

The Truth on Water Baptism

By: Victor Pi

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The Truth on Water Baptism

1. Why must those who accept Jesus as Savior receive water baptism?

Ans: The Bible says: *"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned"* (Mark 16:16). Baptism is the command of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is God's law for redemption and the practical step to salvation.

Salvation comes by faith, and water baptism is an action of faith. Faith without works is dead, and such faith does not please God. The word of God is settled in heaven and abides forever. As the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, so shall God's word be that goes forth from His mouth: it shall not return to Him void (see Isa. 55:10-11). As God has spoken, so shall He bring it to pass, so all who believe in His promises will receive them. God said: *"He who believes and is baptized will be saved."* Whoever believes in the word of God and is baptized accordingly will surely be saved.



2. The Bible says: *"And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one"* (1 John 5:8). What is this witness of water?

- Ans: a) Water stands for the truth. Receiving water baptism is the first step in abiding by the truth and bearing the witness of water.
- b) The witness of water also means death; not a physical death, but the death of the old self (old Adam) in us. It is denying self, giving up our soulish nature, and, by the Holy Spirit, putting to death the flesh with its passions and desires. This is a lesson of disciplining our body and bringing it to subjection.

The apostle Paul said, *"For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be rendered powerless, that we should no longer be slaves to sin -- because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. . . The death He died, He died to sin once and for all; but the life He lives, He lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus"* (Rom. 6:6-11, NIV).

Therefore, we who have been baptized ought to offer ourselves completely to the Lord, placing ourselves as living sacrifices on the altar of death (this is holy, acceptable to God, and is our reasonable service). We should no longer have mastership over ourselves.

- c) The witness of water means obeying the Lord's truth and command to the end (see Rev. 2:26). Paul said with pride, *"I have kept the faith"* when he was being poured out as a drink offering.

- d) The witness of water also means obeying the apostles' doctrines our whole life, submitting to the apostles' leading, and, together with the saints, being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets and coming to the unity of the faith (see Acts 2:42; 2 Cor. 8:5; Eph. 2:19-20; 4:11-13).
- e) The witness of water is also for sanctifying the church (the body of Christ) with the washing of water by the word (see Eph. 5:26-27). The church is the bride of the Lord Jesus Christ. She should be a chaste virgin, completely holy and without blemish (see Rev. 21:9; 2 Cor. 11:2).

The Christian denominations are filled with human ideas. They collaborate with the human kingdoms and commit adultery with the world, living in worldliness and sins. They are a harlot who will never become the bride of the Lamb. Do not be deceived; every saint must keep his own body in holiness and honor.



3. What is the difference between water baptism and the witness of water?

Ans: a) Water baptism is the first step toward the witness of water.

- b) Therefore, those who have been baptized may not always have the witness of water in them. If, after the water baptism, they still love the world, live in sins, refuse to submit to the apostles' leading and cannot hold fast God's truth, then they do not have the witness of water in them. Still, one must first be baptized according to biblical truth if he wants to hold fast the witness of water.
- c) Water baptism is an action which proclaims our death, burial and resurrection with the Lord. But the witness of water is to actually live out this death, burial and resurrection with Christ in our daily lives, our work and serving. It is the newness of life in the likeness of the Lord's glorious resurrection.
- d) A person who has received the water baptism but refuses to pay the price to pursue the word further is merely saved. However, one who holds fast the witness of the water to the end has overcome the world. For the truth, he will not count his life dear to him, even to the point of death.



4. A certain denomination opposes water baptism. They say that baptism is just a ritual-something we can ignore. Are they right?

Ans: No, they are wrong. Water baptism is not a ritual, but a biblical truth and a command of the Lord Jesus.

- a) Baptism is for the remission of sins: *"Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins!'"* (Acts 2:38).

- b) Baptism is to fulfill all righteousness: *"But Jesus answered and said to him, 'Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he allowed Him. Then Jesus, when He had been baptized, came up immediately from the water"* (Matt. 3:15-16).

In Today's English Version, "to fulfill all righteousness" is translated as "to do all that God requires." So, water baptism is not an idea of men, but a commandment of God. Even Jesus, Son of the Most High, had to do all that God required. Yet, the preachers in the denominations, who do not understand the truth, consider this commandment of God as a ritual. How foolish they are!

- c) Baptism is a declaration before angels, men and the devil which says: "From now on, my whole being belongs to Christ, and I am completely severed from the world, sin, death and the devil."



5. According to the Bible, how were the Lord and His disciples baptized?

Ans: a) If we do not know how we should be baptized, or how to baptize others, we should see what the Lord did and do the same. (see 1 John 2:6.) Water baptism is our first step in following the Lord's example. If we fail to walk as the Lord walked from the first step, we will eventually deviate from the right path and fall prey to heresy. Anyone who refuses to walk as the Lord walked, or to follow God's word in the Bible, and speaks and acts in another way is violating the truth and following a heresy.

The Lord gave us a good example of water baptism (see Matt. 3:13-14). He went into the water of the Jordan to be baptized by John. Then He came up immediately from the water. This proves that His whole body was immersed in water according to the requirement of God the Father. And behold, God showed His pleasure with a sign:

b) the heavens were opened to Jesus, and the Spirit of God descended like a dove, and alighted upon Him! And the voice of God the Father came from heaven saying, *"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."* If we imitate our Lord and are baptized according to the commandment of God, God will also be pleased with us.



6. What is the meaning of water baptism? What does the Bible say about it?

Ans: Water baptism means to die, to be buried and to be raised from the dead with Christ (see Rom. 6:3-4). We are baptized to be united with the Lord in the likeness of His death, burial and resurrection.

- a) *In the likeness of His death.* Jesus Christ died on the cross for sinners. He completed the great work of redemption and is now giving this salvation freely to mankind. He hopes that everyone will accept this grace by faith and be united with Him in the likeness of His death. Once we are united with Him in the likeness of His death, all our sins will be upon Him. We will be free from the law of sin and death because He

has died for our sins. He fulfilled righteousness for us through the blood of His cross. So, the way to be united with the Lord is to believe and be baptized.

We have died with the Lord through water baptism to put our body of sin to death. We must always consider ourselves dead to sin and Satan. Then, sin will have no place in us. Since the Lord has died for our sins, how can we go on sinning and be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord?

- b) *In the likeness of His burial.* Not only did the Lord Jesus die for us, His body was also buried in the tomb, carrying with Him our old man, our sinful body, and all our past transgressions. When we are baptized and united in the likeness of the Lord's burial, God will no longer remember the sins we committed in the past, and He will free us from the shadow and accusations of our sins. We will become a new person before God and men as though we had never sinned before.
- c) *In the likeness of His resurrection.* The Lord rose to release the life of God. In Him is life, for He is the resurrection and the life (*see John 11:25 TEV*). After having the life of Christ's resurrection, Christians can be freed from the punishment and bondage of sin and can manifest the life and image of Christ. If we have this new life, we are a new creation. We will then be able to lead a victorious and holy life.

Thanks be to the Lord! With His resurrection, we don't just die to sin, but we also live for righteousness. Not only are our spirits revived (born again) to have fellowship with God, our souls are also revived--we are transformed by the renewing of our mind. When the Lord returns, the dead in Christ will rise first. Those who are alive and remain will shall be changed and be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air. We shall be with the Lord to enjoy glory forever (*see 1 Thess. 4:16-17*).



7. Some people in the denominations admit that being baptized into the Lord is biblical. But they disagree with the New Testament Church's submission to the apostles, saying that this is exalting men and is against the truth. Are they right?

Ans: Both water baptism and submission to the apostles are biblical. Submitting to the apostles is in no way exalting men.

- a) According to the Bible, the Old Testament Israelites who crossed the Red Sea were baptized into Moses (*see 1 Cor. 10:2*). No one will have a problem with being baptized into God. But to be baptized into Moses? Now, some will have a problem with that. Furthermore, the Bible also says that Moses would be as God! (*see Exod. 7:1*). To many, that would sound absurd.

The Israelites failed to learn this lesson of submitting to Moses. So they had to wander in the wilderness for 38 years, until all of them who came out of Egypt died in the wilderness (except Joshua and Caleb). History is repeating itself today: The denominations also cannot submit to the apostles God has set up in the New Testament Church.

- b) The New Testament says that Christians must not only give themselves to the Lord, but also to the apostles. The apostle Paul once praised the churches of Macedonia, saying, *"And this they did, not as we had hoped, but first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us [the apostles] by the will of God"* (2 Cor. 8:5).

Actually, giving ourselves to the apostles and giving ourselves to the Lord are both the will of God. Failure to give ourselves to the Lord or to the apostles is being disobedient to God. This is a very solemn matter. In fact, it will determine whether or not God's children can enter the kingdom of heaven!

The Lord said that all who do not do the will of His Father in heaven shall not enter the kingdom of heaven (see Matt. 7:21). Giving ourselves to the apostles is a realistic way to giving ourselves to the Lord. It is also the only way to enter the kingdom of God. In the last days, God, through the Holy Spirit, has rebuilt the New Testament Church and restored apostleship. Through the apostles He wants to lead all saints to do the will of God in one body.



8. Some people who do not understand the truth ask: "How can you relate water baptism to the Israelites' crossing the Red Sea?"

Ans: The Israelites' crossing the Red Sea in the Old Testament symbolizes a Christian's water baptism in the New Testament.

- a) Only by crossing the Red Sea could the Israelites depart from Egypt (the world) and be completely freed from her oppression and enslavement. In the New Testament era, believers are baptized as a sign of their separation from the world, showing that they are no longer oppressed and enslaved by the world. The Bible says, *"The world has been crucified to me, and I to the world"* (Gal. 6:14).

The Lord and the world cannot coexist. Therefore, all those who have been baptized into the Lord's name should not coexist with the world. The world crucified our Lord. So how can we still conform to the world? The Lord does not belong to the world, so neither do we! (see John 17:14-16).

- b) Only by crossing the Red Sea could the Israelites free themselves from the oppression and dominion of Pharaoh (the devil). The baptism of believers in the New Testament symbolizes that they now belong to Christ; that they have been completely separated from the devil and will no longer be controlled and manipulated by him; that they will no longer sin with him to become the children of wrath headed toward destruction in the lake of fire and brimstone (see Eph. 2:1-7). After water baptism, we no longer belong to the devil, but to Christ. We are the seed of Abraham, and heirs according to the promise (see Gal. 3:29).

- c) Only by crossing the Red Sea could the Israelites be free to serve and worship God. Under the dominion of Pharaoh, the Israelites were oppressed by their taskmasters. Day and night the Egyptians made their lives bitter with hard bondage. Pharaoh afflicted them, making them forget the God of their forefathers and forbidding them to serve and worship their God.

In the New Testament, the believers are free to serve and worship God only after being baptized into the Lord. If they do not separate themselves from the world, they will still be under the dominion of Satan. They will be under the hard bondage of the world. They will labor and be heavy laden, and in the end, their entire lives will be consumed by the vain glory of the world.

- d) While the Israelites were crossing the Red Sea, God avenged His people by casting Pharaoh's chosen captains, chariots and army into the Red Sea. When God's children in the New Testament era obey God completely to receive the water baptism (when the fullness of the Gentiles has come in) God will overthrow the throne of the nations and destroy the strength of kingdoms, crushing the human kingdoms and casting out the ruler of this world. He will also put an end to all rule and authority, and the kingdom shall be the LORD'S (see Hag. 2:22; 1 Cor. 15:24; Obad. 21).

God waited until every one of His chosen people (Israelites) had crossed the Red Sea and reached the other side before He overthrew the Egyptian chariots and army. If there was still one Israelite who had not come out, He would not have allowed the water of the Red Sea to flow back. The same goes for the water baptism in the New Testament era. As long as there is just one more chosen person who has not received the water baptism, God will not begin the Great Tribulation.

So how many more Gentiles are yet to be saved before the complete number comes in? We do not know. But we are sure that God will wait for the last chosen person to be baptized before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the LORD. Therefore, let us be diligent in preaching the gospel and in saving souls, so that the full number of the Gentiles may come in soon (see Rom. 11:25-26).

- e) Only by crossing the Red Sea could the Israelites escape a shameful life of slavery to enjoy the liberty as God's children. After the believers in the New Testament era are baptized, having all their former sins and filth washed away with the water by the word, they will be able to enjoy the glorious liberty of the children of God (see Rom. 8:21). Slaves cannot dwell forever in the Father's house--only the sons can. And only the sons will enjoy all the riches and blessings of the Father.



9. **Some people say, "The thief who was crucified with the Lord did not receive water or Spirit baptism. He only called upon the Lord's name and was promised to be with the Lord in paradise. This is proof that water baptism is unnecessary." Are they right?**

Ans: The story of the thief on the cross was an exception. We should not use it as an example to decline water or Spirit baptism.

- a) The thief called on the name of the Lord when he was on the cross, and the Lord promised that he would be with Him in paradise on that day (see Luke 23:40-43). The thief was on the cross and his physical body was dying. There was no way for him to be baptized. If anyone uses this case as an excuse to decline water baptism, he is rejecting the Lord's salvation. For when the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, first 3,000, and later 5,000 people repented to the Lord, and every one of them was baptized.
- b) At the time of the Lord's crucifixion, God had not given the promised Holy Spirit (see John 7:39). So, the thief could not have been baptized with the Holy Spirit either. But following the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, all believers should also be baptized with the Holy Spirit. So no one should use the example of the thief to reject the Holy Spirit baptism. Otherwise, he will lose the chance to enter God's kingdom (see John 3:5).



10. In the Gospel of Mark it says, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved." Paul's Epistle to the Romans says, "Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Which of these biblical passages should we follow?

Ans: Both passages are biblical truths, and both are correct. But they apply to two different situations:

- a) Mark 16:16 applies to people under normal conditions. Everyone who has received the Lord Jesus as Savior should be baptized to be saved.
- b) Romans 10:13 applies to those who believe in the Lord and who, under impossible circumstances, do not have a chance to be baptized. So they will be saved as long as they call upon the name of the Lord.

One example is the thief in Luke chapter 23 who was already hung on the cross, and who had neither the time nor the chance to be baptized. Others include those who have heard the gospel and received the Lord Jesus as Savior on their deathbed. Such people, who are chronically ill, or soldiers who are seriously wounded in battle, have no opportunity to receive water baptism. These people will be saved as long as they confess with their mouth that Jesus is Lord, call upon His name, and believe in their heart that God raised Him from the dead (see Rom. 10:9-13).



11. Roman Catholicism and some denominations baptize by sprinkling water. Is this right?

Ans: This practice is not biblical. It is heresy.

- a) According to the Bible, baptism should be by immersion, not by sprinkling water. Baptism by sprinkling water is a tradition of men. It is not walking as the Lord walked (see 1 John 2:6). It is against the Lord's teaching and God's demand. Therefore, it is not biblical and has nothing to do with the Lord's salvation. It is a heresy! Those who pervert the gospel of Christ shall be accursed (see Gal. 1:6-9).
- b) Water baptism also symbolizes burial with the Lord. A thick layer of dirt is needed to bury a dead person. Baptism by sprinkling water is like throwing a handful of dirt on a corpse. How can that be considered a burial?



12. Some denominations and Roman Catholicism, which practice baptism by sprinkling water, argue: "Since you want to follow the Lord's example, follow it all the way--Go to Israel to be baptized in the Jordan." Are they right?

Ans: There is no record in the Bible requiring everyone to be baptized in the Jordan; all that is needed is water. Let us see how Philip the preacher baptized:

"Now as they came down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, 'See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?'. . . So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water. . ." (Acts 8:36-39)

Philip did not say, "You can't be baptized here. We have to go to the Jordan." Nor did he say, "There is no need to go down into the water. I'll just sprinkle some drinking water on you from the container in your chariot." The eunuch was making a long journey. He must have had some drinking water with him. But, Philip did not take him to the Jordan or sprinkle him with drinking water. He took him down into the water nearby.



13. Roman Catholicism and some denominations baptize babies by sprinkling water on them. Is this biblical?

Ans: Baptism by sprinkling water is unbiblical, and baptizing babies by sprinkling is even more absurd! The Lord Jesus said, *"He who believes and is baptized will be saved"* (Mark 16:16). He did not say that those who were only baptized would be saved.

Babies are ignorant and innocent. They do not know what "believing" is, nor who God or the Savior is. Baptizing by sprinkling is not only a waste of effort, but it is also unbiblical and heretical. When the Lord said, *"He who believes and is baptized,"* His emphasis was on "believing". Babies do not know how to believe. So even if you baptize them a thousand times, it will not save them. And no one can be saved by sprinkling anyway. If baptism alone was enough, and if believing was unnecessary, then anyone who has swam in a pool or bathed in a bathtub is saved. If this is the case, then wouldn't Jesus Christ have shed His blood on the cross in vain?



14: One denomination advocates multiple baptism. They believe that the more a person is baptized, the more holy he will be. Is this true?

Ans: Believers are not made holy by the number of times they are baptized, but by obeying the truth. Only God's word can purify a man: *"You have purified your souls in obeying the truth"* (1 Pet. 1:22). *"How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to your word"* (Ps. 119:9).

Saul of Tarsus fell on the ground when a light from heaven shone on him. Then he called upon the name of the Lord, repented and confessed his sins. Afterwards, the Lord sent Ananias to help him receive the Spirit baptism. Ananias said to him, *"Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord"* (see Acts 9:1-18; 22:6-16; Eph. 5:26).

Anyone who soaks himself in water every day but does not obey God's word will not be sanctified. Moreover, there is no biblical example of anyone being baptized more than once.



15. The True Jesus Church practices face-down baptism. They say that such a baptism is in the likeness of the Lord's death. Is this true?

Ans: Again, this is heresy.

- a) Through baptism, one is not only united with the Lord in the likeness of His death, but also in the likeness of His burial and resurrection. Although the Lord did bow His head after He breathed His last, He was not buried with His face down. There is no record in the Bible saying that the Lord was buried face-down. And probably no one in this world has ever been buried face-down. It doesn't make sense.
- b) There is no example of face-down burial in the Bible. There was, however, a couple who was cursed and dropped dead. *"But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostle's feet. But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God.' Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down"* (some versions say, *"fell face-down"*) *and breathed his last. . ."* (Acts 5:1-5). After this, his wife, who had agreed together with her husband to lie to the Holy Spirit, also fell down at the feet of Peter and breathed her last.

By receiving baptism in a prone position, the True Jesus Church is not united with Christ in the likeness of His death and burial, but is united with Ananias and Sapphira in the likeness of their death. This couple was cursed because they were deceived by Satan to go against God's will.



16. There are denominations that baptize people in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Is there anything wrong with this?

Ans: These denominations baptize people in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit according to Matthew 28:19. But a majority of fundamentalists baptize in the name of Jesus Christ based on Acts 2:38; 8:16 and 10:48. However, both ways are incomplete. According to all the above passages of the Bible, as well as the footnote in the Chinese Bible to Matthew 28:19, the New Testament Church, in the name of Jesus Christ, baptizes someone into the Holy Father, the Holy Son and the Holy Spirit. This is complete and it conforms to the Bible.



17. Do we have to re-baptize brothers and sisters who return to the New Testament Church from the denominations?

- Ans: a) When brothers and sisters return to the New Testament Church from the denominations, we have to find out whether they were baptized and whether their baptism was carried out according to the truth. If it conformed to biblical truth, we have to acknowledge their baptism. If not, it will be necessary to baptize them again according to the truth, lest we fall short of them.
- b) If they themselves doubt the water baptism they received in the denominations, or are not clear about the truth on water baptism, or had not fully believed in the Lord at the time of their baptism and want to be baptized again, we must comply with them. This is to fortify their faith and enable them to bear a good testimony before God and men.



18. How do we conduct the water baptism according to the truth?

- Ans: a) The baptizer should ask the one to be baptized (we'll call him "AB") to stand in water deep enough to cover his whole body when he lies in the water. Then AB is to bow his head and close his eyes. This shows that he is united with the Lord in the likeness of His death, because the Lord bowed His head when He gave up His spirit on the cross (see John 19:30).
- b) Next, the baptizer (a co-worker, elder, deacon, or a brother or sister who is clear about the truth and serves in the church can be the baptizer) will lay one hand on AB's head, raise the other hand, and declare: "Brother (or sister) AB (full name), the Church baptizes you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ into the Holy Father, the Holy Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen!" Then AB should respond with "Amen."
- c) After making this declaration, the baptizer supports AB's back with one hand, while holding a towel to cover AB's nose and mouth (to prevent him from choking) with the other, and then slowly immerses AB into the water by gently lowering him (or her) backward. This shows that AB is united with the Lord in the likeness of His burial.

If the baptizer is not strong enough to bring AB out of the water, he may have an assistant to help him support the back of AB's head with one hand, and AB's hands (which are held together at the waist) with the other (to prevent AB from throwing his hands up out of the water).

- d) The baptizer should bring AB out of the water immediately after immersing him. When AB rises from the water, he is united with the Lord in the likeness of the Lord's resurrection.

The above is the entire baptism process. The baptizer must do everything carefully, according to the truth. He must not act carelessly. Before the baptism begins, AB has to be informed about the truth on water baptism as well as the whole baptism process, so he won't be baptized in ignorance. During the baptism, brothers and sisters should rejoice with AB and sing praises to God.

Things to remember for water baptism:

- i) Rivers, streams and ponds are most suitable for baptism. But if these are not available, a baptism pool of concrete, wood, or other suitable materials are acceptable. If a bath tub is used, be sure that it is long enough for the whole person to be immersed. If you cannot find a suitable place, you should wait for the next opportunity. Never baptize a person by sitting him down and pouring a pail of water over his head.
- ii) Have a baptism gown and a towel ready before baptism. If a baptism gown is not available, regular clothes can be worn.
- iii) Try to prepare more than one changing room when baptizing a group of believers in an open pond or river.



19. **Some Christians, who do not understand the truth, consider water baptism as a graduation ceremony. They think that after their baptism they are ready to enter God's kingdom. This is wrong. So what should Christians do after their baptism to go on to perfection? (see Heb. 6:1-2).**

- Ans: a) Be baptized with the Holy Spirit and pray daily in tongues to praise God. (Please read *Witness of Tongue Utterance* and *Truth on Spirit Baptism* for more details. We can mail them to you at your request.)
- b) After baptism, walk in the newness of life, have good conduct and testify to the Lord's honor in your daily life (see Rom. 6:4-13).
- c) Obey God's will, abide by the apostles' teachings, submit to their leading and be built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets for the rest of your life (see Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 8:5; Eph. 2:19-20).

- d) Love the LORD our God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength. Also, love your neighbor as yourself (see Mark 12:30-31; 1 John 3:14).
- e) Do not forsake church meetings; serve the Lord with diligence (see Heb. 10:25; 2 Pet. 1:4-11).
- f) Offer money and other things with a willing spirit (see Mal. 3:10).
- g) Read the Bible diligently and pray always (see Col. 3:16; Matt. 6:33; Phil. 4:6-7, 19).
- h) Trust and obey the Lord who is the author and finisher of our faith (see Rom. 8:28; 2 Cor. 4:17; 1 Sam. 5:22; Heb. 12:2).
- i) Strive to spread the gospel and lead people to the Lord (see Matt. 28:18-19; John 10:16).
- j) Hold fast the truth to the end, until the Lord returns (see Rev. 2:25-26; 3:10-11).
- k) Put on the whole armor of God to fight a good and victorious fight for the truth (see Eph. 6:11-20).
- l) Be sober and watchful; be as prepared as an adorned bride waiting for her Groom (see Phil. 3:20; 1 Pet. 5:8-10; 1 Thess. 5:2-6; Tit. 2:12-13; Matt. 24:42-44; 25:1-3; Eph. 5:26-27; Rev. 19:7-9; 21:2,9).



**(For further edification, please read *How to Be a Genuine Christian*.
We are willing to mail you copies at your request.)**