

ACCEPTING THE TRUTH OF GOD

We were Created in God's Image:

Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

God created us with intimate and infinite knowledge of all our days:

Psalms 139:13-16 "For you created me in my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."

Matthew 28:18-19 "Then Jesus said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations...'"

Special note: Jesus has all authority over every situation and circumstance in our lives.

This truth should serve to encourage us and

**strengthen our faith, therefore we need not fear in any circumstances,
whether from within or without.**

We are completely set free from our sin and eternal death through Jesus's sacrifice for us on the cross:

2 Corinthians 5:17 "God made him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness (goodness of God) of God."

Psalms 103:11-12 "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions (sins) from us."

Hebrews 10:17 "Then he says, 'Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.'"

Special note: The writer of Hebrews makes a powerful statement that God will remember our sins no more. Christ forgives completely! So, there is no need to confess our past sins

repeatedly. As believers in Christ Jesus as our Savior, we can believe and be confident that our sins we confess are forgiven and forgotten.

Romans 8:1-2 "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death."

God designed us for a relationship with Him, and as we were separated from Him by sin, He made "The Way" of Salvation for us to be restored to that close relationship with Him:

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God (His measure of perfection)."

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He sent His one and only Son, that who ever believes in him will not perish, but will have eternal life."

Romans 10:9 "That if you confess with your mouth, that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

John 14:6 Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me."

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. **(God's salvation was provided for us as a free gift through the sacrifice of Christ Jesus, our Savior, and we do not have to work for our salvation, nor Lord's favor and or His grace upon our lives)**

Nothing will ever separate us from the love of God as we are "New Creations" in Christ Jesus, our Savior:

Romans 8:38-39 "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ (has been saved), he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come."

Psalms 103:1-6 "Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed (distressed, depressed)."

God created us with a unique purpose and plan for our life:

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Philippians 1:6 "Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 3:12 "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me." (**Special Note:** Jesus took hold of our lives for specific purposes and calls us to "press on" in his strength)

God's is always working in us through all things to shape our character, especially through trials and suffering. He promises not only to comfort us, but to use us in the lives of others in order to comfort them, and ultimately to draw them nearer to a relationship with Him.

2 Corinthians 1:3-5 'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.'

Romans 8:28 'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.'

Philippians 4:13 'I can do all things through Christ we gives me strength.'

Matthew 5:4 (Jesus said) 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.'

Romans 8:37 "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who love us."

Job 13:15 "Though He slay me (allows suffering), yet I will hope in Him, I will maintain all my ways.

(I will continue to love God, serve Him, and to Worship Him.)

God cares, understands, and brings His peace to us in the midst of difficult seasons or circumstances in this life:

Hebrews 4:15-16 "For we do not have a great high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. "

1 Peter 5:6-7 "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxieties on Him because He cares for you.

Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Romans 8:26 "In the same way, the Spirit helps in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express." (**Special Note:** When our heart and mind are too weak to pray, the Holy Spirit goes before us)

God is our true source of Strength, He is our Sustainer, and our Shield of Protection:

Psalms 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God..."

2 Corinthians 12:9 "Three times I pleaded for the Lord to take it away from me (Paul's 'Thorn in the flesh'). But he (Jesus) said, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in

weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly in my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecution, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

Joshua 1:5b-9 "...so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake (turn away from) you. Be strong and courageous...Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go....Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; so not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Psalms 3:3-7 "But you are a shield around me, O Lord; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head. To the Lord I cry aloud, and he answers me from his holy hill. I lie down and sleep; I awake again, because the Lord sustains me. I will not fear...arise, O Lord! Strike all my enemies...From the Lord comes deliverance, may your blessing be on your people."

Isaiah 40:28-31 "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary, and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint."

2 Corinthians 4:7-9 "But we have this treasure (the Gospel of Jesus) in jars of clay (our mortal bodies) to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard-pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed."

The Truth and Promises of God's word serve to revive our spirits and bring true hope back into our hearts and minds:

Romans 5:1-5 " Therefore, since we have been justified (set apart for God) through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not

only so, but we rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Romans 12:1-2 "Therefore, I urge you brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices (living life God's way), holy and pleasing to God - which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not conform (be molded like the world) any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind (our mind is renewed through the continual study and application of scripture in our lives). Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

2 Corinthians 4:16-17 "Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed (Through God's Truth and Promises) day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs the all."

2 Corinthians 10:5 "We demolish arguments and every pretension (a false claim) that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." (That every thought would come into agreement with the truth of God's word)

God knows our every need and is our Ultimate Provider

Matthew 6:25-34 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life...Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life...So do not worry, saying 'what shall we eat?', what shall we drink?', or 'what shall we wear?'...For the pagans (those who don't know Jesus) run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given unto you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow..."

Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."

Ephesians 3:20-21 "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."
