training by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.
12Therefore, strengthen the hands that grow weak and the knees that grow feeble,
13and make straight paths for your feet, so that the lame limb may not go out of joint, but rather receive healing.
14Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.
15See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many suffer defilement;
16that there should live no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal.
17For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, God rejected him, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears.

Contrast of Sinai and Zion
18For you have not come to a mountain that one can touch and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind,
19and to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words which sound resembled such that those who heard begged that God would speak no further word to them.
For they could not bear the command, "IF EVEN A BEAST TOUCHES THE MOUNTAIN, YOU WILL STONE IT."

And so terrible appeared the sight, that Moses said, "I FEEL FULL OF FEAR and trembling."

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,

to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who have received enrollment in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,

and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.

The Unshaken Kingdom

See to it that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven.

And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, "YET ONCE MORE I WILL SHAKE NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVEN."

This expression, "Yet once more," denotes the removing of those things which can shake, as of created things, so that those things which cannot shake may remain.

Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot shake, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;

for our God resembles a consuming fire.

Hebrews 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Changeless Christ

1Let love of the brethren continue.

2Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.

3Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who some have ill-treated, since you yourselves also reside in the body.

4All shall hold marriage in honor among all, and the marriage bed should remain undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.
5Make sure that your character stays free from the love of money, having contentment with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,"

6so that we confidently say,
   "THE LORD HELPS ME, I WILL NOT FEAR.
   WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?"

7Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.

8Jesus Christ remains the same yesterday and today and forever.

9Do not get carried away by varied and strange teachings; for it does the heart good to receive strength by grace, not by foods, through which those who occupied themselves could not receive benefit.

10We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

11For the bodies of those animals whose blood the high priest brought into the holy place as an offering for sin, become burned outside the camp.

12Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

13So, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

14For here we do not have a lasting city, but we seek the city which will come.

God-pleasing Sacrifices

15Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, namely, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

16And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God seems pleased.

17Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would seem unprofitable for you.

18Pray for us, for we have assurance that we have a good conscience, desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things.

19And I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may become restored to you the sooner.

Benediction

20Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord,
James 1-5

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Testing Your Faith

1 James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes dispersed abroad: Greetings.

2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may become perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and God will give it to him.

6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts resembles the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

7 For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord,

8 Having become double-minded, showing instability in all his ways.

9 But the brother of humble circumstances should glory in his high position;

10 and the rich man should glory in his humiliation, because like flowering grass he will pass away.
11 For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance perishes; so too the rich man in the midst of his pursuits will fade away.

12 God blesses the man who perseveres under trial; for once God approves him, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

13 Let no one say, when he falls into temptation, "God has tempted me"; for God does not succumb to evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

14 But each one falls into temptation when his own lust carries himself away and enticing him.

15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin has matured, it brings forth death.

16 Do not fall under deception, my beloved brethren.

17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift comes from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who demonstrates no variation or shifting shadow.

18 In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

19 This you know, my beloved brethren But everyone must quickly hear, slowly speak and have self control regarding anger;

20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which can save your souls.

22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

23 For if anyone hears the word and does not do the word, he resembles a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;

24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what he previously looked like.

25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will receive blessings in what he does.

26 If anyone considers himself religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion has no worth.

27 Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father consists of this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.
James 2
NASB E-Prime DFM

The Sin of Partiality

1 My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism.

2 For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,

3 and you pay special attention to the one who wears the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,"

4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?

5 Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to demonstrate richness in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Does not the rich oppress you and personally drag you into court?

7 Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have received your calling?

8 If, however, you fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "OU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you do well.

9 But if you show partiality, you commit sin and the law convicts you as transgressors.

10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.

11 For He who said, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, "DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak and so act as those who will receive judgment by the law of liberty.

13 For judgment will show no mercy to the one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

Faith and Works

14 What use can it serve, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?
If a brother or sister has no clothing and in need of daily food,
and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, become warm and filled," and yet you do not give them what they need for their body, what good can come of that?

Even so faith, if it has no works, has perished.
But someone may well say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works."
You believe that God consists of one Entity You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.
But can you recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works has no use?
Did not Abraham our father receive justification by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar?
You see that Abraham demonstrated faith in his works, and as a result of the works, faith became perfected;
and the Scripture reached fulfillment which says, "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND GOD RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," calling himself the friend of God.
You see that a man receives justification by works and not by faith alone.
In the same way, didn’t Rahab the harlot receive justification by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?
For just as the body without the spirit will die, so also faith without works will die.

James 3
NASB E-Prime DFM
The Tongue Ignotes a Fire
Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment.
For we all stumble in many ways If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he becomes a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well.
Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well.
Look at the ships also, though they look so great and receive propulsion by strong winds, still receive direction by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires.
So we also consider the tongue a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things See how a small fire sets a great forest!

And the tongue resembles a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue rests among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and becomes ignited by hell.

The human race has tamed every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea.

But no one can tame the tongue; it contains restless evil and full of deadly poison.

With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, whom God has made in His likeness.

from the same mouth comes both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to occur in this fashion.

Does a fountain send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water?

Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh.

Wisdom from Above

Who among you claims wisdom and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.

But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not demonstrate arrogance and so lie against the truth.

This wisdom does not come down from above, but demonstrates earthly, natural, and demonic qualities.

For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, disorder and every evil thing exists.

But the wisdom from above demonstrates purity, peace, gentleness, reason, fullness of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

Those who make peace will sow the seed whose fruit we ascertain as righteousness sown in peace.

James 4

Things to Avoid

What causes quarrels and conflicts among you? Do they not come from your pleasures that wage war in your members?
2 You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You envy and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world equates to hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to seek friendship with the world makes himself an enemy of God.

5 Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"?

6 But He gives a greater grace Therefore it says, "GOD OPPOSES TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

7 Submit therefore to GodResist the devil and he will flee from you.

8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

9 Humble yourselves in misery and mourn and weep; let your laughter turn into mourning and your joy to gloom.

10 Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

11 Do not speak against one another, brethren He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you cannot consider yourself a doer of the law but a judge of it.

12 Only one Lawgiver and Judge exists, the One who can save and to destroy; but how can you presume to judge your neighbor?

13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit."

14 Yet you do not know what your life will have become tomorrow. You resemble a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

15 Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that."

16 But currently, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting has an evil source.

17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, he sins.
James 5
NASB E-Prime DFM
Misuse of Riches
1 Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which come upon you.
2 Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten.
3 Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. You have stored up your treasure in the last days!
4 Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, and which have withheld, cries out against you; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.
5 You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.
6 You have condemned and put to death the righteous man; he does not resist you.

Exhortation
7 Therefore have patience, brethren, until the coming of the Lord The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, exercising patience about it, until it gets the early and late rains.
8 You too have patience; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord has come near.
9 Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not receive judgment; behold, the Judge stands right at the door.
10 As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
11 We count those blessed who endured You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord has demonstrated compassion and mercy fully.
12 But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but your yes must remain yes, and your no, no, so that you may not fall under judgment.
13 Does anyone among you suffer? Then he must pray Does anyone have a cheerful outlook? He should sing praises.
14 Has anyone among you become sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they should pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord;
15 and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who has become sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, the Lord will forgive him.
16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may receive healing. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.
17 Elijah had a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months.
18 Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.
19 My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back,
20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

1 Peter 1-5
Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

A Living Hope, and a Sure Salvation
1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, whom God has chosen
2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and receive the sprinkling of His blood: May grace and peace come to you in the fullest measure.
3 Blessings accrue to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to receive the spiritual rebirth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
to obtain an inheritance which does not perish and become defiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

who receive protection through the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to come to full revelation in the last time.

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, various trials have distressed you,

so that the proof of your faith, more precious than gold which perishes, even though tested by fire, may result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries,

seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.

God revealed to them that they should not serve themselves, but you, in these things which He has announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven--things into which angels long to look.

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace which will come to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

As obedient children, do not conform yourselves to the former lusts which you served in your ignorance,

but like the Holy One who called you, practice holiness yourselves also in all your behavior;

because we read, "YOU SHALL PRACTICE HOLINESS, FOR I Embody HOLINESS."

If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth;

knowing that God did not redeem you with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,

but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

For God has foreknown Him before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you
who through Him become believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope remain in God.

Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

for you have received a spiritual rebirth not of seed which perishes but imperishable, namely, through the living and enduring word of God.

"ALL FLESH RESEMBLES GRASS,
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS,
AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,
BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER "
And this word we have preached to you.

1 Peter 2
NASB E-Prime DFM

As Newborn Babes
1Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander,
2like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,
3if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

As Living Stones
4And coming to Him as to a living stone which men rejected, but whom God regarded as choice and precious,
5you also, as living stones, have become constructed as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
6For this appears in Scripture:
"BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone,
AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT HAVE DISAPPOINTMENT."
7This precious value, then, accrues to you who believe; but for those who disbelieve,
"THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED,
THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone,"
"A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE";
for they stumble because they disobey the word, and to this doom they appointed themselves.

But GOD has made you A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR HIS OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

for you once could not claim kinship as A PEOPLE, but now you have become THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of [a] visitation.

Honor Authority

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority,
or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.

For God wills that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.

Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bondslaves of God.

Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

Servants, submit to your masters with all respect, not only to those who do good and exercise gentleness, but also to those who behave unreasonably.

For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly.

For what credit do you have if, when you sin and receive harsh treatment, you endure it with patience? But if when you do right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God.

Christ Provides Our Example

For God has called you for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR DECEIVED ANY WITH HIS MOUTH;
and while people reviled Him, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;

and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you received healing.

For you continually strayed like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 3
NASB E-Prime DFM
Godly Living

1 In the same way, you wives, submit to your own husbands so that even if any of them disobey the word, you may win them without a word by the behavior of their wives,

2 as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.

3 Your adornment must not consist of external behavior merely external--braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses;

4 but let it reside in the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which God considers precious in His sight.

5 For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, showing submission to their own husbands;

6 just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you right without having any fear.

7 You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since God created her a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not suffer hindrance.

8 To sum up, all of you behave harmoniously, sympathetically, brotherly, kindheartedly, and humbly in spirit;

9 not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for God called you for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.

10 For,
   "THE ONE WHO DESIRES LIFE, TO LOVE AND SEE GOOD DAYS,
   MUST KEEP HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING DECEIT.

11" HE MUST TURN AWAY FROM EVIL AND DO GOOD;
   HE MUST SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT.
FOR THE LORD DIRECTS HIS EYES TOWARD THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ATTEND TO THEIR PRAYER, BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD SHUNS THOSE WHO DO EVIL."

Who will harm you if you prove zealous for good?

But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, God blesses you AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION, AND DO NOT ALLOW THEM TO TROUBLE YOU,

but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always demonstrate readiness to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that you have, yet with gentleness and reverence;

and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which people slander you, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will suffer shame.

You will find it preferable, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing right rather than for doing wrong.

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having suffered death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;

in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison,

who once disobeyed, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which God brought a few, namely, eight persons safely through the water.

Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

who sits at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after God subjected angels and authorities and powers to Him.

1 Peter 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Keep Fervent in Your Love

Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.
3 For the time already past has proven sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries.

4 In all this, they show surprise that you do not run with them into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you;

5 but they will give account to Him who has the capability and the readiness to judge the living and the dead.

6 For God’s servants have preached the gospel to you for this purpose, preaching even to those who have died, that though they have received judgment in the flesh as men, they may live in the spirit according to the will of God.

7 The end of all things draws near; therefore, exercise sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

9 Show hospitality to one another without complaint.

10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

11 Whoever speaks should do so as one who speaks the utterances of God; whoever serves should do so as one who serves by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may have glory through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**Share the Sufferings of Christ**

12 Beloved, do not seem surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing had happened to you;

13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

14 If someone reviles you for the name of Christ, you receive a blessing, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;

16 but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he should not have shame, but should glorify God in this name.

17 For the time for judgment has arrived, beginning with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what kind of outcome will befall those who do not obey the gospel of God?
18 AND IF THE RIGHTEOUS FIND SALVATION DIFFICULT, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GODLESS MAN AND THE SINNER?

19 Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing right.

1 Peter 5
NASB E-Prime DFM
Serve God Willingly

1 Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that will soon come to revelation,

2 shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness;

3 nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but providing examples to the flock.

4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

5 You younger men, likewise, subject yourselves to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for GOD OPPOSES THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

8 Have a of sober spirit, stay alert for Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

9 But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering take place in your brethren who live in the world.

10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

11 May God have dominion forever and ever. Amen.
12 Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that he stand firm in the true grace of God!

13 She who lives in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.

14 Greet one another with a kiss of love May all have peace who are in Christ.

2 Peter 1-3

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Growth in Christian Virtue

1 Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:

2 May grace and peace multiply to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;

3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that remains in the world by lust.

5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge,

6 and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance,

7 and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love.

8 For if these qualities belong to you and have increased, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 For he who lacks these qualities has become blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins.

10 Therefore, brethren, show more diligence to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;
for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Who will abundantly supply them to you.

Therefore, I will always readily remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and have become established in the truth which resides with you.

I consider it right, as long as I reside in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder,

knowing that the laying aside of my earthly dwelling has become imminent, as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.

And I will diligently make sure that at any time after my departure you will have the capability of calling these things to mind.

Eyewitnesses

For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we witnessed His majesty first hand.

For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this God the Father made to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This one I designate as My beloved Son with whom I feel well-pleased"--

and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we stayed with Him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture becomes a matter of one's own interpretation,

for no prophecy ever came about by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Eyewitnesses

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So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture becomes a matter of one's own interpretation,

for no prophecy ever came about by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.
But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also emerge false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.

Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth they will malign;

and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago does not remain idle, and their destruction does not sleep.

For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;

and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter;

and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men

(for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds),

then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,

and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties,

whereas angels who have greater might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord.

But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to fall into captivity and die, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also suffer destruction,

suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime They resemble stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse with you,

having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children;

forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;
but he received a rebuke for his own transgression, for a mute donkey, speaking with a voice of a man, restrained the madness of the prophet.

These resemble springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom God has reserved the black darkness.

For speaking out arrogant words of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error, promising them freedom while they themselves enslave themselves to corruption; for by what overcomes a man enslaves him.

For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they again entangle themselves in them and succumb to them, the last state has become worse for them than the first.

For it would have become more desirable for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them.

It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire."

2 Peter 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Purpose of This Letter

This constitutes now, beloved, the second letter I write to you in which I stir up your sincere mind by way of reminder,

that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.

The Coming Day of the Lord

Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts,

and saying, "Where do we find the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it had from the beginning of creation."

For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the He formed the earth out of water and by water,

through which He destroyed the world at that time, flooding it with water.
But by His word God has reserved the present heavens and earth for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day resembles a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

The Lord does not delay about His promise, as some count slowness, but shows patience toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

A New Heaven and Earth

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will dissolve with intense heat, and the earth and its works will burn up.

Since God will destroy all these things in this way, what sort of people ought you aspire to in holy conduct and godliness,

looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will suffer destruction by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

But according to His promise we look for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, diligently strive to have Him find you in peace, spotless and blameless,

and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you,

as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which we find some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, keep on your guard so that you become unduly influences by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness,

but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ To Him we recognize the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.
1 John 1-5

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Introduction, The Incarnate Word

1 What existed from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life--

2 and the life manifested itself, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which existed with the Father and became manifested to us--

3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed we have our fellowship with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

4 These things we write, so that our joy may come to completion.

God Constitutes Light

5 We recognize this as the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God comprises Light, and in Him there exists no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself walks in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth does not reside in us.

9 If we confess our sins, He faithfully and righteously forgives us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word does not dwell in us.

1 John 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Christ Has Become Our Advocate
1 My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

2 and He Himself has become the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

3 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

4 The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, lies, and the truth does not dwell in him;

5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly grown toward perfection. By this we know that we dwell in Him:

6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

7 Beloved, I have not written a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment you will recognize as the word which you have heard.

8 On the other hand, I do write a new commandment to you, which proves true in Him and in you, because the darkness passes away and the true Light already shines.

9 The one who says he walks in the Light and yet hates his brother dwells in the darkness until now.

10 The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and demonstrates no cause for stumbling in him.

11 But the one who hates his brother lives in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he goes because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

12 I write to you, little children, because you receive forgiveness for your sins.

13 I write to you, fathers, because you know Him who has existed from the beginning I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one I have written to you, children, because you know the Father.

14 I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has existed from the beginning I have written to you, young men, because you have strength, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

Do Not Love the World

15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father does not dwell in him.
16 For all that dwells in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, does not emanate from the Father, but comes from the world.

17 The world passes away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

18 Children, the last hour has come; and just as you heard that antichrist will come, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that the last hour has come.

19 They went out from us, but they didn’t really belong to us; for if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would become apparent that they did not belong to us.

20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know.

21 I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie derives from the truth.

22 Who has branded himself as the liar but the one who denies that Jesus constitutes the Christ? The antichrist denies the Father and the Son.

23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also.

24 As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.

The Promise Constitutes Eternal Life

25 This constitutes the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.

26 These things I have written to you concerning those who have tried to deceive you.

27 As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and has revealed truth and not falsehood, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.

28 Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming.

29 If you know that He encompasses righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness has become born of Him.
1 John 3  
NASB E-Prime DFM  
Children of God Love One Another

1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that He would call us children of God; and such we have become For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

2 Beloved, now we have become children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be will have become We will know that when He appears, we will resemble Him, because we will see Him just as He appears now.

3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He comprises purity.

4 Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin equates with lawlessness.

5 You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him no sin exists.

6 No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him.

7 Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness has become righteous, just as He comprises righteous;

8 the one who practices sin comes from the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

9 No one who has become born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he has become born of God.

10 By this the children of God and the children of the devil become obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness does not belong to God, nor the one who does not love his brother.

11 For this message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another;

12 not as Cain, who, giving himself to the evil one and slew his brother And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds became evil, and his brother behaved righteously.

13 Do not show surprise, brethren, if the world hates you.
14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.
15 Everyone who hates his brother behaves as a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.
16 We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
17 But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?
18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.
19 We will know by this that we belong to the truth, and will assure our heart before Him
20 in whatever our heart condemns us; for God has more influence than our heart and knows all things.
21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;
22 and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that please Him.
23 This constitutes His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.
24 The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

1 John 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Testing the Spirits

1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they come from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh comes from God;
3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus does not come from God; this identifies the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it will come, and now it has already appeared in the world.
4You come from God, little children, and have overcome them; because We recognize Him as greater who dwells in you than he who dwells in the world.
5They come from the world; therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them.
6We come from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who does not from God does not listen to us By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

**God Constitutes Love**

7Beloved, let us love one another, for love comes from God; and everyone who loves has become born of God and knows God.
8The one who does not love does not know God, for God constitutes love.
9By this the love of God manifested itself in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.
10In this we see love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to serve as the propitiation for our sins.
11Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
12No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love can perfect in us.
13By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.
14We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to serve as the Savior of the world.
15Whoever confesses that we identify Jesus as the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.
16We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us God constitutes love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.
17By this, love perfects within us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He appears now, so also we appear in this world.
18There exists no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears has not received perfection in love.
19We love, because He first loved us.
20If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he lies; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.
And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also

1 John 5
NASB E-Prime DFM
Overcoming the World

1 Whoever believes that Jesus constitutes the Christ who has become born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.

3 For this demonstrates the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments do not seem burdensome.

4 For whatever becomes born of God overcomes the world; and this constitutes the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

5 Who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus constitutes the Son of God?

6 This One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood The Spirit testifies, because the Spirit reveals the truth.

7 For three testify:

8 the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three agree.

9 If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God we regard as greater; for the testimony of God consists of this, that He has testified concerning His Son.

10 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son.

11 And the testimony consists of this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life exists in His Son.

12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

This I Have Written That You May Know

13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

14 This confidence we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.
15 And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

16 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. Some sins do lead to death; I do not say that he should make request for this.

17 All unrighteousness equates with sin, and certain sins do not lead to death.

18 We know that no one who has become born of God sins; but He who has become born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

19 We know that we belong to God, and that the whole world lies under the power of the evil one.

20 And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who remains true; and we dwell in Him who remains true, in His Son Jesus Christ This we acknowledge as the true God and eternal life.

21 Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

2 John 1 wfn
Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Walk According to His Commandments

1 The elder to the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in truth; and not only I, but also all who know the truth,

2 for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will abide with us forever:

3 Grace, mercy and peace will dwell with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

4 I felt very glad to find some of your children walking in truth, just as we have received commandment to do from the Father.

5 Now I ask you, lady, not as though I had written to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another.
6 And this shows love, that we walk according to His commandments. This constitutes the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.

7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This represents the tactic of the deceiver and the antichrist.

8 Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.

9 Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting;

11 for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.

12 Though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that your joy may be full.

13 The children of your chosen sister greet you.

3 John 1

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

You Walk in the Truth

1 The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.

2 Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and remain in good health, just as your soul prospers.

3 For I felt very glad when brethren came and testified to your truth, namely, how you walk in truth.

4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.

5 Beloved, you act faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially when they have seemed strangers;

6 and they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God.

7 For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles.

8 Therefore we ought to support such men, so that we may act as fellow workers with the truth.
9 I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to place himself as first among them, does not accept what we say.

10 For this reason, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds which he does, unjustly accusing us with wicked words; and not satisfied with this, he himself does not receive the brethren, either, and he forbids those who desire to do so and puts them out of the church.

11 Beloved, do not imitate evil, but good The one who does good comes from God; the one who does evil has not seen God.

12 Demetrius has received a good testimony from everyone, and from the truth itself; and we add our testimony, and you know that our testimony rings true.

13 I had many things to write to you, but I do not want to write them to you with pen and ink;

14 but I hope to see you shortly, and we will speak face to face.

15 I send peace to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

Jude 1

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

The Warnings of History to the Ungodly

1 Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who have received the calling, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ:

2 May mercy and peace and love increase exponentially to you.

3 Beloved, while I tried to make every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which the saints had received.

4 For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who God had long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.
5Now I desire to remind you, though you know all things once for all, that the Lord, after saving a people out of the land of Egypt, subsequently destroyed those who did not believe.

6And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day,

7just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, exhibit themselves as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

8Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.

9But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

10But 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 will receive destruction.

11Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

12These men who resemble hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted;

13wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam; wandering stars, for whom the God reserved the black darkness forever.

14We also learned about these men from Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, who prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,

15to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

16These grumblers, find fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage.

Keep Yourselves in the Love of God

17But you, beloved, ought to remember the words which the Lord Christ spoke beforehand through by his apostles

18that they said to you, "In the last time mockers will arise, following after their own ungodly lusts."
19 These mockers cause divisions, having become worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.
20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,
21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.
22 And have mercy on some, who doubt;
23 save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some having mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.
24 Now to Him who has the ability to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,
25 to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, we acknowledge as having glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.
Revelation 1-22

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John,

2 who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

3 Blessings will accrue to the person who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which have appeared in it; for the time has drawn near.

Message to the Seven Churches

4 John to the seven churches that locate in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who exists and who did exist and who will exist, and from the seven Spirits who dwell before His throne,

5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood--

6 and He has made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father-- to Him belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

7 BEHOLD, HE COMES WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it will happen. Amen.

8 "I proclaim myself as the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, " who exists and who did exist and who will come, the Almighty."

The Patmos Vision

9 I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which we find in Jesus, resided on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

10 I found myself in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,
saying, "Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

12Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands;

13and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash.

14His head and His hair appeared white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes resembled a flame of fire.

15His feet looked like burnished bronze, when it has become refined to glow in a furnace, and His voice resembled the sound of many waters.

16In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face resembled the sun shining in its strength.

17When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man And He placed His right hand on me, saying, "Do not fear; I proclaim myself as the first and the last,

18and the living One; and I died, and behold, I live forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

19"Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which take place now, and the things which will take place after these things.

20"As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars symbolize the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands symbolize the seven churches.

Revelation 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Message to Ephesus

1"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:
2 I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and but do not behave like apostles, and you found them false apostles;  
3 and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.  
4 But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.  
5 Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I will come to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.  
6 Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.  
7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which located in the Paradise of God.'

Message to Smyrna  
8 And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: The first and the last, who had died, and has come to life, says this:  
9 I know your tribulation and your poverty (but proclaim yourself as rich), and the blasphemy by those who claim Jewishness but do not have Jewish ancestry, but constitute a synagogue of Satan.  
10 Do not fear what you will soon suffer. Behold, the devil intends to cast some of you into prison, so that you will receive testing, and you will have tribulation for ten days remain faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.  
11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches He who overcomes will not suffer the second death.'

Message to Pergamum  
12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:  
13 I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne locates; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who received martyrdom among you, where Satan dwells.  
14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit acts of immorality.  
15 So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans.
Therefore repent; or else I will come to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.'

Message to Thyatira

And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet resemble burnished bronze, says this:

I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late have become greater than at first.

But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality.

Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds.

And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I search the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.

But I say to you, the rest who dwell in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them—I place no other burden on you.

Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come.

He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS;

AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER BREAK TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father;

and I will give him the morning star.

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Revelation 3
NASB E-Prime DFM
Message to Sardis

1 To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you live, but you have died.

2 Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which seemed about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God.

3 So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.

4 But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they have become worthy.

5 He who overcomes will thus receive clothing of white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Message to Philadelphia

7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who has holiness, who has truth, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

8 I know your deeds Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

9 Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that claim authentic Jewishness, but lie--I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you.

10 Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which will soon come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

11 I come quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown.

12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

13 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Message to Laodicea

14 To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this:
I know your deeds, that you seem neither cold nor hot; I wish that you would become cold or hot.

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

Because you say, "I have great riches, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you appear wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,

I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.

Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore show zeal and repent.

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.

He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation 4
NASB E-Prime DFM

Scene in Heaven

1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."

2 Immediately I found myself in the Spirit; and behold, a throne stood in heaven, and One sitting on the throne.

3 And He who sat appeared like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance; and there appeared a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance.

4 Around the throne stood twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.

The Throne and Worship of the Creator
Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder And there appeared seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which symbolized the seven Spirits of God;

and before the throne appeared something like a sea of glass, like crystal; and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind.

The first creature looked like a lion, and the second creature like a calf, and the third creature had a face like that of a man, and the fourth creature looked like a flying eagle.

And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, and appeared full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY do we acknowledge THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO EXISTED AND WHO EXISTS AND WHO WILL COME."

And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever,

the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

Worthy we consider You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and had become created.'
5 and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that comes from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals."

6 And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which symbolize the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.

7 And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

8 When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which symbolize the prayers of the saints.

9 And they sang a new song, saying, "We acknowledge You to take the book and to break its seals; for You became slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

10 "You have made them to become a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

Angels Exalt the Lamb

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them exceeded myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,

12 saying with a loud voice, "We acknowledge the slain Lamb as worthy to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing."

13 And every created thing which dwells in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, receives blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."

14 And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen" And the elders fell down and worshiped.
The Second Seal--War

3 When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come."

4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, he received the commission to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and someone gave him a sword.

The Third Seal--Famine

5 When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand.

6 And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine."

The Fourth Seal--Death

7 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come."

8 I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades followed him They received Authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth.

The Fifth Seal--Martyrs

9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had become slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;

10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, " How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

11 And each of them received a white robe; and they learned that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who would suffer martyrdom even as they had been, would come to completion also.

The Sixth Seal--Terror

12 I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there erupted a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood;

13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind.

14 The sky split apart like a scroll when it becomes rolled up, and every mountain and island moved out of their places.
Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains;

and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;

for the great day of their wrath has come, and who has the ability to stand?"

Revelation 7
NASB E-Prime DFM
An Interlude

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.

And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God; and he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom God had commissioned to harm the earth and the sea,

saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads."

The 144,000

And I heard the number of those who received the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand had become sealed, from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand, from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand, from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand, from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand, from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand, from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand became sealed.

A Multitude from the Tribulation

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and holding palm branches in their hands;

and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."
11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

12 saying, "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, belong to our God forever and ever Amen."

13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who have become clothed in the white robes, who do they represent, and where have they come from?"

14 I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These symbolize the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 "For this reason, they stand before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them.

16 "They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;

17 for the Lamb in the center of the throne will serve as their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

Revelation 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Seventh Seal--the Trumpets

1 When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there came silence in heaven for about half an hour.

2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

3 Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; having much incense, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which appeared before the throne.

4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.

5 Then the angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar, and threw it to the earth; and there followed peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.
6 And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound them.
7 The first sounded, and there came hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they the angels threw them to the earth; and a third of the earth burned up, and a third of the trees burned up, and all the green grass burned up.
8 The second angel sounded, and something like a great mountain burning with fire which he threw into the sea; and a third of the sea became blood,
9 and a third of the creatures which lived in the sea and had life, died; and a third of the ships suffered destruction.
10 The third angel sounded, and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters.
11 The star had the name of Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the waters, because they had become bitter.
12 The fourth angel sounded, and struck a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars, so that a third of them would become dark and the day would not shine for a third of it, and the night in the same way.
13 Then I looked, and I heard an eagle flying in midheaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who would soon sound!"

Revelation 9
NASB E-Prime DFM

The Fifth Trumpet--the Bottomless Pit
1 Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the angel received the key of the bottomless pit.
2 He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air grew dark by the smoke of the pit.
3 Then out of the smoke came locusts upon the earth, and power came to them, as the scorpions of the earth have power.
4 They had instructions not to hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.
And they did not receive permission to kill anyone, but to torment for five months; and their torment felt like the torment of a scorpion when it stings a man.

And in those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will long to die, and death flees from them.

The appearance of the locusts resembled horses prepared for battle; and on their heads appeared crowns like gold, and their faces looked like the faces of men.

They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth resembled the teeth of lions.

They had breastplates like breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings resembled the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to battle.

They have tails like scorpions, and stings; and in their tails they have power to hurt men for five months.

They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew we call Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.

The first woe has passed past; behold, two woes still come after these things.

The Sixth Trumpet--Army from the East

Then the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which stands before God,

one saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who we have bound at the great river Euphrates."

And the four angels, who had received preparation for the hour and day and month and year, became released, so that they would kill a third of mankind.

The number of the armies of the horsemen consisted of two hundred million; I heard the number of them.

And this I saw in the vision the horses and those who sat on them: the riders had breastplates the color of fire and of hyacinth and of brimstone; and the heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions; and out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke and brimstone.

A third of mankind died by these three plagues, by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which proceeded out of their mouths.

For the power of the horses locates in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails resemble serpents and have heads, and with them they do harm.

The rest of mankind, who did not die by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold
and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk;

21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

Revelation 10
NASB E-Prime DFM

The Angel and the Little Book

1 I saw another strong angel coming down out of heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow appeared upon his head, and his face looked like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire;

2 and he had in his hand a little book which he had opened He placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land;

3 and he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices.

4 When the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I readied myself to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken and do not write them."

5 Then the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to heaven,

6 and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, WHO CREATED HEAVEN AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE EARTH AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE SEA AND THE THINGS IN IT, that they will tolerate no more delay,

7 but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he will soon sound, then the mystery of God finishes, as He preached to His servants the prophets.

8 Then the voice which I heard from heaven, I heard again speaking with me, and saying, "Go, take the book which lies open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land."

9 So I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book. And he said to me, "Take it and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will taste sweet as honey."

10 I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and in my mouth it taste sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.
And they said to me, "You must prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings."

**Revelation 11**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**The Two Witnesses**

1Then I received a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Get up and measure the temple of God and the altar, and those who worship in it."

2"Leave out the court which lies outside the temple and do not measure it, for the nations have received it; and they will tread underfoot the holy city for forty-two months.

3"And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

4"We see the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

5"And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he will forfeit his life.

6"These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.

7"When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.

8"And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically we call Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord suffered crucifixion.

9"Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to lay in a tomb.

10"And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

11"But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who watched them.

12"And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, " Come up here " Then they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them."
And in that hour there occurred a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people died in the earthquake, and the rest felt terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe comes quickly.

The Seventh Trumpet--Christ's Reign Foreseen

Then the seventh angel sounded; and we heard loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,

saying, "We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who has always existed, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign.

And the nations became enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to receive judgment, and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth."

And the temple of God which lies in heaven opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and we saw flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

Revelation 12

The Woman, Israel

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;

and she labored with child; and she cried out, suffering in labor and in pain to give birth.

The Red Dragon, Satan

Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and it had seven diadems on his heads.

And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who became ready to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.
**The Male Child, Christ**

5 And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child became caught up to God and to His throne.

6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would receive nourishment for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

**The Angel, Michael**

7 And there broke out war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war,

8 and they didn’t prove strong enough, and no place existed for them in heaven.

9 And God threw the great dragon down, the serpent of old who we call the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; God threw him down to the earth, and threw his angels down with him.

10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for God has thrown down the accuser of our brethren, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

11"And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

12"For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

13 And when the dragon saw that God had thrown him down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child.

14 But the woman received two wings of the great eagle, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she received nourishment for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might sweep her away with the flood.

16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth.

17 So the dragon became enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.
Revelation 13
NASB E-Prime DFM

The Beast from the Sea

1 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns appeared ten diadems, and on his heads appeared blasphemous names.

2 And the beast which I saw resembled a leopard, and his feet looked like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.

3 I saw one of his heads as if someone had slain it, and his fatal wound had healed. And the whole earth expressed amazement and followed after the beast;

4 they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who resembles the beast, and who can wage war with him?"

5 He received a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months.

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, namely, those who dwell in heaven.

7 He received the power to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation.

8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name God has written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who the world has slain.

9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

10 If anyone becomes destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he will die. Here we witness the perseverance and the faith of the saints.

The Beast from the Earth

11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon.
12He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had healed.

13He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.

14And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which he had received to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.

15And he received power to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to die.

16And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their forehead,

17and he provides that no one can buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name.

18Here we find wisdom Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number represents that of a man; and his number adds up to six hundred and sixty-six.

Revelation 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Lamb and the 144,000 on Mount Zion

1Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb stood on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

2And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the voice which I heard resembled the sound of harpists playing on their harps.

3And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had received redemption from the earth.

4These have not defiled themselves with women, for they have kept themselves chaste These follow the Lamb wherever He goes These have become purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.

5And no lie existed in their mouth; they seemed blameless.
Vision of the Angel with the Gospel

6 And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people;

7 and he said with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters."

8 And another angel, a second one, followed, saying, "Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality."

Doom for Worshipers of the Beast

9 Then another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand,

10 he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which He mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will suffer torment with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

11 "And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

12 Here we witness the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.

13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed do we consider the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

The Reapers

14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud appeared one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand.

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth has ripened."

16 Then He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and He reaped the earth.

17 And another angel came out of the temple which locates in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.

18 Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle,
saying, "Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes have ripened."

19 So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

20 And the angel trod the wine press outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridle sets, for a distance of two hundred miles.

Revelation 15
NASB E-Prime DFM

A Scene of Heaven

1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels who had seven plagues, which constitute the last, because in them the wrath of God has finished.

2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had victory over the beast and his image and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God.

3 And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

"Great and marvelous we acknowledge Your works, O Lord God, the Almighty; we acknowledge You as Righteous and true in Your ways, King of the nations!

4 Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone have holiness; For ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BECOME REVEALED."
5After these things I looked, and the temple of the tabernacle of testimony in heaven opened,
6and the seven angels who had the seven plagues came out of the temple, clothed in linen, clean and bright, and girded around their chests with golden sashes.
7Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever.
8And the temple filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels had finished.

Revelation 16
NASB E-Prime DFM

Six Bowls of Wrath
1Then I heard a loud voice from the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God."
2So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image.
3The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became blood like that of a dead man; and every living thing in the sea died.
4Then the third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of waters; and these became blood.
5And I heard the angel of the waters saying, "We acknowledge You as Righteous, who have existed continually, O Holy One, because You judged these things;
6for they poured out the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. They deserve it."
7And I heard the altar saying, "Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous we acknowledge Your judgments."
8The fourth angel poured out his bowl upon the sun, and he received it to scorch men with fire.
9Men became scorched with fierce heat; and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent so as to give Him glory.
Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain,

and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; and they did not repent of their deeds.

The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water dried up, so that the way would become prepared for the kings from the east.

Armageddon

And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs;

for they symbolized spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.

("Behold, I come like a thief the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes will receive a blessing, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.")

And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew we call Har-Magedon.

Seventh Bowl of Wrath

Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, "It has concluded."

And flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and a great earthquake erupted, such as had not occurred since man lived upon the earth.

The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell Babylon the great received remembrance before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath.

And every island fled away, and the mountains no one could find.

And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague grew extremely severe.

Revelation 17
The Doom of Babylon

1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

2 with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth had become drunk with the wine of her immorality."

3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns.

4 The woman had the clothing of purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality,

5 and on her forehead a name appeared, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered greatly.

7 And the angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

8 The beast that you saw will come up out of the abyss and go to destruction And those who dwell on the earth, whose name God has not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the beast, that had temporarily vanished will come.

9 Here exists the mind which has wisdom The seven heads symbolize seven mountains on which the woman sits,

10 and they have seven kings; five have fallen, one appears now, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while.

11 The beast which has temporarily vanished, has himself also an eighth and has become one of the seven, and he goes to destruction.

12 The ten horns which you saw symbolize ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.

13 These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.

Victory for the Lamb
14“These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He proclaims Himself as Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who accompany Him consist of the called and chosen and faithful.”

15And he said to me, "The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, symbolize peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.

16“And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire.

17“For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God will be come fulfilled.

18“The woman whom you saw represents the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth.”

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**Revelation 18**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**Babylon Has Fallen**

1After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth became illumined with his glory.

2And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, " Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen! She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird.

3"For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality."

4“I heard another voice from heaven, saying, " Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues;
for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her.

To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, 'I SIT as A QUEEN AND I WILL NEVER BECOME A WIDOW, and will never see mourning.'

For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will burn up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her has strength.

Lament for Babylon

And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning,

standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'

And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargoes any more--

cargoes of gold and silver and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and every kind of citron wood and every article of ivory and every article made from very costly wood and bronze and iron and marble,

cinnamon and spice and incense and perfume and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and cargoes of horses and chariots and slaves and human lives.

The fruit you long for has gone from you, and all things that seemed luxurious and splendid have passed away from you and men will no longer find them.

The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning,

saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, she who had clothed herself in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls;

for in one hour such great wealth has become laid waste!' And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and as many as make their living by the sea, stood at a distance,
18 and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What city compares to the great city?

19 "And they threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has suffered destruction!"

20 "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."

21 Then a strong angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "So will Babylon, the great city, become destroyed with violence, and no one will find her any longer.

22 "And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute-players and trumpeters will not sound in you any longer; and no craftsman of any craft will work in you any longer; and no one will hear the sound of a mill in you any longer;

23 and the light of a lamp will not shine in you any longer; and the voice of the bridegroom and bride will not resonate in you any longer; for your merchants previously served as the great men of the earth, because all the nations fell under deception by your sorcery.

24 "And in her one could find the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who godless persons have slain on the earth."

**Revelation 19**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

**The Fourfold Hallelujah**

1 After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God;

2 BECAUSE HIS JUDGMENTS PROVE TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS; for He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and HE HAS AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS BOND-SERVANTS ON HER."

3 And a second time they said, "Hallelujah! HER SMOKE RISES UP FOREVER AND EVER."

4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne saying, "Amen Hallelujah!"

5 And a voice came from the throne, saying, "Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants, you who fear Him, the small and the great."
6Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the 
sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying,  
" Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.  

Marriage of the Lamb  
7"Let us rejoice and show gladness and give the glory to Him, for the 
marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready."  
8 She clothed herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen 
symbolizes the righteous acts of the saints.  
9Then he said to me, " Write, ' Blessings accrue to those who received an 
invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb ' " And he said to me, " These 
represents the true words of God."  
10Then I fell at his feet to worship him But he said to me, "Do not do that; I 
serve as your fellow servant and your brethren who hold the testimony of 
Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus equates to the spirit of 
prophecy."  

The Coming of Christ  
11And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on 
we acknowledge as Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and 
wages war.  
12His eyes resemble a flame of fire, and on His head rest many diadems; 
and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.  
13He has clothed Himself with a robe dipped in blood, and He has a name 
called The Word of God.  
14And the armies which reside in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and 
clean, followed Him on white horses.  
15From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down 
the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine 
press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.  
16And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, " KING OF 
KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."  
17Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud 
voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, " Come, assemble for 
the great supper of God,  
18so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and 
the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on 
them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and 
great."  
19And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled 
to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.
Doom of the Beast and False Prophet

20 And God seized the beast, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; God threw these two alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.

21 And the rest suffered death with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds filled themselves with their flesh.

Revelation 20
NASB E-Prime DFM

Satan Bound
1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.

2 And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who we also know as the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

3 and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years had drawn to completion; after these things he must be released for a short time.

4 Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and they received judgment to them And I saw the souls of those who had suffered beheading because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

5 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years had come to an end. This constitutes the first resurrection.

6 We consider blessed and holy the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will serve as priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Satan Freed, Doomed

7 When the thousand years had ended completed, God will release Satan from his prison,

8 and Satan will come out to deceive the nations which lie in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them seems like the sand of the seashore.
And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

And God threw the devil who deceived them into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet locate also; and they will suffer torment day and night forever and ever.

**Judgment at the Throne of God**

Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and they could find no place for them.

And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books opened; and another book opened, which we know as the book of life; and the dead received judgment from the things which appeared in the books, according to their deeds.

And the sea gave up the dead which had lived in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which had lived in them; and they received judgment, every one of them according to their deeds.

Then God threw death and Hades into the lake of fire This constitutes the second death, the lake of fire.

And if anyone's name didn’t appear in the book of life, God threw him into the lake of fire.

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**Revelation 21**

**NASB E-Prime DFM**

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**The New Heaven and Earth**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there no longer existed any sea.

And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God resides among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall become His people, and God Himself will dwell among them,
and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death will no longer exist; no mourning will exist any longer, nor crying, nor pain; the first things have passed away."

5 And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words proves faithful and true."

6 Then He said to me, "It has concluded. I proclaim myself the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.

7 He who overcomes will inherit these things, and He will acknowledge Me as God and I will acknowledge him as My son.

8 But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will take place in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which constitutes the second death."

9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

**The New Jerusalem**

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

11 having the glory of God. Her brilliance compares like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper.

12 It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names appeared on them, which consist of the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel.

13 There existed three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west.

14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them appeared the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

15 The one who spoke with me had a gold measuring rod to measure the city, and its gates and its wall.

16 The city lays out as a square, and its length measures as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height appears equal.

17 And he measured its wall, seventy-two yards, according to human measurements, which prove also angelic measurements.

18 The material of the wall consisted of jasper; and the city consisted of pure gold, like clear glass.
The foundation stones of the city wall received adornment with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation stone consisted of jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

And the twelve gates added up to twelve pearls; each one of the gates consisted of a single pearl. And the street of the city consisted of pure gold, like transparent glass.

I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb serve as its temple.

And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp consists of the Lamb.

The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

In the daytime (for no night will exist there) its gates will never close; and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names appear written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 22
NASB E-Prime DFM

The River and the Tree of Life

Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb,

in the middle of its street On either side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree served for the healing of the nations.

There will no longer exist any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will locate in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him;

they will see His face, and His name will appear on their foreheads.

And there will no longer exist any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.
And he said to me, "These words we know as faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must soon take place.

"And behold, I come quickly I count Blessed he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."

I, John, heard and saw these things And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things.

But he said to me, "Do not do that I serve as a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God."

The Final Message

And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time draws near.

"Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who has become filthy, still remain filthy; and let the one who has righteousness, still practice righteousness; and the one who has become holy, still keep himself holy."

Behold, I come quickly, and My I bring a reward with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

"I proclaim myself as the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

We count blessed those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.

Outside remain the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches I serve as both the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come " And let the one who hears say, "Come " And let the one who thirsts come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which I write in this book;

and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which I have written in this book.
20He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I come quickly " Amen Come, Lord Jesus.

21The grace of the Lord Jesus remain with all. Amen.