

### **GOD LOVES YOU**

"For God so loved so love the world" ..... John 3:16  
 "God demonstrates his love toward us" ..... Romans 5:8  
 "In this is love...that God loves us" ..... I John 4:10  
 "He gave Himself to rescue us".....Galatians 1:4  
 "The Son is come to seek the lost" ..... Luke 19:10

### **THE FACT OF SIN**

"none righteous" ..... Romans 3:10  
 "all have sinned" ..... Romans 3:23  
 "no one is perfect" ..... Ecclesiastes 7:20  
 "The heart is wicked" ..... Jeremiah 17:9,10  
 "righteousnesses is like filthy rags;" ..... ..Isaiah 64:6  
 "say that we have no sin" ..... I John 1:8

### **THE PENALTY**

"soul that sinneth...die." ..... Ezekiel 18:4,20  
 "sin...bringeth forth death." ..... James 1:15  
 "once to die...judgment" ..... Hebrews 9:27  
 "wages of sin is death" ..... Romans 6:23  
 "shall give account to God." ..... Romans 14:12  
 "dead were judged" ..... Revelation 20:12-15

### **MAN'S INABILITY**

"Not by works of righteousness" ..... Titus 3:5  
 "not justified by the works" ..... Galatians 2:16  
 "faith—not of yourselves" ..... Ephesians 2:8,9  
 "deeds...no flesh be justified" ..... Romans 3:20  
 "way which seemeth right" ..... Proverbs 14:12  
 "righteousnesses..filthy rags" ..... Isaiah 64:6

### **GOD'S REMEDY**

"Christ died for us" ..... Romans 5:8  
 "gift of God is eternal life" ..... Romans 6:23  
 "I am the way" ..... John 14:6  
 "Neither salvation in any other:" ..... Acts 4:12  
 "save that which was lost." ..... Luke 19:10  
 "Christ died for our sins" ..... I Corinthians 15:3

### **MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY**

"Repent and turn to God" ..... Acts 3:19  
 "repent and have faith" ..... Acts 20:21  
 "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ" ..... Acts 16:31  
 "believe on his name." ..... John 1:12  
 "confess...believe...shall be saved" ..... Romans 10:9,10  
 "call upon the name of the Lord" ..... Romans 10:13

### **RESULTS OF SALVATION**

"not condemned" ..... John 3:18  
"hath everlasting life" ..... John 3:36  
"he is a new creature"... ..11 Corinthians 5:17  
"the children of God:" ..... Romans 8:16  
"heirs of God" ..... Romans 8:17  
"peace I give unto you...neither...be afraid "..... John 14:27  
"Spirit of God dwells in you" ..... Romans 8:9  
"names are in the book of life." ..... Philippians 4:3

### **ASSURANCE**

"they shall never perish" ..... John 10:27-29  
"yet shall he live" ..... John 11:25,26  
"is passed from death unto life." ..... John 5:24  
"neither death, nor life shall separate us" ..... Romans 8:38,39  
"He that hath the Son hath life," ..... I John 5:11,12  
"he which has started with you will complete if' ..... Philippians 1:6  
"an inheritance that is incorruptible" ..... I Peter 1:4

### **WHEN FACED WITH TEMPTATIONS**

"not more than you can bear" ..... I Corinthians 10:13  
"be alert and sober" ..... I Peter 5:8,9  
"endure temptation is a blessing" ..... James 1:12  
"I have overcome the world." ..... John 16:33  
"do all things through Christ"... ..... Philippians 4:13

### **IF SINS OCCUR**

If we confess God forgives" ..... I John 1:9  
"return unto the LORD" ..... Isaiah 55:7  
"God loves a contrite heart" ..... Psalm 51:17  
"we have an advocate" ..... I John 2:1  
"seek my face, and turn" ..... II Chronicles 7:14  
"confesseth and forsaketh them" ..... Proverbs 28:13

### **GROWING AS A CHRISTIAN IN THE WORD OF GOD**

"desire...milk of the word" ..... I Peter 2:2  
"Thy word have I hid in mine heart" ..... Psalm 119:11  
"were written for our learning" ..... Romans 15:4  
"scripture is profitable" ..... II Timothy 3:16,17  
"Study to show thyself approved" ..... II Timothy 2:15  
"Thy word is a lamp to our feet and path." ..... Psalm 119:105  
"delight is in the law of the LORD" ..... Psalm 1:1,2

## THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

"by prayer and supplication" ..... Philippians 4:6,7  
"call upon the name of the LORD." ..... Psalm 116:17  
"ye shall ask" ..... John 15:7  
"Ask, and it shall be given you" ..... Luke 11:9,10  
"And when thou prayest" ..... Matthew 6:5-15  
"Pray without ceasing" ..... I Thessalonians 5:17,18  
"Praying always with all prayer" ..... Ephesians 6:18  
"Take ye heed, watch and pray" ..... Mark 13:33

## THE IMPORTANCE OF FELLOWSHIP

"Not forsaking the assembling" ..... Hebrews 10:25  
"teaching and admonishing one another" ..... Colossians 3:16  
"Speaking to yourselves" ..... Ephesians 5:19  
"the body has many members" ..... I Corinthians 12:12  
"members should have care" ..... I Corinthians 12:25-27  
"bear one another's burdens" ..... Galatians 6:1,2

**Afraid?** Psalm 27:91; Isaiah 41:5-13; Mark 4:35-41; Hebrews 13:5-6; 1 John 4:13-18

**Afraid of death?** Psalm 23, 63:3-18; John 6:35-40; Romans 8:18-39; 1 Corinthians 15, 35, 37, 5:1-10; 2 Timothy 1:8-10

**Angry?** Proverbs 15:1; Matthew 5:21-24; Romans 12:17-21; Ephesians 4:26-32; James 1:19,21

**Anxious? Worried?** Psalm 25; Matthew 6:24-34, 10:26-31; 1 Peter 1:3-4, 5:7

**Being a friend:** Proverbs 17:17; Luke 10:25-37; John 15:11-17; Romans 16:1,2; **Being a leader:** Isaiah 11:1-9, 32:1-8; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 2 Timothy 2:14-36;

**Caring for the aged and widowed:** Genesis 47:1-12; Proverbs 23:22; Ruth 1; 1 Timothy 5:3-8

**Celebrating the birth/adoption of a child:** Psalm 100; Proverbs 22:6; Luke 18:15-17; John 16:16-22

**Celebrating a graduation:** Psalm 119, 105, 106, Proverbs 9:10-12; Galatians 5:16-26; Philippians 4:4-9;

**Celebrating a marriage:** Genesis 2:18-24; Song of Solomon 8:6-7; Ephesians 5:21-33; Galatians 5:16-26;

**Celebrating a wedding anniversary:** Psalm 100; Corinthians 13

**Controlling your temper:** Proverbs 14:17-29, 15:18, 19:11, 29:22; Ecclesiastes 7:9; Galatians 5:16-26.

**Controlling your tongue:** Psalm 12; 19:14; Proverbs 11:13, 26:20; 2 Thessalonians 2:16,17; James 3:1-12.

**Discovering God's will:** Psalm 15; Micah 6:6-8; Matthew 5:14-16; Luke 9:21-27; Romans 13:8,14; 2 Peter 1:3-9; 1 John 4:7-21

**Depressed?** Psalm 16, 43, 130; Isaiah 61:1-4; Jeremiah 15:10-21; Lamentations 3:55-57; John 3:14-17; Ephesians 3:14-21

**Disappointed? Let down?** Psalm 55, 62:1-8; Jeremiah 20:7-18

**Discouraged?** Psalm 34; Isaiah 12:1-6; Romans 15:13; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Philippians 4:10,13; Colossians 1:9-14; Hebrews 6:9-12

**Doubting your faith in God?** Psalm 8, 146; Proverbs 30:5; Matthew 7:7-12; Luke 17:5-6; John 20:24-31; Romans 4:13-25; Hebrews 11; 1 John 5:13-15

**Encountering a cult:** Matthew 7:15-20; 2 Peter 2; 1 John 4:7-21

**Encountering peer pressure:** Proverbs 1:7-19; Romans 12:1, 2; Galatians 6:1-5; Ephesians 5:1-20.

**Entering college:** Proverbs 2:1-8, 3:1-18, 4:1-27, 23:12; Romans 8:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

**Entering military service:** 2 Samuel 22:2-51; Psalm 91; Ephesians 6:10-20; 2 Timothy 2:1-13

**Experiencing the death of a loved one:** Job 19:25-27; John 11:25-27, 14:1-7; Romans 8:31-39, 14:7-9; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

**Experiencing illness:** Psalm 23; Mark 1:29-34, 6:53-56; James 5:14-16

**Experiencing suffering and persecution:** Psalm 109, 119:153-160, Matthew 5:3-12; John 15:18, 16:4; Romans 8:18-30; 1 Peter 4:12-19;

2 Corinthians 4:1-15; Hebrews 12:1-11

**Facing a difficult decision:** 1 Kings 3; Esther 4-7; Psalm 139; Daniel 2:14-23; Colossians 3:12-17

**Facing a divorce:** Psalm 25; Matthew 19:1-9; Philippians 3:1-11

**Facing homelessness:** Psalms 90:1-2; Isaiah 65:17-25; Lamentations 3:19-24; Luke 9:57-62; Revelation 21:1-4

**Facing imprisonment:** Lamentations 3:34-36; Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 4:16-21

**Facing life alone:** 1 Corinthians 7:25-38, 12:1-31

**Facing natural disaster:** Genesis 8:1-9; Job 36:22, 37:13; Psalm 29:124, 36:5-9; Jeremiah 31:35-37; Romans 8:31-39; 1 Peter 1:3-12

**Facing trial or lawsuit:** Psalm 26; Isaiah 50:4-11; Matthew 5:25-26; Luke 18:1-8

**Frustrated?** Job 21:1-16, 24:1-17, 36:1-26; Matthew 7:13-14

**Impatient?** Psalm 13, 37:1-7, 40:1-5; Ecclesiastes 3:1-15; Lamentations 3:25-33; Hebrews 6:13-20; James 5:7-11

**Insecure? Lacking confidence?** Deuteronomy 31:1-8; Psalm 73:21-26, 108; Philippians 4:10-20; 1 John 3:19-24

**Jealous?** Psalm 49; Proverbs 23:17; James 3:13-18

**Lonely?** Psalm 22, 42; John 14:15-31a

**Losing your job:** Jeremiah 29:10-14; Luke 16:1-13; Philippians 4:10-13

**Losing your property and possessions:** Job 1:13-22, 42:7-17; Isaiah 30:19-26, 41:17-20; Romans 8:18-20

**Managing your time:** Proverbs 12:11, 28:19; Mark 13:33-37; Luke 21:34-36; 1 Timothy 4:11-16; Titus 3:8-14

**Moving into a new home:** Psalm 127:1-2; Proverbs 24:3-4; John 14:1-7; Ephesians 3:14-21; Revelation 3:20-21

**Overcoming addiction:** Psalm 40:1-5, 11-17, 116:1-7; Proverbs 23:29-35; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Ephesians 4:22-24

**Overcoming a grudge:** Leviticus 19:17-18; Matthew 5:23-26; Luke 6:27-36; Ephesians 4:25-32

**Overcoming prejudice:** Matthew 7:1-5; Acts 10:34-36; Galatians 3:26-29; Ephesians 2:11-22; Colossians 3:5-11; James 2:1-13

**Overcoming pride:** Psalm 131; Mark 9:33-37; Luke 14:7-11, 18:1-14, 22:24-27; Romans 12:14-16; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

**Overcoming procrastination:** Matthew 22:1-14, 25:1-13; 2 Corinthians 6:1-2

**Raising children:** Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21

**Respecting civil authorities:** Mark 12:13-17; Romans 13:1-7; Titus 3:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-17

**Respecting parents:** Exodus 20:12; **Proverbs 23:22**; Ephesians 6:1-3; Colossians 3:20

**Retiring from your job:** Numbers 6:24-26; Psalm 145; Matthew 25:31-46; Romans 12:1-2; Philippians 3:12-21; 2 Peter 1:2

**Seeking forgiveness:** Psalm 32:1-5, 51; Proverbs 28:13; Joel 2:12-17; Matthew 6:14-15; Luke 15

**Seeking God's help:** Psalm 5, 57, 86, 119:169-176, 121, 130; Matthew 7:7-12

**Seeking justice:** Psalm 10, 17, 75, 94; Isaiah 42:1-7, 61:1-9; Amos 5:21-24; Habakkuk 1:12,4

**Seeking salvation:** Romans 1:16-17, 3:21-31, 5:1-11, 10:5-13; Ephesians 1:3-14, 2:1-10; John 3 1-21

**Seeking strength:** Psalm 46, 138; Isaiah 40:27-31, 51:12-16; Ephesians 6:10-20; 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

**Sharing your gifts:** Exodus 35:20-29; Malachi 3:6-12; Luke 21:1-4; Acts 2:43-47, 4:32-37; Romans 12:9-13; 1 Corinthians 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15, 9:6-15

**Starting a new job:** Proverbs 11:3, 22:29; Romans 12:3-11; 1 Peter 4:7-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

**Understanding your relationship with God:** Deuteronomy 5:1-22; Psalm 139; John 15:1-17; Romans 5:1-11, 8:1-17

**Understanding your relationship with others:** Deuteronomy 5:16-21; Proverbs 3:27-35; Matthew 18:15-17, 21-35; Romans 14:13-23; Galatians 6:1-10; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 John 4:7-12

**Worrying about the future:** Isaiah 36, 60; Jeremiah 29:10-14; 1 Peter 1:3-5; Revelation 21:1-8

**Worrying about growing old:** Psalm 37:23-29; Isaiah 46:3-4

**Worrying about money:** Proverbs 11:7; Ecclesiastes 5:10-20; Matthew 6:24-34; Luke 12:13-21; 1 Timothy 6:6-10

**Overwhelmed Experiencing stress?** Isaiah 55:1-9; Matthew 11:25-30; John 4:1-30; 2 Corinthians 6:3-10; Revelation 22:17

**Rejected?** Psalm 38; Isaiah 52:13, 53:12; Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 4:16-30; John 15:18, 16:4; Ephesians 1:3-14; 1 Peter 2:1-10

**Tempted?** Psalm 19:12-14, 141; Luke 4:1-13; Hebrews 2:11-18, 4:14-16; James 1:12-18

**Tempted by sex?** 2 Samuel 11:1, 12:25; 21 Corinthians 6:12-20; Galatians 5:16-26

**Tired? Weary?** Psalm 3:5-6, 4:4-8; Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:25-30; 2 Thessalonians 3:16; Hebrews 4:1-11

**Feeling useless? Inferior?** Isaiah 6:1-8; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Galatians 1:11-24; Ephesians 4:1-15; 1 Peter 2:4-10

**Vengeful?** Matthew 5:38-42; Romans 12:17-21

**Every person is separated from God because of sin:**

Isaiah 59:1-15; Romans 3:9-20, 5:12-21; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 7:14-25

**God has always sought to form a close relationship with people**

Exodus 19:3b-8; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Isaiah 54:1-10; 1 Peter 1:1-10; 1 John 3:1-10 **God**

**has reached out to people in a personal way by sending Jesus Christ**

Colossians 1:15-23; Romans 5:1-11; 1 Peter 2:2:10-25; John 3:1-21; 2 Timothy 1:3-10; Ephesians 2:1-10

**God's forgiveness through Jesus Christ is available to every person:**

Psalm 51:1-17; 1 John 1:5-10; Romans 10:5-13; Psalm 32:1-11; Romans 8:31-39, 3:21-26 **New life in Christ calls a person to live in a Christ like way:**

Romans 6:1-14; Matthew 20:20-28; Ephesians 4:17-32; Galatians 5:16-26; 1 John 4:7-21; Romans 12:1-21

## Marital Focused

### When Communication Gets Difficult

**Ephesians 4:26 (NLT):** "And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry." - Practice self-control.

**Ephesians 4:2-3 (ESV):** "With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." - Fight for Peace!

**Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NIV):** "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." - Remain united!

**Proverbs 16:23 (NIV):** "A wise man's heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction." - Choose to be wise!

**Proverbs 12:18 (NIV):** "Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." - Refuse to cut with words!

**Proverbs 18:13 (NIV):** "To answer before listening-- that is folly and shame" - Listen first.

**Ephesians 4:15 (NIV):** "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ." - Speak the truth in Love!

**Ephesians 4:29 (ESV):** "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear." - Do not use hurtful words.

**Galatians 5:15 (NIV):** "If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other" - Do not seek to destroy.

**James 4: 1-2 (NIV):** "What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God." -Be transparent with your struggles before God!

**Ephesians 4:32 (NLT):** "Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you." - Seek to FORGIVE!

**1 Peter 4:8 (NLT):** "Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins." - Treat each other with Love!

## Reminder for Husbands

**1 Peter 3:7 (NIV):** "Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers."

**Titus 2:2 (ESV):** "Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness."

**Proverbs 5:18-19 (ESV):** "Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be intoxicated always in her love."

**Proverbs 31:11-** Husbands should trust in their wives.

**Proverbs 31:28 (NLT):** "Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her: 'There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!'"

**Proverbs 18:22 (ESV):** "He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the **LORD**."

**James 1:19-20 (ESV):** "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

**Colossians 3:19 (ESV):** "Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them."

**Ephesians 5: 28 (ESV):** "In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself."

## Reminder for

### Wives Proverbs

#### 31:10-31

**Proverbs: 14:1 (ESV):** "The wisest of women builds her house, but folly with her own hands tears it down."

**1 Peter 3:1-4 (NIV):** "Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight"

**Titus 2:3-5 (ESV):** "Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, 4 and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled."



**1 Timothy 3:11 (ESV):** "wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things."

**Proverbs 12:25: (ESV)** "Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad"

**Proverbs 12:4 (NIV):** "A wife of noble character is her husband's crown, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones."

**Proverbs 19:14 (NLT):** "Fathers can give their sons an inheritance of houses and wealth, but only the LORD can give an understanding wife."

**Proverbs 27:15 (NLT):** "A quarrelsome wife is as annoying as constant dripping on a rainy day."

**Proverbs 25:4 (ESV):** "It is better to live in a corner of the housetop than in a house shared with a quarrelsome wife."

**Proverbs 21:19 (NIV):** "Better to live in a desert than with a quarrelsome and nagging wife."

## God's Instruction for Marriage

**Hebrews 13:4 (NIV):** "Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral."

**1 Corinthians 7:1-16:** Now for the matters you wrote about: "It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman." But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. **I** say this as a concession, not as a command. I wish that **all** of you were as **I** am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. Now to the unmarried and the widows **I** say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as **I** do. But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion. To the married **I** give this command (not **I**, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife. To the rest **I** say this (**I**, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy. But if the unbeliever leaves, let it be so. The brother or the sister is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace. How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?



**Ephesians 5:25-33:** "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ..."

**Matthew 19: 4-6:** "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate."

**Hebrews 13 4-7:** Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

**Ecclesiastes 4:9:** "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone?"

**Song of Solomon 8:7:** "Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot wash it away. If one were to give all the wealth of his house for love, it would be utterly scorned."

**Proverbs 20: 6-7** "Many claim to have unfailing love, but a faithful person who can find? The righteous lead blameless lives; blessed are their children after them."