

The Bible Banner



Behold Our God

A girl in church school had read the Beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in Matthew. She was asked which of the things mentioned she would most like to have. She answered, *"A pure heart."* When asked why she preferred that, she said, *"If my heart were pure, I believe I would have all the other virtues mentioned in this chapter."* Indeed, having a pure heart is a worthy aim, for the scriptures state, *"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."* Matthew 5:8

Red Lentil Cheddar

Soak lentils in boiling water for 25 minutes.

A heaping 2/3 cup of red lentils, rinsed well 1 ¼ cup boiling water

After soaking, blend with the remaining ingredients.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 Tbsp lemon juice | 2/3 cup coconut oil |
| 1 ½ tsp salt | 4 Tbsp nutritional yeast* |
| 1 ½ tsp onion powder | 2 tsp honey |
| 1 ½ Tbsp arrowroot powder | ¼ tsp cumin |
| ¼ tsp turmeric | 2 tsp smoked paprika |
| ½ Tbsp No-Brag Mock Aminos** | ½ tsp celery seed |



Soak lentils in boiling water for 25 minutes. Add all ingredients to blender and blend until smooth. Place in a saucepan and cook over very low heat for approximately five minutes, stirring constantly (Do not try to shorten this time and cook at a higher temperature or the raw lentil flavor will not cook out). Pour immediately into your desired cheese mold (I use a glass bread pan). Cool thoroughly or leave overnight in fridge. This cheese may be grated after several hours of cooling. This is good for Chinese Stacking Dish, vegan omelets, in salad, or wherever you desire a "gratable" cheese.

Yield: This usually makes enough for three or four meals for 3 or 4 people. I just cut it into 3 or 4 "bars" & grate as needed.

*If desired, nutritional yeast may be replaced by adding a little more onion powder and a few pumpkin seeds or cashews.

**No Brag Mock Aminos recipe available here. <https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes--seasonings-notmeats-scratch.php>

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"I make it a rule of Christian duty never to go to a place where there is not room for my Master as well as myself."

--John Newton

PROFITABLE TRADITIONS

CULTIVATE LOVE FOR OUR CREATOR



Spend a few hours, complete with a picnic lunch, enjoying God's creations in nature.

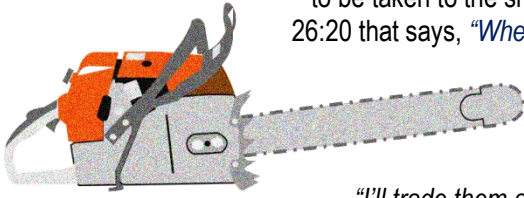
- Taking a bug catcher, butterfly net, or fish net will help young children to enjoy nature up close before releasing the creatures and letting them go.
- A field guide for identifying flowers, butterflies, bugs, and trees also will increase the interest as we behold the works of God in nature.
- Older children may also enjoy photographing nature or drawing and labeling the various creatures that they are able to identify.



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Or visit us at: www.biblepicturepathways.com or www.swiftrunnerministries.com

Too Good to Be True?

"I buy broken chainsaws," the advertisement read. It really seemed too good to be true, but since the advertisement included a phone number, my husband decided it couldn't hurt anything to try and call. He had several broken chainsaws that he had collected from various places (including the county landfill "mall") that he hadn't been able to get into running order. What he really wanted was a chainsaw that worked, so our son could help him cut the necessary firewood for the year and so he had a back-up if his chainsaw had to be taken to the shop to be fixed. Indeed, we could too well imagine the cold winter truth of the Proverbs 26:20 that says, *"Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out..."* In preparation for the phone call, Dallas went to



count how many broken chainsaws he had that he wanted to get rid of. Finding three and a box of pieces, he made the call. "Briing," the phone on the other end of the line rang before a man's voice answered confirming he was definitely interested in some old chainsaws. "How much do you want for them?" he asked.

"I'll trade them all to you in exchange for one working chainsaw of a durable brand like loggers use," answered my husband.

"It's a deal," the man agreed heartily as they discussed the details of where to meet. As promised, the next day we thankfully exchanged three broken chainsaws for one working chainsaw, a deal we've never matched in all the years since then. It seemed too good to be true. *"If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is..."* I warned my children over the years as they grew from toddlers to young adults. But I always added, *"Except for the plan of salvation."*

Indeed, trading broken chainsaws for one that works reminds me of the plan of salvation. We trade in our broken lives and because of Jesus' sacrifice for us, we may obtain new life in Him.

In fact, through Jesus, we may trade a death sentence for eternal life. *"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* Romans 6:23

John describes the transaction that gives us an undeserved advantage, *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son [to die], that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* John 3:16 He took death that we might have life. He took our sins and brokenness that we might have His righteousness. Paul wrote, *"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."* 2 Corinthians 5:21

Jesus also left the riches of heaven and became poor that we might obtain the riches of heaven as children of God. *"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."* 2 Corinthians 8:9

One of my favorite quotes found in The Desire of Ages sums it up this way.

"Christ was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as He deserves. He was condemned for our sins, in which He had no share, that we might be justified by His righteousness, in which we had no share. He suffered the death which was ours, that we might receive the life which was His. 'With His stripes we are healed.'" [DA 25.2]

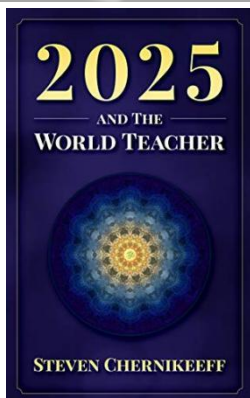


Moment by moment, *"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world,"* and accept His offer of salvation. It may sound too good to be true, but it's the deal of a lifetime. Our hearts overflow with gratitude to God for the unspeakable gift He bestows upon every human being who chooses to accept Christ as a personal Savior.

1- John 1:29

Warning! Satan Appearing as Christ?

Prophetic News Notes and Study to Show Thyself Approved



In Matthew 24:23 -26 is found one of Christ's warnings for the last days. It reads, *Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not."*

As prophesied, today, the world is ripe for the deception of a false christ. Recently, I ran across a book called 2025 and The World Teacher. Obviously, the World Teacher this book refers to is not the Christ of the Bible, but instead one who is part of an occult *"Spiritual Hierarchy."* While God is the rightful King of our Planet and we know He can override any of the devil's plans, it seems that the year 2025 has been a planned date for occultists at least since 1957 when Luciferian Alice A. Bailey wrote her book, The Externalization of the Hierarchy.

She wrote, *“This fullness of time, as regards the particular planning with which we are dealing, is from now until the year 2025 A.D.”*² This coming of a false Christ is a direct counterfeit for the Advent of Christ as described in the Bible, for Galatians 4:4,5 states, *“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.”* Occultist Bailey confirms the first stages of the counterfeit are set to begin in 2025. She writes, *“At the great General Assembly of the Hierarchy—held as usual every century—in 2025 the date in all probability will be set for the first stage of the externalisation of the Hierarchy... the Members of the Hierarchy are fitting Themselves for the objective work of public expression... They will thus be enabled to give full time and attention to the work to be done by Them in physical manifestation.”*³ This “Hierarchy” that will be physically manifested to the public includes a Sanat Kumara (Satan scrambled), who they call the “Lord of the World,” but of him, Jesus said, *“the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.”* John 14:30 The top of the “Hierarchy” also includes a Buddha and a false christ. Indeed, one Christian writer predicted in 1903, *“As we near the close of time, there will be greater and still greater external parade of heathen power; heathen deities will manifest their signal power, and will exhibit themselves before the cities of the world; and this delineation has already begun to be fulfilled. By a variety of images the Lord Jesus represented to John the wicked character and seductive influence of those who have been distinguished for their persecution of God's people. All need wisdom carefully to search out the mystery of iniquity that figures so largely in the winding up of this earth's history. . . .”*⁴

As always, the Bible with its description of *“MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH”* in Revelation 17 is extremely accurate since the Luciferians claim that the *“physical expression of the [false] Christ”* will lead to *“the definite restoration of the Mysteries... These Mysteries, when restored, will unify all faiths...”* The third planned stage of the externalization is *“The stage wherein [the false] Christ and the Masters of the Wisdom can make public appearance and begin to work publicly, openly and outwardly in the world of men.”*⁵ Indeed, one Christian writer describes it thus. *“As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. (Revelation 1:13-15). The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: ‘Christ has come! Christ has come!’ The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed His disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people...”*⁶ What a deception, healing and mixing truth with error! In addition to Satan's miracle working and attempt to unify all the religions, we can also be expecting a call for peace and safety because the Bible predicts, *“For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.”* 1Thessalonians 5:3

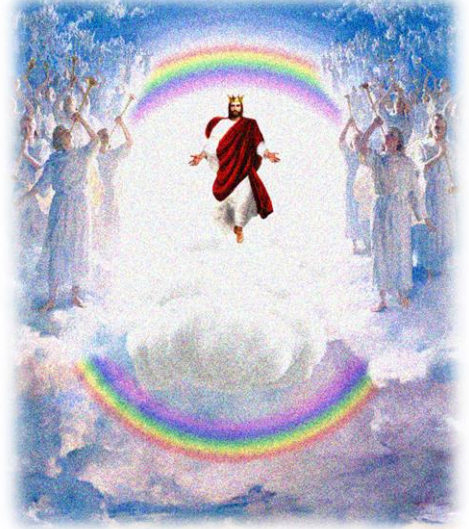
Unfortunately, there will also be demons in human form influencing the policies and politics of nations. Revelation 16:13, 14 predicts, *“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”*⁷ Indeed, we find part of the



devil's plan is that *“Members of the Hierarchy... when the true externalization takes place, will work as members of the human... they will appear in office of some kind or another; they will be the current politicians, business men, financiers, religious teachers or churchmen; they will be scientists and philosophers, college professors and educators; they will be the mayors of cities and the custodians of all public ethical movements.”*⁷ The Bible confirms the likelihood of demons in disguise in 2 Corinthians 11:13-15, *“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”*

But despite Luciferian Bailey's suggestions that if “He” (the false Christ) comes by plane it will fulfill the Bible's description of “in the air,” and that “every eye will see him” might be accomplished by the use of the television,⁸ the true *“people of God will not be misled. The*

teachings of this false christ are not in accordance with the Scriptures. His blessing is pronounced upon the worshipers of the beast and his image, the very class upon whom the Bible declares that God's unmingled wrath shall be poured out. And, furthermore, Satan is not permitted to counterfeit the manner of Christ's advent. The Saviour has warned His people against deception upon this point, and has clearly foretold the manner of His second coming. "There shall arise false christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. . . . Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, He is in the desert; go not forth; behold, He is in the secret chambers; believe it not. **For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.**" Matthew 24:24-27, 31; 25:31; Revelation 1:7; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17. **This coming there is no possibility of counterfeiting.** It will be universally known--witnessed by the whole world.



"Only those who have been diligent students of the Scriptures and who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive. By the Bible testimony these will detect the deceiver in his disguise."⁹ Personally, I'm waiting for Jesus to come in the clouds with a manifestation from one side of the sky to the other. I expect a trumpet and a shout loud enough to wake the dead. The Bible says Christ's coming will include a resurrection of the righteous and those who pierced Jesus will also see Him. (See texts in the above quotation.) And yes, you can count on the fact that the words of the biblical Christ will correctly match those of the eternal Word of God.

As the clock ticks toward 2025 and the possibility of Satan appearing as Christ in the near future comes closer, it is time to wake up and follow truth, praying fervently that we will not be among those who are deceived. Yet, while troublesome days undoubtedly lay ahead with many deceptions, those of us looking for the blessed hope of Jesus Christ's glorious true coming in the clouds remember His admonition, "*When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*" Luke 21:28 Praise God! Our rescue is assured!

- 1- Screenshot <https://www.amazon.com/2025-World-Teacher-Steven-Chernikeeff-ebook/dp/B07NGDH7WB>
 2- The Externalization of the Hierarchy, by Alice A. Bailey, ©1957 Lucis Trust, PDF pg. 299 3- The Externalization of the Hierarchy PDF pg. 281,282
 4- Maranatha, White, 140.3 5- The Externalization of the Hierarchy, PDF pg. 303,305 6- Great Controversy, pg. 624
 7- The Externalization of the Hierarchy, PDF pg. 303 8- The Externalization of the Hierarchy, PDF pg. 306) 9- Great Controversy, pg. 625



The Great Physician's Prescription for Health



The Great Physicians' first health command after the blight of sin was a prescription to eat vegetables, especially dark green leafy and non-leafy ones, saying, "*Thou shalt eat the herb of the field.*" Genesis 3:18 Today, most nutritionists recognize that vegetables, especially greens, are necessary in order to be healthy. But although some people find baby carrots enticing and simple, getting people to regularly eat greens is a bit harder.

According to a list from Montana State University, dark green vegetables include "*Bok Choy, Broccoli, Collard Greens, Dark Green Leafy Lettuce, Kale, Mustard Greens, Romaine Lettuce, Spinach,*" and "*Watercress.*"¹ Other lists include Swiss chard as well as herbs like parsley and cilantro.² Brussel sprouts and cabbage also should not be forgotten.



Some of the health benefits of these vegetables include the fact that, "*Dark green vegetables are rich in vitamins A, C, and K, and folate. These nutrients protect bones, decrease inflammation, help with vision, improve immunity, and protect against some types of cancers.*"¹ Of course, "*folate, the natural form of vitamin B-9, is important for healthy fetal development. A folate deficiency before and during pregnancy increases the risk of having a baby with spina bifida and other NTDs [neural tube defects].*"³

These include "*anencephaly*" where "*portions of the brain and skull are missing*" and "*iniencephaly*" which "*happens when the spine is severely malformed (misshapen).*"³ Babies with neural tube defects may be also be born blind, deaf, or even be stillborn (dead at birth). All women need folate "*because it works best for you and your baby early in the first month of pregnancy, a time when you may not even know you're pregnant.*"⁴ Not surprisingly, "*Leafy greens are one of the best sources of folate,*"⁵ with 1 cup of cooked spinach

ranking at the top of the greens with “263 mcg of folate (more than half your daily requirement).”¹⁵ In addition, “Dark leafy green vegetables include vitamins... antioxidants, fiber,... magnesium, calcium, iron, and potassium.”¹²

Here are a few of the ways we like to include leafy greens at our house. Spinach is best appreciated in spinach quesadillas, vegetable lasagna, or stuffed shells, and cabbage is enjoyed steamed with Better Franks (Recipe here-- <https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes---everyday-entrees.php>). Because parsley is high in vitamin C, we regularly add it to our tossed salads which usually also include romaine or mixed greens (by the way the red lentil cheese pictured on the front page makes a nice accent to tossed salad). Haystacks or taco salad also make a nice way to incorporate romaine and also cilantro (as part of homemade salsa). Broccoli makes a wonderful base for a stir fry or fajitas, and raw broccoli is good as broccoli slaw or served with a French onion dip (Dip recipe here <https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes--dressings-dips-and-cheeses.php>). A weekly kale salad is one of our favorite ways to consume kale. (The recipe may be found in the December 2015 Bible Banner posted here <https://www.biblepicturepathways.com/resources/December%202015.pdf>). Kale chips also make a travel-friendly way to consume kale, and brussel sprouts are delicious simply cooked up and topped with a little vegan homemade “butter.” There are so many more ways to enjoy green vegetables, why not eat some today, for your health?

- 1- https://www.montana.edu/extension/buyeatlivebetter/other_nep_resources/fact_sheets/darkgreenredandorangevegetables/index.html#:~:text=Dark%20green%20vegetables%20are%20rich,against%20some%20types%20of%20cancers. 2- <https://www.verywellhealth.com/green-vegetables-7975333>
- 3- <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/22656-neural-tube-defects-ntd> 4- <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/1335/>
- 5- <https://www.goodrx.com/well-being/diet-nutrition/foods-high-in-folate>



Could Anyone Fill Jesus' Sandals?

Some years ago, a college student took a psychology course in which another student tried to argue that Jesus was not greater than other men. The student stated that he could probably do everything Jesus had done. As a public service to those who have such lofty aspirations, someone published a partial list of things which you **MUST** do if you think that you can do everything that Jesus did.

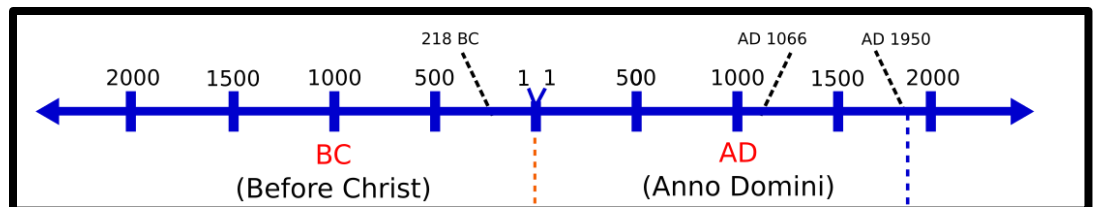
- Feed five thousand unexpected guests, and then have your amount of leftovers exceed the amount of food with which you began.
- Have a raging storm stilled at your command, and the wind and the waves stop simultaneously.
- Become such a threat to a significant portion of the religious establishment that they demand that you be executed (You must do this by what you say. You are not allowed to use demonstrations, riots, card-burnings, or picket signs, or any form of violence.)
- Rise from the dead after you have been executed and pronounced dead.



That is enough of the easy things. Now let's look at some requirements which are more exacting (By the way, you need not accept the Bible in order to **KNOW** that Jesus accomplished these things.)

By 1900 years after your death (from which you rose), you must have accomplished the following:

- Every week, millions of people must gather in thousands of places for the sole purpose of telling about what a good person you were.
- Thousands of hospitals and schools must have been built and be operating in your name.
- The calendar, used in most of the world, must be dated from the time of your birth. ("A.D." stands for "Anno Domini" (Latin for "in the year of the Lord"), and it refers specifically to the birth of Jesus Christ. B.C. stands for "Before Christ.")



- Men must still consider it worth their time to try to prove that you were a fake (If you really were a fake, you would have been forgotten long before now.)
- Your life must be considered to be the standard of ultimate goodness for a large portion of the world, and even for those who claim no association with the entity you founded to honor and serve you.
- Most important of all, you must have accomplished all this in only 3 1/2 years of ministry.

Kids' Corner

God's Amazing Creations



The northern lights, also called aurora borealis, or the southern lights, also called aurora australis, are ribbons of colorful light seen at night. They are created when the solar wind from the sun hits the earth's atmosphere at speeds of up to 45 million miles per hour (72 million kilometers per hour). The earth's magnetic field redirects (moves from one place to

another) the particles of the solar wind to the poles of the planet. This causes the auroras we can see from time to time. Sometimes, they are just green (produced by oxygen molecules), and sometimes there are pink or red lights (produced by nitrogen molecules). Isn't it so amazing that God created these beautiful lights for us to see and behold His glory? Truly, *"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."* Psalm 19:1

Can you find the words to describe God?

R F F C S T R O N G W K T N P M S V
 F V S T O F L S G Z C F M S S K W V
 T T W J M M A A E R H N Z I J P W O
 U Q D U E C P I K S A M Q L G W K T
 N O F V R R N A T Z E C Y O D H J B
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 E T Y U A R I G H T E O U S B W B O
 H S I E T E R N A L U U Z Y K B W W

Compassion
(Psa. 86:15)

Eternal
(Deut. 33:27)

Good
(Psa. 73:1)

Love
(1 John 4:8)

Mighty
(Isa. 9:6)

Strong
(Psa. 89:8)

Creator
(Isa. 40:28)

Faithful
(1 Cor. 1:9)

Gracious
(2 Chr. 30:9)

Merciful
(Psa. 116:5)

Righteous
(Psa. 7:9)

True
(John 3:33)