

Calling All Christians...

“Let anyone with ears to Hear, Listen!” ~ Mark 4:8

**In these times of war, the following Scripture verses are Important ...
as Christians, please read and consider them carefully!**

1. To be Faith-full, Christians must strive to keep Jesus' Commandments ...

“If you wish to enter into Life, keep The Commandments.” ~ Jesus (Matthew 19:17)

“If you Love Me, *keep my Commandments*.” ~ Jesus (John 14:15)

2. Jesus' Commandments are centered around Love ...

“This is my Commandment, that you *Love one another as I have Loved you*.” ~ Jesus (John 15:12)

“You shall *love your neighbor as yourself*. On these Commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” ~ Jesus (Matthew 22: 39-40)

“For God is not a God of chaos but of Harmony.” ~ Paul (1 Corinthians 14:33)

“If we Love one another, God lives in us, and his Love is perfected in us ... *God is Love*.” ~ 1 John 4:12+16

3. God and Jesus both want us to Forgive our trespassers ...

“*Blessed are the merciful* for they will receive mercy.” ~ Jesus (Matthew 5:7)

“How often should I forgive? As many as seven times? -- Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times ... but 70 times seven times.’ ~ Matthew 18:21-22

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; *do not condemn, and you will not be condemned*. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.” ~ Jesus (Luke 6:37)

“He asked Jesus ‘And who is my neighbor?’ -- Jesus replied ‘Which of the three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?’ -- He answered, ‘The [Samaritan] who showed the man Mercy.’ -- Then Jesus said to him, ‘*Go and Do likewise*.’” ~ Luke 10:29-37

“If you Forgive the sins of any, they are Forgiven; if you retain them, they are retained.” ~ Jesus (John 20:23)

“As God’s chosen ones ... *clothe yourselves with Compassion* ... Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive them. Just as Christ has forgiven you, so must you also forgive.” ~ Paul (Colossians 2:12-13)

4. We must never avenge the wrongs done to us ...

“But I say to you, *Love your enemies* and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be Children of your Father in Heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.” ~ Jesus (Matthew 5: 44-46)

“Put your sword back, for *all who use the sword will perish by the sword*.” ~ Jesus (Matthew 26:52)

“Only he without sin should cast the first stone.” ~ Jesus (John 8:7)

“Beloved, *never avenge yourselves*, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written: Vengeance is mine ... says the Lord.” ~ Paul (Romans 12:19)

“Do not be overcome by evil, but *overcome evil with Good*.” ~ Paul (Romans 12:21)

“*Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse*; but, on the contrary, repay with a Blessing. It is for this that you were Called – that you might inherit a Blessing.” ~ 1 Peter 3:9

“See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good ...” ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:15

“When Christ was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the One who judges justly.” ~ 1 Peter 2:23

5. Though the Old Testament seems to support “just wars”, Jesus clearly does not ...

“You have heard that it was said ‘Thou shall not kill’ [God in Exodus 20:13] and ‘whoever kills shall be liable to judgment.’” ~ Jesus (Matthew 5:21)

“Blessed are the Peacemakers.” ~ Jesus (Matthew 5:9)

“*The Father judges no one* but has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may Honor the Son just as they Honor the Father ... You judge by human standards. *I judge no one*.” ~ Jesus (John 5:22 & 8:15)

“But *Love your enemies*, Do Good and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be Children of the Most High; for he is Kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be Forgiven; Give and it will be Given to you ... for the measure you Give will be the measure you get back.” ~ Jesus (Luke 6:35-38)

6. If the two Testaments seem to contradict each other, Jesus' Covenant "wins" ...

"The Law was given through Moses; Grace and Truth came through Jesus Christ." ~ John 1:17

"**Christ is the End of the Law.**" ~ Paul of Tarsus (Romans 10:4)

"For if there was Glory in the ministry of condemnation, much more does the ministry of liberation abound in Glory! ... Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only 'in Christ' is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day **whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to Jesus, the veil is removed.**" ~ Paul of Tarsus (2 Corinthians 3:9+14-15)

"There is, on the one hand, the abrogation of an earlier Commandment because it was weak and ineffectual (for the Law made nothing perfect); there is, on the other hand, the introduction of a better Hope, through which we approach God ... accordingly **Jesus has also become the guarantee of a better Covenant** ... Jesus has now obtained a more excellent ministry, and to that degree he is the mediator of a better covenant ... For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need to look for a second one ... **In speaking of a 'new Covenant', he has made the first one obsolete.** And what is obsolete and growing old will soon disappear." ~ Hebrews 7:18-19+22 & Hebrews 8:6-7+13

7. Our pro-war leadership professes to be a Christian leadership ...

"It was because of these newfound understandings that I was able to walk down the aisle and affirm my Christian faith." ~ President Barack Obama (June 23, 2007)

Over 85% of the 545 members of our 111th Congress profess to be Christians of one type or another and 7 of 9 Supreme Court Justices also claim to follow a Biblical faith ...

8. True Christians show the sincerity of their Faith through their actions ...

"By this they will Know that you are my disciples: if you Love one another." ~ Jesus (John 13:35)

"Whoever says 'I abide in Him' must walk **just as he walked.**" ~ 1 John 2:6

"Little children, let us Love, not in thought or speech, but in Truth and action." ~ 1 John 3:18

"Even Satan disguises himself as an Angel of Light. So it is not strange if his ministers also disguise themselves as ministers of righteousness. **Their ends will match their deeds.**" ~ Paul (2 Corinthians 11:15)

"**The only thing that counts is Faith working through Love** ... For the whole Law is summed up in a single Commandment, Love your neighbor as your Self." ~ Paul (Galatians 5:6+14)

"They profess to know God, but **they deny him by their actions.**" ~ Titus 1:16

9. For Christian citizens, Christ's Commandments transcend all worldly authorities ...

"**We must obey God rather than any human authority.**" ~ Acts 5:29

"You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of human masters." ~ 1 Corinthians 7:23

"Everyone who does not abide in the Teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it, does not have God ...

Whoever abides in the Teaching has both the Father and the Son." ~ 2 John 1:9

We can most effectively obey Jesus' Commandments by opposing war ...

We can most effectively oppose war by demanding Peace ...

& We can most effectively demand Peace by forgiving those who trespass against us!

Re-member: There is no Way to Peace; Peace is The Way!

"There is no fear in Love, but perfect Love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in Love." ~ 1 John 4:18

"Love your enemies ... Be perfect, therefore, as your Father in Heaven is perfect."
~ Jesus (Matthew 5:40+48)