

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUE CHRISTIANS AND RELIGIOUS

Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you and keep you! May the LORD make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! May the Lord turn his face upon you and give you peace!"

Perhaps it has happened to everyone to hear an evangelization say: I have my religion, you have yours! Or I believe in one God who is the same for all! We are all sinners! We are all children of God! But are there really differences between true Christians and non-believers or atheists or religious people?

Let's look at them together in the light of the Scriptures in reference to different topics to get more specific.

Understanding Spiritual Things

The true Christian has an understanding of spiritual things because they are revealed to him by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.

From 1:17 To these four young men God gave to know and understand all scripture and all wisdom. Daniel had the gift of interpreting all kinds of visions and dreams. When the time came for their presentation, the chief eunuch led the young men to Nebuchadnezzar. The king spoke to them; but among all these young men there was found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, who were admitted to the king's service. On all the points that required wisdom and intellect, on which the king questioned them, he found them ten times superior to all the magi and astrologers who were in all his kingdom.

1 Jn 2:27 "But as for you, the anointing which you received from him remains in you, and you have no need of anyone's teaching; but since his

anointing teaches you all things and is true, and is not a lie, abide in him as it taught you.

1 Corinthians 2:12 "Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which comes from God, that we may know the things which God has given us; and we speak of them, not with words taught by human wisdom, but taught by the Spirit, adapting spiritual words to spiritual things."

The unbeliever, the atheist or the religious have no understanding of spiritual things.

1 Corinthians 2:14 "But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, because they are foolishness to him; and he cannot know them, because they must be judged spiritually."

Ec 3:11 "God has made all things beautiful in his time: he has even put in their hearts the thought of eternity, although man cannot understand from beginning to end the work that God has done."

Eternal Life

The true Christian has the assurance of eternal life received by grace through Christ's sacrifice, the gift of the Holy Spirit received, and the confirmation of God's Word.

1 Jn 5:13 "I have written these things to you that you may know that you have eternal life, you who believe in the name of the Son of God."

The non-believer, the atheist or the religious have no certainty, because they do not know how to receive it.

The New Spiritual Birth or Salvation of the Soul

The true Christian knows that he is born again through the experience of these steps of faith: repentance, water baptism by immersion in the name of Jesus, faith in Jesus Christ, and baptism of the Holy Spirit. His heart

is changed by the work of the Holy Spirit, abandoning the old sinful life and walking with God to love and serve Him through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:14-17 "Then the apostles who were in Jerusalem heard that **Sa-**
maria had received the word of God, and sent Peter and John to them.
They went and **prayed for them to receive the Holy Spirit**; for it had not
yet descended upon any of them, but **had only been baptized in the name**
of the Lord Jesus. (water baptism by immersion) **Then they laid their**
hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

The non-believer, the atheist or the religious have no certainty of salvation because they believe they deserve it with their works.

Mt 19:25 When his disciples heard this, they were astonished, and said,
"**Who then can be saved?** Jesus fixed his gaze on them and **said**, "**This is**
impossible for men; but with God all things are possible."

Gal 2:16 We know that **man is not justified by the works of the law** but
only by faith in Christ Jesus, and we also believed in Christ Jesus to be
justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law; **for by the works**
of the law no one will be justified.

Acts 26:17-18 ... I send you to open their eyes, so that **they may turn from**
darkness to light and from the power of satan to God, and receive, through
faith in me, the forgiveness of sins and their share of inheritance among
the sanctified.

Children of God (we become, first of all, we are God's creatures)

The true Christian knows that he is a child of God because of the Holy Spirit received who testifies to him.

3:3-5 "**For we also were once foolish, rebellious, backslidden, slaves to all**
kinds of passions and pleasures, living in wickedness and envy, hateful and
hating one another. But when the goodness of God our Saviour and his love

for men were manifested, he saved us, not by righteous works of our own doing, but by his mercy, through the bath of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.

1Jn 3::1 See what love the Father has shown us, that we should be called children of God. And so we are. This is why the world does not know us: because it has not known him.

Gal 3:26 "For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus." He is a child of the resurrection.

Rom 8:16 "The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are children of God."

The unbeliever, the atheist or the religious do not have the Holy Spirit and therefore remain God's creatures and the wrath of God remains upon them because of their sins, until they are reconciled to God through Jesus Christ.

Rom 8:14 "If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him.

Jude 1:18 ... In the last days there will be ridiculers who will live according to their wicked passions. They are the divisive people , sensual people, who don't have the Spirit.

The worship cult

The true Christian offers worship only to God the Father as Jesus Christ taught and as the Scriptures confirm.

Mt 4:10 "Then Jesus said to him, 'Go away, Satan, for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and worship him alone.'"

Rev 22:8 "I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had seen and heard them, I fell down at the feet of the angel who had shown them to me, to worship him. But he said to me, "Take care not to do

it; I am a servant like you and like your brethren, the prophets, and like those who keep the words of this book." **Worship God!**

Rom 12:1 "I exhort you, therefore, brethren, by the mercy of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice living, holy, acceptable to God; this is your spiritual worship.

The non-believer or the religious each worships his own god, himself, his favorite man, his favorite woman, without knowing it, the demons hidden behind religious images and statues or false apparitions, the dead, the aliens who are always demons and together with all these visible and invisible characters, each one his god, allah, buddha, saibaba, moon, Baphomet, Baal, Mammon, Satan and God.

Rom 1:25 ... they worshipped and served the creature instead of the Creator, who is blessed eternally. Amen.

Is 40:18 Whom would you like to be like God? With which image would you represent him?

Deut 4:15 "Since you saw no picture in the day that the LORD spoke to you in Horeb out of the fire, take good care of yourselves, lest ye be corrupted, and make for yourselves some sculpture, the picture of any idol, the picture of a man or a woman, the picture of one of the beasts of the earth, the picture of a bird that flies in the heavens, the figure of a beast crawling on the ground, the figure of a fish living in the waters under the earth; and also so that, raising your eyes to heaven and seeing the sun, the moon, the stars, the whole heavenly host, you do not feel drawn to prostrate yourself before those things and offer them worship.

Cl 2:18 "Let no one rob you of your reward (that is, of eternal life received by grace and faith in Jesus) as a pretext of humility and worship of angels, relying on his own visions...

Deut 32:16-18 "They made him jealous of foreign gods, they irritated him with abominable practices. They sacrificed to demons who are not God, to

gods whom they had not known, new gods who had recently appeared, whom your fathers had not feared. You have abandoned the Rock that gave you life, and you have forgotten the God who brought you into the world.

Rev 9:20-21 (in recent times) The rest of the men ... they did not repent of the works of their hands; they did not cease to worship demons and idols of gold, silver, copper, stone, and wood, which can neither see, nor hear, nor walk.

Reading and Meditating on the Bible

The true Christian reads and meditates on the Bible every day because he knows that it is the food for the soul that serves to increase faith in Jesus Christ and to know God more and more. He understands it because the Lord opens the mind to understanding and the Holy Spirit reveals it.

Jos 1:8 Let this book of the law never depart from your mouth, but meditate on it day and night; take care to do all that is written in it: for then you will succeed in all your undertakings, then you will prosper.

Ps 1:1-2 "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, who does not stand in the way of sinners, nor sits in company with scoffers; but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and meditates on that law day and night.

2 Tim 3:14-17 "But you continue in the things which you have learned and of which you have acquired certainty, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have had knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, which can give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching, for reproof, for correcting, for educating in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete and well prepared for every good work.

Lk 24:45 "Then he (the risen Jesus) opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

Eph 3:5 "In other ages it was not given to the sons of men to know this

mystery, just as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.

Jn 14:26 ... the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of all that I have said to you.

1 Jn 2:27 "But as for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you have no need of anyone's teaching; but because his anointing teaches you all things and is true...

The non-believer or the atheist never reads the Bible, the religious is content with what he hears in church on the weekend. But even if sometimes he cannot understand the law at home and cannot because only the Holy Spirit can reveal it; there are few Scriptures that could be understood intellectually, but still cannot be put into practice. Most of the things taught to him by preachers are only the result of personal interpretations.

Prayer

The true Christian has the possibility of praying to God in two ways: in the spirit and with his own words that come out of the heart stimulated by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:14 "For if I pray in another tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding remains unfruitful. What then? I will pray with the spirit, but I will also pray with the intelligence; I will psalm with the spirit, but I will also psalm with the intelligence.

Eph 6:18 Pray at all times, by the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication; watch to this end with all perseverance.

1 Corinthians 13:1 If I spoke in the tongues of men and of angels, but had no love, I would be a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.

Phil 4:6-8 ... make your requests known to God in prayers and supplications,

accompanied by thanksgiving.

The unbeliever or the religious can only pray with the intellect, but most of the time these prayers are only to ask for something, but not to praise or worship God. Religious also turn to angels and deceased "saints" to receive graces, but it is absolutely forbidden by God it is an abomination, idolatry (divination: angels or demons), (necromancy: deceased). Jesus taught that we should pray only to God the Father in His Name.

Is 8:19 "If it is said to you, 'Consult those who call up spirits and soothsayers, those who whisper and whisper,' answer 'Should not a people consult their God? Will he turn to the dead in behalf of the living?

Jn 15:16 "It is not you who have chosen me, but I who have chosen you, and I have appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit may abide; that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

Forgiveness

The true Christian succeeds with the help of the Holy Spirit in forgiving any wrongs or damages suffered because he recognizes that he too has been forgiven of all his sins by the sacrifice of Christ and is commanded to forgive in order to maintain peace in his heart.

2 Corinthians 2:10-11 "Whom you forgive something, I also forgive; for what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, I have done it for your sake in the sight of Christ, that we may not be deceived by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his machinations.

Mr 11:25 When you pray, if you have anything against anyone, forgive, that your Father who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

The non-believer, the atheist or the religious cannot succeed in forgiving and if they do, they do it with words but not with the heart, because in their hearts they maintain bitterness and resentment.

Sinners and Sins

The true Christian can fall into sin from time to time, but not as when he was a slave to sin, and he knows that he is immediately forgiven by God after confessing the sin he has committed to Him.

Ec 7:20 "Surely there is no righteous man on earth who does good and never sins.

Eph 2:1-3 "God has made you alive also, you who were dead in your trespasses and sins, to whom you once gave yourselves up according to the way of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, of that spirit which is at work in rebellious men today." In the number of whom we also all lived at one time, according to the desires of our flesh, obeying the desires of the flesh and of our thoughts; and we were by nature children of wrath, like the others.

Rom 6:20-21 "For when you were slaves to sin, you were free in righteousness. What fruit, then, did you have then?

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 Jn 3:9 "Everyone born of God does not persist in committing sin, because the divine seed remains in him, and he cannot persist in sinning because he is born of God."

Rom 6:6-7,14 "For we know that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away with, and that we no longer serve sin, for he who is dead is free from sin; for sin will no longer have power over you...

The unbeliever, the atheist or the religious always sin because they are under the slavery of sin and the devil.

1 Kings 8:46 ... there is no man who does not sin...

Jn 8:34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who commits sin is a slave to sin.

1 Joh 3:8 "He who persists in committing sin is from the devil, because the devil sins from the beginning."

1 Jn 5:19 "We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies under the power of the evil one."

Illnesses and deliverances

The true Christian has the mandate to pray to heal and free the sick, he is not immune to illness but primarily entrusts himself to God through personal or community prayer. Only if he distances himself from God, he risks being influenced by demons but never possessed and can be struck by some disease or infirmity.

Lev 10:19 "Behold, I (Jesus) have given you power to walk on serpents and scorpions, and on all the power of the enemy; nothing can harm you.

Mt 10:7-8 "As you go, preach, and say, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons...

Mr 16:17 These are the signs that shall be given to them that believeth: they shall cast out demons in my name; they shall speak in new tongues; they shall take serpents in their hands; though they shall drink poison, they shall have no harm from it; they will lay hands on the sick and they will be healed.

Jom 5:16 "Confess your sins to one another, pray for one another, that you may be healed; the prayer of the righteous has great effect."

The non-believer, the atheist or the religious have no mandate and can neither free nor heal themselves or others, they are afraid of diseases especially terminal ones and usually turn to specialized doctors and as a last attempt they turn to deceased "saints" or to God; They cure most

diseases with medicines alone. Through some occult practices also done for fun or as a joke, such as fortune telling, evil eye, ouija board, consultation with magicians, astrology and horoscopes, hypnosis, spiritualism, yoga and generational curses, they are introduced into the occult power of satan that binds them, manipulates them, controls them, induces them to do evil, induces them to commit suicide and to be influenced and possessed by demons.

Deut 18:10-12 "Let no one be found among you who makes his son or daughter pass through the fire, nor who practices divination, nor astrologer, nor who foretells the future, nor magician, nor enchanter, nor who consults spirits, nor who says fortune, nor necromancer: for the Lord hates everyone who does these things; because of these abominable practices, the Lord thy God is going to drive out those nations from before thee.

Ac 16:16 On our way to the place of prayer, we met a servant girl who was possessed by a spirit of divination. By being a fortune teller, she brought a lot of profit to her masters. She followed Paul and us and cried out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, and they proclaim to you the way of salvation." He did so for many days; but Paul, annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you, in the name of Jesus Christ, to come out of her." And he went out at that moment.

The works

The true Christian does not do the works to be saved, but after he has been saved he does the works that God has prepared for him and that Jesus taught.

Eph 2:8-10 "For it is by grace that you have been saved through faith; and it is not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. It is not by virtue of works that no one should boast; for we are his workmanship, having been created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God has previously prepared for us to do.

3:8 "Certain is this statement, and I want you to insist strongly on these things, so that those who have believed in God may take care to devote themselves to good works."

The non-believer or the religious, on the other hand, perform works only to obtain salvation by their merits; many, on the other hand, do works only for personal gain. It must also be said that all those who do good works without ulterior motives for their neighbor will be the first to be visited by the Lord for their salvation, such as Job or the centurion Cornelius.

The truth

The true Christian knows the truth that is the Word of God, Jesus Christ, through the Scriptures and the revelation of the Holy Spirit. He speaks with the truth, worships God in truth, defends the truth, and teaches the truth.

Eph 1:13 "In him you also, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, you received the seal of the Holy Spirit which was promised.

Jn 14:17 "The Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see him and does not know him." You know him, because he dwells with you...

Rom 9:1 "I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie, for my conscience confirms it to me by the Holy Spirit."

Ps 15:2 "He who is pure and does righteousness, and speaks the truth as he has it in his heart; who does not slander with his tongue, nor hurt his neighbor, nor insult his neighbor."

Pr 8:7 For my mouth speaketh truth, and my lips detest wickedness.

Jn 4:23 ... true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father seeks such worshippers. God is Spirit; and those who worship

Him must worship Him in spirit and truth.

2 Tim 2:15 "Strive to present yourself before God as an approved man, a workman who has nothing to be ashamed of, who rightly dispenses the word of truth.

The non-believer, the atheist or the religious, do not know the truth about spiritual things, but in daily life they are in control of when to tell the truth, when to hide it, when to tell a half-truth and when to lie.

Rom 1:25 "They, who turned the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature instead of the Creator...

1 Tim 2:3 ... God, our Saviour, who wills that all men should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. In fact, there is only one God and also one mediator between God and men, Christ Jesus the man, who gave himself as a ransom price for all.

Jero 9:5 "One deceives another, does not speak the truth, trains their tongues to lie, they are anxious to do evil. Thy dwelling is in the midst of bad faith; through bad faith they refuse to know me, saith the Lord.

Ps 4:2 O sons of men, how long will my glory be outraged? How long will you love vanity and go after lies?

Peace

The true Christian has the peace of God permanently in his heart because the Holy Spirit lives within him and consoles him through the word of God.

Joh 14:27 (Jesus said) I leave you peace; My peace I give to you. I do not give you as the world gives.

Rom 5:1 "Justified therefore by faith, we have peace with God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Phil 4:7 ... the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

Eph 2:13-14 "But now in Christ Jesus you who were then far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. He, in fact, is our peace.

Ps 4:8 "In peace I will lie down, and in peace I will sleep, because you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

The non-believer, the atheist or the religious never have peace because their accumulated sins, feelings of guilt, bitterness, lack of forgiveness, envy, jealousy, passions to have more and more material things, lead them to physical and psychological stress that they are forced to make greater use of medicines, or vent in vices such as alcohol, smoking, drugs, gambling, immoral acts, etc.

Is 48:22 "There is no peace for the wicked, saith the Lord.

Ps 5:9 "For there is no sincerity in their mouths, their hearts are full of malice; their throats are an open sepulchre, they flatter with their tongues."

Mr 7:21-22 (Jesus said) For it is from within, out of the hearts of men, that come evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil look, slander, pride, foolishness.

Fear of death

The true Christian is not afraid of death or anything, knowing that he has eternity in Christ Jesus.

Rom 8:2 ... the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has delivered me from the law of sin and death.

Rom 6:22-23 "But now, having been freed from sin and made servants of God, you have your sanctification for your own fruit, and eternal life for your end; for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The unbeliever, the atheist or the religious are afraid of death because of the sin that remains in their lives and the oppression of the devil in their minds.

Heb 2:14-15 "Since, therefore, the children share blood and flesh, he (Jesus) also likewise partook of them, that by his death he might destroy him who had power over death, that is, the devil, and free all those who were held captive by the fear of death all their lives.

Second death or eternal suffering

The true Christian knows that he was purchased by the blood of Jesus for eternity and if he does not voluntarily deny him he will never experience the second death.

Rom 8:1 "Therefore there is no longer any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Lk 10:20 "But do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven.

The unbeliever, the atheist or the religious is destined to a second death until he accepts the sacrifice of Christ in his life to be redeemed.

Rev 21:8 ... for the cowardly, the unbelieving, the abominable, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their portion shall be in the lake burning with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

The testimony

The true Christian testifies of salvation by grace, through his own personal testimony, or those in the church who have the ministry of apostle or evangelist do so by going to various places where the Holy Spirit leads him.

Lk 8:39 "Go back to your house, and tell of the great things that God has

done for you." And he went through all the city, proclaiming all that Jesus had done for him.

Mr 16:15-16 And he said to them, "Go into all the world, preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

2 Corinthians 2:15 "For we are before God the fragrance of Christ among those who are on the way to salvation and among those who are on the way to perdition.

Acts 20:24 "But I do not count my life as if it were precious to me, that I may joyfully complete my course and the service entrusted to me by the Lord Jesus, that is, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

2 Tim 4:2-3 Preach the word, insist on every favorable and unfavorable occasion, convince, rebuke, exhort with all kinds of teaching and patience. For the time will come when they will no longer endure sound doctrine, but, because of the itching of hearing, they will seek teachers in great numbers according to their own desires, and they will turn their ears away from the truth and turn to fables.

The non-believer or the atheist have no motivation to be able to testify, on the contrary they feel ashamed and repulsed to speak of God and what concerns him. The religious, on the other hand, speak of God as they have been taught but do not know Him.

Faith

The true Christian lives every day by faith in the presence of God, that is, in the conviction that all of God's promises will be fulfilled in his life, because God is faithful. So he no longer looks at the circumstances, difficulties or afflictions that surround him and oppress him, because he knows that God frees him from them all. God helps him to overcome all trials and all temptations, because he entrusts himself completely to Him.

Heb 10:38 ... My righteous by faith will live.

Rom 1:8 "First of all I give thanks to my God through Jesus Christ concerning all of you, because your faith is spread throughout the whole world.

1 Thess 1:2-3 "We always thank God for you all, naming you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father the work of your faith, the labors of your love, and the steadfastness of your hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thess 1:3-4 "We must always thank God for you, brethren, as is right, because your faith grows excellently, and the love of each one of you all for one another abounds more and more; so that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God, because of your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure."

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 "We are always full of confidence, and we know that while we dwell in the body we are absent from the Lord, for we walk by faith and not by sight; but we are full of confidence and prefer to depart from the body and dwell with the Lord.

Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of value; what counts is faith that works through love.

1 Peter 1:7-9 ... may your faith, which is tried, which is far more precious than gold which perishes, and yet is tested by fire, be a cause for praise, glory and honor at the time of the manifestation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him; believing in him, although you do not see him now, you exult with ineffable and glorious joy, obtaining the end of faith: the salvation of souls.

2 Tim 3:10-11 "But you have followed my teaching, my conduct, my purposes, my faith, my patience, my love, my constancy, my persecutions, my sufferings.

2 Tim 4:6-8 "As for me, I am about to be offered up in a drink offering, and the time for my departure has come. I fought the good fight, I

finished the race, I kept the faith. Henceforth the crown of righteousness is reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will assign me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all those who have loved his appearance.

The unbeliever or atheist has no faith because they do not believe in God, the Bible, and His preached Word. Religious, on the other hand, have a faith, but this faith rests on a wrong foundation, that is, on creatures, on man and all that he teaches, but not on God because there is no communion with Him.

Love

The true Christian loves God, brotherhood and neighbor with the help of the Holy Spirit who poured out His love in his heart, and also knowing from the Word of God, that God loved him first through the sacrifice of the Son giving him all things with Him.

Rom 5:8 But God shows the greatness of His love for us in this, that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 8:32 "Will not He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him for us all, give us all things with Him?"

Rom 5:5 ... God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

1 Jn 4:19 "We love because he loved us first.

1 Thess 4:9-10 "As for brotherly love, you need not have me write to you, for you yourselves have learned from God to love one another, and indeed you do it towards all your brethren...

Eph 1:15-17 "Therefore I also, having heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and of your love for all the saints, never cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the

Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation that you may know him fully.

Cl 1:3-5 "We thank God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying for you always, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love you have for all the saints, because of the hope that is reserved for you in heaven, of which you have already heard through the preaching of the truth of the gospel.

Phil 1:4-5 "I thank my God continually, remembering you in my prayers, because I hear of the love and faith you have for the Lord Jesus and for all the saints.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

1 Corinthians 13:4,7 "Love is patient, it is kind; love does not envy; love does not boast, it is not puffed up, it does not behave unseemly, it does not seek its own interests, it is not embittered, it does not charge evil, it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices in the truth; it suffers all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

The unbeliever, atheist, or religious cannot love as God requires, so their love is most often expressed as affection, friendship, or friendship for convenience or self-interest because of materialism that always causes jealousy and envy for the better things that others possess.

1 Jn 4:8 "He who does not love has not known God, for God is love."

Joh 5:42-43 (Jesus said to those who did not believe) I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in the name of my Father, and you do not receive me.

2 Tim 3:1-5 "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come; for men will be selfish, lovers of money, boastful, haughty, blasphemers, rebellious to parents, unthankful, irreligious, insensitive, disloyal, slanderers, intemperate, ruthless, without love of good, traitors, thoughtless,

proud, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, while they have denied its power.

The true Christian in his daily life is guided by the Holy Spirit, manifesting at least these 12 characteristics:

- 1 The transformation of character, following the way of goodness and witnessing salvation by grace received from God
- 2 The desire to meditate on the Holy Scriptures (Bible)
- 3 The desire to pray to God the Father
- 4 The Desire to Serve God
- 5 Growing Faith in God
- 6 Practicing spiritual gifts with signs, wonders, miracles, healings, and deliverances
- 7 Receiving Revelation During Meditation on the Holy Scriptures
- 8 Ask for forgiveness immediately to be forgiven by God
- 9 Letting the Holy Spirit Guide You in Difficult Choices or Decisions
- 10 Feeling compassion for the weakest and neediest
- 11 Always have the peace of God in every serious situation or circumstance
- 12 Worshiping God in Spirit and Truth

2 Corinthians 13:13 "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." Amen.