

BEFORE AND AFTER

- WHEN WE ARE SAVED OUR ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS MUST CHANGE
- WE BECOME RESPONSIBLE TO LIVE IN CONSISTENT OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD
- WHAT WE ONCE WERE, AND WHAT WE HAVE NOW BECOME IN CHRIST, MUST AND WILL BE IN SHARP CONTRAST
- THOUGH WE WILL STRUGGLE AND ENCOUNTER SUFFERING, WE SHOULD NOT FIND IT BURDENSOME
- PROPER APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE FOR WHAT GOD HAS DONE AND WILL DO MOTIVATES US TO PLEASE HIM
- ALL THIS IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GIFT OF FAITH WE HAVE RECEIVED

NOTE: See separate study entitled "[Suffering as a Christian.](#)"

Before and after

- 2Co 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
- Col 1:21-22 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²²But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation-
- Eph 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light
- Eph 4:22-24 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.
- Rom 8:13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live,
- 1Co 6:9-11 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.
- Rom 8:9a You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.
- Jn 8:11b "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

- Tit 2:11-12 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. ¹²It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,
- Tit 3:3-4 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. ⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,
- Col 3:5-8 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.
- Rom 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
- Rom 13:12-14 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.
- Gal 6:7-8 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.
- 2Ti 2:22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
- 1Pe 1:14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.
- Rom 6:4-11 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—⁷because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. ⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.
- Rom 6:17-19 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. ¹⁸You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. ¹⁹I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness.
- Rom 6:20-22 When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

New associations (commands regarding unbelievers and believers)

- Ps 1:1-2 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. ²But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.
- 1Co 15:33 Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."
- Pr 24:1 Do not envy wicked men, do not desire their company;
- Pr 1:15 my son, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths;
- Pr 4:14-15 Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil men. ¹⁵Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way.
- Pr 21:16 A man who strays from the path of understanding comes to rest in the company of the dead.
- Pr 12:26 A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.
- Pr 13:20 He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.
- Pr 14:7 Stay away from a foolish man, for you will not find knowledge on his lips.
- Pr 23:19-21 Listen, my son, and be wise, and keep your heart on the right path. ²⁰Do not join those who drink too much wine or gorge themselves on meat, ²¹for drunkards and gluttons become poor, and drowsiness clothes them in rags.
- Pr 24:21 Fear the LORD and the king, my son, and do not join with the rebellious,
- Jam 4:4 You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.
- 2Co 6:14-16 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? ¹⁵What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."
- 1Co 7:39 A woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, but he must belong to the Lord.
- 2Th 3:6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us.
- 2Th 3:14 If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed.

New treasure

- Ps 37:4 Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- Mt 13:44 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.
- Phl 3:7-8 But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ
- Mk 8:36-37 What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?
- Jn 6:27a Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.
- Heb 13:5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." (Dt 31:8)

- Phl 4:12-13 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³I can do everything through him who gives me strength.
- 1Ti 6:6-10 But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.
- 1Ti 6:17-19 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.
- 1Jn 2:15-17 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.
- Lk 12:15-21 Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. ¹⁷He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' ¹⁸"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." ' ²⁰"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' ²¹"This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."
- Mt 6:19-21 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- Mt 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Obedience to God's Word and His commands

- Lev 18:4 You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the LORD your God.
- Dt 4:5-6a See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them... ⁶Observe them carefully,
- Dt 5:32-33a So be careful to do what the LORD your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left. ³³Walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you,
- Dt 6:17-18a Be sure to keep the commands of the LORD your God and the stipulations and decrees he has given you. ¹⁸Do what is right and good in the LORD's sight, so that it may go well with you
- Dt 26:16 The LORD your God commands you this day to follow these decrees and laws; carefully observe them with all your heart and with all your soul.

- Dt 30:14 No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.
- Dt 32:45-47a When Moses finished reciting all these words to all Israel, ⁴⁶he said to them, "Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. ⁴⁷They are not just idle words for you--they are your life.
- 1Ki 2:3 and observe what the LORD your God requires: Walk in his ways, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and requirements, as written in the Law of Moses, so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go,
- Ps 119 (All)
- Isa 48:17-19 This is what the LORD says--your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. ¹⁸If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea. ¹⁹Your descendants would have been like the sand, your children like its numberless grains; their name would never be cut off nor destroyed from before me."
- Act 3:22-23 For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you. ²³Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from among his people.' (Dt 18:15, 18, 19)
- Jer 42:6a Whether it is favorable or unfavorable, we will obey the LORD our God,
- Jn 14:15 "If you love me, you will obey what I command.
- 2Jn 6a And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands.
- Jn 14:21a Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me.
- Jn 14:23a Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching.
- (Jn 14:24a He who does not love me will not obey my teaching.)
- Jn 15:14 You are my friends if you do what I command.
- Jn 18:37b Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."
- (Act 5:29 Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than men!")
- Lk 11:28 He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."
- 1Jn 2:3-6 We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. ⁴The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.
- 1Jn 3:21-24a Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them.
- 1Jn 5:2-3 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,
- 2Co 9:13 Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.
- Rom 2:13 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.
- Jam 4:17 Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.
- Rom 1:5 Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.

- 1Pe 1:1-2a Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, ²who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ
- Mt 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"
- Mt 4:19-20 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰At once they left their nets and followed him.
- Mk 1:20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.
- Lk 5:27-28 After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. "Follow me," Jesus said to him, ²⁸and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.
- Lk 9:23 Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.
- Jn 8:31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.
- Lk 1:38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.
- Lk 5:5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."
- (Act 26:19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.)

The ultimate and perfect example

- Phl 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death- even death on a cross!
- Heb 5:7-9 During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

Appreciation and gratitude for what God has done

- Rom 6:13a Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life;
- Rom 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship.
- Heb 12:28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,
- 2Co 7:1 Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.
- Col 2:6-7 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.
- 2Ti 3:14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,
- 1Jn 2:28 And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.
- 2Co 5:9a So we make it our goal to please him,