

Tree of knowledge of good and evil

Gen 2:9 (NKJV) "And **out of the ground** the LORD God made **every tree** grow that is **pleasant to the sight and good for food**. The **tree of life** was **also** in the midst of the garden, and **the tree of the knowledge of good and evil**."

Luke 8:11 (NKJV) ""Now the parable is this: **The seed is the word of God.**"

Rev 3:17-18 (NKJV) ""Because **you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'; and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked;** [18] "I counsel you **to buy from Me gold refined in the fire**, that you may be rich; and **white garments**, that you may be clothed, *that* **the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed;** and **anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.**"

"... **The church doesn't need to be tested**—we have already made our decision for Christ. ...It is a mystery to me how anyone can challenge Christians to live in expectation of the Rapture if it should follow the worst period of God's wrath in history. **Can a man honestly get excited about His coming if he knows that he can no longer support his family or buy food** for them because he refused the mark of the Beast? A believing father during that period will watch his children starve to death.... **No, the hope and comfort aspect of the Rapture DEMANDS that we ESCAPE the Tribulation**, being raptured out of this world before God's wrath begins.... **If Christ does not rapture His church before the Tribulation begins, much of the hope is destroyed, and thus it becomes a "blasted hope"**.¹ Emphasis mine

"The church should not be expecting the Tribulation period, **but Jewish people should.** ..."²

"Plainly, **if the church were to go through the Tribulation, she would not survive.**"³

Job 1:1-3 (NKJV) "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name *was* Job; and that man **was blameless and upright**, and one **who feared God and shunned evil**. [2] And **seven sons and three daughters** were born to him. [3] Also, **his possessions** were **seven** thousand sheep, **three** thousand camels, **five** hundred yoke of oxen, **five** hundred female donkeys, and a very large household, so that **this man was the greatest of all the people of the East**."

Job 1:8 (NKJV) "Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that *there is* none like him on the earth, a **blameless and upright man**, one who **fears God and shuns evil**?"

1Cor 10:11-12 (NKJV) "**Now all these things happened to them as examples**, and **they were written for our admonition**, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. [12] Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."

Phil 3:4-6 (NKJV) "though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: [5] circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, a **Hebrew of the Hebrews**; concerning the law, a Pharisee; [6] **concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.**"

Rom 1:17 (NKJV) "For in it [gospel] the **righteousness of God** is revealed from **faith to faith**; **as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'**" **Remember the first part of that verse?**

Hab 2:4 (NKJV) ""**Behold the proud**, His soul is not upright in him; But **the just** shall live by his faith."

Gal 2:16 (NKJV) ""knowing that a man is **not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ**, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be **justified by faith** in Christ **and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.**"

¹ Tim Lahaye, Rapture Under Attack pg 54-68-69

² Tim Lahaye, Rapture Under Attack pg 82

³ Tim Lahaye, Rapture Under Attack pg 62

Rom 2:13 (NIV) "For **it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.**"

James 2:24 (NKJV) "You see then that **a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.**"

2 Pet 1:20 (KJV) "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation."

Psa 119:160 (NASB) "**The sum of Thy word is truth,** And every one of Thy righteous ordinances is everlasting."

Mat 13:52 (NKJV) "Then He said to them, **Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.**"

John 6:63 (NKJV) **"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life."**

Mat 4:4 (NKJV) "But He answered and said, **"It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'**"

Psa 14:3 (NKJV) "They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; **There is none who does good, No, not one.**"

Psa 53:3 (NKJV) "Every one of them has turned aside; They have together become corrupt; **There is none who does good, No, not one.**"

Rom 3:9-12 (NKJV) "What then? **Are we better than they? Not at all.** For we have previously charged **both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.** [10] **As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one;** [11] There is none who understands; **There is none who seeks after God.** [12] They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; **There is none who does good, no, not one.**"

Mat 19:16-24 (NKJV) "Now behold, one came and said to Him, **"Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"** [17] So He said to him, **"Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."** [18] He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, **"You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' [19] 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" [20] **The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?"** [21] Jesus said to him, **"If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."** [22] **But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.** [23] Then Jesus said to His disciples, **"Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. [24] "And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."****

Isa 64:6 (NKJV) "But we are all like **an unclean thing,** And **all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;** We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away."

Job 13:15 (KJV) **"Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him."**

Job 27:1-6 (NKJV) "Moreover Job continued his discourse, and said: [2] **"As God lives, who has taken away my justice,** And the Almighty, **who has made my soul bitter, [3] As long as my breath is in me,** And the breath of God in my nostrils, [4] My lips will not speak wickedness, Nor my tongue utter deceit. [5] **Far be it from me That I should say you are right; Till I die I will not put away my integrity from me.** [6] **My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go; My heart shall not reproach me as long as I live."**

Job 13:15 (NIV) "Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; **I will surely defend my ways to his face."**

Job 27:1-6 (NIV) "And Job continued his discourse: [2] **"As surely as God lives, who has denied me justice,** the Almighty, who has made me taste bitterness of soul, [3] as long as I have life within me, the breath of God in my nostrils, [4] my lips will not speak wickedness, and my tongue will utter no deceit. [5] **I will never admit you are in the right; till I die, I will not deny my integrity.** [6] **I will maintain my righteousness and never let go of it;** my conscience will not reproach me as long as I live."

Rom 9:31-32 (NKJV) "but Israel, **pursuing the law of righteousness**, has not attained to the law of **righteousness**. [32] Why? Because **they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law**. **For they stumbled at that stumbling stone**."

Rom 10:1-4 (NKJV) "Brethren, my heart's desire and **prayer to God for Israel** is that they may be saved. [2] For I bear them witness that **they have a zeal for God**, but not according to knowledge. [3] For **they being ignorant of God's righteousness**, and **seeking to establish their own righteousness**, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. [4] **For Christ is the end [telos:G5056] of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes**."

Let us read Job 29.

Luke 18:10-14 (NKJV) ""Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. [11] "The Pharisee stood and **prayed thus with himself**, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men; extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. [12] **'I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess**.' [13] "And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' [14] **"I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted**.""

Job 3:1-3 (NKJV) "After this Job opened his mouth and **cursed the day of his birth**. [2] And Job spoke, and said: [3] "May the day perish on which I was born, And the night *in which* it was said, 'A male child is conceived.'"

Job 32:1-2 (NKJV) "So these three men ceased answering Job, **because he was righteous in his own eyes**. [2] Then the wrath of Elihu, the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, was **aroused against Job**; his wrath was aroused **because he justified himself rather than God**. "

Job 40:1-2 (NKJV) "Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said: [2] "Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct *Him*? **He who rebukes God**, let him answer it.""

Job 40:6-8 (NKJV) "Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: [7] "Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me: [8] **"Would you indeed annul My judgment? Would you condemn Me that you may be justified?"**

Job 40:1-2 (NIV) "The LORD said to Job: [2] **"Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him? Let him who accuses God answer him!"**

Job 40:6-8 (NIV) "Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm: [7] "Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me. [8] **"Would you discredit my justice? Would you condemn me to justify yourself?"**

Jer 17:9 (KJV) **"The heart is deceitful** above all *things*, and **desperately wicked**: who can know it?"

Rom 7:18 (NKJV) **"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells**; for to will is present with me, but *how* to perform what is good I do not find."

Mat 5:48 (KJV) **"Be ye therefore perfect**, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

Mat 5:3 (NKJV) ""**Blessed are the poor in spirit**, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Mat 11:29-30 (NIV) **"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls**. [30] For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.""

Luke 13:32 (NKJV) "And He said to them, "Go, tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, **and the third day I shall be perfected**.'"

Phil 3:12 (NKJV) **"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected**; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me."

James 1:1-4 (NKJV) "James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings. [2] **My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,** [3] knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. [4] **But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.**"

James 5:10-11 (NIV) "Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. [11] As you know, **we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.**"

Ecc 7:8 (NKJV) "The end of a thing *is* better than its beginning; **The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.**"

Job 42:3-6 (NIV) "You asked, 'Who is this that **obscures my counsel without knowledge?**' Surely **I spoke of things I did not understand**, things too wonderful for me to know. [4] "You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' [5] **My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.** [6] **Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.**"

Deu 8:2 (NKJV) ""And you shall remember that the LORD your God **led you** all the way these forty years in the wilderness, **to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart**, whether you would **keep His commandments** or not."

Deu 8:16-17 (NKJV) ""**who fed you in the wilderness with manna**, which your fathers did not know, **that He might humble you** and **that He might test you**, to do you good in the end; [17] "then **you say in your heart**, 'My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.'"

2 Chr 7:14 (KJV) "**If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray**, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

John 6:28-29 (NKJV) "Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" [29] Jesus answered and said to them, "**This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.**"

Rom 4:3-5 (NKJV) "For what does the Scripture say? "**Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.**" [4] Now **to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.** [5] But **to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness.**"

Mat 7:15 (NKJV) ""Beware of **false prophets**, who **come to you in sheep's clothing**, but **inwardly** they are ravenous wolves."

Mat 24:5 (NKJV) ""For **many will come in My name**, saying, 'I am the Christ,' **and will deceive many.**"

Mat 4:5-6 (NKJV) "Then **the devil took Him** up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, [6] and said to Him, "**If You are the Son of God**, throw Yourself down. **For it is written**: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"

Mat 4:7 (NKJV) "Jesus said to him, "**It is written again**, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'"

2 Cor 2:11 (NKJV) "**lest Satan should take advantage of us**; for **we are not ignorant of his devices.**"

Mark 4:13 (NKJV) "And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? **How then will you understand all the parables?**"

Shabbat Shalom!