

# VOLUNTEER GIVE IN KIND

Of more value than money,  
is your service of  
love & gifts for the Lord

Special thanks to :

*Nancy & Tony Silva*

This booklet is for action, debate,  
discussion & feedback. We look forward  
to hearing from you - Joe Dias

God's Givers : 75, Vakola Village, Mumbai-400 055.  
Email : divinemedi@indiatimes.com • Cell : 09324803279



**The best covenant that could ever be !**

"Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?" said the young David to Goliath in 1 Samuel 17:26. Like David, you, too, have a covenant. But yours is better.

The covenant David had offered a wealth of blessings to those who kept it, but it also included curses for those who broke it. Yours doesn't. Yours is a New Covenant that Jesus bought with His own blood. It doesn't depend on your ability. It depends on Him and what He has already done.

He has done it all!  
All you have to do is believe it and receive it.

Right now, read Deuteronomy 28:16-68. That's a list of the curses Christ has freed you from. You might even call it a list of the giants Jesus has already slain for you. It contains every diabolical thing the devil could ever use to destroy you. Read it and rejoice.

God has healed you and delivered you from those things !

## INDEX

## PG NO

1. Messes to Miracles	01
2. Lessons From The Valley	06
3. Promises, Blessings & Authority	17
4. Easter & The Passover	25
5. Blood of the Passover Lamb	40
6. Prayers of Deliverance	49
7. God Wants You Prosperous	53
8. Prayer to God, the Father	57
9. Divine Mercy Chaplet	60
10. Be Worried. Be Very Worried	61

## MESSES TO MIRACLES

*\* For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed ? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard ? And how shall they hear without a messenger ? And how shall the messengers go, except that they be sent ? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace & bring glad tidings of good things !*

**Romans 10 : 13 - 15**

*The Lord asks, Whom shall I send and who will go for us ? Then said I, Here am I ; Send me Lord.*

**Isaiah 6 : 8**

It has been long since you would have heard from me. The reason being Satan tried yet another attack. Thanks to our prayer life, which had improved, as we are now so much more grateful to God for standing by us. Praise the Lord, we survived. Of course **meditating on the Word (Bible) helped a great deal in making our way prosperous & giving us good success – Joshua 1 : 8.** Temptations came in the form of obsessive work & trying to dabble in politics, which took up much of time & energy. We gave in to it sometimes. But, God taught us a lesson, I hope we won't forget. You can read all about it in the chapters to follow.

Please send us your email address, along with  
your contact details to courier you a  
FREE AUDIO & VIDEO CD

For now, I can only say that if you are working on a closer relationship with God, **you can expect Satan to attack you** like crazy. May be then as you fight him back, you will realize, that you are on the right path & God is closer to you than ever. **The best way to fight Satan is to read as much of the Word of God daily, praise Him & thank Him, intercede in Jesus' name, tell of His great deeds, apply the Blood of the Lamb & sow a seed.** No power on earth & under it or ever-created can beat this combination – a missile that can never fail.

This booklet again is the line of my earlier booklets on Tithing 10% Plus and Help a Christian – giving to God's work & his people. Here I deal with 3 different topics –

- 1. Offerings :** This is giving over & above the 10% tithing & the blessings promised, particularly with reference to the Passover.
- 2. Testimony & Promises :** All one needs to do to overcome Satan is, testify how the Lord has been helpful & claim His promises to receive blessings.
- 3. Blood of Passover Lamb :** All that the Blood does for us & how we can honour & worship the risen Lord, this Easter by observing the Passover season in Spirit & in Truth.

Page - 2

Obviously, the idea would be **to share among ourselves, what the Bible says about giving & channel our giving. You don't need to give to us, begin with your local church** – in the parish or locality you live in & then move to other areas of God's work, as the Holy Spirit leads you. Needless to add, this will open wide the windows of heaven for blessings to flow.

On one hand we have **lakhs of people thronging Christian crusades/prayer meetings** & on the other hand, we have **Christians hoarding wealth – the demon of stinginess.** Churches in the cities & towns manage to get along well, while those in the **mission/villages are dry.** We have also noticed that even Christian books, CDs or VCDs are costly & many are reluctant to buy them, because of their price. So we have decided to light a candle rather than curse the darkness - **To produce these with the limited funds, that we may come by & distribute it FREE** or at a nominal cost.

You are invited to support us in this venture. **If, you feel like contacting us for details – you can be sure it's the Holy Spirit whispering to you.** Truly, I say to you – The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. **The Church has grown more in the last few years, than during the last over 2000 years – Do you know exactly, how much has been your contribution to the growth of your local Church ?**

Page - 4

As usual, you will find in the pages that follow, information picked up from books & the internet, arranged in a 'short-n-sweet' manner, cut & dried to the best extent possible. My role has only been to string all the tit-bits on a particular topic together & make it available FREE to you. This is because, I have noticed that **for such topics, most do not surf the internet or that such stuff is not easily compiled & available.**

At the same time, I believe we all need to discuss & debate such issues of vital importance to our spiritual growth. Today, we are flushed with an information explosion that often might turn you off or confuse you. We need to stop & get back to basics, if we are to remain sane & prosperous.

We are faced today with innumerable opportunities to spread the Good News on a scale never witnessed before. Take Christian TV channels in India alone – **TBN, EWTN, God TV, MiracleNet, DayStar....** Christians are becoming more aware of their faith, but how much are they practicing it. The commands to Tithes & give offerings for instance - **If every Christian fulfilled this duty faithfully, not a single brother or sister in Christ would be in need.** You will be happy to know that I have been prompted to start **GOD'S GIVERS** – a group that will promote Christian giving – Tithes & Offerings.

Page - 3

The best you can do is VOLUNTEER ! But if you can't help by getting personally involved, send messengers into the mission fields, by your support. For, how will they go, if they are not sent ?

You will also be happy to note that Praise the Lord ! Catholics are taking to tithing in a big way, beginning with the Bishops, leading the way. We could send you comments by just some of them, not mentioning others who have supported the idea of tithing, but would wish to remain anonymous. I would like to conclude with Paul's prayer for you –

*“I thank my God for you, every time I think of you; and every time I pray for you all, I pray with joy because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the gospel from the very first day until now. And so I am sure you will carry it on until it is finished on the Day of Christ Jesus. You are always in my heart !”*

- **Philippians 1 : 3-7**

Your Servant in the Lord's Service,

*Joe Dias*



Page - 5

**Death – Where, When, How ... ?**

I find myself fascinated by death. As the Bible says, it comes like a thief, at an hour, one least expects. And so with a shock I heard the news of one – **Sunil Dutt**, whom many know as an actor, social worker & politician. **He died recently with his boots or gloves on, so to say, when he was union minister for sports, at the prime of his political career.** I grew to know him well, doing my little bit to get him elected 4 times to Parliament.

Similarly, I just couldn't believe my ears, when I came to know that a friend of mine died of **AIDS**, even while he was in his teens. Or my eyes blink in disbelief when, I read of **suicides & brutal murders**, or even worse slow **starvation deaths**. Death is the only certainty in life. In fact, from our very first birthday – we should be celebrating the day, every year as **Deathday!**

As a Christian, death is something we are told we can look forward to. But in a life that's so fast & with the thought of death being so mysterious, our tendency is to push it back, as long as we can. We tend to enjoy & make the best of life, while we can & think about death for a few moments, only at funerals or when we are seriously ill or old.

Page - 6

**Whatever our attitude towards life, so it would seem, would be towards death.** What is your attitude to life? What does life mean to you? Where do you go from here? Do you believe in a heaven or hell? If there is life after death or a resurrection? What will it be like? **This life will last a maximum of few years more**, if you are blessed – what about life thereafter? Eternity!

**Be like an eagle**

Thankfully, as Christians we have **great hope for life & also in death**, if we believe & trust in the Lord. In Him we have the strength to face our today & our tomorrow, as **Isaiah 40 : 31** says - "**But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.**" **Psalm 103** says, "**God will fill your mouth with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagles**".

The eagle is a bird, other than the dove, that the bible speaks well about. It is because of its characteristics to use the strength that God has blessed it with & ride over difficulties, to great heights. Christians who believe in the one true God have more than enough to look forward to – all we need to do is read His Word & keep it. **Loving Him & loving each other will enable us make a success of life.** This booklet presents yet another time (PASSOVER) & opportunity (EASTER), to prove to God that we worship Him & Him alone.

Page - 7

**Things Go Wrong**

Often people have the Holy Joe image about me & assume all things go right for me because I pray. But that is not always the case, as I found out, after taking much beating. **I too have many faults & have learnt to pick myself up, starting all over again.** Rising from falls you might have, is what makes the difference between **Judas & Peter**. In fact, Peter denied Jesus 3 times, but his response to his 3 falls was not just one of grief & repentance. **It was also that of rising & working hard, to correct his mistakes.**

He was so serious about it that after the crying was over, he rose to become the rock, on which Jesus promised to build His temple & even died a martyr for his Master. Judas, on the other hand, adopted a defeatist attitude & gave in to Satan's attack, leading him to commit suicide. **I try to remember God's promises & His words in the Bible at such times, trying my best to forget not that He is right beside me** – though I can't see or feel Him, as I do when things are fine.

Trinity, the company that I head is into organizing exhibitions & trade fairs. In fact, God knew well-over 20 years ago that I would need the skills for event management & so He professionally trained me at St Xavier's and gave me my first job, in a company that internationally organized some of the biggest events for different industries.

Page - 8

**Little did I know then, that he was equipping me, to be a businessman in my own right, decades later.** Again, almost 15 years ago when Cecil joined Trinity, one could call it a non-starter, rather than even a start-up, with not much achieved then. **Little perhaps did Cecil know then, that God would use him in a mighty way to make Trinity what it is today.**

And little did I know that about 10 years later, I would marry his sister, to be my helpmate! Of course, again – So many things have happened with the business, **but God has always been true to His word. He always sent us clouds with silver linings. That's just how God is – One full of pleasant surprises.**

**A trying & testing time**

We had just finished an exhibition and the experience was depressing. We had all tried our best, but the event did not turn out to be as expected. We had decided to try out a new theme & expected it to work out well. **It didn't, but we praised the Lord & thanked Him for the situation.**

We had made just about enough money to cover expenses & keep ourselves afloat by paying a little more to keep debtors away for a couple of months. **I was experiencing a low. In fact, it dawned on me that it was some time since we had a real success, like the**

Page - 9

**one we had after I had started tithing. I also realized that I had slipped a bit in my relationship with God..** My prayer time became quite irregular & quality time with Him was lacking. Distractions & other responsibilities took up more of my time. **God, the Holy Spirit then prompted me to take some time out & seek the reasons for what went wrong.**

I grew restless & just knew I had to have a heart to heart talk with God. So I came back before the rest, from the place we were in & decided to do some soul searching. I stood convicted before God. I knew where I was wrong & I felt bad about it. **This is one thing about sin or your faults; you need to keep in check. Never let your mistakes or sins keep you down for long.**

Arise & go back to your Father, like the prodigal son – with arms open wide, he is there to welcome you. God forgives no matter how much or how many times you sin. **All He wants you to do is admit your fault & ask for the grace to sin no more. Don't let the Devil keep you away from the Lord for long.** The hours that went by was spent in repentance, since I knew there were quite a few things I had slipped on.

Of course I was still the regular Sunday churchgoer, but my fellowship with God had not bettered. The distance made me think less about Him & mass was fast becoming a formality.

Page - 10

\* In the rush of things, I had become like Martha in the story from **Luke 10** - Mary was sitting at Jesus' feet listening to Him teach while Martha was bustling around in the kitchen cooking dinner for everyone. Finally Martha couldn't stand it anymore. She came to Jesus and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do all the work myself? Tell her to help me!"

*Jesus answered, "Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But only one thing is needed : and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:41-42).* Mary had set everything else aside, so she could hear the Word. But Martha had let the seemingly important business of living take priority over the Word of God.

Martha probably thought if she didn't cook dinner for all those folks, they'd go hungry. But they wouldn't have. Jesus had miraculously fed multitudes before and He could have done it again in Martha's home. She could have plopped herself down at Jesus' feet, and they could have all had a banquet at Lord's expense !

### **Robbing God ?**

**But the most important sin that I struck upon was that I had defaulted on my tithing (giving 10% to God's work) and not made any offerings, like the first fruits. It is not exactly that I did not give to God's**

Page - 12

**My scanty prayer life led me other more serious mistakes – a growing lack of faith, superficial reading of God's word, lesser praise & thanksgiving, doubts setting in .....**

It seemed that my honeymoon with the Lord was over. So I cried out to Him to show me the reasons why I slipped, even without my realizing it. I couldn't have been more grateful or thankful to God for waking me up to some reasons –

\* I discovered that along with the Holy Spirit & the Evil Spirit, there was also something I'll call the Human Spirit – the “I” which I had too much of. **It was this Human Spirit that made me feel capable enough to handle any situation.** I ceased to rely on God, as I used to when, I was in trouble. **I had almost begun to think of God as a Fireman, whom I needed only in case of fire or emergencies.**

I seemed no friend of the Lord. Rather, **I felt like he was like a switch, which I thought I could turn on, when I needed electricity, to get a job done.** I would then just switch off, when I did not feel the need of Him. I felt bitter. I felt inhuman to treat a God who had been so good to me. He always stood by me & I took Him for granted.

Page - 11

work, but the percentage differed or even if it remained at 10%, it was delayed. I could imagine priests struggling to make God's plans work or God's children waiting / expecting / suffering / praying for help & assistance – something that might have not been much for me, but meant a lot for God's Kingdom.

**At times, it was sheer laziness, for I did give, after some delay.** The Lord had given me the opportunity, but because of my laziness, **He had decided to find someone else to do the job & give the blessing.** I felt bad about the whole thing, especially since, **I was supposed to be teaching others to tithe & give, but defaulted myself.**

I couldn't feel any worse. **To think that this could happen to me – one whom the Lord entrusted a task to tell as many, that worship included giving to God & His children, according to His Word.** After all tithing was also a commanded by the Lord Himself, though most of us prefer to follow just the 10 Commandments. And even that we don't do well. The words of **Job 33 : 13 – 30** came to mind :

\* *“Why do you accuse God of never answering a man's complaints ? Although God speaks again & again, no one pays attention to what he says...*

Page - 13

*God speaks to make them stop their sinning & to save them from becoming proud... God corrects a man by sending sickness & filling his body with pain... Perhaps an angel may come to his aid – one of God's thousands of angels, who remind men of their duty.*

*In mercy, the angel will say “Release him ! He is not to go down to the world of the dead. Here is the ransom to set him free”. His body will grow young & strong again.; when he prays, God will answer; he will worship God with joy; God will set things right for him again. He will say in public, “I have sinned. I have not done right, but God spared me. He kept me from going to the world of the dead and I am still alive”. God does this again & again; he saves a person's life and gives him the joy of living”.*

### **Great things happen, when God ....**

I understood many things, that God, the Holy Spirit revealed to me. I repented & decided to do more than **10%** i.e. the tithe, plus some offerings. John, the Baptist said to give away **50%** (if you have two shirts, give away one), Zacchaeus gave upto **4 times** of the amount, he cheated people, Jesus appreciated the widow, who put in her last pennies (**100%**) and called her most generous. Surely, we don't do so much.

Page - 14

And so I decided to check the internet for what more I could offer, besides the tithe, as per the Bible & found a number of them. I practiced them to the best of my capabilities & lo behold !

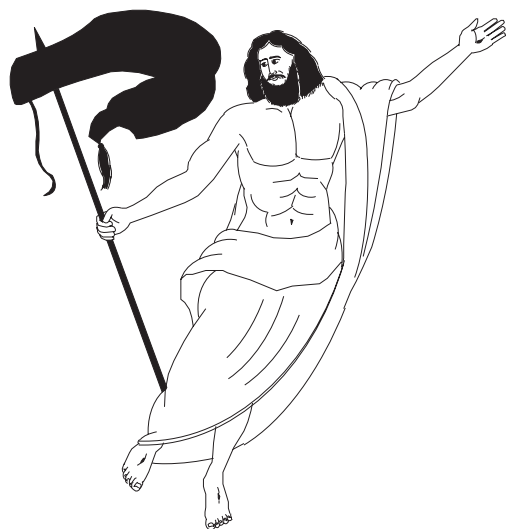
**Great things began to happen.** I discovered as Christ Himself said in **Acts 20 : 35** – “*it is more blessed to give than to receive*”. Our next exhibition was a bumper – again something that we had never experienced before. Better than even the success we had, when we started tithing. **Not only was the money good, but it also brought better things along – hope, encouragement, peace of mind & a firm resolve to get out of the debt trap, ASAP! Praise the Lord.**

Of course we have a long way to go, to zero debt, but praise God again – we are on our way. Please pray for us, as you can be sure we pray for you too. Hudson Taylor said, "It does not matter how great the pressure; it matters only where the pressure lies, whether it comes between you and God, or whether it presses you closer to his heart."

**And God also sent me an angel along – not a fair winged creature, but a person named Anthony, who did his best to help.** I would want you all to **benefit from this secret of sowing & reaping**, for I have

Page - 15

experienced it time & again – the more you sow, the more you reap. And this time, I want to share with you in the next chapter, some info about the Passover Offering & the benefits that flow from it. But before that, let me quote some Scriptural promises made by God – And I tell you it works ! He is true to His Word.



Page - 16

## PROMISES, BLESSINGS & AUTHORITY

### **Old Testament V/s New Testament**

Very often I am asked, Isn't all this Old Testament stuff & should we follow it ? **Jesus came to fulfill the Law, not to abolish it, as He said so. He Himself followed much of the customs of His day, as you will see in the Passover section.** Besides, the Church gives equal importance to both the Testaments, because the Bible would be incomplete without the Old Testament. Hence, the Church included it in the bible.

Most of the hymns we sing are from the Psalms & the 10 commandments we follow, are both from the Old Testament. The Old is certainly not meant to be just Biblical Stories for Kids Catechism. **How do you decide, what is important & what may be rejected ?** The Old Testament is where God, the Father created the universe, gave his law to His people & fulfilled His expression on love for them in the New Testament.

In the New Testament, Jesus gave His instructions & God, the Holy Spirit was seen to be even more active than ever. **Ignoring one Testament at the cost of the other or looking at the two Testaments as separate will be a grave mistake, if not a sin.**

Page - 17

Equally important is the fact that, we run the risk of missing out on God's promises contained in the Old Testament. Thus, preventing God's prosperity from coming to us. There are secrets, through which God provides solutions to many of life's problems – sickness, tension, debt... God through His Word also builds you up, encourages you, speaks to you ... By not meditating or trying to understand both Testaments, we run the risk of stopping God from working in our lives or using us for His work or prospering us. Let us look at some of His words from the Old Testament.

### **Promises – He keeps, in His time**

- ❖ God provides, “ blessings to come on thee and overtake thee, if thou shall hearken unto the voice of the Lord, thy God “ – **Deuteronomy 28 : 2**
- ❖ God supplies solutions, “ call unto me & I will answer thee, and show thee great & mighty things, which thou knowest not “ – **Jeremiah 33 : 3**
- ❖ Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, Fear not, I will help you. - **Isaiah 41 : 10 , 13**

Page - 18

- ❑ Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field.
- ❑ Blessed shall be the fruit of your body – Your children & grandchildren.
- ❑ Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading-trough & the fruit of your ground, and the fruit of your beasts, the increase of your cattle, and the young of your flock.
- ❑ Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out
- ❑ The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you; they shall come out against you one way, and flee before you seven ways...

### **-Deuteronomy 28 : 1 - 7**

### **Jesus gives us authority**

- **Luke 10 : 19 - 20** “I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”
- **Matthew 10 : 1** “He called his twelve disciples to him and **gave them authority** to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.”

Page - 20

- ❖ Thus says the Lord: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you - **Isaiah 43:1- 2**
- ❖ God will not disappoint you or fail to reward your faith - **Heb. 11 : 6.** God promised you the blessing of prosperity and success if you would put His Word first in your life - **Josh. 1 : 8.**

**Read & claim some these powerful prosperity promises : Proverbs 10 : 22; Philippians 4 : 19; Deuteronomy 8 : 18; 2Corinthians 8 : 9; Psalm 23 : 1 , 5; Psalm 35 : 27, 37 : 18 - 19, 25, 84 : 11, 115 : 14; 3John 2. Watch them work for you.**

### **Blessings of God for one who Obeys God:**

- ❑ And if you obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments, which I command you this day, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.
- ❑ And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God.

Page - 19

- **Mark 16 : 17 - 18** “**And these signs will accompany those who believe:** In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.”
- **John 14 : 12** “I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. **He will do even greater things than these,** because I am going to the Father.”
- **John 1 : 12** “but as many as received him, to them gave He power to become sons of God, even to them that believe on His name “

God wants you to be fruitful & prosperous as He says in **Genesis 1 : 26 – 28.** The devil however, does not us to bear fruit, as if that happens, he is the loser. Therefore, we have a whole lot of reasons, the devil gives us – like, **its God's plan for you to be poor, sick, jobless, in tension, etc.** While, this may be true sometime - when God is testing you or when God wants to teach you something; But it is not always the case. In fact, as in **John 15 : 1 – 8,** either you are fruitful or you are disobeying God – you are not fulfilling his plans & desires for your life. God provides you with resources & talents to double & build upon. **Then, these are to be used to bless the lesser fortunate others**

Page - 21

## **Worldly attractions & distractions**

Things ! Things ! Things ! **BIGGER** house, competition, renovation, clothes, schemes, stereo, deals, job, car, TV... Its natural we focus on these. **But what is our attitude towards them ? Do they own us or do we own them ?** Often our lust or greed, influenced by the media & friends, takes up so much of our time, money, energy & resources, that we have little of all these to give to God.

When we first came to the Lord, we were in desperate circumstances. Tension, Sickness & Broke. So it was easy for us to dedicate ourselves to prayer & to the Word, as it was our only & last resort. Even talking to God was a lot easier, since not many others would be talking to us. We were all ears, to listen to Him & walk in His ways – tithing faithfully – God kept His promises & more than met our basic needs. We reached a stage, where we were not only no longer desperate, but also couldn't help feeling comfortable. It was then that the real test came. Would we serve God out of our love for Him, rather than because we had no other choice or because we were desperate ?

Well, praise God, most of the time we passed. But, let me tell you, its difficult. And we thank God that whenever, we strayed away from His path for even a

Page - 22

*education, for she had quit school to help her family. In 1995, at age 87, she did an amazing thing: She gave \$150,000 to the University of Southern Mississippi, in her home town, so that other young people could afford to stay in school.*

Surely we Christians can save & do that much ! And much, much more – because we are giving back to God, only what is essentially given to us, by Him and to be used, as He desires.



Page - 24

while, He got after us – as the Good Shepherd goes after His lost sheep. In the process we learnt a good lesson : It takes a lot more dedication to serve God when you' have some money, than it takes when you're desperate & need His help ! When you have money, there is a constant temptation to get so caught up in the earthly things, that your desire for the things of God fades into the background. **The legendary American automobile industrialist, Henry Ford said, "I was happier when I was doing a mechanic's job."**

If you are blessed with wealth or as material blessings of God comes your way; Remember, God has not given you abundantly, so you can consume His blessings, on your own lusts. He has revealed Himself to you & sent His Son to die for you, so you can walk in the Spirit and do the job He's called you to do. **Don't let the things of this world, cause you to miss out on the glorious things of the Spirit. Get your priorities in line with God's Word. Set your mind on things above, and you'll discover just how heavenly life is really meant to be !**

*A story is told of Oseola McCarty, who worked all her life washing and ironing other people's clothes. She didn't earn much, but she always saved her money. Her one regret was that she had little*

Page - 23

## EASTER & THE PASSOVER

\* So let no one make rules about what you eat or drink or about what holy days or a festival or the Sabbath. All such things are only merely a shadow of things to come; the reality is Christ.

**Colossians 2 : 16-17**

\* One person thinks that a certain day is more important than other days, while someone else thinks that all days are the same. Each one should therefore make up his own mind & be convinced.

**Romans 14 : 5**

Easter is a feast to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord & Saviour, Yeshua – Jesus. It is an occasion of great joy, even greater than Christmas, since the birth of Christ would not make much sense, without His death & rising from the dead. **An Easter celebration becomes meaningful only in the light of Lent – the suffering & crucifixion of Christ – a period when we try to experience in a very tiny way, how Jesus felt.** The abstaining from meat or vices & small sacrifices over the 40 days, makes sense, only if the money saved is given to God's work or for His people. And not if it is used to, party even more on Easter and thereafter. Did you make sacrifices during Lent ? What did you do with the savings from your sacrifices ?

Page - 25

The Lenten sacrifices are meant not only to benefit you, but also be useful for God's work & children.

Feasts for the Jews in Hebrew means “ **appointed times** ” or designated meetings with God & hence, there were specific instructions to do so. **God Himself authorized 7 feasts (Leviticus 23) for the Israelites – and all were not times of feasting**, as many of today's Christians tend to follow. **The Holy Family and even the early Christians, being essentially Jews, followed these feasts.**

It was only until over 320 years later, that Christians & Jews were stopped from celebrating such feasts, for political, rather than religious reasons by Emperor Constantine. It would rather seem, that he noticed that the Jews who faithfully fulfilled God's observances were blessed, according to God's word. One of the feasts to be axed was the Passover, which was replaced by the Roman rulers with Easter, around the same time. The roots of Easter though, can be traced to a pagan festival at the beginning of Spring, dedicated to the fertility goddess. Hence, also the symbols of reproduction, like bunny rabbits or eggs.

For the devout Christian today though, Easter is the celebration of the triumph of our Lord & Master, over death, making us an Easter people. **This however, does**

Page - 26

**instructed His people, not to appear before Him without an offering, as Deuteronomy 16 : 16 states – “And they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed”. The feasts, like the Passover, were to be kept forever – “It is the Lord's Passover... So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance“**  
– **Exodus 12 : 11, 14**

Over the last 1700 years, many such observance are coming to light, thanks to research by scholars & the promotion of their benefits by writers such as Steve Munsey. It is time, we too follow the Lord's exhortations & reap the blessings promised, for keeping them. The Passover is particularly important, because we believe that Jesus is the Passover Lamb that was slain on Good Friday.

By His Blood, Jesus had us PASS OVER from death to life with the Father. As such, there are many parallels in the Old Testament that show Jesus to be the Messiah promised by God. Let us go back a while to the First Passover. The book of **Exodus 1 - 12** describes the sorry state of the Israelites under the Pharaoh, as result of which God sent 9 plagues, until God commanded that every Egyptian first-born would be killed.

Page - 28

not mean that we forget the observances that foreshadowed Easter. And Passover is one of them. In fact, Jesus himself said –

- **<sup>17</sup> Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup> I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven**

– **Matthew 5 : 17-20**

### **God's Feasts – instituted by Him**

According to the Bible, thrice a year, God's people were to appear together, before the Lord. There were detailed instructions & blessings promised for such appointed meetings. **At each such meeting, God strictly**

Page - 27

The 9 plagues were 1)Blood, 2)Frogs, 3)Lice, 4)Flies, 5)Livestock, 6) Boils, 7)Hail, 8)Locusts and 9)Darkness.

**Exodus 12 : 1 – 14** gives clear cut instructions as to how the Israelites could avoid death, by sacrificing a lamb, without blemish and smearing its blood on the door-post. God said that around midnight, He Himself would pass through & kill all the Egyptian first-born, both man & beast, but spare the houses that had the blood sprinkled. Passover or the Hebrew word pesach literally means “protection” and the season week includes the feasts of the Unleavened Bread & Firstfruits. The Lord specifically instructed, “Let the children of Israel also keep the Passover in His appointed season ... according to all the ceremonies thereof, shall ye keep it” – **Numbers 9 : 2 – 3.**

Christians especially need to observe the Passover, as it points to Christ & God's chosen people - The Church or New Israel. To give you just a couple of examples of the Passover symbols, from the New Testament –

- ✓ The Passover points to Christ, the Lamb of God – “ Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even as Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us “ – **1 Corinthians 5 : 7**

Page - 29

- ✓ The Unleavened Bread again directs us to Jesus – “ And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger & he that believeth in me shall never thirst.”  
– **John 6 : 35**
- ✓ The Firstfruits brings us the salvation that comes from Jesus – “ But now is Christ risen from the dead & become the first-fruits of them that slept.... in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order : Christ the firstfruits; afterwards they that are Christ's at His coming “  
– **1 Corinthians 15 : 20 – 23**

### ***Christ, His Family & Apostles Observed it -***

As true followers of Christ, we need to imitate Him & his apostles in obedience to God, the Father & His command. **While Easter is the most important Christian feast, it is the Passover that leads to it, which must be followed with equal zeal or enthusiasm.** But we do not find this happening and as a result the community has not only been deprived of its benefits, but has also been disobeying God by way of not observing His feasts. **Jesus knew that the Passover was ordained by God Himself & kept it,** as we notice in **Luke 22**. Further, *during His final*

Page - 30

*Passover, He urged His followers to “ do this in remembrance of me” as he was the Passover Lamb, sacrificed to set us “free from the slavery of sin, that we might serve God in righteousness“ – Romans 6 : 1 – 22. Many Christians believe that we do not need to celebrate Jewish feasts because in Christ they are all fulfilled. But that is not what Christ, His family or his apostles felt.* Let us look at some New Testament scriptures –

\* Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was 12 years old, they went up to Jerusalem, after the custom of the feast.  
– **Luke 2 : 41 -42**

\* You know that after 2 days is the feast of the Passover & the Son of Man is to be betrayed & crucified.... Now the first day of the feast of the unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus saying unto Him, Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the Passover ? And He said, Go in to the city to such a man & say unto him... I will keep the Passover at thy house with my disciples.... And the disciples made ready the Passover.  
– **Matthew 26 : 2, 17 -19**

\* Now the feast of the unleavened bread drew near, which is called the Passover.... And He said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you

Page - 31

before I suffer.... For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God.  
– **Luke 22 : 1, 7, 13 -20**

\* And the Jews' Passover was at hand & Jesus went up to Jerusalem... Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, on the feast day, many believed in His name, when they saw the miracles that He did.  
– **John 2 : 13, 23**

\*For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us : Therefore let us keep the feast.  
– **1 Corinthians 5 : 7 -8**

**1 Corinthians 11 : 23 - 29** warns, “*But let a man examine himself ...For he that eats the bread & drinks the cup unworthily, eats & drinks damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.*” Are we guilty of treating the Passover Lamb lightly & taking the giving at Passover to me lightly ? As part of the new blood covenant, in Jesus Christ, as we will see later, **we may no longer be required to follow the many & rigid Jewish rites & rituals, but the Spirit or basics of the Passover needs to be there.**

An important part of the Passover was the presentation of an offering, which in the days of old was a lamb, as the Lord had commanded in **Exodus 23 : 15**, “*let no one*

Page - 32

*come before me empty-handed”.* Further, the **size did not matter, indicating that God was not interested in the quantity, but in the quality of the sacrifice** – as the lamb was to be without blemish. While **Deuteronomy 16 : 16 - 17 repeats the Lord's instructions – And they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed, it adds Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord, your God, which He has given to you.**

In fact, God said in **Exodus 12 : 1 - 14** that “*if the household be too little for the lamb, let him & his neighbour, next to his house take it” too and it could be either sheep or goat, as the Lord wanted to make it easier perhaps for those who could not afford. All that God desired was that He that this be a symbol of honouring & worshiping Him at the appointed time – His Passover. In return for which He also promised life & freedom from the enemy, besides blessings, that we will now look at.*

***Blessings that Christians could be missing*** **Exodus 23** describes the blessings that we could be missing, as a result of ignoring the **Passover**. And of course, being guilty of disobeying God. Incidentally, disobedience is a serious sin, as it was the first sin and serious enough for God to punish man & woman by throwing them out of Eden.

Page - 33

Something we need to consider these days, but for the moment, let's talk about the blessing that we are missing out on –

- God will **assign an angel to you** : Behold, I send an angel before you **to keep you in the way & to bring you into the place** which I have prepared – **verse 20 , 23**
- God will **be an enemy to your enemies** : But if you indeed obey His voice & do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies & an **adversary to your adversaries** - **verse 22**
- God will **give you prosperity : So you shall serve the Lord**, your God & He **will bless your bread & your water** - **verse 25**
- God will take away sickness from you : And I will take away sickness away from the midst of you - **verse 25**
- God will **make you fruitful & give you long life : No one shall suffer miscarriage or be barren** in your land; **I will fulfill the number of your days** - **verse 26**
- God **will gradually bring success, until you are able to take-over** : Little by little, **I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased** & you will inherit the land - **verse 30**

Page - 34

2. **GIDEON**, a poor man, least in his father's house (**Judges 6 : 15**) was called by God to save Israel & he asked God to remain there a little while longer, while he brought Him the Passover offering. God then not only made him a wealthy man, but also a mighty warrior winning many battles over the enemy.

3. **HEZEKIAH** was a king, whose father abolished the Passover observance & since then Israel was in bad shape, until he undid what his father had done & **re-established the Passover** – **2Chronicles : 30**. The prophet Isaiah visited him with the news that he would die in 3 days & Hezekiah prayed that God remember the good deed that he had done. God then told the prophet Isaiah to turn back & **tell Hezekiah that He would prosper him & give him 15 years more**. That very night, an **angel killed 1,85,00 of his enemy soldiers** & made him a richer king until he died 15 years later – **2Kings : 20**

4. An angel was killing the men of Israel & **DAVID** who was king then wanted to buy a place to make an altar to worship God, so that the killings might be stopped. The owner, Araunah was willing to give it free, but David said, **“No, neither will I offer burnt offering unto the Lord, my God of that which costs me nothing” and insisting on paying for the land for the offering**. So the Lord was intreated for the land & the plague was stayed from Israel – **2 Samuel 24 - 25**

Page - 36

- God will **ensure more than a year of victory & blessings** : I will **deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand & you shall drive them out** ... I will not drive them out in one year, lest the land become desolate & the beasts too numerous for you - **verse 31, 29**

**There are several other instances in the Bible where God promises plenty to those who faithfully worship Him with their tithes (Malachi 3 : 7 - 12), first-fruits (Proverbs 3 : 9 - 10) and other offerings**. When was the last time you gave in a big way to the Lord or His work ? **God's promises of plenty are not just for the giver, but for his family & friends, too. Often, the overflow is so much, that it includes the neighbours, relatives & even servants or unrelated others, whom the giver might come in contact with.**

**The Bible is full of many instances when God delivered & blessed His children, who observed the Passover. Here are some examples :**

1. After the **First Passover**, the angel went before & after the Israelites, protecting them – **Exodus 13 & 14**. **JOSHUA**, who became leader after **MOSES** commanded God's people to observe the Passover and he saw (**Joshua 5 : 11 - 15**) an Angel with a drawn sword, called the captain of the host of the Lord, who helped lead the God's people in to the promised land.

Page - 35

5. After the Passover, **JESUS** in the garden of Gethsemane, prayed to His Father that the cup passes away... **An angel of the Lord appeared unto Him & strengthened Him** – **Luke 22 : 41 - 43**. **Acts 12 : 7**, when **PETER** was in prison, **an angel came, tapped him on the side & raised him up, while the chains fell off from his hands**. Similarly in the case of **PAUL** in **Acts 27** on board a ship in a mighty storm, he celebrated the Passover & as he did, **an angel stood by him, encouraging him, until the miracle of his surviving the raging waves**.

6. God was an **ENEMY TO THE EGYPTIANS** who were following the 3 million escaping Israelites & sentenced them all to a watery grave, under the Red Sea, after His people were safe on the other side – **Exodus 14**. **The many battles won by God against lakhs of enemy soldiers**, who confronted God's people and **in case of the disciples, often in danger** & under attack, is proof of the fact, that God stood by them. **Isaiah 54 : 17** says, **“No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper & every tongue that rises against you in judgement, you shall condemn”**. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord...

7. **JESUS' HEALING MINISTRY** is legendary, along with His signs & wonders, **designed to keep sickness at bay**, over the last 2000 years & even today.

Page - 37

**Exodus 15 : 26** says, if we listen to His voice, do what is right in His eyes, give ear to His commands & keep His statutes, **“I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians : for I am the God that healeth thee”** Again **Jeremiah 30 : 17** promises His people, **“I will restore health to you & heal you of your wounds”**, says the Lord.

8. Many scriptures promise **LONG & ABUNDANT LIFE** to those who diligently follow the Lord. *The fear of the Lord prolongeth days : but the years of the wicked shall be shortened* – **Proverbs 10 : 27**. *“My son forget not my law.. for length of days, long life & peace shall they add to thee”* – **Proverbs 3 : 1 - 2**. Moses said, *“Thou shall keep His statutes...that thou might prolong your days on earth”* – **Deuteronomy 4 : 40**. Paul says, *“Honour your parents (the first commandment with a promise) that it may be well with thee & thou may live long”* – **Ephesians 6 : 2 - 3**. Jesus himself say in **John 10 : 10**, **“The thief comes to steal, kill & destroy, but I come that you have life & life–more abundantly”**.

9 BLESSINGS galore have been with those who are on the side of the Lord. **Ezekiel 34 : 26** says, *“And I will make them & the places around my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down; there shall be showers of blessings”*.

## BLOOD OF THE PASSOVER LAMB

### **Blood in the Old Testament**

Shedding of blood in the Bible was always a serious issue & a sign of great importance. Thus, blood sacrifices were very powerful, as a means to draw God's attention & cover sins. Whenever blood was spilt, we can be sure GOD was concerned. God loved Adam & Eve so much that, even after their sin, God is reported in the book of GENESIS, to have cut animals & made clothes of their skins to cover them. It was symbolic of His covering their sin & promising to wipe out our sins, through His Son. Christ's resurrection, defeated sin entirely & forever.

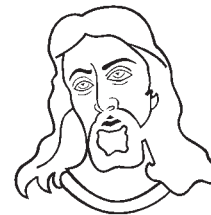
In case of **ABEL**, who was murdered by his brother **Cain**, God told the first reported murderer – **“Your brother's blood is crying out to me”**. Again after **NOAH** came out of the ark, he built an altar & **offered a blood sacrifice** of every clean beast & fowl. God was pleased & made a covenant (agreement), putting the rainbow in the sky, as a sign of it.

In the case of His covenant with **ABRAHAM**, every male child was to be circumcised as a sign, where obviously blood would have come out. Abraham was even prepared to offer his son, Isaac, as the first possible human blood sacrifice. Again, when **Isaac's son**,

**Deuteronomy 28 : 2** promises, **“blessings shall come on thee & overtake thee”** – so you don't have to run after blessings, you will be surrounded by them, if you put God first. **Even as we grow old, the Bible teaches**, *“Though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed, day by day”* – **2Corinthian 2 : 16**.

10. About **JOB**, whom Satan put to a severe test, the Bible teaches, **“And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends; also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. The Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning”** – **Job 42 : 10 - 12**.

The Lord Jesus Himself promised, **“Every one that has forsaken houses, or brothers or sisters, or father or mother, or wife or children, or land... for My sake, shall receive a hundredfold & shall inherit everlasting life”** – **Matthew 19 : 29**



**JACOB offered God a blood sacrifice**, God blessed him saying, *“I am God, Almighty : be fruitful & multiply; a nation & company of nations shall be of thee & kings shall come out of thy loins; and the land... to thee I will give it & to thy seed after thee...”* In **Exodus 24 : 8** we read of Moses offering young bulls, as a blood sacrifice saying, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord has made with you.

**On the great Day of Atonement under the Law of Moses, there were seven sprinklings of the blood. At the end of the day there was a blood-marked trail way straight from the door of the tabernacle through the two veils into the Holiest of All, and right on to the mercy seat. "It is the Blood that maketh an atonement for the soul."** says **Leviticus 17:11**.

Praise the Lord ! Today, you & I have a **BETTER COVENANT** with God, our Father – **a blood covenant signed in the blood of God's only Son – Jesus**. So how much more do we need to sacrifice & give to Him, who is our Lord & Master.

**And who has made it possible, by His supreme sacrifice, for us to have no more blood sacrifices.** Christ said that if we ask anything in His name, His Father would grant it to us. **If His Name is so powerful, there can be no greater power than in His Blood.**

Jesus has shed His Blood freely for us & hence, we can boldly use it, to build His Kingdom, while we are here on earth. And thereafter, we would be washed in the Blood of the Lamb & enter into Heaven – a place prepared for us. The book of Hebrews & others in the New Testament describes this superior covenant as below :

\* But now He (Jesus) has obtained a more excellent ministry... He is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then there should no place have been sought for the second.

**- Hebrews 8 : 1-2, 5-7**

\* Neither by the blood of goats & calves, but by His own blood he entered into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us... How much more then shall the blood of Christ who through the Eternal Spirit offered Himself, without spot to God, will purge your conscience from dead works, to serve the living God.

**- Hebrews 9 12-14**

\* And almost all things are by the law purged with the blood & without shedding of blood there is no remission.

**- Hebrews 9 : 22**

Page - 42

**Revelation 7:14.** Further, Christ is described as " clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses," - **Revelation 19:11-14.** Again, God's people are spoken of as " These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb," - **Revelation 7:13-14.** Finally, Christ is praised for His sacrifice, "And they sang a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou was slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood," - **Revelation 5:9.** Finally, praises to Jesus who, " loved us & washed us from our sins in his own *blood*, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen," - **Revelation 1:5, 6.**

**So we can briefly describe what the BLOOD OF JESUS does & its benefits, as it –**

- ✓ Enables me to boldly approach God's throne without fear of punishment (Hebrews 10:19)
- ✓ Cleanses my mind and conscience from sin and the memories it created (Hebrews 9:14)
- ✓ Redeems and cleanses me from past, present and future sin (Ephesians 1:7, 1

Page - 44

\* Jesus is the mediator of the new covenant, and to the sprinkling of blood, that speaketh better things.

**- Hebrews 12 : 24**

\* But God showed his love towards us, while we were yet sinners, as Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by *his blood*, we shall be saved from wrath through him....we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by *his life*

**- Romans 5:8-10**

\* But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you."

**- 1 Peter 1:19, 20**

***Revelations About The Lamb***

The Bible's final book, Revelations places a new and unique emphasis on Christ as the Passover Lamb. Christ crucified is called "the *Lamb* that was slain," - **Revelation 5:12.** Christ's indignation is called "the wrath of the *Lamb*," - **Revelation 6:16.** Christ's union with the Church is called "the bride, the *Lamb's* wife," - **Revelation 21:9.** Christ's apostles are called "the apostles of the *Lamb*," - **Revelation 21:14.** Christ's record is called "the *Lamb's* book of life," - **Revelation 21:27.** Christ's Blood is called "the blood of the *Lamb*," -

Page - 43

John 1:7). I am forgiven of all my sins (1 John 1:9)

- ✓ Justifies me, making me righteous, as if I had never sinned (Romans 5:9, Hebrews 13:12)
- ✓ Reconciles me with God, because Jesus bore all the punishment for my sin (Romans 5:1, 1 Peter 2:24)
- ✓ **Abiding in Christ**(John 6:53-56) "Abiding" means that we are to have a continuing personal relationship with God.
- ✓ **Gives Eternal Life** John 6:53-56). Unless we "drink His Blood" we have no life in us (6:53) but when we partake of what Christ has done for us on the cross we have eternal life (6:54).
- ✓ **Purchased by His blood**(Acts 20:28 NKJV) The blood of Jesus Christ is the precious purchase price that bought us back from sin and from the hand of the Devil who is the enemy of God.(Psalm 107:2).
- ✓ **Our bodies were also bought by Christ's blood**(1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NKJV) Therefore since both our body and our spirit were bought by the

Page - 45

"price" which is the blood of Jesus our bodies should be set apart for God's service. (Romans 12:1,2)

- ✓ **We are washed from our sins by His blood.**(Revelation 1:5 NKJV). But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin
- ✓ **We are made righteous.**The term the New Testament uses for "made righteous" is "justified".(Romans 5:9 NKJV) Christian can appropriate all the blessings that flow to the righteous including boldness (Proverbs 28:1), peace, quietness and assurance (Isaiah 32:17) and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17).
- ✓ **We are made holy (sanctified).** (Hebrews 13:12) Our holiness is not a religious game, it is something that Jesus died for. He shed His own blood so that our lives may be spotless in every way.
- ✓ **The blood of Jesus Christ brings us forgiveness of sins.** (Matthew 26:28) It is part of the riches of His grace (Eph 1:7). All your sins past present and

Page - 46

future are forgiven by God because of the blood of Jesus Christ.(Hebrews 9;12,28,10;10).

- ✓ **A clean conscience** Hebrews 9:14) These are the futile good works of the religious that always fall short of God's standards and which just end up bringing condemnation on us. (Isaiah 64:6) We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy rags.
- ✓ **Boldness in Christian living** (Hebrews 10:19-23) Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, {20} by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, {21} and having a High Priest over the house of God, {22} let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. {23} Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Page - 47

- ✓ **Victory over the Devil and his angels** (Revelation 12:11) The testimony of

**The standard regular prayers, which we were taught in Catechism, are beautiful & useful, if & when we meditate on & understand, what we are saying.** Or else it becomes similar to a child, who is uttering poetry, learnt by heart. **Such prayers are very important for certain kinds of people & for certain times only. If you are one such person, this is not to shake your faith. For you, these prayers will be effective & heard by God, as He makes grow in His love & shows you the next level.**

Here all are encouraged to outgrow from consuming milk to feasting on meat & solid food available at the table of the Lord. You are invited to a closer relationship with our Lord & Master. You are called to pay homage & honour to the one true living God, our Father and use the amazing power of God, the Holy Spirit. The prayers that appear below thus, are only indications of something you might like to say to God, when rejecting Satan & his works.

#### **Prayer to bind Satan & his works**

"In the crying blood Name of Jesus Christ, I bind the works of Satan, his human agents, besides demons of witchcraft, Satan worship, human and animal sacrifice, black magic, witchcraft, mind control, occult and all such things that are of You. I ask you, Father, to put a special covering of warrior angels over me, so that no

Page - 48

Page - 49

course or demon can emerge or be sent to me. Father, I ask that You send special angels [Ex. 8:22-23]; hide and put a hedge around [Job 1:10, Hosea 2:6] all of us - Your children. In Jesus' name, Amen."

### **Prayer to set your family free**

"In the name of Jesus, I cut Satan, his demons and curses loose from me, my family and friends. I command you, Satan, and all evil spirits and curses to depart from me and my family and all the things you have stolen from us (happy marriages, finances, jobs, families, ministries, health, etc.). I command you to stop robbing us of our blessings and blocking God's perfect will for our lives. I refuse to allow you to steal anything else from us.

I command you to release all resources, land, animals, money & all the things you have stolen from us. These are ours through the blessings of God, our Father, through the Lord Jesus, in God, the Holy Spirit. I ask you, Lord, this in Jesus' name, Amen."

### **Prayer for generational bondages**

"Father, in Jesus' name I now pull down every word curse spoken against me and \_\_\_\_\_ [be specific] in Jesus' mighty name. I apply the blood of Jesus to destroy the power of these words forever. I crush, smash and destroy all generational bondages of any kind from mistakes made at any point between

Page - 50

generations that have fallen upon me and upon \_\_\_\_\_ [be specific] in Jesus' name. I break the power of all these generational curses and bondages and all things associated with it by the precious shed blood of Jesus Christ on Calvary. I bind Satan, and all his agents, who have been active, all through these generations.

I claim BACK every spiritual and material possession he has stolen from us in Jesus' name. For greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world. I thank You and praise You Lord for Your victory, in our lives. Amen."

GOD WANTS YOU PROSPEROUS

***Please find below, a couple of emails from Gloria & Kenneth Copeland. Do let me know, what you think about it.***

***"Let those who favor my righteous cause and have pleasure in my uprightness, shout for joy and be glad, and say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, Who takes pleasure in the prosperity of His servant." (Psalm 35:27, Amp)***

**Dear Joe,**

If traditional religion has taught you that God wants you poor and oppressed, I have good news for you today. The Bible says, "God takes pleasure" in your prosperity. God wants you to prosper! Not just in the financial

Page - 51

realm but in every area of your life...spirit, soul, and body.

No matter where you are or who you are, God wants to see you delivered from every adverse situation. Why? Because He loves you and He has a job for you to do.

He wants you to help meet the needs of mankind and He's smart enough to know that you can't give away what you don't have. You can't give to spread the gospel or buy food for the hungry when you're broke.

You can't go out laying hands on the sick when you're lying in a hospital bed. You can't minister joy to others

#### **Free Email Daily**

***I would like to suggest 5 websites that have faith-building material, which I have found useful & which are trans-denominational & appeal to various churches or Christians in general. These are:***

**[www.generousgiving.com](http://www.generousgiving.com)**

**[www.christianitytoday.com](http://www.christianitytoday.com)**

**[www.joelosteen.com](http://www.joelosteen.com)**

**[www.cfaith.com](http://www.cfaith.com)**

**[www.kcm.com](http://www.kcm.com)**

***Most of the above have a free daily email newsletter, that you can easily register for & receive inputs everyday, to set you thinking. Of course, as with all things coming free, you need to exercise caution, as to what to take & what to reject. We trust the Holy Spirit will give you the wisdom, as you make the attempt & sometimes fail. The same would be the case with a number of Christian channels on television.***

Page - 52

Page - 53

**God is my Father**

My Father in Heaven, how sweet it is to know that You are my Father and that I am your Child!

Especially when the skies of my soul are cloudy and my cross weighs more heavily, I feel the need to repeat to You: Father, I believe in Your love for me!

Yes, I believe that You are a Father to me at every moment of my life, and that I am Your child! I believe that You love me with an infinite love!

I believe that You are watching over me night and day and that not a hair falls from my head without your permission! I believe that, in Your infinite Wisdom, You know better than I what is good for me.

I believe that, in Your infinite power, You can bring good even out of evil. I believe that, in Your infinite goodness, You make everything to the advantage of those who love You; even under the hands of those who strike me I kiss Your hand which heals!

I believe, but increase in me faith, hope and love! Teach me always to see Your love as my guide in every event of my life. Teach me to surrender myself to You like a baby in its mother's arms. Father, You know everything. You see everything, you

know me better than I know myself; You can do everything, and You love me! My Father, since it is Your wish that we should always turn to You, I come with confidence to ask You, together with Jesus & Mary **(here request the favor that you desire).**

For this intention, and uniting myself to their Most Sacred Hearts, I offer You all my prayers, my sacrifices and mortification's, all my actions, and greater faithfulness to my duties (\*).

Give me the light, the grace and the power of the Holy Spirit! Strengthen me in this Spirit, that I may never lose Him, never sadden Him and never allow Him to become weaker in me. My Father, I ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son! And You, Jesus, open Your Heart and place in it my own, and, together with Mary's, offer it to our divine Father! Obtain for me the grace that I need!

Divine Father, call all men to Yourself. Let all the world proclaim Your fatherly goodness and Your divine mercy! Be a tender Father to me and protect me wherever I am, like the apple of Your eye. Make me always a worthy son/daughter; have mercy on me! Divine Father, sweet hope of our souls, may You be known, honored and loved by all men!

Divine Father, infinite goodness poured out on all

**Chaplet - contact for novena intentions**

Since much information is available or can be obtained from

peoples, may You be known, honored and loved by all men! Divine Father, beneficent dew of humanity, may You be known, honored and loved by all men!

Partial Indulgence

+ GIRARD, Vicar Apostolic of Cairo, October 9th, 1935

+JEAN, Cardinal VERDIER, Archbishop of Paris, May 8th, 1936

Mother Eugenia

(\* ) If this prayer is to be recited as a novena, add "I promise to be more generous, especially during these nine days, in a given circumstance, to such and such a person ..."

DIVINE MERCY

**Free bible versions online.**

Did you know that the bible is also available online ? In fact, if you are a lover of the Word, there are many versions, also available. The TEV (Today's English) is what we have commonly seen or know as the Good News bible, while the RSV (Revised Standard) is what we have heard in churches. The NKJV (New King James) is similar to the KJV (King James), except that it does away with the old English, with its - thou, thy, etc. It's also closer to the original in many cases, so I prefer it. But in essence & spirit, all reputed version are the same. So, you can pick & chose, a version you are comfortable with.

[www.olivetree.com/bible/Frames/SearchEnglish Versions.htm](http://www.olivetree.com/bible/Frames/SearchEnglishVersions.htm)

<http://etext.virginia.edu/frames/bibleframe.html>

### **God, the Holy Spirit**

"And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever"

- John 14:16 AMP

Passover according to Jewish Calendar, this year is 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2006 – The first Papal Anniversary of Pope Benedict XVI, after being a priest for almost 55 years.. After the rush & celebrations of Easter, let us all observe this day with prayer for the Holy Father & giving to God's work & children.