

The Berean Method Of Bible Interpretation

A 2nd Addendum To “The Authority Of The Bible”

READ ME FIRST

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The Berean Method Of Bible Interpretation

A 2nd Addendum To “The Authority Of The Bible”

The Berean Method Of Bible Interpretation: This is the way the Bereans decided and accepted and lived in faith that Jesus of Nazareth is the long-awaited Messiah – the Christ our Savior. Chose to accept! Their Method is how they decided and accepted (chose to accept) and lived in faith with Jesus as Lord. Consider their Method: “And the brethren immediately sent away **Paul and Silas** by night unto **Berea**: who coming thither **went into the synagogue** of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that **they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.** Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.”

THE METHOD: ...they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed ...

The Bereans had our Old Testament Scriptures of the Bible with the prophecies of the coming Messiah Savior. They applied the Berean Method to what Paul and Silas were saying about this Jesus: “**they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.** Therefore many of them believed”. (Acts 17:10-12). After studying Old Testament Scriptures they compared them to what Paul and Silas said about Jesus. They then believed that Jesus was the Messiah Savior and then accepted (chose to accept!) and lived with Jesus in faith with these facts!

Note that they did not just “believe” - - the Bible tells us that the demons “believe and tremble” but they do not choose to “accept and live in faith in that which they found”.

Today we have Messianic Jews who know their Bible Old Testament Scriptures and searching the Bible New Testament Scripture message of

Paul and the original disciples who Jesus chose as His messengers - - believe and chose to accept and live in faith with Jesus Christ. (See Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53).

Thus, Today we can check out any idea about Bible Christianity with the Berean Method with the Bible. **“they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed”**. Why use the Bible? We will check out the authority of the Bible Scriptures in a moment using the Berean Method.

You can check out ideas in the same way. Use the Berean Method to decide about ideas using the authority of Bible for the basis of all other points. We have the Old Testament of the Bible and the historical record of the close disciples of Jesus and Paul.

Now let’s look at some points that Biblical Christians believe and choose to accept and live in faith with Jesus Christ while they are really using the Berean Method whether they realize it are not. There are four basic searches on which all of the other searches rest.

{Basic Search One} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Is Jesus our Savior and does He speak for God]:

The central point in the Bible is that Jesus of Nazareth is the long-awaited Christ Messiah Savior Who died for our sins in our place so that we can live forever with a holy God. “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus ...” (Romans 3:23-24). “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.” (John 3:16-17). The ultimate “proof” that Jesus is Who He says He is the resurrection: “Then answered the Jews and said unto Him, ‘What sign do You show unto us, seeing that You do these things?’ Jesus answered and said unto them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ Then said the Jews, ‘Forty and six years was this temple in building, and will You rear it up in three days?’ But He spoke of the temple of His body. When therefore He was risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this unto them; and they believed the Scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.” (John

2:18-22). Thus we see that Jesus gave one ultimate sign of His authority which is His unique, predicted resurrection. But there are other things to support that Jesus is Who He says He is: we have His works, His words, His fulfillment of the Old Covenant Old Testament Bible Scriptures, the attested witness of John the Baptizer, the attested witness of the eleven close disciples of Jesus, what we call the transfiguration, voices from heaven, unusual things at His birth, and the great cloud of witnesses down through the ages. And, then, of course, we have the resurrection. Lazarus was resurrected by Jesus but died again at a later time. Enoch in the Old Testament never died but was translated into heaven. But the resurrection of Jesus is different. We have the unique, predicted resurrection of Jesus never to die again to support the fact that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah, the Christ, the only begotten, unique, very Son of God! There is no other person in human history worthy and capable to die for our wrongful sins so that we can live in the presence of our holy God. There is no other one in human history that has risen from the dead never to die again! Jesus Christ is the ultimate human authority! The ultimate authority of the Bible in our human history age of the Bible New Covenant in the Bible New Testament comes from the authority of the Jesus Christ!

Now that we have established Jesus Christ as the ultimate human authority, where does He get His ultimate information for the New Covenant that fulfills the Old Covenant? {These 2 Covenants are the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.} “For I have not spoken of Myself; but the Father which sent Me, He gave Me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that His commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto Me, so I speak.” (John 12:49-50). So Jesus gets His New Covenant information from God. Jesus speaks for God!

{Basic Search Two} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Jesus supports the Old Testament down to the jot and tittle]:

“For verily I say unto you, ‘Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.’”
Matthew 5:18

{Basic Search Three} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Jesus supports the New Testament, the message of His close disciples and Paul]:

Jesus selects His close disciples and Paul to speak for Him and thus for God and their message is the New Testament.

Close disciples: “I have manifested Your Name unto the men which you gave Me out of the world: Yours they were, and You gave them Me; and they have kept Your Word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever You have given Me are of You. For I have given unto them the Words which thou gave Me; and they have received Them, and have known surely that I came out from You, and they have believed that You did send Me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which You have give Me; for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your own Name those Who You have given Me, that they may be one, as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your Name: those that You gave Me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the Scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to You; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have My joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them Your Word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through Your truth: Your Word is truth. As You have sent Me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; That they all may be one; as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You, that they also may be one in Us: that the world may believe that You hast sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them; that they may be one, even as We are One: I in them, and You in Me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them, as You have loved Me. Father, I will that they also, Who You have given Me, be with Me where I am; that they may behold My glory, which You have given Me: for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world has not known You: but I have

known You, and these have known that You have sent Me.” (John 17:6-25). Notice especially our theological heritage: “Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word;” (John 17:20).

Paul: See Acts 9:1-22; especially “But the Lord said unto him, ‘Go your way: for he {Saul/Paul} is a chosen vessel unto Me {Jesus Christ}, to bear My Name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:’” See Acts 26:12-18; especially “But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I {Jesus} have appeared unto you {Paul} for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of these things which you have seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto you; Delivering you from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send you, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in Me. {Jesus}.” Peter calls Paul’s works “Scripture”: “And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him has written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction.” (2 Peter 3:15-16).

In the New Testament times: When Jesus sends someone for a special purpose, it speaks for Him and thus it speaks for God! John 15:15, 20: “Henceforth I {Jesus} call you not servants; for the servant knows not what his lord does: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of My Father I have made known unto you. ... Remember the word that I {Jesus} said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept My saying, they will keep yours also.” And Luke 10:16: “He that hears you hears Me {Jesus}; and he that despises you despises Me; and he that despises Me despises Him that sent Me.” And John 13:20: “Verily, verily, I {Jesus} say unto you, He that receives whomsoever I send receives Me; and he that receives Me receives Him that sent me.” And Matthew 10:40 “He that receives you receives Me, and he that receives Me receives Him that sent Me.”

{Basic Search Four} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [The New Testament fulfills and re-interprets the Old Testament]:

This Search requires a lot of study to absorb properly. The Old Testament is to be approached differently than the New Testament for Biblical Christians. Jesus said this about the Old Testament: “For verily I say unto you, ‘Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.’” (Matthew 5:18). “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. (Matthew 5:17). The Old Testament is an Old Covenant and the New Testament is a New Covenant. “Behold, the days come’, saith the Lord, ‘that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:” (Jeremiah 31:31). See Acts 15 and Bible book of Hebrews (see chapters 8 and 12 especially). For example, no more Old Testament sacrifices: Hebrews 10:10: “By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” These Scriptures offer some discussion for the fact that Bible Christians are under a New Covenant with God and the Old Covenant is ultimately in a fulfilled status. Also see Luke 1, and 22:20.

{Search Five} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Has the Holy Spirit done anything to oversee the formation of the Bible?]:

“Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;” (Ephesians 3:5). “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:” (2 Timothy 3:16). “But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and you shall be witnesses unto Me {Jesus} both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8). Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will show you things to come. (John 16:13). “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, Whom the Father will send in My Name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

(John 14:26). “For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when you received the Word of God which you heard of us, you received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the Word of God, which effectually works also in you that believe.” (1 Thessalonians 2:13). “If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.” (1 Corinthians 14:37). “Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Ghost teaches; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” (1 Corinthians 2:13). “And He {Jesus} said unto them, ‘These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Me.’ And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.” (Luke 24:44). “So shall My word be that goes forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:11). “If he called them gods, to whom the Word of God came, and Scripture cannot be broken;” (John 10:35). The Spirit of Jesus wrote the Old Testament: “Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.” (1 Peter 1:10-11). “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.” (Jude 1:3).

{Search Six} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Is it necessary to know the Bible to get its benefits?]:

How else will we know what God has revealed through Jesus and the New Testament messengers to us to do? The close disciples of Jesus were told to give their Bible message from Jesus: “And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, ‘All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. You go therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy

Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.’ Amen.” (Matthew 28:18-20). “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (Romans 10:17). “Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the Law of the Lord; and in His Law does he meditate day and night.” (Psalm 1:1-2). Joshua was told: “This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; but you shalt meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shalt have good success.” (Joshua 1:8).

{Search Seven} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Is there a “whole armour of God” to deal with Satan?]:

Study Ephesians 6:10-18 and other Satan the Devil references.

{Search Eight} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [What are some proper attitudes toward God?]:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. It shall be health to your navel, and marrow to your bones.” (Proverbs 3:5-8). “And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalts himself shall be abased; and he that humbles himself shall be exalted.” (Luke 18:13-14).

{Search Nine} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Do some prayers and Bible verses have conditions?]:

“... the truth shall make you free.” (8:32b) is incorrect! “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, ‘If you continue in My word, then are you My disciples indeed; And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.’” (8:31-32) is correct. ... “... your joy might be full.” (15:11b) is incomplete statement about Biblical Christianity and incorrect! Missing is, ‘If you keep My commandments’”. This Bible verse is an invitation with RSVP instructions. The RSVP instructions are not to earn the invitation but

rather to be open to the invitation. No earthly power nor circumstance can stop or start this invitation except our choice. “That your joy might be full” is an amazing offer to us in our part of human history! “My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full ... If you keep My commandments” from John 15:10-11 “If you keep My commandments, you shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.”

{Search Ten} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Can the wrong Scripture be applied to a situation?]:

If Satan the Devil will try to do it to the Son of God then we should be very careful and walk with God and Jesus Christ! Watch out for selfish interests rather than God interests. “Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He was afterward hungry. And when the tempter came to Him, he said, ‘If You be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.’ But He answered and said, ‘It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”’ Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, and set Him on a pinnacle of the temple, And said unto Him, ‘If You be the Son of God, cast Yourself down: for it is written, “He shall give His angels charge concerning You: and in their hands they shall bear You up, lest at any time You dash Your foot against a stone.”’ Jesus said unto him, ‘It is written again, “You shall not tempt the Lord Your God.”’ Again, the devil took Him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And said unto Him, ‘All these things will I give You, if You will fall down and worship me.’ Then said Jesus unto him, ‘You get hence, Satan: for it is written, “You shall worship the Lord Your God, and Him only shall you serve.”’ Then the devil left Him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto Him.” (Matthew 4:1-11).

{Search Eleven} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [What do you do when you cannot understand a passage or two passages seem to conflict and they do not resolve for you?]:

Start with: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. It shall be health to your navel, and marrow to your bones.” (Proverbs 3:5-8). Keep searching for ideas.

{Search Twelve} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Do we know much about forgiveness to put into practice?]:

Real or imagined trespasses: “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.” (Matthew 6:14-15). “You have heard that it has been said, ‘You shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy.’ But I say unto you, ‘Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for He makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love them which love you, what reward have you? Do not even the publicans the same? And if you salute your brethren only, what do you more than others? Do not even the publicans so? You be therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” (Matthew 5:43-48). “If your enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink: For you shall heap coals of fire upon his head, and the Lord shall reward you.” (Proverbs 25:21-22). “If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.” (Romans 12:18). “And why do you behold the mote that is in your brother's eye, but consider not the beam that is in your own eye? Or how will you say to thy brother, ‘Let me pull out the mote out of your eye;’ and, behold, a beam is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of your own eye; and then you shall see clearly to cast out the mote out of your brother's eye.” (Matthew 7:3-5). God led Jesus through a very sticky example in John 8:1-11. Notice that Jesus did not break His relationship with the victim in the situation by saying that He did not condemn her. Also notice that Jesus did not play games with her about the eternal consequences of the situation but said to “Go” and **stop Sinning**. In Ephesians 4 Paul has a chapter on forgiveness. Let God and Jesus Christ help and guide us to be “speaking the truth in love”.

{Search Thirteen} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Can God possibly love someone like me?]:

“For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.” (John 3:16-17). Since we are so loved, we need to diligently seek Jesus’s daily guidance and study His messengers in the Bible. The Bible is a necessary tool for living with Jesus the Christ. It is not a substitute for living with Jesus the Christ. We can talk to Him verbally like any other person. We can also talk to Him in our minds.

{Search Fourteen} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Will there be things in Scripture and life that we do not understand a proper explanation for it? For instance, why is Satan allowed to get people to kill innocents?]:

There are events in the Bible when God helps with special means to win war: Deborah in Judges with a sudden flood and 2 Kings 6:15-17 “And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, ‘Alas, my master! how shall we do?’ And he answered, ‘Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.’ And Elisha prayed, and said, ‘Lord, I pray to you, open his eyes, that he may see.’ And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.” However, Matthew 2 describes such a horrible case of innocents killed and God seemed to do nothing. 2:18 says: “In Ramah was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.” This killing was meant for baby Jesus but He escaped. This event was prophesied in Jeremiah 15:18, “Thus says the Lord; ‘A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.’” Satan the devil gets to lead people to make unprovoked wars, etc. We do not know how God is weaving these terrible things into His ways. We can say: “Lord, I believe; You help my unbelief.”

(Mark 9:24b). The Bible was written to give us eternal life with God - it was not written to explain all things at this time. Scripture reminds us “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways’, says the Lord. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.’” (Isaiah 55:8-9). For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. (1 Corinthians 13:12). Jesus tells us in John 16:33 “These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. Hebrews 11:6 tells us: “But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” - - not to earn rewards but to receive rewards in this age and the next.

{Search Fifteen} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Is it OK to not obey the Bible if you have what seems to be a better idea?]:

1 Samuel 15 about king Saul and Samuel is a chapter on obeying God: especially 1 Samuel 15:22-23, “And Samuel said, ‘Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the Word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king.’”

{Search Sixteen} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [What does the Bible offer on human relations and bigotry?]:

The book of Proverbs has a lot to offer on human relations on a person to person level. Recent years have used racism to fan the fires of mutual human relations hatred with its friction and oppression. Racism is not the only thing causing human relations problems: culture friction and oppression; gang against gang friction and oppression; friction and oppression caused by organized crime activity; friction and oppression caused by the “good old boys circle” and those not in that circle; friction and oppression from a bad boss;

peers calling someone who wears glasses “frog-eyes”; Satan tempting someone to be a bully; etc. People who have suffered bigotry may have an ancestral historical memory of terrible things done that adds to the problem. Things like the “good old boys circle” can stop someone’s professional advancement unless they go to a different area. “Coals of fire” and other things in the forgiveness Search should be investigated.

All races and cultures face bigotry from the beginning of time and this will likely unfortunately continue into the future of human existence. Many cultures in a Government’s history have had culture against culture bigotry, Government bigotry, organized crime bigotry, gang bigotry, etc. even to the point of death of the victims. Many civilizations in recent human history have seen the worst of the human condition with mass killings by governments and other deplorable things that hurt even to think about them with the very worst being the Jewish Holocaust in the past century. Racial bigotry has people subject to beyond hideous treatment. Founders of some civilizations could not solve some bigot problems politically so they solved it on a personal level what laws should have been providing. Governments cannot solve all bigotry problems. We humans have done horrible things to each other. Satan, the Devil, is alive and well even though Jesus Christ has ultimately defeated him. Bigotry cannot be overcome with bigotry. When it comes to cultural bigotry, Jesus was shocking and Jesus presented in word and action a picture that could be interpreted to say, “don’t participate”. Don’t participate in bigotry friction even if you have to live in a society that has very severe cultural friction. The friction between Samaritans and Jews in the days of Jesus, a Jew, was some of the worst in human history. They literally would have nothing to do with each other. But Jesus, a Jew, sat down by a well and ask a Samaritan woman for a drink and talked to her. When the disciples of Jesus, who had gone shopping, came back and saw Jesus talking to a Samaritan woman, they could hardly believe their eyes that Jesus would do such a thing! At another time Jesus had a discussion with some Jews about the most important laws from God in their Holy Scriptures. They decided that “love your neighbor as yourself” was one of the most important laws. They ask Jesus who was their neighbor. Jesus told them a story about someone who fell into serious trouble and Jesus made a Samaritan of all people to be the only one with neighborly compassion to help the distressed

person. The despise Samaritan as compassionate hero was not what the listeners were expecting to hear. So when it comes to cultural or any bigotry friction, Jesus presented things that could be interpreted to say, “don’t participate” in bigotry friction even if you have to live in a world that has very severe bigotry friction.

{Search Seventeen} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Does Jesus make an elaborate discussion on the importance of the Bible?]:

Jesus makes short statements about the importance of the Bible such as, “... blessed are they that hear the Word of God, and keep it.” (Luke 11:28b). But He has an elaborate discussion on the importance of the Bible in the parable of the sower which appears in three of the Gospels: Matthew 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; and Luke 8:1-15.

{Search Eighteen} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Should we accept all things that people say or prayerfully examine all sides in depth?]:

“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.” (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

{Search Nineteen} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [What will be the nature of the churches in the last days? Will churches attain perfection by the last days?]:

See the 7 churches in Revelation 1-3. See also 2 Timothy 3.

{Search Twenty} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [What does the Bible say about Earth history and end times?]:

The beginning of John and other places in the Bible talks about Jesus being around before the foundation of the world and helped in the creation. Before the end times terrible tribulation Jesus said that “Because you have kept the word of My patience, I also will keep you from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.” (Revelation3:10). Luke 21 talks about a snare to come upon the world and an escape. Some people call these two previous mentioned things the rapture. We have the terrible tribulation and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ; also there the 1000 years the great millennium Gog and Magog, the end of Satan, signs in

the universe a New Heaven and a New Earth. Jesus talks about the end times in Matthew 24 and Luke 21. 2 Timothy 3 talks about the deterioration of human choices in the end times. The Welcoming Committee For The Second Coming on the danielhookemusic.com website lists many Bible references to become aware of the end times. The days of Noah are important.

{Search Twenty-one} Are These Things So? If so, what do we choose to do? [Add to searches herein and do your searches.]:
