

Part 2 – The Word of the Lord is Just and True

In part 1 we learned that this Psalm 33 is a continuation of the last Psalm 32; thus, it's another Psalm of David. And we saw the connecting thought from the last verse in Ps 32 and the first Psalm of this 33rd chapter in that, in both verses David implored the righteous to be glad in the Lord and rejoice by shouting for joy for all the good Lord has done for us. He also pointed out that praise is comely (befitting) for the upright in heart (i.e. those who's heart has been cleaned by the Word of God and is not crooked/corrupted anymore). We also saw a 'hidden gem' of truth in the prime roots of the word 'comely', which means 'to be at home'. Thus, we know when we connect our heart and mind to the Lord's heart and mind – which can only be done by believing in Jesus Christ, studying the Word of God and trusting in it wholeheartedly (which will cause us to obey it sincere, from the heart) – then we can be 'at home' with Him *because* the Holy Spirit will dwell within our soul, giving us access to the only *true* Most High God when we pray to Him in Jesus' name. We also learned that David not only called the righteous and upright in heart to praise the Lord with a harp, and other stringed instruments, but also to sing unto Him a 'new song' while playing skillfully (on the harp and strings instruments). And we also learned that the Psalms calls upon the righteous and upright in heart to do this frequently in the Psalms. And the reason why is that the Psalms are as much prophetic as they are historical. That's why, even in the book of Revelations we're told how the righteous and upright in heart (those who overcome Satan and his 'beast' governing system) will *still* be playing with harps and singing to God; some overcomers will be singing the Song of Moses (Deut 32) and the Song of the Lamb while others will indeed be singing a 'new' song to the Lord. And, even if we don't know how to play a harp (or any instruments), we can still praise and worship the Lord today by learning to use our gifts to let His Light (the truth) shine through our life and taking the opportunity to share truth to others, as the occasion arises. So, we'll now move on with this great Psalm to learn what else it teaches...

Psalms 33

4 For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth.

So, David now begins to explain the *reasons* (of which there are many) we have for praising and singing (worshipping) the Lord. And the first reason he gives is that the Lord's Word is 'right', which means straight (literally or figuratively): **-convenient**, equity, Jasher, just, meet (-est), **pleased well right** (-eous), **straight**, (most) **upright** (-ly, -ness) (#3477). This means that there is no deceit or falsehood (lies) in God's Word – none at all. As Deut 32:4 says, the Lord is a 'God of truth' who is 'without iniquity' which means there is not perverseness, or corruption, in His Word. *That's why it cleanses us spiritually.* As He also says in Isa 45:19, He speaks righteousness and declares things that are right, which of course, is *the truth*. And Jesus also said in John 17:17, God's Word (written or spoken) *is truth* and (again) that's what sanctifies (spiritually cleanses) us. Therefore, if you are studying God's Word and are confused by it, *you are not getting the truth*. Perhaps the translations you are reading are wrong. Get a *Strong's Concordance* and look up the meaning of the words *yourself*. Or perhaps you are listening to a preacher who is only teaching you 'traditions of man' *instead of God's truth*. That too causes confusion. As Jesus said

in Mth 15:6 and Mk 7:8, ‘traditions of man’ (false doctrines) make God’s Word of ‘none effect’, which means it does not help people clean their soul and learn to do what’s right because ‘traditions of man’ *are not actually teaching what God’s Word says* but rather, a perversion of it. In other words, ‘traditions of man’ are really not God’s Words, they are man’s words (Jer 23), and *that’s* why they are confusing to those who are sincerely seeking truth. As Paul told his protégé Timothy, ***we are all individually responsible to study God’s Word, for ourselves...***

15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

2 Tim 2:15-16

So, not only do we have to study God’s Word and learn to rightly ‘divide’ it (which means to correctly dissect it, #3718) – which, to reiterate, we do this by looking up the words in a *Strong’s Concordance* so we can see what the words actually mean in the original language – but we also have to learn to discern, and shun, ‘profane and vain babblings’, *because they are lies* and thus, they only lead to more ungodliness (and confusion). But, if we study God’s Word sincerely and diligently (consistently), and don’t listen to lies some ‘preachers’ (teachers, priests, etc.) tell us, then we will find the truth. And, as Jesus told us in John 8, the truth sets us free from Satan’s bondage of deception. As 2 Tim 3:16-17 says: ***All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect*** [which means complete #739], *thoroughly furnished unto all good works*. So, when we study God’s Word (and not corrupted interpretations of it) you’ll always find wisdom and guidance that teaches you how to be happy (have peace of mind) and learn how to do what’s right.

And this is vitally important to understand, because many people claim that God is unfair, unrighteous and unjust. They make this claim for several reasons. First off, they don’t see how corrupted *they* are and secondly, they simply *don’t really know God*. For example, when some people look at God’s Laws concerning slavery, they are disgusted because God ‘allows it’. What they don’t understand is that some of the ordinances God gave Israel deal with things not intended for the original creation order, such as slavery and divorce. These will be eliminated completely *only when sin is eliminated from the earth*. God’s laws concerning slavery *provided parameters for treatment of slaves, which were for the benefit of all involved*. ***God desires all men and nations to be liberated***. But, freedom must begin *internally* (John 8:31-32) and will be manifested externally to the extent internal change occurs. The Biblical slave laws reflect God’s redemptive desire, for men and nations.

Thus, slavery was a part of life back then and truly, it still is; *we just don’t realize it*. Not only are people enslaved when they are in debt monetarily, they are also enslaved when they sin habitually, as a lifestyle (as Rom 6 points out). But, to reiterate, the Biblical laws concerning slaves are given for their *protection* and eventual redemption (Ex. 21:20-21, 26-27; Lev. 24:17, Col. 4:1). Slaves could become part of the covenant and part of the family, even receiving an inheritance. Under the new covenant, a way was made to set slaves free *internally*, which should then be following by external preparation enabling those who were slaves to live at liberty, being

self-governed under God (Ex. 12:43-44, 20:8-11, Exodus 21:4-11; Lev. 22:10-11; Gen. 17:12-13, Gen. 24:2; Prov. 17:2; Eph. 6:5-9; Col. 4:1; 1 Tim. 6:1-2; Col. 3:22-25; Titus 2:9-10). This is why ‘heathen’ could be slaves (Leviticus 25:44-46).

So, God gave Israel laws that protect the slaves from being harmed and even gave them some rights. And under God’s righteous Law, when slaves (indentured servants) were acquired under the Law, it was *their labor that was purchased, not their person* (Ex. 21:2-3, Deut. 15:12-13) and the price took into account the year of freedom (Lev. 25:44-55; Ex. 21:2; Deut. 15:12-13). Further, slaves were allowed to run away from their masters and could not be returned, under God’s Laws concerning slavery (Deut 23:15-16) so again, the only kind of slavery permitted is voluntary slavery, also called indentured servitude. There were many indentured servants in America when it was a colony; people would promise to work for someone for a certain amount of time in exchange for their fee to the new country to be paid. And, truly we still have a form of this today; when people promise to work for a corporation (for a certain amount of time) that will pay for their education they are willingly giving themselves into a form of voluntary slavery in exchange for their education. And the only exception to voluntary slavery in God’s Law was in the case of thief, or criminal, making restitution. A thief who could not, or did not, make restitution was sold as a slave (Ex. 22:1,3). Their servitude ceased when enough work was done to pay for the amount due in restitution. But most ‘slavery’ was voluntary and slaves who ran away could not be forced to go back to their ‘masters’. This is also why kidnapping (which is a form of slavery) was *punishable by death* (Exodus 21:16, Deuteronomy 24:7). This law would also apply to sex trafficking (or trafficking people for any reason), which is probably the most common form of *modern-day slavery*, aside from our monetary debt system.

And, there was even a law that allowed slaves to remain slaves *if they chose to*, because **some people prefer the security of enslavement to the uncertainty of living free**. People who live free have certain responsibilities they must maintain. Something many people don’t understand is that ***we cannot have the fruit of freedom without the responsibilities of freedom***. It is within this context that Ex 21:3-4 can be understood. The bondservant, cannot have the best of both worlds; the world of freedom and the world of servitude. A wife meant responsibility: to marry, a man had to have a dowry as evidence of his ability to head a household. A man could not gain the benefit of freedom (i.e. a wife) and at the same time gain the benefit of security under a ‘master’. Marrying as a slave required *no responsibility of provision or need of a dowry*. He gained the benefits of marriage without the responsibilities associated with it. If he married while a bondservant, or a slave, he knew that in so doing he was abandoning either freedom or his family. **He either remained permanently a slave with his family and had his ear pierced as a sign of subordination (like a woman), or he left his family**. If he walked out and left his family, he could, if he earned enough, redeem his family from bondage. The law here is humane even if it is unsentimental. **It recognizes that some people are by nature slaves and will always be so**. It both requires that they be dealt with in a godly manner and also that the slave recognize his position and accept it with grace.

Socialism, on the contrary, ***tries to give the slave all the advantages of his security together with the benefits of freedom***, which is why so many people are deceived into supporting it. What they don’t understand is that, **under socialism, communism** (or any other law system than what God gave us in the Bible), **all people are enslaved by the dictators who control the government**. And in reality, all governments that are not under God’s Laws *are controlled by Satan’s evil*

system; and most of the world leaders today are working to get the *entire* world totally controlled by Satan's wicked system before he returns to govern the world himself (Rev 12-13). We learned about this some in Psalms 2 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Psalms/15].

Moreover, not only do some think God is unjust and unfair for allowing slavery but some people today also say that *all* the early Americans (who were mostly Christian) must have been despicable to allow such an evil as slavery. They say early America should be judged as 'evil and sinful', *and anything they have to say should be discounted*. **But if we were to judge modern America by this same standard, *it would be far more wicked*** - we are not merely enslaving people (through our debt system and the prolific evils of sex trafficking, *even children*), but we are *murdering* tens of millions of *innocent*, unborn, children through abortion. These people claim that they would not have allowed slavery if they were alive then; they would speak out and take any measures necessary. But where is their outcry and action to end slavery in other countries today? Or even in their own country with our monetary system that keeps almost all of our people enslaved? Or where is their outcry for sex trafficking? Further, if we were to cut ourselves off from the history of nations that had slavery in the past, *we would have to have nothing to do with any people* - because almost every society has had slavery - including African Americans, for **many African societies sold slaves to the Europeans**; and **up to ten percent of blacks in America owned slaves**. The reality is that the overwhelming majority of early Americans, and most of America's leaders at that time, did not own slaves. Some did own slaves, which were often inherited (like George Washington at age eleven), but many of these people set them free after independence. **Most Founders believed that slavery was wrong and that it should be abolished**. And further to that, Christian nations (those based upon Biblical principles) have led the way in the abolition of slavery. America was at the forefront of this fight. After independence, great steps were taken down the path of ending slavery - probably more than had been done by any other nation up until that time in history (though certainly more could have been done). Many who had settled in America had already been moving toward these ends.

Unfortunately, the generations following the Founders did not continue to move forward in a united fashion. And since the civil war, the entire nation has been enslaved by our monetary debt system, as well as socialism that has slowly crept into politics, as well as the hearts and minds of the people (enslaving us inwardly as well as outwardly). Further, and as stated before, most people are enslaved to their own sin, which is truly being a slave to Satan (Rom 6). After all, Satan's followers (2 Cor 10:13-15) are disguised as 'apostles of Christ', as 'ministers of righteousness' and Satan himself is disguised as an 'angel of light' (2 Cor 11:13-15). That's why so many people in the world (nearly all) will be fooled into worshiping him (and his 'beast' governing system that enslaves them totally – physically and spiritually) when he and his fallen angels are kicked out of heaven to earth (Rev 12-13).

But, slavery is just one example (of many) that reveals how there's nothing new under the sun (Ecc 1:19). As it was then, so it is now - and vice versa. Thus, back when Israel was in the wilderness, they often claimed that the Lord (YHWH) and Moses were unfair and unjust. They even accused Moses (and the Lord) of freeing them from Egyptian bondage just so they could die in the wilderness (Ex 16:3, Num 14:2-3). God dealt (righteously) with them by killing off the rebels and allowing only those who believed in Him to go into the Promise Land. Again, as it was then, so shall it be again (Ecc 1:9). That's why only those who believe in Him (and remain

faithful to Him) will be allowed to inherit the kingdom of God when Jesus Christ returns. The rest will be educated in the truth for a thousand years and any remaining incorrigible rebels (criminals) will be put to death in the lake of fire (Rev 20).

Further to this point, even when the children of Israel were in the Promise Land, they *still* accused the Lord of being unfair and unjust. As such, the Lord sent prophets to try and reason with them; to bring them back to truth, so they could see that they were being punished *for their sins* and *not* because He was unjust. For example, in Ezekiel 18 [which you can study in full here: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Ezekiel/322], He addresses a ‘saying’ (a proverb) in Israel where they claimed that *the fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge* (Ezek 18:2). This means that they claimed God punished the children for their parent’s sins. Yet, God clearly told them when He was giving them the Law that, He only punished children for their parents’ sins when they continued to do the same sins. As it is written: *for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments* (Ex 20:5-6).

And, in Ezekiel 18, the Lord (YHVH) continued on to ‘make His case’ against Israel. And He said that *if a man be just, and do that which is lawful and right* (vs 5) *he shall surely live* (vs 9). And from verses 6-9 He gives very clear instructions on what being just, lawful and right entails. He then goes on (vs 10-13) to speak of what it means to do wickedly and promises that they that do so will die. And then He goes on to explain what it means to do righteously. And amongst this going back and forth in explaining what doing right verse doing what’s wrong means, He is also pointing out that it does not matter if your parents did wickedly - if you do what’s right you’ll live and be blessed. And vice versa. No matter if your parents were righteous, if you do wickedly, you’ll be cursed and die. He then states in verse 20: ***The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.*** And then in verse 25 He again asks them why they think this is unjust and demands they admit that His ways are ‘equal’ (balanced, #8085) - meaning righteous - and that they admit their ways are wicked, because they refuse to obey His Laws. And then He goes on *again* to explain His reasoning: He punishes the wicked and rewards the righteous and reiterates (yet again) in vs 20 that His ways are ‘equal’, while theirs are not. And in verse 30, He states that He will judge each person according to their own ways, yet (in vs 31) implores them to cast away all their transgressions, and make a new heart and spirit in their soul – in other words, He calls them to repent wholeheartedly and change from their wickedness so they won’t die. So, Israel was doing evil and would not admit it. And they complained about the punishments God was inflicting upon them because of their wickedness. But truly, *it was their own sinful, rebellious and corrupt heart and mind (spirit) that caused their own problems*. Again, as it was then, so it is today (Ecc 1:9). Our people seem to not learn from the errors of the past.

And that’s not the only time God reasons with His people. He does so again later on in Ezekiel (chapter 33, which you can study here: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Ezekiel/606). And again,

in Jeremiah 31:29-37, God addresses the same offensive ‘proverb’ (saying) that had spread from Israel to the southern kingdom of Israel. And to that He says that everyone shall die for his own iniquity, which is what *every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge* (vs 30) means. He then went on to prophesy of how He would change the hearts of His children by giving them the Holy Spirit (after Jesus Christ died for our sins, John 7:39, Acts 2:33) which enables us to ‘write’ (i.e. program) God’s Word into our heart (desires, emotions, intentions, motivations) and mind (thought process) so we not only *know how* to do what is right, we also *want* to do what’s right, and thus will do what’s right, *sincerely* (from the heart) in Jer 31:33-34. He then ends the chapter by promising not to annihilate the people of Israel, but save them through the Savior He would send, which is of course, Jesus Christ (Jer 31:35-37). But, it was not only Ezekiel and Jeremiah who God used to implore His children to recognize His righteousness, *and their sinfulness*. He did so through the prophet Isaiah as well. Consider the following...

6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Isa 55:6-11

Here the Lord (YHVH) points out that His ‘ways’ and thoughts are so much higher than mankind’s are – so much ‘higher’ that He likens it to how high the heavens are compared to the earth. That’s a *huge* difference! And the reason we think so much ‘lower’ than our Heavenly Father is because we think ‘in the flesh’ with our heart, which is our carnal mind. And, as Paul points out...

6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Rom 8:6-8

To be carnally minded never brings peace to our mind and will ultimately lead to the death of our soul (Rev 20). But to be ‘spiritually minded’ is life and peace. And being ‘spiritually minded’ means we believe in God’s Word and His Son Jesus Christ, and allow the Holy Spirit to help us

put off the ‘old man’ *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22), and not serve sin any longer (Rom 6:6) by renewing the spirit of our mind (Eph 4:23) as we sincerely study His Word (Col 3:10) - which is what creates the ‘new man’ us, which is created in the image of God, in *righteousness and true holiness* (Eph 4:24). And *that’s the only way* we can live eternally. That’s why Paul begins chapter 8 in Romans by saying...

*1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, **who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit**.*

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. [Rom 7:7-25]

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

*4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, **who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit**.*

5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

Rom 8:1-5

The rest of Romans 8 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Romans/39] continues on to explain the difference between thinking ‘in the flesh’ verses ‘thinking’ with the midst of the Word of God (i.e. the mind of Christ) and how the Holy Spirit helps us to change our ‘inward man’ so we stop thinking with our carnal mind and think (and desire) with the ‘mind of Christ’ instead. And in Rom 6, Paul explains that we can only have one mindset or the other. Which means we’ll either serve sin (which is really serving Satan) or righteousness (which is really serving Jesus Christ). And only by putting on the mind of Christ, and following Him, can we obtain eternal life (Rom 6:23). And Jesus taught us this as well...

*13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. **Ye cannot serve God and mammon**.*

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him.

*15 And he said unto them, **Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God**.*

Luke 16:13-15

We can’t serve, or love, God (YHVH/ Jesus Christ) and Satan at the same time. It’s only one or the other. And God knows if we truly love Him or not. What Jesus also so wisely points out here is that, the things that this world highly esteems are an abomination to God *because they are satanic*, as John so clearly explained...

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

1 John 2:15-17

And, as James 4:4 also says, *friendship of the world is enmity with God and whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God*. This is because *the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be* (Rom 8:7). So, if we really love our Heavenly Father, we'll put on the same mindset He does and thus, we'll love what He does. But John points out that *the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life are not what our Heavenly Father loves*. They are worldly because they are satanic; that's the way Satan thinks. And Satan is the original rebel against God; that's why he is already sentenced to die spiritually (Ezek 28, Rev 20). If we don't want to follow him to the same fate, we've got to change our (carnal) thoughts and desires to align with our Heavenly Father's (spiritual) thoughts and desires. After all, you will die in your flesh body someday. And when Jesus Christ returns, all flesh will be done away with, and none of the things you've lusted after will be around anymore (Isa 24, 34, 2 Pt 3, Rev 18). So, it's not worth 'selling your soul to the devil' for temporary things because they won't last forever... and *neither will you* if you don't repent from your wickedness and accept the only way to find forgiveness (clemency) with God, which is through accepting his Son, Jesus Christ. Paul also implores us (in Col 3) to keep our mind on 'things above' and not on 'things on the earth', by putting our desires and interests in (and on) the Word of God, and *not* onto things of the earth... such as gaining riches, power, prestige, lusts, and so forth [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Peter/306]. Desiring and being consumed in our thoughts about the world things in life is truly being *very* short sighted. While we've got to think about this flesh life (because we are living here) we shouldn't be consumed with it nor worry about it. We must live in this world the while keeping in our mind (and heart) the fact that we're here to serve our Heavenly Father and help His children return to Him – not to serve our carnal desires (1 Pt 4:1-2).

So, when David says here in Ps 33:4 that *the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth* **he is truly laying out the foundation for faith in Jesus Christ**. After all, John 1 tells us that Jesus Christ is the Living Word (vs 1 and 14). And all that Jesus did was righteous because it was in total obedience to the Word of God - for He *never once* sinned in thought, desire, word or deed (Heb 4:15, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5). And, we have to believe this in order to be pleasing to God, for *without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him* (Heb 11:6). So, as you study God's Word, always keep in mind that it right (without fault) and that all of God's works are done in truth. As Deut 32:4 so beautifully puts it: *He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he*. And Ps 145:17 also says, *the LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works*. And Ps 119:142 says, *His righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and His law is the truth*. Ps 12:6 also teaches us that *the words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times*. You can trust in God's Word to lead you in the correct path to find blessings, peace of mind and eternal life. There's no deceit, no lies, no unrighteousness nor any

unfairness in God, or His Word, or His son, Jesus Christ. And *that* is why we can (and should) have faith in it. As an earlier Psalms reminds us...

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean [and cleansing], enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

Ps 19:7-11

God's Word, including all His Laws in it, are perfect (complete) and without fault. They 'convert' our soul because they turn us away from lies and deceit which cause us to sin, which is what will cause our soul to die eternally. That's why they make the 'simple' (silly and spiritually seducible, #6612) wise. That's also why God's Word rejoices our heart. When we stop doing things that cause harm to our own body, soul and spirit, then we have much to rejoice about. It's truly a joy (and a relief) to put off our sins (and transgressions and iniquity) because *that's how we find peace of mind*. So, knowing (trusting in and believing) that the Word of God (YHVH) is right, and that all He does is based upon righteousness and truth, gives us the assurance that our studying God's Word is not 'for nought'. There are *great* benefits that come from studying God's Word, and striving sincerely (from the heart) to obey it. It's not a waste of time but rather, a *very* good (and wise) 'investment' of your time and effort because obeying God's Word (from the heart) is the *only* thing that 'pays' eternally...

*For the wages of sin is death; **but** the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Rom 6:23

7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

*8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but **he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting**.*

*9 And let us not be weary in well doing: **for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not**.*

10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Gal 6:7-10

We'll pick this up in part 3...

AMEN.