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ABOUT THE HOLY BIBLE

THE ULTIMATE TEST
FOR VALIDATION

A. LEON WHITE



FACT: If the Holy Bible is true, what it predicts will occur, and the God in the book will do what it says He will do for those who serve Him. Otherwise, the Holy Bible is the biggest lie ever perpetrated on humanity.

INTRODUCTION

The New Testament's [NT] Apostle Paul said to Timothy, a young pastor, in the book of 2[nd] Timothy 3, v. 16, that all Scripture [Old Testament: OT] is given by inspiration of God. Apostle Peter said in the book of 2[nd] Peter 1, v. 21, holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

The significance of the two references to the NT is what Apostle Peter said in the book of 1[st] Peter 1, vs. 10-12. Very briefly, more than four centuries before the occurrences in the NT, the OT prophets prophesied they would happen.

Given the title of this book, About The Holy Bible, The Ultimate Test for Validation, the focus is on what the God of the Holy Bible prophesied through Isaiah, an OT prophet, in the book of Isaiah, 45, v. 5: "I am the Lord, and there is no other; there is no God besides Me."

The basis of this book is what the God of the Holy Bible said through Isaiah in chapter 55, vs. 10-11:

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10. “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
11. So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”

Verse 11 unequivocally states that what the God of the Holy Bible says will effect something relative to what He said. CHAPTER 4 elaborates on the reference.

Whereas the Holy Bible is commonly called the road map to heaven, the God of the Holy Bible assures His faithful of being productive on earth. Note the allegory in Jeremiah 17:7-8:

7. Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord.
8. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat [trouble] comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought [negative economy], nor will cease from yielding fruit [regardless to the heat and drought].

Conclusively, if the God of the Holy Bible is real, and if He inspired the Holy Bible, and if the book is true, then He will do what the Holy Bible says He will do for those who serve Him. Otherwise, the Holy Bible is the biggest lie ever perpetrated on humanity.

Furthermore, given that the God of the Holy Bible said in Isaiah, 45:5 above “there is no God besides Me,” other deities are not real. The PROOF is any sacred book believed to be inspired by a deity but has no commitment by the deity for experiential manifestations of power for the faithful. Therefore, the book is an ideology because a nonexistent deity cannot make a commitment as the God of the Holy Bible did for His faithful.

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Lastly, given the commitments by the God of the Holy Bible for manifesting Himself experientially to His faithful, His doing so will prove that He is Who the Holy Bible says He is. And, as said previously, **He wants to** according to 2 Chronicles 16:9: “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal [REAL] to Him.”

CHAPTER 1

Skepticism: The First Step Toward Truth

[Unless otherwise noted, all Biblical references are from the New King James Version of the Holy Bible; the Old Testament (OT) and the New Testament (NT)]

What has not been examined impartially has not been well examined. Skepticism is therefore the first step toward truth. Denis Diderot [1713 – 1784, Philosopher/Art Critic/Writer].

Atheists categorically believe that there is no God. Agnostics believe that any reality, such as God, is unknown and probably unknowable. Therefore, agnostics are not committed to believing in God's existence or nonexistence. Hence, to atheists, agnostics, and the faithful in some religions, the Holy Bible is a mere book and cannot prove God's existence. But, to the contrary, the fulfillment of Biblical prophecies and manifestations of what the Holy book teaches can.

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Numerous sources attempt to discredit the authenticity of the Holy Bible. One example is refuting Daniel, a prophet, as the author of the book of Daniel, in which chapter 8 prophetically depicts Alexander the Great. Even though most versions do not name him, the Amplified [Holy] Bible does parenthetically.

Chapter 8 contains a concise but descriptive prophecy about Alexander leading his army to defeat the Medo-Persian army and thus conquer the Persian Empire, his fall, and his kingdom divided into four.

The details are in history textbooks and encyclopedias in schools and libraries, which the Holy Bible predates. Thus, Daniel wrote the prophecy about Alexander the Great about three centuries before his birth.

Note Daniel 8:3-8 from the Amplified Bible. [Ref: [wikipedia.org/wiki/Amplified Bible](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Amplified_Bible)]:

3. And I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold, there stood before the river a [single] ram which had two horns [representing two kings of Medo-Persia: Darius the Mede, then Cyrus]; and the two horns were high, but one [Persia] was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.
4. I looked and saw the ram [Medo-Persia] pushing and charging westward and northward and southward; no beast could stand before him, neither could anyone rescue from his power, but he did according to his [own] will and pleasure and magnified himself.
5. As I was considering, behold, a he-goat [the king of Greece] came from the west across the face of the whole earth without touching the ground, and the goat had a conspicuous and remarkable horn between his eyes [symbolizing Alexander the Great].
6. And he came to the ram that had the two horns which I had seen standing on the bank of the river and ran at him in the heat of his power.

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7. [In my vision] I saw him come close to the ram [Medo-Persia], and he was moved with anger against him and he [Alexander the Great] struck the ram and broke his two horns; and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but the goat threw him to the ground and trampled on him. And there was no one who could rescue the ram from his power.
8. And the he-goat [Alexander the Great] magnified himself exceedingly, and when he was [young and] strong, the great horn [he] was [suddenly] broken; and instead of [him] there came up four notable horns [to whom the kingdom was divided, one] toward [each of] the four winds of the heavens.

Although Daniel lived six centuries BCE, sources say that the book of Daniel was written about 164 BCE, probably by several authors. However, Daniel's reference to himself is in several verses in the book wherein he says, "I Daniel." Also, note Daniel's use of the personal pronouns "I," "my," and "me" in his account of what an angel said to him regarding a vision, Daniel 10:10-15:

10. Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands.
11. And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.
12. Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.
13. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.
14. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come."

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15. When he had spoken such words to me, I turned my face toward the ground and became speechless.

Note what an angel said to Daniel in Daniel 12:4: “But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.” The logic in this verse is that if Daniel were not writing the book, the angel would not have told him to “shut up the words, and seal the book.”

Given the references cited from Daniel, if the book was written more than 400 years after he died, its author(s) could have only gotten the information from resources containing the data. Thus, the conclusion is that Daniel wrote his book, and critics plagiarized it.

Foremost, the Holy Bible contains principles by which one could have a personal Divine fellowship. It is the only way that knowledge of God and His Son, Jesus Christ, could transcend belief and become the faith that would manifest what God promised for the faithful. Otherwise, the Holy Bible would be nothing more than a book of ideologies.

A great debate between Christendom and science is creationism vs. evolution. However, the Christian’s basis for believing in creation is experiencing what the Holy Bible says about God manifesting Himself to His faithful.

Such manifestations will be evident that the Holy Bible is true, although some passages are vague and seemingly contradictory. Even so, if one dares to focus on the central message, he/she will experience what the God of the Holy Bible does. Otherwise, the book could be deemed a compilation of theories and conjectures, giving no expectation for experiential evidence.

Numerous books and sermons focus on heaven as the inevitable reward for those that practice Biblical principles, and they are right. But, far too often, there is very little said about what the Holy Bible teaches about the faithful being successful and prosperous on earth before they die.

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Thus, God wanting us to live productive lives here on earth during a volatile economy is factual. The assertion is based on an OT allegory in Jeremiah 17:7-8:

7. Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord.
8. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit [regardless to the heat and drought].

The reference is comparable to what Jesus said in Matthew 6:25-33, “. . . seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these [material] things shall be added to you.”

However, Jesus did not imply that money would rain from heaven. Instead, what He said reflected Deuteronomy 28:12, “The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand.” So, therefore, God blesses our entrepreneurship and employment. [Refer to the FREE DOWNLOAD, “Your Flash of Genius.”]

Whereas “Your Flash of Genius” focuses on our earthly prosperity, the primary focus of this eBook is the expectation for the Divine fellowship that guides us through life to the ultimate reward, heaven. Note the following two references. The first one is a quote from Jesus Christ; the second is a quote from Apostle Paul, whom Jesus taught by revelation:

- A. John 16:13 - However, when He, the Spirit of truth [the Holy Spirit], has come, He will guide you into ALL truth [everything that pertains to life and godliness] . . . and He will tell you things to come [perceptions that something is about to happen and insights for dealing with it].
- B. Romans 8:14 - For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

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The references are comparable to an OT reference that too few people who profess belief in the Holy Bible practice it. However, practicing must be conjoined with prayer, as explained in CHAPTER 14, Praying in the Father's Love. Note the principles in Proverbs 3:5-6:

5. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;
6. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths [made while moving forward instead of standing still].

If you have the slightest doubt about the validity of the Holy Bible, allow a proposal for how you can know if it was, in fact, Divinely inspired. Naturally, there is some deliberate repetition of Biblical references to emphasize particular points. However, have an open mind and decide if the proposal is rational. In other words, be a skeptic, as the previously mentioned Miguel de Unamuno defined.

First is a very simple supposition. Namely, if the Holy Bible is true, it must have the capability to prove itself. Thereby, the God of the Holy Bible will do what it says He will do for anyone that serves Him, thus confirming the book's validity. Otherwise, as stated previously, the Holy Bible is the biggest lie ever perpetrated on humanity.

The foremost experience is the Mighty God [Jesus in the NT] miraculously empowering one to live a disciplined life, equating to a Spiritual transformation: a Spiritual rebirth [explained in CHAPTER 6, Born Again: The Fellowship Relationship]. God would also reciprocate with tangible blessings for allowing the empowerment.

The bottom line is that God wants us to know Him and recognize His presence. Forthcoming is an example typical to everyone in which we need manifestations of His presence.

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This unprecedented era of science and technology has heightened our consciousness to approach any subject rationally. Therefore, consider a comparison between science and spirituality.

Various apparatuses can be used to support scientific claims. For instance, instruments can determine different forms of energy: nuclear fission/fusion, electricity, solar radiation, etc. Although energy is intangible, it can affect substantial changes in tangible objects. For example, heat boils water and melts ice. Likewise, instruments that detect particular energies must have properties that cause them to react.

Conversely, given that God is a Spirit, there are no physical instruments to detect His presence. However, people generally accept His existence as factual, even without tangible evidence. Therefore, the only way to prove His existence is experiential.

The fact is that one cannot sincerely want to know God and not experience Him. Therefore, to prove God's reality, something about the person must compare to devices that detect energy.

The Holy Bible is the fundamental basis for believing in God. Therefore, if He inspired it, He must have given it the power to prove itself, which He did: principles to live by that will precipitate His blessings, i.e., manifest what the Holy book says He will do for those who serve Him.

The manifestations will be experiences that cause one to recognize fallacies perpetuated by false doctrines, philosophies, atheists, agnostics, etc. The experiences will transcend doubts by affecting awareness in the human spirit that God is real. Thus, the human spirit experiencing God would be comparable to instruments that react to energies.

Albert Einstein once said, "Ethical axioms are found and tested not very differently from the axioms of science. Truth is what stands the test of experience."

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Science systematically acquires knowledge of the physical or material world through observation and experimentation. For example, physics is the science from which observation and experimentation teach gravity.

The most familiar aspect of gravity is that what goes up must come down. Thus, a falling object is consistent with the law of gravity. Given that truth, we could conclude that physical realities are universally consistent with physical laws. So, likewise, we can expect spiritual realities to be consistent with spiritual laws.

Given what Einstein said, the bottom line is that if the argument presented herein is TRUTH, it will stand the test. It is where the rubber meets the road, as the idiom says.

The premise of the test is the commitment Jesus made in the book of St. John 14:21; He said, “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” [Although the pronouns, he and him, are in the reference, the language includes females.]

The operative word is manifest. So, to paraphrase what Jesus said, the individual that knows and obeys His teachings reveres Him. And for this, Jesus promised to initiate experiences that would be evidence to validate Him as being Who the Holy Bible says He is.

However, to refute His Deity without compliance to the condition for which He said He would manifest Himself is a gross injustice. Doing so would not exemplify the integrity that one innately possesses.

Recall what Einstein said about ethical axioms being tested not very differently from the axioms of science. Whereas he spoke of ethical axioms, allow the proposal for testing a Spiritual axiom. Namely, obedience to the teachings of Jesus Christ is comparable to testing scientific axioms. Thus, obedience is the prerequisite for experiencing Jesus Christ manifesting Himself.

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The book of James 4:8, in the NT, says, “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” An example of drawing near to God would be your obedience to Biblical principles based on the teaching of Jesus Christ. Thus, your obedience would be the magnetism that draws Him to you, which would be evident by His manifestations: what He does for you.

I sometimes use magnetism to illustrate a point about God. I ask individuals if they understand the science of how a magnet attracts metal. The answers are usually no, which means they are ignorant of the science. I continue by saying that I want to use the word ignorance respectfully. I then ask, does your ignorance of the science preclude a magnet from attracting metal objects? The answers are no.

I then comment that just as your ignorance of the science of magnetism does not stop it from working, so likewise, you and I not understanding the mystery of God does not stop Him from working. I conclude the illustration by saying that just as you cannot see magnetism but only see its manifestations, you cannot see God but can only experience His manifestations. The illustration has proven to be thought-provoking.

Likewise, your experiences of God manifesting Himself in your life would prove He is Who the Holy Bible says He is. Additionally, the strength of your experience is that you would know its reality regardless of the strongest contradiction, which compares to what Leonard Ravenhill once said, i.e., “A man with an experience of God is never at the mercy of a man with an argument.” Therefore, obeying God and not experiencing His manifestations would invalidate the Holy Bible, which will not happen if He is Who the book says He is.

What has been referred to as Jesus’ mission statement is in Luke 4:18-19. It depicts how He will not allow the PAST to control the PRESENT or dictate the FUTURE:

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18. The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,
19. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Consider brief commentaries on the two verses:

- To preach the gospel to the poor: give hope to anyone feeling no self-worth, without any sense of direction, or having accumulated tangible assets, have academic achievements, climbed the corporate ladder, has social recognition and numerous accolades for other accomplishments but still unfulfilled.
- To heal the brokenhearted: grief over past actions and bad experiences, whether the perpetrator or the victim.
- To proclaim liberty to the captives: a new lease on life for one seemingly trapped in adverse circumstances.
- Recovery of sight to the blind: new insight for having a fulfilled life.
- To set at liberty those who are bruised: Jesus removes the pain from any past hurt.
- To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord: the time for humanity to experience the Spiritual rebirth.

Jesus fulfilling His mission statement in one's life would be the "ultimate test" to distinguish Him from other deities and so-called higher powers. Namely, the fulfillment would prove Him to be Supreme unless other deities or higher powers made comparable commitments to their faithful and initiated experiences for them that equal or exceed what He does.

However, if they cannot equal or exceed what Jesus does for His faithful, their failure would prove He is Who the Holy Bible says He is: the REAL God that does REAL things for people who are REAL with Him. And, He WILL NOT refuse anyone who sincerely invites Him to be her/his God regardless of the person's life history. [I think you will agree that is a reasonable supposition.]

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The previously mentioned evidence pertains to what we experience throughout our life journeys. Namely, there are times that we face adverse circumstances for which agnostics, atheists, philosophical religions, and nonreligious persons might attribute overcoming them to positive thinking, which no one should refute. However, when making decisions that afford no margins for errors, positive thinking cannot ensure that our decisions would produce the best results.

Acting on our decisions would be risks we take that will have positive or negative consequences on our futures. The following are four examples of decisions typically made:

- i. financial planning and business matters
- ii. medical decisions based on consultations with doctors
- iii. young adults choosing the best vocations and the right colleges
- iv. traveling for vacations and other reasons

Predicaments, such as medical or financial, can occur wherein making the right decisions is vital: no margin for error. Otherwise, the outcomes may be devastating and without possibilities for recovery. They could cause dire circumstances that could last a lifetime. However, if the Holy Bible is true, we can rely on its principles for making the right decisions.

In the NT, Apostle Paul said in Romans 15:4, “whatever things were written before were written for our learning that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.” Paul referred to things written in the OT: more than 400 BC. Therefore, I’ll refer to the OT for principles about making decisions.

Two are in the book of Proverbs. The first one is in chapter 3:5-6, cited previously:

5. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;
6. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

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Acknowledging God means praying to Him, whereby we demonstrate our dependency on Him. Given that Jesus said that we pray in His name, we always end our prayers by saying, “in the name of Jesus,” before saying, Amen, which is our affirmation to the Father that we submit to His Son’s teaching.

The second principle is in Proverbs 16:3, “Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” According to this principle, the Omniscient God could infuse Divine knowledge and wisdom into our minds, equating to Him directing our paths as the first principle teaches.

Consider a quote by Napoleon Hill as the basis to continue the example about decision-making and include God directing our paths. Hill is the author of “Think and Grow Rich.” The book is among the top 10 best-selling self-help books of all time. One of his famous quotes is, “whatever your mind can conceive and believe it can achieve.”

I understand Hill’s point and agree. But, for the sake of argument, assume that his statement is an unequivocal truth. If that be so, Hill undoubtedly limits a potential achievement to only what a person’s mind has the capacity to conceive.

However, a person that acknowledges the Omniscient God by asking for His guidance in her/his decision-making processes, in the name of Jesus Christ, is complying with the previously cited Proverbs 3:5, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart . . .” Consequently, God would, at the right moment, respond by infusing the person’s mind with Divine knowledge and wisdom as inferred in the previously cited Proverbs 3:6, “. . . He shall direct your paths.” Therefore, by complying with the Holy Bible, the Omniscient God would enable one to achieve infinitely more than her/his mind can conceive.

So then, contradictory to Hill’s opinion, the individual’s achievement WOULD NOT be limited to only what her/his mind can conceive, which is supported by Ephesians 3:20-21 in the NT:

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20. Now to Him [God] 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 in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

In this instance, the power that works in us is manifestations of the Omniscient God's presence working in our minds to make decisions that could produce results that exceed our intellectual capabilities. Therein, we would experience what God said, i.e., "I will manifest Myself."

Note what Apostle Paul said in the book of 1 Corinthians 1:27 about what the Omniscient and Sovereign God does: "God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty."

Consider this example, and please know that the analogy is not intended to be disrespectful but to make a point. First, in verse 27, apply "foolish things" and "weak things" to the uneducated. However, they live by Biblical principles and practice those cited in Proverbs 3:5-6. Next, apply "the wise" and the "mighty" to graduates with doctorate degrees from Ivy League colleges.

Given the language in verse 27 in conjunction with the language in the principles in Proverbs, the Almighty God can infuse the minds of the uneducated with Divine knowledge and wisdom for making business decisions that astound graduates with doctoral degrees in business vocations. And, the results of those decisions could become record-breaking success stories.

The example is just one instance of how the God of the Universe could work in the minds of the uneducated to completely dumbfound the educated, especially those that do not practice Biblical principles. So then, our IQ levels, from the lowest to the highest, are inconsequential. Because, by inviting the Omniscient God to be involved in our decision-making

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processes, by Him infusing our minds with Divine knowledge and wisdom, our achievements could far exceed what our minds ordinarily have the capacity to conceive. Thereby, we would be evidence of God doing REAL things for people who are REAL with Him.

Such experiences would result from the fellowship relationship defined in CHAPTER 6. The experiences are evidence that convinces Christians to believe in creation over evolution, previously cited. Thus, Christians consequently treat Darwin's Theory of Evolution as what it is noted to be: just a theory: scientific speculation. [Refer to CHAPTER 3, Analytic Reasoning: The Catalyst for Evidence.]

So, as previously stated, decision-making is necessary for everyday life with the full awareness that acting on decisions dictates future positive or negative consequences. And, given that we cannot see the future, we need God's guidance in making decisions about everything. The reason is that if we don't exercise humility and pray first, we could plead for God's help in desperation later.

Personal Experiences

My background is in automotive engineering. Even so, I had an idea for an online advertising medium for small businesses, which I am convinced was inspired by God. But, I only knew two things about the Internet: how to spell and use it.

Although I had seen nothing to compare to the concept, I intuitively knew it would be a decisive advertiser. But, more importantly, learning to use it would be a small learning curve for computer-illiterate proprietors.

Given that the idea was outside the box for me, I bought a "For Dummies" book and learned the basic language of the Internet. Then I acknowledged God by praying for directions. Therefore, He directed my mind to develop a facsimile of my concept.

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I presented it to professionals that signed confidentiality. Their rhetorical question was, “how did Google and Microsoft miss this?” I facetiously replied that the big technology companies focused on proving the capabilities of their technologies instead of simplicity, which the populous generally wants. Then, after seeing the demonstration, they predicted that the two companies would ultimately attempt to outbid each other to acquire it once it became operational.

The only explanation I can give is that I practice the principles in Proverbs. I live by the teachings of Jesus Christ. And, I pray earnestly for His help when I feel vulnerable to temptations. Furthermore, when my attitude or words are offensive, I do not justify myself. Instead, I ask the individual and God for forgiveness. Thus, with His help, the project is destined to come to fruition.

The fact is, without experiencing manifestations of God’s presence in my life, I would have no evidence or basis for believing that the Holy Bible is true. Life’s experiences inspired CHAPTER 3.

Another instance occurred on a Monday when I was 21 years old. I was admitted to one of the highest-ranking hospitals. As one doctor explained, I had a disease that was causing my body to shut down. Doctors began testing me to determine why I was sick, being the strong young man I was.

The next evening, Tuesday, was a mid-week service at church. The following day, one of my peers from infancy, Selara M., came to visit me. When he got to my bedside, he said that after our pastor, the late Bishop I. W. Winans, had finished teaching and sat down, someone announced that I was in the hospital. Selara continued by saying that Bishop Winans’ reacted by silently facing downward and slightly shaking his head, which was typically his body language when he heard something distressing.

When I was about seven weeks old, Bishop Winans held me in his arms and said a prayer dedicating me to God as he did Selara and others in our

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peer group. So, in a sense, I was like one of his children. And, hearing that I was in the hospital distressed him.

Selara did not say that Bishop Winans prayed for me. But something undoubtedly was communicated between him and the Holy Spirit that caused him to raise his head and say categorically, “he’ll be back.” Therefore, based on what Selara told me, I knew that whether or not Bishop Winans prayed, my recovery was inevitable by him saying, “he’ll be back.”

[Bishop Winans had a mild-mannered demeanor. Nevertheless, he had the reputation of God doing miraculous healings through him. A few instances are in CHAPTER 8, Evidence of the Holy Spirit, and CHAPTER 9, Speaking in Tongues - Not Evidence of The Holy Spirit.]

A team of doctors continued trying to diagnose my illness. However, after several days of testing me, they were still indecisive about a protocol for treatment. Then, on a Monday, my primary doctor told me that the findings from the battery of tests had the team mystified about the onset of the disease and my recovery.

The next day I was discharged from the hospital. And, against the doctor’s orders to remain home on bed rest for a few days, I went to church for the mid-week evening service. So, as Bishop Winans said, “he’ll be back,” I was back at church. I have had no residual effects from the illness. I am now decades older.

Think about this. An indisputable fact is that no one is exempt from experiencing the vicissitudes of life. All of us are included, from the most impoverished to the wealthiest, the most illiterate to the most intellectual, and the least known to the most famous. In some instances, not all the money in the world can buy the needed help. Therefore, the bottom line is that we need God’s help, guidance, and protection all day, every day. Because, without His intervention, just one catastrophic event can permanently change my life or your life in the smallest fraction of a second. I am just being realistic.

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However, I am also realistic in saying that if you have already experienced such an occurrence, obtaining HELP to deal with the effect [whatever it is] is not beyond the capability of the REAL God that does REAL things for people who are REAL with Him. Absolutely nothing is impossible for Him.

Confucius once said, “a superior man may be made to go to the well, but he cannot be made to go down into it.” Therefore, I can only invite you to read this book with an open mind. It is based on logic, not hype. Then, if you decide that you genuinely want to know, begin setting aside time to pray, as explained in CHAPTER 14, and expect subsequent experiences initiated by God that will eradicate all doubt about the validity of the Holy Bible.

God inspired me to offer a general prayer for everyone who doubts the Holy Bible’s validity but considers my argument in this chapter valid. Given my personal experiences, which I know are real and are the results of praying in the name of Jesus, I have no reluctance about publishing the prayer.

If you accept it, you will honor the Almighty God because He inspired me to publish it. Moreover, I offer the prayer in the spirit of humility because you and I, at various times, experience virtually the same vicissitudes of life. Thus, I am only obeying the inspiration.

The prayer

Holy Father in heaven, I honor you as the Omniscient, Omnipresent, and Omnipotent God: the Almighty God. The Holy Bible teaches us that in the name of Jesus, we can come boldly to Your Throne of Grace to receive Your help in our times of need.

My brother/sister is honoring You by reading this prayer because You, Almighty God, inspired me to publish it. Therefore, if he/she has the slightest doubt that You are the incomprehensible God of the Holy Bible who CAN NOT be defined by scientific laws or confined to them, cause

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him/her to realize that You are. Also, cause him/her to know that You can exceed the bounds of logic to do what seems impossible.

Therefore, if he/she is dealing with –

- a personal health problem or that of a family member
- business matters that require making decisions
- a circumstance that he/she cannot manage alone

- show your great compassion and do the miraculous. Holy Father, Your intervention would be the reward for the humility he/she demonstrates by accepting this prayer.

If he/she is a parent with children in public or private schools, I pray for Your protection and blessings on the students and the teachers. Give the children the courage to resist peer pressures to engage in what the Holy Bible classifies as sin. Bless them to pursue their education, mature into adulthood, and become highly successful and productive citizens.

Holy Father, quarantine bullies that harass or threaten students for resisting peer pressure. You know how to isolate every bully and even remove them from schools. I ask that you do it.

I also pray that You protect students from physical and verbal abuse by teachers. And, remove abusive teachers from school systems permanently, and cause them to be convicted of their crimes to the fullest extent of the law. I pray that You do it, Almighty God, for the children's sake.

Holy Father, keep your mighty hand of protection on the children wherever they are. And bring runaways back home and restore the family bonds.

Lastly, given Your Omniscience, You know the reader's innermost feelings. He/She may be conflicted by a deep and private matter. If so, You know what it is precisely and how to resolve it completely. Therefore, I pray that You show Your great compassion and do the miraculous, Holy Father.

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Do it as a gesture of Your love for my brother/sister, given the humility he/she demonstrated by accepting this prayer.

Holy Father, the reader may have NO CHALLENGES but has the perception that all is well. If so, help him/her to realize that accumulating tangible assets, having academic achievements, climbing the corporate ladder, making notable contributions to society, or other reasons for recognition can bring numerous accolades that could give fleeting moments of happiness. But, help my brother/sister to recognize that no accomplishment or celebration can bring the level of fulfillment or the depth of peace to the human spirit that serving You would bring.

Heavenly Father, hear my prayer. Thereby, the reader will experience your manifestation and have no doubt that Your attention is on her/him. It would be Your gesture of love to get her/his attention and possibly a commitment to serving You.

Heavenly Father, this petition is obedience to the inspiration You gave me. Therefore, I ask that you grant it in the Name of Your Son, Jesus, Amen.

Conclusion

I would dare say that by you, my brother/sister, accepting the prayer, you realize the importance of having the God of the Holy Bible manifesting His presence in your life. So, right now, ask Him to forgive your sins. He will do it instantly. It is what being “born again” is, as explained in CHAPTER 6. More specifically, it is learning and living by Biblical principles based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Secondly, my brother/sister, search for and pray for God to lead you to a church with a pastor whose teachings focus on what the Holy Bible says about how the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ precipitate blessings in our earthly lives and heaven after we die. Thus, the sermons would not comprise religious ideologies or philosophical concepts.

Acknowledgments: Past And Present

Having a Bible-teaching pastor is crucial. You would recognize an anointed pastor because the sermons would resonate in your psyche: the human spirit that hungers for the fellowship-relationship with the God of the Holy Bible.

Some pastors are deeply passionate about ministering. And, of course, some have been exposed by news media as being continual hypocrites and criminals. But, think of them in this sense, Jesus had Judas, and we have them. So, given that Jesus had Judas, we can expect hypocrites too. But, your quest for real ministry would cause you to discern a true pastor.

Given that unpredictable calamities can affect our family lives and the world scene, I cannot overemphasize the necessity of having a Bible-teaching pastor. One teaching would be how God inspired authors of the Holy Bible to look through a tunnel of time, as it were, and prophesy in general and specific terms signs that would precede the second coming of Jesus Christ.

The little controversial middle eastern country, Israel, and its capital, Jerusalem, is one prophecy in the OT. A pastor who knows Israel's relevance to Biblical prophecies would elaborate on the subject, given what is currently happening on the world scene. However, if a pastor does not, you should continue praying for and searching for a pastor who does.

A prophecy in the NT is what Jesus said in Matthew 24:22, "And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened." Whereas numerous pastors taught that the shortening of days was numerical, pastors are making another point to consider. Namely, the shortening meant compressing time. For example, seconds are not as long as they once were, affecting every other time increment: minutes, hours, days, week, etc.

When asking college students if they accomplish as much in a day now as they did in past years, they generally say no. Then, when suggesting that God is compressing time, their responses are not contradictory. Instead,

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they indicate that they are somewhat stunned at processing the thought that something is happening with time.

So, amazingly, it is not only seniors that think time is going fast. Youngsters knew that something was happening with time, but they gave no thought to it being compressed. Thus, time compression could be what Jesus inferred when He prophesied that He would shorten the days. It is something to consider.

Reports on Google in July/August 2022 say that the earth's rotation around the sun is speeding up. However, there is no decisive reason for why. Also, what it holds for the future is unknown. But, it could be the beginning of what Jesus said about shortening the days, as previously cited in Matthew 24:22.

Given my limited experiences, it is my conviction that whatever is required of me to obey Biblical principles based on the teachings of Jesus Christ is a small price to pay for what He brings to my life. I presume to suggest that your experiences from doing the same would validate Jesus as the REAL God who does REAL things for people who are REAL with Him. I think you would also agree that doing so is a small price to pay for what He does. The experiences would be unequivocal proof that the authors of the Holy Bible were undoubtedly Divinely inspired to write it.