

# WHOLE WHEAT

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A PUBLICATION FOR BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING

## Your Only Protection is Righteousness

In Isaiah 3:10 it states, “Say to the righteous that all will go well with them, for they shall eat the fruit of their own actions.”

In the past, if there were ten righteous people in a town, the Lord would spare the whole city (Gen. 18:32). Noah was the only one righteous in his day, and God spared his family too (Gen. 7:1). Job was the only one on the earth in his day who lived for God and walked with God by serving others, and thus, he was turning away from evil by doing so (Job 1:8; 2:3; 29:12-17).

In the Prophet Jeremiah’s day, God said to him, “Roam back and forth through the streets of Jerusalem to see if you can find one person who is seeking Me by seeking the truth [My word] by being just [charitable] in all his ways towards his neighbor [others] and who is only living to do good to others, and I will pardon the whole city of Jerusalem” (Jer. 5:1).

Today the Lord’s policy is; we will deliver only ourselves by our righteousness, as Noah, Job and Daniel did in Ezekiel 14:13-20.

Say to the righteous that all will go well with them in those days, for they shall eat the fruit of their actions (Is. 3:10). **When you personally walk with God daily, by keeping His Ways, you are very special in God’s eyes and He hears your prayers.** This is because you show Him respect daily, by doing His Will by serving others (Psalm 4:3; John 9:31). The Lord will make you prosper

(Psalm 1:3). God will not forsake those who seek Him, by doing good daily to please Him (Psalm 9:10; Rom. 3:10-12).

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**[For more Bible Studies on sickness and suffering click here.](#)**

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# Your Only Protection is Righteousness

Jesus only lived to do good by being a servant to others. He did this to please the Father. He only lived to do the Father's Will, which is doing good and helping others. Jesus was imitating the Way the Father lived in heaven. He was zealous for what was good (1 Peter 3:13). He came to make disciples who would purify their lives before Him, by being zealous for what is good (Titus 2:14).

Jesus, then, let His light shine before others daily by doing good works, and He glorified the Father in heaven by doing so (Matt. 5:16). He instructed all who would follow Him to do the same daily by continually living a life of practicing righteousness (Matt. 6:1). This is the Lord's true gospel that was once delivered to the saints (Jude 3).

***In the Way of righteousness there is life, and in that path there is no death (Prov. 12:28)***

In the Way of righteousness there is life, and in that path there is no death (Prov. 12:28). The righteous are not only protected but also blessed (Psalm 5:12; 34:17-19). God is their strength in times of trouble (Psalm 37:3-5). Righteousness, then, delivers you from death (Prov. 11:4-15).

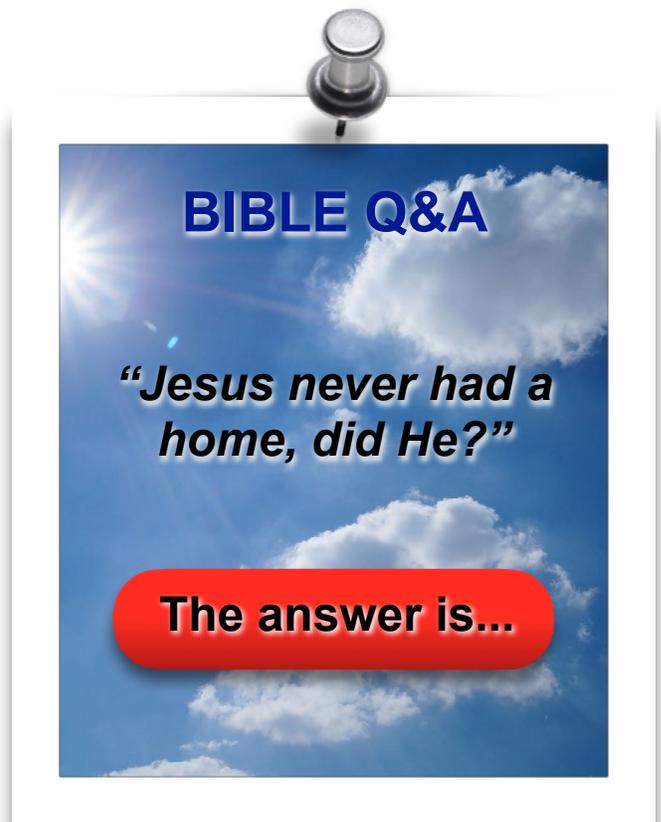
***You cannot prepare when it gets here, so now is the time to make all your ways pleasing in God's sight and purify your life before Him daily, by being zealous for good deeds in all that you do (Col. 1:10; 3:17).***

God tells you plainly in Zephaniah 2:3 to seek Him by doing good daily to please Him. Seek or learn God's righteousness—seek or learn to live humbly before God. Why? Perhaps you will be hidden in the day of the Lord's anger that is coming shortly (Luke 21:36 King James Version).

You cannot prepare when it gets here, so now is the time to make all your ways pleasing in God's sight and purify your life before Him daily, by being zealous for good deeds in all that you do (Col. 1:10; 3:17).

***Remember always, your only protection from God's wrath is your righteousness, so never become lukewarm or weary in doing good.***

Isn't this what He would have you do? Remember always, your only protection from God's wrath is your righteousness, so never become lukewarm or weary in doing good (Rev. 3:15; 2 Thess. 3:13; Gal. 6:9; 1 Tim. 2:10; 2 Tim. 2:12). Then you will have the seal of God on your forehead (Rev. 9:4; 7:3).□



# The Seal of God

***The Bible speaks of a special seal that is put on the foreheads of certain disciples (Rev. 7:3).***

The Bible speaks of a special seal that is put on the foreheads of certain disciples (Rev. 7:3). It is a spiritual seal which can only be seen by angels. That seal is a seal of protection from harm (Rev. 9:4). The harm that would come to those, who do not have this seal, will be administered by Satan's angels who will be released from the spiritual prison called the abyss (Rev. 9:1-11). These angels will inflict severe pain that will last for five months on those who do not have that special seal of God.

Now, if God's word says we are to prove all things that are said in Scripture by studying other Scriptures on the subject, then it should be possible to know what this seal is and how one can be worthy of obtaining it.

***They are the ones who are zealous for doing good for the Lord daily, and therefore have purified themselves and their lives (Titus 2:14).***

First of all, the ones who would receive this seal would be [zealous for what is good](#) (1 Peter 3:13). Secondly, they would be the ones who pray always, that they would be found worthy to escape all the horrors that are soon-coming upon all mankind and be accounted worthy to literally stand before the Son of Man (Luke 21:36 King James Version; Zeph. 2:3). Thirdly, those who have the seal of God remain wholly devoted to serving God by serving others (Matt. 25:34-40; Mal. 3:18; Matt. 23:11; 2 Chron. 16:9). They are the ones who are zealous for doing good for the Lord daily, and therefore have purified themselves and their lives (Titus 2:14). By their zealousness, they win their souls, or save their lives (Luke 21:19). They are not lukewarm for serving God but remain hot—

zealous, steadfast, immovable! This is why they qualify for the special seal of protection from the soon-to-come armies of Satan (Rev. 3:15-19). God loves those who are wholly devoted to Him in their lives (1 Kings 8:61).

The whole object, of being a disciple of Jesus Christ, is to keep Jesus' sayings, which are the commandments He received from the Father to deliver to us (John 8:51; 6:63; 12:49). Those who have the seal of God on their foreheads have walked before God, being wholly devoted to His truth and His word by studying it, and have walked before God with their [whole heart by doing what is good](#) in God's sight (Is. 38:3; 2 Kings 20:3). They are continually winning souls for God, by their example of good works, serving others for His glory (Matt. 5:16; Prov. 11:30; James 5:20). They know that fearing God, or showing God respect, is to turn away from evil by doing good (Prov. 3:7). The ones who will be given God's special seal continually [study God's word](#), to show themselves approved to God (2 Tim. 2:15 King James Version). They are always ready with a good answer when they are asked a question about God's word. Their lives are consistent and steadfast, and their faith is immovable because they live for God daily by doing His Will and [they no longer live for self](#) (1 Peter 4:2).

***Why not take this opportunity now, if you have not already, and ask the Lord to spare and protect you by showing you His Way...***

If you were God, would you protect a people such as this, who serve you day by day (Mal. 3:16-17)? Of course you would. Why not take this opportunity now, if you have not already, and ask the Lord to spare and protect you by showing you His Way—the Way He would have you live to be pleasing to Him. He always hears and [answers a sincere prayer](#) (Rom. 12:2; Eph. 5:17).□

# The Way of Escape



The Bible is packed full of evidence about receiving protection from what is to come in the last days. It is a reward for those who remain zealous for good deeds and who keep the word of God with [perseverance](#) (1 Peter 3:13; Rev. 3:10).

***The Bible is packed full of evidence about receiving protection from what is to come in the last days.***

It only stands to reason that since Jesus Christ is making a peculiar people, who are zealous for good deeds, they would be the ones who are continually praying to be found worthy to escape what is coming and stand before the Son of Man (Titus 2:14; Luke 21:36).

It is a little flock, of that you can be sure (Luke 12:32) and few are those who find the truth (Matt. 7:14). Remember, [many are called](#) and few are chosen. You must be counted worthy to inherit eternal life (Luke 20:35). If you don't want to be considered part of the dead, you must be living to please God (Luke 20:38).

***You must be counted worthy to inherit eternal life (Luke 20:35).***

There is no question that some will be hidden in the day of the Lord's anger (Zeph. 2:3). God is going to gather us together and hide us because He has redeemed us (Zech. 10:8). It will go well with the righteous (Is. 3:10). We are going to

disappear, body and all, just as Philip did (Matt. 24:40-42; Acts 8:39-40).

***We are going to be hidden from Satan and protected by Christ (Is. 16:4; Rev. 12:15-17).***

Christ tells us to go into our rooms and hide (Is. 26:20). We are going to be hidden from Satan and protected by Christ (Is. 16:4; Rev. 12:15-17). We are going to sing aloud from Sela (Is. 42:11). We are going to be met by people who will give us bread (Is. 21:14; 33:16). We will all have our mates (Is. 34:16). We will be in caves (Is. 42:22).

We are going to enter the rock and hide in the dust (Is. 2:10). We will go to a place called Sela (Is. 16:1). Bible translators thought Sela was a musical interlude (Psalm 83:8—see margin note) but in reality, Sela is another name for rock, and Petra is that rock. It is the place where the children of Israel were taken and hidden when they came out of Egypt, or sin.

***If those who practice righteousness are scarcely saved, what will happen to those who do not obey the gospel?***

Consider this. If those who practice righteousness are scarcely saved, what will happen to [those who do not obey](#) the gospel (1 John 2:29; 3:7, 10; 1 Peter 4:18)?□

# Sickness & The Disciples



Does God allow believers to get sick? Does God cause sickness? Can believers make a positive confession with their mouths and avoid being sick? Does God even kill believers? The answer to these questions is surprising. Let's begin.

Does God allow believers to get sick? Yes, according to 2 Corinthians 1:8. In the first ten verses, Paul is not only explaining sickness and the reason for it, but he is calling it a believer's affliction. He calls it "the sufferings of Christ" in verse five. [He also mentions that others will suffer the same types of afflictions](#) (2 Cor. 1:6-7). Paul had a bodily illness (Gal. 4:13-15). Epaphroditus was sick to the point of death (Phil. 2:25-27). Paul left Trophimus sick at Miletus (2 Tim. 4:20). Why didn't he heal himself or Timothy when they were sick to the point of death?

## ***Many preachers claim that Christians don't need to get sick.***

Many preachers claim that Christians don't need to get sick. They even deny that the thorn in the flesh given to Paul was a sickness. They say that it was a group of men who were persecuting Paul (2 Cor. 12:7-9). What a silly assumption after you have read Scriptural proof to the contrary. Halley's Bible Handbook, says in regard to Paul's thorn in the flesh; "The most common opinion by far is that it was chronic Ophthalmia, a disease of the eyes,

which is not only extremely painful, but at times made him repulsive in appearance. His customary large handwriting also lends weight to the conclusion that he had trouble with his eyes and therefore dictated most of his letters (Gal. 6:11).

## ***One of the greatest examples of sickness and suffering in the Bible is Job.***

[One of the greatest examples of sickness and suffering in the Bible is Job.](#) He was blameless and innocent in the sight of God, His finest servant, yet God allowed Satan to test him (Job 1:8-11). Although what Job went through was horrific and he didn't understand it, he never cursed God and remained faithful. He sought God with all his heart and was continually in prayer to Him. In the end, Job's love for God was made stronger and Job was an even greater servant, fully restored in every way (Job 42:2-6; 10-17). This could only be accomplished through adversity and pain. It would be the second greatest story of suffering, next to Jesus Christ, and would be used for all of history as an example and glorify God.

## ***God's power is perfected in the weakness of the flesh.***

[God's power is perfected in the weakness of the flesh](#) (2 Cor. 12:9). Even righteous Daniel was exhausted and sick for days, after talking to the heavenly Gabriel (Dan. 8:16, 27).

Does God cause sickness? Leviticus 26:16 and Deuteronomy 28:21-22, 27-28 say yes! How about in the New Testament? Revelation 2:22-23 is your proof.

Does God even kill believers? 1 Corinthians 11:30 says that He does. Lazarus died of a sickness, and was dead for three days, but the Lord had a purpose. John 11:3-4; "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." 4 But when Jesus heard this, He said, 'This sickness is not to end in death, but for

# Sickness & The Disciples

the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.'

***The Bible teaches that God heals sicknesses and God sometimes makes people sick to test them.***

Can true disciples get sick? Yes, just as the examples show all throughout the Bible, sickness and suffering are used for many reasons, including to prepare and teach people God is working with, for new life and new work He has for them. Yes, God has many purposes for sickness and suffering that work for His good. It is a way He draws us closer to Him, so that He may teach us (Ps. 34:18; Ps. 145:14; Rom. 8:26; Heb. 13:5).

The Bible teaches that God heals sicknesses and God sometimes makes people sick to test them (Is. 38:1-5; 1 Peter 4:12-13). Sometimes God makes us sick to keep us humble. God put disease on the Egyptians because of their disobedience (Ex. 15:26). He makes the deaf, the dumb, the seeing and the blind (Ex. 4:11). In some cases God got angry and took life (Gen. 38:7, 9-10).

Preachers today who say that Christians don't have to be sick are spiritually afflicted themselves, with a sickness caused by Satan and allowed by God, it's called spiritual blindness.

God has a purpose and plan for sickness and suffering in our lives (Rom. 8:28). We need to have faith, and trust in Him, having hope in His promises for the righteous, and look to the examples in His word. He also gives us direction on how to help those that are sick and suffering (James 5:13-16). In Psalm 41:3, the word of God says, "The Lord will sustain him upon his sickbed; in his illness, Thou dost restore him to health."

***No, it's not a sin to be sick, but it is a sin to say that believers don't need to get sick.***

No, it's not a sin to be sick, but it is a sin to say that believers don't need to get sick. That's a lie, and no lie is of the truth (1 John 2:21, Deut. 4:2). Anyone who would advocate such a lie is not a minister of God.□



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# Letter From the Editor

Dear *Whole Wheat* Readers,

We are living in a time unlike any in the last century. It will be written about in the history books of the future. We hope this issue will, God willing, bring you comfort, peace, assurance and hope in a world that has so little (John 14:27). These are times when we need to know, and be assured, that God is with us and knows who are His (Ps. 46:1; Nahum 1:7). There is no greater comfort in this world, especially in times of distress.

When I started to live this way of life years ago, it gave me a hope for my future. As I have grown, through tests and trials, I have more assurance because my intimate one to one relationship with God has increased (Prov. 3:32). I feel closer to God than ever before, because more of my ways have become God's Ways. This gives me great peace when faced with challenging times.

When I first learned about the way of righteousness, and the many benefits that come from being righteous, I was flabbergasted. In the article, "Your Only Protection is Righteousness" I am reminded of that time in my life, and all the reasons righteousness is such an important part of my walk with God. I am also reminded that there is more involved in receiving God's protection. I most certainly hope to have "The Seal of God," for all that is to come upon the earth. What an important seal it is; placed on God's people at the end of the age, only seen by angels. That seal provides "The Way of Escape" to the place God will take those that

are His, for their safe-keeping in those last days.

We see in the "Sickness & The Disciples" article, the many ways God worked with His disciples through sickness and suffering all throughout the Bible. He had a great purpose for it then, and there is a great purpose for it now. We can rest assured God has a plan and He is in control.

We find the many reasons "It Pays to Please God" in our last article. We see the secret to having comfort, peace, assurance and hope is our intimate, one on one, relationship with God. Not only the deeds we do for Him daily, but the condition of our hearts and minds. It's a daily process of examining and purifying our hearts, as we try to become more like Christ. This brings true rest, assurance and confidence before Him (Is. 41:10).

These challenging times in our world make it all the more clear how important our relationship with God is, and how we want to be right with Him. Then, if we ever have to walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we will fear no evil, for God is with us, His rod, and His staff will comfort us (Ps. 23:4).

*In His Love,*

*Scott*

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# It Pays to Please God

“Beloved, I pray, that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health,” the Apostle John said (3 John 2). Jesus wants the same for everyone who would live to please Him. Jesus said that His Way of life is very easy and pleasant (Matt. 11:30). He said that it is His Father’s good pleasure to give the [kingdom of God](#) to those few (little flock) who would live like He lived (Matt. 25:33-40). He said that He came so we might have a [life of abundance](#); and what’s the use in having that if you don’t have good health to enjoy it (John 10:10)?

Jesus died that we might have forgiveness of sins, but through the beating He received, we are healed. “Are any sick among you? Let them call for the elders, and the prayer of faith shall heal the sick” (James 5:14-15). “**The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much**” (James 5:16). The Bible says to anoint with oil—presumably olive oil. It isn’t the oil that

heals or the prayer that heals, **it is Jesus Christ who heals you through your faith in Him.** We have faith in Him because we live to please Him in our daily walk with Him (1 John 2:28). We live like He lived when He was here in the flesh.



Jesus continually performed deeds, or works, of kindness and [charity](#) in His daily walk with God. He lived this Way to glorify His Father by not serving self, but others (Rom. 15:2-3). He did not seek His own good, but the good of others, knowing that pure, true love does not seek its own good but the good of others (1 Cor. 10:24; 13:5; 2 Cor. 5:15). This is

the Way the Father lives in heaven. It is His Will—the same Will that Jesus performed in order to [overcome](#) the world.

**Because we do those things, that are pleasing in His sight, God answers all our prayers and heals our diseases** (1 John 3:22). It sure does pay to please God!☐



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