



Living By Faith

“The just shall live by faith.” Romans 1:17

November 22, 2009

4th & Stewart Church of Christ

Contact Us:

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Brownwood, TX 76801
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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:45 AM
Worship..... 10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service..... 2:30 PM
Redstone Service..... 2:30 PM
Worship..... 6:00 PM

Tuesday:

Redstone Class 10:00 AM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class..... 10:00 AM
Bible Study..... 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister Jim Moore
Don Smith..... James Thomas

Preacher:

Ryan Smithey

Works We Support:

Belize Mission & Kindergarten
Cherokee Home for Children
Eric Henry, SWSBS
Food Pantry
Gospel Broadcast Network
Gospel Chariot Missions
House to House, Heart to Heart
Lake Cisco Camp
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, BTSP
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study the Bible to know more about Christ and His Church.

We are continuing our sermon series on Basics this morning and one thing that absolutely must be basic or fundamental to the Christian is a firm belief in the inspiration of God’s Word. There are many critics that we will face that attempt to undermine our faith and probably the quickest and most effective way to do so is to create doubt about God’s Word. If that is done, all that we believe will soon crumble. But we do not believe in God nor His Word just out of a blind hope or shot in the dark — there are reasons, evidences, why we believe these things. This article by Adam Comeaux, preacher at Elm Street church of Christ in Coleman, presents some facts that help us strengthen our faith in the fact that God’s Word is inspired (from God), inerrant (true and accurate), and immutable (will not fail or be destroyed). Rather than reproduce this article over two or three weeks, I wanted to present it in its entirety so you can have it all in one spot for now and future reference. I hope that it will be beneficial to you and others and let me know if you desire further resources along this line and I will try to point you in the right direction.

~Ryan Smithey

The Bible Is Inspired

By Adam Comeaux

Every major institution stands upon a foundation which was laid by its founders. That foundation leads, guides, provides security and stability for past, present and future productivity. The foundation of this great country was laid by its founders in what we know as the constitution and every branch of government is based upon this document. When any branch steers from this foundation, its actions are considered unconstitutional. When its leaders make decisions that are not based on the constitution they are considered unpatriotic, and rightly so. We understand this concept when it involves the constitution, or any other charter or contract that is binding to its participants. The difficulty we have is applying this principle to Christianity. Christianity was laid on the “foundation of the apostles and prophets” (Eph. 2:20) whose words were written in the Bible. Therefore, it can be said, that the foundation of Christianity is the inspiration of the Bible. While there are those who blatantly deny the inspiration of the Bible, there are many professing Christians who deny it’s inspiration by their actions. Then there are those who are “Christians” who only believe in partial inspiration and argue for inaccuracies within Holy Writ. Yet there are others who believe the Bible is inspired, but cannot give any evidence to their position except for the Bible’s self proclamations. This may seem to be sufficient for believers, but true biblical faith necessitates the inspiration of the Bible. Consider what true biblical faith means and its nature as described in Hebrews chapter eleven verse one: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen” (ASV). Greek word translated faith, *pistis*, denotes a strong persuasion. The persuasion is so strong that the things under consideration cannot be otherwise. Since this is the case, this particular verse cannot be a definition of faith, but rather is descriptive of its nature. Faith is depicted as *hupostasis* [assurance], which means the assurance or the foundation of *elpizo* which is properly translated hope. However, we must understand that biblical hope is a far cry from our modern usage of the term. The biblical view of hope, as seen through *elpizo*, involves the confidence we have in the promise giver and the assurance in the fulfillment

(Continued on page 2)



*Thy testimonies are wonderful;
Therefore doth my soul keep them.
The opening of thy words giveth light;
It giveth understanding unto the simple.*

Psalm 119:129-130

(Continued from page 1)

of those promises. In other words, faith is the foundation upon which our trust and expectations are based because we have the evidence which proves the promise maker is trustworthy (Titus 2:1). It is also the conviction, *elegchos*, of those things unseen. By its very definition, and descriptive nature, faith is based on the tangible which is far removed from a “blind leap in the dark”. Since this is the case, **true biblical faith is contingent on the inspiration of the whole Bible**. Thus, it is our burden to set forth the evidence in order to prove its inspiration.

Inspiration Defined

When we say the Bible is inspired we are saying it is God breathed, *theopneustos*, or from the mouth of God. It does not have reference to neither Natural Inspiration, which is no more than a good idea prompted by a creative mind, nor Partial Inspiration which gives credence to only part and not the whole of scripture. It does, however, refer to the fact that the totality of the content within the Bible came from God Himself as the author and was given to man as the instrument of writing. Inspiration can be best described by Jeremiah chapter one verse nine; “Then Jehovah put forth his hand, and touched my mouth; and **Jehovah said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth**” (ASV).

Evidence for Inspiration

Consider those things we noted previously concerning true biblical faith. True biblical faith is based on evidence which necessitates the inspiration of the Bible. Remember, the Bible is not inspired because man or organization claims it to be. If inspiration were based on this premise the Bible and the Christian faith would be folly. So, in order for the Bible to be inspired there must be bona fide evidence. Let us now set forth some evidence for its inspiration.

Unique Design

The Bible is the only book of books that can claim such a unique design. Consider the following aspects of its design. Bible has over two thousand characters in over fifteen hundred places and was written under many different circumstances. The Bible was written by forty men who ranged from Kings, generals, at least two fisherman, a priest, tax collector, and a physician to name a few. These men all lived on three different continents which included Asia, Africa, and Europe. It was written in places like the desert, in Roman prisons, in captivity, and in the ruins of Jerusalem. Even with all these diversities and having been written over a span of fifteen hundred years, **the Bible is harmonious in purpose and content**. No other book can make these claims under these circumstances. All the writers wrote in agreement with no contradictions from beginning to end. If the Bible was from the mind of man, we would expect contradictions, but **the Bible is found to be inerrant**. Consider the following quotation from Winkie Pratney’s book “The Holy Bible: Wholly True”:

Say you were going to write a book, and this was how you had to write it: For a start find forty different writers—totally different writers. Get some who are highly educated, even doctors – then get some farmers. Go

dig a guy off a ranch somewhere and say, “I’d like you to help me write a book.” Then find some fishermen. Go down to the wharf and find a couple of guys from San Francisco and say, “Hey! Listen help me write a book.” And they say, “Sure, fine...we’ll help you.” And then you get all of them to write on the following things: religion, poetry, ethics, science, philosophy, the creation of the universe and where it’s going—and ask them to throw in a few things about where they think it will all end. Next, you need to collect all that information, and then...oh, by the way, you have to separate these people so they can’t communicate by phone or telegraph...only possibly word of mouth, passed down over years. Ah yes, years...you collect all this stuff over about one and a half thousand years, and compile the whole thing in one book. What would you have? I know what you’d have—you’d have the most motley junk you’ve ever seen in your life, with people totally contradicting each other! I suggest you take a biology textbook from sixty years ago, and compare it with one today. And that’s just sixty years! But that’s not what you have when you read your Bible. The more you read this book, the more you see the incredible unity of it. Because the more you get into it, the more incredibly detailed it is, and you find there are not forty people who wrote it, but One Person.

There is one central theme throughout which is best described by W. Graham Scroggie as “The Unfolding Drama of Redemption”. God is consistently described and the characters are depicted without bias. This is shown by their righteous acts being portrayed alongside their sins. The characters lives’ are not inflated or glossed over. Righteousness is consistently commanded and commended while sin is condemned. The standard of righteousness is consistent throughout and distinctions between good and evil are never blurred. Consider how it is the author of the very principles upon which judicial systems are based around the world. It is the reason we understand objective right and wrong. This alone shows how teachings found within have impacted the world unlike any other. No other document or compilation of documents can make this claim.

Biblical Science

Skeptics of the Bible will often turn to “science” to deny its inspiration. However, the reality is, true science actually shows the Bible to be accurate. Unfortunately, modern “science” is no longer defined by tangible evidence but by theory. Fortunately, not all scientist support the theory of Evolution and it is my belief, which is based on evidence, that the theories of evolution are not as widely accepted as the media and the powers that be proclaim. Consider how there is no known fact of true science that contradicts the Bible. While scientific theories may be contradictory, scientific facts are not.

While the Bible is not a textbook of science, it does contain scientific facts. The evidence we are about to consider was revealed thousands of years before man took credit for

(Continued from page 2)

their discoveries. We encourage you to read the passages mentioned along with the evidence provided.

1. Matthew Maury, (1806-1873) the father of oceanography, was listening to his wife read Psalms eight verse eight and was struck by the phrase "paths of the sea". He later began to look for these paths and is credited for the discovery of the warm and cold continental currents.
2. In Job chapter thirty-six verses twenty seven and twenty eight the water cycle is revealed. This cycle was not fully understood until 30 B.C. but was revealed in the Bible over one thousand years prior. (consider the following for further study: Eccl. 1:6-7, 11:3, Job 26:8, Amos 9:6)
3. Isaiah chapter forty verse twenty two and Proverbs chapter eight verse twenty seven make reference to the earth being round. Revealed about twenty-five hundred years before man discovered it.
4. The Hebrew term translated "finished" in Genesis chapter two verse one is in the past definite tense indicating an action completed in the past which will never occur again. In other words, creation was once and for all time finished. First Law of Thermodynamics claims this very thing. It says that neither matter nor energy can be created or destroyed. Creation as in the beginning is not ongoing today but finished as the Bible states.
5. For centuries we thought that the male only possessed the seed of life and women were nothing more than incubators. Scientists have since discovered otherwise. This was first revealed in Genesis chapter three and verse fifteen.
6. Ever wonder why circumcision was to be done on the eighth day after birth? Science has discovered that the eighth day is the only day the element prothrombin is above one hundred percent in the body. Prothrombin is a blood clotting element which is necessary for the success of circumcision. (See Genesis 17:12)
7. Leviticus chapter seventeen verse eleven declares that blood is the source of life. This was written over twenty-five hundred years ago. It was only within the last two hundred years doctors stopped draining the blood of people who were sick. Now, we have blood drives to help provide for the shortages of blood.
8. Leviticus chapter fifteen verse thirteen commands those who were dealing with disease to wash under running water. The once normal practice of doctors was to examine the dead and living without washing their hands. Often times, they examined expecting mothers who would die after child birth as a result of this practice. When the practice was reversed the death rate dropped almost one hundred percent. This was the norm as recently as two hundred years ago and Leviticus was penned over twenty-five hundred years ago.
9. Within the last two centuries, scientists have just learned about the great empty space referred to in modern times as Outer Space. Job chapter twenty six verse seven revealed this over twenty five hundred years ago.
10. Job chapter twenty-eight also reveals the fact that air and water have weight. This was only understood about three hundred years ago. The weight of both combined are needed for the continuation of the water cycle.

11. The Bible makes references to the earth's rotation on its axis in Job chapter thirty-eight and verses twelve and fourteen. Only modern science discovered this thousands of years after it was revealed.

These are only a small percentage of the scientific facts recorded in the Bible. We can talk concerning the mountains seen by Jonah as he went into the depths of the sea (Jonah 2:6), or the fact that the stars cannot be numbered (Jeremiah 33:22), the wearing down of the earth which science confirms (Hebrews 1:10,11), the dinosaurs (Gen. 1:21, Job. 40:15-24, Job 41) and a host of other examples. Not to mention the overwhelming evidence for creation and the blind leap in the dark theories of evolution. Think for a moment of how we deride scientific knowledge of just one-hundred years ago. If the Bible originated with man, would be not scoff at the scientific errors contained therein as well?

Biblical Archeology

For hundreds of years, the Bible was the only record for numerous events, places, and the people of the ancient world. The Bible has been and is still used to locate archeological sites of lost cities and places. It has proven to be consistent with known history and no archaeological evidence has ever disputed any biblical reference. This comes after the fact that many archeologist set out to discredit the Bible but in turn prove the accuracy of the Bible. Consider the following evidence:

1. Genesis chapter eleven verse thirty-one introduces us to a city of Ur. The existence of this city was denied until archeologist uncovered its ruins.
2. Egyptian city called Pithom was discovered to have contained storehouses fitting the description of those built by the Israelites. The lower half contained brick with straw and the upper half contained brick without straw (Exodus 1:11;5:7).
3. Neneptah II was a pharaoh of Egypt whose tomb was discovered. There is an inscription that tells of the death of his young son and there is also a hymn written to him that mentions the Israelites (Exodus 12:29).
4. Some have discredit Moses with writing the first five books of the Bible by claiming people were not aware of the skill of writing during those times. Then archeologist uncovered many forms of written code from that period.
5. The city of Jericho was thought to be a myth until its walls were uncovered in such a position that proved the biblical account.
6. The Bible makes approximately forty references to the Hittite Empire. This empire was thought to have never existed. Then a library of ten-thousand clay tablets fully documented the Hittite Empire and later searches revealed the whereabouts of the Hittite capital city.
7. There was a time when Scholars claimed Nazareth did not exist at the time of Jesus. This was discredited in recent decades.
8. Many thought Pontius Pilate did not exist until a stone with his name was found in Caesaria.

(Continued from page 3)

Again, this is only a smidgen of the archeological evidence that has overwhelmingly proven the accuracy of the Bible. If scholars use the Bible and are able to locate the places and things mentioned therein, does this not credit its accuracy? I suggest it indeed does, hence mounting the evidence for its inspiration.

Biblical Prophecy

There is perhaps no more compelling evidence for the inspiration of the Bible than through prophecy and its fulfillment. What man can foresee the future with such accuracy and specificity? Some may argue for men like Nostradamus, but even believers in Nostradamus must, and many do, admit the complications that come with translating and interpreting his writings. Not to mention his so called prophecies are extremely ambiguous and can be seen as fulfilled in events that took place before Nostradamus ever breathed the breath of life. What is most interesting concerning biblical prophecy is the fact that its proclamations and fulfillments can only be explained by inspiration. Consider the following evidence presented for the confirmation of inspiration. Again, these are only a very small percentage of the prophecies mentioned and fulfilled.

1. The prophecies in the Old Testament were written hundreds of years before their fulfillment. The details contained therein go beyond any human faculty and every one of the prophecies has been fulfilled exactly as stated.
2. There are over three-hundred prophecies about Jesus alone in the Old Testament. Recorded secular history tells us Jesus actually lived.
3. The chance that only eight of the three-hundred prophecies would accidentally be fulfilled is 1:100,000,000,000,000,000.
4. Psalm twenty-two is a prophecy concerning the crucifixion of Jesus which was written hundreds of years before Jesus was born.
5. Isaiah chapter fifty-two and fifty-three are detailed accounts about Christ at least seven-hundred years before he came to earth. (We have physical copies of Isaiah which date back two-hundred years before birth of Jesus.)
6. Micah chapter five verse two reveals where Jesus would be born.
7. Ezekiel prophesied that the city of Tyre would be destroyed and the ruins would be cast into the sea (Ezekiel 26:2). Many thought this disproved inspiration because Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Tyre but he left the ruins right where they fell. However, two-hundred years later Alexander the Great was attacking Tyre and used the former ruins by dumping them into the sea in order to make a road that would give them access to the island on which the inhabitants had fled.
8. Isaiah prophesied that a ruler named Cyrus would destroy Babylon and control most of that part of the world's region. Isaiah also prophesied that he would let the Jewish captives free without ransom (Isaiah 44:28, 45:1, 45:13). This was prophesied almost one-hundred eighty years prior and every aspect was fulfilled.

9. The destruction of Babylon was prophesied by two prophets, Isaiah and Jeremiah. Babylon was considered an impregnable fortress but its destruction and utter demise was revealed by God. They claimed its ruins would be avoided and the city would never again be inhabited (Isaiah 13:17-22, Jeremiah 51:26, 43). All came to pass and is recorded in secular history.
10. Jeremiah revealed Edom's future as barren and an uninhabited wasteland even though it was fertile and it had access to water (Jeremiah 49:15-20, Ezekiel 25:12-14). The area is now considered a bleak region.

Skeptics may try and argue that fulfillment of prophecy could have been staged by believers so they might appear to be fulfillments. The problem with this theory is the fact that the fulfillment of prophecy involved participants of many unknowing non-believers. Consider what the Bible has to say about the legitimacy of prophecy. It practically begs to be studied to show whether the things written therein are so.

And if thou say in thy heart, How shall we know the word which Jehovah hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of Jehovah, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which Jehovah hath not spoken: the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously, thou shalt not be afraid of him. (Deuteronomy 18:21-22 ASV)

Conclusion

From the world's perspective the Bible is nothing more than writings put together by a handful of Jews that survived persecution and other efforts to stamp them out for almost two-thousand years. These same Jews were willing to die for the fictional, manmade beliefs that comprise the New Testament. Thousands and thousands of manuscripts and fragments were a part of the conspiracy of a few people to control the world for their own selfish desires.

To reasonable minds the evidence is conclusive, even the compilation found written herein. Men make mistakes, organizations make mistakes, but **the Bible is found to be unmistakably accurate based on the evidence**, and not just because a man in a black suit says so.

If it is the case that the evidence weighs on your heart and convicts or confirms your belief in the inspiration of the Bible, rest your confidence on the totality of scripture. The Bible is either right or wrong. We either take it or leave it. Paul told Timothy "Every scripture inspired of God is profitable (II Tim. 3:16 ASV)". This either means something or it doesn't. The very nature, design and existence of the Bible contradicts ordinary literary principles. There never has been a book authored by man that equals to the breadth, depth, and magnitude of the Bible. We have only provided a small touch of the evidence that can be given to show the inspiration of the Bible. If this is our conviction, let us be as those in Thessalonica who received the word not as a message from man, but as the word of God (I Thess. 2:13). If the Bible is not inspired, man has succeeded in literally doing the impossible and the many principles that aid the worlds functions are only subjective thoughts from the mind of man, and who can hold us to them.

News & Notes

Ladies Class

Remember that the ladies **class will not meet this week** on Wednesday, Nov. 25. We will resume as normal at 10 AM on Wednesday, December 2.

Address Changes

- ◆ **Marie White** was moved to Song Bird Lodge this week; she is in room 30.
- ◆ Please update your directories to make sure mail for **JD Tedford** is sent to PO Box 373; Brownwood, TX 76804.

DVDs Available

- ◆ A number of people have requested copies of **"The Silencing of God"** DVD and they are now available in the racks at each of the exits. This is a DVD by Dave Miller that looks at the Christian/Biblical morals this country was built upon and how they are rapidly being attacked. Pick one up for yourself and also share them with others that you think will watch and benefit from them.
- ◆ Also we have gotten in more copies of the **"Searching For Truth"** DVDs. These are great study DVDs for yourself but are especially useful in studying with others who are not members of the church. If you are not comfortable doing a one-on-one Bible study sit down with someone and study the Bible with them while watching this DVD guide or leave it with them to watch on their own time.



Visitation Program

- ◆ Remember to join us for our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services in the fellowship hall.** Keep reporting your contacts made during the week and turn them in each Sunday morning — last week **25 contacts** were made.

Television

The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish)
Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord's Way (Mack Lyon)
Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB

Gospel Broadcasting Network
Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org
Dish Network: Good News Today, Daily
@ 11:00 am on channel 9407 or 9396

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)
Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

God's Plan for Redeeming Man

Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

Bible Reading Schedule

Sunday .. Ezekiel 18-19; James 4
Monday .. Ezekiel 20-21; James 5
Tuesday .. Ezekiel 22-23; 1 Peter 1
Wednesday.. Ezekiel 24-26; 1 Peter 2
Thursday .. Ezekiel 27-29; 1 Peter 3
Friday .. Ezekiel 30-32; 1 Peter 4
Saturday .. Ezekiel 33-34; 1 Peter 5

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15)

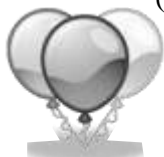
HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

November Birthdays: Boyce Newton (02); Linda Jimenez (08); JD Tedford (09); Emily Evetts (13); Juanita Barnum (15); Bernice Perkins (15); Stephen Dahlberg (22); Xavier Martinez (28).

November Anniversaries: Barbara & Gene Bannister (06).

"Rejoice with those who rejoice..." (Romans 12:15)

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



	Recent Records	November 8, 2009	November 15, 2009
Bible Class		61	60
AM Worship		79	86
PM Worship		54	49
Wednesday PM		53	48
Contribution		\$1643	\$1403

Privileged to Serve	11/22/09 - AM	11/22/09 - PM	11/29/09 - AM	11/29/09 - PM
Greeters	John & Tina Barnum		Tom & Carol Wilcox	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		James Fuller Psalm 117:1-118:4		Hank Wheeler
Opening Prayer	Ken Makuta	Gene Bannister	Allen Griffith	Gene Bannister
Wait on Table	Allen Griffith*, Jim Moore Gene Bannister, Michael Bickford	Allen Griffith	Don Smith*, Garrett Barnum John Barnum, Ken Makuta	Don Smith
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Billy Chism	Jim Moore	James Thomas
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	November 25 James Fuller	December 2 Ken Makuta	December 9 Tom Wilcox	December 16 Allen Griffith

Studies For The Week of November 22nd:

Sunday Class..... 2 Thessalonians 3

Wednesday Class..... *One Nation Under Who?* DVD

Basics: The Bible...God's Word or Good Book?

- 1) **Alternatives** — This book is what it claims to be (inspired word of God) or it is a fraud and a deceiver (therefore not a good book).
- 2) **Assertion** — The Bible Claims to be the verbal and plenary inspired, inerrant, immutable, and understandable word of God.
 - a) **Inspired:** 2 Tim. 3:16-17 – literally God-breathed.
 - i) **Verbal** – not by thought, but by words.
 - (1) OT claims: Ex. 20:1; 1 Kings 22:14; Isa. 1:2; Jer. 1:4,9; Eze. 1:3, 2:7; Hos. 1:1; Amos 2:1
 - (2) Verified: 2 Tim. 3:15-16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Heb. 1:1-4
 - (3) NT claims: 1 Cor. 14:37; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:15-17 & 2 Pet. 3:15-16; Gal. 1:11-12; 1 Cor. 2
 - ii) **Plenary** – fully inspired, not just part, and complete, nothing more needed (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3).
 - b) **Inerrant** – without error by virtue of being from God who cannot lie (Tit. 1:2; Psa. 119:160).
 - c) **Immutable** – cannot be altered or destroyed (Gal. 1:6-8; Matt. 24:35; 1 Pet. 1:25); it is forever the seed of the kingdom (Lk. 8:11).
 - d) **Understandable** – All we need to obey God can easily be understood and followed (John 8:32; 1 Tim. 2:4) and yet it will forever challenge us to keep studying!
- 3) **Action** – What will our response be? We must either reject this book completely or believe and follow its claims.

The Benefits of God (Psalm 103:1-5)

- The Psalmist remembers he has much to be thankful for even as we do. So he longs to praise the Lord with all of his being and not forget any of the things God has done for him, specifically:
- 1) **Forgiveness** (v3a) – God is willing to forgive sin and only in Him can we find such (v12; Ps. 86:5; Heb. 8:10-12; 1 John 1:9).
 - 2) **Healing** (v3b) – restores health; reminds us that God cares for us physically as well as spiritually (Matt. 9:35; James 5:15; 3 John 1:2; 1 Pet. 5:7).
 - 3) **Redemption** (v4a) – idea of saving from destruction or corruption (Rom. 6:23; Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:12).
 - 4) **Loving Kindness** (v4b) – indicates God's special care or protection for His children; not just that God saves us but exalts us and richly blesses us (v13-14, 17-18; Ps. 23:5; Eph. 1:3; James 1:17).
 - 5) **Renewal** (v5) – we are sustained by God who blesses us and strengthens us; in Christ we become new (Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 4:16; Rom. 6:4; Col. 3:9-10).

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Return Service Requested