

# Simplicity

What is “the simplicity that is in Christ”? How can Jesus say “my yoke is easy, and my burden is lite”?

When Adam chose to disobey God, sin entered the world. Since then, we are all born into sin. The wages of sin is death: eternal separation from God spent in the “lake which burneth with fire and brimstone”. But God provided a way out. He sent His Son, by whom all the heavens and the earth were created, to pay the penalty for mankind’s sin by dying in our place. After spending three days and three nights in the grave, Jesus arose from the grave, and after spending some time with his disciples, ascended to the Father. He then sent the Holy Spirit back to indwell each believer.

All we have to do is admit that we are sinners, believe that Jesus is the Son of God who died as a payment for those sins and ask him to dwell in our hearts. His righteousness will then be imputed unto us and we will be allowed entrance into Heaven. The Bible then tells us to be baptised as an outward expression of our internal decision. We are then to tell others so that they also may escape eternal judgement.

Once we have made this commitment the Holy Spirit will enter us. Jesus says that we should take his yoke upon us and learn of Him. A yoke defined is 'a wooden frame or bar with loops or bows at either end, used for harnessing together a pair of oxen, etc.'. Symbolically, Jesus is in one loop and we are in the other. We do not have to try to improve ourselves because the Holy Spirit within us will initiate changes and all we have to do is obey. To learn of Him, we are to put on the whole “armor of God” because Satan will try to deceive us. The armour is simply: surrounding ourselves with God’s word; accepting Christ, which provides us the “breastplate of righteousness”; having our “feet shod” is telling others the good news; having the “shield of faith” is trusting Him and His word; to take the helmet of salvation, “with the mouth confession is made unto salvation”; and taking the sword of the spirit which is the “word of God” to attack deception. As His word saturates us, the Holy Spirit will start the work of changing us. Just because we put on His yoke we do not lose our free will: if we are free to put it on then we are obviously free to take it off, but he will never leave us or cast us out. Therefore His yoke is easy and His burden light. Because the gospel is so simple, no person or organization can control you: the Holy Spirit alone retains that right to form us.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. The Holy Spirit within you is the kingdom of God. The cause of our justification, which is Jesus Christ, is our righteousness. As we are perfect (wholehearted) with the Lord our God, He will direct our paths.

## Supporting Verses

<sup>6</sup>And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. (*Genesis 3:6*)

<sup>14</sup>Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. (*Romans 5:14*)

<sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Romans 6:23*)

<sup>10</sup>And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (*Revelation 20:10*)

<sup>15</sup>And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. (*Revelation 20:15*)

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (*John 3:16*)

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup>The same was in the beginning with God.

<sup>3</sup>All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. (*John 1:1-3*)

<sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

<sup>15</sup>That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. (*John 3:14-15*)

<sup>40</sup>For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. (*Matthew 12:40*)

<sup>6</sup>He is not here, but is risen:

remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

<sup>7</sup>Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. (*Luke 24:6-7*)

<sup>9</sup>And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. (*Acts 1:9*)

<sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away:

for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. (*John 16:7*)

<sup>14</sup>For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

<sup>15</sup>Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

<sup>16</sup>That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

<sup>17</sup>That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

<sup>18</sup>May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

<sup>19</sup>And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. (*Ephesians 3:14-19*)

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<sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (*1 John 1:9*)

<sup>37</sup>And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (*Acts 8:37*)

<sup>25</sup>Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

<sup>26</sup>To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness:

that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. (*Romans 3:25-26*)

<sup>20</sup>Behold, I stand at the door, and knock:

if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. (*Revelation 3:20*)

<sup>38</sup>Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (*Acts 2:38*)

<sup>22</sup>And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

<sup>23</sup>Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;

<sup>24</sup>But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

<sup>25</sup>Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification. (*Romans 4:22-25*)

<sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many mansions:

if it were not so, I would have told you.

I go to prepare a place for you.

<sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. (*John 14:2-3*)

<sup>38</sup>Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (*Acts 2:38*)

<sup>9</sup>That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

<sup>10</sup>For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (*Romans 10:9-10*)

<sup>33</sup>Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? (*Matthew 23:33*)

<sup>36</sup>Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man. (*Luke 21:36*)

<sup>15</sup>And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. (*Revelation 20:15*)

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<sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

<sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. (*Matthew 11:29*)

<sup>30</sup>But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

<sup>31</sup>That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. (*1 Corinthians 1:30-31*)

<sup>13</sup>For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. (*Philippians 2:13*)

<sup>22</sup>And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. (*1 Samuel 15:22*)

<sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

<sup>12</sup>For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

<sup>13</sup>Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

<sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

<sup>15</sup>And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

<sup>16</sup>Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery

darts of the wicked.

<sup>17</sup>And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

<sup>18</sup>Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

<sup>19</sup>And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

<sup>20</sup>For which I am an ambassador in bonds:

that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. (*Ephesians 6:11-20*)

<sup>15</sup>Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (*2 Timothy 2:15*)

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,

<sup>4</sup>Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,

<sup>5</sup>For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

<sup>6</sup>Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

<sup>7</sup>Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. (*Philippians 1:3-7*)

<sup>20</sup>For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

<sup>21</sup>For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. (*2 Peter 2:20-21*)

<sup>5</sup>Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have:

for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. (*Hebrews 13:5*)

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<sup>33</sup>But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (*Matthew 6:33*)

<sup>20</sup>But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you. (*Luke 11:20*)

<sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away:

for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. (*John 16:7*)

<sup>20</sup>And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation:

<sup>21</sup>Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you. (*Luke 17:20-21*)

<sup>23</sup>Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;

<sup>24</sup>But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

<sup>25</sup>Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification. (*Romans 4:23-25*)

<sup>21</sup>I do not frustrate the grace of God:

for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain. (*Galatians 2:21*)

<sup>13</sup>Thou shalt be **perfect** with the LORD thy God. (*Deuteronomy 18:13*)

*The Hebrew word for **perfect** here is "Tamim". In our relationship with God, tamim means being wholehearted, resolute, and entirely committed to walking "with" Him in this world.*

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

<sup>6</sup>In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. (*Proverbs 3:5-6*)