

The Most Important Verses in the Bible

Part 1

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Abide in Me and I in you. John 15:3

There is no other commandment in the Bible. As we keep this commandment Christ Himself fulfills the entire Bible in our lives. Those who fail to keep this commandment, though they “keep” all others, live only separated from Christ in their minds and can never please or know God.

Inside of “**Abide in Me and I in you**” we find everything of God. Outside of that place, everything is all wrong, including every word in the Bible.

When I was in college, one of our teachers gave us a “quiz.” It was a page of little things to do, such as “write the date on the top left corner of your paper,” or “circle the word ‘because.’” The test was timed; we all attacked it earnestly. The directions said, “Read all the questions before you begin.” Well, I followed the directions. The last item on the quiz said. “Do not do anything except #1: ‘Write your name.’” I happily obeyed #1 and sat back laughing at all the other students but one who were busy, busy, busy, doing all that the test said to do.

The rest did all the questions correctly and failed the whole purpose of the quiz.

Inside of all who name the name of Jesus is a great divide. The majority give no thought to how we abide in Jesus and how Jesus abides in us. Whenever I read anything that does not place us utterly inside of Jesus and Jesus in every part of us, that does not see all things out from Christ alone, I am uninterested.

Inside of those who consider abiding in Jesus and He in us, there is also a great divide. Too many define “abiding” by some human ability, some personal scheme to “get the flesh under control,” or to “get rid of an ‘Adamic’ nature.” They look for “someday” when they will finally walk “in” Jesus and Jesus “in” them, someday, after they have? Who knows what they must accomplish first, they do not, no matter how strong their foreheads might be. They will not abide in Christ by faith.

Paul says that Jesus lives in our hearts by faith. John says that we are in Him by faith. We know that means today; **now is the day of salvation.** 1 Corinthians 6:2 – **Today if you will hear His voice...** Hebrews 3:15

Today we abide in Him and He in us.

In that day you shall know that I am in the Father and you in Me and I in you. John 14:20

Today is that day. Today we know, today we see that everything that we are right now in this world is IN the Lord Jesus and the Lord Jesus Christ fills every particle that we are. Absolute and today.

Abide in Me and I in you. There is no other commandment in the Bible, and even this word is not a command, it is an invitation only.

What do you want?

This is the most important question in the Bible. Jesus asked it over and over. “What do you want?”

I know what I want; I believe you want the same.

When Jesus stands in the full revelation of His glory upon this earth, I will be with Him, just like Him in all ways, His glory revealed through me. I want to know God. I want to know Jesus Christ whom God has sent. I cannot, I will not see myself anywhere but inside the full revelation of the knowledge of God.

What do you want?

Jesus said, **“Seek and you will find.”**

We know Jesus’ words are not hypothetical. He was referring to no “maybe someday.” Everyone finds what they seek. In the end, everyone will have from God precisely what they want. For most people that will be happiness and blessing, and they will be blessed.

What do you want?

The goal of the believer is zoe aeonian, the life of the age to come in us today. There is one definition only of zoe aeonian, “eternal” life, in the Bible and that is John 17:3.

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Eternal life is NOT anything else except: – To know God. – To know Jesus-Sent.

Why must we know the most important verses of the Bible?

First there is God, infinite, absolute, self-sustaining. Then God does three incredible and bizarre things.

The first mind-blowing thing God does is to create the universe, heaven and earth. God brings forth all the realms of spirit substance, filled with spirit creatures great and small. At the same time and in full conjunction with the realm of spirit, God creates all the realms of physical matter moving through space filled with physical creatures great and small. And in the day all things are created, God calls them good.

The second thing God does we simply cannot comprehend. God creates man in His likeness as both a spirit creature and a physical creature in one person and as the visible representation – image – of God through man’s spirit to all the heavens and through man’s body to all the earth.

What is man?

There is one definition only of man in the entire Bible.

God manifest in the Flesh. Manifest – revealed, seen, made known, that’s what an image is. Man is God revealed.

Jesus, the first true Man, the first One of our kind.

Third, God does something horrible, something that makes no sense whatever to us. God places a serpent against His image, against the Word that He speaks. God places a serpent word to oppose Christ at every point. This IS the doing of God for an incredibly glorious purpose.

God says, **“Let there be light,”** and there is light. The serpent says, **“Did God really say that?”** And ruin comes upon all those who heed his words. The entire creation is subjected to vanity – in HOPE!

By the determination of God, the serpent continues to speak against all that is Christ – **“Did God indeed say?”**

Jesus said in the parable of the tares, Matthew 13:24-30, that the enemy would plant lies in His church, that these lies would grow up side by side with the truth looking identical to the truth, and that, “No!” He would not remove those lies until the very end.

The words of the serpent, **“Did God really say that,”** press against all believers equally with the word of redemption they hold in their hearts. The two words are intertwined all through Christian theology and practice. This also is the purposing of God.

How do the serpent’s words appear in the hearts of most?

NOT ON THIS EARTH! – NOT IN HUMAN FLESH!

What are God’s words? **Thy will be done on earth... – ...the life of Jesus revealed in our mortal flesh.**

God manifest in the flesh.

This is the great battle of the ages, set by God for glory, the battle upon which our days and our lives hinge.

The first question we must ask in order to know God, in order to know Jesus Christ-Sent, in order to see Him in our lives and in the Bible, is – WHY?

This question is of vital importance: we must ask it. Because the four most important verses in the Bible were written by God to answer the question – WHY?

The Purpose of God for Man

I have heard or read many pastors and teachers of the Bible over many years share their understanding of the purpose of God for man. I have never heard one of them use the four most important verses in the Bible to answer the question – Why? As a result, their answer for the purpose of God for man ALWAYS falls short of His glory. Most say that we are created by God to glorify and enjoy Him; they are seeing completely backwards.

Let me explain. If I build a row of houses, putting all of my skill and knowledge, with unlimited resources, into those houses, each showcasing a unique style, then I can take visitors through that row of houses and they can see my skill and artistic vision. Those houses would glorify me. That is what most teachers of the Bible say that God's purpose for man is. They are seeing backwards, leaving God Himself out in the cold.

We must know these four “verses” (I use the word “verse,” but most are more than one verse), not just by heart, but all through the fabric of our being. Any teacher of the gospel who is not teaching these four verses through everything they speak is not giving us what we want. They may be giving blessing to many, and that's wonderful, but what we seek, what we demand of God cannot be found anywhere else but these four verses permeating all the consciousness of our lives, followed by the three most important verses in the Bible that answer the question – How? And then followed by the three most important verses that answer the questions – What? and – Who? including the most precious to us of all verses in the Bible.

One more thing before we look at the Ten Most Important “Verses” in the Bible.

The serpent has been speaking his words against Christ inside of you all your Christian life. His words fill Christian thinking, writing, speaking, and practice, looking just like the truth exactly as Jesus said. This is an incredibly wonderful reality! God never does anything that is not glorious; placing the serpent against Christ is for a glory far beyond what we can imagine.

You are reading this letter because the Lord Jesus wants you to know exactly what those serpent words are by KNOWING what His words are in full triumph. He has purposed for you to defeat the words of the serpent and thus reveal His glory.

You read something big God says in the Bible and the serpent says, *“That's not for here, that's not for now, that's only for heaven after you die – NOT ON THIS EARTH!”* Then you read some other incredible thing God says, and the serpent says (usually through pastors), *“Your flesh is the problem. Your flesh gets you into trouble with God. As long as you carry this wretched body of flesh, you can never really KNOW God, not in that way – NOT IN HUMAN FLESH!”*

Almost all Christian theology was created to place those two phrases upon everything God says in the New Testament about His purpose for man.

Our faith defeats the words of the serpent. All that God speaks, His will – ON THIS EARTH! All that God is, His Person – IN HUMAN FLESH!

God here; God now; God personal in me!

The Most Important Verse in the Bible

1. Romans 8:28-30

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Let me give my paraphrase first. We put God's words into our own words, making them personal and now, making them Christ in us.

And we know that God and we work together to make all things good, we who love God and are called according to His purpose. For from the very beginning, God determined to conform us to the image of His Son, to make us just like Jesus, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren, the first One of our kind. Inside that original determination, we were called, we were justified, and we were glorified in all the glory of Jesus before God right now. We have never lived anywhere else.

The entire gospel of the purpose and revelation of God is found in these three verses together as one. We are the image of Jesus Christ revealed to all creation; we stand fully in the glory of Jesus before God in all ways right now, and we and God together cause all things to pass from evil to good, from death into life.

First, obliterate that word, "predestined." It is an ugly religious word used by the King James translators to describe a God they did not know.

Right from the start, God DETERMINED that I would be just like Jesus. "Determination" includes three things; it includes purpose, it includes passion, and it includes certainty. God is fierce, and He has seized you and me fiercely in His determination to reveal Himself to the universe through us.

Our absolute certainty is rooted in the fierce determination of God.

The purpose of God for man is that we be the express image of God, just like Jesus, to all creation, both heaven and earth. God is invisible and unknowable; He is determined to be seen and touched and handled by all spirit creatures and by all physical creatures forever. He does that by entering into a perfect union with His image, man.

Let us make man in our image and after our likeness.

You and I are more like God than we will ever understand. A million years from now, as we reckon time, we will still be overwhelmed at the unending discovery of just how God is able to show Himself to all through us. Never do we put any limit on the meaning of "His image and likeness."

Romans 8:29 confirms God's purpose for man, stated from the beginning, by showing us that the Lord Jesus Christ IS that very revelation of God, Man as God intended, and that we will be just like Jesus. Verse 30 tells us that it's already a done deal, that before God, we are already just like Jesus – Man as God revealed. Verse 28 tells us how everything in our lives and in the universe will pass from its present state of vanity into all the goodness of God. The common translation is poor. Nothing ever "just" works out for good. God does not push people around for good or for evil. The transformation of the universe takes place as God and we together turn all things intended for evil into incredible goodness and life.

Let's bring in those supporting verses that establish the full meaning of the most important verse in the Bible.

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 1 John 3:2

For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both He who sanctifies and

those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren. . .
Hebrews 2:10-11

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Romans 8:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18

I will not go into depth on these verses, rather, they add the depth we need in order to know Romans 8:28-30. Each one of these four other verses expands and fills full the most important verse in the Bible.

God brings many sons to glory, just like Jesus, the first One of our kind.

The whole point of the gospel is that we are like Jesus in all ways, the full expression of His glory. Glory is one thing alone: God Himself in Person revealed through man. Man is God revealed. We are His glory. We get there by seeing Jesus as He really is, and our transformation is from one level of glory to the next. There is no shame in us or inside our path or in any part of who and what we are.

Compare 1 John 3:2 and 2 Corinthians 3:18 carefully. These two verses must NEVER be separated. John said that it is by seeing Jesus AS HE IS that we are just like Him. Paul makes it clear that this seeing is progressive, from glory to glory, and that this transformation IS taking place right now.

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
John 1:12-13

I have the right to become a son of God, just like Jesus. It is my right, given me by God Himself, inherent in my very make-up as His image. Nothing can deny me my right. I will be all that Christ is.

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Now, the most important verse in the Bible is glorious enough to outshine everything else – except God. And God is always too much. He talks endlessly; He loves Jesus too much ever to be silent. And so God adds the next three most important verses in the Bible to make the most glorious revelation of God found in the most important verse far beyond what we can even think about.

These verses in all of their meaning, we MUST be thinking and speaking and knowing all through the fabric of our lives. Though I have listed these in the order you see here, with reason, yet all these verses are completely intertwined together at all times. Because of that, the remaining nine most important verses in the Bible simply further explain this most important verse.

But the next three most important verses of the Bible enable us to know exactly what God means by Romans 8:29.

What are we?

## The Second Most Important Verse in the Bible

### 2. Ephesians 3:17-19

**That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height – to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.**

**FILLED with ALL the FULLNESS of GOD!**

Can you believe that? We must.

Are we talking about man? Yes, we are. If all of God in all of His Being and Person and Character is not found inside of anyone's definition of man, it's not man they are defining.

Does that blow things right out of the water or not? We must deal with it! God said it, and He always speaks the truth.

When God formed us in the beginning, He designed us to contain all of God. That is our shape. There is nothing found in God that cannot be revealed through man. More than that, God designed our hearts always to be filled with, to know, Omnipotence. Human ambition is the heart of man desiring in all ways the Omnipotence, the All-power of God, but empty of that very God it was designed to contain.

Your heart desires power. It longs to know the God who fills you full. Your heart is filled with Christ; He lives there, it is His dwelling place, His throne, the throne of heaven.

Let's paraphrase this verse before bringing in its companion verses that give it the full depth it must have in our knowing.

The Lord Jesus Christ, ascended above the heavens, dwells in our hearts through faith and not by any outward appearance. We, thrusting ourselves deliberately and absolutely into the Love that fills our hearts to overflowing, seize hold of the extent in every possible direction through which God Himself, Love in Person, reveals Himself through us; we KNOW (eternal life) the love of Christ which is beyond all knowledge. We are filled with all the fullness of God. Everything that is God in Person in all that God is resides in fullness in every particle of our being, spirit, soul, and body.

Is this true?

God says it. Is it true?

If this is true, how is it possible that this truth does not fill and flow through every sermon preached in Christendom? Is God so small in our eyes that we can look at ourselves and fail to see Him? If you were in the presence of God upon the throne of heaven would you not fall on your face and worship? Yet everything that is there upon and around that throne and all of God besides fills you full. How could we possibly "see" anything else?

"Filled" means every particle of who and what I am, spirit, soul, and body. "All" means all. There is not a particle, a dimension, a realm, a place, a character trait, a quality that is God that is not also IN me, filling every particle of me as me. All of God. Love. The Holy of the Throne.

The "Fullness" of God. Fullness is billowing, it is explodingness, it is above and beyond. All of infinity is inside of me, yes, but infinity in FULLNESS, omnipresence in fullness, omnipotence in fullness, eternality in fullness, holiness in fullness, love in fullness, light in fullness, exploding, billowing, rushing mighty rivers of God, all of Him inside of me, all of Him flowing out of me.

Ephesians 3:19 turns our understanding completely around. Our purpose is not to showcase God's workmanship and thereby bring glory to Him. Our purpose is to be God's body – a body you have prepared for

Me – so that God Himself in Person can be known by all creation.

Look down at yourself. You contain God. You contain ALL of God. Do you “see” Him? Don’t say, “No way.” God is telling you the truth.

What are the companion verses that expand this reality in our understanding?

**And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.** 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

God created man with enormous capacity, but no ability. God made our humanity weak. Everything else God created, He created it sufficient in itself, able to do what it is called to do by drawing on what is inside of it. God did not make man that way. God made man weak, with all the capacity to contain God, but none of the ability to fulfill our purpose.

We were created to contain God in Person, can we do that? We were created to reveal God in Person, can we do that? Animals and angels can do what they were created to do; you and I cannot.

Our weakness is our glory; our weakness is designed entirely by God as we find ourselves to be SOLELY as the counterpart of His glory in us. Adam hated weak; the hatred of human weakness is rebellion against God. We glory in the weakness of our flesh, knowing that God designed that very weakness entirely as His dwelling place.

Perfection, the real perfection of God requires weakness from which to be seen. No human weakness means no perfection of God revealed.

**But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed... For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.** 2 Corinthians 4:7-11

Almost all Christendom demands a God utterly separated from our human flesh. John said the argument that separates Christ from flesh was the spirit of anti-Christ already coming upon the church in his day. **Filled with ALL the Fulness of God** cannot be anywhere else but IN the vessels of weakness He made us to be – forever.

**And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God manifest in the flesh...** 1 Timothy 3:16

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Yes, we contain all of God. God fills us full. God designed us specifically to contain ALL of Himself in Person as His body to both heaven and earth. But God is God and God always moves out through us into His creation in two mighty ways both at the same time, always together.

Those two mighty ways of God flowing out from us are the third and fourth most important verses in the Bible.