# DAILY STICKY-NOTE REMINDERS

### A Brief Introduction

Without God, I have a feeble memory; my mental aptitude is average – probably below average. I put myself through college. At that time, it seemed to be the best way to get a good paying job. College was hard. Each class had so many new concepts to try to understand, digest, and master. So much, that many students like me studied to just pass the tests - the joy of learning got crushed - departing after the first week of class. The tidal wave of concepts, facts, and information was too much to grasp and retain.

Average students like me found themselves "cramming" for midterm and final exams – reloading tons of information into <u>short-term memory</u> just before tests; it was too much information to hold and retain in <u>long-term memory</u>.

I did use a strategy, however, to help me better hold-unto things. I mean, why pay for expensive tuition and leave the institution with minimal long-term retention?

After every class, I would go home and re-write my notes so they were clear, legible, & organized. Many times, it is all a student could do - to *just write down* the information during a lecture – sometimes furiously taking notes - let alone understand it, digest it, and load it into memory. This is what I did at home, so I could feel confident I mastered that day's lecture.

On day 2, I did the same procedure, *BUT* – I included a quick review of Day 1's lecture. This was relatively easy to do. And so on. So, on Day 14, for example, reviewing all the lecture notes from 1-13 could be done rather quickly. And then I could retain it much better because it was being loaded into long-term memory. If this is not done, students will commonly find themselves on exam week trying to decipher all their earlier fuzzy semester

notes and wonder what most of them even meant! ... those notes being full of gaps and questions.

In some classes, I brought a mini tape recorder, and relistened to the lecture in addition to rewriting the notes.

When I first became a born-again Christian, I remember coming to God for some more *LIFE*. He communicated me something that basically went like this:

"Matt, you are like a water bucket with a bunch of holes in the bottom. I fill up your bucket but most of it just runs out. You forget what I have taught you and you lose it.

Now, you want to learn something more?

You need to hold-on to the things you were previously taught."

"MY SON, <u>DO NOT FORGET</u> MY TEACHING, LET YOUR HEART <u>KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS</u>... <u>WRITE THEM</u> ON THE TABLET OF YOUR HEART..."

(Proverbs 3)

I was reminded of the way I studied, learned, mastered, and retained things in college – for long term memory.

Thus, reviews of multiple days' previous spiritual learning and instruction were to become my daily habit and lifestyle.

Is not God and the Kingdom worthy of our utmost diligence? Yes!

It seems like Spiritual concepts, revelations, promises, truths, God's opinions, God's mind on matters, etc. - are a different type of understanding than <u>academic educational knowledge</u> – requiring a whole different level of diligence to attain & retain.

Some people that are naturally "smart" with high IQ's, can more easily, if not even casually, *learn and retain <u>academic educational</u> knowledge*. High aptitude and the ability for quick <u>academic learning</u> does not necessarily carry over to the Kingdom of God, however.

All people have to apply their whole hearts, souls, minds, and strength – to acquire and retain - the Gold of God... the Knowledge of God... the Mind of God... the Friendship with God, etc. *And it requires work.* 

We have huge, powerful, dark demonic forces that attack us daily – vigorously seeking to have us *question*, *forget*, or *even renounce* the Kingdom truths we learn and are given.

We can easily be a professing Christian for many years and still be a baby Christian in reality – one of His sons or daughters that is not learning and growing and maturing into true Sonship.

The Apostle Paul admonished churches that were full of men and women who had been Christians for a while – but were still baby infant Christians. They still needed spiritual "milk" rather than chewable spiritual food.

They had not learned to retain even basic Christian truths, and still had to have them retaught. How sad and tragic to be one of God's sons or daughters – and acting like an ignorant carnal unbeliever. Let us never find ourselves at this place. It is a shame to Him and the Kingdom.

This "Daily Sticky Note Reminders" is a booklet I have been using (or ones like it every day) – for years...decades.

<u>I need</u> to daily re-grapple with...understand more fully...review every day...master...and then do the things contained it / them. I know you are like me. This is why we all need to do our best in our Training for God...

#### **Concepts like:**

- God's Love for Us/me today
- The Lord's Prayer and all its topics
- My Best Day for God TODAY
- What I Have Been Learning
- Seeking to have and hold a Pure Heart
- Seeking and Finding God
- Being Content in all things
- ABC Always Be Closing
- + tons more. . .

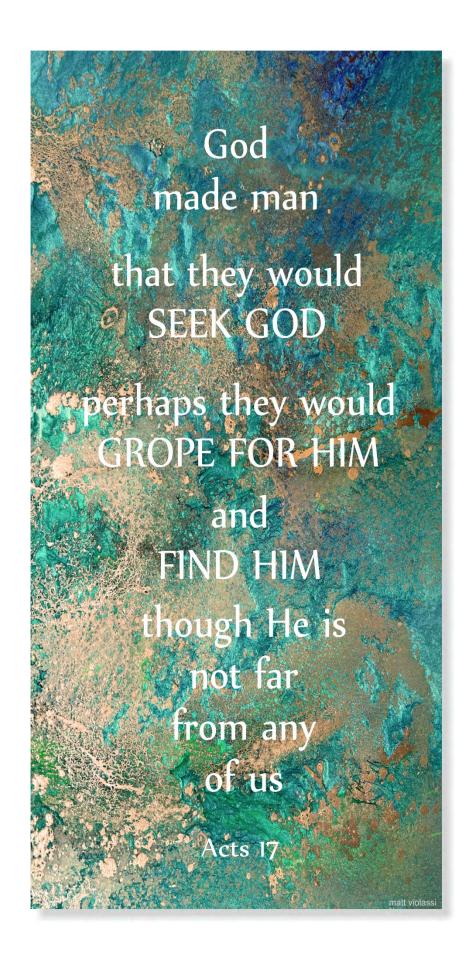
It is my desire that you use this booklet – or more importantly – **construct your own daily reminder booklet** – **and use it**.

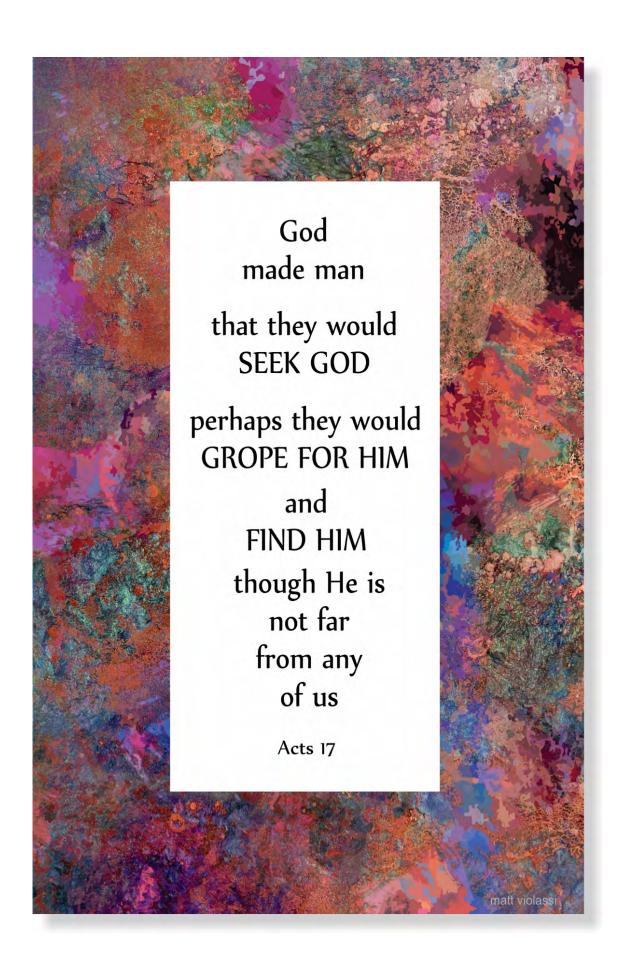
Go over each concept and "work it." It is easy to just pass over concepts and dismiss them casually, thinking in our hearts (as we all so easily do) with "Yeah, yeah, I know that one." . . . and flip to the next.

But to "park on it" and do business with it and with our hearts - asking questions like - "Am I really doing this today?" or "Am I really believing this today?" - IS SO IMPORTANT!

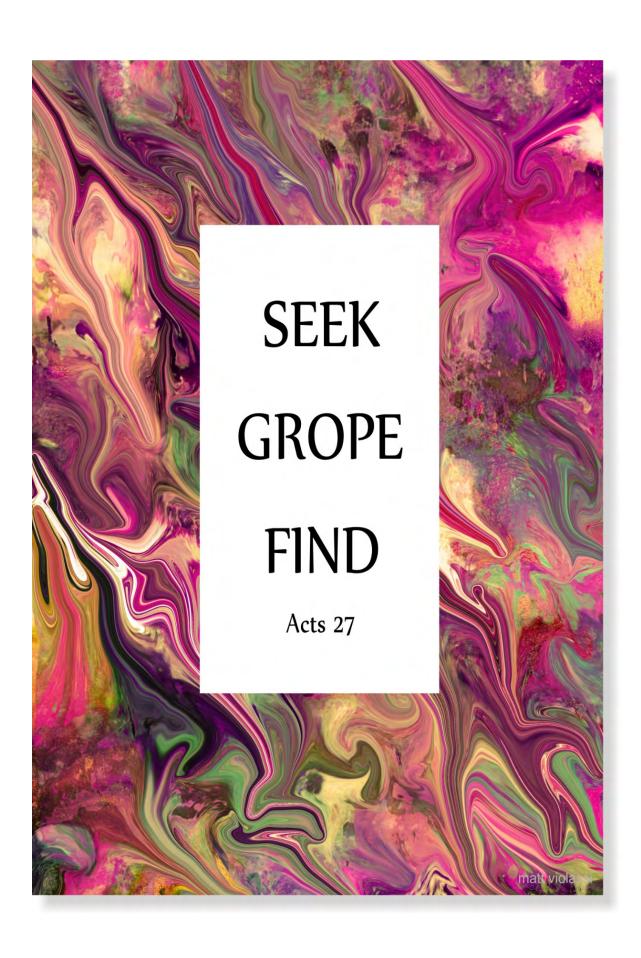
## TRAIN WITH ME!

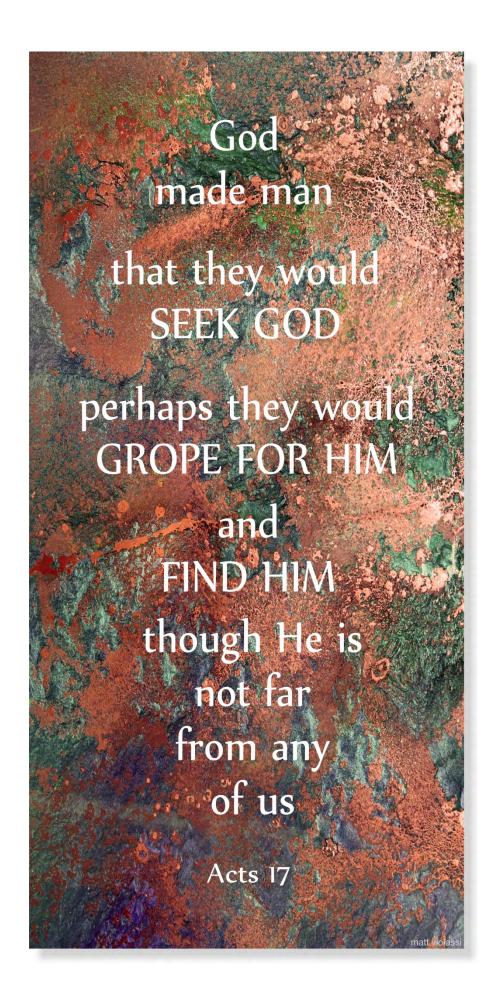
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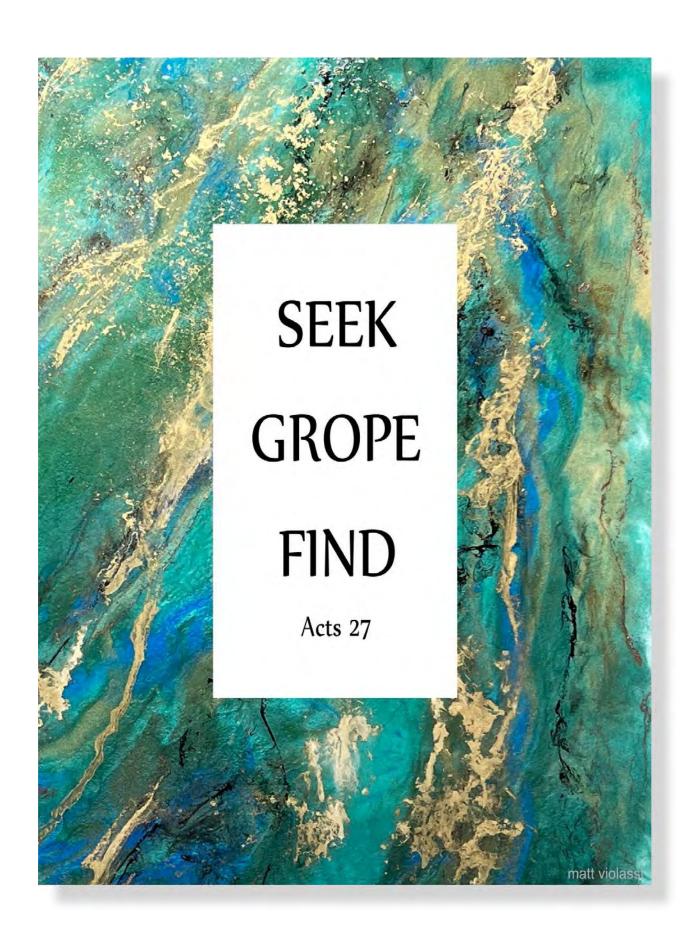




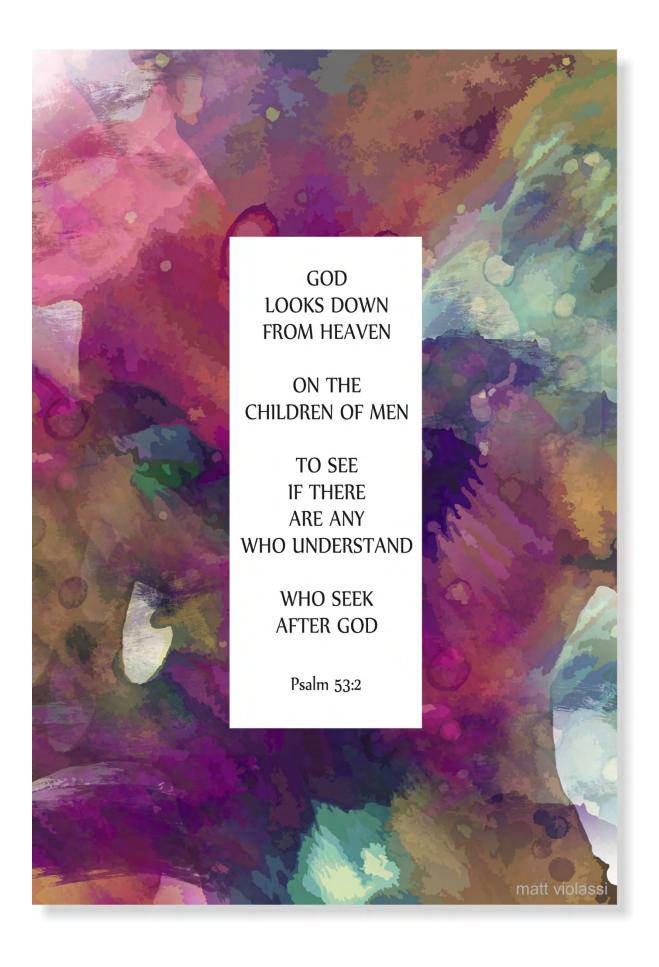


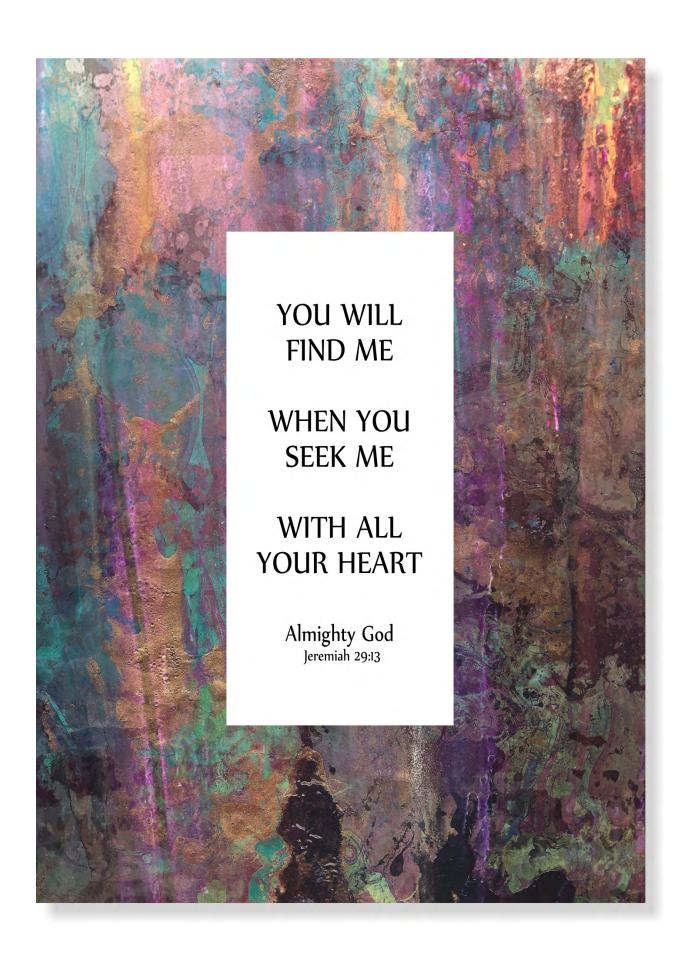




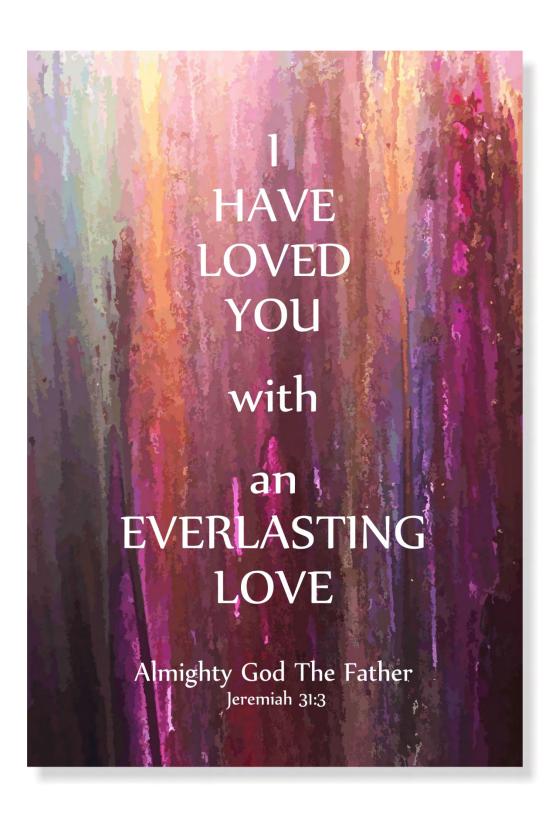


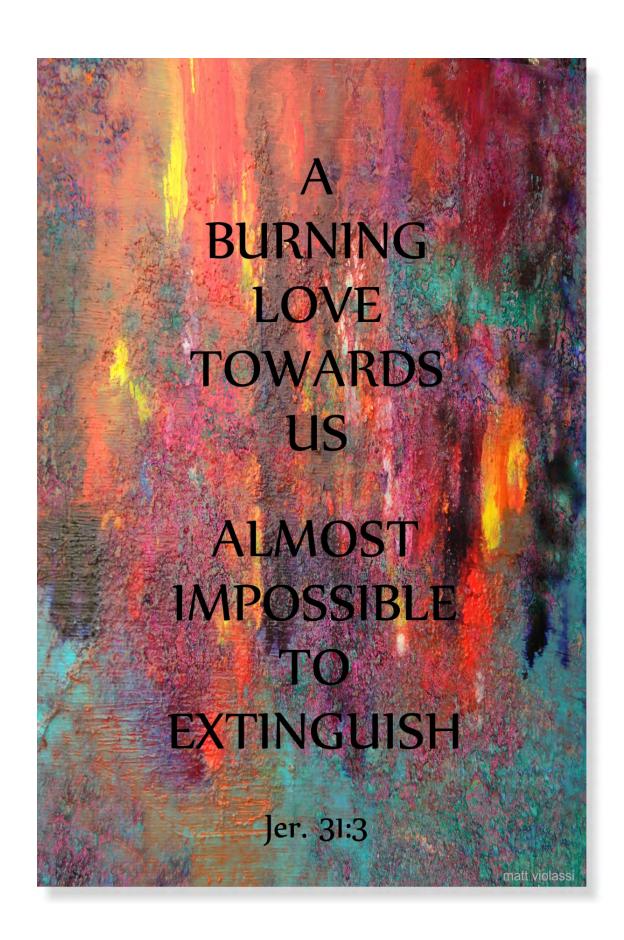


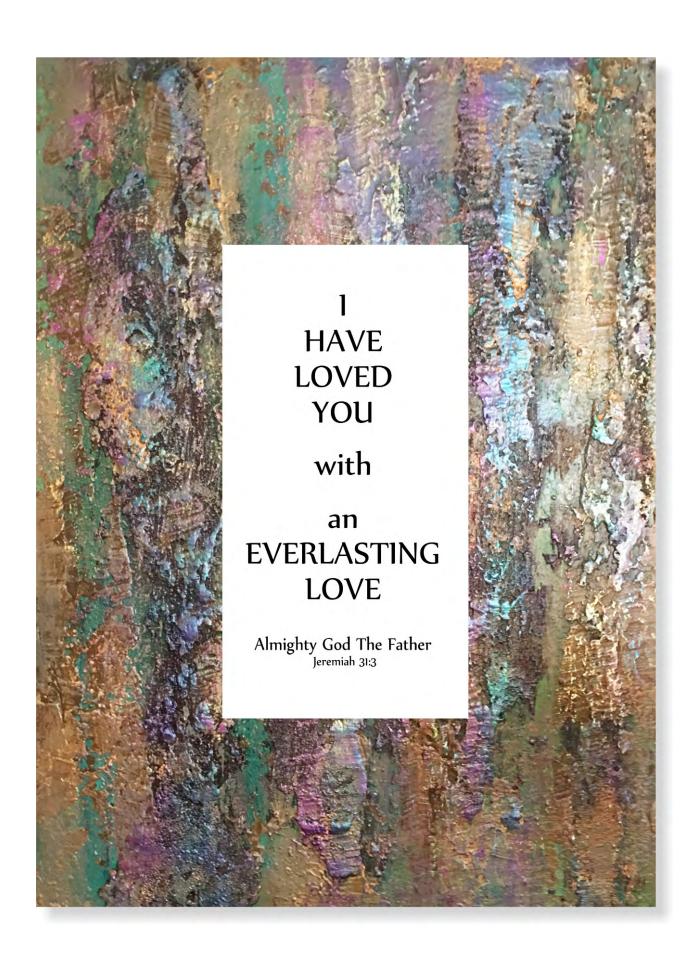


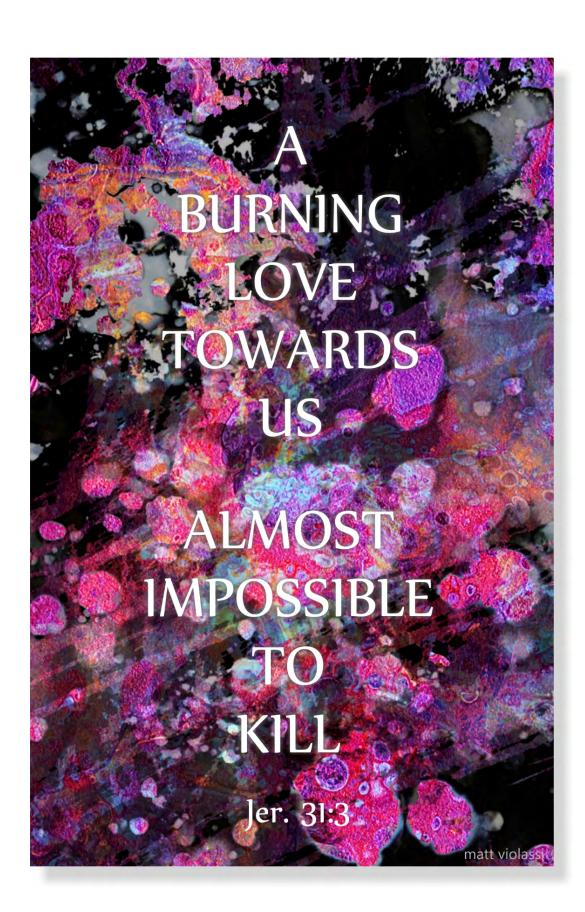


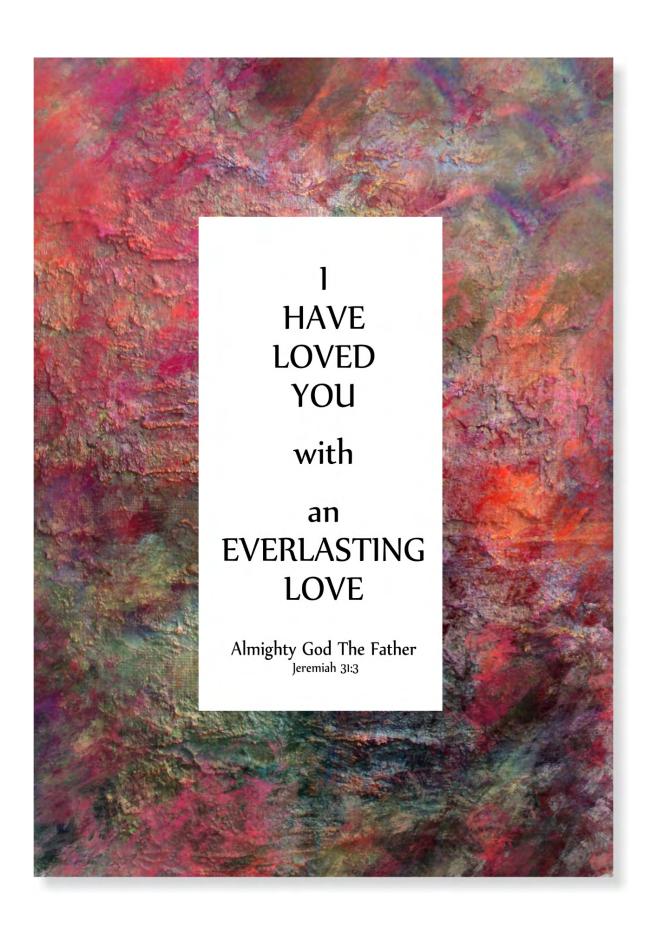
## GOD'S LOVE FOR HIS PEOPLE... LET US BELIEVE IT & RE- EXPERIENCE IT AGAIN TODAY...

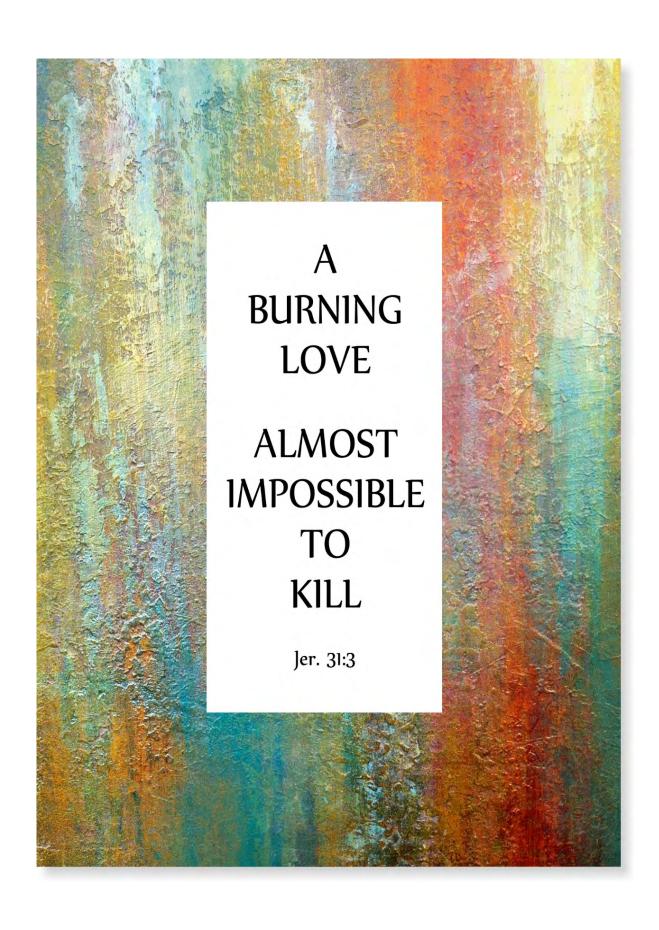


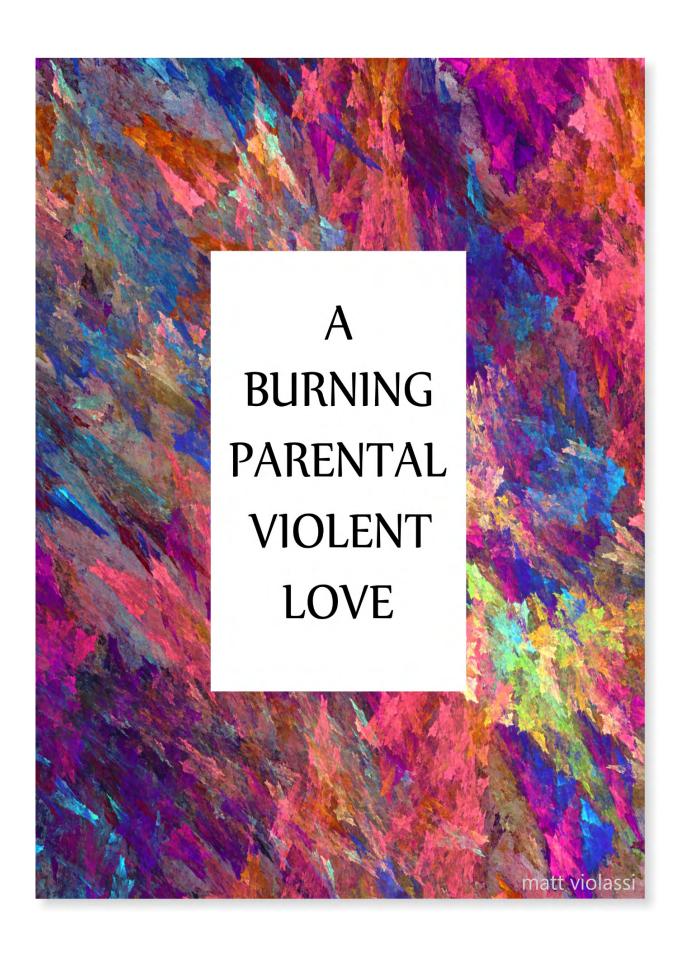




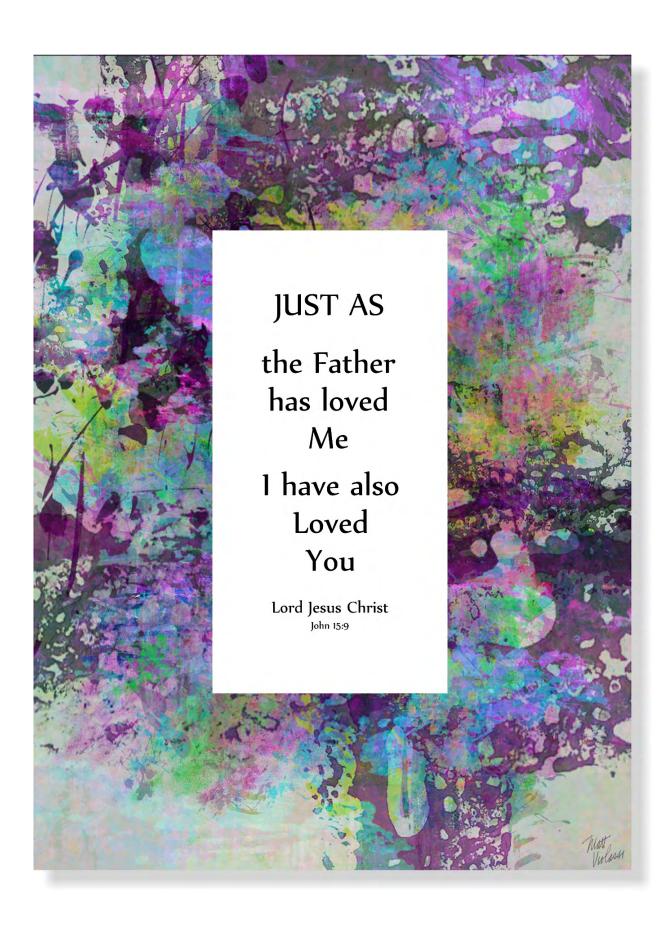


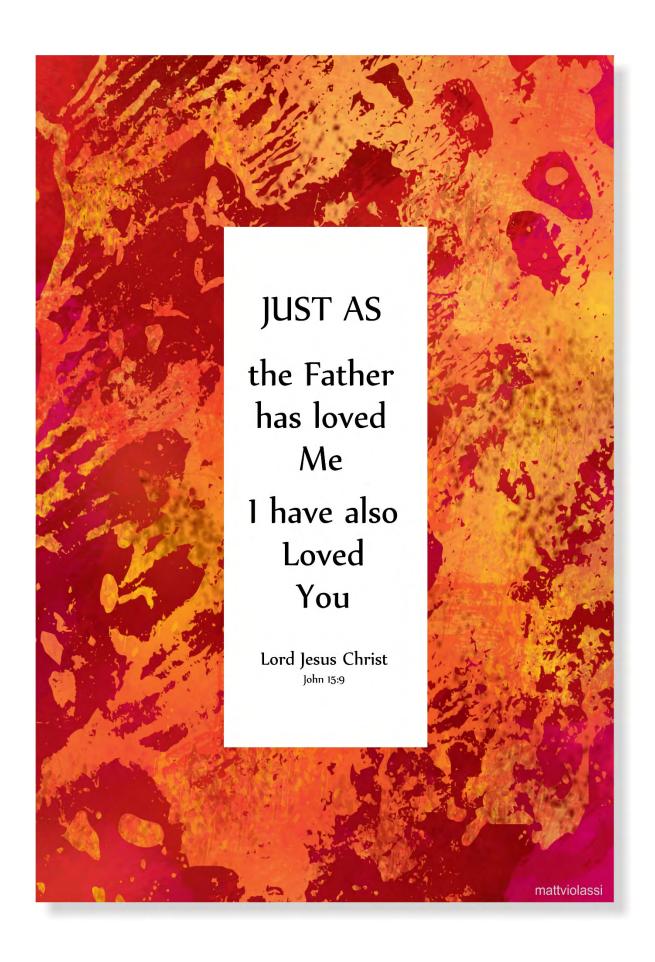








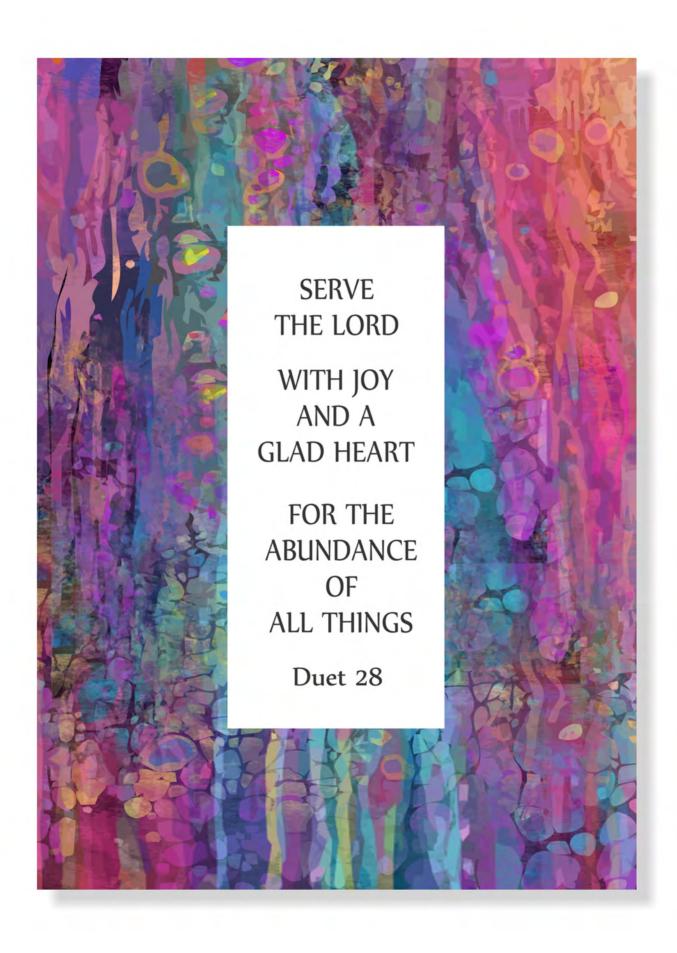




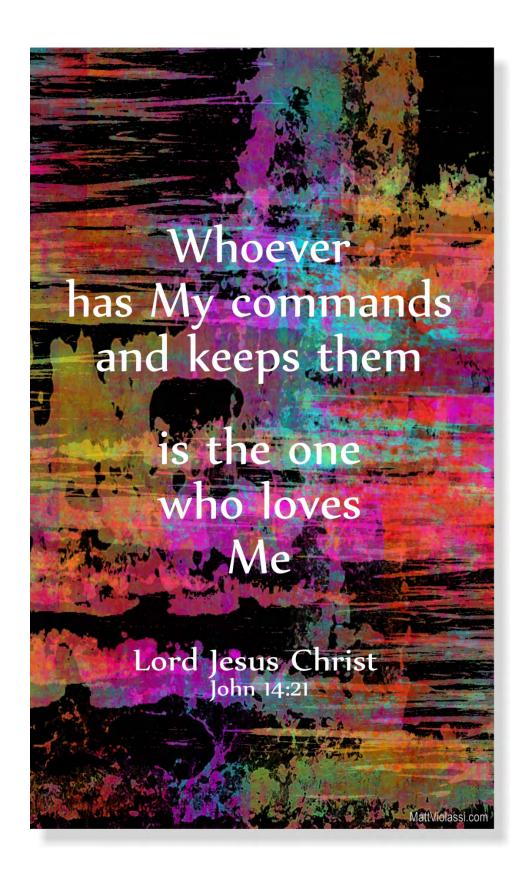


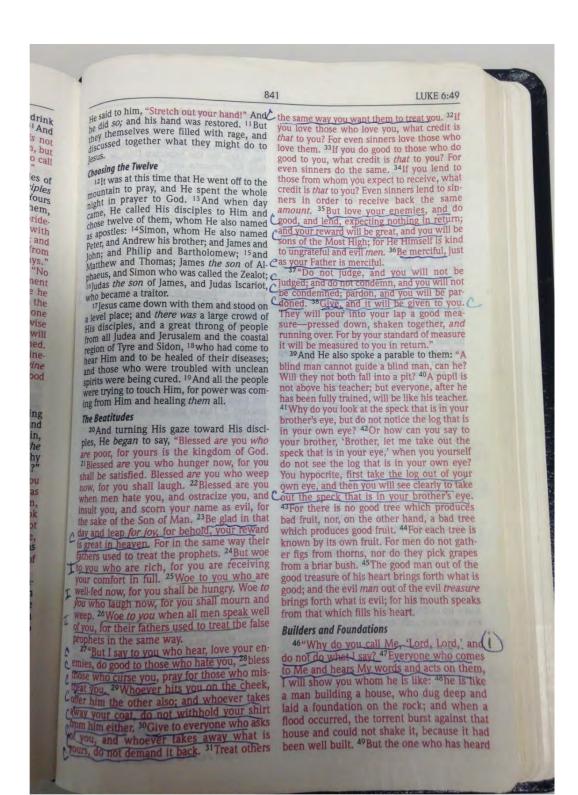




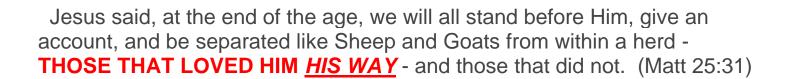


## Get a Red-Letter Bible - "Work the Red Letters"



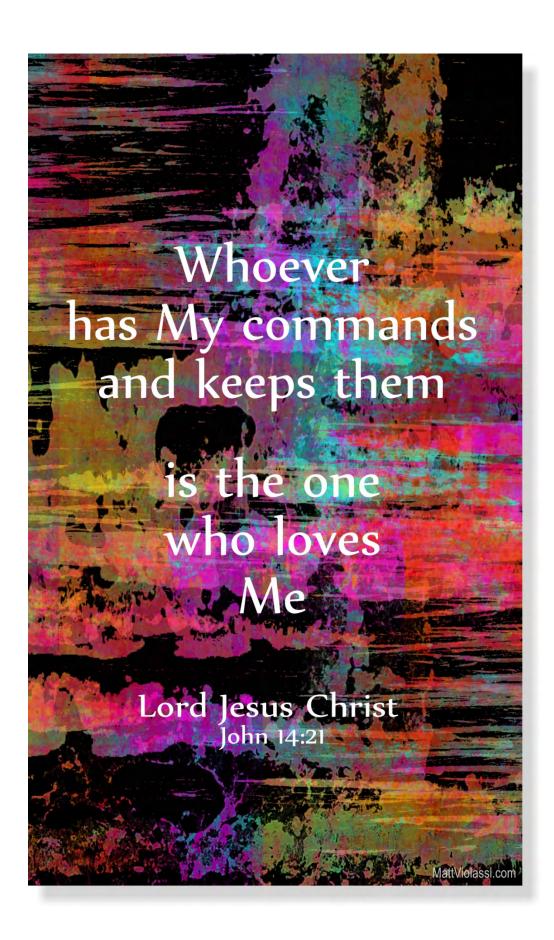


Easier to find His commands in a red-letter Bible Underline and mark "C" for Command Underline and mark "I" for implied Command

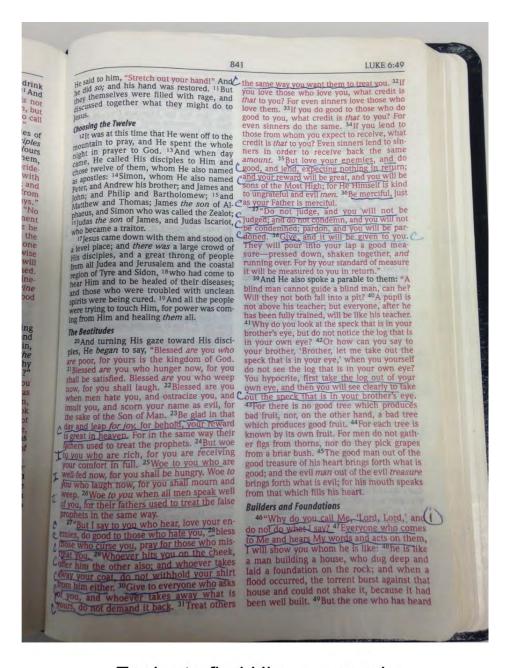


Those that truly loved Him <u>BY HIS DEFINITION</u> - Will go on to eternal life. Those that did not - will go to eternal punishment.

Jesus *Defined* what "Loving Him His Way" looks like:



- So, we need to be **Learning** & **Knowing** & **Doing** His commands to truly be expressing <u>true love</u> to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (By His Definition of Loving Him.)
- Jesus's words are the easiest to find in a **red-letter bible**, where all His words are printed in Red:

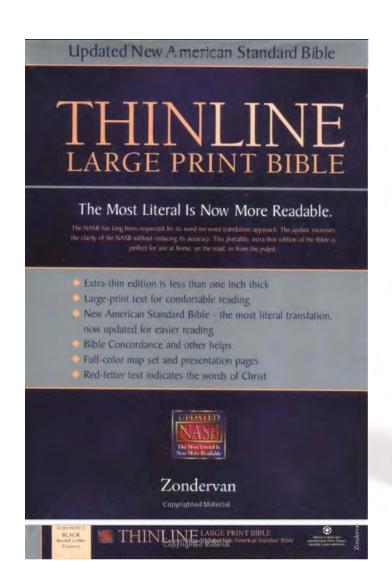


Easier to find His commands in a red-letter Bible Underline and mark "C" for Command Underline and mark "I" for implied Command - The NASB Bible, or New American Standard Bible is a universally revered and used translation of the Bible, known to be the most literally accurate while being readable and understandable. It is used in many Christian universities, colleges, and schools.

These can easily be purchased online (Amazon, too).

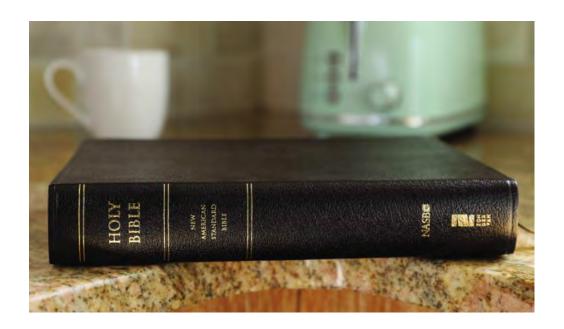
The simple "Thinline" version is inexpensive, relatively thin, and small.

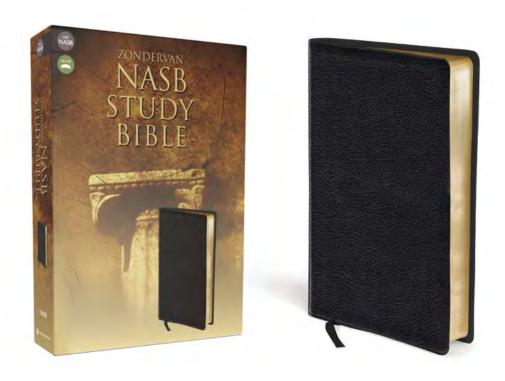
### (6.13 x 1.25 x 9.5 inches)





- A better version, if you can afford it, is the NASB Red-Letter Study Bible.
- It contains a renown <u>running commentary</u> on every page, to help answer common questions that readers tend to wonder about. It can give valuable context and explanation of the verses.
- This can be a great occasion gift, for a birthday, graduation, or holiday!





Be sure the Words of Christ are in Red Letters!

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> ormerly had been the south-Judea see note on Luke 9:51. urney took Him south from Samaria into Judea and then here He was in the territoatt 14:1). For Jesus' ministry

came up to Jesus, testing es was hostile. It was for e that John the Baptist dias (see 6:17-18), and this and then his life. Jesus was d the Pharisees may have e the tetrarch to seize Him V...to divorce a wife lens vorce was lawful, the only ounds for it (see note of

Divorce was an accomas used to bring order well, but it was not the d as we 6-9 dearly in e to make divorce ad

And He \*said to them, "aWhoever his wife and marries another amounts adultery against her; 11 'Or sends away \*Mart 5:32 or sends away \*I Cor 11 And Whoever who wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her; and aif she herself idivorces her hus-12 and marries another man, she is comnitting adultery." or pros socal the St

### Jesus Blesses Little Children

13 And they were bringing children to Him so that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked them.

disciples rectained them.

14 But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, "Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; a for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Truly I say to you, "whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all."

16 And He atook them in His arms and hegan blessing them, laying His hands on

#### The Rich Young Ruler and add to statum and booking

The Rich Young Ruler

17 "As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and b knelt before Him, a least of the Him, "Cood Teachor, where he him, the sale of the Him, "Cood Teachor, where he him, the sale of the Him, "Cood Teachor, where he him, the sale of the Him, "Cood Teachor, where he him, the sale of the Him, "Cood Teachor, where he him, the sale of the Him, "Cood Teachor, where he him, the sale of the Him, "Cood Teachor, where he him, the sale of the and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to cinherit eternal life?"

18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except Cod

7:11, 13 13 °Mark 10:13-16: Matt 19:13-15; Luke 18:15-

17 14 "Matt 5:3 15 "Matt 18:3; 19:14; Luke 18:17; I Cor 14:20; 1 Pet 2:2 16 "Mark 9:36 17 "Mark 10:17-31; Matt 19:16-30; Luke 18:18-30 "Mark 1:40 "Matt 25:34; Luke 10:25; Matt 25:34; Luke 10:25; 18:18; Acts 20:32; Eph 1:18; 1 Pet 1:4

22 Or he became gloomy 23 a Matt 19:23 24 a Mark 1:27 25 a Matt 19:24 26 Lit And

19 "You know the commandments, 'a Do NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.

20 And he said to Him, "Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up.

21 Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, "One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have atreasure in heaven; and come, follow Me

22 But at these words the was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.

23 And Jesus, looking around, \*said to His disciples, "a How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!'

24 The disciples awere amazed at His words. But Jesus \*answered again and \*said to them, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!

25 "a It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

26 They were even more astonished and said to Him, "1Then who can be saved?"

27 Looking at them, Jesus \*said, "a With people it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God."

11 Whoever divorces his wife. In Jewish practice divorce was effected by the husband himself, not by a judicial authority or court. commits adultery against her. A simple declaration of divorce on the part of a husband could not release him from the divine law of marriage and its moral obligations—this enduring force of the marriage bond was unrecognized in rabbinic courts. But see note on Matt 19:3; see also Matt 19:9, where an exception is mentioned. 1 Cor 7:15 may contain another exception (see notes on 1 Cor 7:12,15).

10:12 she is committing adultery. In this historical and geographical context, Jesus' pronouncements confirm the bold denunciation by John the Baptist and equally condemn Herod Antipas and Herodias.

10:14 kingdom of God. See note on Matt 3:2. belongs to such as these. The kingdom of God belongs to those who, like children, are prepared to receive the kingdom as a gift of God (see

10:15 Truly I say to you. See note on 3:28. like a child. The point of comparison is the usual openness and receptivity of children. The kingdom of God must be received as a gift; it cannot be achieved by human effort. It may be entered only by those who know they are helpless, without claim or merit.

10:16 and began blessing them. Jesus visually demonstrated that the blessings of the kingdom are freely given.

10:17 a man. Mark does not identify the man, but Luke (18:18) Calls him a "ruler," meaning he was probably a member of an official council or court, and Matthew (19:20) says he was Young," what shall I do ...? The rich man was thinking in terms of earning righteousness to merit eternal life, but Jesus laught that it was a gift to be received (see v. 15). eternal life. bee note on Matt 19:16.

10:18 Why do you call Me good? Jesus was not denying His own goodness but was forcing the man to recognize that his only lope was in total reliance on God, who alone can give eternal life. He may also have been encouraging the young man to consider the full identity and nature of the One he was addressing.

10:19 Do not defraud. The prombition of fraud may have represented the tenth commandment (against covetousness). If so, Jesus here mentions all six commandments that prohibit wrong actions and attitudes against one's fellowman (see \$20:12-16; Deut 5:16-21).

10:20 I have kept all these things. The man spoke since because for him keeping the law was a matter of external conformity. That the law also required inner obedience, which no one can fully satisfy, apparently escaped him completely. Paul speaks of having had a similar outlook before his conversion (Phil 3:6). from my youth up. Probably a reference to the age of 13, when a Jewish boy assumed personal responsibility for obeying the commandments.

10:21 Jesus felt a love for him. Jesus recognized the man's earnestness. His response was not intended to shame him by exposing failure to understand the spiritual depth of the commandments but was an expression of genuine love. One thing you lack: go and sell all. The young man's primary problem was his wealth (see v. 22), and therefore Jesus' prescription was to rid him of it. There is no indication that Jesus' command to him was meant for all Christians. It applies only to those who have the same spiritual problem. treasure in heaven. The gift of eternal life, or salvation. This treasure is not to be earned by selfdenial or giving of one's material goods but is to be received by following Jesus. In giving away his wealth, the young man would have removed the obstacle that kept him from trusting in Jesus.

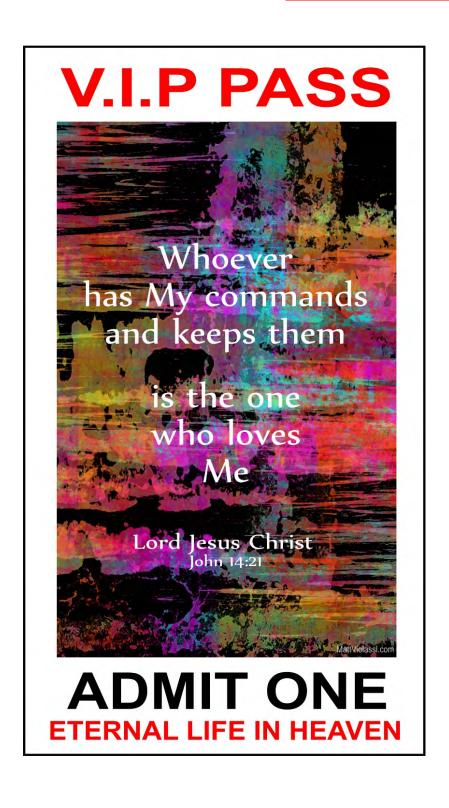
10:22 he went away grieving, for he . . . owned much property. The tragic decision to turn away reflected a greater love for his possessions than for eternal life (cf. 4:19).

10:25 eye of a needle. The camel was the largest animal found in the Holy Land. The vivid contrast between the largest animal and the smallest opening represents what, humanly speaking, is impossible.

10:27 With people it is impossible, but not with God Salvation is totally the work of God. Every attempt to enter the kingdom (I am being humorous here):

So, at the end of the age, we can all stand boldly and with confidence at the Judgment Seat of Christ - *KNOWING* (by God's grace, help, and strength) . . . **THAT WE LOVED HIM** *HIS WAY!* 

AND WAVE HIM OUR "VIP" PASSES! . . . "I LOVED YOU YOUR WAY!"



In common Christian circles, we are taught to "read your Bible regularly."

Most Christians probably experience too many times of this activity seeming to be Dry, Dead, and Empty . . . So, we quit reading the Bible. Or we read it minimally. We have lost the desire and excitement to read it. It just seems like a bunch of words. There doesn't seem to be any LIFE in it.

I keep this card in my Bible - as a book marker - and as a powerful reminder card - that keeps the excitement and motivation going to keep PRAYERFULLY reading it... FINDING His commands...doing my best to MEMORIZE THEM... with the resolution of DOING THEM. (Prayerfully reading the Bible is way-more powerful than just casually reading it!)

Cracking open that Bible with the intention of finding, learning, reviewing, and doing Jesus's commands

tells God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit <u>immediately</u> – loud and clear - <u>at that moment</u>

"I LOVE YOU!"

and

"I AM TRULY LOVING YOU - YOUR WAY!"

Thus, reading the Bible now has more excitement; this activity pleases God and brings joy to His heart. We are motivated to do it *whenever*.

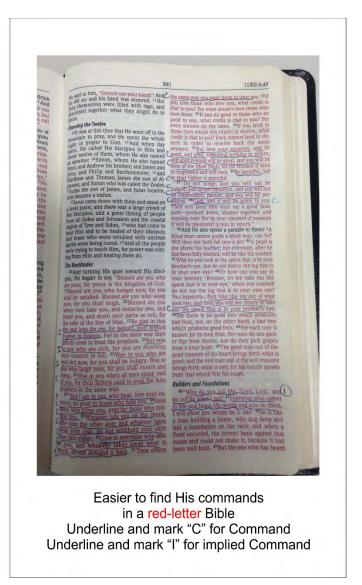


I regularly pass out Red-Letter Thinline Bibles (to those that want one) along with this reminder card. (A reminder of what my main purpose is when reading the Bible - and what theirs should be.)

If you would like one of these cards, or several of these Book Marker/Reminder Cards for yourself or to help others, just email your name and address, and I would be happy to send you one/some no charge. They are printed on both sides in a heavy card stock.

mattviolassi@gmail.com

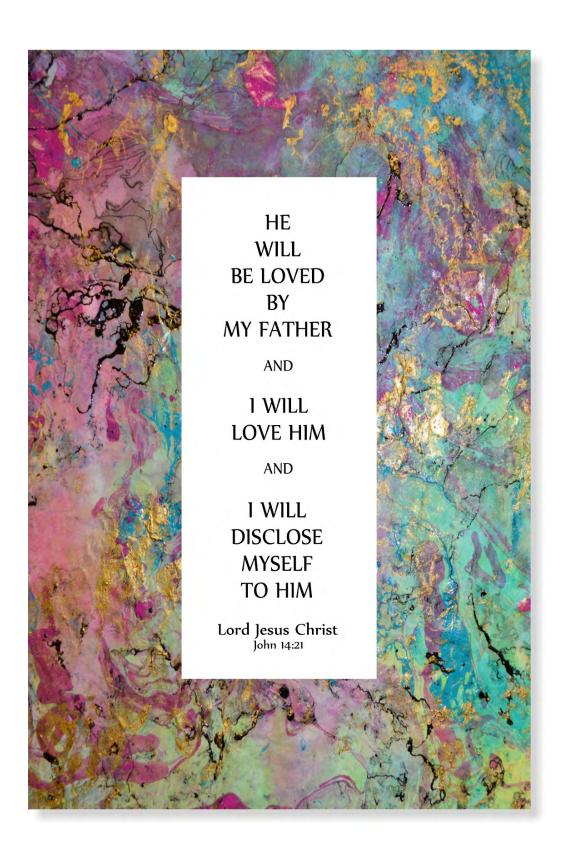


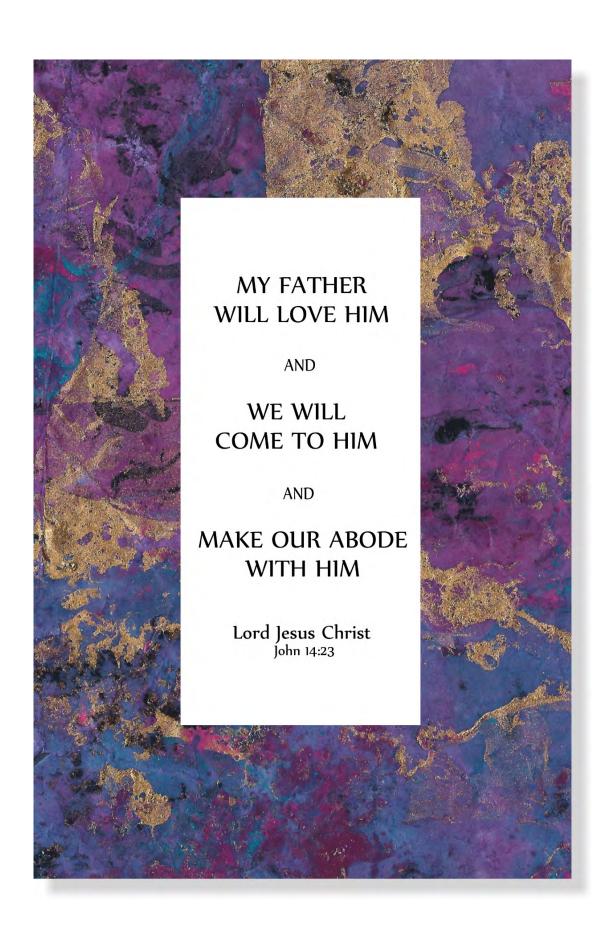


Side A Side B

## PLUS! BLESSING ALERT!

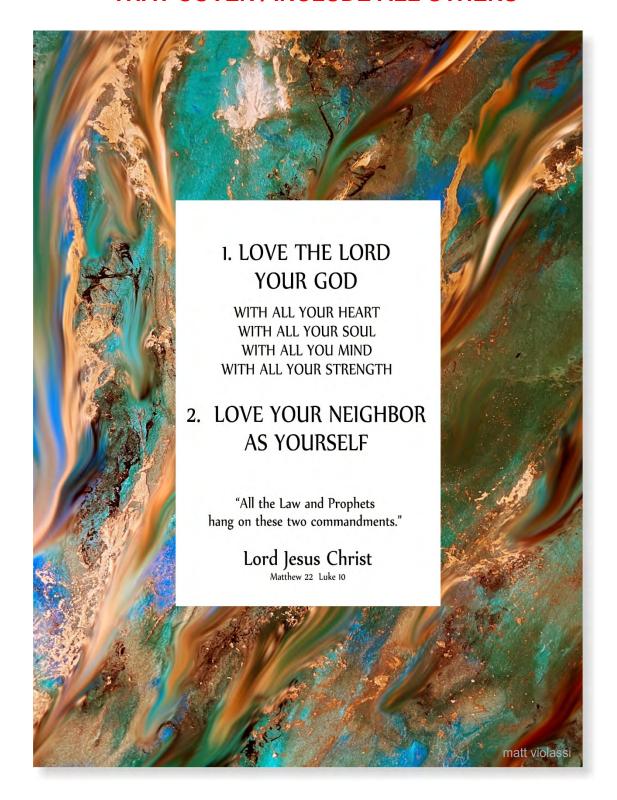
Jesus says He *REWARDS* for doing this activity/discipline!!!!! (John 14:21)







# THE 3 GREATEST COMMANDS THAT COVER / INCLUDE ALL OTHERS



"All the Law and Prophets hang on these 2 commandments."
- Lord Jesus Christ

If we are stranded on a remote jungle island or a deserted land full of hostiles and without a Bible, we can fare <u>okay</u> just remembering these 2 commandments - all commands fall under these 2.

No one likes others to **LIE** to them, **CHEAT** them, **STEAL** from them, **SLANDER** them... **TREAT THEM MEANLY**, **UNNECESSARILY DISRESPECT** them, etc. Easy sins to judge for ourselves... Peace & Prosperity easy to come about on that island with everyone adhering to The 2 Greatest Commands only.

Command #2 "Love Your Neighbor as Yourself" – "Treat Others the Way you Want to Be Treated" – The standard for all is pretty easy to judge and then do based on these 2 Greatest Commandments. Peaceful villages and cities would result. God would be more happy, most importantly.

Only through God and with God, can we obey these 2 Greatest Commands and do them correctly (heaven's way of fulfilling them) - "Apart from Me you can do NOTHING." - Lord Jesus Christ. He said we are going to need Him to do this life correctly.

We are always <u>trying to not need God.</u> Hopefully, the sooner the better, we see the futility of this thinking - and surrender the fight - and give our lives to God...

Reload *today*... This is what I am going to do *today*:



WITH ALL YOUR HEART
WITH ALL YOUR SOUL
WITH ALL YOU MIND
WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH

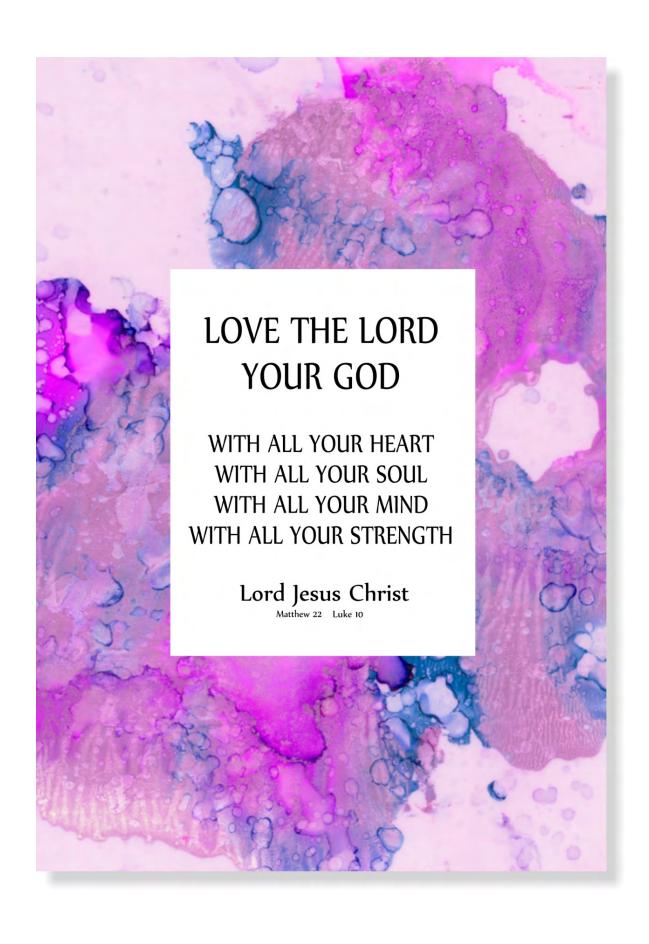
# 2. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF

"All the Law and Prophets hang on these two commandments."

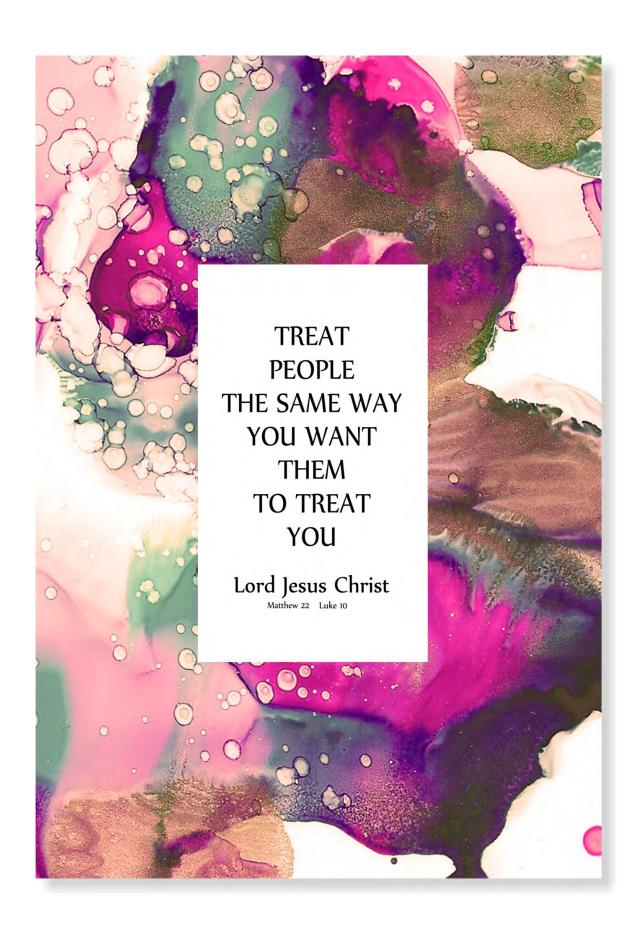
Lord Jesus Christ

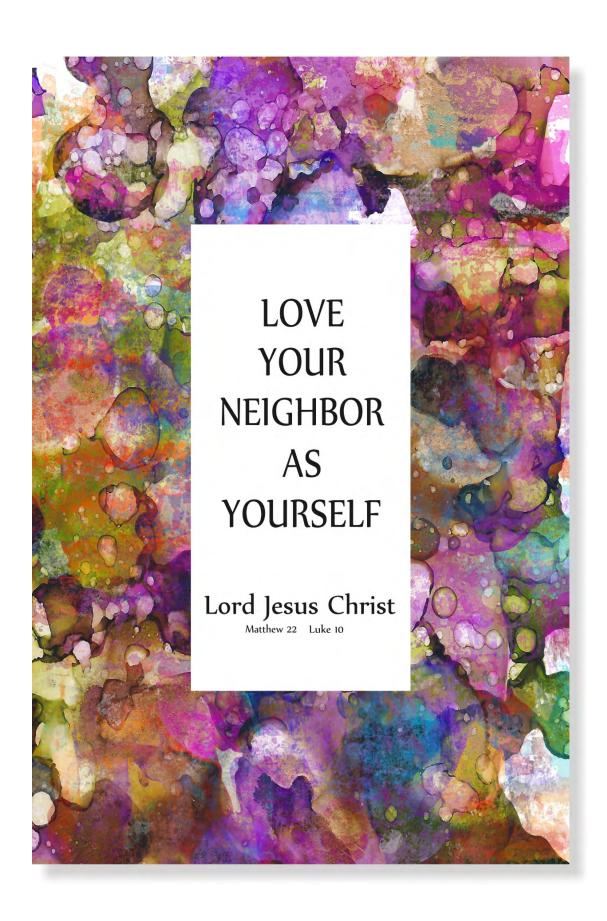
Matthew 22 Luke 10

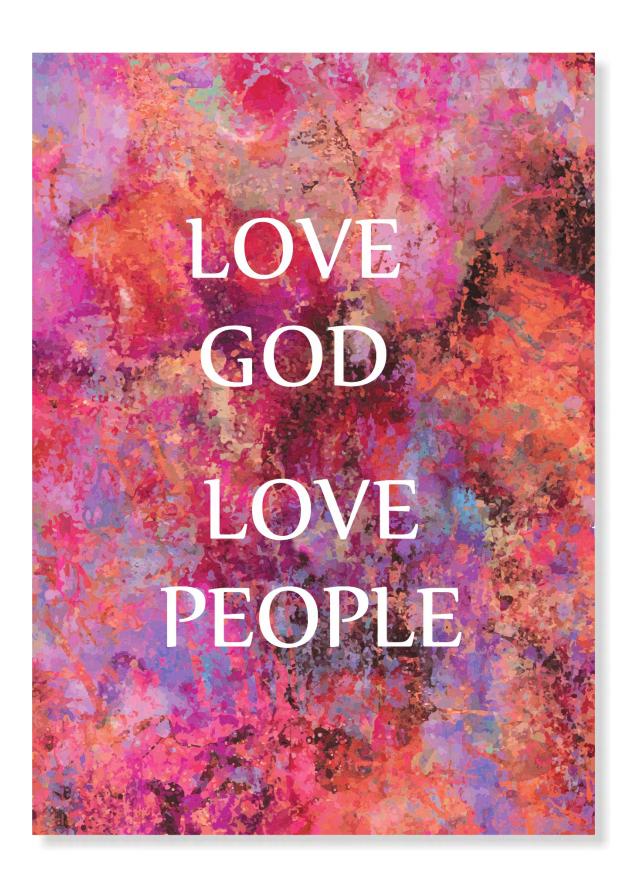
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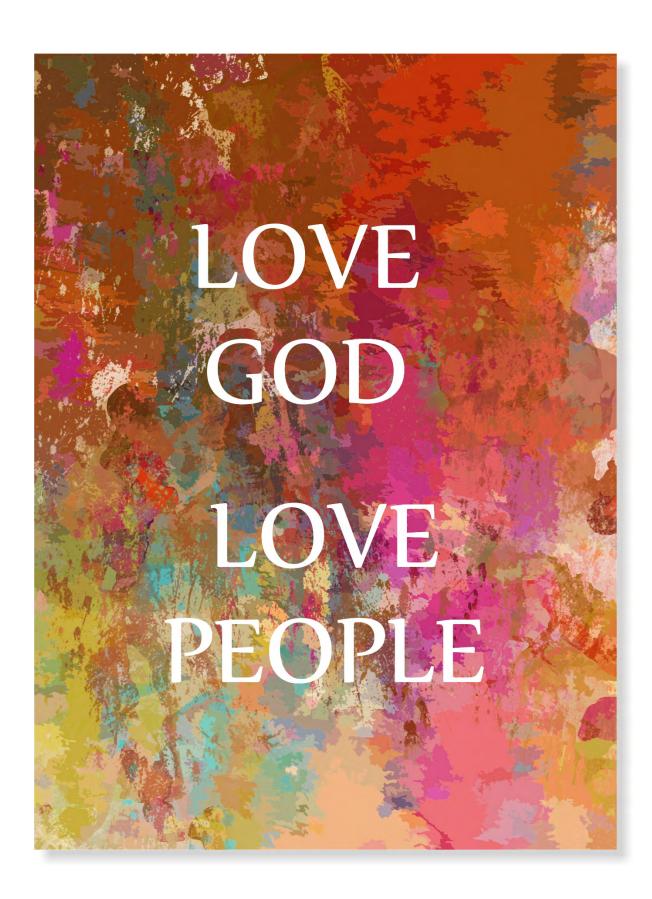














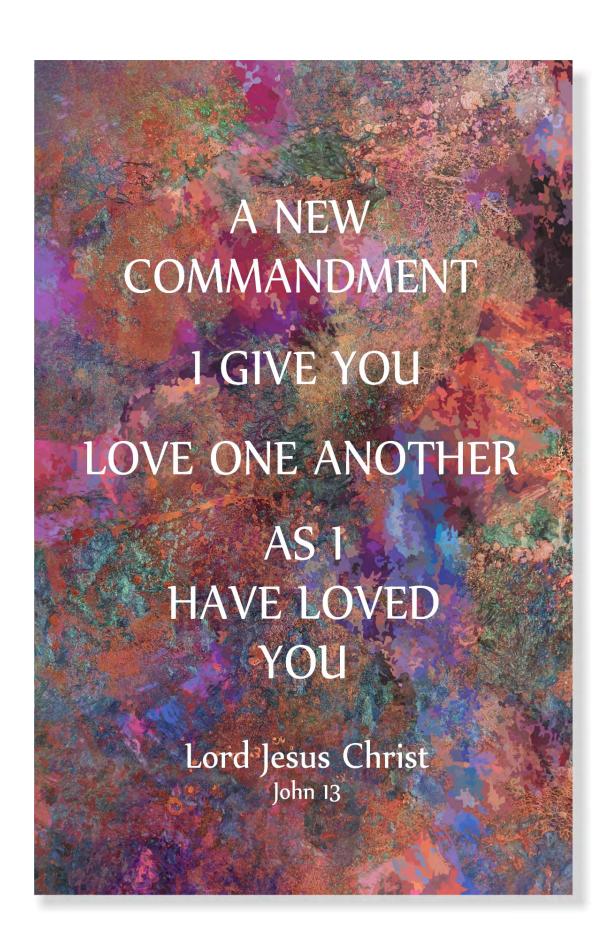
### \*IMPORTANT NOTES!

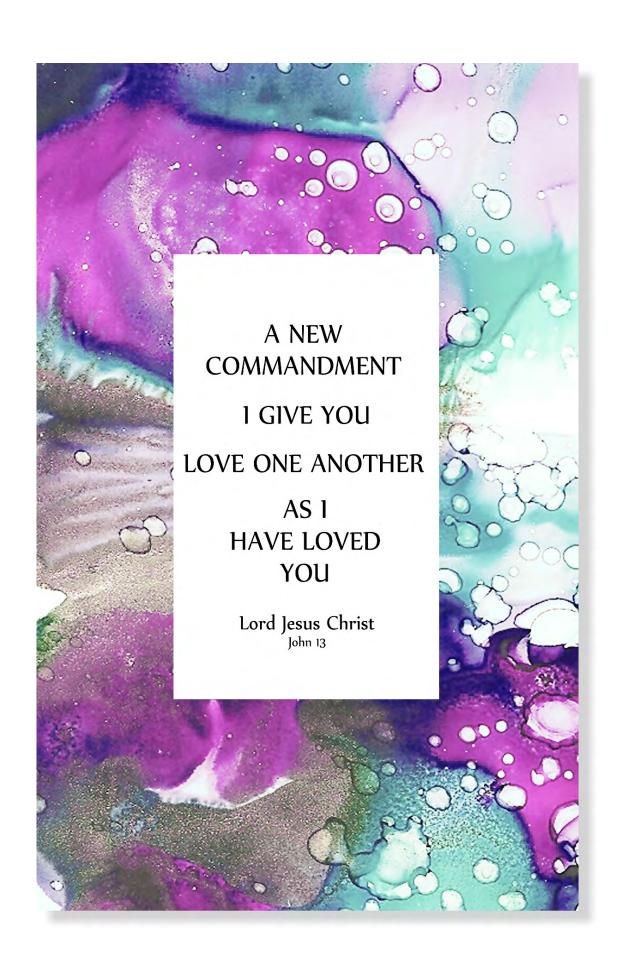
1. God will not ask us to do something that He will not first do.

If we are loving God in every way we can (with our whole Hearts, Souls, Minds, & Strength) - we can be "rest assured" - we can be comforted that - He is doing the same back to us! . . . God is loving us back with His whole Heart, His whole Soul, His whole Mind, and His whole Strength!

2. We cannot love God properly <u>NOR</u> our Neighbor properly - without God's help & strength, "Apart from Me - you can do <u>NOTHING</u>." We truly need God deeply & desperately.

Jesus then added The 3rd Greatest Commandment...





This sets-off a whole new journey with the question, "How has Jesus loved me?"

We probably all want the warm and fuzzy love of God and from others - all the time . . . (Me, too).

We all need to find and explore how Jesus has truly loved us - and then go love others in the same way.

This is because the way Jesus/God the Father loves us is a little different than the 2nd Commandment, "Treat others the way you want to be treated." We want God to be nice to us all the time - the warm, fuzzy love from God - all the time. (Just like we want others to be all nice and happy and content with us all the time.) We want God loving us all the time without confrontations or disciplines, on account of our wrong-doings or perverted character/hearts.

He does not love us in this nice Santa Claus manner. <u>He is resolute on changing us into His image. He confronts us and He disciplines us as needed, like a good loving Father would and should.</u>

Thank God He does this gently – and then disciplining us with every-increasing pressure and pain until we "see" our stuff, acknowledge our stuff, and then repent and change from our stuff.

WOULDN'T WE TRULY WANT SOMEONE TO CONFRONT US ABOUT A WRONG LIFE-PATH WE ARE CHOOSING/ON - HELL FOREVER? SOMEONE TO PRESS US TO CHOOSE TO LOVE & SERVE GOD? <u>OF</u> <u>COURSE</u>!\_This is an example of loving others in the way He has loved us – The Greatest Command #3.

# The Ten Commandments

- I. I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.
- II. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
- III. Remember to keep holy the LORD'S Day
- IV. Honor your father and your mother.
- V. You shall not kill.
- VI. You shall not commit adultery.
- VII. You shall not steal.
- VIII. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
  - IX. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
  - X. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

### **The Ten Commandments**

```
Thou shall have no other gods before me. (Exodus 20:3)
Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven images. (Exodus 20:4-6)
Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. (Exodus 20:7)
Remember the Sabbath day and keep it Holy. (Exodus 20:8-11)
Honor your father and mother. (Exodus 20:12)
Thou shalt not murder. (Exodus 20:13)
Thou shalt not commit adultery. (Exodus 20:14)
Thou shalt not steal. (Exodus 20:15)
Thou shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (Exodus 20:16)
Thou shall not covet your neighbor. (Exodus 20:17)
```

### **LOVE YOUR ENEMIES**

### Generally, mankind cannot and will not do this - love our enemies.

("It is easy to love those who love you." - Jesus)

Jesus said this is one of the major traits that marks and makes true Christians different from unbelievers. <u>Unbelievers cannot and will not do</u> <u>this in a pure way</u>. (It seems there is a lot of false, misguided, warped, and carnal and fleshly compassion for people(s) going-on nowadays – that is not based from God's love or coming from His perspective.)

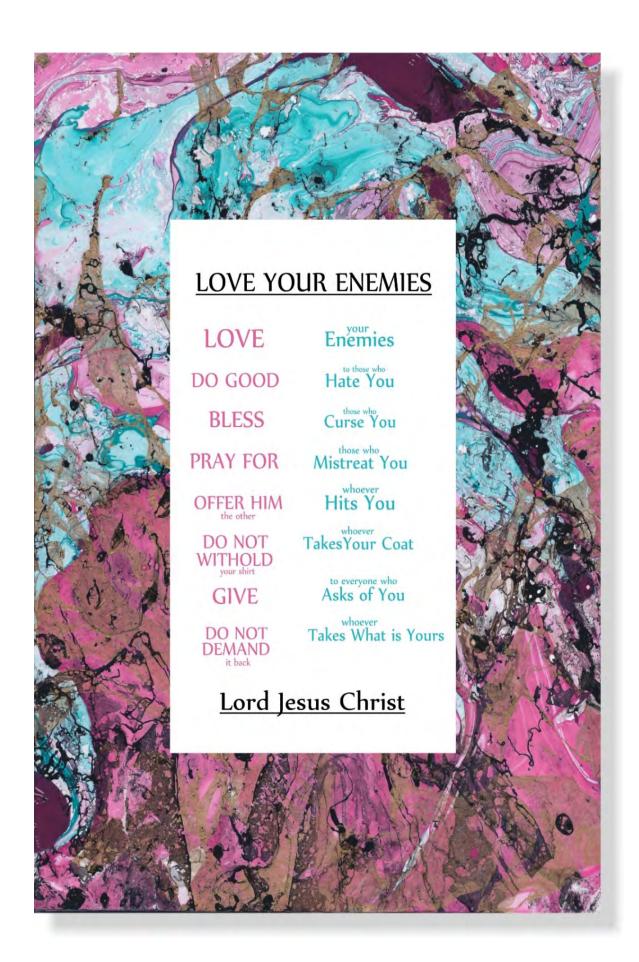
We Christians seem to *barely* be able to truly love our enemies in the way God loves them all the time . . . the despicable, hurtful, repugnant, offensive, etc.

We can only do this with God's help and strength - to love the evil & despicable . . . those who deeply offend and injure us.

### Let us continuously:

<u>Remind</u> ourselves of having God's pure love for our enemies, <u>Attain</u> God's pure love for our enemies, <u>Maintain</u> God's pure love for our enemies, and <u>Train</u> ourselves in purely Loving our enemies.

It is a major difference-maker and testimony of true Christianity.





DO GOOD

BLESS

PRAY FOR

OFFER HIM

DO NOT WITHOLD your shirt

GIVE

DO NOT DEMAND it back Hate You

Curse You

those who Mistreat You

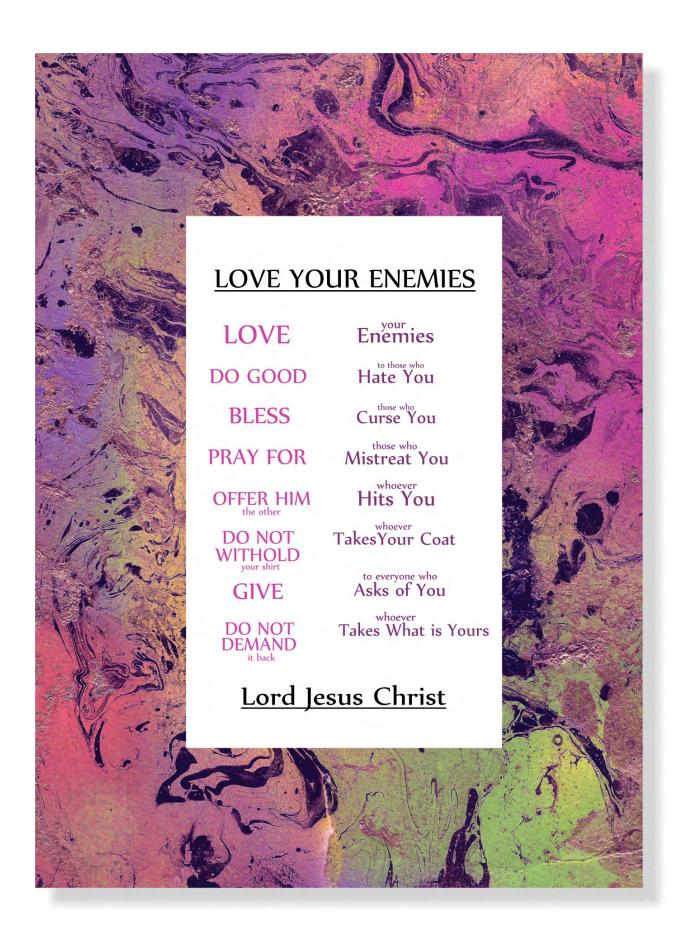
> whoever Hits You

TakesYour Coat

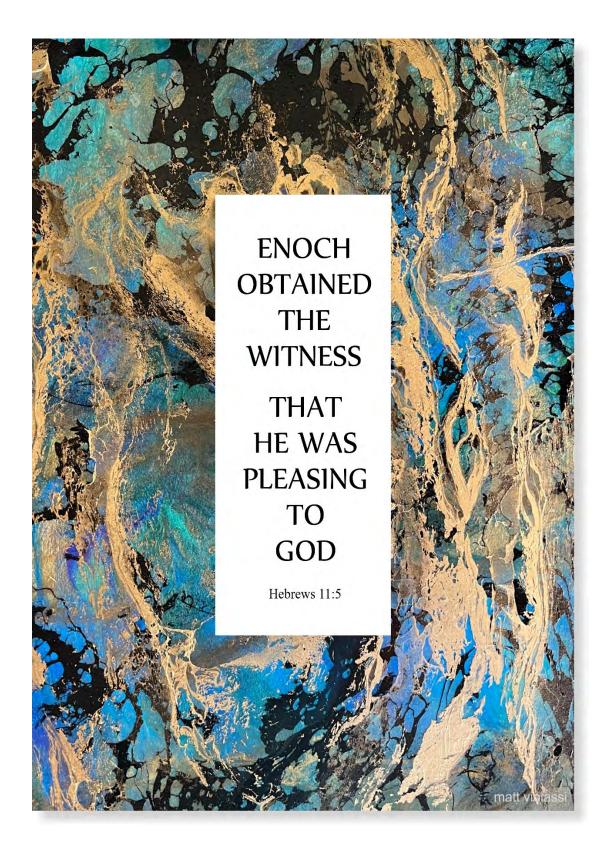
to everyone who Asks of You

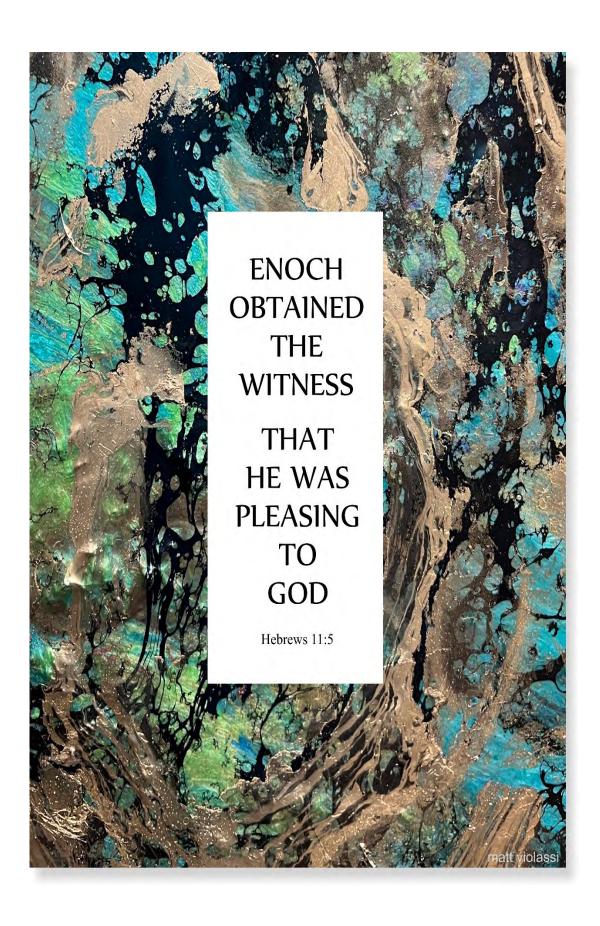
Takes What is Yours

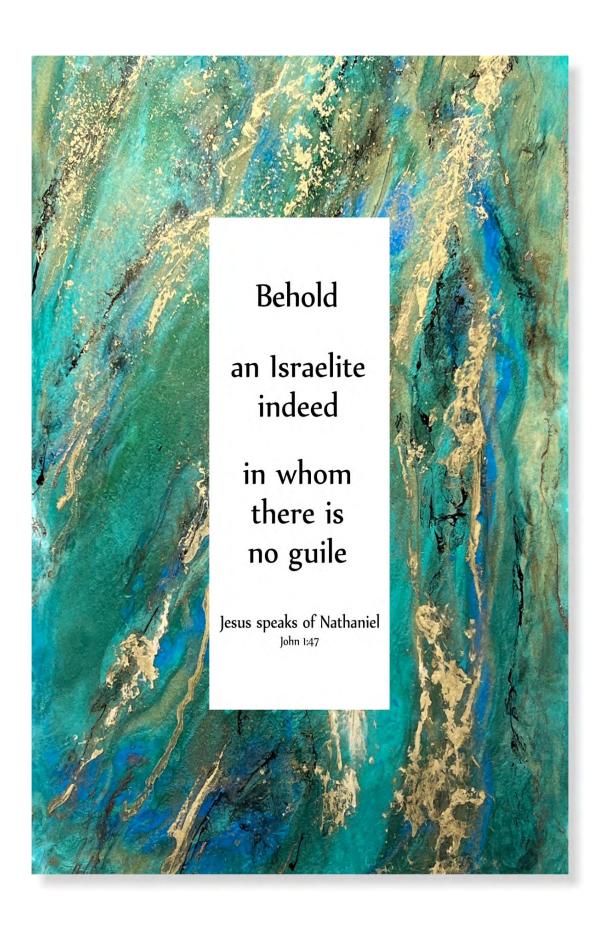
Lord Jesus Christ

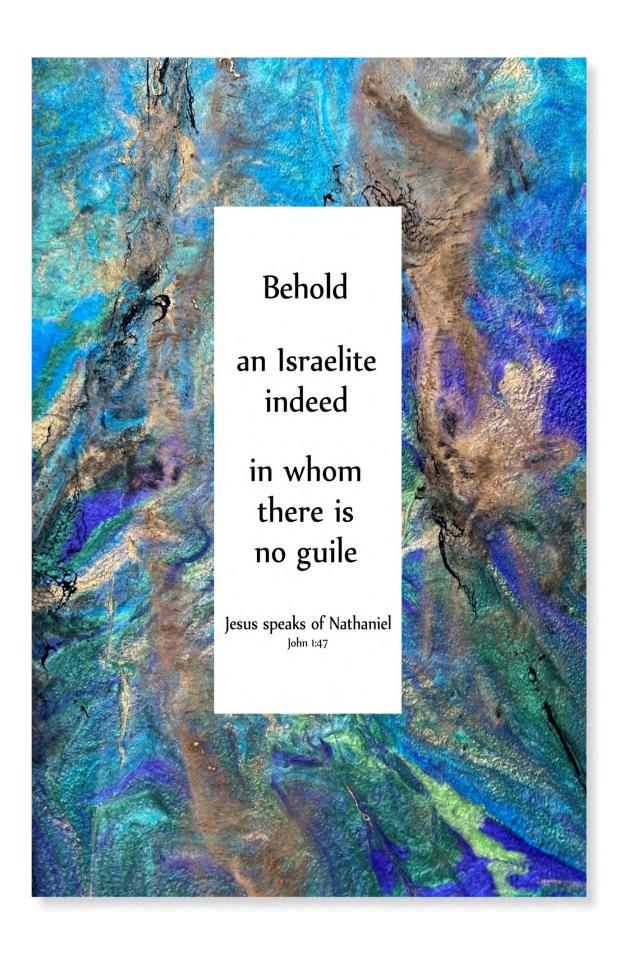


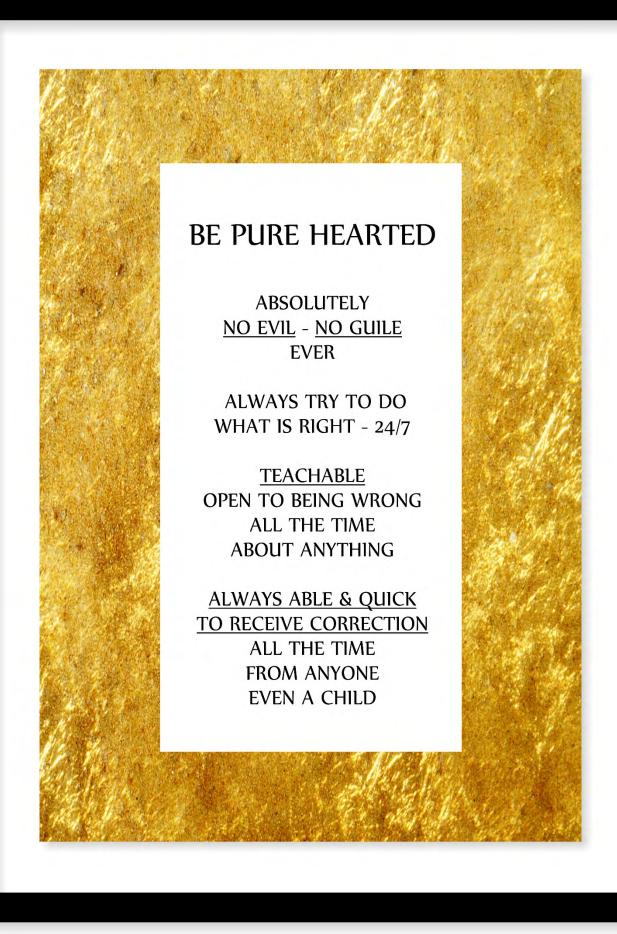
# **Seeking to Have a Pure Heart / A Clean Heart**

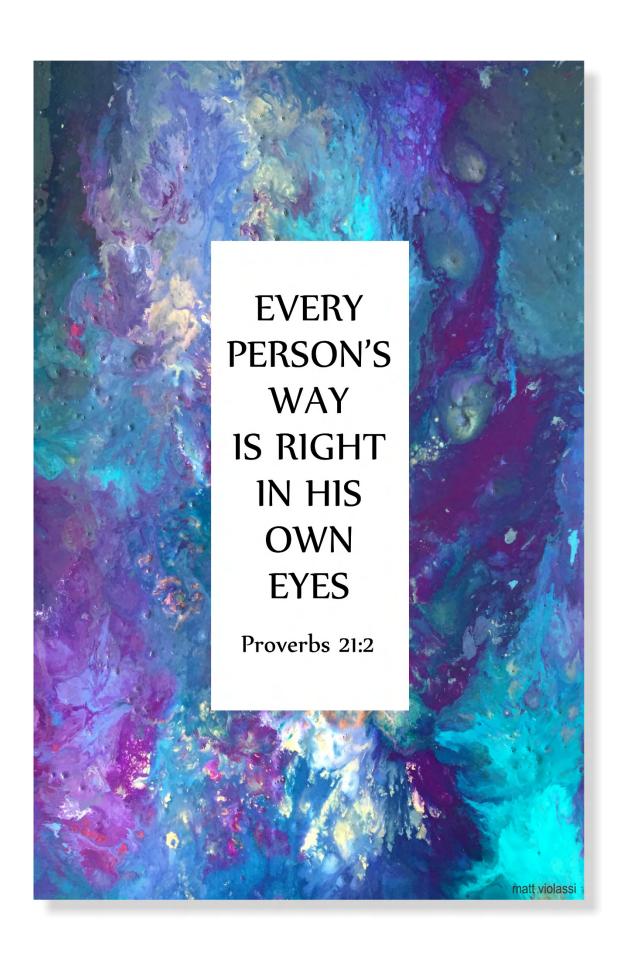




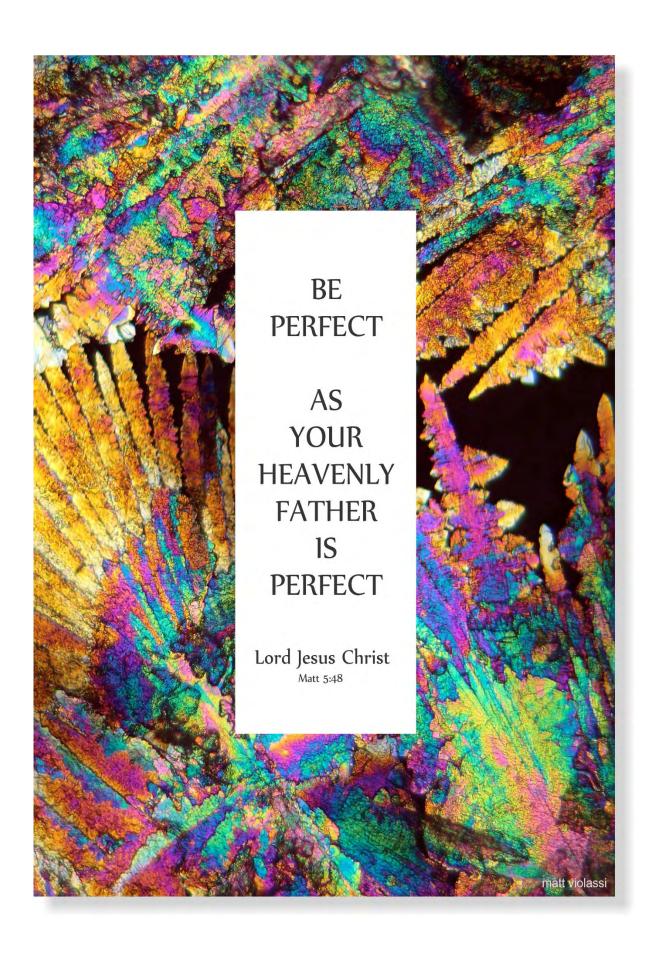


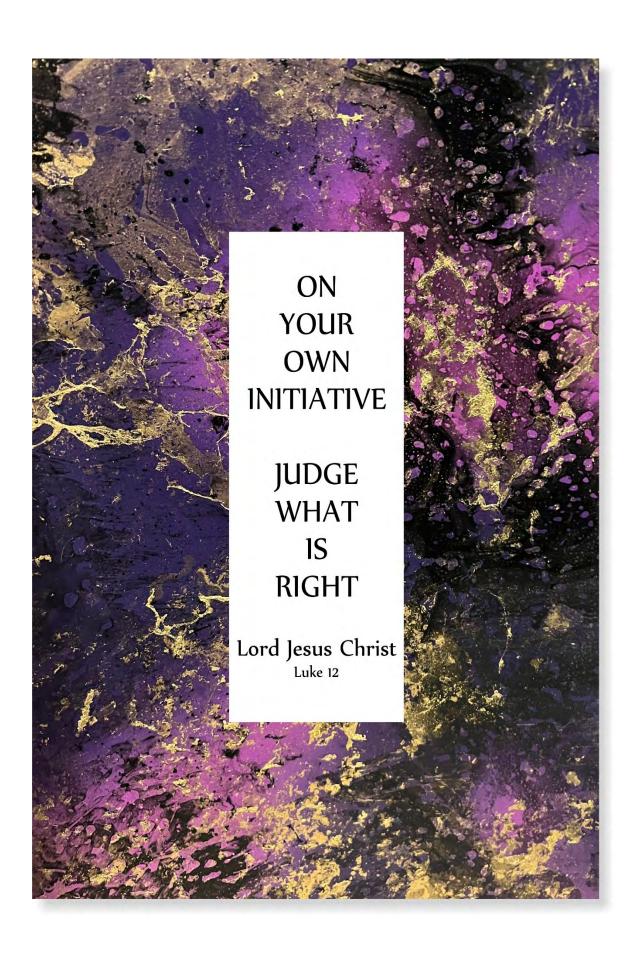


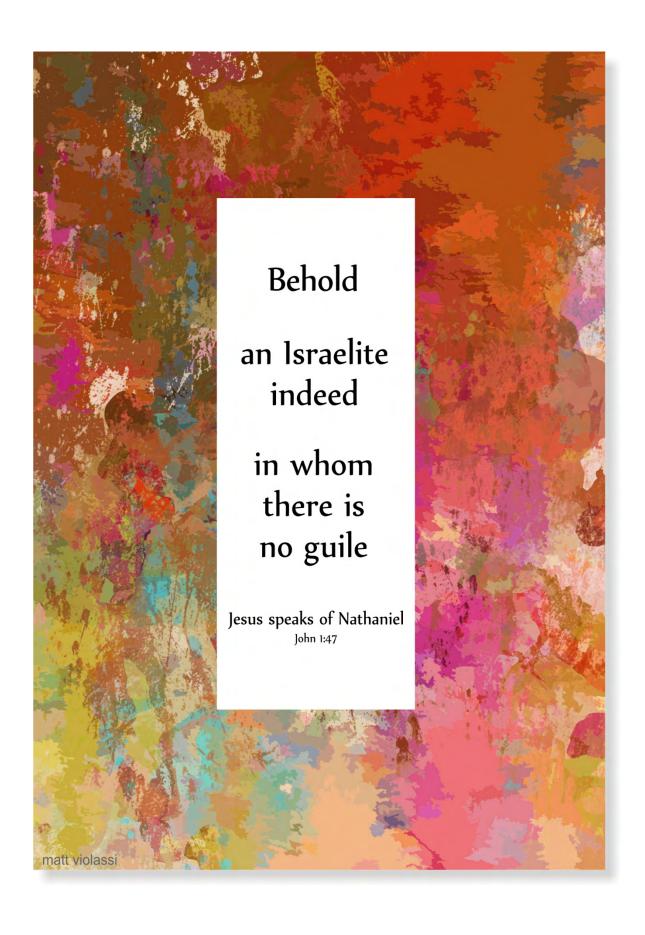


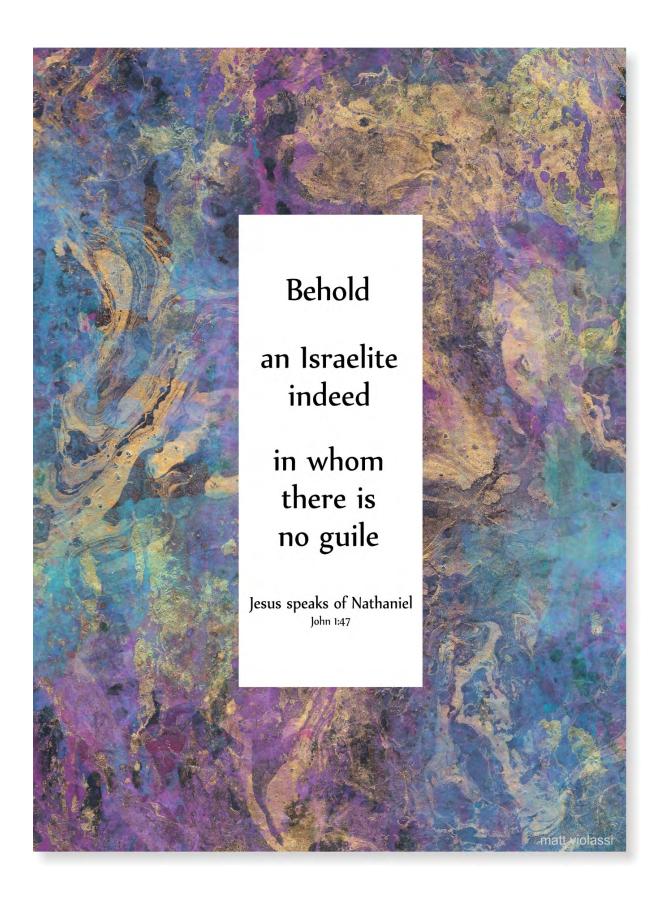






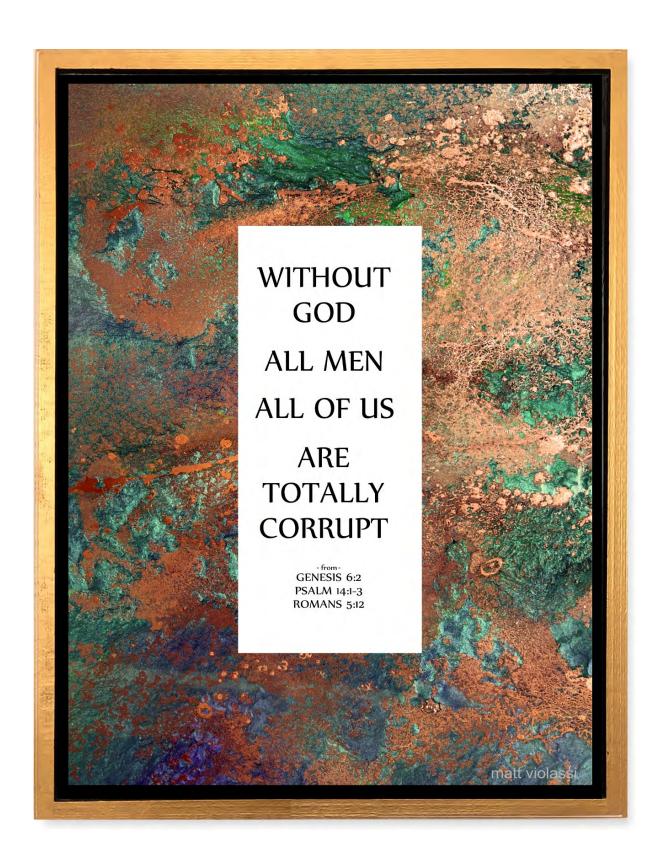


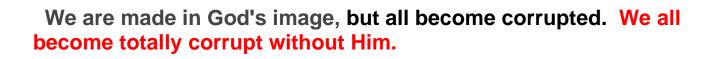






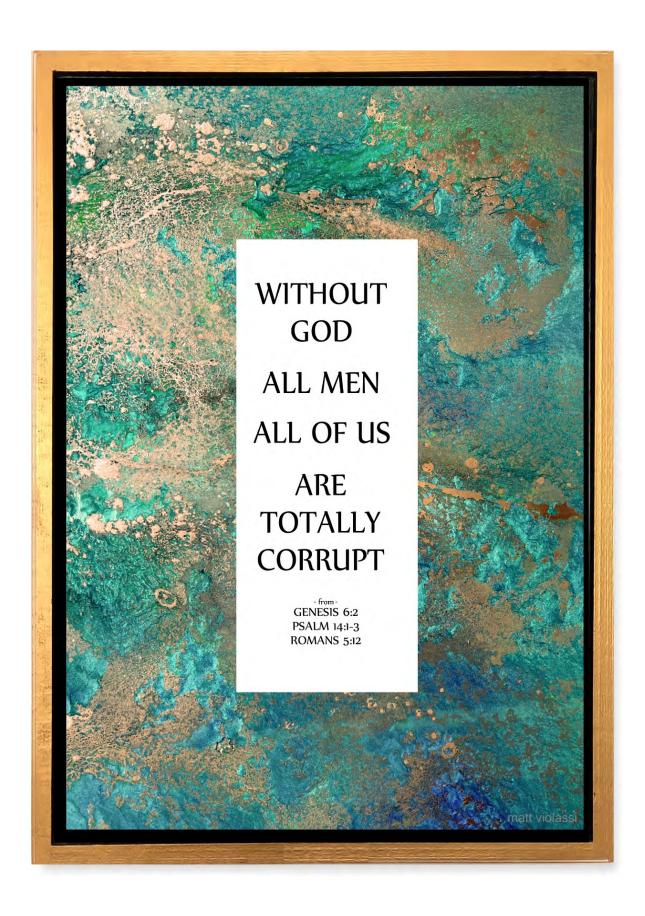
## APART FROM GOD, WE ARE ALL TOTALLY CORRUPT.

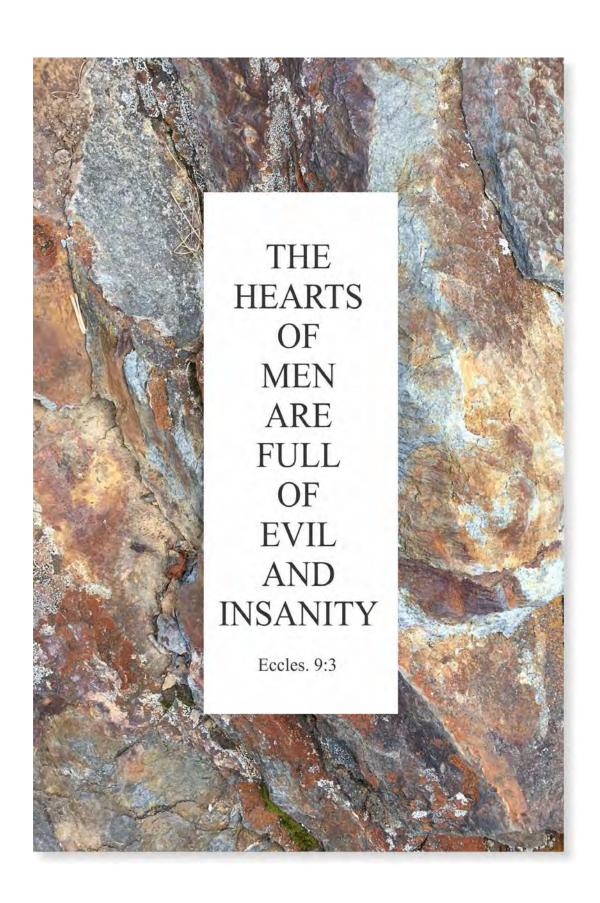


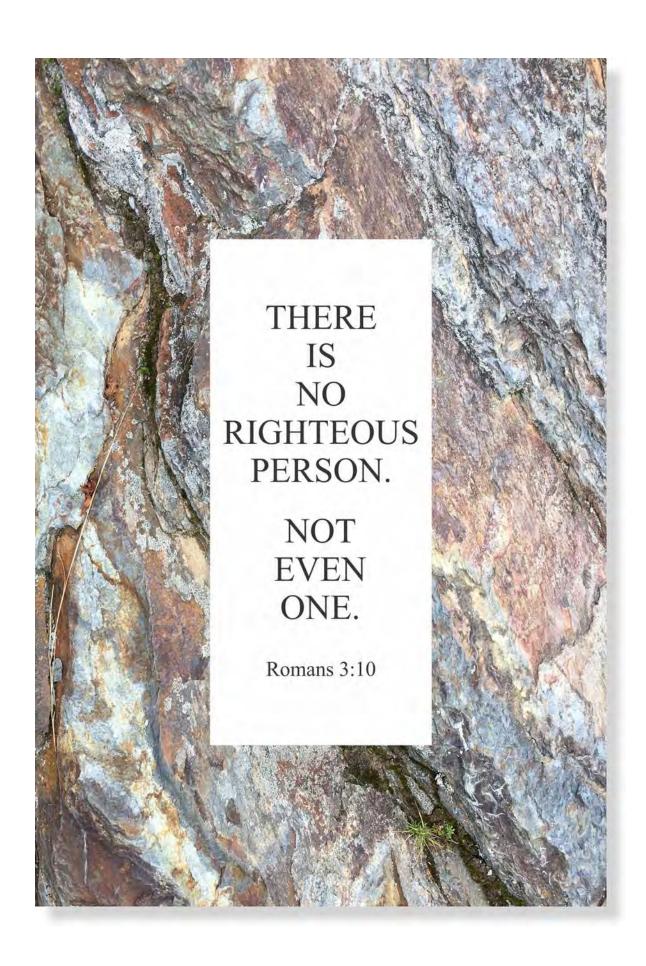


But, with God and through God - we can all keep obtaining a good heart and a pure heart.

(<u>Conversation to God</u>: "I am totally corrupt without You...Totally despicable without You... Evil to the core without You... *But! I am a beautiful and wonderful child and creation of Yours - through You!"*)







## Some Vision for A Believer's Life

<ul> <li>We believ</li> </ul>	e in Go	d and l	have made .	Jesus	Christ our	Lord and Sa	vior.
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- We have asked Him to come into our lives and hearts.

(We now have God and His resurrection power living inside us now, and we now have power over every sin, temptation, addiction, and devils! This truly is some of the beauty and the "Good News" of the Christian religion - and one reason why it is superior to all others!)

- We are now born-again, and have become an actual new creation.
- We now <u>want</u> to be a good person and to do what is right all the time to love God properly with all we have, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Our primary life motivation has now been internally changed. <u>When a person now wants to do what is right 24/7 this is a profound miracle in itself!</u>

This is a profound miracle in itself!

## Here are a majority of our new benefits:

- WE NOW HAVE BECOME AN ACTUAL CHILD OF GOD! . . . ONE OF HIS ACTUAL CHILDREN!
- God CONTINUALLY LOVES US WITH A BURNING LOVE that is almost impossible to extinguish. (Jeremiah 31:3, John 15:9)
- WE ARE SAVED FROM ETERNAL HELL & DAMNATION!
- GET TO GO TO HEAVEN when we die and live in eternal happiness and bliss forever.
- GOD CONTINUALLY PROVIDES for us both physically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- GOD CONTINUALLY LEADS and GUIDES us.
- GOD CONTINUALLY HEALS us.
- GOD CONTINUALLY PROTECTS us.
- GOD CONTINUALLY FORGIVES our past sins and future sins.
- GOD CONTINUALLY DELIVERS US FROM EVIL.
- GOD CONTINUALLY CHANGES US INTO HIS IMAGE for the rest of our lives.
- GOD GIVES US FUN STUFF TO DO & HAVE THAT WE DON'T NECESSARILY NEED.
- WE OVERALL HAVE MORE PEACE AND JOY IN OUR HEARTS AND IN OUR LIVES.

(We should be continually enthralled with these and continuously and joyously thanking God for these!)

In light of all of these *astronomical* blessings,

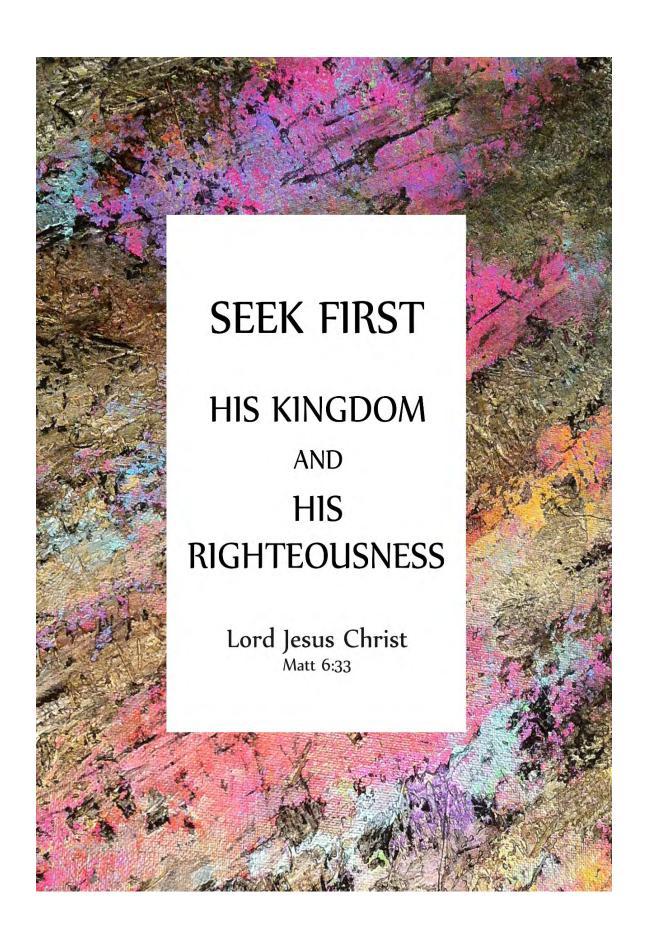
He wants us to continue for the rest of our lives

to do 2 things (Matt 6:33)

**#1 Seek First HIS KINGDOM** 

#2 Seek First HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS

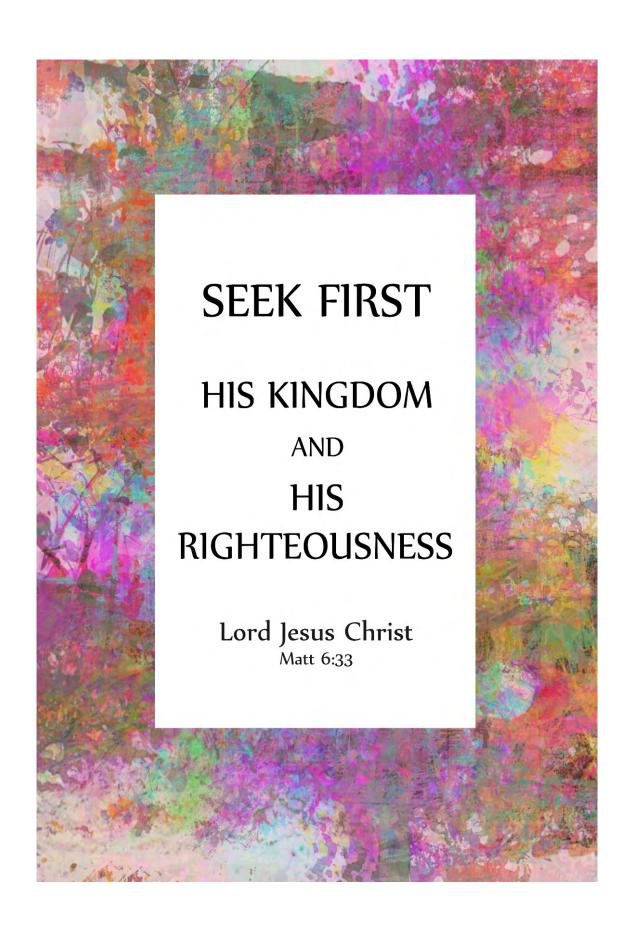
AS THE PRIORITY OF OUR DAILY LIVES:

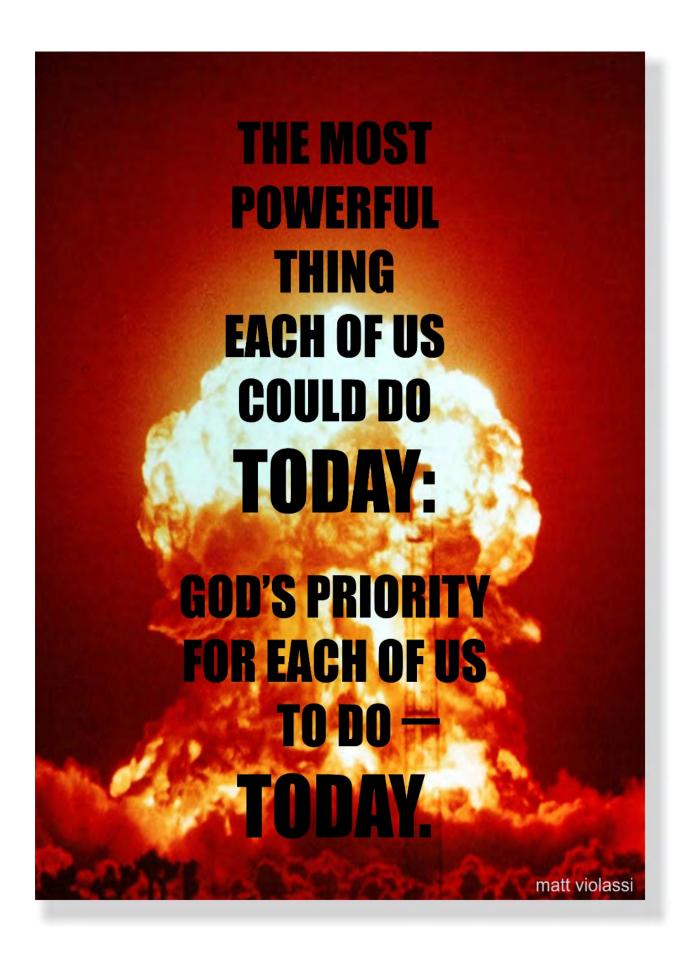


#1 Seeking First HIS KINGDOM is about furthering His Rule on earth - in our lives and in the lives of others.
#2 Seeking First HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS is about learning, growing in and practicing HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS in our own personal lives.
WE SHOULD BE GETTING-UP EVERYDAY AND DOING THESE 2 THINGS.
THIS IS SOME LIFE VISION FOR US.

Concerning #2 <u>Seeking First *HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS*</u>, one of the primary ways to be doing this is to be prayerfully reading and studying His commands found in the Bible (with the intention of doing them.)

Please get a RED-LETTER BIBLE and use it.





## The Most Powerful Thing We Can Do <u>Today</u>

We are trying to live a daily lifestyle that is pleasing to God. However, many times He has certain things in mind that He would like us to do, change, or believe - <u>TODAY</u>.

We are also trying to powerfully change the world for the better – through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God is working to do this, now, <u>TODAY</u>. We need to be continually cleaving to Him and working with Him closely and alertly.

Jesus said, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working."

– John 5:17.

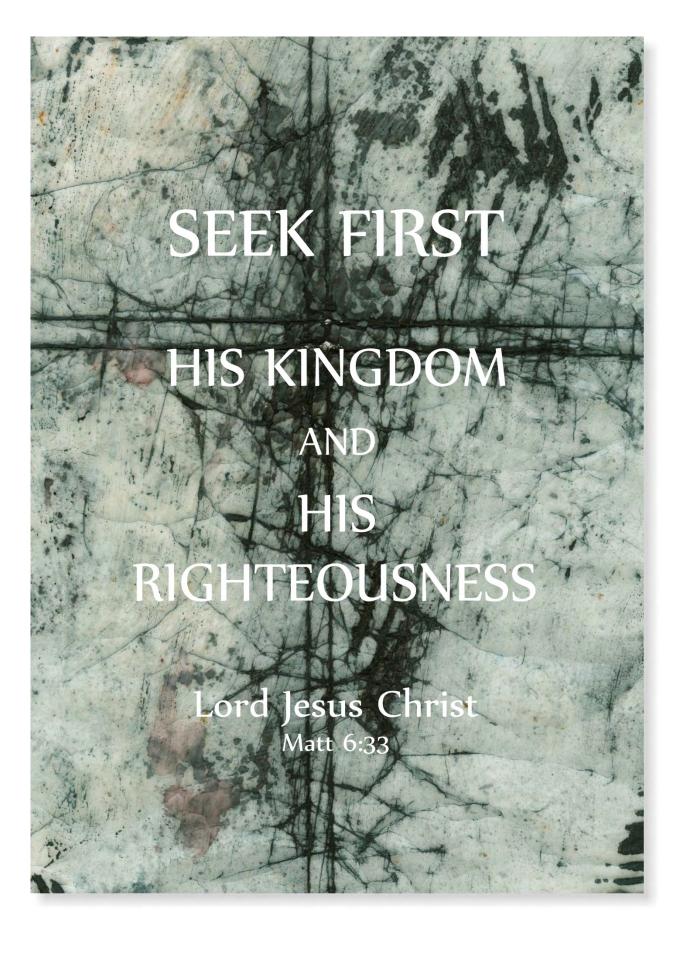
The most powerful and profound thing we could today on earth - is to findout what are the things God particularly would have us do <u>TODAY</u>... even if they seem unseemly, small, insignificant, or unimportant to us.

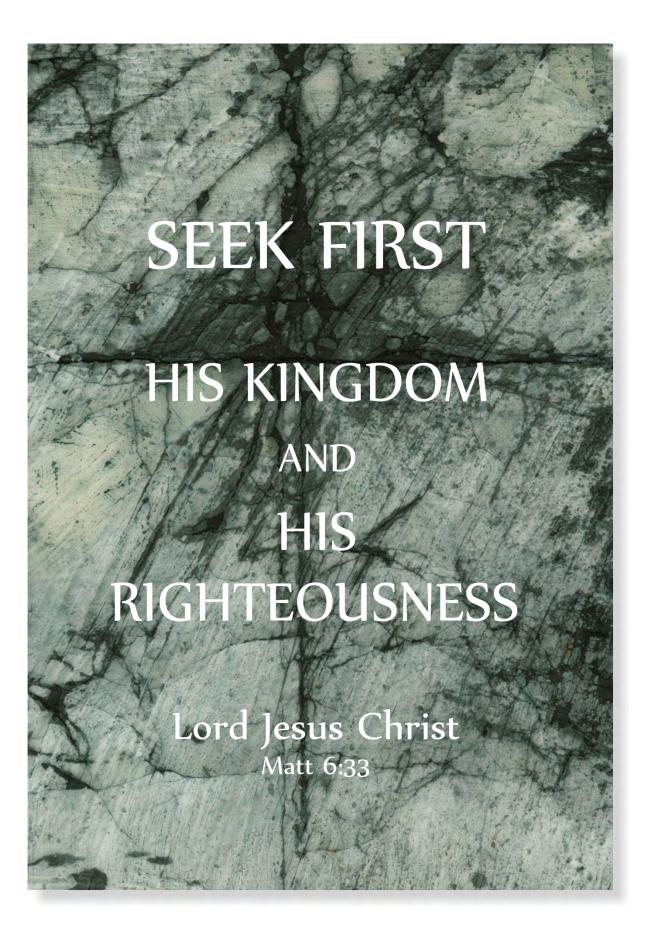
We need to get-up and remember to do this <u>TODAY</u>. Then we need to get-up and do this <u>TOMORROW</u>.

We put His interests first and as priority. He likes this and appreciates this over anything we might mistakenly prioritize.

We do need to be operating on the overall "life vision" God gives us and expands our understanding in. But it is wise to be checking-in (preferably daily) for not only this overall vision to be refined and expanded, but perhaps a special priority or two for us to do, change, or believe **TODAY**...

We can so easily be forgetting to **Seek First**:





#### A MESSAGE THAT CAN CUT THROUGH A DIRTY HEART

And Keep Us All Out of our "Funk," Darkness of Heart, Chaos...

It is my conviction that most church-goers / Believers do not:

Get up every day, with some sort of meaningful, private, personal time (all it takes is 5 minutes, really).

AND TELL GOD - THAT THEY ARE SERVING HIM TODAY.

This single statement sets the course of our life each day.

It will shake us out of the darkness that can reside in our hearts.

It reminds and revives us to do what is "right" all day long.

It tells God loud and clear what we are all about - *loving Him, pleasing Him, & obeying Him.* 

IF WE ARE NOT <u>GETTING-UP AND SERVING GOD</u> EACH DAY... WE ARE GETTING-UP AND DOING SOMETHING ELSE...

SOMETHING ELSE - THAT PERHAPS IS - HYPOCRISY.

Are you wanting a lost family member, co-worker, or relative to "get it together," come to God, or come *back* to God?

I believe, "hoping they start going to church again "<u>is probably not be</u> the answer.

# BUT GETTING THEM TO GET-UP EVERY MORNING AND <u>SERVE GOD</u>, THAT - IS PROBABLY THE ANSWER.

Then, each day - what they do and what they say throughout the day - is squarely between them and God. (They can't play a blame game.)

The responsibility is all on them.

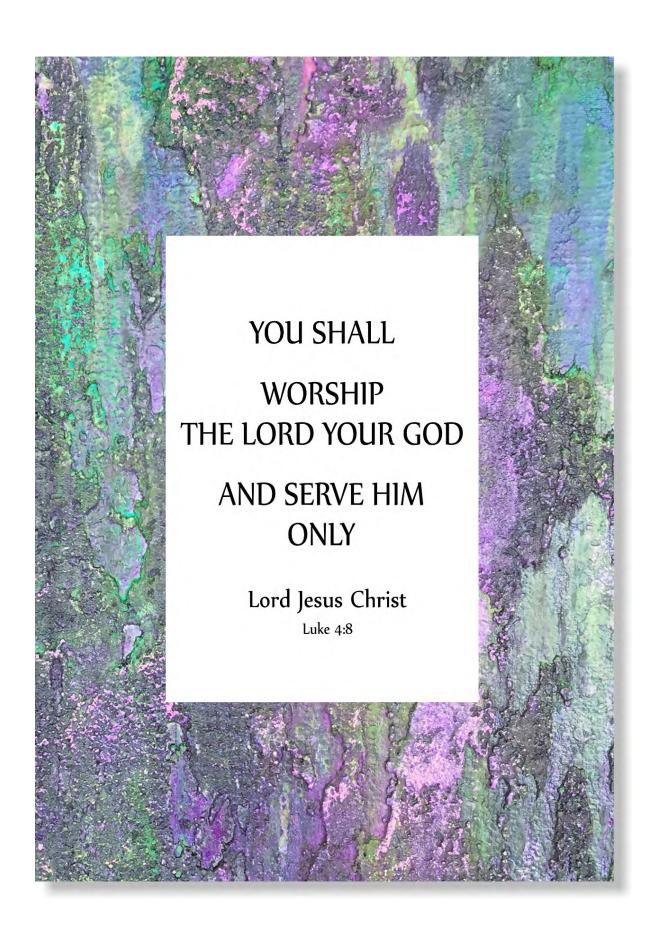
They will choose to either be alive or dead, spiritually.

And, God has something more to work with accountability-wise . . .

("I thought you were Serving Me today?")

HOW CAN WE CALL OTHERS TO THIS

IF WE ARE NOT DOING IT OURSELVES?





They have probably heard the basic powerful Gospel.

They may even confess they believe it.

But their lives are not matching it.

We need the Truth to cut-through this disconnect between believing.

And actually BELIEVING (and doing).

\_\_\_\_\_

### **GETTING UP EVERY DAY AND ACTUALLY SERVING GOD -**

FIRST BY TELLING GOD -

AND THEN TELLING OUR OWN SOULS -

WHAT WE ARE DOING TODAY -

**WILL CUT-THROUGH.** 

\*This is hard to refute: We get anyone to get-up every day and Serve God - a Son, a Daughter, a Grand Daughter, a Grand Son - We don't have too much to be concerned about!

They will be trying to do the right thing 24/7!

#### 7 THINGS FOR ALL RELIGIONS



Even the Old Testament Jew was to not only be doing these daily, but it was to be his or her daily life-confession.

How much more the New Testament Christian!! . . .

Let us strive to "load" these each and every day, making them our daily priority, action, and confession.

We say them each individually to our own soul - and then we say them to God. . .

God then, really has some room to convict us,

"I thought you told Me you are serving Me today? ...

"I thought you were going to be listening to My voice?"...

"Shouldn't you be finding, trying to memorize, and be doing My commandments?"...

"I thought you were following Me every day as a lifestyle?"...

Speaking these things to ourselves and then to God makes us very accountable.

Of course, "Apart from Me, you can do nothing." - Lord Jesus Christ

Even children can do these 6 things through a relationship with God - and it be their confession.

We are so lost without God. . .



matt violass



WITH ALL YOU MIND

WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH

# 2. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF

"All the Law and Prophets hang on these two commandments."

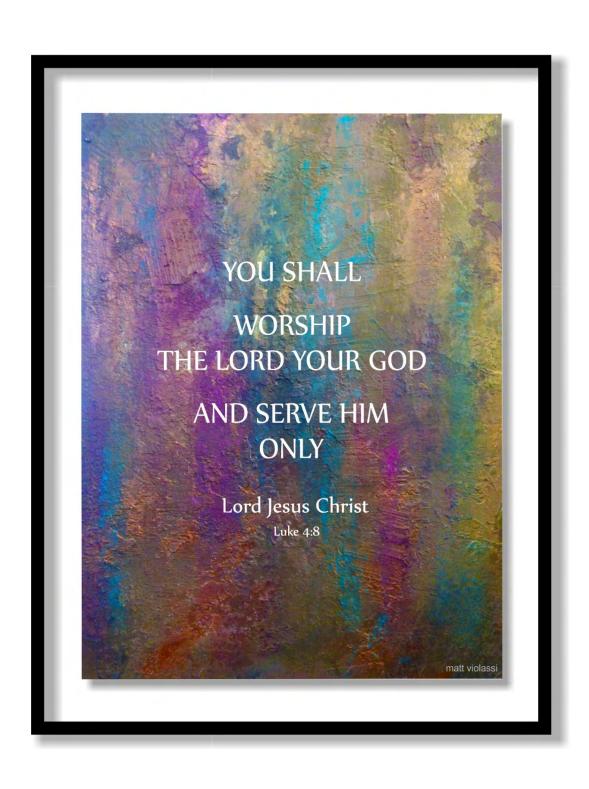
Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 22 Luke 10

## 7 THINGS THE OLD TESTAMENT BELIEVER WAS TO BE DOING – AND CONFESSING THEY WERE DOING.

HOW MUCH MORE THE NEW TESTAMENT BELIEVER!

AND WE HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT!



Just like Jesus did, we need to be telling the devil "What we are doing" (Luke 4:8) . . . "What we are <u>all about</u>" . . . What our life is "<u>all about</u>" . . . "We are <u>all about</u> Loving the Lord, and Serving Him only." (Loving others correctly will come out of this.)



God wants us to grow-up in Him and be at a spiritual level where we can daily confess that we are doing these 7 things: Loving Him, Serving Him, Fearing Him, Following Him, Knowing & Keeping His Commandments, Listening to His Voice, and "Clinging" to Him.

Most professing Christians seem to not be able to make this confession.

Note: It is very interesting that the Old Testament believer was to be experiencing "Following the Lord." This "following" was not merely doing #3 – "Keeping His Commandments." It was receiving other specific direction for their lives – what they were to be involved in.

Also, they were to be "Clinging to Him." How can any Old or New Testament Believer be "Clinging" to another person (especially God) without some kind of interaction / personal experience with that person? Men are commanded to also "cling" / "cleave" to their wives, too (Glue, Adhere, to Join, to Stick). Marriage is to be a picture of man's relationship with God / God the Son. (The Apostle Paul said marriage was a <u>mystery</u>.)

#### A Great Evangelistic Greeting / Response

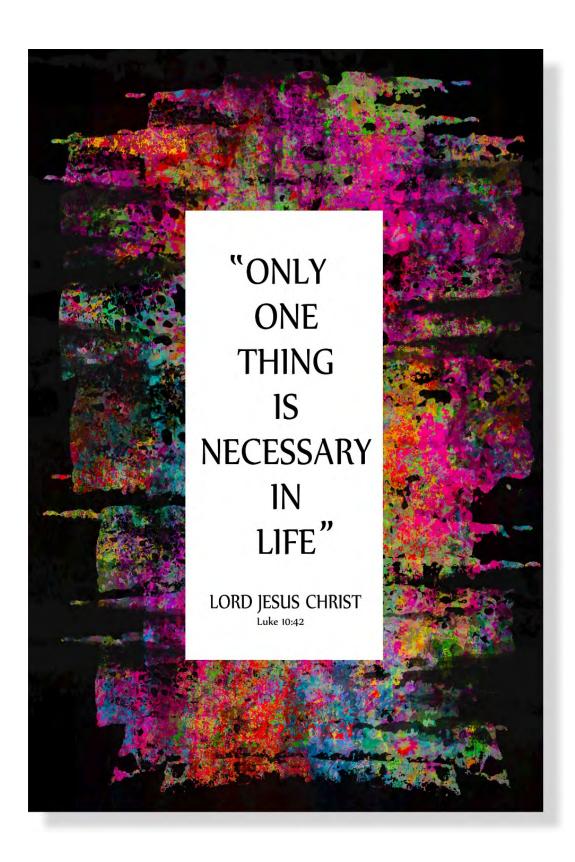
When someone asks us "So, what have you been up to?" or "What's going on with you?...

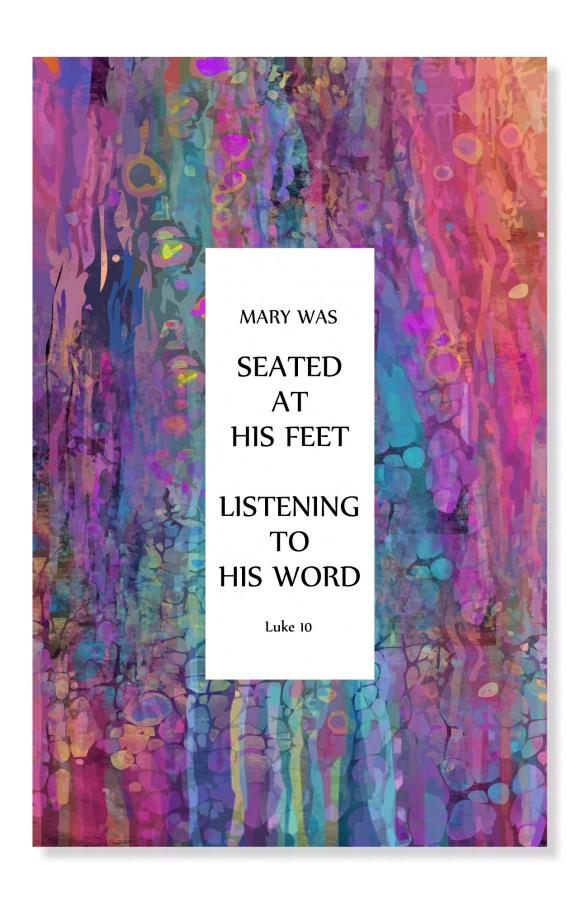
Response: "I just get-up every day and Love God, Serve God, Get-With God..."

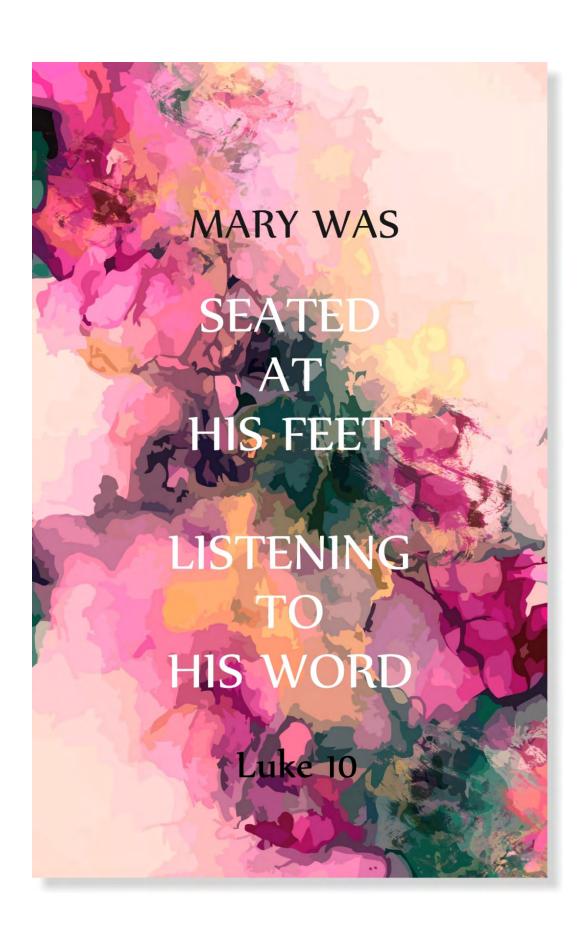
This is a profound and eternal thing to be doing every day, and to being able to confess each day.

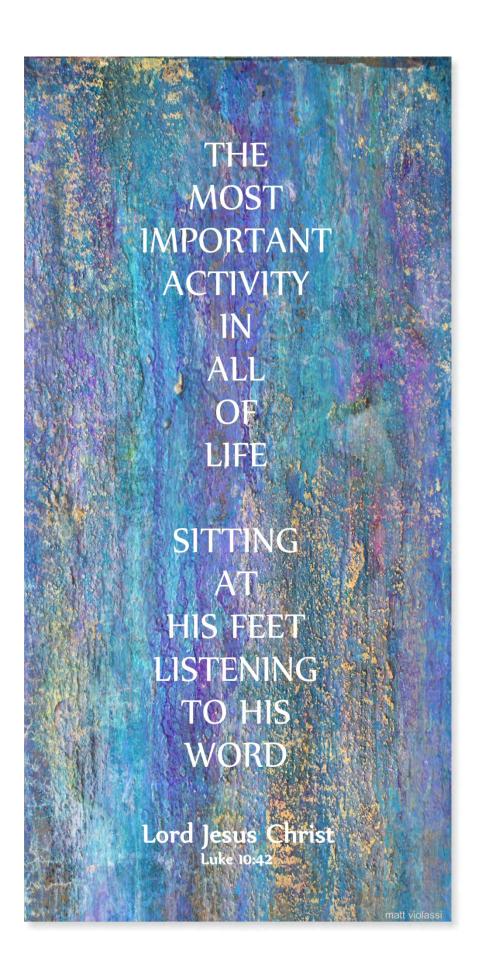
#### THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITY IN ALL OF LIFE:

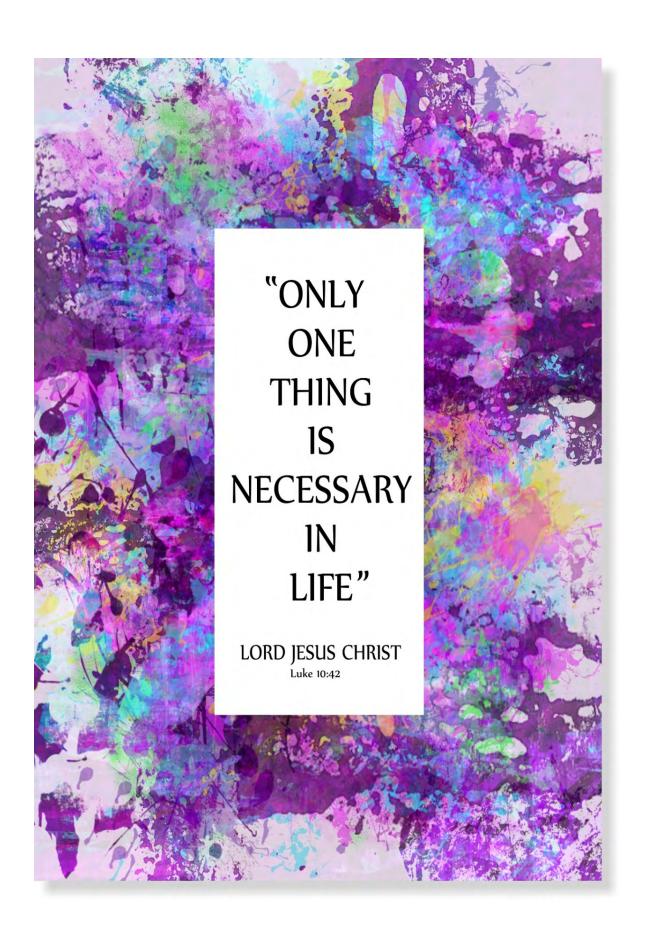
"Mary was Sitting at His feet - Listening to His Word."

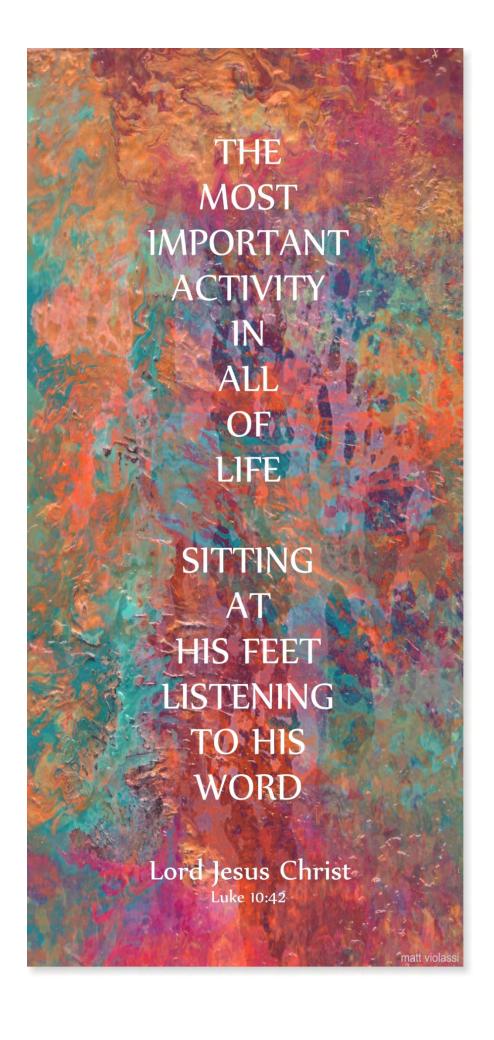


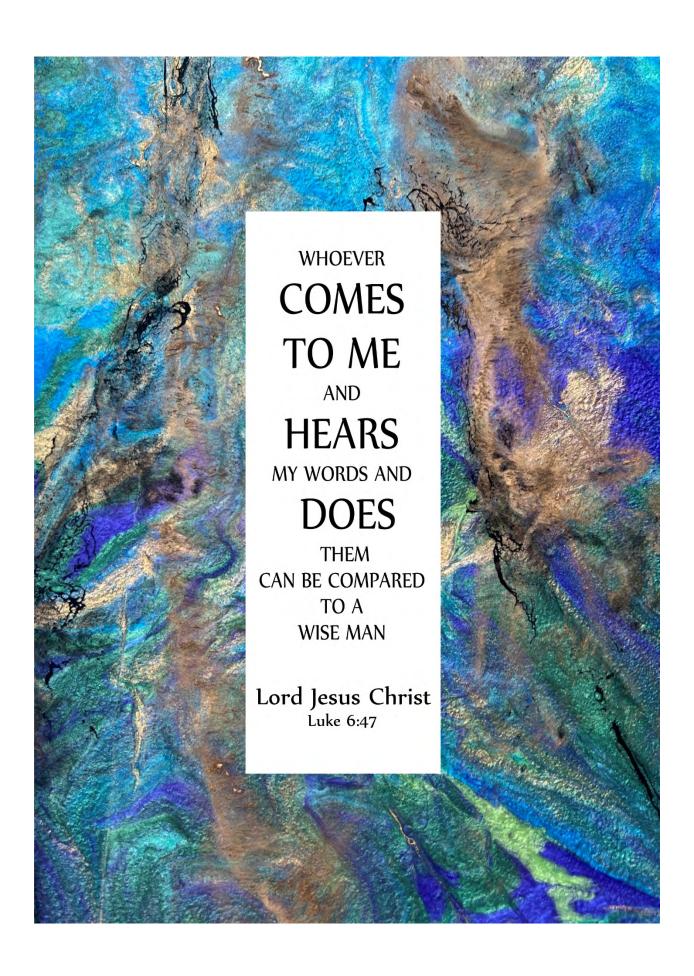


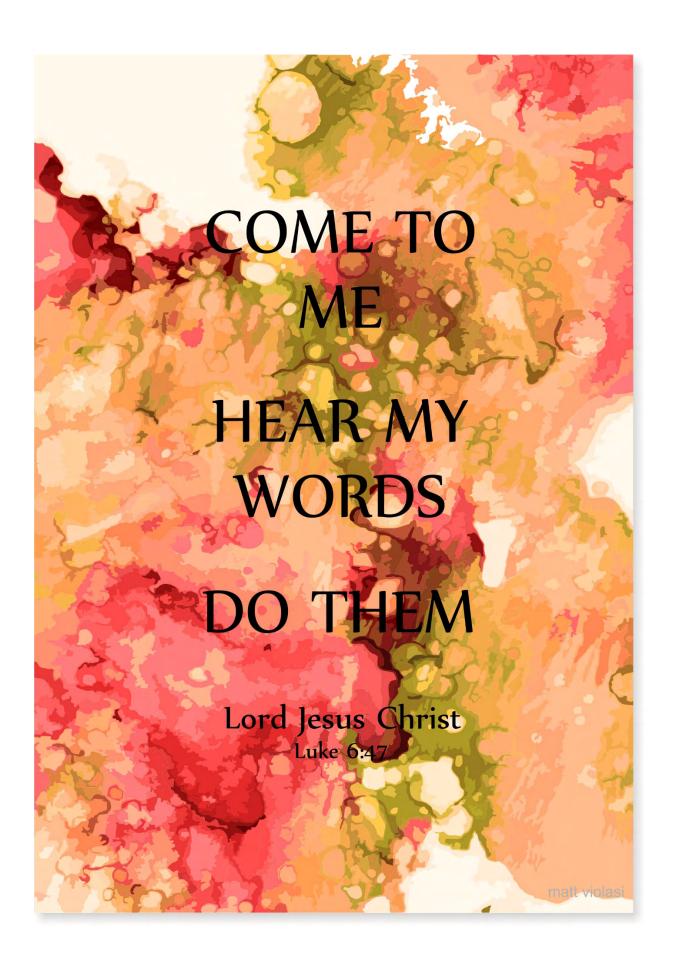


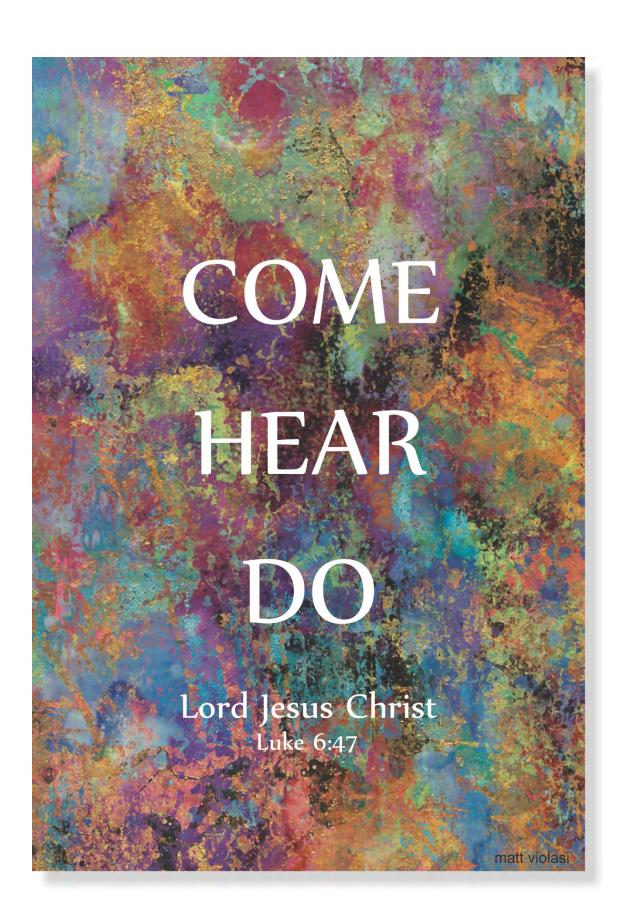


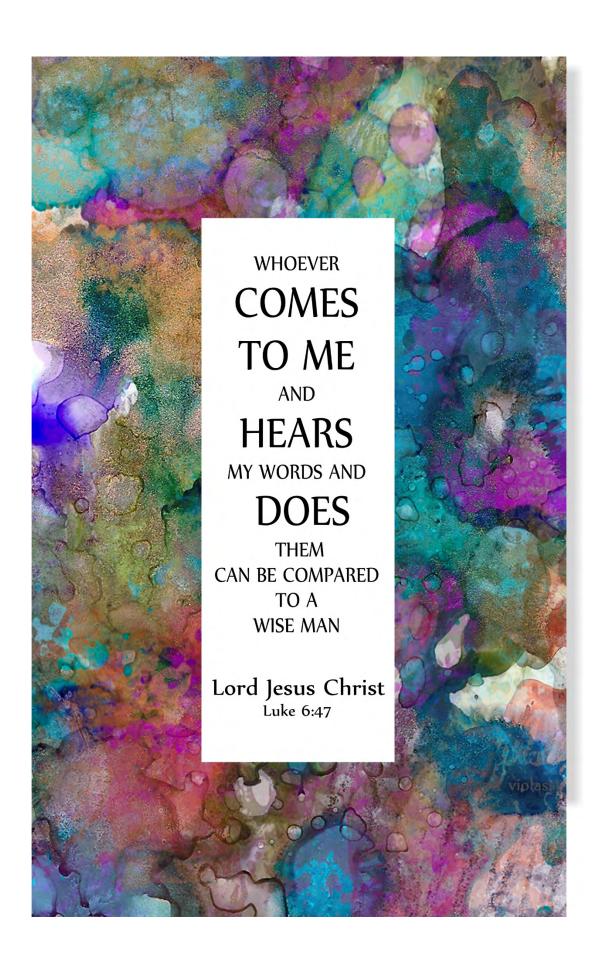


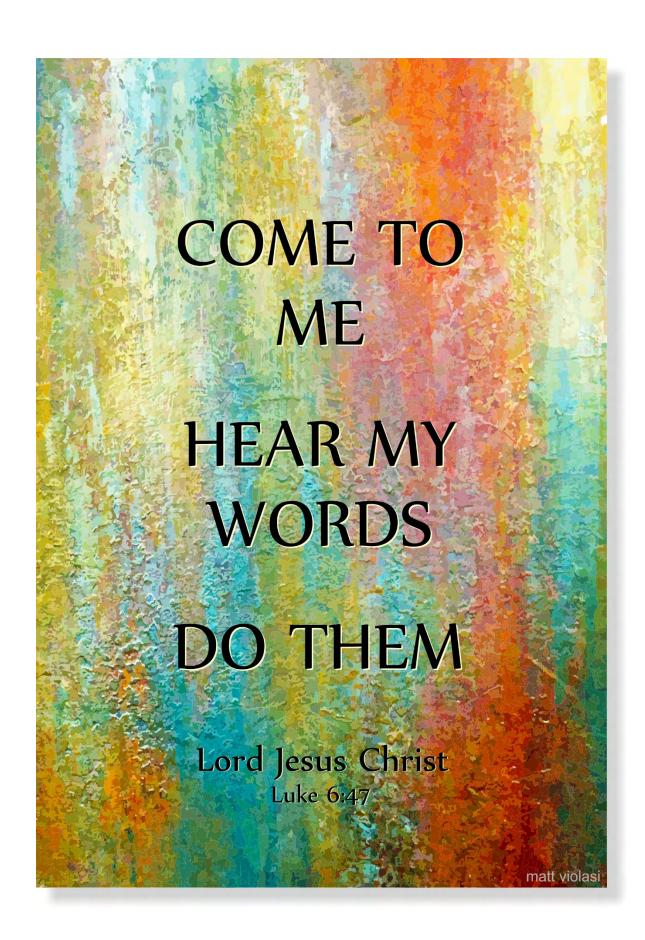


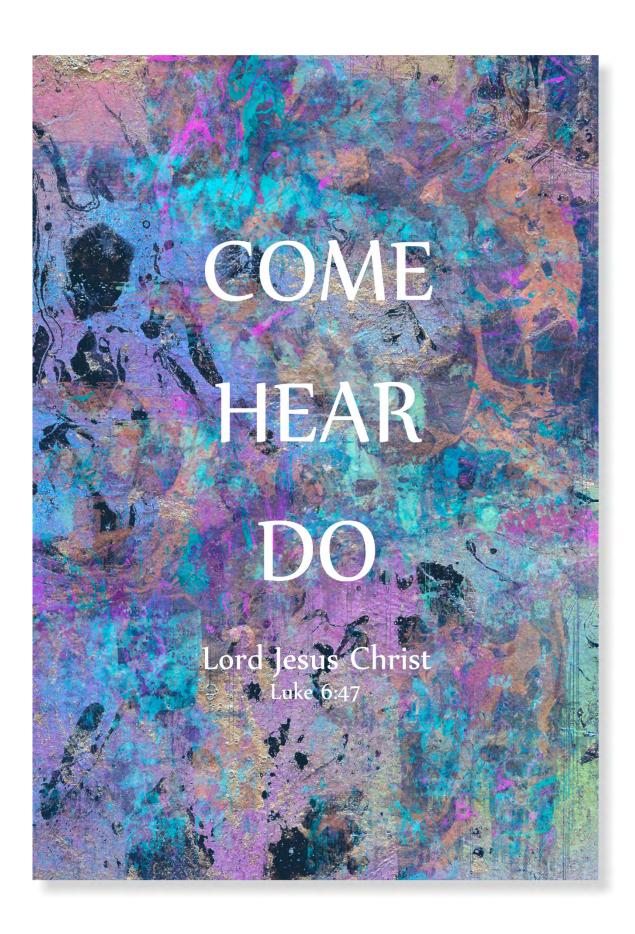












It borderlines on "abomination"

for any seasoned Christian

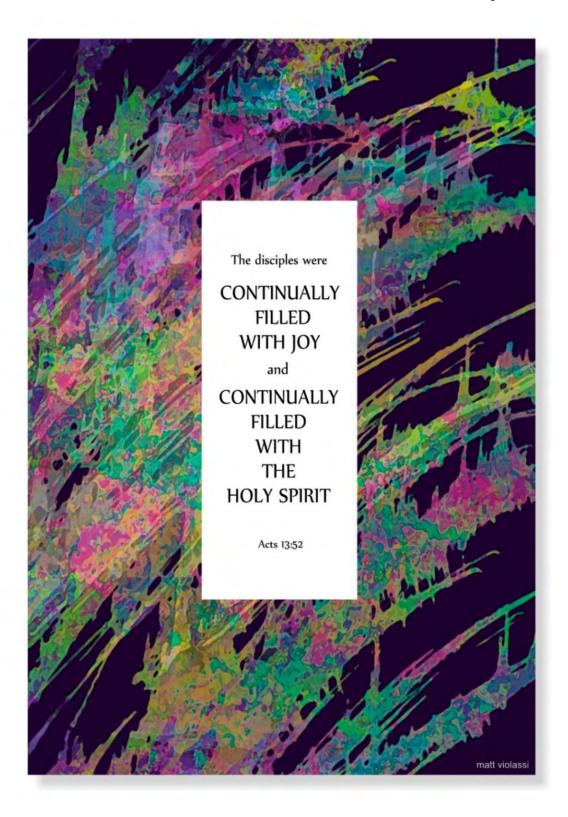
to not have the practice and confession –

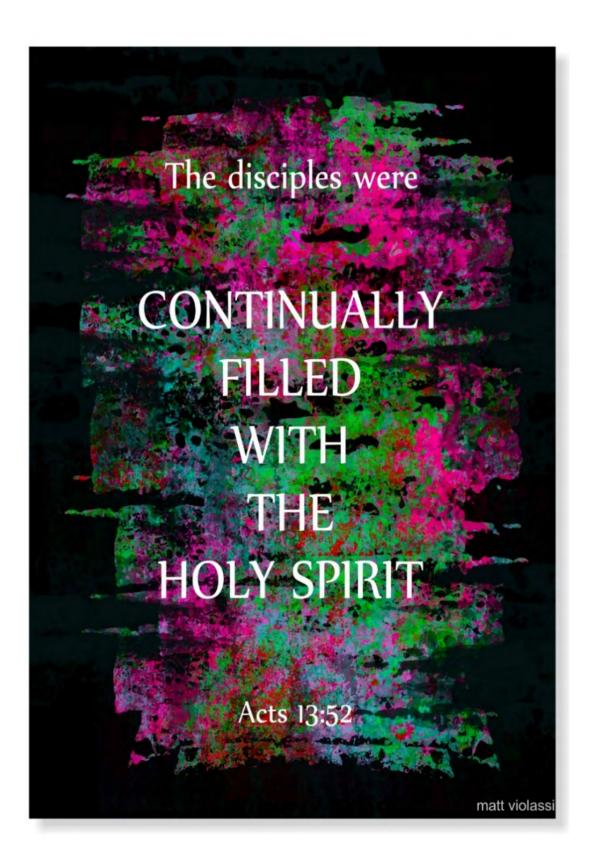
of sitting at His feet and listening to His Word –

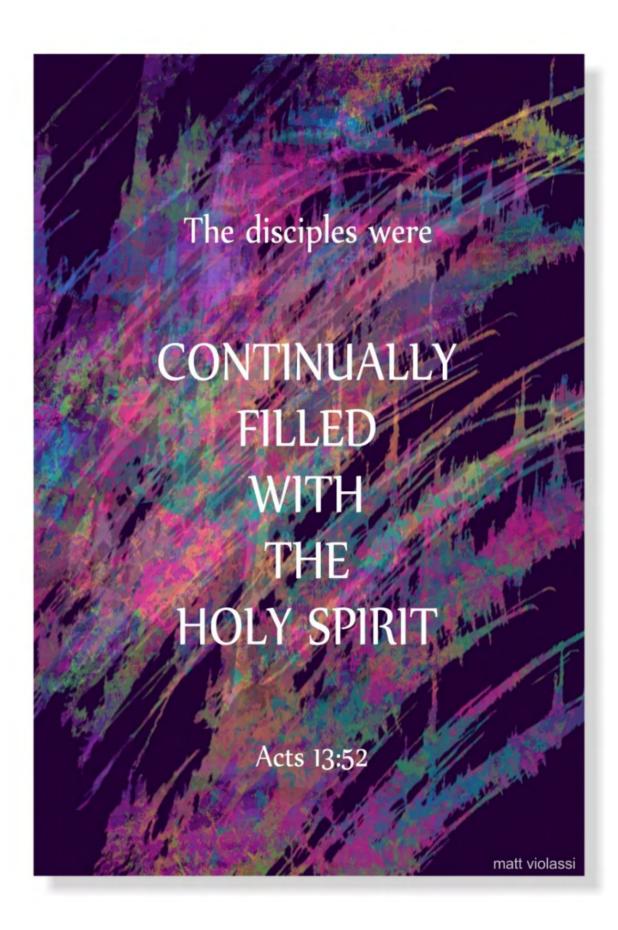
as their top-life priority.

#### TRY TO GET FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT EACH DAY.

The Bible clearly teaches that continually being filled with the Holy Spirit was the New Testament believers' common experience:







The Apostle Paul instructs and exhorts believers to keep getting filled with the Holy Spirit.

Some churches believe and teach "one-and-done" - that you are filled at believing in Christ or when you are baptized.

This is not good and accurate doctrine because it can bring only partial lifestyle spiritual maturity in a person.

Yes, we receive the Spirit at believing. We might even get filled with the Spirit at one of these times or another.

But it is not a one-time experience. Let's stay Scriptural - even if we don't understand things, or we have not yet experienced certain things.





Why would the New Testament writers highlight certain differences in some Christians (if "one-and-done" was true?) - if there weren't differences?

"Then Peter, *filled with the Holy Spirit*, said to . . . "

"Then his father, Zechariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit . . . "

" . . .who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit . . . "

"Instead, brothers and sisters, select from among you seven men of good reputation, *full of the Spirit and of wisdom*, whom we may put in charge of this task . . . "

"But Stephen was filled with the Holy Spirit . . . looked toward heaven. . . "

This brings us to several questions. First, might be, "Why would I want to do this?"

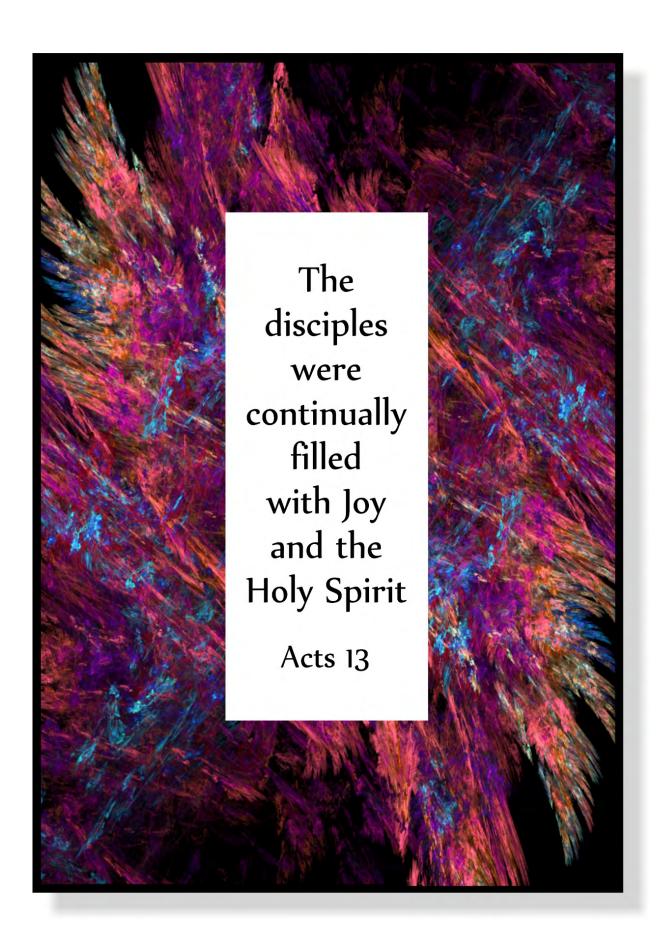
If you never have been FILLED with the Holy Spirit, then this concept might be hard to comprehend. (You can honestly ask yourself in your "knower" - "Do I honestly feel filled with God, today?")

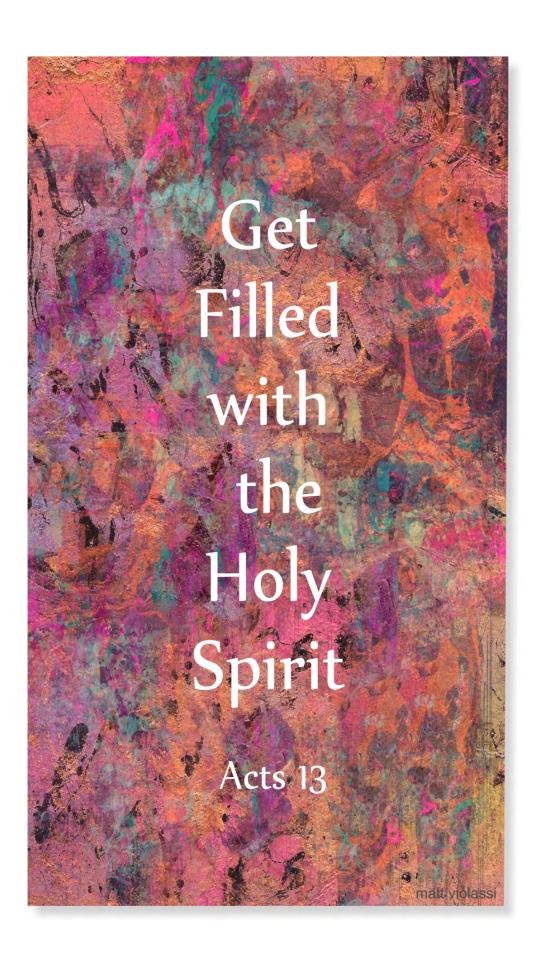
Imagine being FILLED WITH GOD. Being FILLED WITH JOY comes along with this. Who would not want to be FILLED WITH JOY, and want to live in this state?

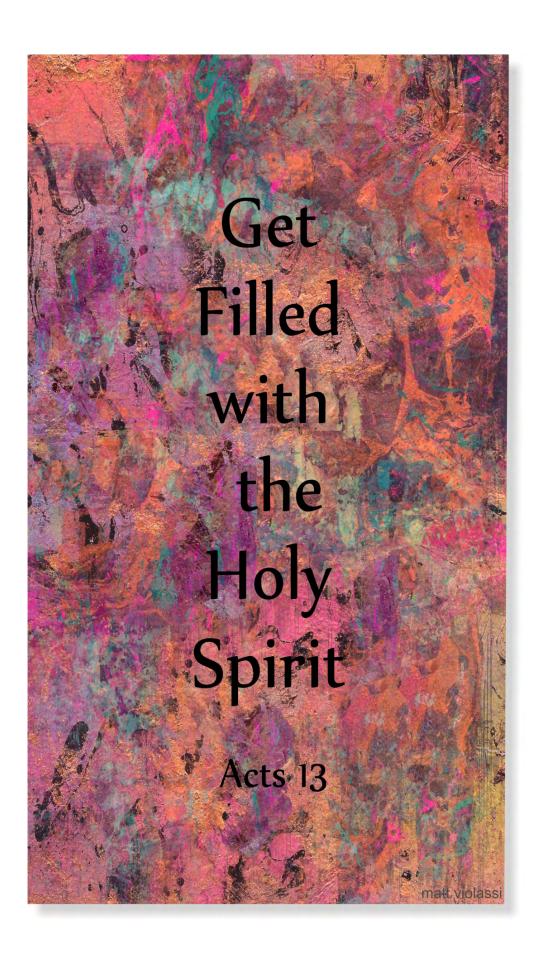
We are told/commanded to "walk as Jesus walked." (1 John 2:6) We are supposed to act like Him. Talk like Him. Trying to live the "Christian walk" . . . BEING A TRUE CHRISTIAN TODAY . . . daily . . . Is a lot easier and more world-impacting if we are FULL OF GOD versus NOT FULL OF GOD.

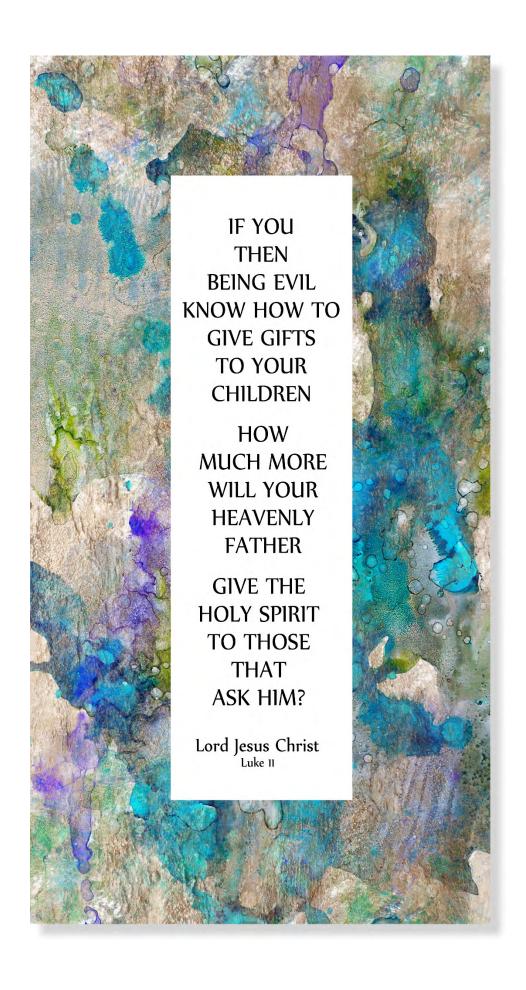
We have God's mind on things, in a better way, throughout the day - while in this much-heightened spiritual state.

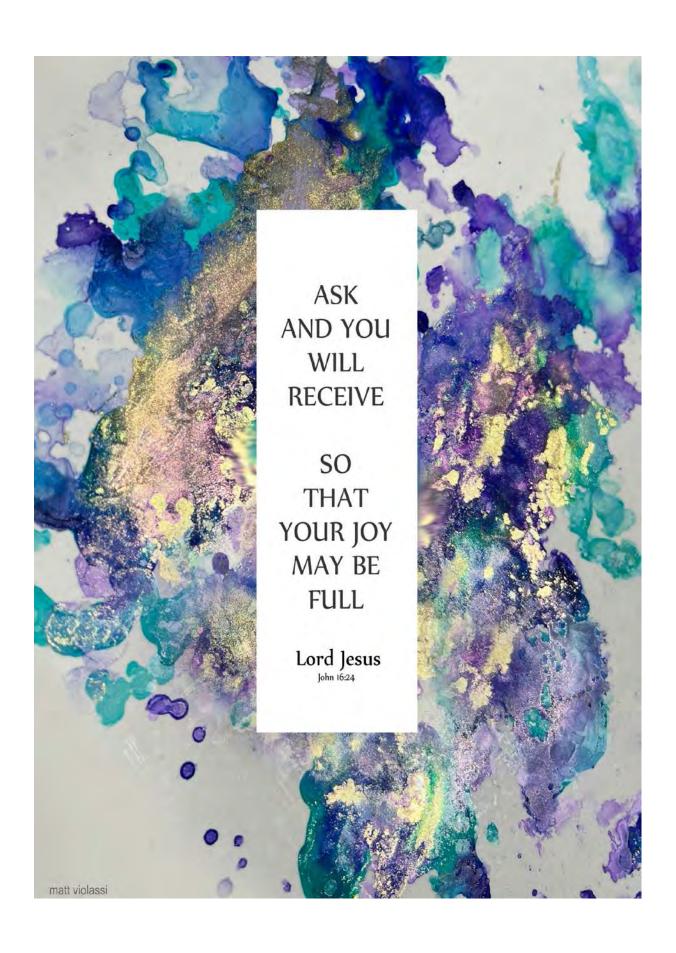
This is why we want to do this. Being FULL OF JOY, is also nice!

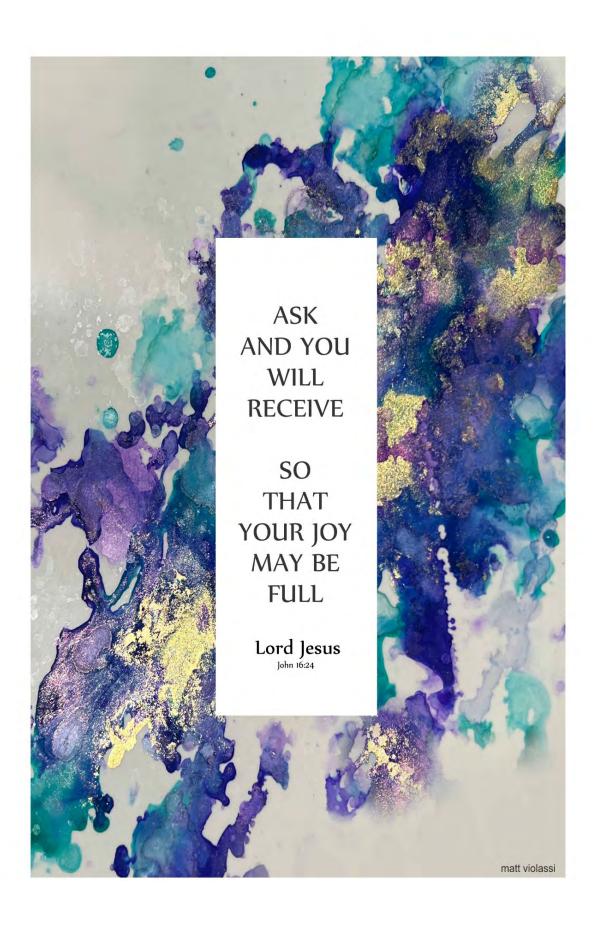








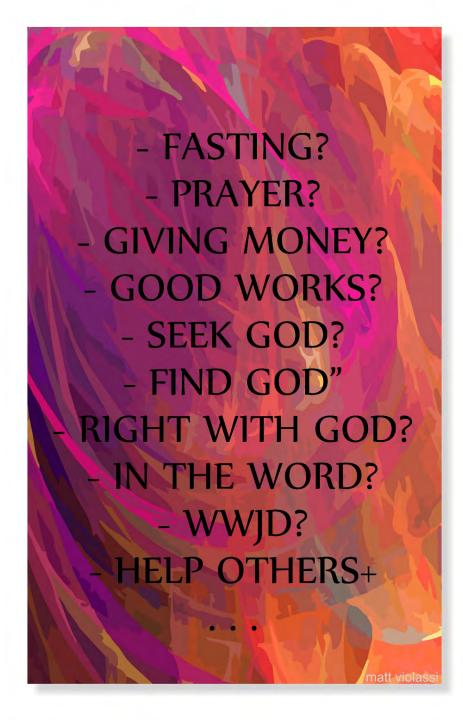




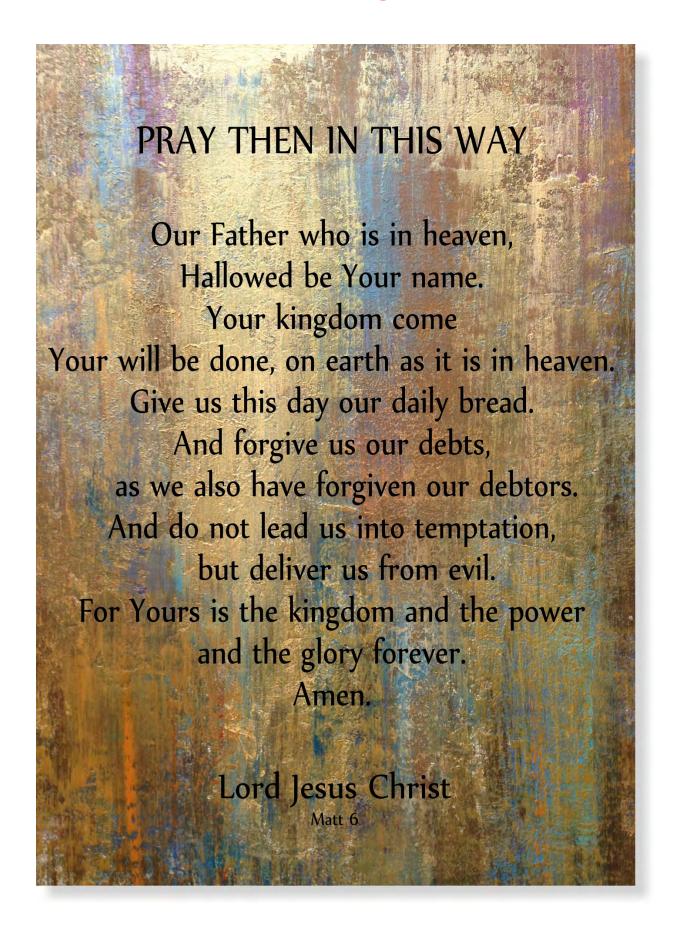
### GIVE GOD YOUR ULTIMATE DAY, TODAY. GIVE GOD YOUR BEST SHOT, TODAY.

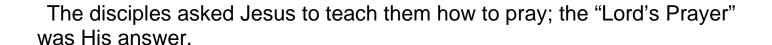
Then, we get up tomorrow, plan it again, and then do it again.





#### "PRAY THEN THIS WAY ...."





The Lord's Prayer contains an outline of topics He wants us to learn to dialogue with Him about. These can be deep and multi-faceted.

It is wise to pray about the things He thinks we should pray about . . .

It is wise to "work" these topics in prayer & meditation <u>daily</u>.

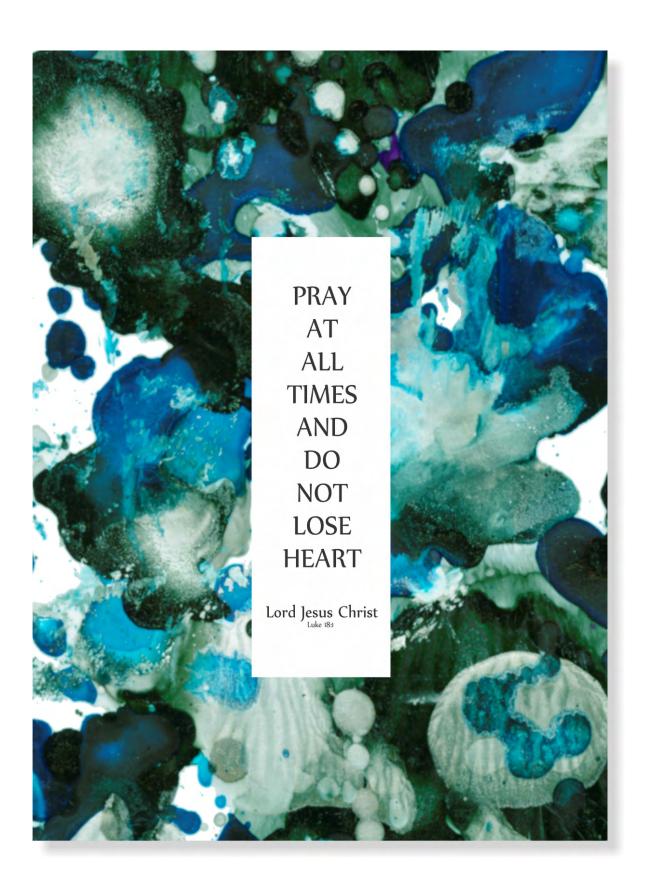
("... give us *THIS DAY...*")

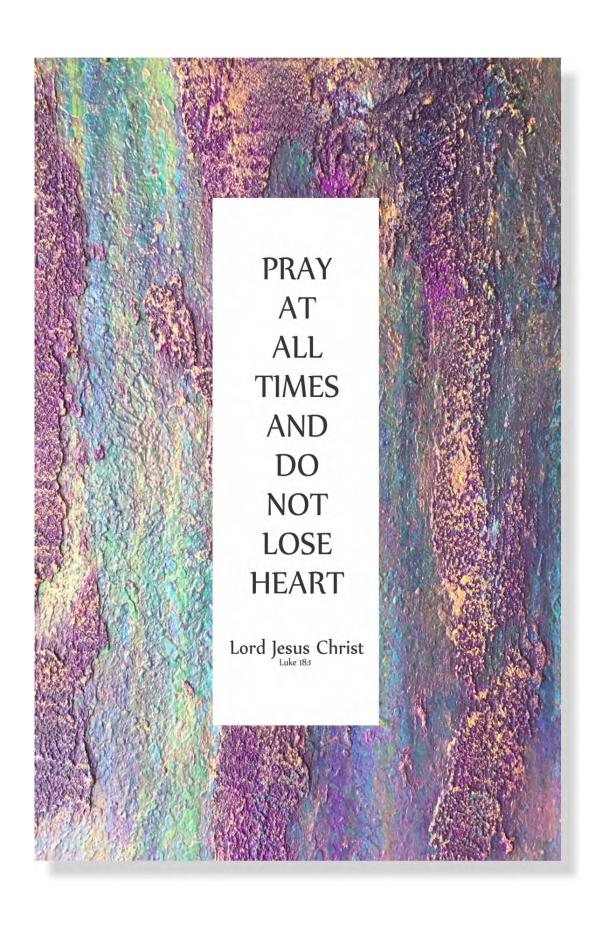
# PRAY THEN IN THIS WAY

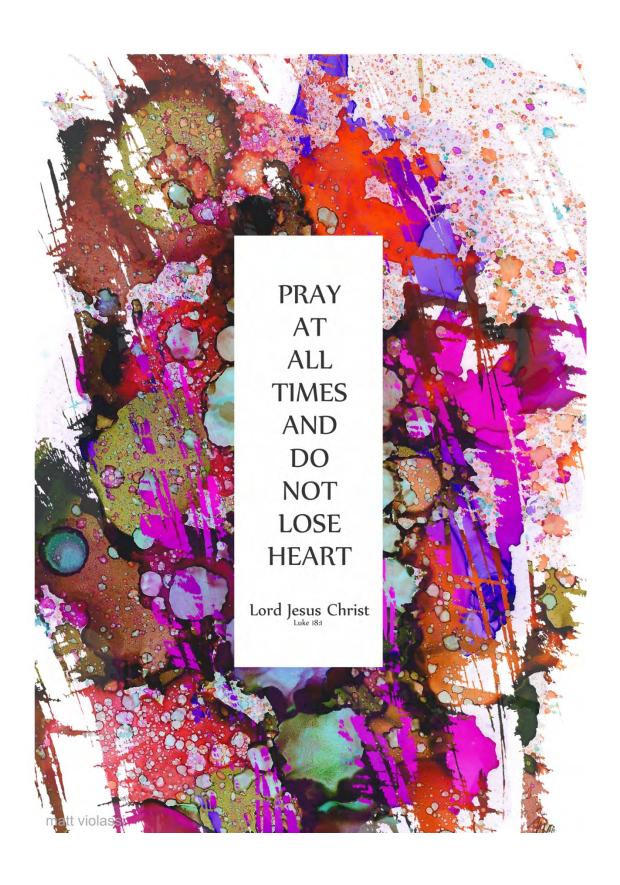
Our Father who is in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come
Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not lead us into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever.
Amen.

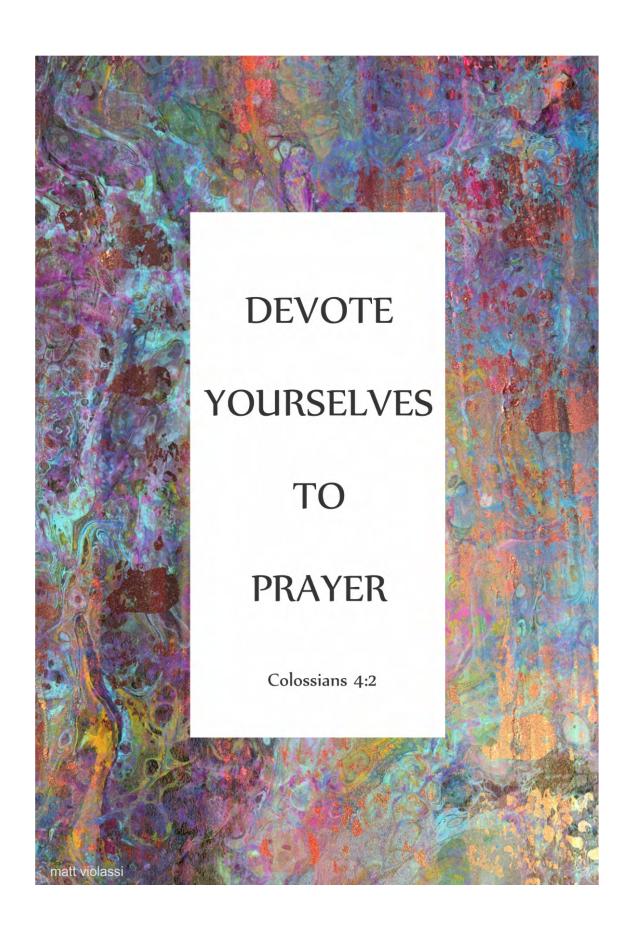
Lord Jesus
Matt 6

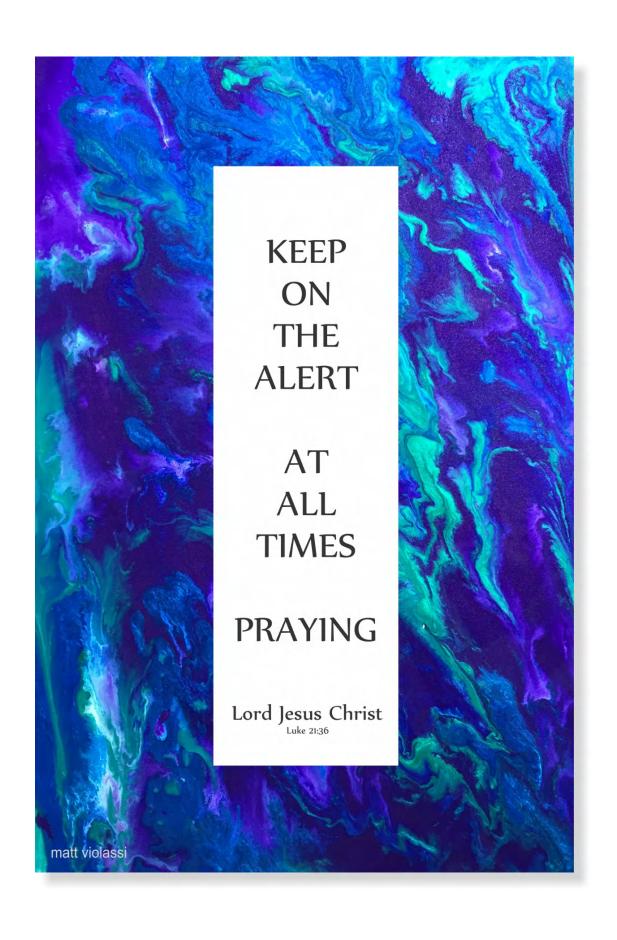
## "PRAY THEN THIS WAY"

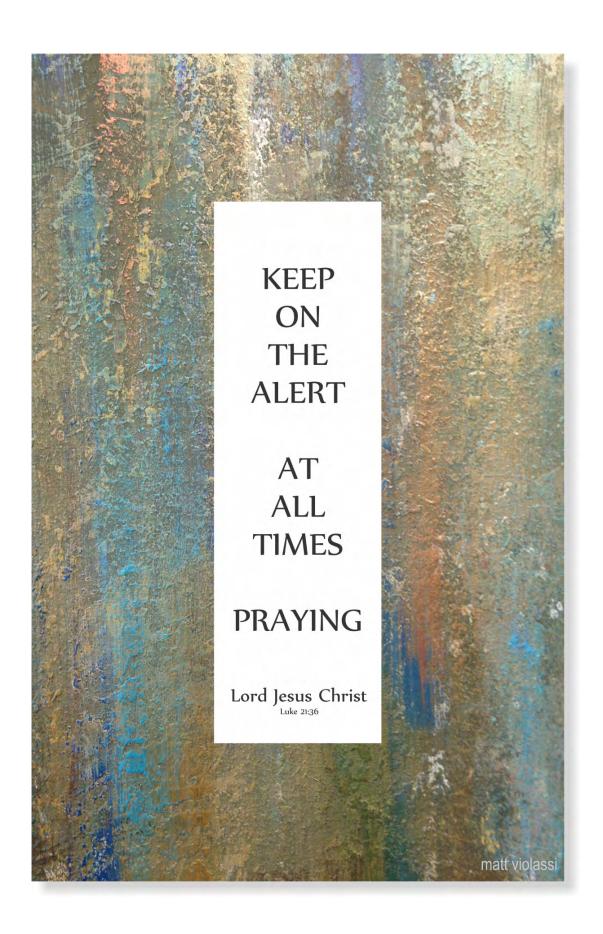


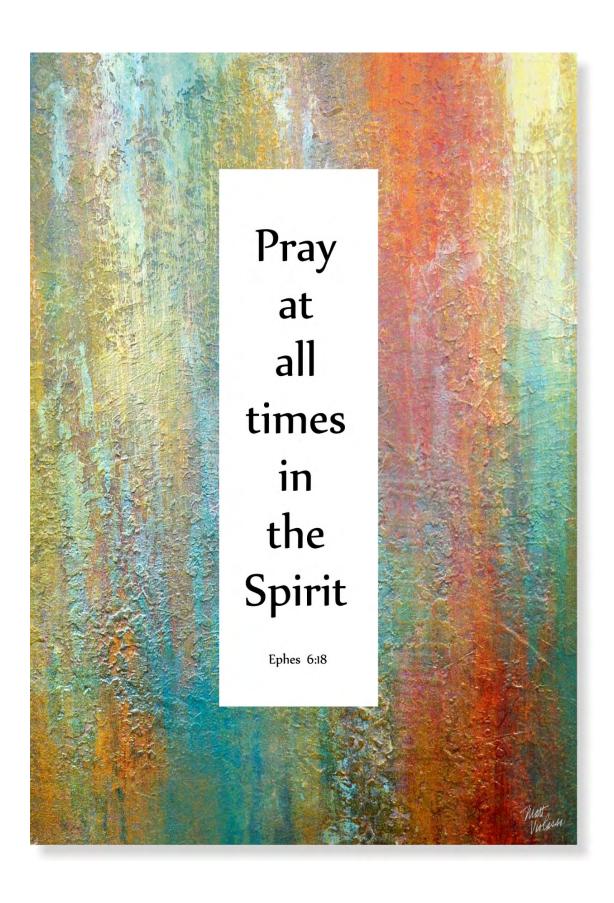






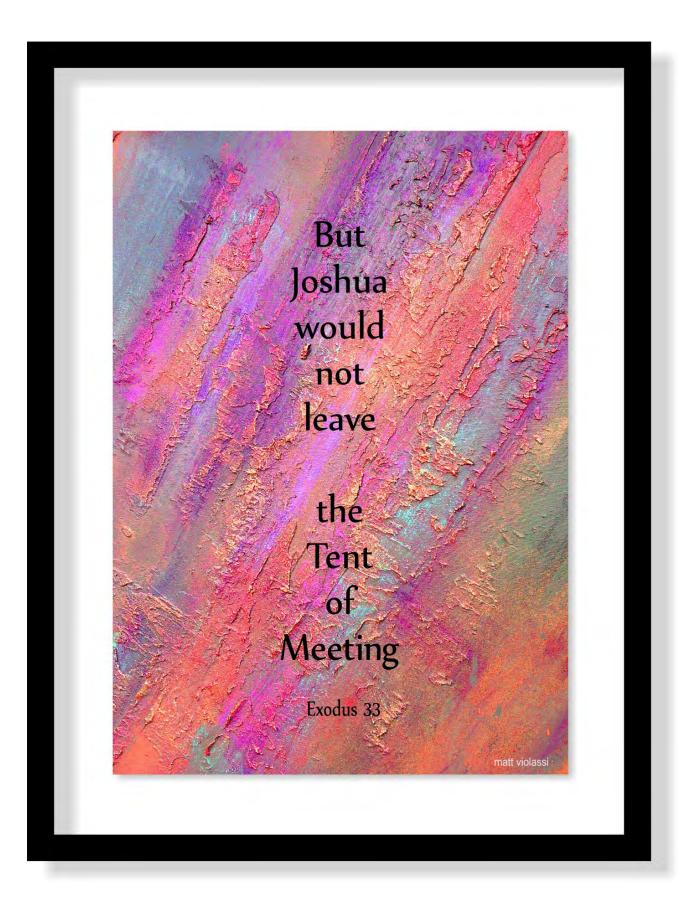








# BUT JOSHUA WOULD NOT LEAVE THE TENT OF MEETING



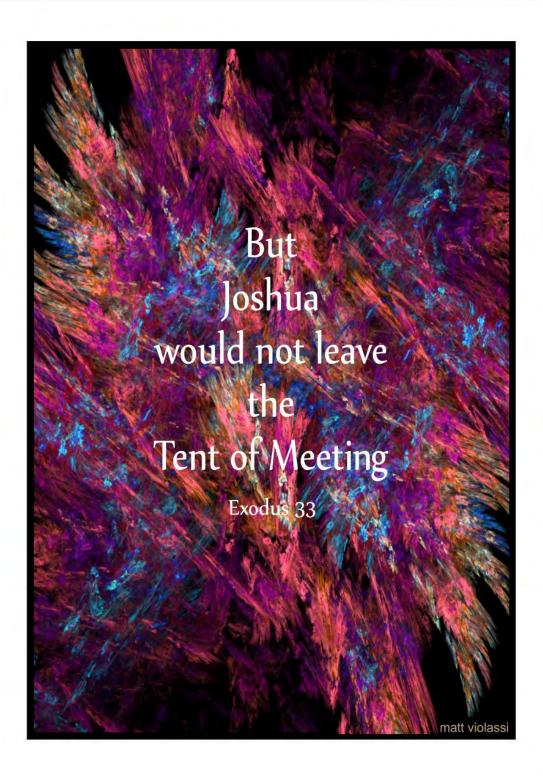
Joshua was Moses' assistant who ultimately took-over leading the Israelites into the Promised Land. Whenever Moses would go to the Tent of Meeting to meet with God and inquire of God, all of Israel would stand and watch Moses and Joshua.

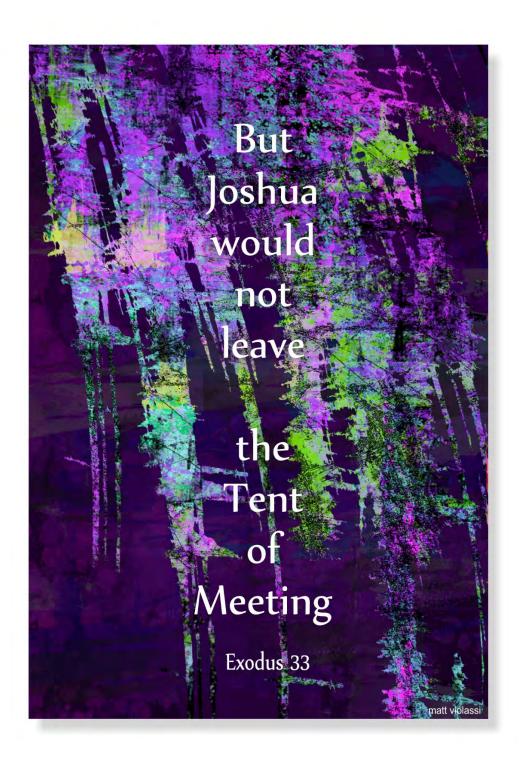
A cloud pillar of God would come to the tent. Moses would dialogue with God on many business issues concerning His leading and care of the Israelites, it is assumed.

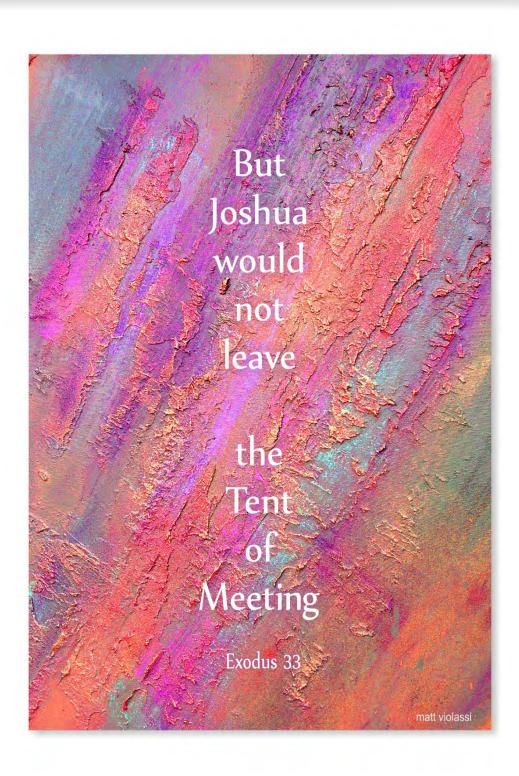
Afterward, Moses would leave. It seems Joshua stayed to "hang around" and be with God. Perhaps just to be close to Him and cultivate his personal friendship with God? This action is so noble and honoring to God. Perhaps the ultimate compliment to God?

He likes it when people want to hang around Him for who He is - after all the "business" conversations are concluded. ("We Need this"... "We Need that"... "Please Help this"... "What do we do about this?"... "What do we do about that?")

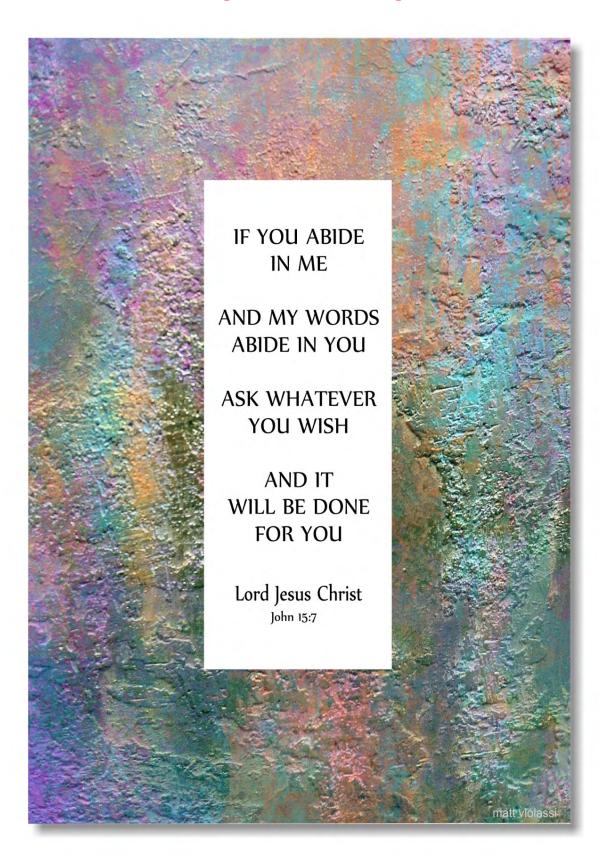
We can be noble like Joshua and come close to God for friendship's-sake, not to just get help and to get stuff . . .







### "ASK ANYTHING"

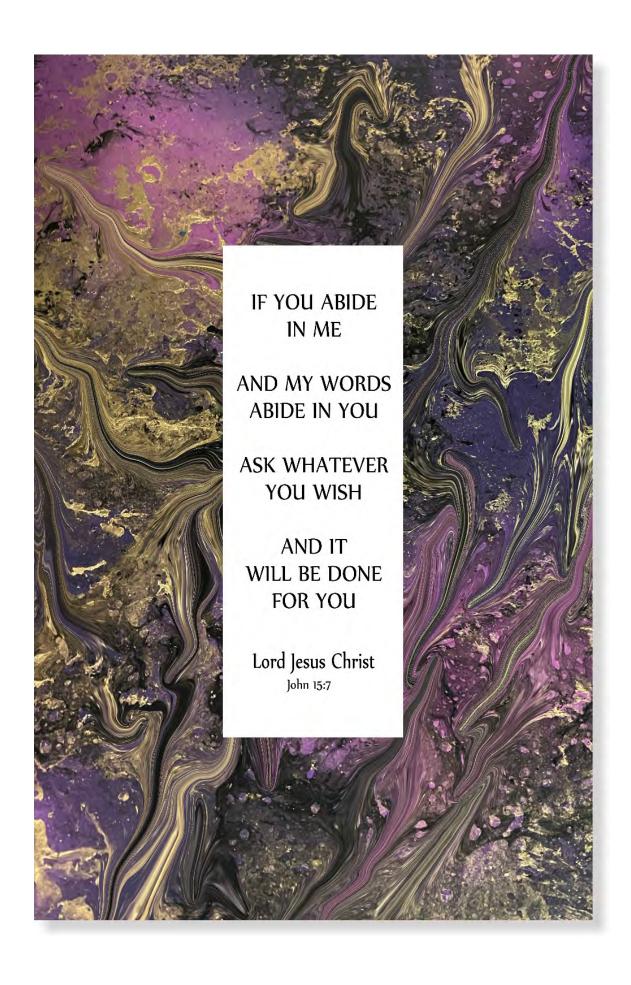


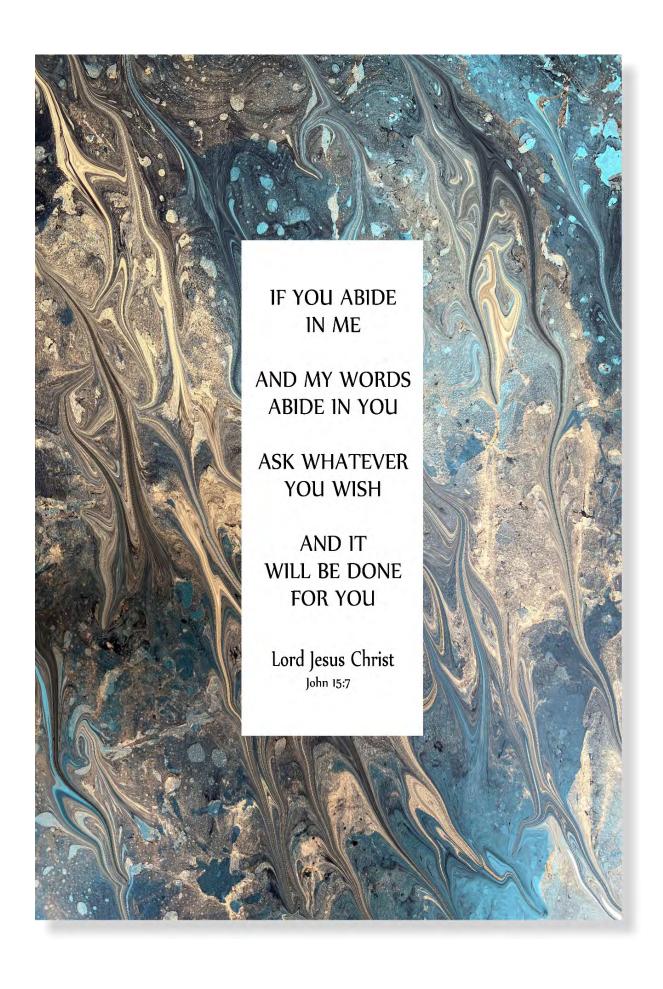
WHAT?... WHAT!!!!!

THIS IS A MIND-BLOWING PROMISE that we need to remind ourselves of every day!

If this is not true, let us forget the whole thing!!

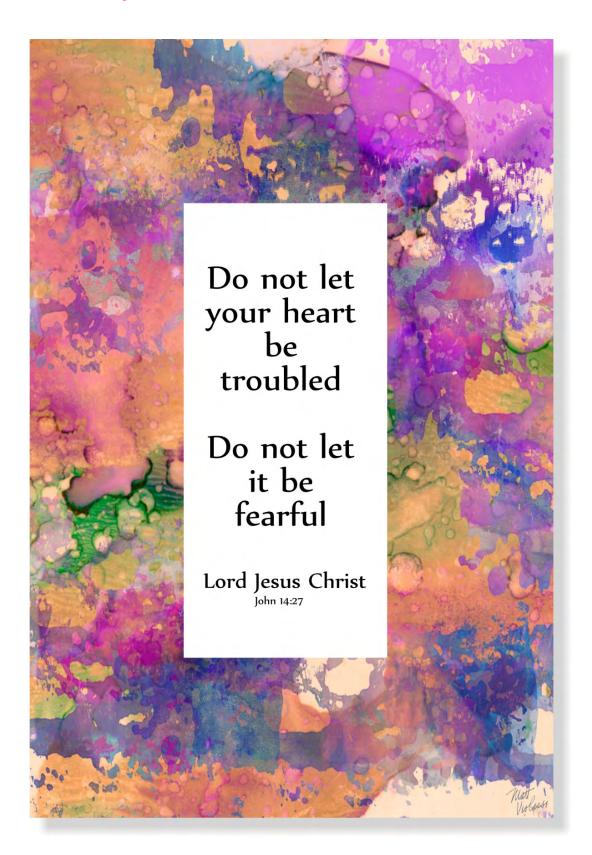
All we have to do is to make sure we are abiding in Him, and His words are abiding in us! (This might take some soul-searching and confirmation from God that we are truly doing this.)





#### **BUT WILL WE DO THIS?**

#### **Keep a Heart Free from Troubles and Fears**



Obeying this one commandment alleviates perhaps 98% of our pains and sorrows.

Or, saying it in another way, "Maintain a heart that is free from troubles and fears."

Of course, we cannot obey this commandment without God's help, input, and His point of view of our situation(s) . . .

"Apart from Me, you can do nothing." - Lord Jesus Christ

As it has been said, "Every command is a promise in reverse." (If He commands us to do something - He provides the strength and way to do it.)

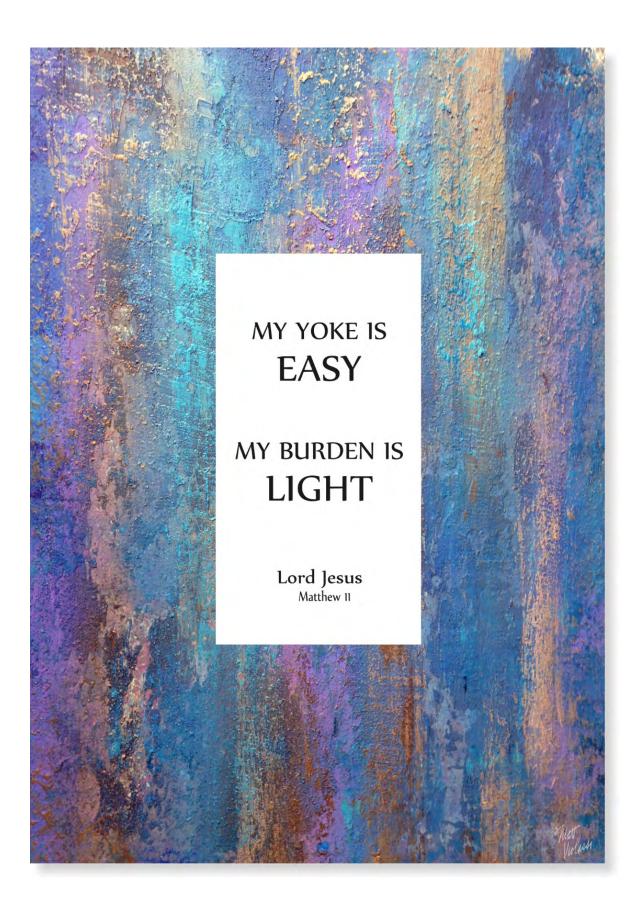




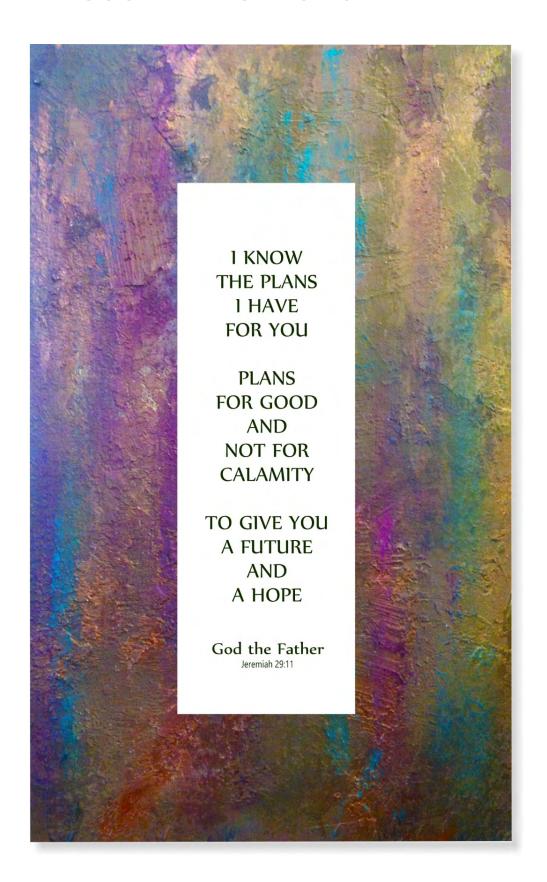


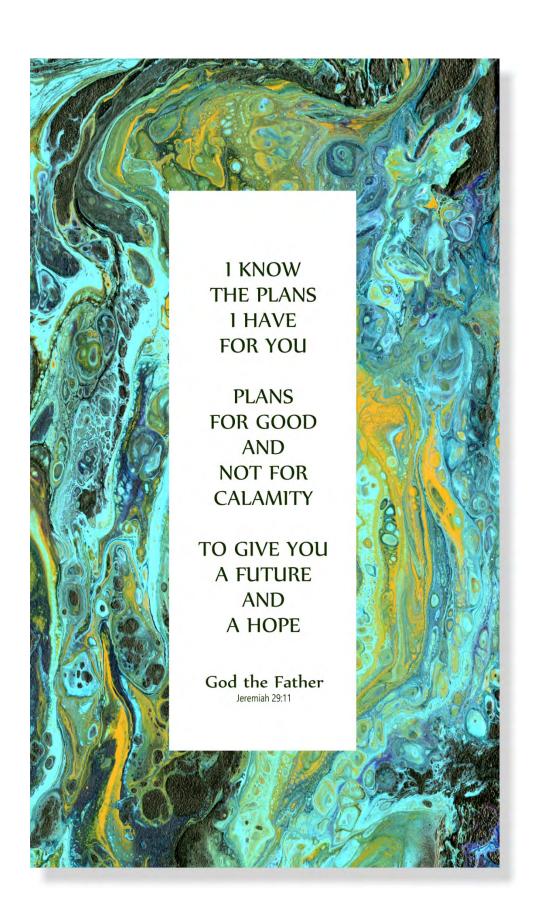
#### Obeying His commands <u>TAKES WORK.</u>

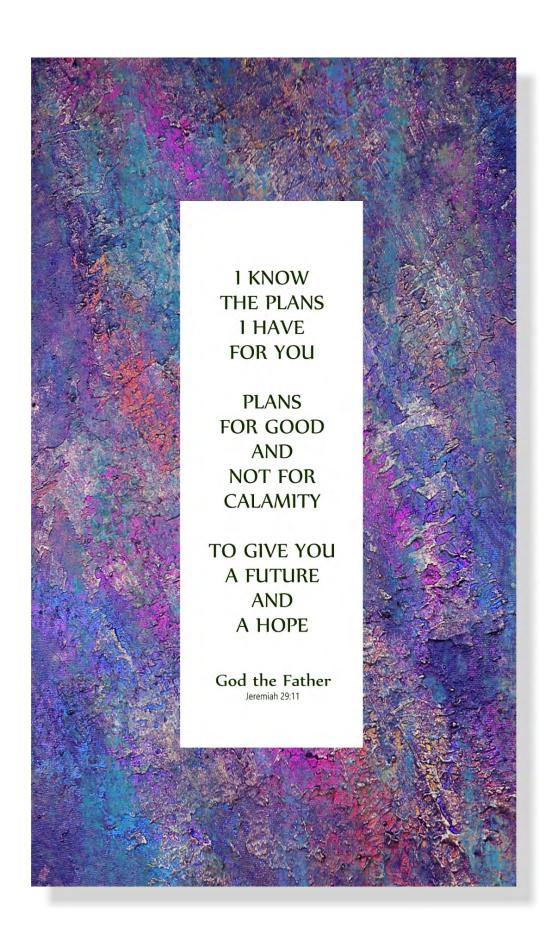
BUT! ...



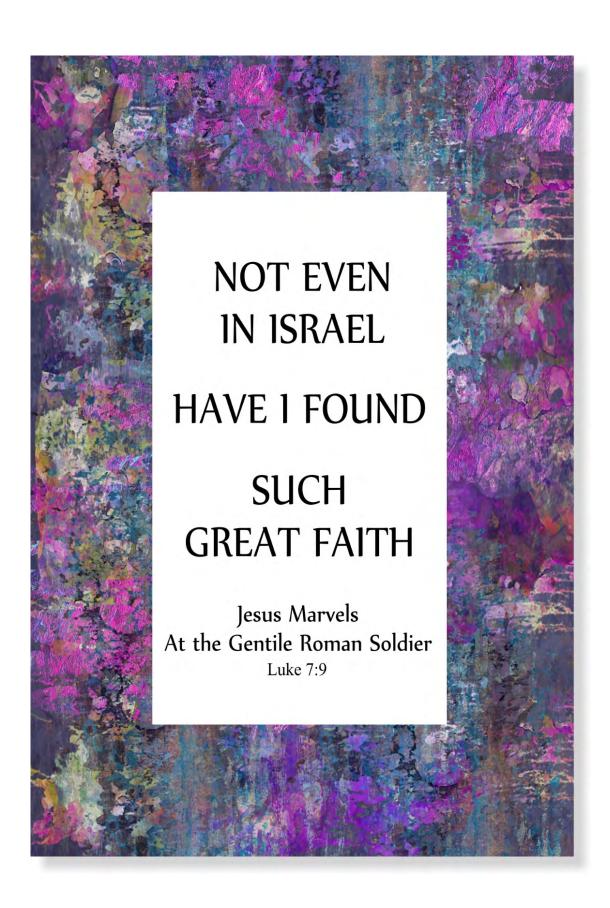
#### **GOOD PLANS. NOT CALAMITY.**

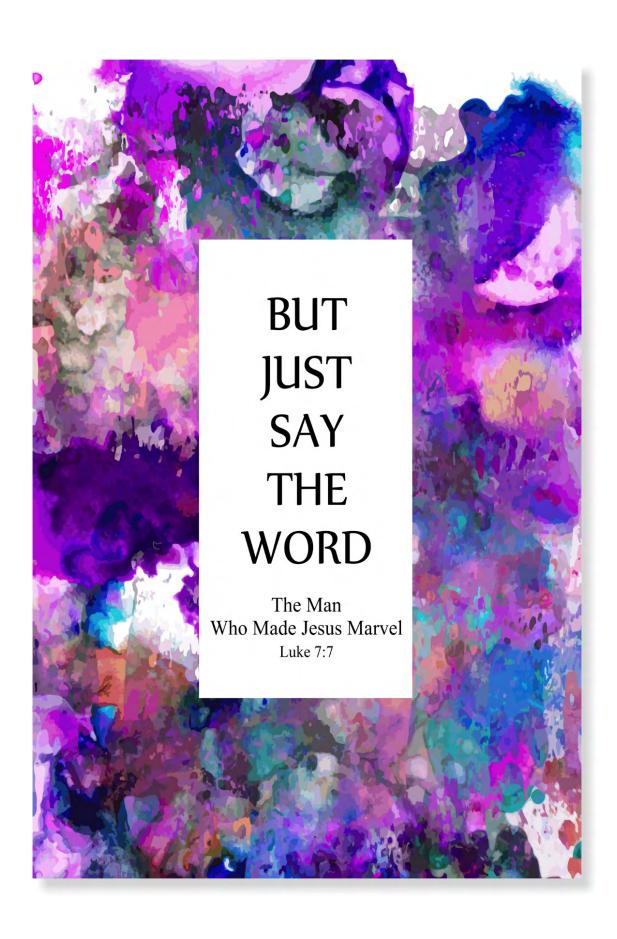


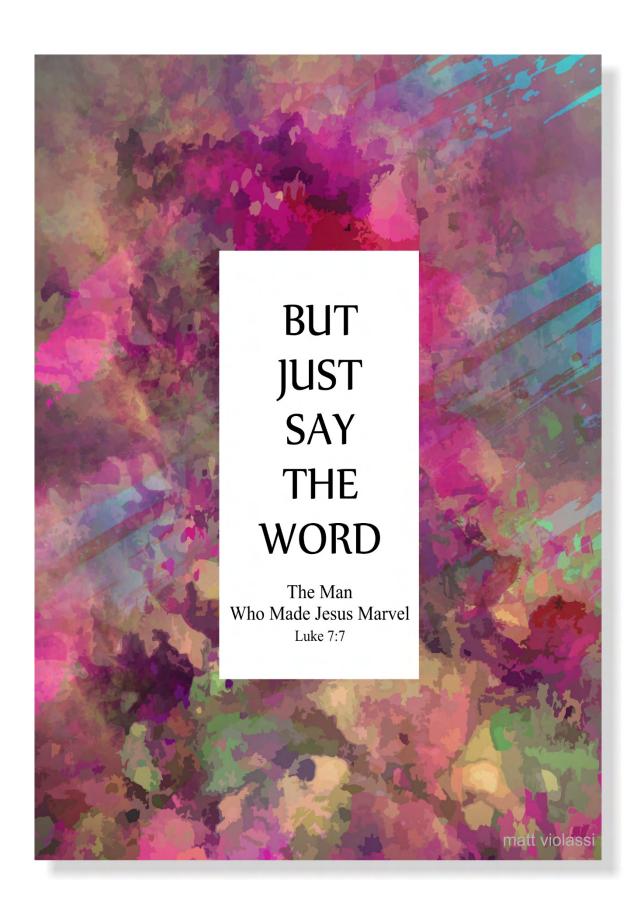


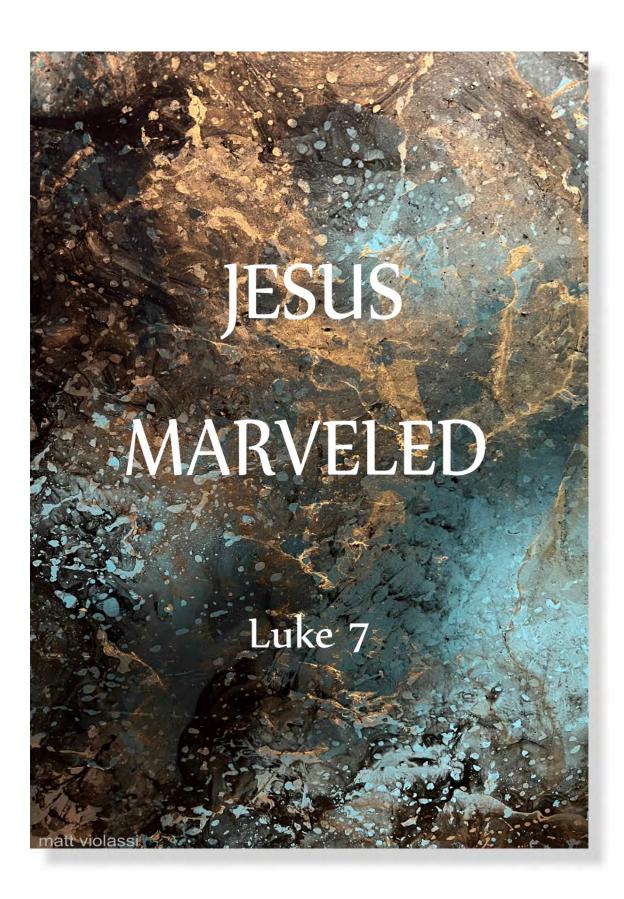


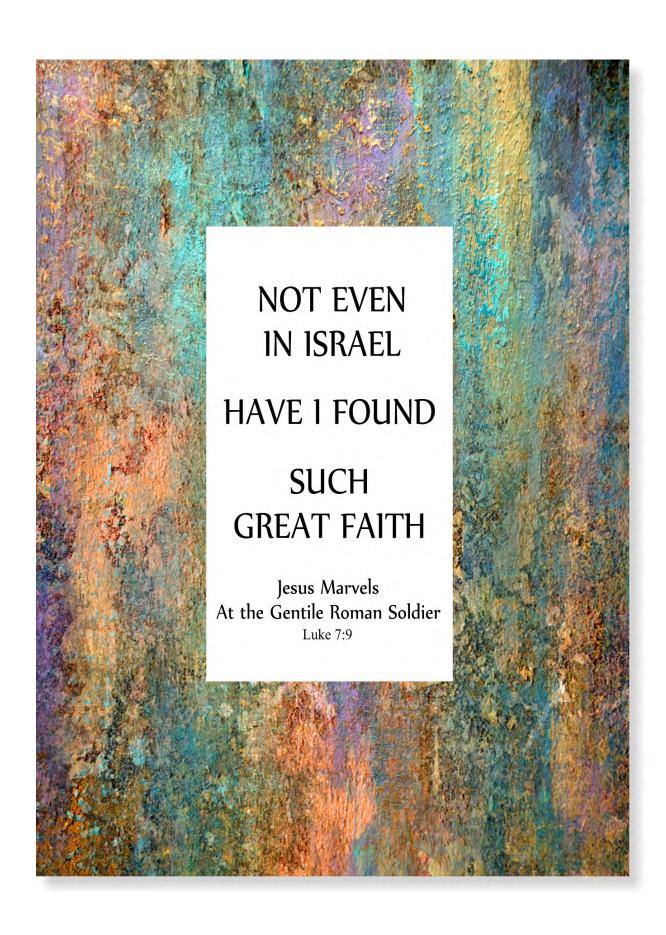
### **JESUS DEFINES GREAT FAITH - "JUST SAY THE WORD"**

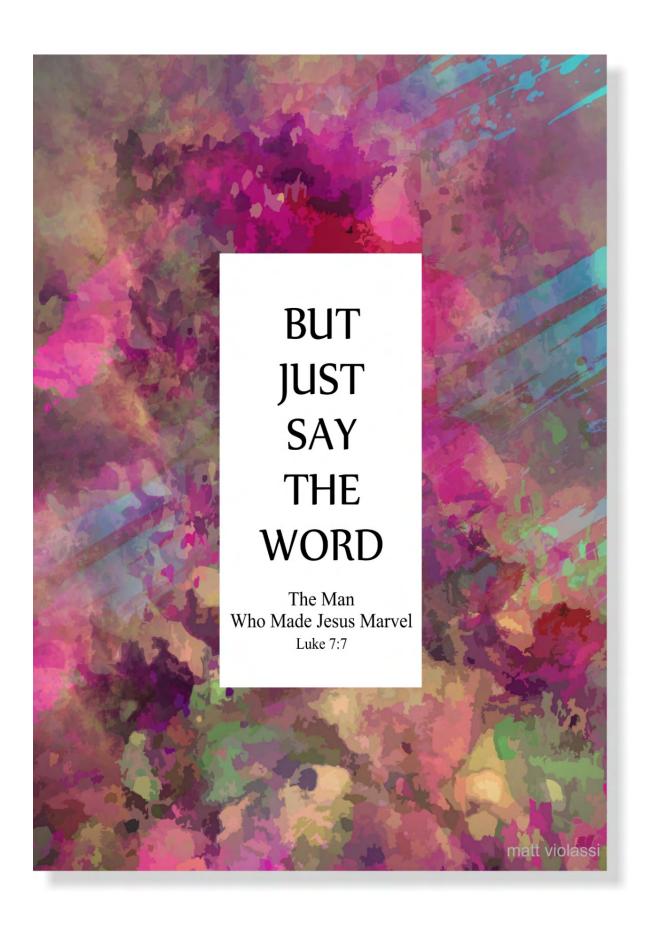


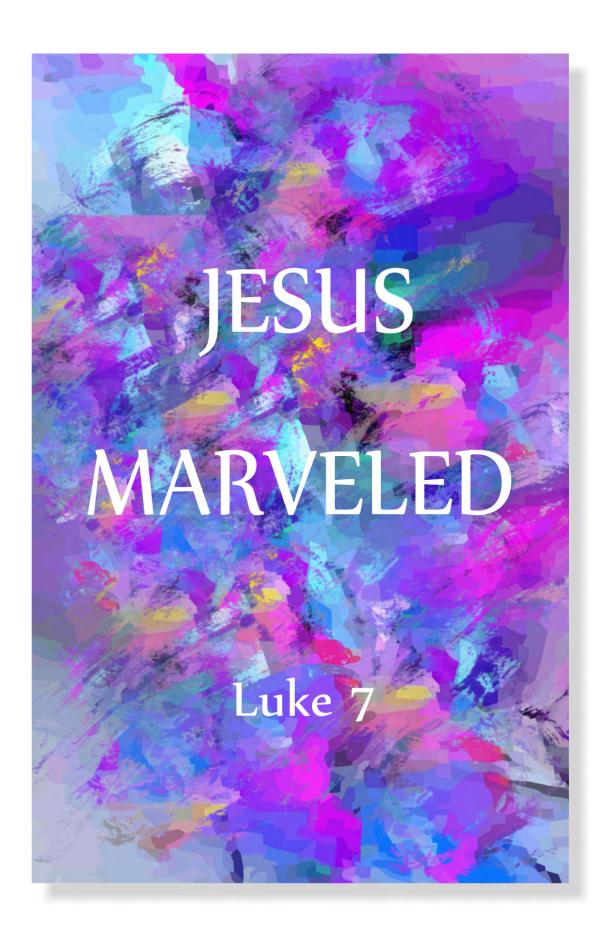








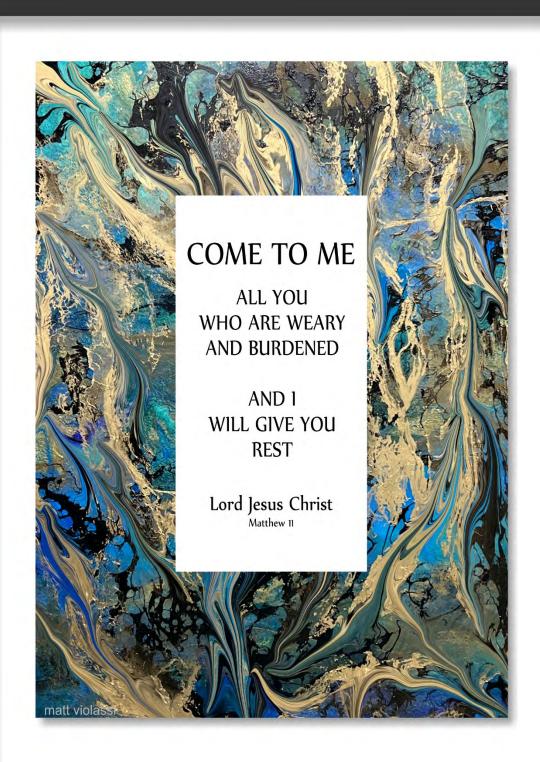


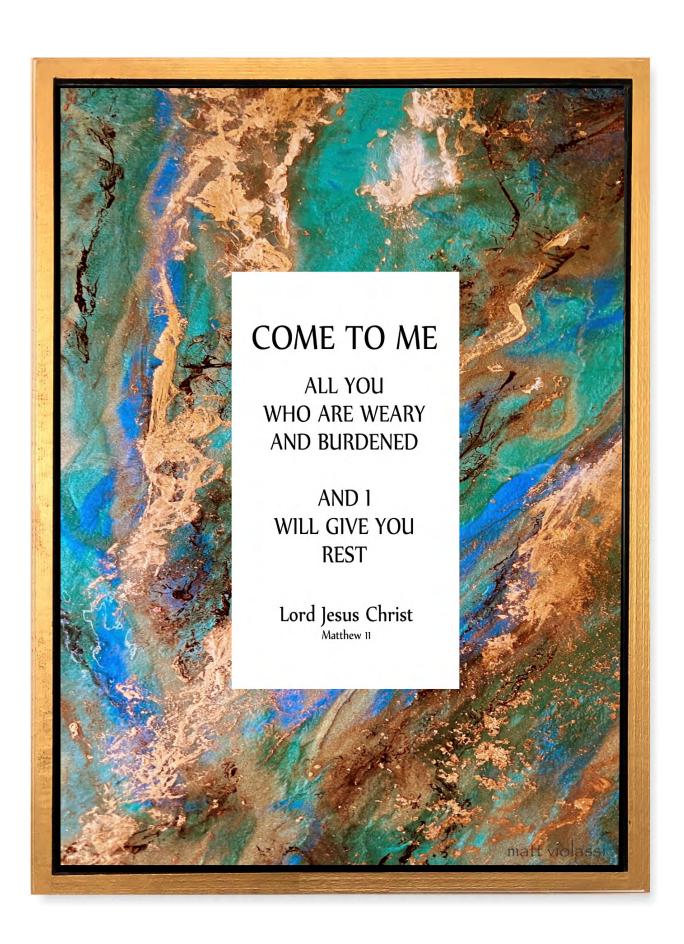


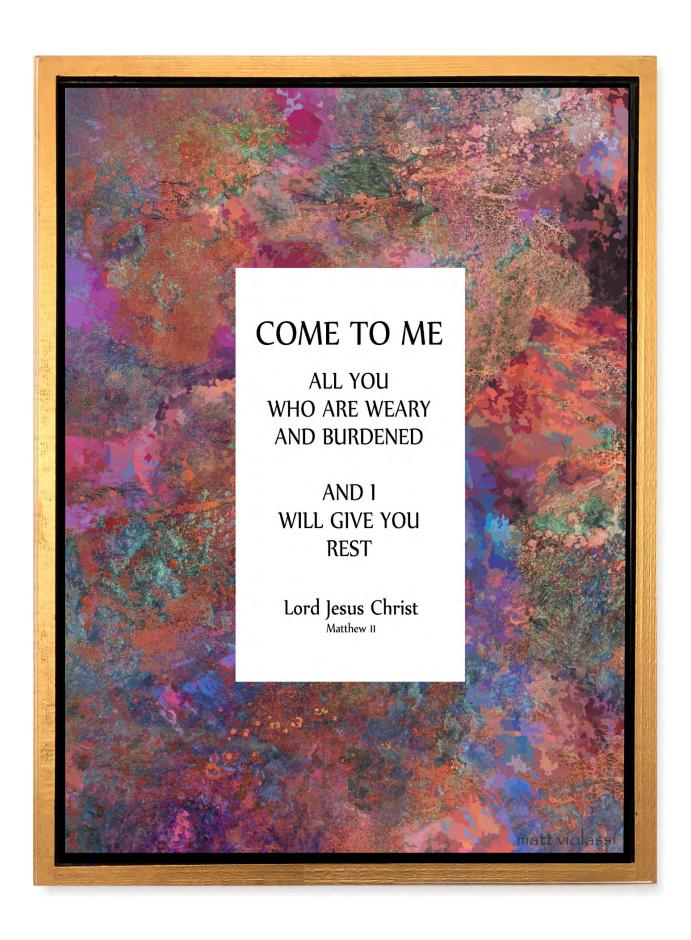


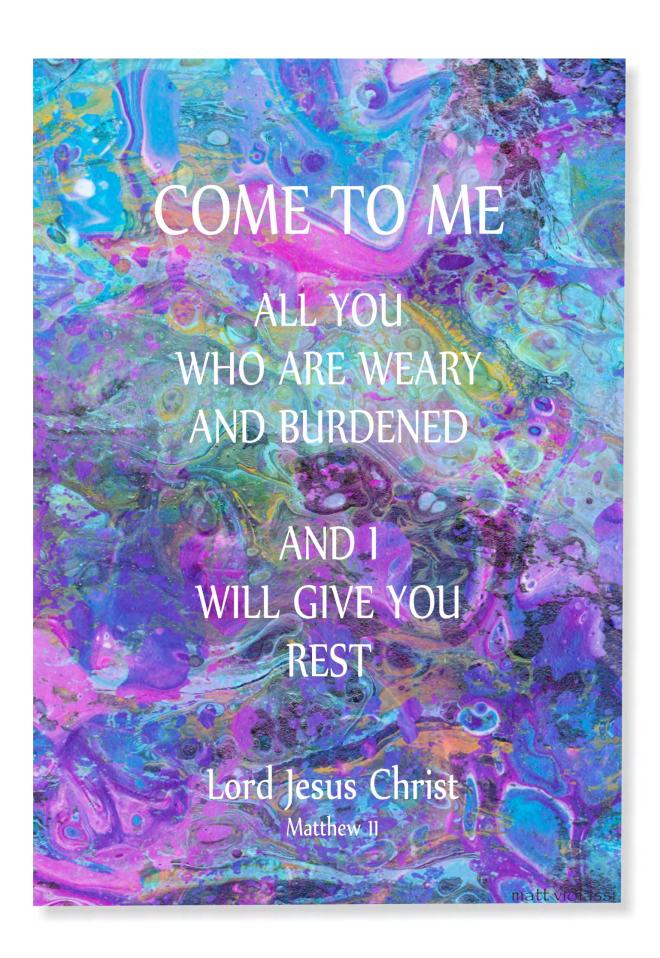
## THE GREAT INVITATION" - <u>with a promise!</u> . . . "COME!" Let's go to Him again today!



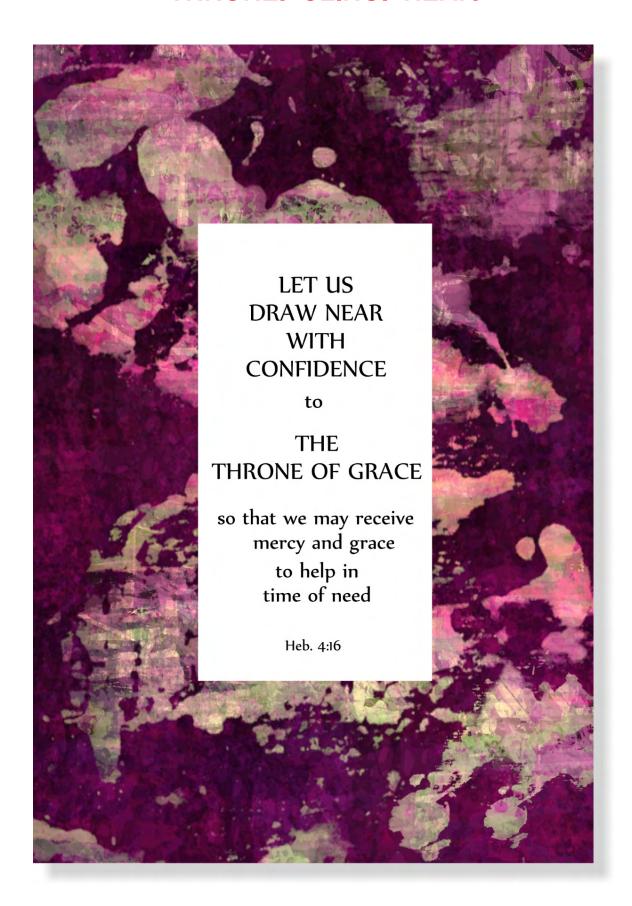


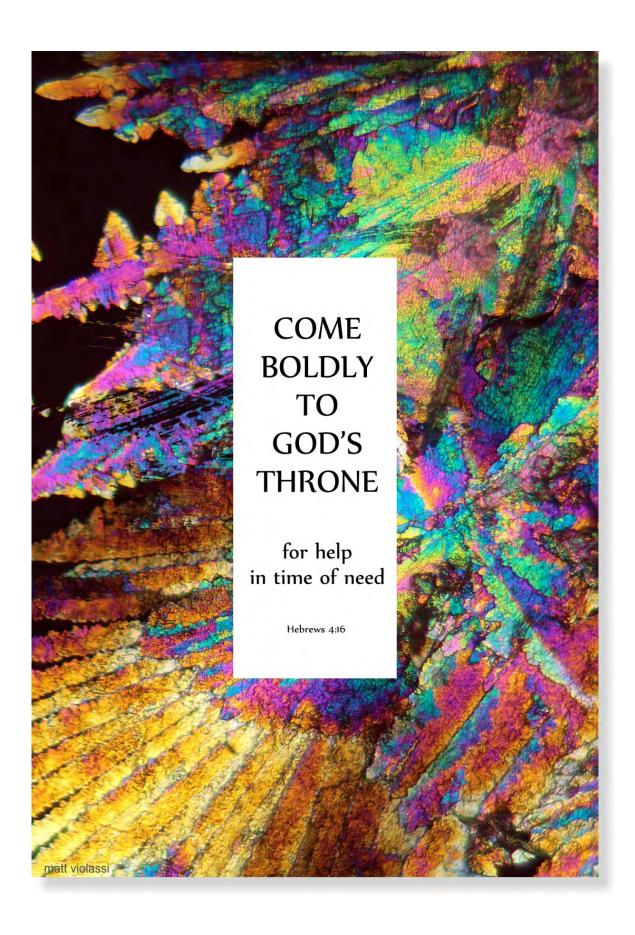






### THRONE. CLING. HEAP.





### **NEED HELP?** (We all do - ALL THE TIME!)

God's ongoing word to us is, "Come to Me anytime for help". . . and He adds, "and come Boldly" or "with Confidence."

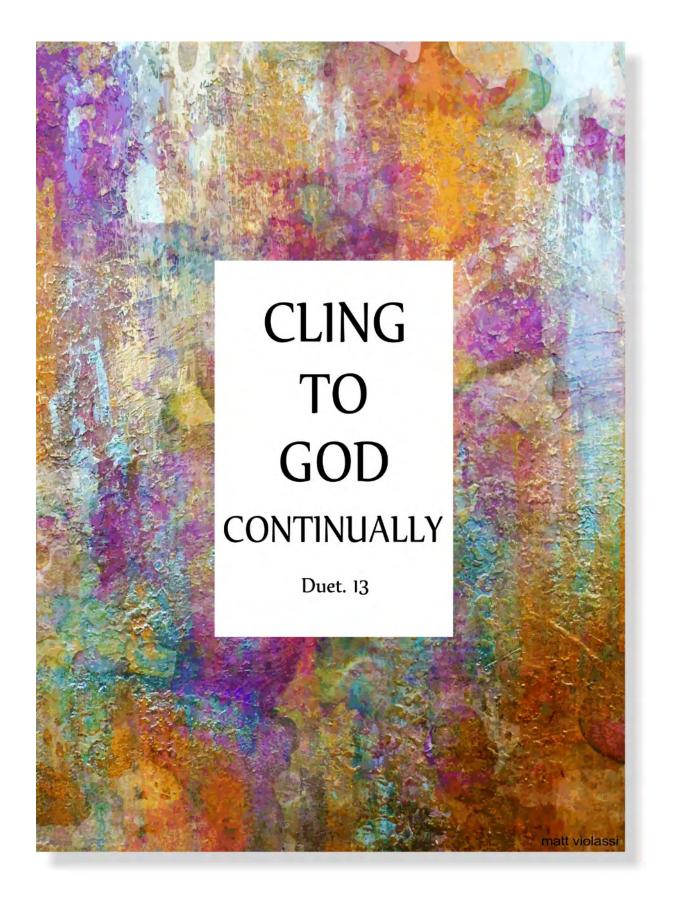
Our biggest Confidence is that He likes and cares for us, and He is wanting us to come to Him.

Many times in coming to His throne, we can initially feel sheepish, not worthy, timid, guilty, - even downright evil. . . Feeling maybe He really doesn't like us that much or that MAYBE WE ARE BOTHERING HIM AGAIN! :)

No. He says Come. I want you to come to Me - and I WILL help you...

,\_\_\_\_\_

THEN, THIS BEAUTIFUL COMMAND:



The same word is used in describing someone clinging and hugging a rescue worker in the midst of a raging river flood . . .

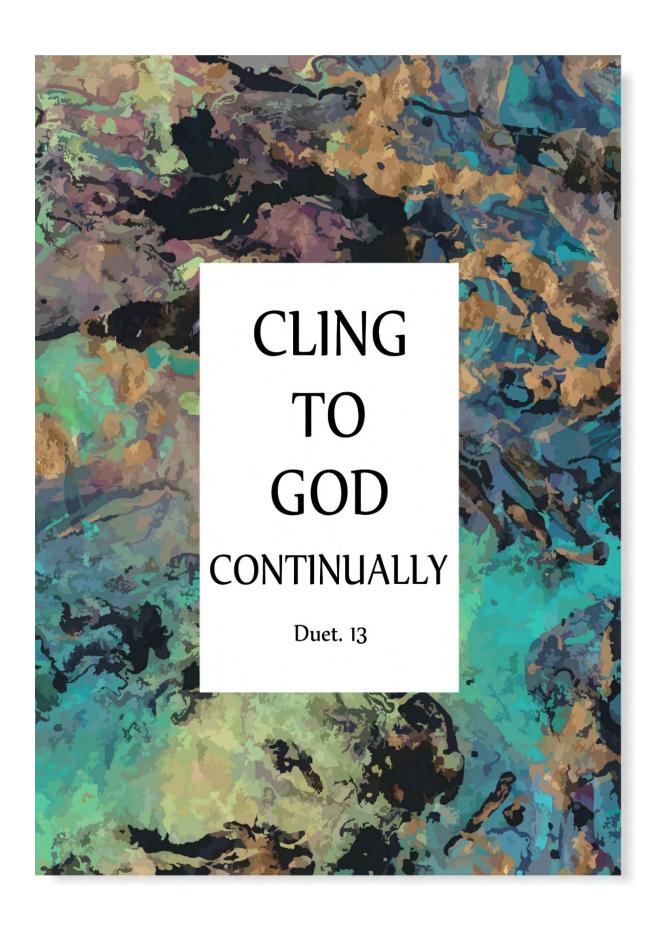








HE IS ALWAYS TRYING TO BE IN A
"CLING" RELATIONSHIP WITH US! ..."HUG" US?



So, we are invited to not only come before Him to His throne.

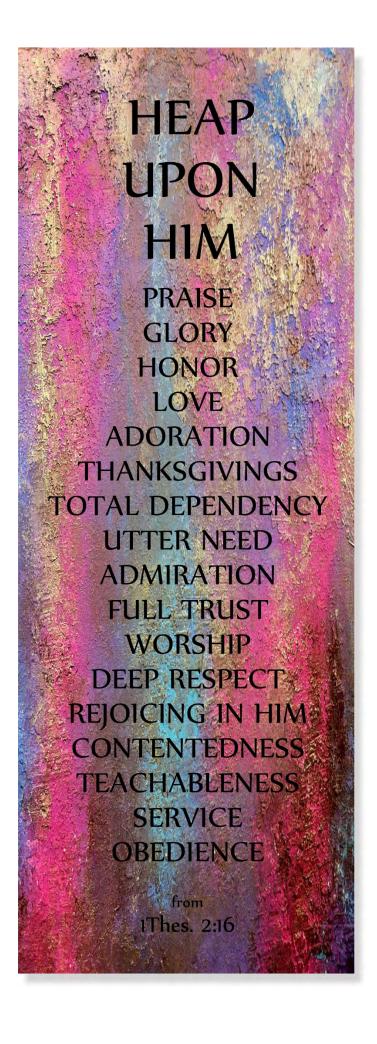
# BUT APPROACH HIM EVEN CLOSER - AND CLING TO HIM EMBRACE HIM... WHAT?!!

This can really take us to another whole level of needing to believe that He really loves us, cares for us, likes us, and wants to embrace us (as any normal Loving Father would) . . .

## **HEAP UPON HIM.**

The apostle Paul spoke of evil men, "always <u>heaping</u> up their sins to the limit." - 2 Thes 2:16

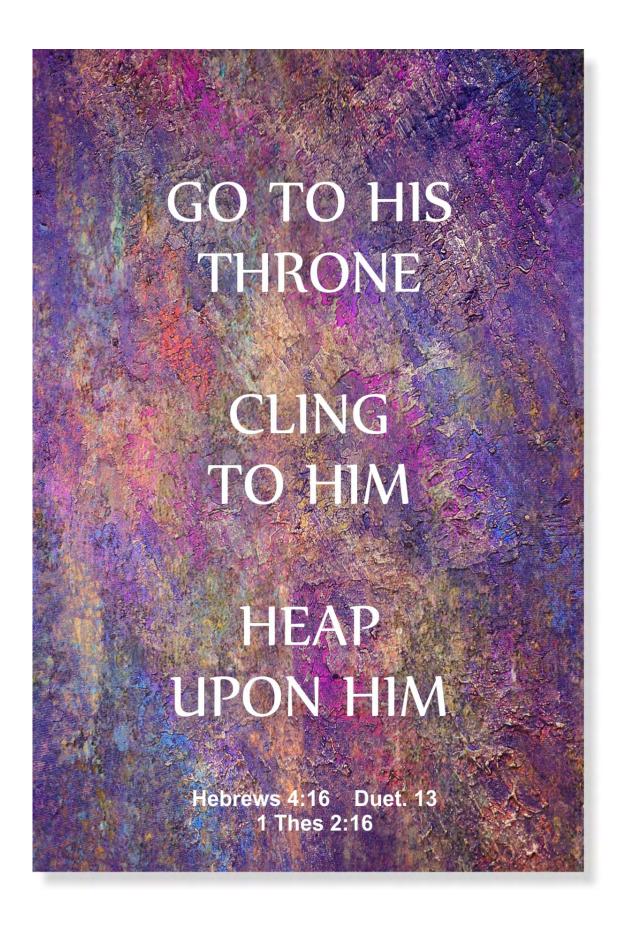
But, we can "<u>heap</u>" good things upon the Lord, in real time:



## HEAP UPON HIM

PRAISE GLORY HONOR LOVE **ADORATION THANKSGIVINGS** TOTAL DEPENDENCY UTTER NEED **ADMIRATION** FULL TRUST WORSHIP DEEP RESPECT REJOICING IN HIM CONTENTEDNESS TEACHABLENESS SERVICE OBEDIENCE

> from 1Thes. 2:16

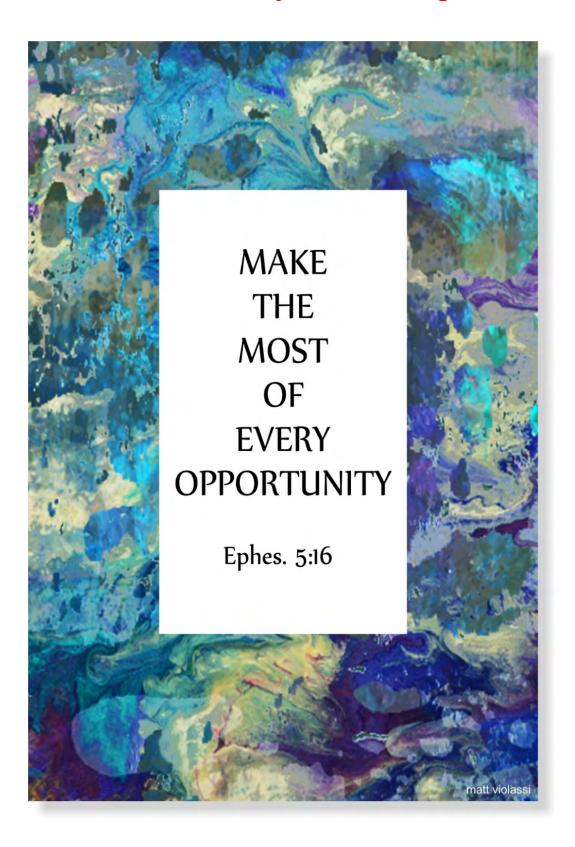


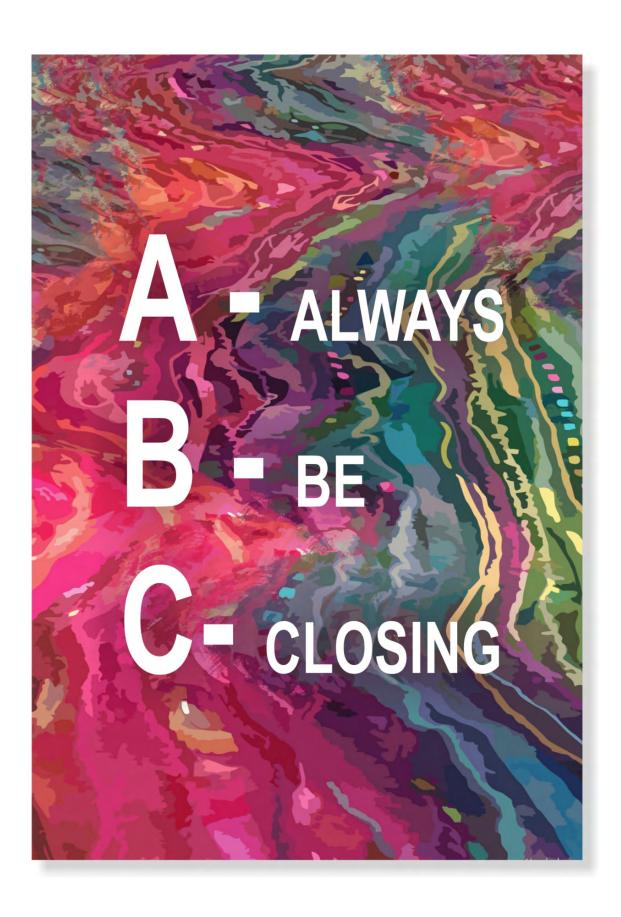


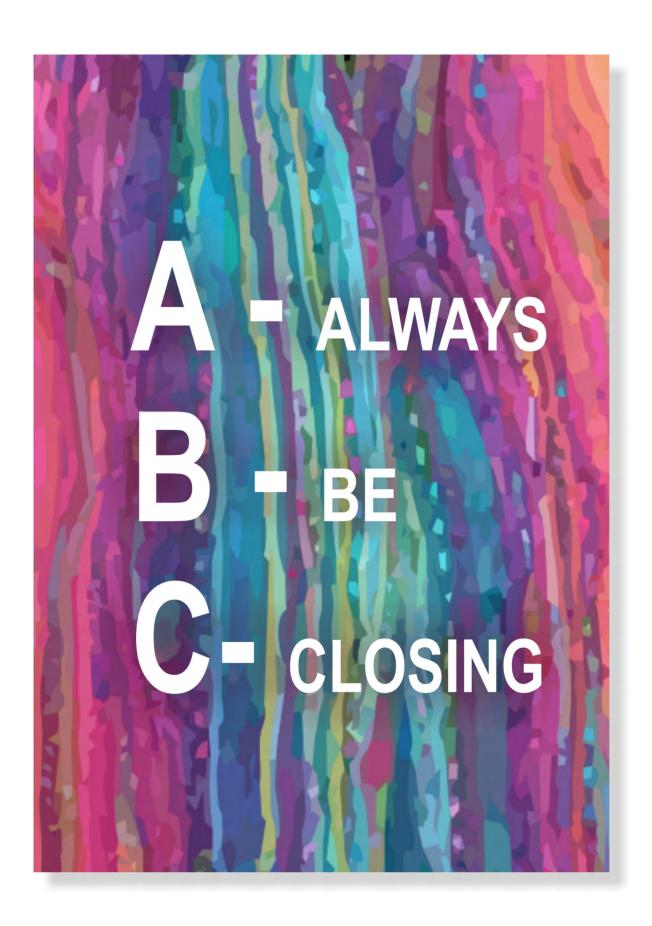
- 1. **Go to His Throne** (Heb. 4:16)
- 2. Cling to Him (Deut. 13)
- 3. Heap upon Him (from 1Thes 2:16.)

All day long, whenever we think of it.

## ABC - Always Be Closing







### If we really are trying to love and care for others,

1. We want to try to help God bring people in relationship with Him.

And also, we want to keep trying
(in our own feeble way – *but powerful if God-breathed*)

#### 2. TO HELP THEM NOT TO GO TO HELL FOREVER.

We can so easily get distracted as we are trying to do our own life in a sane way (life is hard for everyone),

and forget about caring about others in the way we want to,

Reminding ourselves daily is wise - to be ultimately and eternally concerned for others, and ABC (Always-Be-Closing)

like a good salesman or ambassador for God

when we interact with others every day.

THIS IS SO IMPORTANT.

But we will need to be tuned-in tightly.

"Apart from Me, you can do nothing" – Lord Jesus

#### DO WE REALLY WANT THE LORD?

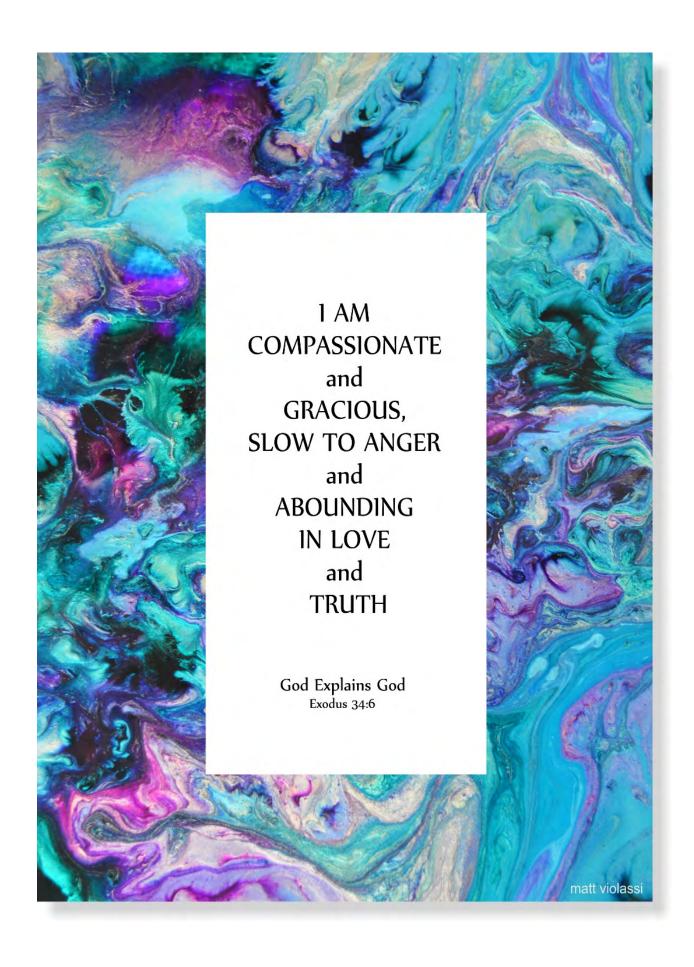
We all naturally need to be <u>wanted</u> (in a healthy way) (and needed) - on some level.

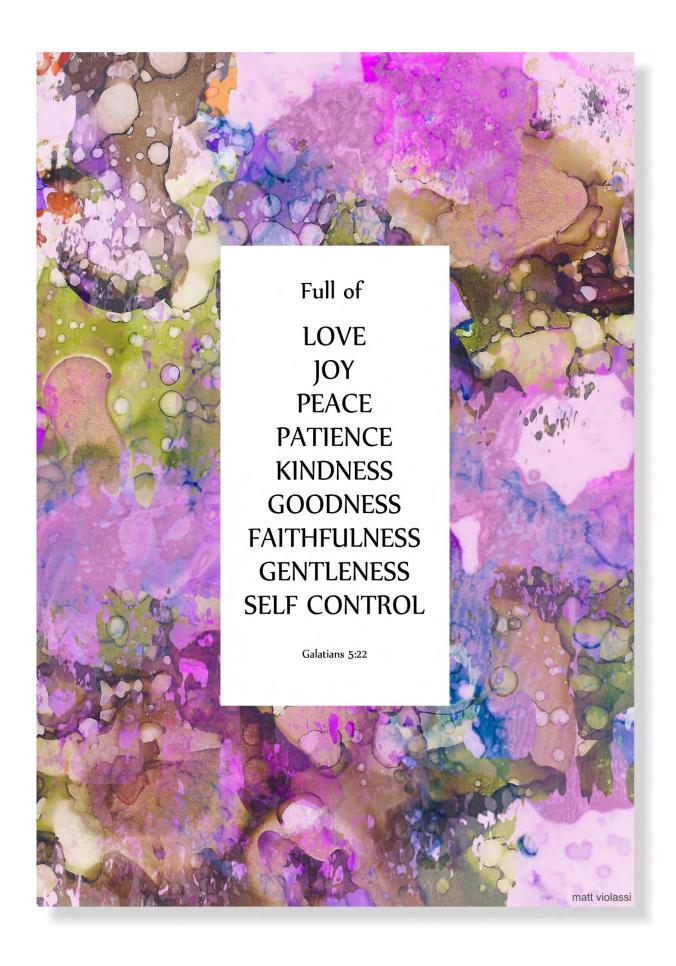
The Lord desires to be wanted for other than

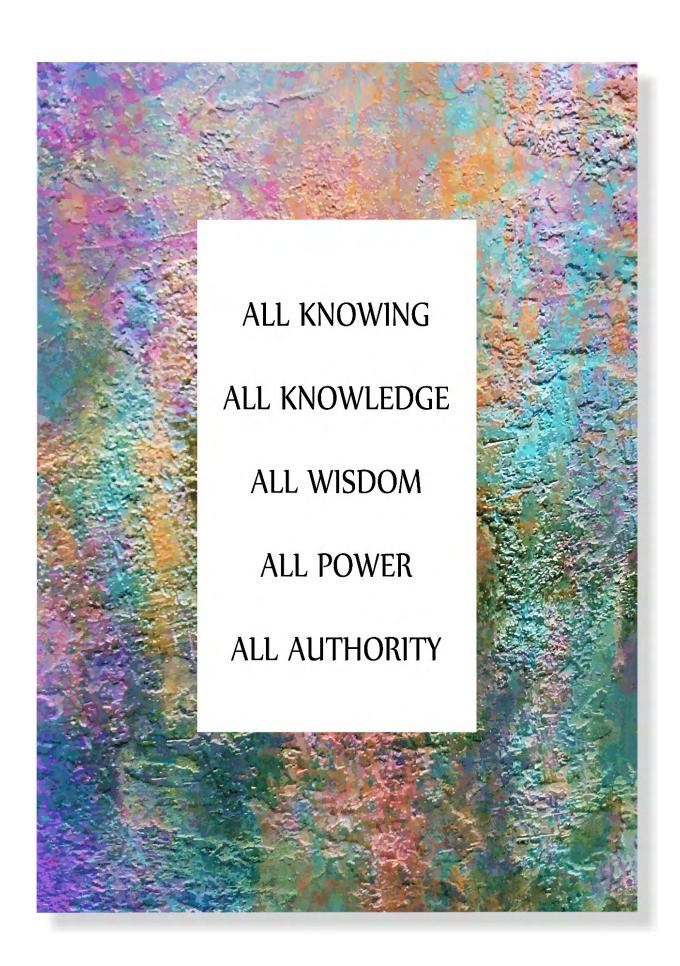
His Provision, Protection, Forgiveness, Healing, Love, Affirmation, Leading, Guidance, Deliverance, Wisdom, Knowledge, Life itself, etc. (He *is needed* for these things.)

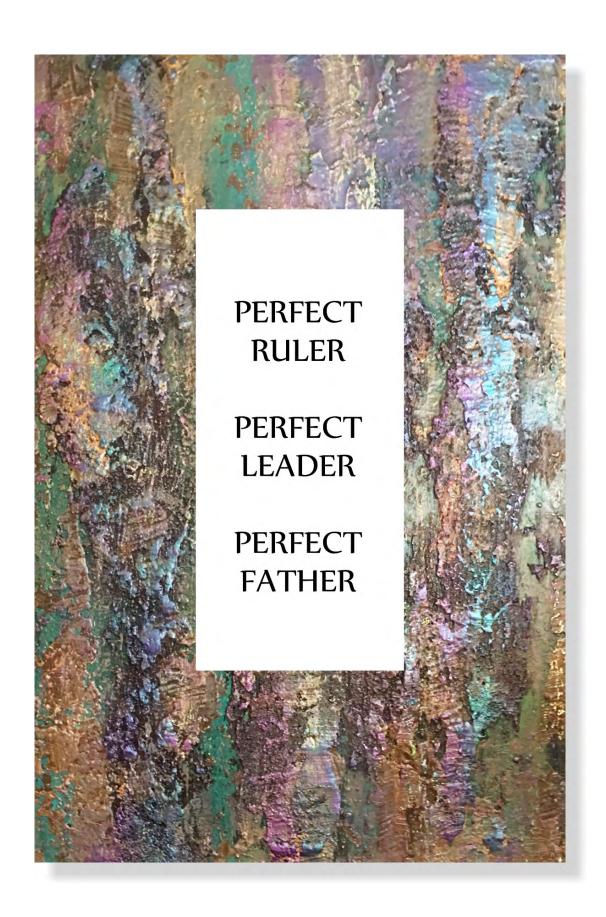
THE LORD DESIRES, HOWEVER,

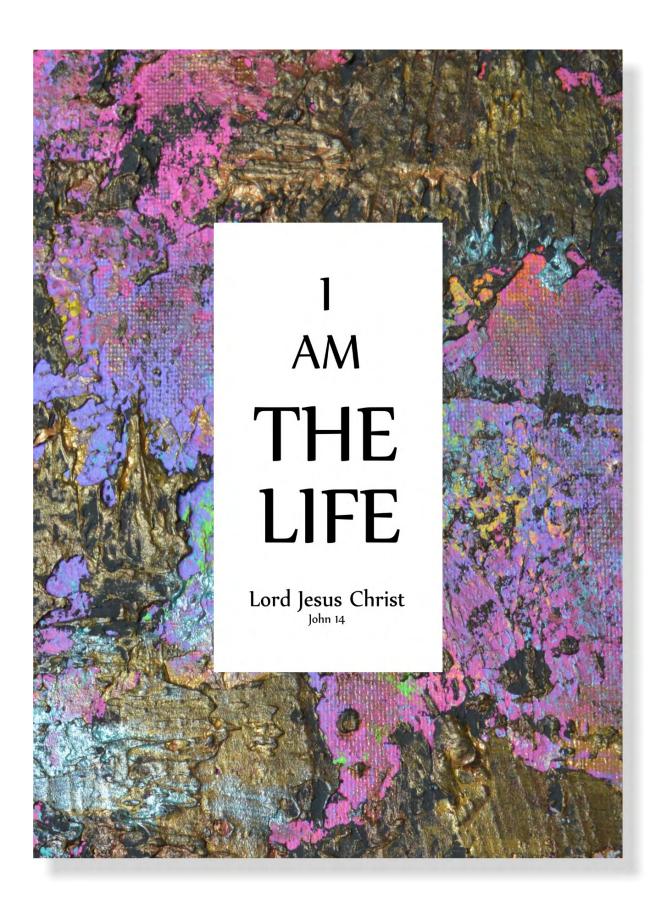
TO BE WANTED FOR WHO HE IS . . .

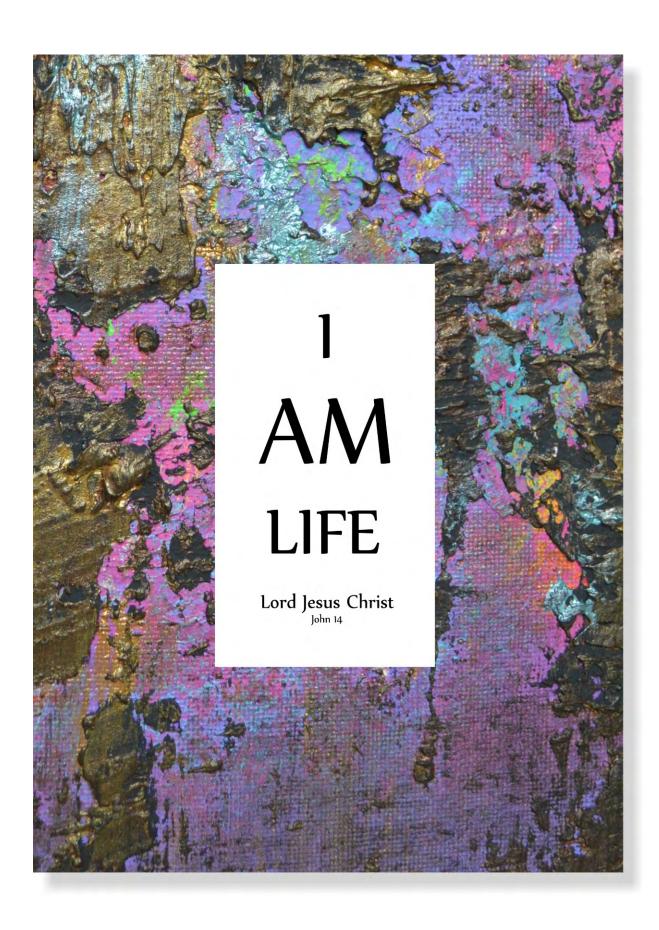




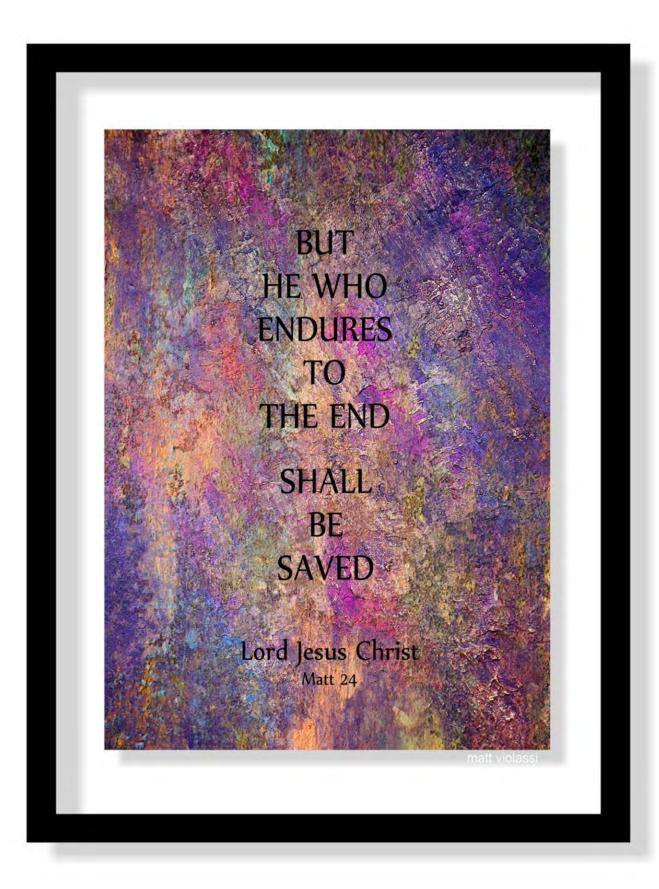








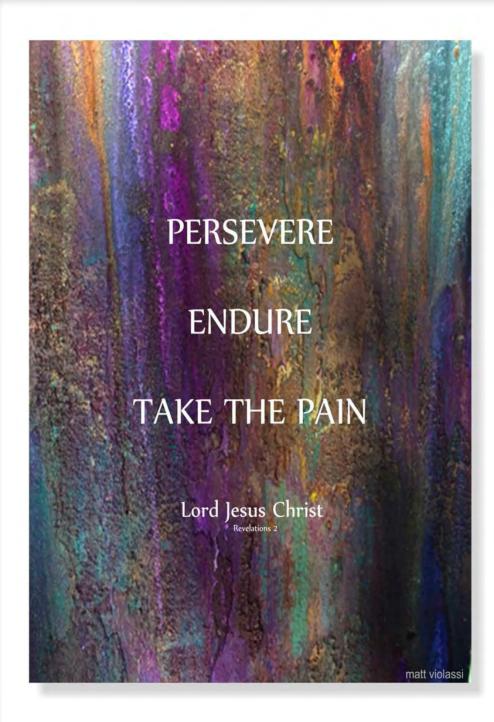
## **OVERCOME.**

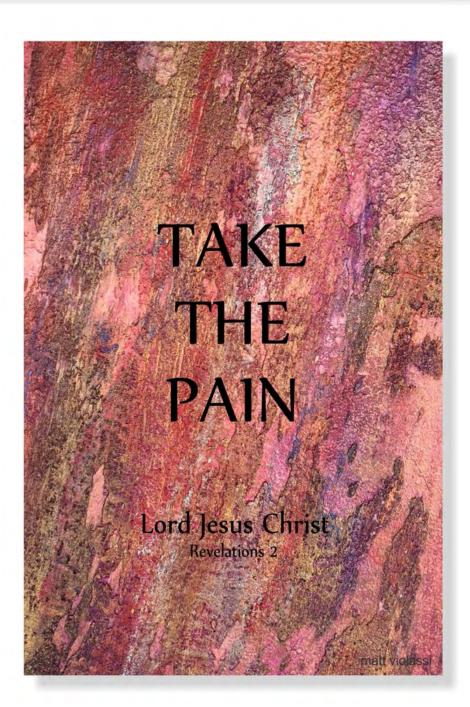


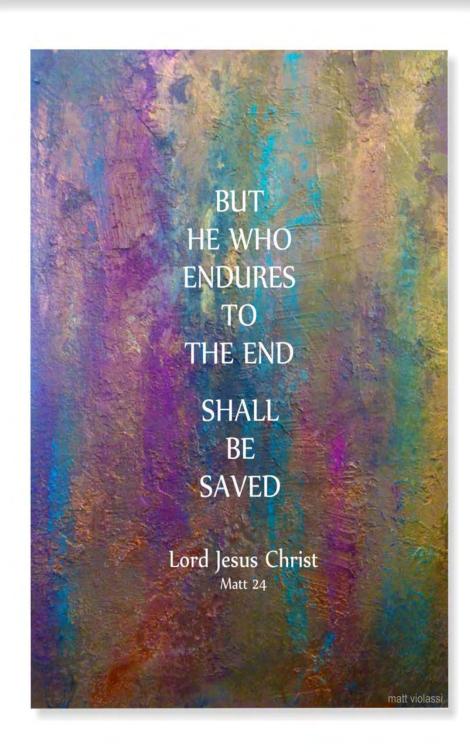
## TO THOSE THAT OVERCOME

- I will grant you to eat of The Tree of Life in the Paradise of God.
  - You will not be hurt by the Second Death.
    - I will give you the Crown of Life.
    - I will give you the Hidden Manna.
  - I will give you a White Stone with a New Name.
  - I will give you Authority over The Nations to Rule.
    - I will give you The Morning Star.
    - You will be clothed in White Garments.
      - You will Walk with Me in White.
  - Your Name will Not Be Erased from The Book of Life.
  - I will confess your Name before My Father & His Angels.
    - I will make you A Pillar in The Temple of God.
      - You will not go out from it anymore.
    - I will WRITE ON YOU The Name of My God, The Name of The New Jerusalem, And My New Name
    - I will grant You to sit down with Me on My Throne.
      - I will wipe away every one of your Tears.
        - There will be no more Death.
        - There will be no more Mourning.
          - There will be no more Crying.
            - There will be no more Pain.

ENDURE. TAKE THE PAIN.
Rev 2-4, 21







## HE WHO ENDURES TO THE END:

- I will grant you to eat of The Tree of Life in the Paradise of God.
  - You will not be hurt by the Second Death.
    - I will give you the Crown of Life.
    - I will give you the Hidden Manna.
  - I will give you a White Stone with a New Name.
  - I will give you Authority over The Nations to Rule.
    - I will give you The Morning Star.
    - You will be clothed in White Garments.
      - You will Walk with Me in White.
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ENDURE. TAKE THE PAIN. Rev 2-4, 21

