

FAITH, LOVE, ACTION! – Providing Cover

May 24-25, 2025

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV) - “God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God”.

Luke 3:10-14 (NIV) – “What should we do then?” the crowd asked. John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same”. Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher”, they asked, “what should we do?” “Don’t collect any more than you are required to”, he told them. Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely – be content with your pay”.

Matthew 6:28-30 (NIV) – “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith?”

Genesis 2:25 (NIV) – “Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame”.

Genesis 3:6-7 (NIV) – “When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves”.

Genesis 3:9-13 (NIV) – But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid”. And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” The man said, “The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it”. Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate”.

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Genesis 3:21 (NIV) – “The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them”.

“Some creature had to die in order to provide them with garments, and you know who it is that died in order that we might be robed in His spotless righteousness. The Lamb of God has made for us a garment which covers our nakedness so that we are not afraid to stand even before the bar of God” – **Charles Spurgeon**

Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV) – “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven”.

Matthew 5:16 (MSG) – “Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand – shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven”.

John 15:12-15 (NIV) – “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you”.

“**love**” = Greek *agapao* – “actively doing what the Lord prefers, by His power and direction; it is always defined by God” (HELPS)

“His love was at once the source and the measure of theirs” – **Marcus Dods**

James 2:14-19 (NIV) – “What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and well-fed’, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, ‘You have faith; I have deeds’. Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that – and shudder”.

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“We are saved by faith alone, but the faith that saves is never alone” – ***Martin Luther***

“How many have we nowadays that will be but as friends at a sneeze! The most you can get out of these benefactors is, ‘God bless you, Christ help you’” – ***John Trapp***