

Devotional Questions – Hebrews 11:1-3, Study Leader’s Questions

1. *What is faith as defined in this chapter (Hebrews 11:1)?*
2. *How is faith ‘the assurance* of things hoped for’ (Hebrews 11:1)? *The correct i.e. AV1611 word is “**substance.**”*
3. *What faith did the ancients (elders) have that God commended (Hebrews 11:2)?*
4. *What is the relationship between seeing and faith?*
5. *What do we understand by faith concerning the worlds (Hebrews 11:3)?*
6. *How does that help us today?*
7. *Why is faith essential to pleasing God (Hebrews 11:6)?*
8. *Why do we need to believe God exists before we can come to God (Hebrews 11:6)?*
9. *What is the reward that God gives to those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6)?*

Devotional Questions – Hebrews 11:1:3, Answers to Questions

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Hebrews* pp 236-238, *Theological Studies* Volume 19 pp 1-12 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 584, 586, 671, 672, 1158, 1351, 1611-1612 for detailed comments.

1. What is faith as defined in this chapter (Hebrews 11:1)?

Hebrews 11:1 states **“Now *faith* is *the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*”** Faith is:

- *Specific not speculative*, note the **“the’s”**
- *Real not imaginary*, note the term **“substance”**
- *Factual not false*, note the term **“evidence”**

Faith is the present extant reality of looking forward to a Biblically promised i.e. substantiated and evidenced future reality e.g. the Lord's Return:

“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” Titus 2:13.

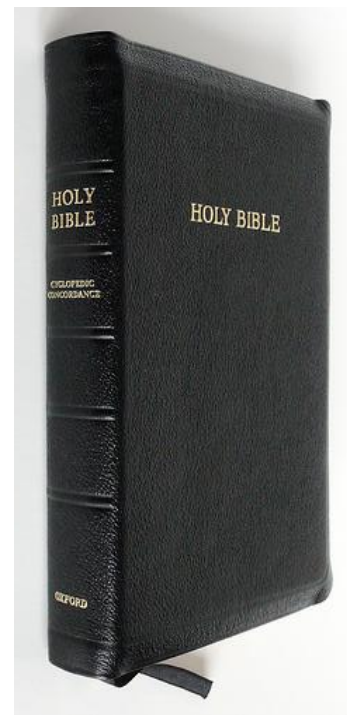
The word **“substance”** occurs 50 times in scripture, *each time with respect to that which is real not imaginary in all 49 references leading up to Hebrews 11:1*; Genesis 7:4, 23, 12:5, 13:6, 15:14, 34:23, 36:6, Deuteronomy 11:6, 33:11, Joshua 14:4, 1 Chronicles 27:31, 28:1, 2 Chronicles 21:17, 31:3, 32:29, 35:7, Ezra 8:21, 10:8, Job 1:3, 10, 5:5, 6:22, 15:29, 20:18, 22:20, 30:22, 17:14, Psalm 105:21, 139:15, 16, Proverbs 1:13, 3:9, 6:31, 8:21, 10:3, 12:27, 28:8, 29:3, Song of Solomon 8:7, Isaiah 6:13 twice, Jeremiah 15:13, 17:3, Hosea 12:8, Obadiah 13, Micah 4:13, Luke 8:3, 15:13, Hebrews 10:34. Note for example:

“For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance” Hebrews 10:34. **“Substance”** is here equivalent to earthly **“goods”** i.e. real not imaginary, they can be stolen, but **“in heaven”** i.e. **“treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal”** Matthew 6:20.

Nothing in Hebrews 11 suggests that the sense of the word **“substance”** in Hebrews 11:1 is any different from that of any of its previous occurrences. The opposite is true.

The word **“evidence”** singular and plural occurs 9 times in scripture, *each time with respect to that which is factual not false in all 8 references leading up to Hebrews 11:1*; Jeremiah 32:10, 11, 12, 14 three times, once plural, twice singular, 16, 44 plural. Note for example, *where the evidence is a book*:

“And I gave the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, in the sight of Hanameel mine uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses that subscribed the book of the purchase, before all the Jews that sat in the court of the prison” Jeremiah 32:12.



King James Bible, Oxford Brevier Edition

The faith of the believer i.e. ***“the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me”*** Galatians 2:20 *is substantiated and evidenced in a Book* i.e. ***“the book of the purchase”*** to which God has subscribed or underwritten His own authorship as in Exodus 17:14 i.e. ***“Write this for a memorial in a book”*** e.g. the Holy Bible Cambridge Cameo Wide Margin Edition, TBS Westminster Reference Bible or R. L. Allan's Oxford Brevier Blackface Reference Edition. See figure and link:

jmarkbertrand.typepad.com/bibledesign/2008/01/r-l-allans-oxfo.html:

The *substance* and *evidence* of *faith as a Book* is ***“the word of promise”*** Romans 9:9, ***“the word of faith”*** Romans 10:8 and ***“the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation”*** Ephesians 1:13, defining the word ***“gospel”*** as ***“the word of truth,”*** insofar as ***“God is true”*** John 3:33, 2 Corinthians 1:18, not merely ‘good news,’ which is the popular evangelical definition – it could be said that the gospel is *the best news*. See *The Language of the King James Bible* by Dr Mrs Gail Riplinger p 49 with respect to *God spell*, literally God’s word in Anglo-Saxon. See Romans 10:16-17, 2 Corinthians 4:2-3, 2 Timothy 2:8-9 with respect to the definition ***“gospel...the word of God.”*** Note:

“For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son” Romans 9:9.

“...The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach” Romans 10:8.

“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory” Ephesians 1:13-14.

2. *How is faith ‘the assurance* of things hoped for’ (Hebrews 11:1)?* *The correct i.e. AV1611 word is ***“substance.”***

See *Question 1* with respect to the faith of the believer i.e. ***“the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me”*** Galatians 2:20 *that is substantiated and evidenced in a Book* e.g. the Holy Bible Cambridge Cameo Wide Margin Edition, TBS Westminster Reference Bible or R. L. Allan's Oxford Brevier Blackface Reference Edition.

3. *What faith did the ancients (elders) have that God commended (Hebrews 11:2)?*

They believed what God said.

“For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word” Isaiah 66:2.

This writer suggests that today not one Christian in a hundred ***“trembleth at my word.”*** This is significant today with respect to matters of relationships where Christians are urging support for *Coalition for Marriage* c4m.org.uk/. Note the essential component of ensuring marriages that pleased God.

“Then were assembled unto me every one that trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the transgression of those that had been carried away; and I sat astonished until the evening sacrifice” Ezra 9:4.

“Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives, and such as are born of them, according to the counsel of my lord, and of those that tremble at the commandment of our God; and let it be done according to the law. Arise; for this matter belongeth unto thee: we also will be with thee: be of good courage, and do it...And the children of the captivity did so” Ezra 10:3-4, 16.

Ezra 9, 10 indicate that any work of godly social reform such as the *Coalition for Marriage* must first be a coalition ***“of those that tremble at the commandment of our God”*** Ezra 10:3 in order to be wholly effective.

4. *What is the relationship between seeing and faith?*

In one sense, for the Christian there is no relationship.

“(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)” 2 Corinthians 5:7.

In another sense, faith sees what eyes can't. See *Question 1*.

“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth” Hebrews 11:13.

“By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible” Hebrews 11:27.

Faith 'sees' God's future fulfilment of promise and discerns God's ever-present faithful presence until ***“the word of promise”*** Romans 9:9 comes to pass.

“...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me” Hebrews 13:5-6.

Paul wrote Hebrews 13:5-6 in faith because those who do not ***“tremble at the commandment of our God”*** Ezra 10:3 will tremble at His presence at the Second Advent when ***“his enemies shall lick the dust”*** Psalm 72:9. That goes for Mary, Mohammed and all their fellow-travellers.

“But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation” Jeremiah 10:10.

5. *What do we understand by faith concerning the worlds (Hebrews 11:3)?*

The worlds are God's creation: ***“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth”*** Genesis 1:1. Note that the creation or re-creation from Genesis 1:3-31 was ***“by the word of God”*** Hebrews 11:3, where ***“And God said”*** occurs 9 times; Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, 29. Note that God did not frame the worlds out of *nothing* but of *things* that are ***“not...things which do appear”*** Hebrews 11:3. God also framed the laws of His creation e.g. gravity ***“upholding all things by the word of his power”*** Hebrews 1:3. Nehemiah 9:6 defines the First Law of Thermodynamics; that matter and energy are conserved i.e. preserved.

“Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee” Nehemiah 9:6.

Isaiah 51:6 defines the Second Law of Thermodynamics; that all real processes degrade energy. Note that the AV1611 is alone in identifying electricity as the highest form of energy, ***“the God of forces”*** Daniel 11:38, associated with the Devil of whom the Lord Jesus Christ said ***“I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven”*** Luke 10:18 (!).

“Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished” Isaiah 51:6.

See *The Christian's Handbook of Science and Philosophy* by Dr Peter S. Ruckman p 164. The above statements of creation's laws won't be found in any secular science text book because they are God's definitions. The AV1611 isn't merely scientifically correct. It is the *definitive* scientific Text Book with respect to the origin, nature, demise and renovation of the universe i.e. ***“the heavens and the earth, which are now”*** 2 Peter 3:7, 10-13, Revelation 20:11, 21:1.

6. *How does that help us today?*

It helps in providing the *scriptural* basis for obeying Paul's exhortation to Timothy that is particularly relevant for these "*perilous times*" 2 Timothy 3:1.

"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called" 1 Timothy 6:20.

The AV1611 Text is alone in the correct and insightful use of the word "*science*."

For further detailed material see again *The Christian's Handbook of Science and Philosophy* by Dr Peter S. Ruckman. See also the *Ruckman Reference Bible* Appendices 20, 43, 44.

Other helpful publications are *The Evolution Handbook* by Vance Ferrell, *The Collapse of Evolution* by Scott M. Huse, *True Science Agrees with the Bible* by Malcolm Bowden and *From Nothing to Nature* by E. H. Andrews.

See also *Time for Truth*:

www.timefortruth.co.uk/the-errors-of-evolution/
www.timefortruth.co.uk/science-vs-evolution/
www.timefortruth.co.uk/catalogue.php?item=33

Designed or not designed. See figure.

See further the *Creation Science Movement* www.csm.org.uk/index.php, whose material is very thorough. CSM has published many helpful summary pamphlets on creation-evolution issues.

See too the most informative Chick tract www.chick.com/reading/tracts/0055/0055_01.asp *Big Daddy?* Another excellent link is *True Origins* www.trueorigin.org/. This is particularly useful in refuting the false claims of evolutionists.

All of the above is most helpful for today.

7. *Why is faith essential to pleasing God (Hebrews 11:6)?*

Isaiah gives the basic reason.

"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away" Isaiah 64:6.



8. *Why do we need to believe God exists before we can come to God (Hebrews 11:6)?*

David gives the basic reason.

“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one”
Psalm 14:1-3.

9. *What is the reward that God gives to those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6)?*

Jeremiah explains.

“And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart”
Jeremiah 29:13.

Josiah is therefore a good role model for those of *“a royal priesthood”* 1 Peter 2:9, again with respect to *the Book* that is itself *the substance* and *the evidence* of faith. See *Question 1*.

“And the king stood in his place, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments, and his testimonies, and his statutes, with all his heart, and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant which are written in this book. And he caused all that were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand to it. And the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers” 2 Chronicles 34:31-32. Therefore, pray 1 Timothy 2:1-2 *“for all that are in authority.”*

That is the basis for godly social reform and revival, not the restoration of Israel’s agriculture by means of praying 2 Chronicles 7:14 as is popularly supposed. See also Question 3. This was the outcome. See below. Therefore, apply Ephesians 5:11 and “reprove....the unfruitful works of darkness.”

Josiah *“put down idolatrous priests”* 2 Kings 23:5 i.e. Catholics, Mohammedans, Hindus, Sikhs, Marxists and Darwinists, both atheistic idolatrous priests, *“brake down the houses of the sodomites”* 2 Kings 23:7 i.e. exit ‘gay’ aka sodomite/child molester ‘rights’ and *“defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the children of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech”* 2 Kings 23:10 i.e. exit the abortion industry and no doubt with it the pornography industry, likewise multi-culti-ism:

“And Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the countries that pertained to the children of Israel, and made all that were present in Israel to serve, even to serve the LORD their God. And all his days they departed not from following the LORD, the God of their fathers” 2 Chronicles 34:33.

In sum, no *“time of reformation”* Hebrews 9:10 can arise without tearing down abomination. Otherwise *“iniquity shall abound”* Matthew 24:12 *“Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil”* Ecclesiastes 8:11 such that as Solomon observed even in *“the place of judgment, that wickedness was there; and the place of righteousness, that iniquity was there”* Ecclesiastes 3:16.

See www.christian.org.uk/resources/publications/magazines-and-newsletters/ for examples. The *Spring 2013 issue* summarises the cases of Dale McAlpine, Jamie Murray, Anthony Rollins and Ben and Sharon Vogelenzang, all recent victims of police persecution. The police acted wrongly in those cases and in earlier cases. See:

www.christian.org.uk/soregs/sornewsletter_apr06.pdf. See over-page:

www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ *Royal Law – James 2:8*

www.timefortruth.co.uk/bible-studies/alan-oreillys-studies.php *Policing Authority.*

The Offended Party will nevertheless make due restitution. **“And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible”** Isaiah 13:11.

Christian Institute April 2006 Newsletter www.christian.org.uk/soregs/sorneewsletter_apr06.pdf:

Gay attacks on religious people

Bishop of Chester

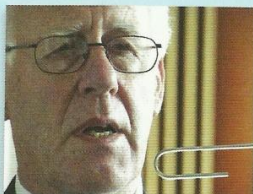
Bishop Peter Forster was investigated by Cheshire Constabulary after an interview in which he mentioned research showing that some homosexuals 're-orientate' through therapy. A gay rights activist had made a complaint and the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement supported it. The police eventually concluded no crime had been committed. The Chief Constable made an astonishing public attack on the Bishop, even suggesting his remarks could lead to violence.

The Chester Chronicle, 7 November 2003; *The Daily Telegraph*, 10 and 11 November 2003; *The Independent*, 10 November 2003; *The Times*, 11 November 2003; <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/merseyside/3257623.stm> as at 6 April 2006

Ake Green

A Swedish pastor was charged with inciting hatred against homosexuals after a sermon urging Christians to show homosexuals "deep respect" and offer them the "grace of Jesus Christ". He called sexual immorality, including homosexuality, a "cancerous growth" in society. He was convicted and sentenced to one month in jail. The Swedish Supreme Court acquitted him on appeal.

<http://www.cbn.com/CBNNews/News/040907aa.asp> as at 6 April 2006; http://www.sweden.se/templates/cs/NewsML_12744.aspx?newsid=1163 as at 6 April 2006; *Office of the Prosecutor-General v. Green*, Case No. 8 1050-05, Supreme Court of Sweden, 29 November 2005



Violence at Parliament

In 1998 when the Lords voted against reducing the homosexual age of consent, gay rights activists outside Parliament became violent. Protesters scuffled with police and jumped barricades in a bid to get inside and confront Peers. Some, including former Archbishop Donald Coggan, were insulted, jostled and threatened. Christian campaigner, Baroness Young, had to be protected by police.

Outrage!, Press release, *House of Lords Besieged by Gay Rights Protesters*, 26 July 1998 and *Daily Mail*, 23 July 1998

Desecration of a church

Gay rights group Stonewall held a meeting in Newcastle upon Tyne at which an audience-member called for volunteers to take action against Jesmond Parish Church. A few nights later the 19th Century church was daubed with gay rights slogans, obscenities, pornographic drawings and personal attacks on the vicar.

The Journal, 23 October 1999; *Evening Chronicle*, 23 October 1999; *The Daily Telegraph*, 23 October 1999



Lynette Burrows

Mrs Burrows, author and family values campaigner, took part in a radio phone-in where she disagreed with placing children for adoption with homosexuals. An offended gay rights activist complained to the police. The following day a police officer telephoned Mrs Burrows to take issue with her 'homophobic' views.

The Daily Telegraph, 10 December 2005; *The Sunday Times*, 18 December 2005; *Daily Mail*, 12 December 2006

Western Isles Council

Christian registrars in the Western Isles of Scotland refused to carry out marriage-style ceremonies alongside the registration of homosexual 'civil partnerships'. The Council backed their decision and, as a result, received hate-mail from around the world, including a call for councillors to be "hanged from the nearest tree".

The Scotsman, 20 and 21 December 2005; *The Daily Telegraph* (Scottish edition), 21 December 2005

Joe & Helen Roberts

A retired Christian couple were subjected to an 80-minute interrogation by police after they complained to their local council about its gay rights policies. No criminal offence was committed and yet the police and the council refuse to apologise for their actions. The Roberts are taking legal action.

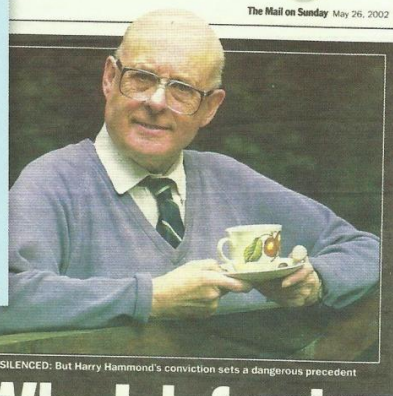
Daily Mail, 23 December 2005



Harry Hammond

An elderly street preacher was assaulted by gay rights activists and then arrested for holding a placard saying, "Stop Immorality. Stop homosexuality. Jesus is Lord". At his trial he was convicted and fined £300 plus £395 costs. He died shortly afterwards. A posthumous appeal was unsuccessful.

The Mail on Sunday, 28 April 2002; *The Mail on Sunday*, 5 May 2002; *Hammond v DPP* [2004] EWHC 69 (Admin)



The Mail on Sunday May 26, 2002

SILENCED: But Harry Hammond's conviction sets a dangerous precedent

Additional Notes: Critics' Objections and AV1611 Authority

Based on www.timefortruth.co.uk/bible-studies/alan-oreillys-studies.php *Hebrews 1 Study etc.* p 7

Critics' Objections

Some folk may object to this writer's insistence that the AV1611, any edition, is "***the book of the purchase***" Jeremiah 32:12 because that was not the case historically. See *Question 1*.

Paul answered such critics well in advance.

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope" Romans 15:4.

The critic of the AV1611 would subvert the Bible believer's learning, patience, comfort and hope.

It should further be noted that critics of the AV1611 share some commonality:

1. They have no final authority other than two-and-a-half pints of human brains [from Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Matthew* p 30].
2. They will use anything to 'correct' the AV1611 (KJB *abusers* like James White) or 'clarify' the AV1611 (KJB *users* like Drs D. A. Waite, K. DiVietro of the DBS). 'Correctors' and 'clarifiers' are both alike Bible subversives and saboteurs.
See www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/james-white-dr-divietro-and-dawaite.php.
3. They can never identify a single book on the face of this earth that is "***all scripture***" that "***is given by inspiration of God***" 2 Timothy 3:16.
4. They are traitors according to "***the royal law***" James 2:8 (here and in the Old Dominions, certainly, something equivalent will apply for the USA in that it was founded on the AV1611).

AV1611 Authority

With the AV1611 as "***the royal law***" James 2:8 www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ note further:

1. No-one has any God-given authority to stand in a pulpit, or anywhere else, and call any bible version in English first published since 1611 "***the word of God***" 1 Samuel 9:27.
2. No-one has any God-given authority to circulate any bible version in English first published since 1611 under the guise of "***the word of God***" as, for example, the Gideons do.
3. No-one has any God-given authority to convene any translating committee in English or in any other language to compile a rival to the AV1611 *King James* Text, Ecclesiastes 8:4 "**Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?**"
4. No-one has any God-given authority to exalt anything "***in the Greek***" or "***in the Hebrew***" Revelation 9:11 as a correction of, so-called, clarification of, so-called, or improvement on, so-called, the AV1611 "***the royal law***" James 2:8.
5. No-one has any God-given authority to substitute some other book for the AV1611 as "***the book of the covenant***" 2 Kings 23:2, 2 Chronicles 34:30. As Dr Ruckman points out in his *Reference Bible* pp 584, 586, revival comes from the nation's leaders getting back to "***the book of the covenant.***" Substitution of another book for "***the book of this covenant***" 2 Kings 23:21 is to have "***done despite unto the Spirit of grace***" Hebrews 10:29 – as well as heap up more treason and "***the Lord is the avenger of all such***" 1 Thessalonians 4:6.

Judgement will therefore fall for all AV1611 critics, both saved and lost, because:

1. "**The true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world**" John 1:9 gives every man enough light to believe that the AV1611 is "**the words of the LORD**" Psalm 12:6 but
2. "**Men loved darkness rather than light**" John 3:19, "**every man walketh in a vain shew**" Psalm 39:6 "**For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God**" John 12:43. Therefore
3. "**He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day**" John 12:48, or sooner, Romans 14:10.

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death"
Romans 8:2 along with its components; darkness, vanity, Christ-rejection and the praise of men