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# Lytle Light

**You Are The Light Of  
The World.**

**- Matthew 5:14a**

Believers are ap-  
pointed to be a light-  
house to others;  
a cheering lamp,  
a shining star,  
a loving guide.

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## Bulletin of the CHURCH of CHRIST in Lytle, Texas

Sunday Schedule: 9:45AM – Bible Study | 10:45AM – Worship

12:00PM Fellowship Meal (4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

Wednesday Schedule: 4PM – Bible Study

### April 19, 2026

Volume MMXXVI Number 17

## SAVED BY THE BLOOD (OF GOD'S CRUCIFIED SON)

As Christians we must continually be moving beyond self-righteousness (an exaggerated sense of one's own moral superiority, characterized by a firm, often arrogant belief that one's actions and beliefs are right often involving judgmental attitudes towards others, placing oneself above them – another word for self-righteousness is sanctimonious).

The Christian life is not built on our goodness but on Christ's righteousness. Scripture is unmistakably clear: "There is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3:10). Even our best efforts fall short of God's holiness. Isaiah describes human righteousness as "filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6), reminding us that no amount of moral effort can erase sin or earn salvation.

The apostle Paul confessed that he once tried to stand before God based on his own goodness, but he eventually realized that such confidence was empty. He wrote that he wanted to be found in Christ, "not having my own righteousness... but that which is through faith in Christ" (Philippians 3:9). This is the heart of the gospel: we do not trust in ourselves; we trust in the sacrifice of Jesus.

Jesus' death on the cross is the only foundation strong enough to save. "For by grace you have been saved through faith... not of works" (Ephesians 2:8-9). The Christian who tries to rely on personal righteousness will always end up exhausted, discouraged, or self-deceived. But the Christian who leans entirely on Christ

[continued on page 3]

*If you're searching for faith rather than simply religion; virtue rather than simply values; relationship rather than rule-keeping; divine help rather than self-help; then we may be the place for you.*



# WELCOME VISITOR!

If You're Visiting Today, We Welcome Each & Every One Of You To Our Worship Services! We Hope You Will Stay After Services So We May Become Better Acquainted! And Be Sure To Join Us For Our Bi-Monthly (approximately) Fellowship Meal After Worship Services, Usually On The 4th or 5th Sunday approximately every other month!

Be Sure To Pick Up A Visitor Pamphlet From The Table Under The Mirror In The Front Hall.

And Please Fill Out A Visitor Card From The Back Of The Pew In Front Of You And Place It In The Collection Plate Located On The Table In The Back Of The Auditorium So That We May Have A Record Of Your Visit With Us Today. Thank You!

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

- Enter To Worship
- Announcements
- Scripture Reading
- Opening Prayer
- 26 – *For The Beauty Of The Earth*
- 441 – *Savior, More Than Life To Me*
- Offering
- Not In Song Book – Pass Me Not, O Gentle...*
- Minister's Intercessory Prayer
- 649 – *Saved By The Blood Of The Crucified...*
- 365 – *Shall I Crucify My Savior?*
- Lord's Supper
- Sermon – *See Right Column For Outline*
- 575 – *Softly And Tenderly*
- Final Announcements
- 321 – *Sweeter As The Years Go By*
- Closing Prayer
- Go In Peace, Departing To Serve In Love

## WED NIGHT STUDY

TOPIC – Love – Part 3

## 2026 FELLOWSHIPS (UPCOMING\*)

- MAY 31 – Potluck (Ladies' Choice)
- JULY 26 – Potluck (Ladies' Choice)

\* Dates May Be Subtracted Or Other Dates Added As Our Ladies Decide To Do So.

## SERMON

### • DISHONESTY

#### • *SERMON SCRIPTURES*

John 8:34-47; Ephesians 4:21-28; Colossians 3:9; Titus 2:10; Matthew 5:37; Romans 13:8; Matthew 5:44-45; 1 Thessalonians 5:15; Matthew 7:12; John 8:12; Ephesians 5:8-9

#### • *SERMON OUTLINE*

##### INTRODUCTION –

- (1) *Surveys Reveal Moral Character*
- (2) *Lying Is A Popular Topic*
- (3) *Cheating Can Be Revealing*
- (4) *Personal Ethics Looms Large*

- I. The Problem With Dishonesty
  - A. The General Problem
  - B. The Particular Problem
- II. The Solution For Dishonesty
  - A. Put Away Lying, Stealing
  - B. Speak The Truth
  - C. Love All Men
  - D. Pursue What Is Good

##### CONCLUSION –

- (1) *Life Can Be More Pleasant*
- (2) *Moral Issues Can Be Conquered*
- (3) *Following Jesus Gives Life And Truth*

#### • *INVITATION*



[continued from front]

finds rest, assurance, and peace.

When we stop trying to “earn” God’s approval and instead cling to the cross, we finally understand the freedom Jesus offers. “If the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36). Our confidence is not in what we do, but in what Christ has already done.

However, even though we’re relying on Christ’s sacrifice and not ourselves, we still stumble. We still sin. We still fall short. But God has provided a continual remedy through the blood of Jesus. “The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7). The verb “cleanses” is ongoing – meaning the Christian lives under a continual fountain of mercy.

John continues, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us” (1 John 1:9). This is not a one-time promise but a life-long invitation. As long as we walk in the light, the blood of Christ keeps washing, renewing, and restoring us. This is why Christians can live with confidence – not because we are perfect, but because Christ’s sacrifice is perfect.

The Hebrew writer reminds us that “with-  
out shedding of blood there is no

forgiveness” (Hebrews 9:22). Every time we pray for mercy, every time we repent, every time we rise again after failure, it is because



Jesus paid the price. Peter urges believers to remember that we were redeemed “not with corruptible things, like silver or gold... but with the precious blood of Christ” (1 Peter 1:18–19).

And because the Christian relies on Christ’s sacrifice, when one reflects on the cross and what Jesus did for us, one should be stirred with deep gratitude. It should humble us, soften us, and draw us closer to God. Paul wrote, “You were bought at a price” (1 Corinthians 6:20). That price was

nothing less than the life of the Son of God. When we appreciate the cost of our pardon, we stop treating grace casually and begin treating it reverently.

The Christian who remembers the cross daily will grow in humility, holiness, and love. We rely on Christ – not ourselves. We walk in His light – not our own strength. And we give thanks continually for the blood that keeps cleansing us, shaping us, and drawing us closer home. **END**



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<sup>11</sup> For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one’s life. – Leviticus 17:11

<sup>25</sup> God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished. – Romans 3:25



# *Father*, Please Hear Our Prayer

## LOCAL, STATE, NATIONAL & GLOBAL CONCERNS

- May The Will Of GOD, The FATHER Of LOVE, HOPE, COMPASSION, GRACE, MERCY, And RIGHTEOUSNESS Be Done On Earth As It Is In Heaven!
- *People In The U.S.A. And Around The World Who've Been Affected By Natural Disasters*
- Our Local, State & Federal Government Officials, Military, First Responders & Teachers, Nourishing & Life-giving Rain
- Coronaviruses, Flues & Other Deadly Sickesses
- Civil Unrest, Racial Strife & Mass Shootings
- War, Unrest & Lack Of Peace In Other Countries

## CURRENT CONCERNS

All Following entries Are By Date Order And Are Alphabetical By Last Name. A *Super-scripted Number In Brackets*, I.E., <sup>[1]</sup>, At The End Of An Entry Denotes How Many Weeks The Entry Has Been In The Bulletin.

### APRIL 19

- ◇ Busse, Duane [Gene Vierling's friend] - He's having some balance problems and is to undergo a series of tests soon to determine why. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Cashion, Corena - Continued concerns due to her cancer. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Coronis, Ike [Watkins' nephew-in-law] - He had an auto accident on a slick road and wrecked his new classic corvette as well as his back in three places. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Flatequal, Fletcher [Pam Flatequal's son] - He saw his doctor on Monday, April 13 for ear tube implantation but after examination, doctor thought he wouldn't have to have them after all. He was to have hernia surgery Friday, April 17. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Jackson, Chris [Former member] - He was to

have a liver biopsy Thursday, April 16 but it's been rescheduled for this week. <sup>[NEW]</sup>

- ◇ Renninger, Ruane - She's still been experiencing pain all over her body as well as swelling. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Reoder, Gail [Pam Flatequal's sister] - She fell about 2AM one night and couldn't get up. She was unable to get up by herself nor rouse her husband, Gary, as he takes a nightly sedative due to pain, so she lay there for 5 hours before Gary could get help to get her up. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Roeder, Gary [Pam Flatequal's brother-in-law] - He is due for a stress test soon and is a little worried. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◇ Watkins, Betsy - Continued health concerns. <sup>[NEW]</sup>

### APRIL 12

- ◇ Allsup, Dylan [Son of one of Tom's teacher acquaintances at Castle Hills] - He suffered a very bad fall and his leg was injured severely. Although valiant efforts to save it were made, he had to have part of his leg amputated Friday, April 10. <sup>[01]</sup>

- ◇ Jackson, April [Watkins' friend] - **Praise To GOD!** she didn't have to have any varices in her throat so no procedure! <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◇ Ranne, Darrel's mother - She has several health issues and is not doing very well. <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◇ Sherry Moore [Melanie McMeans' sister-in-law] - She's having to undergo chemo due to her cancer changing from slow to aggressive. She is also Melanie's brother, Perry's, wife and care giver. <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◇ Smith, Betty - She's been feeling quite under the weather recently. <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◇ Spicer, Bingo's Family [Ronda Spicer's dog] - She had to put him to sleep because he was hit by the UPS man which fractured his hip. <sup>[01]</sup>

## APRIL 5

- ◇ Flatequal, Pam - She's caught the flu. <sup>[02]</sup>
- ◇ Pillows, Darlene [Watkins' friend] - She goes into surgery on her back to have several vertebrae fused on Friday, April 24. <sup>[02]</sup>

## MARCH 29

- ◇ Baily, Linzi [Ronda's niece] - **Praise To GOD!** a scan showed the cancer has NOT moved into her brain! She's been on oral (rather than IV) chemo for close to a month so has a little over 1-1/2 more months left. <sup>[03]</sup>
- ◇ Bippert, Cheryl [Roger Smoot's cousin] - She fell recently, breaking her arm and hip. In addition, she suffers from Parkinson's. <sup>[03]</sup>
- ◇ Cook, Karen [Pam Flatequal's friend] - She is in need of a hip replacement. Nothing has been scheduled yet. <sup>[03]</sup>
- ◇ Drake, Paul & Lynn [Tom Woodard's friends since Paul & Tom were in preaching school over 50 years ago] - He's been diagnosed with untreatable prostate cancer. His wife Lynn had a stroke about nine years ago and has grown quite feeble over time. In addition, she's nearly blind. <sup>[03]</sup>

- ◇ Morris, Barry [Tom Woodard's friend] - He fell while visiting friends in Colorado and broke his left hip and he was just getting over having broken his right hip, also in Colorado. Let us pray for him to ... stay away from that particular part of the country. <sup>[03]</sup>
- ◇ Smoot, Deborah - She's been diagnosed with severe osteoporosis in her spine plus she had a pulmonary function test this past Thursday, March 26. <sup>[03]</sup>
- ◇ Turner, Sarah Family - The entire family has tested positive for Influenza Type-A. <sup>[03]</sup>

## MARCH 22

- ◇ Dolbeare, Robert [Son of a friend of the Watkins] - Has some severe health issues not the least of which is breathing difficulties. <sup>[04]</sup>
- ◇ Jackson, Ella [Ronda Spicer's granddaughter] - **Praise To God!** She just got her real driver license (not a permit) <sup>[04]</sup>
- ◇ Smoots, Roger & Deborah - **Praise To God!** They don't have to pay income tax this year! <sup>[04]</sup>

## MARCH 15

- ◇ Moore, Michael & Michelle [Tom Woodard's son-in-law & daughter] - They've bought some land and are planning to build something in which to live. <sup>[05]</sup>
- ◇ Stepanovich Family [Tom Woodard's granddaughter Elizabeth] - She delivered a healthy baby girl, **Praise To GOD!**, Thursday, March 12 at 2:06PM - Mila (pronounced MEE-la) Eleanor Stepanovich weighing 8lbs, 11.5oz and "height" of 20.5 inches. <sup>[05]</sup>

## ONGOING CONCERNS

*All Ongoing Concern(s) Below Will Remain For 20 Weeks. Removal Can Be Requested Earlier*

But Concern(s) Will Automatically Be Removed At The 26<sup>TH</sup> Week. If Someone Is Moved Off This Ongoing List And You Believe They Should Go Back On The Detailed List Above, Please Let Mitch Know.

Alderman, Roy <sup>[20]</sup>; Balderrama, Matthew <sup>[05]</sup>; Bradley Family <sup>[17]</sup>; Bridgewater, Larry <sup>[12]</sup>; Brown, Colton family <sup>[12]</sup>; Brown, Diane Family <sup>[21]</sup>; Coombs, Derek <sup>[11]</sup>; Duncan, Roberta <sup>[17]</sup>; Dwyer, Meagan <sup>[07]</sup>; Dygert, Harold Family <sup>[09]</sup>; Fintel, Rick <sup>[18]</sup>; Flatequal Family <sup>[18]</sup>; Flatequal, Pam <sup>[05]</sup>; Flores, Carlos <sup>[18]</sup>; Gonzalez, Joel <sup>[21]</sup>; Guzman, Emily Family <sup>[09]</sup>; Keese, Bob & Katheryn <sup>[05]</sup>; Last-Name-Unknown, Irene <sup>[06]</sup>; Lester, Bob <sup>[21]</sup>; McMeans, Melanie <sup>[07]</sup>; McMeans, Wendell <sup>[14]</sup>; Moore, Jennifer <sup>[13]</sup>; Moore, Perry <sup>[11]</sup>; Morgan, Mitzy Family <sup>[06]</sup>; Mr. Lowe <sup>[16]</sup>; Persat, Diana <sup>[21]</sup>; Price, Jennifer <sup>[15]</sup>; Renninger, Ruane's granddaughter-in-law <sup>[15]</sup>; Schilling, Ina <sup>[16]</sup>; Sims, Linda <sup>[13]</sup>; Smith, Jimmie (JD) <sup>[20]</sup>; Smoot, Bailey <sup>[13]</sup>; Smoot, Beth <sup>[07]</sup>; Smoot, Cody & Emily <sup>[17]</sup>; Smoot, Max <sup>[10]</sup>; Smoot, Tiffany <sup>[19]</sup>; Sparks, Lane & Ashley <sup>[12]</sup>; Spicer, Ronda <sup>[20]</sup>; Street, Cris <sup>[18]</sup>; Strunk, Billy <sup>[07]</sup>; Vierling, Gene <sup>[08]</sup>; Vierling, Scott <sup>[20]</sup>; Vilereal, Douglas Family <sup>[08]</sup>; Walker, Tony Family <sup>[20]</sup>; Watkins, Betsy <sup>[05]</sup>; Watkins, Mitch <sup>[10]</sup>; Weisel, Michelle <sup>[16]</sup>; White, Linda <sup>[11]</sup>

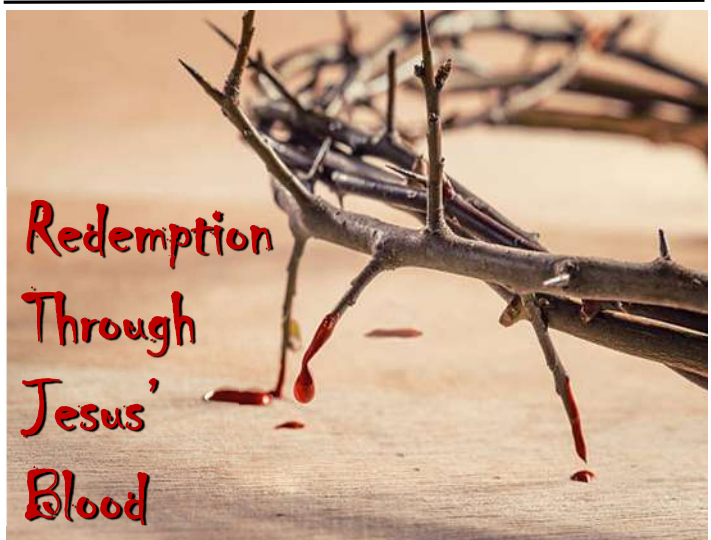
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## SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

### EPHESIANS 1:7-10

<sup>7</sup> In Him we have *redemption* through His *blood*, the *forgiveness* of *sins*, *according* to the *riches* of His *grace* <sup>8</sup> which He *made* to *abound toward* us in all *wisdom* and *prudence*, <sup>9</sup> having made *known* to us the *mystery* of His *will*, according to His *good pleasure* which He *purposed* in *Himself*, <sup>10</sup> that in the *dispensation* of the *fullness* of the *times* He *might gather together* in one all *things* in Christ, both which are in *heaven* and which are on *earth* — in Him.

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





Phoenix Brown	Apr 10	Birthday
Darrell Ranne	Apr 13	Birthday
Pat Woodard	Apr 16	Birthday
Cris Street	Apr 27	Birthday
Missae French	May 4	Birthday



If Your Special Day Is Between Today And May 4<sup>th</sup> And You Do Not See Your Name(s) Above, Please Let Mitch Watkins Know!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

----- CHURCH STUFF -----		----- CHURCH STUFF -----		----- CHURCH STUFF -----	
Generally - 4 <sup>th</sup> Or 5 <sup>th</sup> Sun, Every Other Month Every Thursday		Table Fellowship Potluck Lunch - Approximately 12:00PM - 2:00PM	<i>Next Lunch:</i> <i>May 31</i>		
		Sewing Sisters (All Ladies Welcome!) - Meet In The Fellowship Room From 12:00PM - 2:00PM For Fellowship And To Sew/Craft Stuff For The Needy And Elderly			
Sun - Apr 26		In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Transforming Grace</i>			
Sun - May 3		In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Not Ashamed</i>			
Sun - May 10		In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>No Other God</i>			
Sun - May 17		In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Your Enemy Satan</i>			
Sun - May 24		In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Glorifying God</i>			
Sun - May 31		In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Yes, We Need God</i>			
Sun - May 31		5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship Meal			
----- NON-CHURCH STUFF -----		----- NON-CHURCH STUFF -----		----- NON-CHURCH STUFF -----	
Every Tue		Lytle Friendship Art Club - Meets In The Fellowship Room At 9:30AM			
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon		VFW Auxiliary - Meets In The Fellowship Room At 6:30PM			
Sun - Apr 19		Rice Ball & National Garlic Day			
Mon - Apr 20		National <sup>1</sup> Cheddar Fries And <sup>2</sup> Pineapple Upside-Down Cake And <sup>3</sup> Volunteer Recognition Days			
Tue - Apr 21		National <sup>1</sup> Tea And <sup>2</sup> Chickpea And <sup>3</sup> Chocolate Covered Cashews Days			
Wed - Apr 22		April Showers Day & National Jellybean Day			
Thu - Apr 23		Area-Wide Singing @ The Hondo CoC @ 6:00PM (for more details - see sign in front hall) Army Reserve's 118 <sup>th</sup> Birthday & National <sup>1</sup> Picnic And <sup>2</sup> English Muffin And <sup>3</sup> Cherry Cheesecake Days			
Fri - Apr 24		National Arbor Day & National Pigs In A Blanket			
Sat - Apr 25		World <sup>1</sup> Penguin And <sup>2</sup> Women's Wellness Days & Internatonal Financial Independence Day & National Zucchini Bread Day			
Sun - Apr 26		International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day & Audubon Day & National <sup>1</sup> Kids & Pets And <sup>2</sup> Pretzel Days			

see searchtv.com  
for local  
time and channel

## GOD'S PLAN For Saving Man —

- ◇ *God's Grace* — Ephesians 2:8;
- ◇ *Christ's Blood* — Romans 5:9;
- ◇ *The Spirit's Gospel* — Romans 1:16;
- ◇ *Sinner's Faith* — Acts 16:31;
- ◇ *Sinner's Repentance* — Luke 13:3;
- ◇ *Sinner's Confession* — Romans 10:10;
- ◇ *Sinner's Baptism* — 1 Peter 3:21;
- ◇ *Our Work* — James 2:24;
- ◇ *Our Hope* — Romans 8:24;
- ◇ *Our Endurance* — Revelation 2:10

ARE YOU SAVED BY GOD? ASK HOW IF YOU'RE UNSURE!

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## INTERACTIVE

### Daily Bible Reading Plan —

To open and/or download the interactive PDF file go to: [video.wvbs.org/spotlight](http://video.wvbs.org/spotlight)

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## DAILY Bible Reading For Edification —



## OLD & NEW IN 365 —

Daily Readings From Both The Old And New Testaments

**SUN** — Day 113 - 2 Sam 7-9; Luk 19:1-28

**MON** — Day 114 - 2 Sam 10-12; Luk 19:29-48

**TUE** — Day 115 - 2 Sam 13-14; Luk 20:1-26

**WED** — Day 116 - 2 Sam 15-16; Luk 20:27-47

**THU** — Day 117 - 2 Sam 17-18; Luk 21:1-19

**FRI** — Day 118 - 2 Sam 19-20; Luk 21:20-38

**SAT** — Day 119 - 2 Sam 21-22; Luk 22:1-30

Sam = Samuel | Luk = Luke

[Days Listed Are NOT Days Of The Year But Days Of The Plan]

## WANT TO BE

### Part Of This Local Family Of Christ Jesus?

To be identified with our Congregation (aka “place membership”): Please fill out a Visitor’s Card, making sure to check the box on front that says, “Wish To Serve In This Congregation.” Please place the completed card in the collection plate on the table in the back of the auditorium.

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## READ ALONG WITH TOM

Sunday	4/19/2026	Acts 18-19
Monday	4/20/2026	Acts 20
Tuesday	4/21/2026	Acts 21
Wednesday	4/22/2026	Acts 22
Thursday	4/23/2026	Acts 23
Friday	4/24/2026	Acts 24
Saturday	4/25/2026	Acts 25

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## MEMORIZE Scripture —

**Romans 5:9** - <sup>9</sup> Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

**Hebrews 9:14** - <sup>14</sup> how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

**Revelation 1:5** - <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

**1 Peter 1:18-19** - <sup>18</sup> knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

**Colossians 1:20** - <sup>20</sup> and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.