

These are some of the words that are being said in the churches which Jude is addressing. The promise of his coming refers, of course, to the return of Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ promised to return for believers, but the scoffers say, "Where is he?" They have rejected the promise by Christ found in many different places in scripture.

For example,

John 14:1-3: "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

Vs.2: In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

Vs.3: If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also."

In so many other places in the New Testament, Jesus Christ has promised a return and they have rejected it.

The scoffers mocked these Christians who are looking with great anticipation for the return of Jesus Christ. They believed the promise of Christ, so what a great way to attack.

And here, these false teachers are making sure that the Christians know that Christ is not going to return. So why are you even following him? Scoffers mocked these Christians who believed the promise.

In essence, they are saying, "you people are ignorant to believe the very words of Christ."

Their falsehood is that Christ is a lie because He hasn't done what He said He's going to do. The Bible is a lie because it says a lot of things that haven't happened.

In this case, the false teachers mock the doctrines of the return of Christ, the resurrection of believers, and their own judgment at the end of time.

Whenever you hear the mocking of the truth of Bible doctrine, it's from a position of weakness. It's from a position of great doubt and insecurity in their own souls.

The only security in this life lies in salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ and the continued intake of Bible doctrine.

Finally, we have the noun “ἀσέβεια” – “*asébeia*” translated “ungodly.” “Ungodly” works but it also means “impious” which works better here.

Next, we have the accusative plural noun, “ἐπιθυμία” – “*epithymía*.” This is an “overwhelming desire for something.” A passionate desire for something from the sin nature that then gains the cooperation of a person's volition.

It's exactly what happens with “*epithymía*.” to fulfill that lust is the course that the false teacher sets for his life. It's the only course without any grace or doctrinal orientation.

So, “*epithymía*” here points to the operation of the lust pattern of the sin nature in the false teacher. That's the course they are pursuing. They're not pursuing the spiritual life.

1. The lust pattern includes power lust, approbation lust, social lust, sexual lust, chemical lust, monetary lust, crusader lust, inordinate ambition resulting in inordinate competition, lust for revenge, criminal lust, and pleasure lust.
2. There are six principles related to lust.
 - (1) The lust pattern of the sin nature eliminates or destroys Bible doctrine as the number one priority in life.
 - (2) Lust destroys the motivation of the believer to execute the protocol plan of God. He neglects the principle of post-salvation epistemological rehabilitation.
 - (3) Lust is a distraction to the modus operandi of the Christian way of life.
 - (4) Lust divorces the believer from reality, which nullifies the understanding and use of the problem-solving devices of the protocol plan of God.
 - (5) Lust turns the believer into a tricky and deceitful person.
 - (6) Lust destroys the believer's motivation to glorify God and turns the believer's motivation into self-promoting motivation.

You have the only antidote available to control the lust patterns and that is to rebound and keep moving, and continue to grow spiritually.

“*Epithymía*” points to the operation of these lust patterns, which would include power lust, approbation lust, materialism, lasciviousness, etc.

Lust is something that replaces the doctrine necessary for a believer to grow spiritually.

Specifically in this case with the false teachers, the lust pattern would indicate power and approbation lust and sometimes materialism lust.

That's what we're dealing with in Jude 18. What other lusts might be involved are conditioned on the individual false teacher's weaknesses or strengths.

Our expanded translation of Jude 18:

Jude 18: “They were saying to you (the Apostles), “In the last time (until the millennium) there will be mockers and scoffers (unbelievers rejecting the truth of Bible doctrine), who will conduct themselves according to the standards of their own impious lusts (area of weakness in their sin nature).” (EXT)

Jude now describes the results of the mockers in three different ways in Jude 19.

These are the ones, the false teachers, who cause three things: “divisions,” “worldly mindedness,” and “devoid of the Spirit.”

Jude 19: “These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.” (NASB)

What this verse does first is confirm that their mocking and grumbling and criticizing and flattering have an effect on believers in churches.

The first result of their effective infiltrations and machinations is they cause divisions.

Jude 19: “These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.”

What this verse does first is confirm that their mocking, grumbling, criticizing, and flattering have an effect on believers in churches. The first result of their effective infiltrations and machinations is they “cause divisions.”

First, we have the present active participle of the verb “ἀποδιορίζω” – “*apodiorízō*” which means to “separate,” “to draw boundaries between,” or “divisions.”

This is reason for their mocking and verbal abuse of Christians: to divide or to conquer. We cannot forget what their lusts are: power and control. If they cause divisions, they have divided and conquered, and they have control.

The participle here is causal and “*apodiorízō*” is a present active participle, which means the false teachers are the ones who cause divisions and dissensions among believers.

This following of the mockers is what has caused so many problems in the churches of Jude's day and in the churches of our day.

PRINCIPLE: If Bible Doctrine is mocked, God is mocked, and God will not be mocked ever.

False teachers, then, are dedicated to provoking separation among believers, and some believers will become attached to those who mock other believers. So, the false teachers are dedicated to their grumbling, mocking, and flattering that will divide believers from believers.

Here Jude explains that the churches he is addressing are truly in trouble. They are in danger of being split wide open and opening believers to false doctrine, which always divides.

The church is splintered by infighting, some who follow the false teachers, others who don't, and the bickering begins, hence, the divide.

Unless you are well versed in Bible doctrine, you can so easily be led down that road.

1. The truth is this: at the moment of salvation by faith alone, everyone is positionally sanctified.
2. We are all positionally sanctified according to 1 Corinthians 1:2, and, at the moment we are saved, we are set apart to God.

There's only one pathway to God, and it's through the Lord Jesus Christ.

John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that he gave his uniquely born Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.” (EXT)

And then in John 14:6: “Jesus answered, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (NIV)

That's his statement of who He is and what He's done. If the Lord Jesus Christ is truly who He says He is, then there is no other pathway to God but Him.

3. If you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, you are immediately set apart to God, an exclusive status.
4. You are set apart from the unbelieving world at large. That is the real division and the only division.
5. All believers are given divine resources. Within the body of Christ, we all receive the same thing. No exclusions.
6. We all have a certain spiritual gift. You have a certain spiritual gift that was given to you at the moment of salvation. It is your unique spiritual gift.
7. However, all believers are sanctified. We are all justified. We all have the filling of the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation.
8. We are all indwelled by the Holy Spirit. We are all indwelled by Christ. We have the human spirit which is created in us. We all have that, which means we are all equal. There is no division.
9. This means all believers have equal opportunity and equal privilege. We all have that to advance in the spiritual life, not just some of us.

Forty Things Given at Salvation

Introduction: In this dispensation only, God has provided forty things for the believer at the moment of faith in Christ. These are grace gifts from God at salvation. You receive these forty things at the very moment of salvation, before you have had a chance to do anything!

In Thieme's Bible Doctrine Dictionary under 40 Things it says: The spiritual assets that God grants to every Church Age believer at the moment of faith in Jesus Christ. Synonym: forty absolutes.¹

Thirty-nine Irrevocable Absolutes, not to be revoked, recalled, interrupted, repealed, or lost under any condition, including sin or failure in the spiritual life.²

Therefore, you obviously receive these things by grace; you don't earn or deserve them.

1. The believer resides in the eternal plan of God and shares the destiny of Christ.
 - a. He is foreknown. (Acts 2:23; Romans 8:29; 1 Peter 1:2)
 - b. Elected. (Romans 8:33; Colossians 3:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:4; Titus 1:1)
 - c. Predestined. (Romans 8:29–30; Ephesians 1:5, 11)
 - d. Chosen. (Matthew 22:14; 1 Peter 2:4)
 - e. Called. (1 Thessalonians 5:24)
2. The believer is reconciled by God. Reconciliation is the work of Jesus Christ on the cross that removes the barrier between God and man. Therefore, with the barrier removed, our faith in Jesus Christ causes us to simply step over the line into eternal salvation. We were reconciled to God at the moment we believed in Christ.

¹ Thieme Bible Doctrine Dictionary, R. B. Thieme, Jr., page 101.

² Thieme Bible Doctrine Dictionary, R. B. Thieme, Jr., page 101-102

2 Corinthians 5:19: "Namely that God, by means of Christ, reconciled the world to Himself by not imputing their sins to them."

Romans 5:10: "For if, while we were enemies (spiritual death), we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more now being reconciled, we shall be delivered by His life."

Colossians 1:20: "And through Him (JC) to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of the cross."

- a. Reconciliation is ratified at the moment of faith in Christ.

Colossians 1:22: "Yet He has now reconciled you in the body of His flesh through death (substitutionary spiritual death), in order to present you before Him holy, blameless, and beyond reproach."

3. The believer is redeemed, purchased from the slave market of sin. Redemption views salvation from the standpoint of our being in a slave market of sin. We are born into the slave market of sin. Jesus Christ paid for our freedom by His substitutionary spiritual death on the cross.
 - a. Therefore, redemption means that at the moment of our salvation, we are freed from the slave market of sin. We have now been liberated from slavery to Satan and to the old sin nature.
 - b. While reconciliation is directed toward man and propitiation is directed toward God, unlimited atonement and redemption are directed toward sin. Galatians 3:13; Ephesians 1:7; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 1:18-19.
4. The believer's condemnation, or eternal judgment is removed. At the moment of your salvation, all judgment is removed. You are never again subject to the Last Judgment or the lake of fire. John 3:18; Romans 8:1; Hebrews 9:27-28

John 3:18: "He who believes on Him is not judged, but he who does not believe is judged already because he has not believed in the unique person of Jesus Christ."

Romans 8:1: "There is, therefore, now no judgment to those who are in Christ Jesus."

- a. The believer is no longer subject to the Great White Throne Judgment and the Lake of Fire, due to one simple act of faith in Jesus Christ.
5. The penalty for the believer's sins has been paid for, canceled, by the substitutionary spiritual death of Christ on the cross. Romans 4:25; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 2:14; 1 Peter 2:24
6. The believer receives propitiation – God is satisfied with the work of His Son on behalf of sinful humanity. Romans 3:25-26; 1 John 2:2, 4:10
 - a. While reconciliation is directed toward mankind, propitiation is directed toward God. Propitiation means that God the Father is satisfied with the work of Jesus Christ on the cross.
 - b. God the Father is only satisfied with one person in history: Jesus Christ, because He remained impeccable throughout the thirty-three years of his life and while bearing our sins on the cross.
 - c. When we believe in Jesus Christ, we are the beneficiaries of that propitiation. Since God the Father is satisfied with the work of Christ on the cross, and since we believe in Christ who performed it, therefore, God the Father is satisfied with us as individuals positionally.

Romans 3:24-25: "Being justified as a gift by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; whom God the Father has publicly displayed by His blood as the mercy seat through faith in Christ for a demonstration of His integrity, because of the passing over of previously committed sins, because of the clemency of God."

7. The believer is dead to old life, the sin nature, but alive to God.
 - a. Positionally, he is crucified with Christ. Romans 6:6; Galatians 2:20
 - b. Dead with Christ. Romans 6:8; Colossians 3:3; 1 Peter 2:24
 - c. Buried and raised with Christ. Romans 6:4, 7:4; Colossians 2:12, 3:1

8. The believer is free from the Mosaic Law. He is dead to the Law (Romans 7:4) and delivered. Romans 6:14; 2 Corinthians 3:6-11; Galatians 3:25
9. The believer is regenerated (John 13:10; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:5).
 - a. He is born again (John 3:7; 1 Peter 1:23).
 - b. A child of God (John 1:12; Romans 8:16; 2 Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 3:26; 1 John 3:2).
 - c. A new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15; Ephesians 2:10).
 - d. Regeneration is the ministry of God the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation whereby He creates a human spirit for the purpose of the imputation of eternal life.
 - e. At the moment of physical birth, we receive the imputation of human life to our soul. But at the moment we believe in Jesus Christ, God the Holy Spirit creates a human spirit to which God the Father imputes eternal life.
 - f. This is what it means to be "born again." It is not a physical birth, like Nicodemus thought (John 3). It is a spiritual birth accomplished by the Holy Spirit. We did not earn it or deserve it or do anything for it. Once we receive a human spirit, we become trichotomous having a body, a soul, and a human spirit.
10. The believer is adopted by God, placed into His family as an adult son. Romans 8:15, 23 at resurrection; Ephesians 1:5.
11. The believer is made acceptable to God. Ephesians 1:6; 1 Peter 2:5
 - a. He is made righteous by imputation. Romans 3:22; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 3:9
 - b. Sanctified positionally. 1 Corinthians 1:30; 6:11
 - c. Perfected forever. Hebrews 10:14
 - d. Qualified for inheritance Colossians 1:12

12. The believer is justified, declared righteous. Romans 3:24, 5:1, 9, 8:30; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:7

- a. With the righteousness of God imputed, we are justified by means of the imputation of God's own perfect righteousness (+R). Romans 3:28; Titus 3:7

Galatians 2:16: "Nevertheless, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no person will be justified."

Titus 3:7: "That being justified by His grace, we might be made heirs on the basis of the confidence of eternal life."

13. The believer receives the unique availability of divine power. 2 Peter 1:3

- a. At the moment of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, we have three categories of divine power available. This is an unprecedented extension to every believer. Available to us is:
 - i) God's power regarding a portfolio of invisible assets. 1 Peter 1:4-5
 - ii) God the Son's power in holding the universe together. Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3
 - iii) The Holy Spirit's operational power in Operation Z (GAP). John 14:26; Acts 1:8; Luke 4:14; Romans 1:4
- b. The fact that this divine power is available at salvation does not imply that most believers today ever utilize this power. In fact, most believers are powerless and useless through ignorance of Bible doctrine.

14. The believer is guaranteed a heavenly citizenship based on reconciliation. Luke 10:20; Eph. 2:14–19; Phil. 3:20

15. The believer is delivered from the kingdom of Satan. Colossians 1:13a; 2:15

- a. At the moment you believe in Christ, you are delivered from the authority of darkness.

Colossians 1:13a: "For He delivered us from the authority of darkness."

16. The believer is transferred into the kingdom of God. Colossians 1:13b

Colossians 1:13b: "And He transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love."

- a. Therefore, everything that happened to us before salvation that could be a handicap in our spiritual lives has been eliminated. This includes whatever we were and however we failed.
- b. The only way that anything that happened to you before salvation can be a handicap is if you make it so by ignorance of Bible doctrine and ignorance of God's policy of grace.

17. The believer is now on a secure foundation. 1 Corinthians 3:11; 10:4; Ephesians 2:20

- a. We are instantly on a secure foundation at the moment of our salvation, and we can never be removed from our secure foundation.

18. The believer is a gift from God the Father to Jesus Christ. John 10:29; 17:2, 6, 9, 11–12, 24

- a. We are a gift in that we are formed as the royal family of God.

19. The believer is delivered positionally from the power of the sin nature. Romans 8:2; Philippians 3:3; Colossians 2:11

- a. At the very moment we believe in Christ, we are delivered from the power and the authority of the sin nature.
- b. As soon as we choose to sin, we get back under the authority of the sin nature. But the rebound technique is the means by which we can escape from being under the authority of the old sin nature.

20. The believer is appointed a priest unto God. He enters into a holy priesthood.
1 Peter 2:5

a. A royal priesthood. 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6

21. The believer receives eternal security. John 10:28–29; Romans 8:32, 38–39;
Galatians 3:26; 2 Timothy 2:13

a. The moment we believe in Jesus Christ, we have eternal security.

b. There are many approaches to teaching eternal security.

c. The logical approach. Romans 8:32: "If God (the Father) spared not His own Son on the cross, but delivered Him over to judgment, how shall He not with Him freely give us all things?"

d. "All things" includes a security that neither we, nor God, can break.

e. The positional approach says that once we are in union with Christ, we can't break the union.

f. The experiential approach is found in 2 Timothy 2:13: "Though we deny Him, He cannot deny us."

g. The family approach is taught in Galatians 3:26: "We are children of God through faith in Christ Jesus."

h. At the point of our salvation, we were born into the family of God; we cannot be unborn from God's family. Once a son; always a son. You will always be a child of God.

i. The inheritance approach is found in 1 Peter 1:5.

j. There is nothing God the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit can do to cancel our salvation after we believe in Jesus Christ, and there is nothing we can do either. There is no renunciation, no system of sin, no evil, no failure, or blasphemy on our part that can ever cancel our salvation.

22. The believer is given access to God, and we can go boldly to the Throne of God in prayer. Romans 5:2; Ephesians 2:18; Hebrews 4:16; 10:19–20

23. The believer is within the “much more” grace care of God. Romans 5:9–10

a. He is:

- (i) An object of His love. Ephesians 2:4; 5:2
- (ii) An object of His grace for salvation. Ephesians 2:8–9
- (iii) For keeping. Romans 5:2; 1 Peter 1:5
- (iv) For service. John 17:18; Ephesians 4:7
- (v) For instruction. Titus 2:12
- (vi) An object of His power. Ephesians 1:19; Philippians 2:13
- (vii) An object of His faithfulness. Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 13:5b
- (viii) An object of His peace. John 14:27
- (ix) An object of His consolation. 2 Thessalonians 2:16
- (x) An object of His intercession. Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; 9:24

24. The believer is the beneficiary of an inheritance as an heir of God and joint heir with Christ. Romans 8:17; Ephesians 1:14, 18; Colossians 3:24; Hebrews 9:15; 1 Peter 1:4

a. At the moment we believe in Christ, we receive an inheritance which is eternal. We become the heirs of God. We can't earn or deserve it.

Ephesians 1:14: "Who is the guarantee of our inheritance for the release of your assets for the praise of His glory."

1 Peter 1:4: "We have an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, that fades not away, reserved in heaven for those who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time."

25. The believer has a new position in Christ. Ephesians 2:6

a. He is:

- (i) a partner with Christ in life. Colossians 3:4
- (ii) a partner with Christ in service. 1 Corinthians 1:9
- (iii) a worker together with God. 1 Corinthians 3:9; 2 Corinthians 6:1
- (iv) an ambassador. 2 Corinthians 5:20
- (v) a living epistle. 2 Corinthians 3:3
- (vi) a servant of God. 2 Corinthians 6:4

26. The believer is the recipient of eternal life. At the moment of faith in Jesus Christ, God the Father imputes eternal life to our human spirit. John 3:15, 10:28, 20:31; 1 John 5:11-12

27. The believer is created a new spiritual species. 2 Corinthians 5:17

- a. The Church Age believer, at the moment of faith in Christ, becomes a new spiritual species. This is never true in any other dispensation.

2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new spiritual species. The old things have lost their power; behold, new things have come."

Galatians 6:15: "For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision; but a new spiritual species."

28. The believer is a light in the Lord, on His side in the Angelic Conflict. Ephesians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:4-5

29. The believer is united with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- a. He is:
 - i. In God. (1 Thessalonians 1:1; cf. God in you, Ephesians 4:6 (KJV))
 - ii. In Christ (John 14:20; cf. Christ in you, Colossians 1:27)
 - iii. A member in His body (1 Corinthians 12:13)
 - iv. A branch in the Vine (John 15:5)
 - v. A stone in the Building (Ephesians 2:21-22; 1 Peter 2:5)
 - vi. A sheep in the Flock (John 10:27-29)
 - vii. A portion of His Bride (Ephesians 5:25-27; Revelation 19:6-8)
 - viii. A priest of the kingdom of priests (1 Peter 2:9)
 - ix. In the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9)

30. The believer is the recipient of the ministries of the Holy Spirit.

- a. He is born of the spirit. John 3:5-8
- b. Baptized with the Spirit. Acts 1:5; 1 Corinthians 12:13

- c. Indwelt by the Spirit. John 7:39; Romans 5:5, 8:9; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19; Galatians 4:6; 1 John 3:24
 - d. Sealed by the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 4:30
 - e. Given spiritual gifts. 1 Corinthians 12:11, 27-31, 13:1-2
31. The believer is glorified. Romans 8:30
32. The believer is complete in Christ. Colossians 2:10
33. The believer is a possessor of every spiritual blessing granted in eternity past. Ephesians 1:3
34. The believer receives a human spirit along with the Holy Spirit. Romans 8:16; 1 Corinthians 2:12; 2 Corinthians 7:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:23
35. The believer has all sins and transgressions blotted out. Isaiah 43:25, 44:22
36. The believer is the recipient of efficacious grace. Ephesians 1:13
37. The believer is guaranteed a resurrection body forever. 1 Corinthians 15:40-54
- a. At the moment anyone believes in Jesus Christ, he is guaranteed a resurrection body, a perfect body, forever.
- John 11:25: "Jesus said to her (Martha), 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me shall live, even if he dies.'"
- b. Dying does not keep us from having a resurrection body; only unbelief in Jesus Christ does that.
38. The believer is the beneficiary of unlimited atonement. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 19; 1 Timothy 2:6, 4:10; Titus 2:11; Hebrews 2:9; 2 Peter 2:1; 1 John 2:2
- a. Unlimited atonement means that Jesus Christ was judged on the cross for all personal sins in the history of the human race, from the first sin of Adam to the last sin committed in the Millennium.
 - b. Unlimited atonement means that salvation is open to anyone who will believe in Christ. Only those who believe in Christ become the

beneficiaries of unlimited atonement.

39. The believer has equal privilege and equal opportunity under election and predestination. Romans 12:3; Ephesians 3:16-19

- a. There is only one thing in life that makes all people equal, and that is what God does for each believer at the moment he believes in Christ.
- b. At the moment of our salvation, we are given equal privilege and equal opportunity.
- c. Equal privilege is provided in the royal priesthood; equal opportunity is provided in logistical grace.

40. We have one revocable absolute, withdrawn when the believer commits sin.

41. The believer is filled with the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation (Galatians 3:3). The filling of the Holy Spirit is revoked when the believer sins but recovered when he acknowledges his known sins to God the Father.

42. We know it as "Rebound". 1 John 1:9

Back to our study:

Jude 19: "These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit."

9. There is a difference in how some of us advance based on our positive volition, but we all have the option and the ability of spiritual growth.

10. We are also set apart for future service to the Lord, not just some of us but all of us.

11. The equality is the opportunity and the ability. The results are different because of how believers use that opportunity and those resources.

12. All believers are one in Christ with no exceptions. We are all in union with Christ through the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

13. The difference between believer and unbeliever is condemnation and no condemnation. (That's an inequality.)
14. Believers have an equality in Jesus Christ, and we all have equal opportunity to grow spiritually. We all have those same resources.
15. At the moment of salvation we have the filling of the Holy Spirit, and we all have the resource of the Grace Apparatus for Perception (GAP).
16. We have the ability to understand doctrine, metabolize it, and to grow spiritually.
17. The inequality among believers comes only with spiritual growth or lack of it.
18. We have been set apart to live separate from the world, which is the Christian life.
19. To become mature believers with an exclusive intimate relationship with God.
20. How? You have to know Him. You have to respect Him. You've got to know who He is, what He's done for you.
21. It all comes from metabolized Bible doctrine in the soul and the rest takes care of itself.
22. As you grow spiritually, so does your relationship with the Lord.
23. As you grow spiritually, your intimate relationship with God grows, as does your relationship with God.
24. This is the objective of every believer: to grow up spiritually. You have the means, now you just have to do it.
25. Bestowed on all of us are the resources necessary to develop an intimate relationship with God. That is equal opportunity.
26. What you do with that is up to you. What you do with that is based on your positive volition. What you do with that is based on how consistent you are

in the intake of doctrine, which is your knowledge of God, the mind of Christ.

27. Remember this is not your home. You are set apart and we're just passing through. You're in an exclusive club!

John 15:19: "If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you." (NASB)

PRINCIPLE: If you want to be acceptable to the world, be an unbeliever.

28. Because you are not of this world, in other words, you're set apart. Therefore, the world hates you.

29. Never forget the Pharisees hated Christ. They crucified Him. They did everything to discredit Him.

30. They will also hate those who follow Christ, who have the mind of Christ in them. They hated the disciples, and they hated the apostles.

31. That is just as true today as it was then. John 15:19

32. Hate is exactly how the world reacts to your relationship with Christ and your adherence to His word. They hate you because of that and for no other reason.

33. As a believer in Jesus Christ, growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, you have an exclusive and different attitude, an exclusive and different viewpoint, divine viewpoint.

Do you know you're rich? You may be poor as a church mouse, but you're rich.

"You have riches in glory in heavenly places." Ephesians 1:3 (NASB)

1. The false teachers hate you, and so they seek to divide and destroy you.
2. The more your spiritual life suffers, the more you will be vulnerable to the false teachers.