

You can find all parables along with PHOTOS and SCRIPTURES in comments on Facebook at DianaDee.Osborne (all PUBLIC), or on my FACEBOOK PARABLES OF LIFE **blog** at this LINK >> <https://facebookparablesinlife.blogspot.com/>

YEAR 2015 **SPRING PARABLES IN LIFE**

April 1, 2015 at 11:33am ·

I bought a few of those houseplant watering bulbs that you fill, then insert into pot's dirt. Several people told me "They don't work." But I've found, experimenting, that they do if you respect their interesting design for capillary action: First... don't bother in dirt that has styrofoam bits for holding moisture: The bits get stuck in tube but float-- I needed a small gauge crochet needle to remove! 2nd: You have to use a SLOW stream to fill; faster just pours water over & slows the filling...//

Like it or not: I must be patient.

Like it or not: WE must be patient as we seek to fill ourselves with God's Truths. Jesus said in John 16:12, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now." ... We must Trust the LORD to help us Understand all we need in HIS timing: But He WILL answer at the right Time: James 1:5-6.

April 1, 2015 at 8:46pm ·

April Fool's Day. No idea how it got its name. Don't care. Mainly remember kids in school using it as an excuse to be mean... and then to mock others, calling them stupid for believing their words... Children, teens often believed the label: **Foolish, dumb**. Sometimes I sadly see I've made decisions not carefully prayed thru. But perhaps that awareness makes me all the more astounded by the LORD God's repeatedly offered Gift:

Wisdom, for the asking - James 1:5. And without God ever chiding us for being foolish as we come to Him. What an astounding LORD God! With deepest thanks ... amid the apologies for all the times I should've listened better!

April 1, 2015 at 8:19am · Pinterest

The heart of a bully - VERBAL as well as physical - relies on others to back him up or IGNORE what s/he does to others. God's Command: We must STAND & DEFEND. Incl in school, church, group. Incl against Gossip. GOD: Micah 6:8 –

“He (God) has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to DO JUSTICE, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” - Micah 6:8.

April 2, 2015 at 8:58am ·

Scholars disagree (what a surprise) on when Bible book of Ecclesiastes was written (or by whom, tho Solomon in his old age is presumed). Some say a few Persian-like words indicate 330- 450 years before Christ.

Whatever year: ~25 centuries before my husband and I have to calculate taxes owed does certainly point yet again to God's inspiration thru Eccl 4: 9 > "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor." ... Well, it's not exactly a "Reward", but **we caught each other's little error**. And can celebrate our Home Team victory -- We finished!

April 3, 2015 at 9:51am ·

Jesus NEVER said Moon would turn Red just ONCE & stay: MANY scriptures (below) say signs of the LORD's return shall come **like birth pangs: faster and faster. And Harder. LOGIC:**

- (1) Like Braxton Hicks labor pains, **not 1 sign; not immediate delivery.**
- (2) Read Genesis 1:14 carefully> God made Sun & Moon ALSO to be: SIGNS.
- (3) Volcanic eruptions like 2010's in Iceland (closing air traffic in ~20 countries) easily would bring prophecies true (dim sun, moon red/ no longer seen). Or pollution or nuclear events.
- (4) Even some church leaders teach that Jesus's Miracle SIGNS like feeding the 5,000 (Jewish area) and 4,000 (Gentile region) can be explained away: People with bag lunches shared. // See Isaiah 13:6-9; Mark 13:8; Romans 8:22, 1 Thes 5:2-3. PHOTO: Brian Luenser via WFAA-TV in Texas: not Photoshopped.

April 3, 2015 at 4:48pm ·

Just "found" cool passage, God reminding us to *ferverently* pray for each other: >> "Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, **always laboring fervently for you in prayers,** that you may STAND perfect and complete in ALL the Will of God." -Colossians 4:12

April 3, 2015 at 11:24pm ·

Our studio is preparing the 22nd song that quotes Psalm 119 - whose entire theme is words like our last section TSADDE, vs 137: "Righteous are You, O LORD, **And upright are Your judgments.** Your testimonies, which You have commanded, Are **righteous and very faithful.**" ... God says the same thing through 2nd Timothy 3:16. ... // So... WHY do some Christians say God's commandments were bad, needing to be replaced? >> **POOR GRAMMAR - MIS-READINGS: Romans 8:2 doesn't say the LAW is evil!** Instead, that Jesus frees us from the NATURAL CONSEQUENCES of breaking God's Law: Sin, death. ROMANS 7 - PAUL CLEARLY says that God's Law is NOT evil or sin! Verse 7:7. **LOGIC** says our **Right-eous** God would **never** have said or written anything Evil. Jesus repeatedly warned of false teachings. Some are so old that people "just accept" what they hear. Even in church.... REMINDER: Revelation 22 ends WARNING that ONLY those who OBEY commandments are allowed to enter.

April 4, 2015 at 12:04am ·

Some things we've heard SO many times by teachers/ preachers we respect that we just don't examine the logic. One typed word on BlueLetterBible.org shows how many times GOD uses the word incl for those who ONCE worshiped Him: Backsliding.... Jesus said this Himself>>

Some REALLY receive but then reject salvation: "But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy" .. / ..

Jesus did not say the person FELT JOYFUL ONLY (that is, did not really accept the truth)... Jesus said the person **RECEIVED** it... and then chose to become careless. Matthew 13:19-23 "RECEIVED" is repeatedly used; English, Latin; Greek = "and straight gladly receive" (vs 19).

April 4, 2015 at 12:48am ·

News in the last month:

- (1) One year ago, California reported having 2 yrs of water stored.
- (2) Current news: CA has only one year of water stored after 4 years of drought & record-setting high temps; right on "schedule"?
- (3) CA used 70 MILLION gallons of water for fracking last year.
- (4) Agriculture uses 80% of CA's water for which we fruit lovers (etc:} are appreciative- incl 10% for almond trees.... Interestingly sad. But then there's
- (5) >> Dublin CA is breaking ground for a \$35 million water park. Seeing patterns in news just makesya wonder sometimes.

April 4, 2015 at 5:52pm ·

My hubby likes to relax watching old B&W westerns on PBS sometimes. They bore me but I love Jimmy Stewart's voice & so sat down to see if I'd guessed right, that it was him. Sure enough, camera backed off a bit to see him talking to "the bad guy".

Suddenly I Realized: **That was one *FURIOUS* horse** the other guy was on. Horse stood very quiet, seemed peaceful. But I'd learned in riding lessons how to "read" & better relate to horses. And this one's eyes & super flat ears expressed a lot that I once would've ignored.. // ..

Seems parallel to how **God helps us learn to discern how people are feeling as we share ideas with them including about Him... when to say more** because their "ears are forward". And **when to back off** until they learn to trust more that we really do care about them.

April 5, 2015 at 5:33am ·

In the weeks after my daddy died, I'd often wake up in the black night: Wonder 'WHY am I thinking of my father?' Suddenly Remember... and begin grieving again. In the cold black hours of today's Easter morning, I awoke suddenly... thinking of Martha.

God's Word thru John ends that "even the world itself could not contain" all the books if **everything about Jesus was written**. So also, the "traditional Easter story" never mentions Martha... But surely she & the others often awoke in grief in those black

hours after Jesus died.

And amid the grief, surely they were thinking of Jesus's words to Martha: John 11:25, "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."..... Thinking with glimmers of Hope, despite the black grief. Thinking with Faith-- "the evidence of things not seen." YET. <John 11, Heb 11>

April 5, 2015 at 6:49pm ·

Being rather tired after many wonderful hours of worship and music to celebrate our LORD's Resurrection & His promise of life for all who love Him, I sat down to watch an old (old) movie for a few minutes.

"I'd Climb the Highest Mountain" had just started: A young pastor brought his bride to the mountains of north Georgia. At first church service he introduced her, then made (made!) every married couple join their right hands... Preached 5 minutes tops reminding them of their own joy as newlyweds... Then told them to each "Repeat after me".

And he excitedly led them in a renewal of their marriage commitment. And most smiled as he reminded: **It's a covenant, a Forever Relationship** to be honored. As is our **LORD's** loving one for **us**. Sweet.

April 6, 2015 at 8:18pm ·

My week:

- I grabbed some cottage cheese to put on my pears last night; discovered it was the Sour Cream container. (yucckk).
- I put the old-fashioned popper into the microwave to make popcorn; FORGOT the lid.
- I was talking thru the door to my hubby as I drained my huge seaweed salad at the kitchen sink; my hands slipped. Long Strands of seaweed hanging off the faucet, countertop, sprayer, cabinet knob below... Looked like some underwater ghost story...

AND it's ONLY Monday!... // ... There are always weeks with "those days". Each one gives a new decision point on how to react...

Me: I just laughed & laughed at each (though a pause during moment of shock when seaweed landed on my bare foot!)... Me: I *do* enjoy getting older. No, I don't love the reflection in the hall mirror. But I love how God keeps His 2nd Corinthians 3:18 promises: If we ask, He sends the Holy Spirit to help us grow better & better in reflecting Him... Such a joy to have grown able to laugh so much at myself!

April 9, 2015 at 1:01am ·

Hurrying home from the other city, decided to get in a super-fast workout before going home to grab some CDs and books for my guitar student plus print out 3-year-old sheet music from Sunday's solo--- before rushing off to the distant church. But I did start laughing as I drove home from my workout: About 5 miles away from the gym: I hadn't THOUGHT I'd gotten in much of a workout, but apparently I did more than I'd hoped: My car window got so steamed up I couldn't see well through it for 10 miles! ... // ..

Some days we wonder, "What ***DID*** I do today? Seemed like a lot but I can't remember-- Did I accomplish more than I'd hoped?" // (Even thru Facebook?) ...

We just ask God to help us help us wisely use our time... Ephesians 3:20-21. To 5:16... wise use of time.

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April 9, 2015 at 12:57pm ·

Last nite was a bummer: 2 Impt Rejection emails after starting the day 80 miles from home wondering if my van had transmission problems. THEN, this AM, awoke thinking of staying in bed... Apologized promptly to the LORD for my mood: With His help, I'd already figured out last nite that Neither Rejection can stop God's Plans, and I do want His more than mine, anyway. LOOKED OUT WINDOW:

After rains, MAYAPPLES suddenly have popped up ALL thru the woods! They always make me laugh, like little SMURF houses... Amazing, how God helps us suddenly SEE His signs of Hope: Spring: Ability to (quote) "fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness & the work of faith with power" from HIM: No matter what Rejections smack us: 2nd Thess 1:11-12 GREAT Prayer! ... "That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you...."

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April 10, 2015 at 8:24am ·

Learned interesting things in fun 2009 movie JULIE AND JULIA: Like: All thru movie, rather lonely American diplomat's wife Julia Child is telling her husband & 2 new friends in Paris what her friend Avis DeVoto in America has written to **Encourage** when she's down, **encourage** to keep up cooking lessons despite difficulties esp with the owner who detests her & hopes she'll fail miserably. Not til the end do we learn: Julia has NEVER MET her dear friend Avis... // ...

Many of us are dearly encouraged by our Friend and LORD (John 15). His Words encourage us when we're down or just need to know we're loved. His Words offer advice.. especially "Keep Going! You'll Be Fine!" Even when people & Satan (John 10:10a) detest us & hope we'll fail miserably. **Even when we've NEVER MET our dear friend Jesus.**

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April 10, 2015 at 8:38pm ·

Beautiful prayer for each other: "14 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ... 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be STRENGTHENED with MIGHT through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 that Christ may DWELL in your hearts through FAITH; that you, being rooted and **GROUNDING IN LOVE**, 18 may be able to comprehend .. [details]... the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be FILLED with all the FULLNESS of God." -- Ephesians 3:14-19 **(Song: "GROUNDING FOR LIFE")**

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April 11, 2015 at 2:16pm ·

Sermons I've never heard: RE The lame guy whose friends worked hard risking ridicule & complaint for tearing out the roof to lower him to Jesus for possible healing:
(1) The lame guy had FRIENDS. How many of us today have such dedicated

friends? Yes God is wonderful: But do we have friends who love like "God with skin on"? ARE we such friends?

- (2) Surely others listening to Jesus had sick or lame friends. Did any even consider that they were not just as kind, doing all they could to help a friend?
- (3) The Mark 2 true story of Jesus healing would've spread fast. How many people sorrowed that no one cared about them >>>

I'd hope these sermons would end with Exodus 3:7 comfort: God **HEARS** our sorrows. God **CARES**. Even when no one else does.

April 13, 2015 at 10:23am ·

I need little ways to remember important scriptures... Like one to help me remember the HOLY AWESOME-ness of Jehovah God, not just some "daddy" to be exploited by my prayer wishes and unwillingness to obey The Father: Exodus **3:14**.... Here's how God has helped me learn to REMEMBER where this is:

Have you ever noticed? The INFINITE NUMBER of PI = the name of the INFINITE: GOD.... **This is where the LORD YHWH gives His Name** for us people to know: "And God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM'."

April 13, 2015 at 8:15pm

In 2009, Music Intelligence Solutions released a computer program designed to predict which songs carry the greatest potential for becoming "hits". Since then, other websites promise to SCORE your song against a formula: To compare many separate elements of YOUR SONG against famous songs in a wide variety of genres -- classical, jazz, hard rock, etc.

MY QUESTION:

Why would I WANT to create a song similar to someone else's?

No Creative purpose I can see: Just wanting fame or \$\$\$.

God made EACH of us unique... Psalm 139 is only one place that says so.

QUESTION: Why do so many people try so hard to be like others who happen to be popular? (And yet also want "to be noticed"?) ... Some super-hit songs have Defied The Formula! God says: So do each of us.

April 14, 2015 at 1:45pm

I take new guitar & Bass students over to a piano & show them how keyboards are linear... compared to playing guitar being more like 3D chess (which I'd never seen before Star Trek!). Only 1 note of 88 sounds like "that" note on piano; but the note can be found in several places on a guitar or bass fretboard. Often they have problems at first grasping that concept.... // ..

We also have to "work" to grasp human Linear Time vs God's: So often I've seen on Facebook an apology for not having read a prayer request "in time" to pray before the event. "Retrospective prayer" is just fine: God hears it in Time. (So as to speak!)

April 14, 2015 at 7:47pm · PHOTO: If you want to walk on water, never take advice from those who are Standing In the Boat.... ME:

Ephesians 3 isn't God's Word for those who are satisfied with "Status Quo", "Average".... for those who yearn to be used by Him Mightily... out of a deep LOVE for Him! A prayer.... "19b that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him be glory ...

April 15, 2015 at 12:15am ·

Very, very sad & relevant everywhere words from a Top Church Leader to the churches under him: "Perhaps you think we're saying these things just to defend ourselves. **No, we tell you this as Christ's servants, and with God as our witness.** Everything we do, dear friends, is to strengthen you. For I am afraid that when I come I won't like what I find, and you won't like my response. I am afraid that I will find quarreling, jealousy, anger, selfishness, slander, gossip, arrogance, and disorderly behavior ... and I will be grieved because many of you have not given up your old sins. You have not repented of your impurity, sexual immorality, and eagerness for lustful pleasure." -

THESE are the words inspired by God to be written at end of Paul's letter to the churches: 2nd Corinthians 12. They sound MODERN, don't they?

WHY DO SO MANY CHURCHES IGNORE this?

Compassion & love MUST include WARNING people... DIRE warning from God to CHURCHES too:**God says:**

"If I warn the wicked, saying, 'You are under the penalty of death,' but you fail to deliver the warning, they will die in their sins. And I will hold YOU responsible for their deaths." -- God, Not just to individuals but ALSO to CHURCHES, which will be judged like in Revelation 2 & 3, Ezekiel 3:18

April 15, 2015 at 8:22am ·

I bought a big bag of 'Super Nutritious Huge Name' Brand pellets a month ago... and the cats *Loved* it... At first. Now I put it to the back of the bowl hoping they'll get hungry enough to eat it when the Blah Brand I put in front is gone.. // ..

This AM as I looked down at the 2 hollerin' at me "I'm hungry!" meows while the dish had plenty of 'SNHN', I thought of Jesus's parable of the Sower: Some people "hear the Word, immediately receive it with gladness", but won't let it take root: "so endure only for a time." (Mark 4) ...

LORD, help us not be foolish as cats rejecting the excellent Nutrition you, the Bread of Life provided. Lest "when tribulation or persecution arises", immediately we stumble. (vs 17).

April 16, 2015 at 10:46am

Last night was so emotionally horrid that I'm still shaking this AM. But the worst was not the events: It was my fury, my strenuous (thankfully successful) effort to not throw or break things... Yet indeed while praying to the LORD "Help help help help

help..." //...

Recently heard a sermon claiming (repeatedly) that every prayer must end in "In Jesus's Name" or else will have no effect. Misunderstandings of Mark 16:17, John 14:13-14 turning Jesus's words into Restrictions...

This AM as I continue to pray for forgiveness for a meltdown that I'm sure glad no one else was home to see(!), it so embarrasses me, I continue: "LORD please accept my Depth of thanks that You *do* answer prayers without "magic formulas"... & that You Forgive. I do pray in Jesus's Name.

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April 17, 2015 at 5:08pm ·

Grandmom would have said "That means next winter won't be nearly as bad." This AM, I noticed the holly tree branches outside my bedroom window (2nd floor; some yardwork to be done!) has dozens of very tiny pale **green** berries-- yet still only about 1/2 last year's bounty.

Birds flitting thru the woods have no idea that God is already **preparing** a gorgeous huge Christmas bird feast in the winter ahead. He already knows what they'll need & has begun the process. He already knows each of our needs & in the right time will take care of the process. Birds & Us worrying won't make berries & blessings grow any faster.

·
April 18, 2015 at 11:01am ·

Sometimes I shake my head in wonder at all the things that confused me when I first was learning about computers. Just now in cleaning the screen, I hit "some button", and the screen went super dim. Ages ago I would've panicked... no friends around to help! Today I just ran the mouse along the bottom menu til I found a button regarding Energy that I figured might help some; hit it, chose the right option, and moved on.

Seeing the light. (Sorry, bad pun... no coffee yet!) Sometimes I shake my head in wonder at all the things about the Bible that confused me when I first became a Christian at 19. Thanking God: Even before I "found" His promise in James 1:5-6, He helped me to begin the decades long process of seeking & understanding His Word more, bit by bit. No need to panic!

·
April 18, 2015 at 7:08pm ·

I admit it: I'm one of those people who sits in a movie theater after about every one else is gone, to watch the credits, the filmed-at location, the music tracks list... Hey, I *did* get to tell a couple of people what they missed after they left with crowd & missed funny scene at end of the first SHREK. You learn interesting info: LIKE:

Did you know there's a Film Position called "**Crowd Selector**"?! Makes sense... someone's gotta. So... Every person in the background was invited to be there. Benefited from answering the cast call. So... Wonder if the Crowd realized that Jesus wanted each & every one there for His messages of Life, His feedings Evidence of His Truth. That Jesus wanted people who didn't answer that 'urge' they felt to drop everyday duties to go listen to 'that man'.... Another intriguing sermon I've never heard...

April 19, 2015 at 9:14pm ·

When Jesus started talking about salt, He meant more than food seasoning... AND even more than "passion", as we often hear taught. Those listening to Jesus (Matt 5:13, Mark 9:50, Luke 14:34) would most likely instantly think of Leviticus 2: Because not only did all men memorize the first 5 books (Torah) by age 13: They were required as heads of households to **TEACH** both male & female children.

That's God's command in Deut. 6:7, part of the Shema prayer they repeated. So each listener knew Lev 2 rules: God did not suggest but REQUIRED that Salt be part of EVERY grain offering they brought to Him... useful to remember when we half-heartedly do "what we think" is a pleasing "gift to God".

April 20, 2015 at 12:27pm ·

Christmas is only time one prayer is usually mentioned.

God tells of His Spirit moving the "just and devout" man Simeon to go to the temple exactly when Infant Jesus was being brought... So it wasn't at the Pentecost in book of Acts that The Holy Spirit first "arrived" to act help us humans.

It's exciting to remember thru Simeon's words that YHWH LORD God has had a Plan A-Only for Salvation all thru the ages> Luke 2:30-32 (Simeon holding baby Jesus in the Temple, praying)--- "For my eyes have seen Your salvation, Which You have PREPARED before the face of ALL peoples, A light to bring revelation to the **Gentiles** & the glory of Your people **Israel**." ...//...

Gentiles + Jews = offered salvation to ALL peoples. **Including** those who label themselves as Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Sikh, Shinto, Wiccan... Atheist...

April 20, 2015 at 9:06pm – **Used this HISTORY in song “Forever is FOREVER” 4/3/2017**

History gives amazing insight into "Easter story": Once a king- in MANY countries- made a decree, no one INCLUDING the king himself could break it; see Daniel 6:15 bold demand, "Know, O king, that it is the LAW of the Medes and Persians [Iran] that NO decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed." ... THUS:

- (1) King Darius grieved for his careless law but couldn't change it. AND
- (2) We see in Esther 8 that King Ahasuerus reigned from India to Ethiopia but couldn't change letters he'd been tricked into signing- SO
- (3) he created a COUNTER law that allowed Jews to defend themselves... // ...

God's Laws are all GOOD; read Psalms 119 & Romans 7 reminders. They included the Price to be paid for breaking Laws, aka Sins. God THE King doesn't break His Word either. So- as planned from the Foundation of the world (1 Peter 1:20)- **God created a COUNTER law: His Son Jesus Yeshua paid that Price for us...** rather, for us who accept it (First John).

April 21, 2015 at 9:24am ·

On a TV's "Bones" show: Forensics team guessed based on the heavy wear on the corpse's knees that he was a very religious person who spent a lot of time praying; "sure enough". Sometimes I think on that as I look at **my** knees, wondering if there's

any "evidence"..... Soon we celebrate the Day of Pentecost... MUCH more than "speaking in tongues." Jesus's promise, John 14:26: After His death, God the Father would send the "Helper, the Holy Spirit" to "bring to your remembrance" God's Truths.

And, sure enough, today as I wondered, I immediately remembered Galatians 5:22-26. **The more time** we each spend with God-- whether or not "on knees"-- the more evidence we show people that God's Word is Truth... NOT by "seeing us pray", but because it's only by His Help that humans reflect God more & more as we mature in leaving behind self-centeredness. (2 Corin 3:18).

April 21, 2015 at 9:50pm

"Jesus ended the Law." Said so often by people confused by many "church teachings"; though ***NOT ALL*** churches teach it! LOGIC: So we have to look at the Full Word: HOW could Jesus have ended the Law when God's book of Revelation ETC clearly says they exist to be obeyed... and WHY would we *want* to anyway? God's Law is His GIFTS to us-- check out Psalm 119 for example!.... We LOVE to quote from it!

PARABLE: A kind police officer could make the payment for your speeding ticket; but s/he does **NOT** end the speeding law with this Grace Gift of *paying your cost* that you allowed payment for. Jesus paid our price and thus ended the Death Penalty of sinning... but "sin" is still defined by God's Law. LOGIC WITH JOHN 15: Jesus said obeying Him shows that we want to be His friends. Plus:

- (1) Logic with **First John 1**>> There's nothing TO confess if the Law were ended.
- (2) Logic with **James 4:17**, which defines sins as doing what is wrong or NOT doing what is right>> "Right" is only relative Opinion without Law. Belief that God's (good!) Law ended is to AGREE WITH THE WORLD that there is no Absolute Truth anymore. What you think is wrong, many people do not. What God thinks is all that matters in the definition. And God spells out clearly what He thinks..... in the Law.
- (3) Logic with **Romans 7:7** >> **Emphatically** says Law itself isn't evil. This is NOT hard to see... except when we're reluctant to leave what we've been taught & believed right because we trusted the teachers. God wrote it - thus the Law is Good!
- (4) Logic with **Book of Revelation** >> Look up word "commandments" in this book. Fits with what Jesus said about people breaking & TEACHING to break Commandments [Matt 5:19 above] >>>

God's last book summary:... "Do them."

AND Satan wars with who? With those who **KEEP** commandments.

Can't get any more clear than that.

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April 22, 2015 at 8:39am ·

I was blessed with a mother who was like a parable of people's relationship to God. Like God's prophets,

- Mom repeated to me what Dad had said, in case I'd forgotten (Luke 1:70).
- Like God's prophets, she would warn me "If you do that (or don't do 'whatever'), your father is going to have to punish you like he already warned he would.
- Like God's prophets, she would urge me to "please don't do that- I don't want you to have to be punished".

And... a parable of 2nd Chronicles 24:19, like God's children of Israel: I often didn't believe Dad would really punish me. Like many people, I was so presumptuous of his LOVE for me and so happy about previous MERCY that let me get by with yet another warning, that I ignore his RIGHT to punish me as I very very much deserved for my insolence to his authority.

April 23, 2015 at 6:56pm ·

Recent radio message GREAT THOUGHT: We can measure the exact distance from where we are moving North until suddenly without changing our path, we have changed to South... **But there is no measure of East to West...** While we move in the chosen direction, we never reach the other.

Another good message re Psalm 103:12... When we truly repent of sins & confess humbly to the LORD, He removes us from them "as far as the east is from the west." Not Divine Amnesia (human "forgive & forget") but... more astonishingly: Divine Mercy & Grace. Even when we've hurt Him with mistrust that He knows best, rebellion against Him: "I did it my way."

April 24, 2015 at 6:57pm ·

EARTH DAY was Earth YEAR to God: Part of the Noah story verse seldom noticed: *2nd* half of Genesis 7:3, God speaking about animals that might be sacrificed:

"[You shall take] "also **7 each** of birds of the air, male and female, TO KEEP THE SPECIES ALIVE on the face of all the earth."...

So, it seems God didn't plan to "clean up our mess" and "just create some more" after he assigned people to be caretakers (Genesis 1:28) if we did a lousy job taking care of His animals, plants, Earth and seas? God has His own Earth Day type laws we people ignore, like Leviticus 25:4, "but in the 7th year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the LORD. You shall neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard." (And people centuries later have thought "fallow years" was all their great idea for farming.) ...

God showed He was SERIOUS about Ecology type law, in Lev. 26:34-35. When God specifically said that HE WOULD GIVE the neglected land worn out by God's people NOT giving the land Sabbath Rest every 7th year.... Rest for exactly 70 years while His people were in captivity in Babylon: One year for each Rest Year (Shemithah / shmita) the people refused to obey Lev. 25:4's Law. By the way: THIS year 2015 is calculated to be a Shemithah year, til near end of Sept (year 5775 in God's calendar).

April 27, 2015 at 9:09am ·

This AM, dragged myself to begin day: More weary emotionally than physically I suppose, since I "got in my 8 hours". Discoveries 1-2-3: My WiFi box battery was super-low, my laptop battery was super-low; my cellphone Low Battery signal was beeping.

Guess I'm 4 for 4: My spiritual battery is low... // ..

Batteries store chemical energy & convert it to electrical energy for Action. I hadn't used the first 2 at all for 2 days-- surprised at how much energy drained off... Truly had "been with" our great LORD God praying & writing music, so I'm puzzled by my "down-ness" this AM. But... I know how to recharge all 4: Plug in!...

LORD it is SO amazing that You, the LORD of All, not only invite but yearn for us Each to "plug in" to restore our souls with you... "Coincidence" I just realized> 3 days ago, we recorded PSALM 23 RESTORING SOUL". Cool! (got a lot of LIKES)

April 27, 2015 at 11:53am ·

God says in 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 >> "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

THAT MEANS people who **will not study** God's original words risk disobeying: Like with any books, the Author had no need to repeat everything He'd already said.

April 27, 2015 at 2:04pm ·

The LORD God gave me the idea almost "from the beginning", in the 2nd year of songwriting, to put actual Bible verse references in the songs. After all, it doesn't do any good to know it's "in the Bible somewhere" when you want to know EXACTLY what God said!

In fact, the LORD prepared me years ago when I taught our first of many children to know her FULL telephone number, by assigning a number to 10 keys on the piano starting at middle C and writing the MELODY of the phone number! It's much easier to memorize to music...

and God has honored me with the ministry for Him to do exactly that with His Bible Words, including many prophets' and Psalms writings. Ephesians 3:20, it is NOT by my "great skills", but only by God's empowering. Verse 21: To HIM be All Glory!

April 27, 2015 at 7:48pm

Mom's had a refrigerator magnet for years that still gives us who have used telephone books a laugh. It says, "AGE IS JUST A NUMBER. MINE IS UNLISTED."

God's Book includes many reminders to all who do indeed love Him dearly and yet feel bummed out by the Number of their Age:

"14 -They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing."
>>>> WITH A PURPOSE IN LIFE: "15- To declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is NO unrighteousness in Him" That's Psalm 92. A good Birthday Present.

April 28, 2015 at 3:38pm ·

MATH book, HISTORY book, ANY BOOK:.... What authors write in Chapters 2, 3, 7,9.... they do NOT completely repeat in Chapters 14, 15, 16...They might summarize. And might quote from themselves the parts they dearly want readers to have noticed..... But NO REPEATS.... So also: People who will not study God's first chapters **before** the **physical book's divider that says "New Testament"** are at much risk of ignoring our LORD's **full INSPIRATION**: Like with most every other book, just because it's not in the later "NT" chapters doesn't mean God changed His mind.

God The Author had no need to repeat everything He'd already said.... Jesus, on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24), pointed out all the EARLY scriptures that were about HIM starting back with Moses-- who wrote out God's Laws in Leviticus and Deuteronomy as well as Exodus..... God says thru 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 >> "**ALL Scripture is given by INSPIRATION** of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." Including the "OLD Testament", too.

April 29, 2015 at 7:58am ·

My first awakening thoughts- 4 words: WE FORGOT TO PRAY. Last nite a mix of people with various sets of beliefs about God met at a military chapel to welcome back to America an Israeli tour guide who, for 3 years, has at times come to travel our country sharing re the "home" feeling so many people (of all faiths) comment to him about Israel... To share how very much Jews & Christians share in heart about our YHWH Jehovah God... our commonality that should bring us together:

NOT, as GOD inspired written in First Timothy 6:4's list, as a proud person "obsessed with disputes & arguments over words".

As Hanoch left, WE FORGOT TO PRAY together, one in heart, for the LORD's blessing upon his ministry to share God's words thru Jewish 'eyes'. BUT: NOT too late! smile emoticon For the LORD who knows our Hearts knows when we share a prayer, even if our hands are a half world apart.

April 29, 2015 at 7:58am

Tonight one of my guitar students <K> met me at a church that I "fell in love with" 8 years ago to see for himself... a place I "accidentally" found-- God's way of course, having taken an odd turn across a railroad track. Pre-GPS days :) When I can on Wed nites after another service where I'm musician, I still go all the way down to Strong Tower Ministries- where it seems as if everyone is truly joyful in worshiping the LORD, no matter how horrid days might be...

Laughingly told student about **my FIRST OFFERING**: The church where I was praise band leader at 8:30 service had a Box on wall (like widow with mite @ Temple)... so I truly forgot about "offering plates". After a 75-minute sermon ended with me glancing at watch thinking "He's done already?", **I TRULY wanted to give to the LORD at that place. But I had one thing in my pocket besides keys: A Guitar Pick. So... I gave it to the LORD.** And He has richly blessed the giving

with skills far beyond what I've had time to practice... But I still laugh, wondering about the puzzled reaction of the persons who *'counted offering'* that day!

April 30, 2015 at 10:28pm ·

Really really needed to find something this AM... this afternoon & on being "too late". Thanks to wonderful book by Brother Lawrence, "The Practice of the Presence of God" <see link to read pages free>, I've learned the joy of "talking to the LORD" the way He said is possible: Constantly (1st Thes 5:17).

So I commented to Him, "It just doesn't seem right to ask the Creator of the Universe" for help on something this silly... but Your Word DOES say you invite honesty... so, I'd sure appreciate You helping me find it."..... And: In moments I did.

YES, SOME people say "Coincidence." Say, "You subconsciously remembered."

BUT NO: Statistically-- **this happens SO often**, to EVERYONE who respectfully prays-- **that it's not just chance**. HOW SAD that people who pray to false concepts of a god like allah MISS the Joy of The One God who really loves them.... And who loved long before they even knew Him to do "stuff" like allah concept demands them to do.

May 1, 2015 at 8:29am ·

After hours of driving to my mother-in-law's "new old" house that had required a lot of renovation to reach its now elegant state in each room, I was finally drifting to sleep at 3 AM (trying forget pounding loud rains against windshield). Last thoughts: My husband saying "My sisters think this bedroom was the previous owners' children's room" and me asking "Why do they think that?"... & I awoke remembering that I never heard his answer... So, glanced around at elegant bedroom as I was getting down on knees by the super nice bed (him still snoring away! :)) ---

But as I was praying, I glanced upward (yes I know God's not "up there", but sometimes "it feels right!")... And suddenly STARTED LAUGHING. I now knew answer: The ceiling fan was painted Crayon Red, Blue, Green, Yellow-- one per blade! Not "fancy-room" decor!//....

This room is like a parable of many of our lives: **Sure, we "grew up", made ourselves look dignified and "adult". But inside many of us still is a Children's Room of Fun and Play...** And God just might enjoy being with us a bit more when we're in our less elegant and more playful "room" talking with & listening to Him.

May 2, 2015 at 7:37am ·

While looking for photo to emphasize April 29's post WE FORGOT TO PRAY, I found one with MARVELOUS instruction from God thru 1st Timothy 2 (NLT): "I urge you, first of all, to pray for ALL people. Ask God to help them; INTERCEDE on their behalf, and give THANKS for them. 2 Pray this way for... ALL who are in authority... . >>

3 This is good and pleases God our Savior, 4 Who WANTS EVERYONE to be saved and to understand the Truth.>

5 For there is ONLY ONE God & ONE Mediator who can reconcile God & humanity —the man Christ Jesus. 6 He gave his life to purchase freedom for EVERYONE.

This is the message God gave to the WORLD at just the right time. " (1 Tim 2)

May 3, 2015 · A "scary" Bible study that's super-easy to do with online Bibles like BlueLetterBible.org: Search phrase **MY SABBATHS** (plural).

YES- God is pleased by those whose hearts truly love & worship Him, even if it's Sunday they set apart.

NO- We are not "saved" or "lost" by anything we do other than the decision to truly accept Jesus as the only Way to God & heaven (John 14:6 versus 2nd Peter 2:2 east pattern > 2Peter 2=2).

YET: "TRADITION of Men" is the phrase Jesus used when people choose a different way to "honor God". Mark 7:9, 13 > God clearly defined HIS Sabbath as Day 7-- and EVEN gave His Reason (Exodus 20:11, plus Leviticus 18, etc.).

God says, "Moreover I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the LORD who sanctifies them." So... if we choose our OWN definition of "Sabbath"... logical conclusion is that it is NOT sign between God and those who choose Him LORD-- incl "**strangers**" <Gentiles> grafted in to be His people even if not "Children of Israel" (Romans 11; Lev 17:13 & 19:34; *** Hosea 2:23, PROPHECY OF GENTILES JOINED IN.***

"MY SABBATHS" as God-Named-YHWH names them: Verses (a LOT of them) Link: <http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm...>

YES--- it's sad to realize we were taught wrong. We feel as if we're being critical of parents who made us learn to honor Sundays... Yet THEY had been taught God's definition of Sabbath changed to Sunday. So it's not "their fault" since they did not realize the truth that

CHANGING GOD'S WORD DOES NOT HONOR HIM,

even if we **say** we're honoring "the day Jesus rose from the dead."

If God wanted that, He would have **SAID** that.

God would have inspired, amid 1000s of scriptures, the New Testament writers to SPECIFICALLY say, "Let's change the Sabbath to the First Day." Logic. Simple Logic.

And LOGIC says that to keep repeating a mistake **knowingly** is CRAZY/ Rebellious.

So: It's OUR TURN to follow Jesus's steps-- even if it hurts--

to change from following church "Tradition" to clear "Truth" in scriptures....

to declare that God's Word Never Changes because He does not.

God declared Day 7 as MY SABBATH. Even the LAND was supposed to be rested (lie fallow) in each Year 7 -- Leviticus 25:4; 2nd Chron 36:21. and God clearly notes that the Babylonian exile was 490 years so that the LAND could get "it's sabbath".

Link for many scriptures: <http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm...>

God describes ALL He did to save the people... and then sadly guides Moses to add in Exodus 20:21, "Notwithstanding, the children **REBELLED** against Me; they did not

walk in **MY** statutes, and were not careful to observe **My** judgments, 'which, if a man does, he shall live by them'; but they PROFANED **MY** SABBATHS. Then I said I would pour out My fury on them and fulfill My anger against them in the wilderness."

JESUS described it., Mark 7:13 "making the word of God of no effect thru your **tradition** which you have handed down.." We INHERITED the man-made TRADITION of "Sunday worship"... which is FINE to worship then! We can still worship on Sundays even at gatherings (church) -- they did EVERY day in Acts.

But GOD SAYS **sundown Friday to Sundown Saturday** is the Day that HE defined - **NO** WORK, **no** making other people or ANIMALS work- incl. waitresses, store workers. Clearly. That, and **not Day 1**, is what God clearly said HE wants as **HIS** Sabbath.

Anything else is... wrong. <Lot of Likes, incl. Rock Hartley who died Dec. 2015 :(

See post for May 4 - story of EVEN AN **8** YEAR OLD being a "**Berean**" who tests.

May 4, 2015 at 11:10am · *Related to May 3rd post.... and believing Traditions....*

I found an 8-year-old "kindred spirit" at a mountain church I visited yest. Pastor at altar, surrounded by kids, told Jesus's parable of the Lost Sheep, and summarized, "He cared SO much for that 1 sheep that he left 99 to go look for it." Little Kindred Spirit K.S. promptly responded, "But then the OTHER 99 would go wander off!!!"

The pastor literally stammered a few moments before saying "He had helpers"

And quickly moving on :) One song the LORD guided me to write is *LOST SHEEP'S TALE* (pun intended!): While writing it, I DID think to myself same Q... concluded that a **flock of 100 would have more than 1 shepherd + maybe a dog**. But it's really (really!) cool that, at age 8, one of God's little ones is already doing exactly what the Bereans did (Acts 17:11): EXAMINING what he's told, EVEN IF by a preacher.

May 6, 2015 at 10:06am ·

Grew up 'a country girl', so memories suddenly drift up here among very high mountains. Like: 3 HUGE trees behind my college dorm were bearing, so I was happily filling 2 small boxes full to give Mom. 3 students taking the shortcut that went by stopped, watched, asked, "What ARE those?"

"Pecans," I replied- & took a few over for them to see. They examined the nuts at all angles before asking, "**How do you KNOW??**"... I was surprised by the Q ("Not all people know?)- Think I stammered, "**I Just Do.**" //

God would call that an **Unacceptable Answer** if people ask for HOPE, or "How do you know God exists?"

PRAY for wisdom and then Prepare to gently speak of Evidences & Logic that show God. First Peter 3:15 >> "...Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the HOPE that is in you..." Mark 13:11, John 14:26, James 1:5): God's Holy Spirit **will** HELP you at ANY moment to say just the right Answer.

May 7, 2015 at 9:21am · (Tennessee cabin)

Staying in a new place, I just could NOT figure it out >> Finally I decided to admit what seemed to me to be a stupid Q: "How do you turn on the shower?" ... Turned out to be so different a method that no one laughed: Just showed me...//...

Plenty of times in life we're afraid to look dumb, & waste time deciding whether to admit ignorance... and then find out that no one criticizes: They enjoy sharing answers. Even God invites honest questions: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him." (James 1:5). No mocking at our ignorance!

May 7, 2015 · <http://www.charismanews.com/opinion/49483-stop-blaming-president-obama-for-america-s-moral-decay>

Fitting for today's NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER; 2nd Chronicles 7:13 as well as 14 and all of Daniel 9-- Few people read God's warning words in context Americans need to fervently prayer with thanks to God for all His Mercies thus far. I do NOT post political articles on "one side OR the other". Here's a perspective of a pastor who escaped religious persecution in Egypt 45 years ago & sees parallels in America today: **Dr. Michael Youssef**, shows most accurately that I've seen, that **no specific "political party" has created the way America looks to our LORD God**. Read God's Warning in **Ezekiel 33, that we EACH are held responsible** for not sharing God's Warnings. Then, starting at para 3, here's the article without popup ads:

QUOTES: MICHAEL YOUSSEF

"So who is responsible for placing society's body over the bottomless pit of moral decay? I, for one, place the entire blame at the feet of some church leaders—those who actively worked to obliterate the biblical moral code, and those who by their silence essentially acquiesced to its destruction.

"It was in the 1980s that the Episcopal Church not only pushed acceptance of homosexuality as an alternative lifestyle (under the guise of "love and anti-discrimination"), but then to prove their point, ordained practicing homosexuals into the priesthood.

"Then, instead of condemning the Episcopal Church for its departure from God's creation blueprint, the Presbyterian Church USA, soon to be joined by the Methodists, felt that they must join in the destruction. For who on God's earth wants to be branded as someone who "discriminates"?

"Now here we are in 2015, and we're watching many Bible-waving, evangelical televangelists following the same parade route into the abyss.

"But why not? Why become unpopular with society? Why get buried under the avalanche of the new morality?

.....continued

QUOTE by Michael Youssef, CONTINUED:

"When I was part of the Episcopal Church, the arguments given by our homosexual friends were very simple: "We just want to be able to visit our partners in the hospital ... become beneficiaries of their estates ... collect social security ... etc." But most discerning people could see that was merely the camel's nose under the tent.

"Most of my friends and former colleagues, however, could never image the day when one could be **fin**ed or even **go** to prison if they didn't sanction, participate or otherwise approve of such departure from God's created order.

"I know I'll be called every name in the book, but it's too late to avoid that. I've already been called everything there is to be called. But that's not the issue. **God knows my heart, and I hate no one, no matter how much I disagree with them. But I won't compromise God's truth.**

"The U.S. Supreme Court may soon make its most tragic decision since Roe vs. Wade with the upcoming ruling on same-sex marriage. Soon Bible-believing Christians in America may face the form of suffering that ISIS is inflicting upon believers in the Middle East. Then we will need to remember our forebears in the early church who considered it a privilege to die for Christ.

"For me, that possibility represents the greatest of ironies. **I escaped from the Middle East some 45 years ago to seek freedom and avoid persecution.** But now, here I am in this **one-time land of freedom, facing the prospect of persecution & imprisonment with thousands of other Christ-loving pastors.**

"In the Day of Judgment, it will be the church leaders who led us down this path who will pay the highest price. May God have mercy on their souls." - END QUOTE BY

MICHAEL YOUSSEF in article link at top

=== added by DdO: See Ezekiel 33: **God holds US responsible for the eternal loss of others when we did not warn them of His Truth.** If we do warn them: Then the responsibility is NO longer ours. As God does, we must allow them freedom to choose what will eventually **kill** them because they listened to Satan's same old Genesis 3:1, John 8:4 4 lies and decided to agree with Satan's words, "Oh, God never said THAT".

May 8, 2015 at 9:25am ·

I forgot about catbirds.... Up on this mountaintop are only cabin rentals-- no homes. So I was puzzled: How could there be 2 cats up here to be fighting & hollerin' at 7 AM? Then I realized: It's the **bird** Dad always loved. He'd get SO excited after we moved from a city into country when I was 6, every time he heard one of those, or a mockingbird, or quail calling each other... And so: Now I do. Not only the thrill of suddenly remembering one of God's fun creations that I'd forgotten, but the joy of the

memory of Dad's Joy. I know Dad's having first-hand joy with the Creator now... but I miss him. And I've grown enough that, when I miss my father, I often think of all you friends, incl some not on my FB list, who are also missing your mom or dad.

John 14: What LOVE of Jesus to know how much comfort His Words would give us for centuries to come: On both sides of Heaven.

·
May 8, 2015 at 2:40pm ·

I don't think the UNIVERSE episode on today's History Channel was *meant* to be humorous... I stopped mid- drying a dish to go into living area, in front of TV screen to see if the scientist would repeat the sentence. Yep. Sure enough.

He excitedly exclaimed yet again almost same words, "Just imagine! We might one day be able to harness the energy of a black hole and even have a place to get rid of the Earth's trash!" *Really?!.....* He didn't *look* like he meant to be joking!

·
May 9, 2015 at 11:26am · PHOTO from my Pinterest ·

Heliconius Hecale Butterfly Defense is like God's parable: Many butterflies gather together on a single tree branch:

Predators usually avoid the group but if eats one at the edge by mistake, the taste is so bad it never bothers the other butterflies.

Like Hebrews 10:25 - God's Word (2 Tim 3:16 inspiration) TELLING us to KEEP meeting in gatherings like churches (& to stay CLOSE!) -- for our *GOOD*- NOT because God's a bully who likes ordering people around.

Photo: Fireworks like easy to grow purple & yellow LANTANA bushes attract hummingbirds, honeybees, & butterflies.

·
May 10, 2015 at 7:26am ·

A survey of people across world asked, "What one word describes the type of person who you most enjoy being with?" The answer, according to Charles Stanley, was indeed a 4-letter word... but **NOT** "Love". It was "**Kind**".....

God apparently has the same opinion... and not only tells US to be both loving and kind (Galatians 5's end), but uses this word *repeatedly* to describe *Himself*: **LOVINGKINDNESS**. One word. The dictionary online doesn't even call this a word, but *God* does. LINKS: <http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm...> >> My own favorite, as a musician: Psalm 42:8 PRAYER, "The LORD will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, And in the night His song shall be with me—

A prayer to the God of my life."

·
May 11, 2015 at 10:13am · *Written in cabin at Pigeon Forge. Missed 2014 (Lily born) but also was here in 2013- first time- and 3rd/ last time in May 2016. FIRE BURNED CABIN DOWN in 2017... arson by 2 teen boys.... so sad.....*

First thing I noticed this AM: Bird songs everywhere, filling the sky. The oddest-to-me thing about area of TN mountains we visited for a wk: 3 bluejays were almost only birds we saw, & few were heard. Exploring new places is fun but, as a famous movie character said, "There's no place like home." For most of us, "home" means

where we currently live: Our "cave" of comfort in this world.. //..

I've repeatedly heard description of HEAVEN, "Colors everywhere were so vivid-- like nothing on earth" >> From people who were resuscitated after dying... Jesus says God hopes each of us will accept another home, a gift from Him that's beyond description: John 14. **Based on all Jesus's parables about them, I eagerly expect Heaven's "skies" to be filled with songs of those sparrows God takes care of.**

·
May 11, 2015 at 1:14pm

Jesus showed Sodom as a true history event - Something even many churches seek to ignore, claiming that the city's sin was just "Inhospitality":

Matthew 10:15 & 11:24-25; Mark 6:11; Luke 10:12 & 17:29... repeated witnesses.

Here's a link to the CLEAR words of God on this topic, LITERAL Hebrew Lev. 18:22 >>

https://www.blueletterbible.org/nlt/lev/18/22/p0/t_conc_108022

"Do not practice homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman. It is a detestable sin." - YOUNG'S LITERAL TRANSLATION

·
May 12, 2015 at 10:10am - used again in 2017

As a newlywed, I wanted my jello salad for the church dinner to be perfect. I used Mom's great recipe, which called for 1/2 cup pineapple juice. Jello box said "Don't use fresh juice"-- didn't say why. I was only 1 itty bitty teaspoon short. So I used 1 itty bitty bit of fresh juice. And ended up with: Lime Soup.

NOW I know the Science of Why. But my jello was ruined by the Law of Science regardless of **my disbelief in the Instructions meant to help me.. // ..** Simple parable.

Just because we don't understand the Logic of some of God's Laws doesn't mean we won't be hurt when we ignore them. JELLO makers could say "Don't Blame Us" when I disobeyed. God could too-- And honestly: We'd each be happier if we Trusted the LOVE of the Bible Writer whose statutes HELP us:

[http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm?](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm?Criteria=statutes&t=NKJV#s=s_primary_0_1)

[Criteria=statutes&t=NKJV#s=s_primary_0_1](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm?Criteria=statutes&t=NKJV#s=s_primary_0_1)

·
May 13, 2015 at 7:46am ·

Yesterday I watched 4 episodes of the old TV series "Father Dowling Mysteries". From back in 1990 when intros were long-- not yet cut to the minimum to allow more commercial time. And when shows ended with previews of next week. Not til I watched the 4 did I watch the DVD section of Previews. And-- for EVERY one-- the preview was more of a summary that GAVE away the "who done it" ending. I ended thinking, "I'd've been SO bored if I'd have seen this before the show." ..//..

We often joke about wishing we knew the future. But I suspect we'd be bored or--worse-- fearful if we had even short "preview" glimpses. God certainly knows what He's doing in not just giving us all dream previews.

Besides: We'd miss out on the opportunities of Hope: Faith: Trusting God & being Delighted with Joy as we watch God's plotted Answers fall into place. Philippians 4... God gives Hope always. If we trust Him.

·
May 14, 2015 at 12:21pm ·

It's so AMAZING! God made purple irises to smell like Grapes!
Another Nature surprise, from the Creator whose mercies and little miracles are fresh each morning! "The LORD is good to all, And His tender mercies are over all His works." - Psalm 145:9, Lamentations 3: 22-21 GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS.

·
May 13, 2015 at 2:04pm ·

Has God has birthed a dream in your heart that seems "beyond you"? GOOD! Then HE gets all the credit! Ephesians 3:20-21 and Phil. 4:13, you can do ALL things through Christ who strengthens you! We each have a unique gifting and calling. He will be faithful to give us everything we need to be successful. [Hebrews 10:23, 35-36]. So keep your hand to that plow [Luke 9:62], press forward, and never quit. You can do it! Romans 8:26 to end ... the Holy Spirit even HELPS you pray as things work out! :)

·
May 15, 2015 at 9:09am ·

My reading this AM: I once heard of a poor woman who earned a precarious living as a poorly paid housekeeper but was a joyous, triumphant Christian.

"Ah, Nancy," said her gloomy Christian lady employer, who both loudly disapproved of and secretly envied her constant cheerfulness. "It is well enough to be happy now, but I should think thoughts of the future would sober you. SUPPOSE you should get sick, and be unable to work, or---" //

"STOP!" Nancy cried. "I NEVER supposes. The Lord is my Shepherd, and I knows I shall never want. And honey, it's all them SUPPOSES as is makin' you so miserable. You'd better give them all up, and just trust the Lord."

- Hannah Whitall Smith, "The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life", page 54-- a classic that's helped encourage since first published in 1870.

·
May 16, 2015 at 11:06am · Photo of lots of Christmas presents.

TRUE: God loves each of us.

TRUE: Like parents, grandparents, others who love, God delights in giving us blessings-- not stones or snakes (Luke 11:11).

TRUE, with many examples: Recipients often turn to enjoying the gift so much that they spend less time with the giver. Some blessings like a nice house or clothes or iPad etc require much time. Or raise fear of being lost somehow...

YET GOD, in His deep love, continues to surprise us with unexpected, beyond-statistical-chance blessings! May we grow in deep love for Him. We can't surprise Him! :) But we who by sins & DISTRUST can *GRIEVE* the LORD can instead **pray** for His help in PLEASING Him... Romans 8:26, His Holy Spirit even HELPS us pray right! Not to earn blessings. Just because: We're learning day by day to Love Back our Amazing Grace God. 1 John 4:19, "We love Him because He first loved us."

May 16, 2015 at 9:23pm ·

Was cleaning in "hidey-hole" type places in house today & found my H.S./ College Age Sunday School teacher notes from April 2008... a class on the rock band Kutless's SEA OF FACES, to encourage the youth to believe the truth that the song lyrics declare: God knows the name of EACH of them... and Cares.

My research: Space.com reports estimates of the Milky Way vary: Maybe 200 billion stars or more--- but there might be "just" 100,000,000,000 of them.

God doesn't think of you or me as just "one of the crowd." Right in the middle of Psalm 147's words of reassuring us, God suddenly inspires the Psalmist to write: "He counts the number of the stars; **He calls them all by name.**" LOGICAL conclusion: God knows ***your*** name. And Cares. (Photo **Andromeda GALAXY**)

May 17, 2015 at 7:21am ·

Mom's not fond of apples, but she got beautiful ones for the fruitbowl at the far side of kitchen, in preparation for my brother's family driving 12 hrs to come for an 8 day visit, knowing they like healthy foods.

A week after they left, Mom suddenly started laughing. She confessed: "I remembered the fruitbowl, went over to it... & found DUSTY apples!" (3 weeks old?!)

I laughingly replied, "Reminds me of people with dusty Bibles.... They know it's 'good for me' but don't get around to using it". We both laughed....

But I'm not this AM as I prepare to put the 22nd song for the Psalm 119 series on my music website: ***Every single section declares "I LOVE Your Word, O LORD!"*** Which most Christians & Jews alike will declare.

But a huge %, in Israel as well as America/ Europe/ etc., never choose to consume God's gifts that are "good for us." **NOT** love for God's Gift **WORD**.

May 18, 2015 at 9:26am

I find myself constantly fighting what I was grumbling to myself this AM as an "addictive personality" as I finally made myself quit watching episodes of a nice old TV series that I watch to "relax." Oh--- None of the "big" sins that God lists in Revelation 22 etc. Nothing that hurts anyone (I pray). Not even the apparent one (gluttony) that doctors haven't in 3 yrs been able to fix metabolism problems (just doubled the medicine Again, sigh)....

But this AM I was thinking: HOW can it be that almost *every* person has some sort of what seems to be addiction, incl "little" "Ordinary" things like Gossiping even in church, games on TV or computer, Facebook etc, low-self-esteem-thoughts, complaining-- & even good things like exercise or healthy food focus?.....

We of course can believe God's Word that "all have sinned" by our own choice--- (Romans 3:23, Daniel 9-11). But we can also believe His word that we have an

adversary- a real being called Satan, with demons, who hate God-- cannot harm God-- so hurt God by giving us thoughts on things that will hurt our Loving LORD. That easily explains how it seems Everyone has some type of addiction.

We're surrounded by evidence of what Jesus said in John 10:10-- that only He can soothe us with Abundant Life--- IF we accept Him as LORD-- and that Satan is a real being trying to destroy us by dropping hints that we do things that hurt us or at least hinder us from doing what God calls good.

First Peter 5:8 written by the guy who never forgot that rooster crowing after he denied knowing Jesus: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

JAMES 4:7-8 EASY SOLUTION: Run FROM thoughts put in our heads, and TOWARD God who -- like the Prodigal's father-- runs to US when we come!

John 10:10 WONDERFUL NEWS! >> "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." -- Jesus, God's Son declares.

May 19, 2015 at 12:20am ·

First Peter 5, From God's Love >> Peace: 6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith... 10... the God of all grace [will] perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. 11 To Him be the Glory and the Dominion forever and ever! Amen.

May 19, 2015 at 8:32am ·

ANDREW BONAR wrote on Sept 9th, 1848-- almost 3 centuries before any ISIS pack members beheaded the first person-- that it is "more GLORIFYING to God" to keep our joy "in the midst of common care, or in the midst of a RUSH of earthly vexations and annoyances, AS it would be under a BLAST of persecution and dread of the sword and death. All the more GLORIFYING, too, in the sight of God, because none else may be witness, and no motive or vainglory can creep in." That is, there's no reward of someone else seeing how "patient" and "long suffering" you are.....

Numbers 11:4-6, you & I often read like a 40 year history-- when it's really God's loving WARNING to us. God blessed the people with manna that tasted like honey pastries (Exodus 16:31), yet they kept complaining at Moses- which of course was really at God- that they missed their onions & garlic. (Imagine their breath & body odor in Egypt!) God was angry-- yet patient-- for a long time before He summarized in Psalm 95:10-11 "They are a people whose hearts go astray" - and Himself finally

swearing that He wouldn't let them enter His rest. Reminder to self: When I complain alone in my chair, thinking it's to the air, God is there.... and knows now as in the Sinai Desert, that ***my complaint is actually AGAINST HIM & all His blessings to me.***

I should always respond to that realization with SHAME. (Lord, please help me to.)

May 19, 2015 at 6:27pm ·

God prompted this Permanently Written encouragement for us each-- to live "casting ALL your care upon Him, for He cares for you." REMEMBER: The very next verse is of how Satan tries to tear us down, to destroy us. Yet: Our rest is in that introductory verse: God CARES... and He helps. First Peter 5:7-8. AND: John 10:10, though Satan seeks to destroy. Jesus offers LIFE, to ALL who accept His gift!

May 20, 2015 at 12:01pm (lot of likes)

* Manufacturers think we're stupid: Gradually decrease 22 oz box of cereal to 16- but keep same box size. And \$\$\$. Same for 1-lb can of peas gradually dropping 1/2 oz at a time. And soup? Put in more water & call it "Creamier!"... We don't say anything... but YES, we notice. And increasingly stop trusting, as we see evidences of dishonesty.. // ..

I was thinking of that last nite as I "completed" my Meltdown by apologizing to God & thanking Him that no one else was around. Sure: There's "natural" cause for fear when my Mac Studio Workstation completely freezes as I'm completing song tracks for Friday's recording session.

BUT: Anyone seeing my lack of trust even if temporary would have RIGHT cause to question my words that God CAN be trusted!... They'd surely notice-- even if they don't say anything..... LORD, help me More & More truly reflect You, so others won't think Truth shared about You is a lie. 2nd Corinthians 3:18.

May 21, 2015 at 12:39pm · PHOTO Eagle Egg PROTECTED, Human Embryo NOT -

I looked up the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service government agency statement on Endangered Species Act. DESCRIPTION: "All species of plants and animals, except pest insects, are eligible for listing as endangered or threatened."

STATED REASON: concern re the LOSS of [quote] "scientific value to our Nation and its people."...//...

So: Age-old question as babies are threatened in the name of Compassion (truly needed for women-- but an evil "solution" can't "make a Good"): Has our nation allowed the abortion of the persons to whom God had given the gifts of curing CANCER & other horrors??... An old poster now-- bitty frogs & bugs are newer examples--but still excellent.

May 22, 2015 at 10:04am ·

Dad said something SO insightful 30 yrs ago that I often think of it: He observed that "the bad guys" often get killed by end of a TV show. He said: People know real life

murderers have yrs ahead in our justice system even if they get caught... appeal after appeal, & freedom if they can afford a great lawyer... Thus many people find joy seeing "bloody justice"- even if Fiction.. // ..

So many times on Facebook, I've seen posts by people I'm pretty sure truly are Christ Followers declaring prayers that God will kill off ISIS persons & curse others. Even quote Matthew 24: "Jesus said in the endtimes, Love Will Grow Cold." DO WE CONSIDER?>> Jesus COULD have meant also the love of "good Christians" & Israelites:

HOW is it Love to hope for the death of people we **know** will suffer the fires of hell Jesus described in Matthew 13?! ... **No...** we too easily forget that Jesus said to **pray for enemies**. Pray what? We can start with: Pray that they will open their minds to the One True God's Truth....

DESCRIPTIONS Jesus gave of hell as a REAL place:
http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm?Criteria=gnashing&t=NKJV#s=s_primary_0_1

May 23, 2015 at 10:23pm ·

As national news reports keep blasting news of religious zealots killing anyone who "dares" disagree with their firm beliefs, I often think:

Saul of Tarsus could have been a dedicated member of ISIS if he'd been raised with a different belief system. **He would've fit right in: Firmly, violently committed to his concept of God.** So..... as a true joyful praising often goes in a church I love to visit, "God did it before & He can do it again".... **There very well may be some dedicated ISIS people who will soon, like Saul, finally listen to God's call to all people** (2nd Peter 3:9, God not wanting ANY one to be lost)...

All the more reason to carefully obey Jesus: Pray for enemies (whom God loves also). Even when *we* ourselves see "no hope" of them ever listening to God. Just imagine how greatly they could serve the LORD!

May 24, 2015 at 7:48am ·

"Scientists have found trees with rings indicating they're 10,000 years old: How do we respond to *that*?" I confess: With enjoyment: Another puzzle, like the mathematical one that's about the best support for evolution I've heard: "How can the earth be only 6,000 years old when it took distant stars' light millions of years to get here as we know based on lightyear speed?"...

Excellent Q's both. The LORD Creator is best reflected (2nd Corin 3:18) when we respond gently- not argumentatively even to sincere Christians who have become entangled into such doubts- with His promised wisdom if we ask (James 1:5):

Back to the old "Which came first?" question: It's truly funny to **imagine that Then**

"God said, '... and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens,'" (Genesis 1:20), and SUDDENLY the earth was COVERED with EGGS waiting to mature enough to HATCH!....

NOPE!!

Same for stars: No reason at all why God couldn't make them suddenly appear TO earth, their light already twinkling above.

Same for trees: God spoke -- Genesis 1:12 -- "And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind." **NOT saplings.** And apparently some of those trees already had lots of amazing rings in their trunks. (Genesis 1:20)

ASK YOURSELF.... ASK OTHER CHRISTIANS >>> *IF* you were God's Enemy... *IF* you hated God, can't hurt him, so wanted to deceive people He loves into thinking HE'S the liar-- not you-- what would you do?... It's an impt Q. Anytime.

Remember the 'to God a day is as 1,000 years' thing? Not just 2nd Peter 3:8, but also in THE SONG OF MOSES: Psalm 90: 4. According to God's calendar AKA the Hebrew calendar, we are in year 5775, changing to 5776 in late summer. That means, **speaking of mathematics, a max of 25 years (max) before the end of the 6th Day.** And what happens after that? Rev 20:2, a millennium of rest. 1,000 years: Day 7 Rest.

With Satan who DOES believe God's Word in the Bible hoping to take a lot of God's people with him ... Destroyed. John 10:10 -- Jesus's Word. LYING to fool them to not believe Genesis & rest of Bible -- John 8:44 -- Jesus's Word.

Ezekiel 33. It's not our job assignment from God to clobber even the sincere Christians who are not -yet- thinking thru logically on why a real Adversary of God wants to fool them into doubting Creator God's ability to control what's in the Bible. But it **IS** our job-- our mission-- to, without un-Christ-like arguing, point out the logic & supporting Word of God scriptures. Ezekiel 33 >> Even Jesus could not persuade the people He loved (end of Matthew 23)... Neither He nor we are condemned by God if we "sound the alarm" and cannot convince people to pray for God's wisdom... and listen for it as seriously as they've listened to some scientists & sound bites in the media.

May 25, 2015 at 11:06am ·

I love D ring carabiners. At music festivals, I clip my belt pack to avoid accidental opening with 1, and clip on a drink holder with another. More D rings secure backpack zippers. A D ring on the birdfeeder extends its tiny hook to attach to holder. D rings hold woodpecker block cages together so raccoons can't open 'em. (Sigh.) ...

But I've noticed: In moments I can un-attach ANYthing from a D Ring. And: That's the kind of commitment that we tend to want with God: The Ability to un-attach ourselves if we become frustrated at Him. (Let's be honest: We do sometimes.) But God wants us to trust Him so much that we will SEW ourselves to Him, with unbreakable thread... NO: That's not right: God wants us to trust Him so much that

we ASK HIM to SEW us to Him: To help us Trust Him & want to stay attached to Him. No matter what. Psalms 9:10: God will NOT detach Himself from those who love & seek Him.

·
May 26, 2015 at 9:04am ·

Another sermon I've never heard: About those few moments between (#1) when the disciples scolded little children for "bothering" Jesus, and (#3) when Jesus chided THEM to let the children come. There it is:

(#2) >> The children (age 7, 8, 9?) **knew** they were unwanted-- probably had **hurt feelings & assumed Teacher Jesus thought the same thing as his disciples.** And probably began to slip back into the crowd to escape more harsh words, to return to their lives as non-special persons in that society.... Matthew 19:14 AND Mark 10:14 AND Luke 18:16 (always special when 3 Gospel writers repeat a story) all share the

EXCITING moment (#4): **When the children heard Jesus say "COME"!**... When they KNEW they were important to this important Teacher!... The sermon summary would be:

What of the about (7,383,008,820) people in 2015 who are seeking, unsure, feeling unimportant... & feel shooed away as 'Not Important' by people saying they're "with" Jesus?....

·
May 26, 2015 at 4:38pm · PHOTO: ***You don't "lose" friends because REAL friends can't be lost. You lose people masquerading as Friends and you're BETTER for it!***

This is sad. VERY, for some of us. Like the deep sorrow of old hymn WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS: "Do thy friends despise-- forsake thee?" But lyrics continues with a joyful comfort: Just "Take it to the LORD in prayer."...

Hebrews 12:3> Jesus understands from personal experience when people start to believe gossip, lies about you. "For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, LEST you become weary & discouraged in your souls.".. 2nd Corin 1:4-- HE comforts US >> so that we can go share His comfort with others! God bringing Romans 8:28 joy out of our deep sadness when people we thought were friends leave! Yet God often also draws new ones to us!

·
May 26, 2015 at 5:29pm · ***The United Methodist Church is ordaining gay pastors, bragging on their tolerance... article link was attached to my post below:***

Ignorance may not be bliss.. but sometimes when knowledge comes, we wish we could turn back to that ignorance... Right now I'm torn between Fury & Anguish at news just read about the beloved denomination I grew up in, was a state-wide teacher leader in for several decades. Sure, I still disagree with some concepts like infant baptism, or that an ordained clergy must be present to share communion. But nothing went absolutely against what God says in His Bible... til now, if this goes thru. For your info if interested; I'm too heart-broken to say any more. Surely our LORD God is, too

COMMENT 26 May 2018, 10:03 AM: 1m

I keep a running journal of posts to re-publish on my blog FACEBOOK PARABLES IN LIFE.... with "NOTES TO MYSELF". As I doublecheck not having missed any when FB does "This Day In History", I see that my Note was:

The Church is ordaining gay pastors, BRAGGING on their "tolerance"...
NOT the word God repeatedly uses thru His book. ...

<https://facebookparablesinlife.blogspot.com/>

May 27, 2015 at 10:24am ·

I've been hearing negative things about the background of HEAVEN IS FOR REAL. Figures. John 10:10, God's enemy is our enemy, trying to destroy us with trickery to not believe God's Word since ancient times of Genesis 3:1-- No originality.

BEYOND DEATH'S DOOR tells the extensive first-hand research of staunch atheist Maurice Rawlings. People whose heart stopped during operations would cry out about hell when resuscitated. Despite all this genius doctor's attempts to prove they were just having hallucinations, Rawlings' honest to himself conclusion after 100s of interviews was: "HELL IS FOR REAL."... John 14, First Corinthians 15 etc is For Real.. // .. The paperback photo is prettier, but this LINK gives more info about Rawlings' book.... one which describes HELL as well as "good". [LINK](#)

May 28, 2015 at 4:37pm · Photo of JeSuis looking guilty:

The apple Cat toy apparently wasn't factory tested by a real cat: The cap screws on top nice and tight: But the bottom just fell off-- spilling catnip all over the floor. Now THERE's an interesting experience, with a long haired, now dusty, Crazy Cat :)

May 28, 2015 at 1:09pm ·

A needed Word.... 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

----- God's comforting promise to each of us thru **First Corinthians 15**.

May 29, 2015 at 10:10am

Awoke this AM to hear **some bird repeatedly angrily 'screaming' by our front porch: on other side of house from feeders. So: I now *really* like bluejays**>> It was hollerin' at a 3 FOOT snake. I was pretty sure it wasn't poisonous but it did have diamonds. I grabbed a shovel I'd left in porch corner, stunned snake, flipped it over since I remembered from a friend's post yesterday. IT WAS POISONOUS.... Past tense, you notice: No longer living beside the steps we're on several times a day. THIS IS GOD-- ONLY explanation: (1) Sam's timing AND that I'd gone to her page yest, since FB never brings up her posts; (2) I'd been too tired to put away shovel sev days ago so it was right there; (3) And OH WOW!-- Who BUT GOD can be the explanation for a huge bird getting angry at a 3 FOOT snake, far from all the birdseed AND keeping it from slithering back into its safe hole??!..

Psalm 30:12, "To the end that my glory may sing praise to You and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever!"

May 30, 2015 at 10:27am

By the way (re my post on the 3 foot (really) POISONous snake God guided the bluejay to find for me yesterday) >>

Driving long trip from studio last night, had lots of time to think: Our cat Emily was very old, never wandered- liked to 'watch nature' outside. So it was safe to let her enjoy life on the porch a few hours most days. She died several years ago, a few days after I came home to find her on same front porch as yest: sick & weak.

My hubby & I presumed she was failing from old age-- she'd been listless all year... Last night, it suddenly occurred to me-- this snake was NOT young... Maybe it's been around the house a long time. Maybe it met Emily. THANKING the LORD for all His protections of our family... God indeed is good & loving, even though we don't deserve His care.

May 30, 2015 at 2:07pm

Interesting lesson re Ancient Hebrew: Western cultures like abstract thinking and sentences that use lots of adjectives -- "It is a beautiful day." But that really doesn't tell us anything: After a drought, falling soft rain is wonderful!.....

In contrast, Eastern cultures including of God's people of Israel who use Hebrew language instead like concrete thinking for communicating ideas-- "The sun gives warmth on my face." Hebrew uses many **dynamic** words-- not just "water" but **MOVING** water is the basis for the "m" alphabet letter MEM much like ours: ^^^

The Hebrew concept of time can be shown by a photo in the mind: Mountain ranges in the distance: **Eternity-- you don't know what is beyond**..... but you **trust** that LORD God is there, too! Psalm 139:10, "Even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me."

May 30, 2015 at 2:28pm

Good info for those who feel helpless to keep God's commandments:

- (1) "Keep" & "break" are abstract words that don't clearly define what's happening, in Eastern cultures. God's Hebrew Children of Israel used the Eastern culture's concrete thinking: ...
- (2) In Exodus 20:6, KEEP my commandments is the WRONG word in English translations. (Info source: Hebrew class INTRODUCTION TO ANCIENT HEBREW by Jeff A. Benner). God's people were shepherds who **guarded** the sheep. The SAME word often translated for Keep: God calls us to **GUARD**, to carefully **cherish** the Word that He gives. Strong's word 8104 = Guard.
- (3) Deut 31:20, "Break my covenant" is NOT to "not do God's commandment"-- it is to TRAMPLE God's Word. Which is why verse 20 also says that those who break God's covenant with them "DESPISE ME".

·
May 30, 2015 at 2:32pm ·

Hebrew poetry often used two opposite things together,
 like Righteous vs Wicked, or doubles up synonyms like Good & Righteous

·
POST May 30, 2015 at 3:09pm

Exodus 33:14 literally God says "**My FACE will go with you**, and I will give you rest." Which reminds us of the Aaronic blessing, what GOD told Aaron to say, recorded in Numbers 6:24-. Same Exodus 33: Moses is speaking to God "**face to face**". But then a later verse, God says "**no one can see my face**"....

A conflict? People who don't trust God to keep His Bible word true like to say so.

But NO- the *later* verse speaks "*physically*" of God's being. But Moses loved God so much that he "**saw**" and **communicated with the "wholeness of being" of God:** The essence of someone is in their face-- That's how you know them.

·
June 1, 2015 at 9:37am

The LORD God gave me the presence of mind to see the huge doe & hang on tight to my steering wheel moments before she hit my fender & door... so I didn't go off the road. In fact, driving between the 2 churches, I was able to get to the 2nd service and calmly play music :) But God's Nature World is wearing down on me, progressing from marauding squirrels & racoons (March)....

to the scorpion houseguest (3 weeks ago; please pray w me that it quickly dies-alone with no offspring!- of old age)... to the 3 foot poisonous snake (Friday)... to Bambi's mom yesterday. Could use a few prayers... weariness is building. "Yet God". Philippians 4 :}

·
June 1, 2015 at 7:09pm ·

A helpful reminder in an awful few weeks for me of all God's Help... Horrific storms that God brought us through. 1985 storms brought tornadoes to our house in Va along the Potomac-- a 120 foot oak tree fell in wind & hit roof above bedroom where 3 of my kids were sleeping moments before I saw the warning... As I herded the preschoolers down the dark basement steps (power out),

- I missed the last step. Instinctively, I flipped & landed on my back so
- the baby I was carrying wasn't hurt. And I wasn't!
- Five miles away, my husband "just decided" to keep reading in his office instead of leaving on time in the driving rain. Thus, he was not in the car moments later when a roof landed on it....

Yes... the LORD is amazing. And we pray for all who suffered then, now in 2015, and in the effects of so many other storms over all these years... <CONTINUED June 2>

·
June 2, 2015 at 8:30am ·

All day yest I kept thinking about my post on The Day of the Tornado: ***'I KNOW I used to tell people that God did *4* miracles that day.*** (1) Had only 3 children then, & I'd rushed them to the basement just moments before the tree hit outside where'd

they'd just been sleeping, (2) Neither I nor the baby hurt when I fell hard down step, (3) Husband deciding to not go home yet so not in car when a roof landed on it (& other 3 cars' drivers still safe)....

But what was MIRACLE #4 that day?

Finally remembered: 1 or 2 afternoons a week, I'd leave around noon to take kids to nearby town-- a 45 min drive on country road. We'd go to a park or pet store "zoo" etc (teach vocabulary to toddler!), and I'd leave ~5 to get home by 6. But

(MIRACLE 4) On that May 1985 day, I was suddenly so tired around 3 that we left early. Otherwise, I'd have been on a long road with **no safe places when that tornado came**. The LORD assuredly blessed us & many others with miracles that day.

June 2, 2015 at 11:17pm ·

An intriguing quote by LA Times writer David Ackert ... who understands more than many people do about the process that gets music to the radio, TV, internet, whatever device... Encouraging for musicians to know that some understand some of the long road to the joy of a song... POSTER:

QUOTE by David Ackert, LA Times: "Singers and Musicians are some of the most driven, courageous people on the face of the earth. They deal with more day-to-day rejection in one year than most people do in a lifetime.

- Every day, they face the financial challenge of living a freelance lifestyle, the disrespect of people who think they should get real jobs, and their own fear that they'll never work again.
- Every day, they have to ignore the possibility that the vision they have dedicated their lives to is a pipe dream.
- With every note, they stretch themselves, emotionally and physically, risking criticism and judgment.
- With every passing year, many of them watch as the other people their age achieve the predictable milestones of normal life – the car, the family, the house, the nest egg.

Why? Because musicians and singers are willing to give their entire lives to a *moment* – to that melody, that lyric, that chord, or that interpretation **that will stir the audience's soul**.

Singers and Musicians are beings who have tasted life's nectar in that crystal moment when they poured out their creative spirit and touched another's heart. In that instant, they were as close to magic, God, and perfection as anyone could ever be. And in their own hearts, they know that to dedicate oneself to that moment is worth a thousand lifetimes."

June 3, 2015 at 10:18am ·

RE: News article entitled The Reason Why Netanyahu Gave Obama The Book of Esther as a Gift, Will Open Your Eyes..... I'm weary of articles blasting EITHER political party without actual support- -able facts, PLUS objectivity. So I opened this link

with skepticism though I have gone to this site often without finding blatant propaganda. Very surprised: NO accusation against our country or President presented in this gift-- Just history that truly does surprise with the *cool* symbolic message that most of us didn't notice: ...

Using God- inspired words about 473 B.C. history, the book of Esther was not given to compare our American President to Haman-- but to warningly remind us ALL of History: That Persian Empire's leader was willing to just go along with a political plan to kill all Jews.. /... **What the article never mentions: Persia is the old name for Iran. <The nation that our country is wanting to make treaties with, trusting Iran to keep them.>**

June 3, 2015 at 10:57am ·

God's Word repeatedly shows that NO action we do-- even to obey commandments-- will save us from our sins. WHY?: It only takes 1 sin for us to qualify for hell- James 2:10, "For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.".... BUT-- BUT:

I dearly love my mom & would do anything she asks of me to show her my love. Should we not do the same for our LORD God who's done so much for US-- incl sending His Son Jesus who is the ONLY one who could pay for our sins & save us from what Jesus described from His Knowledge as "Gnashing of teeth" in hell? (Matt 8 & 13)

June 4, 2015 at 11:59am

Have a TV game show on as 'background noise' to distract me from the weariness of cleaning house. Generally ignoring it, other than it's nice to hear happy people winning prizes. But one commercial certainly caught my attention: Trying to convince me that how much my life will improve if I just buy their emu oil.... EMU oil? ...

oh yuck. I've been praying for forgiveness & help for all my materialistic desires this week, esp for all those lovely pots of flowers at the stores that I'd love to put right outside my deck window to see as I type music sheets on my laptop & watch birds.... But there are plenty things that are no temptation at all.... like Emu Oil. ugggh!

June 5, 2015 at 5:44pm ·

The young new pastor was visiting members to ask what their gifts were that they used for God. "Charlie" happily reported, **"My gift is Criticism. I see what others are doing wrong, & I tell them."** The pastor prayed quick; later said "God brought to mind This quiet Reply": "Do you remember Jesus's parable of the Talents?" / "Oh yes, pastor, I read my Bible all the time!" declared Charlie. / Pastor: "Do you remember what the man with only 1 talent had done with it?" / "Of course-- he just buried it!" said Charlie, expecting praise for all he'd done with his gift of Criticism. //

The pastor concluded: "May I suggest that you go & do likewise??" a TRUE story, told by my pastor about his first country church assignment; I was about 12-- obviously a memorable sermon!

June 6, 2015 at 10:30am ·

This AM, looking thru my 2011 leather journal for song ideas I haven't developed yet, and found my introspective Q: "Why do people have such nostalgia for 'the old days'? In the 50s, drills sent school children under desks in case of a nuclear attack. In the 60s not just music of free love, but riots & chants of evil hate. I think it's because--- We're looking back: So we know 'how it ends' >> We survived it.

An intriguing find after a 7 day period with a 3-foot poisonous snake by front door, a huge deer hitting car door, & me taking a HARD fall as I stepped out onto the rain slicked deck... Yet: I survived it. My choices: (1) Paranoia, thinking Nature Is Out To Get Me. OR (2) Rejoicing: God is out to take care of me.

On either side of Heaven, I know 'how it ends' >> I'll be fine!

COMMENT 6-6-2015, with photo of Doc from BACK TO THE FUTURE:

It's a comfort to look Back FROM the Future & know **All Will Be Well...**
But: God-- who's not limited by time-- **has already told us each:** All WILL Be well if you trust & Follow Me. John 16:33 & Philippians 4 etc promises from our God who Cannot Lie. Titus 1:2 & logic.

June 6, 2015 at 10:24pm ·

PHOTO: Man praying up to heaven desperately, Lord, please talk to me! >>

Panel 2, large hand reaches down from heaven with a Bible.

Old but true hymn: "How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent word! WHAT MORE CAN HE SAY, THAN TO YOU HE *HATH* SAID? — To you who for refuge to Jesus hath fled?" - 2nd Timothy 3:16.

(1787; by John Rippon at age 36, but attributed variously to John Keene, Kirkham, or John Keith). HISTORY & full lyrics >

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/h/o/w/howfirm.htm>

June 8, 2015 at 9:48pm ·

Many of us have been misunderstood. Gossiped against. Mocked. Had our character attacked while those doing (or watching) would not believe the many evidences that prove WRONG those words... There's a sad comfort in knowing that The LORD God who created us, loved us, helps us-- understands from personal experience. People blame Him, accuse Him of being "an angry god in the Old Testament", or evil for not stopping free choices to do evil...

Among the MOST HEART WRENCHING verses in Bible: Micah 6:3. God cries out, "O My people, what have I done to you? And how have I wearied you? Testify against Me. For I brought you up... I redeemed you"... //

Among the most COMFORTING is Hebrews 12:3 > "For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.".... God understands our heartaches.... and will Comfort. 2nd Corinthians 1:4 >> and tells us to go comfort others. got 5 likes incl Tracey Hammett/ UMC S.S. superintendent who supported me thru all the gossip by people whose teens didn't even attend my HS/College class, July-August 2007 especially... when preacher wouldnt do anything either.

June 10, 2015 at 11:54am ·

POSTER: TURN TO JESUS BEFORE YOU TURN TO DUST:

This poster *sounds* good but isn't Biblical for each "REAL you":

Turning to dust would be far more happy than what Jesus sadly says will ACTUALLY happen to those who die without accepting Him....

"weeping & gnashing of teeth" first in the deep darkness, then in the "fiery furnace". LINK to God's Bible words >> <http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm...> --

Matthew 23:37 shows how Jesus truly sorrows--

grieves deeply-- knowing what will happen to all who reject His Truth & Him...

EVIDENCE that poster is wrong: LUKE 13:28, Jesus says we will NOT be DUST-- we will be thinking, reasoning people who mourn if we see God's "dead" prophets & followers like Abraham in His kingdom-- and ourselves "thrust out" & weeping horribly in that outer darkness.

June 11, 2015 at 8:51am ·

he sad thing that I never hear anyone mention amid criticism: People like [Bruce] Jenner <*who made himself have the appearance of a woman with a female name*> are hurting badly:

Desperately seeking something to make them feel good again. So what happens after serious operations (incl facelifts & tummy tucks) when people suddenly realize: I'm STILL deeply sad..?//.... May we seek & follow God's wisdom on how to Stand on His Word-- Yet in a way that people feel that they won't be put down if they ask Christ followers the "First Peter 3:15" Q-- why there is (& Who gives) true Joy in us?.... It is a COMMAND of God to be prepared AND tell people why we have Peace & Joy despite Life's troubles. Our Homework. Thankfully esp for those of us who need help memorizing> The Holy Spirit helps us to remember all that we studied of what God's Bible teaches: John 14:26 promise! 3 Comments LIKED by 10:

Rock H He needs Jesus bad. Jesus is the only one that can fill the hole that he is trying to fill with everything else. June 11, 2015 at 4:23pm

2016 update: *Sadly, Rock from just north of where Glenna lived in Daytona Beach FL died last year--- he was really a friend of mine, we commented / posted a lot re the LORD and his love for God's TORAH as a Christ Follower.*

June 12, 2015 at 10:05am · PHOTO says "Soon God will end all your struggles."

I mis-read this when I first glanced at it.

Unless they're talking about death, the poster is wrong.

Jesus forewarns us in John 16:33, in the world we'll have troubles. What I read:

"SOON GOD WILL *USE* ALL YOUR STRUGGLES TO BLESS OTHERS." (changed a word, missed a word, what a BIG difference!)... God confirms the different message in His COMFORTS-COMFORT passage, 2nd Corin 1:4. It's SO much more peace & Joy to know that if we ASK God, He'll help us comfort people with the same Comfort He

gives us to get thru struggles.

Even when it's His lesson in Trust & He does NOT end the struggle..... Yet! :)

DianaDee Osborne June 13, 2015 at 8:44pm ·

Driving thru the country, I saw a young calf skipping all along the pasture fence. The almost newborn had not yet learned, "**Cows are supposed to plod** along a path with others & be quiet."

How sad, the huge numbers who rejoiced in Jesus's Great Gospel News **when they first accepted Him & were saved**-- but then "grew up" to look dignified in Serving & worshiping God like "normal"....

Malachi 4:2 Promise of JOY from God (with a condition): "But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture." MAY WE KEEP leaping with abounding (pun intended!) JOY IN OUR GREAT LORD GOD!

Comment a friend made when sharing this post to his timeline June 14, 2015 ·

<RE SKIPPING CALF>> Excellent post from DianaDee Osborne, and an excellent thought on my weekly "Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together post." Does your relationship with God bring you great joy? If so, don't be afraid to let it show, especially with the people of God. True, some will shake their heads. **But maybe others will envy you and seek that same relationship** for themselves, and if enough of the church gets excited, it will make a difference.

COMMANDMENTS 9-22-2015. Last nite 6 PM radio 105.1, I heard 2 usually-right-on theologians say-- And it's a quote, because I was so shocked, I wrote it in my journal::

"If you have accepted Jesus as LORD, then THRU Him you ARE keeping all the commandments." They were claiming this is Matthew 22:40. I confess: I yelled back at "them" toward the radio as a sorta prayer to the LORD at the same time,

"That's RIDICULOUS! ... So much for 'Sin, huh, people?'" ... Hey, bet Satan loves THAT false teaching... **First John 1 >> We won't bother to confess our sins if we're told Jesus like a force field deflects sins off us by His sacrifice**.... IRONY: The caller wanted to know if we needed to keep the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur, Leviticus 16:30)-- Hey, we each can use a Day of Atonement, praying in sorrow for our sins. After all God's done and IS... He deserves even if He doesn't demand it as a "work".

ACTS 24:14 PAUL led by the Holy Spirit taught these words "But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, **believing ALL THINGS** which are **written** in the **Law & in the Prophets.**"

June 15, 2015 at 10:37am ·

There's a photograph in my memory that no one incl me will ever see: It was destroyed years ago because I didn't buy it: A proof for my college yearbook order. I was standing barely behind pink tulip magnolia tree blossoms, smiling gently with smiling eyes too.

But though my dad urged me to select that one, instead I got a distant-view pose where I was looking away from the camera. WHY? >>

Because I thought the 'pretty' picture just ****did not look like me**** -- I thought it was **unrealistic. Because I did not think I could possibly be *really* that pretty.....//** **ALL THRU THIS WORLD there are persons whose Father God is telling them, "You're beautiful!" Who don't believe Him...** & doubt what God could possibly see in them to love. The Truth that Jesus has sent us out to tell includes these words: God sees beauty in you and says you're precious... Even if you don't. .

June 17, 2015 at 10:14am ·

Isn't it a "horrid" experience to get a tiny bit of wood or sliver of metal under your skin? How can such a tiny thing hurt so much? If a piece is visible, there's a bit of hope as you use tweezers to try to get it out... and upset frustration if you can't. If people are around, often they'll try to "comfort" you & say "Hey no one can see it", or "Leave it alone-- it'll work itself out eventually."

But you can't just forget a tiny bit of wood or metal under your skin-- even if it DOESN'T hurt..

We humans like to categorize sins as "Evil, Bad, Not so bad, & "Everyone Does it". But to GOD..... Well, James summed it up well in his letter's 2:10 (inspired by God-2nd Timothy 3:16) -> "For the person who keeps all of the laws **except one** is AS guilty as a person who has broken all of God's laws." ... LORD, help us stop making excuses for our "**bitty splinter**" sins & humbly confess them.... & sorrow for them & see them as Offensive to You-- even though they're not "big" as logs.

June 17, 2015 at 10:13pm ·

Forgiveness is God's promise to US when we forgive-- said Jesus, at end of His guiding LORD'S PRAYER. Some Comfort: (1) We can rest in God, Psalm 46:10. (2) We can trust God that our hurts will be used by Him for some sort of good- even if we don't see it yet: Romans 8:28. (3) Because of our hurt, God can use us to comfort others the same way He WILL comfort us, if we let Him: 2nd Corin 1:4.

(4) It's often said that people who hurt us just go on- their lives unchanged by hurt they did: Yet: God might NOT let them "just move on" but remind them of hurts done until they repent.

Psalmist David repeatedly wrote his prayers that God would **vindicate** him... **Not** to "get revenge", but **to take care of the situation**. Writings that God inspired to be put into His Bible, according to 2nd Timothy 3:16. We who choose to forgive the hurt-ers thus can **Rest-** Trust- Leave our hurts with God.

June 18, 2015 at 9:04am ·

Before I leave for the CREATION Music Festival in the Pennsylvania mountains this Monday, I'm rushing to finish typing more pages of my mother-in-law's Journal for her. I've gotten to the page where she writes of their NC/ VA border mountain home in September 1989. That's when Hurricane Hugo "roared ashore just north of Charleston, SC --a massive Category 4."... The first devastating storm to hit those tall mountains. Forest lines of trees were blown down like brown dominoes. Their corpses littered the mountain roads' views for a decade before vegetation covered them. YET: We survived. We endured.

AND: God tells each of us the same. Philippians 4, we rejoice not in the sad *events* but in the PROMISE of God who Loves us: "Trust me & I'll get you thru AND bring some good out of it"... Romans 8:28. The most obvious Good of each sad time: Looking back & seeing yet another evidence that Yes, God did keep His Promise to get me through. So why should I doubt NOW??! Silly me!

"Why are you cast down, O my soul?
And why are you disquieted within me?
HOPE in God, for I SHALL yet praise Him
for the help of His countenance!!!"

..... Psalm 42:5... God's reminder!

June 19, 2015 at 1:52pm ·

Great 'children's sermon' - a parable: Fill about 10 clear glass pint jars with dirt. Not all from one place: Black potting soil, lighter fill dirt, red clay, brown loam, fine white sand, rough brown sand, & other varieties of dirt.

Let listeners discuss how each kind has its own special purpose-- incl playing with silky sand, or mixing rough sand into concrete. They can run their fingers thru dif types & enjoy the various textures.

Finally: Read Genesis 2:7 & discuss how God is so creative... how His World would be more boring if all flowers were the same colors. End with a bitty science lesson: How RIDICULOUS it is to think God would make some people of less value than others simply because they have a different amount of melanin coloring pigment in their skin. Romans 1: 21-22,

Bigots think they're wiser than God. **GOD calls them EVIL fools.**

June 20, 2015 at 9:02pm ·

Yet another terrible storm with tornado warnings... My laptop makes a pretty good light for guiding me to the flashlights-- The power just went off. But neither light source is as good as the house full of electric lights that chase away darkness... and those substitutes are not as good as the Sun as a light to help us walk & live safely.

Given a choice, few of us would be foolish enough to want to live by battery powered laptops or flashlights. **Yet it's so easy to Choose to live by whatever insufficient power we try to tap to make us "happy"**. Very **foolish**, since The LORD, the Light of the World, yearningly calls us to walk in His brilliantly, joyfully Lighted Way.

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 <Mid- June. At CREATION EAST music festival in Pennsylvania for a week... rained,
 of course!. >

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June 29, 2015 · with two photos -- main and fringe state.

Two of the non- raining periods at the Creation Festivals near Mount Union & Huntington PA... waiting for the next concerts & speaker! I was laughing that I had not been so thoroughly wet through layers of clothes since... well, my last music festival celebrating all God's blessings, at the Alive Festival in Ohio.

Yet: It's SUCH a joy to be among so many people worshiping our LORD together. Shown: Main stage and the smaller Fringe Stage, listening in mud covered jeans to Bizzle's hip hop GOD OVER MONEY- one of the 2 CDs I bought during the week.

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 POST June 30, 2015 at 7:09pm · Shared this post from WBTV News 2 years ago. A billboard in Tennessee quotes Leviticus 18:22 passage from the Old Testament and is generating controversy.... but it IS God's true Word. More, with photo » <http://shout.lt/FdJt> - PHOTO: Commandments stone with words of Leviticus 18:22 saying of a man, You shall not lie with a man as if with a woman, It is an abomination, says the LORD.

MY POST:

Wish they'd quoted God in 1st Corinthians 6:9 instead.

- (1) They'd have simultaneously covered both **other kinds** of immorality & worship of anything that's not God.
- (2) There are plenty of "good church going Christians" who quickly write off Leviticus 18 & 19 as "done away with" by Jesus (despite His words in Matt 5:19-20)...
- (3) BUT my personal favorite in the New half of God's Bible is Revelation 21:8 and 22:15--> These verses add in people who love to lie and "practice" lying.

(Let's all thank God for Grace... we're ALL in at least 1 or 2 of the Bible's Sin Lists of God.) Ephesians 2:5, 8.

LINK: <http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/search.cfm...>

END of 2015 SPRING PARABLES