

# True Standard of True Preparation

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Acts 20:27 *to declare the whole counsel of God*  
1 Timothy 1:5 *Love from a pure heart, a clear*  
Matthew 5:20 *your righteousness exceeds that*  
Acts 10:33 *We will listen to everything the Lord*  
Jeremiah 17:10 *I search the heart, test the*

**1** The true *standard* of a true *preparation* for Paradise goes beyond knowing *historical Bible* facts.

**2** Being a member of a church; living a moral life; believing the Creation story; and even knowing about the sacrifice of Christ at Calvary, does not in itself *prepare* an individual for eternal life.

**3** If a proclaimed believer in Christ does not advance beyond knowing of Bible facts or just stating their belief in Christ, they would not be ready to meet Jesus, because they would not have met the requirements of faith and trust on His sacrifice for sin.

**4** A believer in Christ must *live* a true Christian life of faith in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus to be prepared for Heaven.

**5** Our *preparing for paradise* must begin when we accept Jesus as our Savior and then continue to trust Him every day until Jesus returns.

**6** We are to be preparing for eternity by allowing God to teach us what we need to know to meet His requirement for Paradise.

**7** Any church or ministry that claims to teach the *Gospel of Christ* must explain the full *Gospel truth* of God's Word. They must be able to say NKJV Acts 20:27 "*I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.*"

**8** The average Christian believes that if they live a decent moral life, are honest, belong to a local church, and are a law-abiding citizen, they are ready for Heaven—but a true preparation for God's kingdom goes beyond that.

**9** We have to guard against immoral thoughts Matthew 5:28; to always be honest; and to obey civic laws that do not conflict with Scripture.

**10** The apostle wrote NLT 1 Timothy 1:5 "*The purpose of my instruction is that all the Christians there would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and sincere faith.*"

**11** The Bible teaches *how* to have a *pure* heart, a *clear* conscience, and *real* faith in the Blood of Christ. True faith in God gives freedom from addictions, wrong desires, or unscriptural thoughts. God's *Truth* takes wrong *desires* out of our heart.

**12** Everyone is tempted, but God promises the ability to *resist* and *not* yield to those temptations. The Holy Spirit enlightens us to realize that it is Satan putting wrong thoughts and unscriptural desires in our mind—we have to *reject* them.

**13** God in Heaven is more worthy of our supreme *love* and *devotion* than anything on earth. We are to love *everyone*, of course, but God must be *ahead* of everyone and everything that conflicts with His will.

**14** Scribes and Pharisees were strict with religious appearance, but Jesus said NKJV Matthew 23:13 "*Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of*

*heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.*"

**15** Jesus told us Matthew 5:20 "*Unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.*"

**16** The *true standard of true preparation* is a true inward *faith* and *trust* in the atoning sacrifice of Christ.

**17** We can ask God to reveal any insincerity in us and show us the true standard of being ready for His Son's return.

**18** Job was self-righteous but he was not aware of it. He was *sincere* in helping everyone and there was no widow he did not supply, nor orphan he did not feed.

**19** All those good deeds were good things to do, of course, but they could not *earn* him an entrance into Paradise. Outward actions cannot earn salvation—eternal life is by faith in the Atonement of Jesus—that is the merit value needed to pay the price.

**20** Cornelius was Acts 10:2 "*a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.*"

**21** God *knew* that Cornelius was *honest*, *sincere*, and *willing* to learn, so He sent the apostle to him to explain the full Truth.

**22** On his arrival Cornelius says—NIV Acts 10:33 "*We are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us.*"

**23** The apostle says WEY 34 "*I clearly see that God makes no distinctions between one man and another; 35 but that in every nation those who fear Him and live good lives are acceptable to Him.*"

**24** The *true standard of true preparation* for Heaven is to be willing to *hear* the Truth—God can *teach* people like that.

**25** The apostle told NKJV Acts 10:38 “*How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil.*”

**26** No one can know their own heart or their spiritual condition until God reveals it to them Jeremiah 17:9. Every human heart is just as wicked as every other. It is why we ask God every day to reveal any wrong attitude or unscriptural desire in our heart.

**27** A serious trial will reveal any anger, resentment, self-importance, or pride in us—something that can remain *hidden* deep in our heart.

**28** An offensive remark by someone can bring out thoughts of revenge or resentment in us—something can be *there* that we are *not aware* of. It is *wrong* for a person to offend us but *worse* for us to resent it.

**29** It is easy to *appear* righteous on the *outside* and have resentment on the *inside*. Wrong attitudes often remain hidden.

**30** The devil does *not* care how many thieves, bandits, and false teachers there are—just so they do not know the *true standard* for Paradise.

**31** Being prepared for Heaven means the evil nature of *self* is removed from our heart and the divine nature of *Christ* has taken its place. We are *then* ready for paradise—and not before.

**32** Living a *life of faith in God* is being *willing* to give up *our* ways and accepting *God’s* ways. The Holy Spirit then inspires the faith we need to *obey* the Word and *meet* the standard for Heaven.

**33** Salvation of the soul isn’t possible unless we are willing to obey New Testament instructions.

**34** Luke 4:4; Matthew 4:4 “*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God*” Jesus obeyed the Word

to set the *example*—Matthew 3:15 “*Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.*”

**35** God made sure instructions were written on *how* to live a scriptural life; *how* to enjoy health; *how* to be protected; *how* to forgive everyone.

**36** *How* to trust Him for supplies; *how* to handle money correctly; *how* to treat family members; and *how* to have a right attitude toward all things.

**37** It is just as necessary to follow God’s *financial plan*, as it is to accept His *healing plan*; it is just as necessary to meet wrongs in a scriptural way, as it is to follow every *other* Bible command—if we want our *preparing for paradise* to advance every day.

**38** To receive salvation, we must be scriptural in our finances as we need to be scriptural *morally*. We must be right with God in every area of our life. We are *abiding in Christ* when we are *putting His Word* into practice—John 15:4 “*Abide in me, and I in you.*”

**39** Any outwardly good thing we do, apart from the *love* of Christ in our heart, will prove to be a curse instead of a blessing, because outward self-righteousness is worse than being an out-and-out sinner.

**40** When we truly give our life to God, He will reveal our true spiritual condition. Jeremiah 17:10 “*I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind.*”

**41** We then trust *Him* to *change* our heart. The *former sin nature* in us is to be replaced by the *new divine nature*—an attitude that *treats* people they way *Jesus* said to treat them—like *we* want to *be* treated.

**42** *Preparing for paradise* means giving up *self-ways* and accepting *Christ-like ways* concerning every situation we meet.

**43** This *preparing* includes *trusting* God for healing and daily finances. It is just as necessary

to obey these commands to enter Paradise, as it is to follow every *other* divine plan.

**44** If we are required to “*live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God*”—then we are also required to *obey* New Testament teaching on healing, finances, and attitudes toward people.

**45** NKJV 1 Corinthians 13:3 “*Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.*”

**46** We can’t just say we love others but feel hatred toward someone at the same time 1 John 4:20.

**47** One command of God is just as important as the other concerning our *preparing for paradise*.

**48** If Jesus would return, and we are *not* following His teaching on finances, divine healing, or maintaining a right attitude toward people, we would *not be ready* to meet Him.

**49** If we do not keep our lamp of faith burning, showing spiritual fruit each day by practicing God’s Word on all issues—especially Christlike attitudes in our daily walk, we could hear the words.

**50** AV Matthew 25:12 “*I know you not. 13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.*”



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