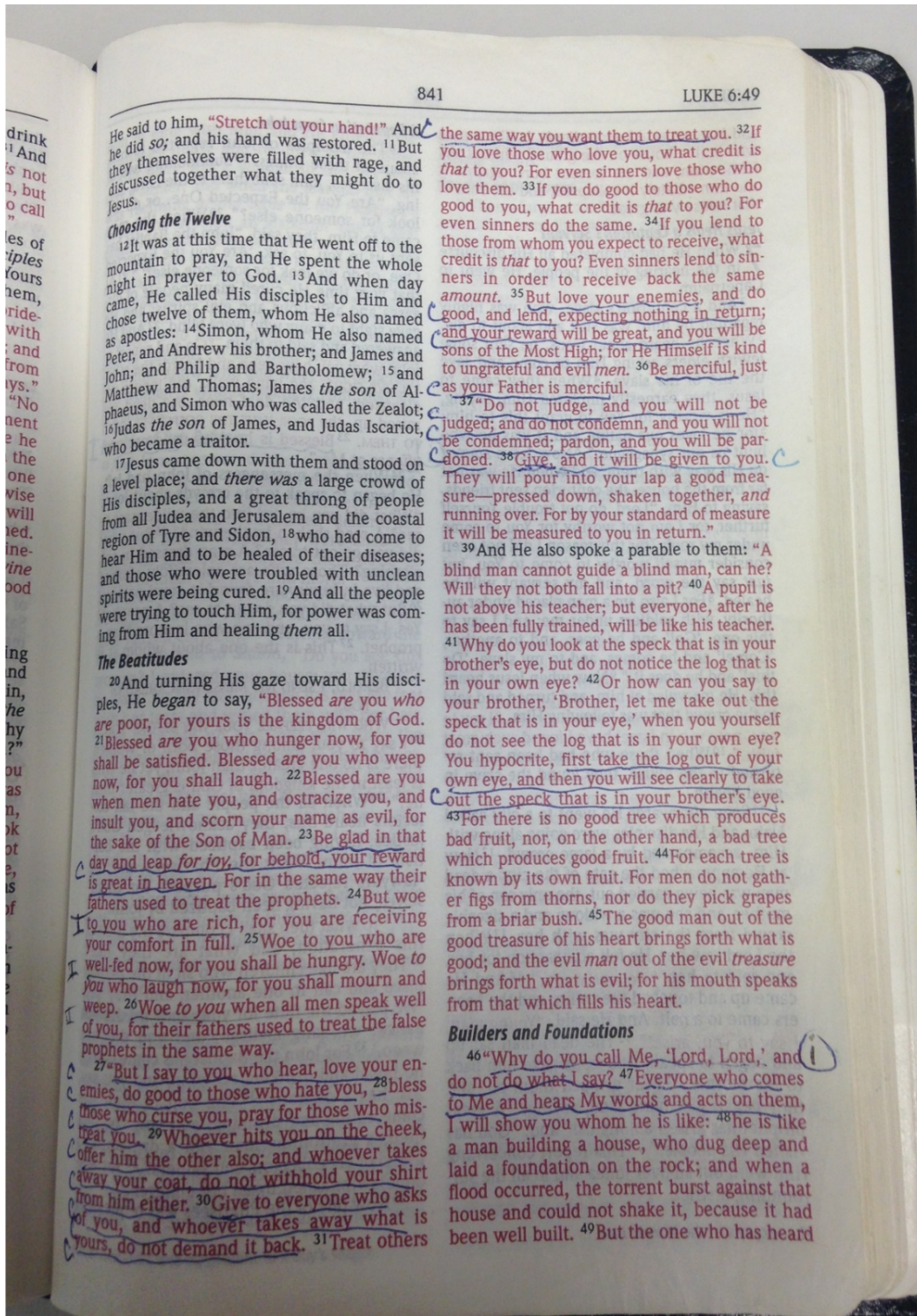


Get a **Red-Letter Bible** - "*Work the Red Letters*"



Whoever
has My commands
and keeps them
is the one
who loves
Me

Lord Jesus Christ
John 14:21



He said to him, "Stretch out your hand!" And he did so; and his hand was restored. ¹¹But they themselves were filled with rage, and discussed together what they might do to Jesus.

Choosing the Twelve

¹²It was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God. ¹³And when day came, He called His disciples to Him and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as apostles: ¹⁴Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James and John; and Philip and Bartholomew; ¹⁵and Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot; ¹⁶Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

¹⁷Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place; and there was a large crowd of His disciples, and a great throng of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who had come to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were being cured. ¹⁹And all the people were trying to touch Him, for power was coming from Him and healing them all.

The Beatitudes

²⁰And turning His gaze toward His disciples, He began to say, "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the Kingdom of God. ²¹Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. ²²Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man. ²³Be glad in that day and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. For in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets. ²⁴But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full. ²⁵Woe to you who are well-fed now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. ²⁶Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

²⁷But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back. ³¹Treat others

the same way you want them to treat you. ³²If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners in order to receive back the same amount. ³⁵But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned. ³⁸Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."

³⁹And He also spoke a parable to them: "A blind man cannot guide a blind man, can he? Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.

⁴¹Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴²Or how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

⁴³For there is no good tree which produces bad fruit, nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit. ⁴⁴For each tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush. ⁴⁵The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.

Builders and Foundations

⁴⁶"Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? ⁴⁷Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: ⁴⁸he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹But the one who has heard

Easier to find His commands
in a red-letter Bible
Underline and mark "C" for Command
Underline and mark "I" for implied Command

Jesus said, at the end of the age, we will all stand before Him, give an account, and be separated like Sheep and Goats from within a herd - **THOSE THAT LOVED HIM HIS WAY** - and those that did not. (Matt 25:31)

Those that truly loved Him **BY HIS DEFINITION** - Will go on to eternal life. Those that did not - will go to eternal punishment.

Jesus ***Defined*** what ***"Loving Him His Way"*** looks like:

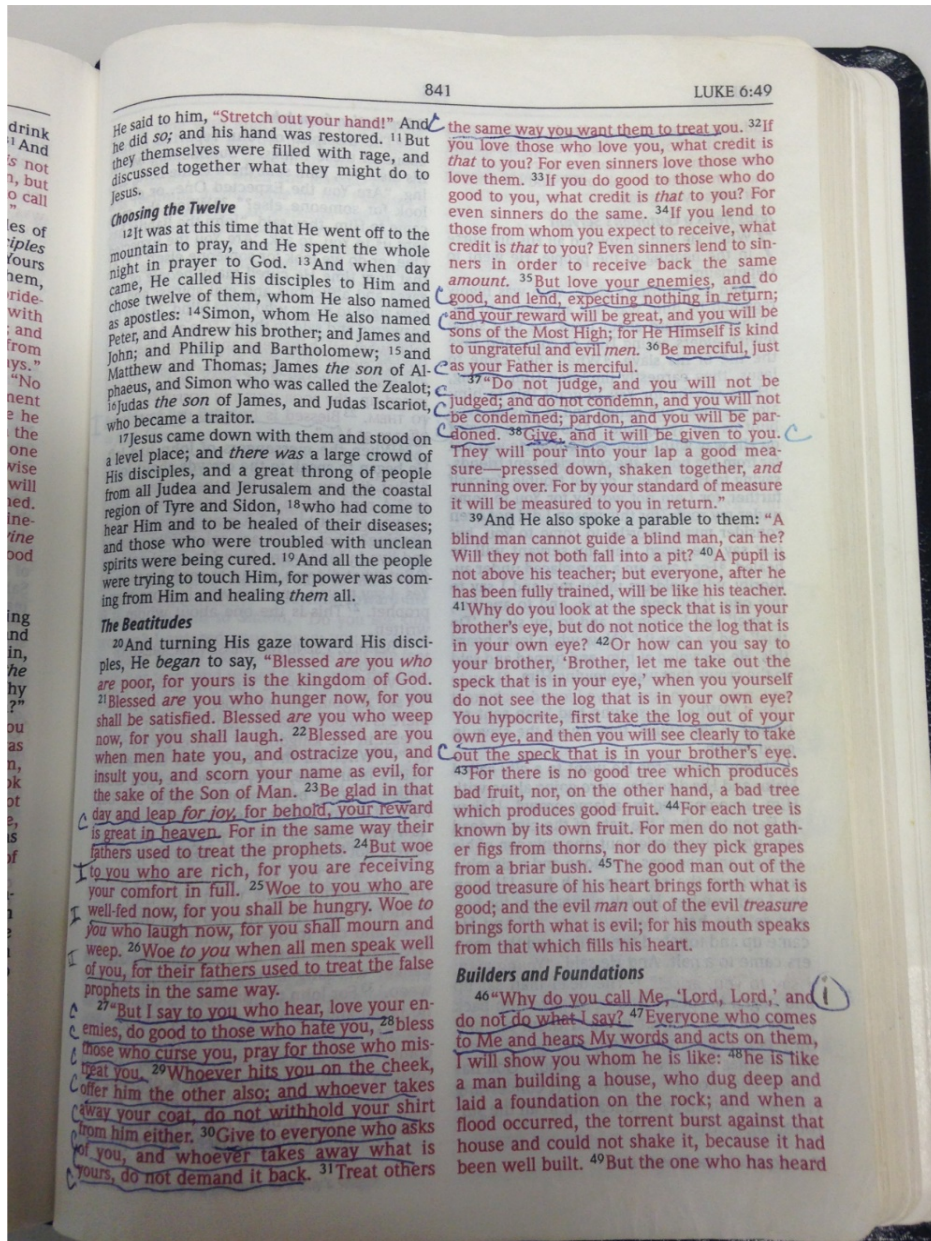
The background is an abstract, textured composition of various colors including black, purple, blue, green, yellow, and red, resembling a watercolor or ink wash. The text is overlaid in white, centered, and reads:

Whoever
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and keeps them
is the one
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Lord Jesus Christ
John 14:21

- So, we need to be **Learning & Knowing & Doing** His commands - **to truly be expressing true love to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.** (By His Definition of Loving Him.)

- Jesus's words are the easiest to find in a **red-letter bible**, where all His words are printed in **Red**:



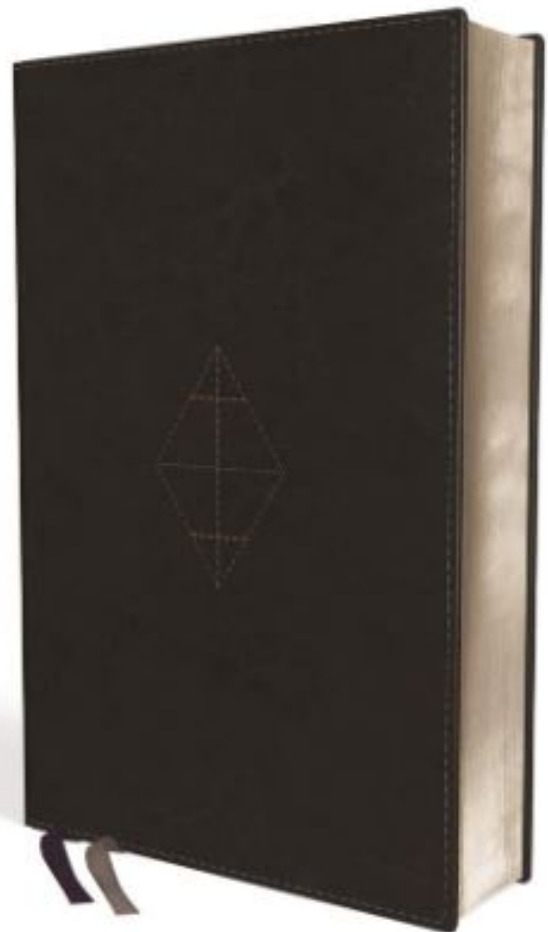
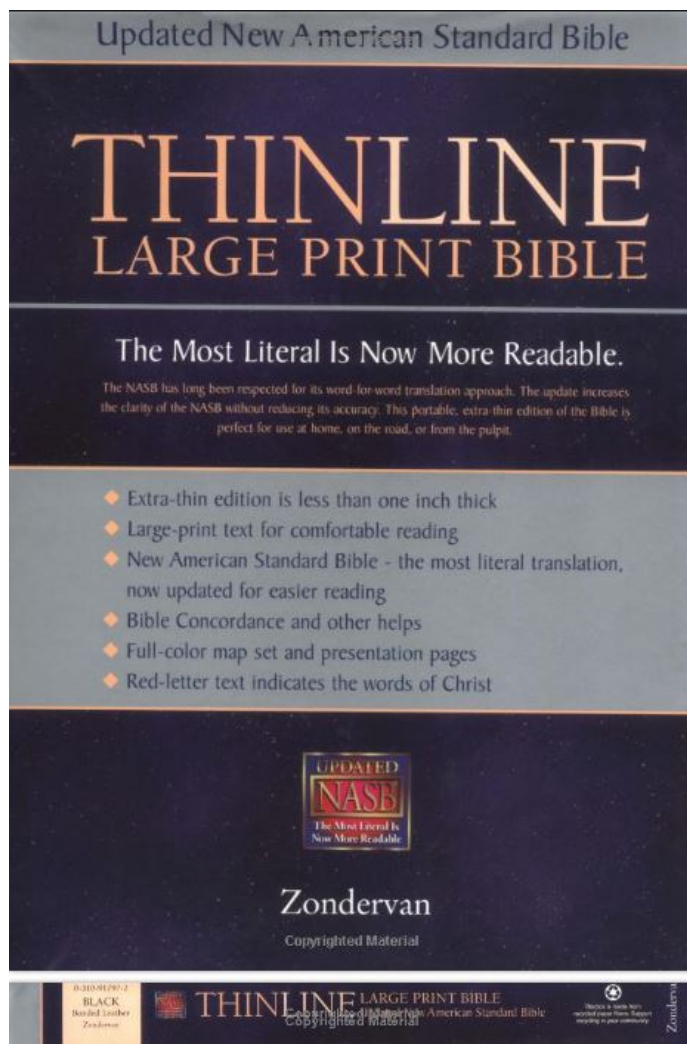
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- The NASB Bible, or New American Standard Bible is a universally revered and used translation of the Bible, known to be the most literally accurate while being readable and understandable. It is used in many Christian universities, colleges, and schools.

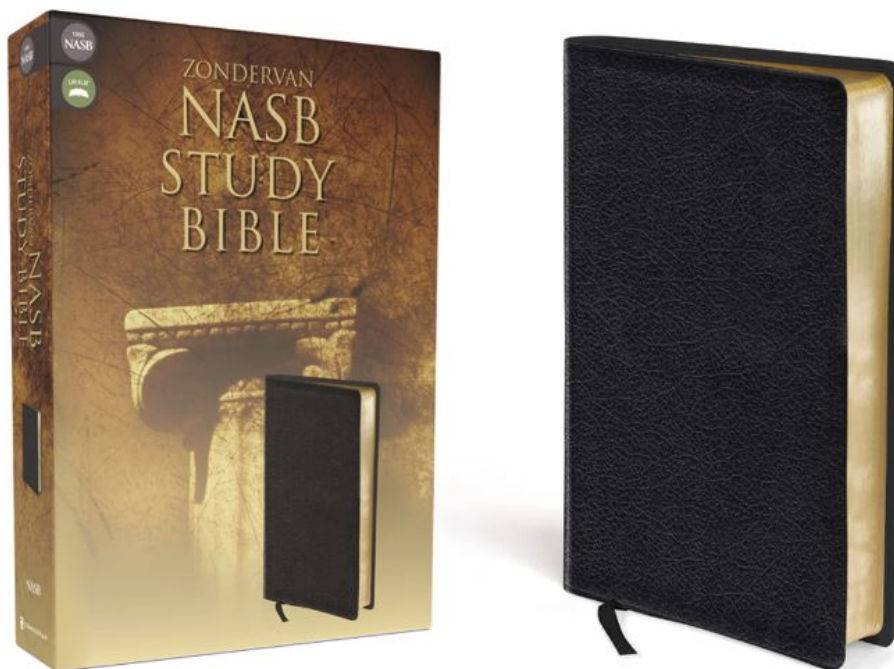
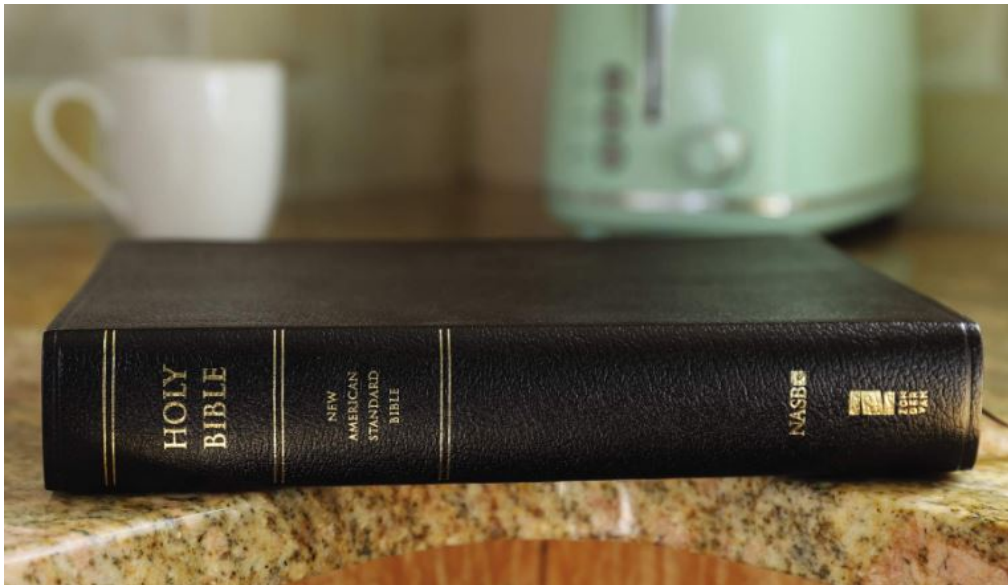
These can easily be purchased online (Amazon, too).

The simple "Thinline" version is inexpensive, relatively thin, and small.

(6.13 x 1.25 x 9.5 inches)



- A better version, if you can afford it, is the **NASB Red-Letter Study Bible**.
- It contains a renown running commentary on every page, to help answer common questions that readers tend to wonder about. It can give valuable context and explanation of the verses.
- *This can be a great occasion gift, for a birthday, graduation, or holiday!*



Be sure the **Words of Christ** are in **Red Letters!**

11 And He ^asaid to them, "Whoever ^bdivorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her; ^cand if she herself ^ddivorces her husband and marries another man, she is committing adultery."

Jesus Blesses Little Children

13 ^aAnd they were bringing children to Him so that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked them.

14 But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, "Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

15 "Truly I say to you, ^awhoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it *at all*."

16 And He ^atook them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands on them.

The Rich Young Ruler

17 ^aAs He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and ^bknelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone."

11 ^aOr sends away ^bMatt 5:32
12 ^aOr sends away ^b1 Cor 7:11, 13
13 ^aMark 10:13-16; Matt 19:13-15; Luke 18:15-17

14 ^aMatt 5:3
15 ^aMatt 18:3; 19:14; Luke 18:17; 1 Cor 14:20; 1 Pet 2:2

16 ^aMark 9:36
17 ^aMark 10:17-31; Matt 19:16-30; Luke 18:18-30; Mark 1:40
^bMatt 25:34
18:18; Acts 20:32; Eph 1:18; 1 Pet 1:4

19 ^aEx 20:12-16; Deut 5:16-20
20 ^aMatt 19:20
21 ^aMatt 6:20
22 ^aOr he became gloomy
23 ^aMatt 19:23
24 ^aMark 1:27
25 ^aMatt 19:24
26 ^aLit And

19 "You know the commandments, ^aDO NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, DO NOT defraud, HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER."

20 And he said to Him, "Teacher, I have kept ^aall these things from my youth up."

21 Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, "One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor; and you will have ^atreasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

22 But at these words ^bhe was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.

23 And Jesus, looking around, ^asaid to His disciples, "^aHow hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!"

24 The disciples ^awere amazed at His words. But Jesus ^aanswered again and ^asaid to them, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!

25 "^aIt is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

26 They were even more astonished and said to Him, "Then who can be saved?"

27 Looking at them, Jesus ^asaid, "^aWith people it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God."

10:11 *Whoever divorces his wife.* In Jewish practice divorce was effected by the husband himself, not by a judicial authority or court. *commits adultery against her.* A simple declaration of divorce on the part of a husband could not release him from the divine law of marriage and its moral obligations—this enduring force of the marriage bond was unrecognized in rabbinic courts. But see note on Matt 19:3; see also Matt 19:9, where an exception is mentioned. 1 Cor 7:15 may contain another exception (see notes on 1 Cor 7:12, 15).

10:12 *she is committing adultery.* In this historical and geographical context, Jesus' pronouncements confirm the bold denunciation by John the Baptist and equally condemn Herod Antipas and Herodias.

10:14 *kingdom of God.* See note on Matt 3:2. *belongs to such as these.* The kingdom of God belongs to those who, like children, are prepared to receive the kingdom as a gift of God (see note on v. 15).

10:15 *Truly I say to you.* See note on 3:28. *like a child.* The point of comparison is the usual openness and receptivity of children. The kingdom of God must be received as a gift; it cannot be achieved by human effort. It may be entered only by those who know they are helpless, without claim or merit.

10:16 *and began blessing them.* Jesus visually demonstrated that the blessings of the kingdom are freely given.

10:17 *a man.* Mark does not identify the man, but Luke (18:18) calls him a "ruler," meaning he was probably a member of an official council or court, and Matthew (19:20) says he was "young." *what shall I do . . . ?* The rich man was thinking in terms of earning righteousness to merit eternal life, but Jesus taught that it was a gift to be received (see v. 15). *eternal life.* See note on Matt 19:16.

10:18 *Why do you call Me good?* Jesus was not denying His own goodness but was forcing the man to recognize that his only hope was in total reliance on God, who alone can give eternal life. He may also have been encouraging the young man to consider the full identity and nature of the One he was addressing.

10:19 *Do not defraud.* The prohibition of fraud may have represented the tenth commandment (against covetousness). If so, Jesus here mentions all six commandments that prohibit wrong actions and attitudes against one's fellowman (see Ex 20:12-16; Deut 5:16-21).

10:20 *I have kept all these things.* The man spoke sincerely, because for him keeping the law was a matter of external conformity. That the law also required inner obedience, which no one can fully satisfy, apparently escaped him completely. Paul speaks of having had a similar outlook before his conversion (Phil 3:6). *from my youth up.* Probably a reference to the age of 13, when a Jewish boy assumed personal responsibility for obeying the commandments.

10:21 *Jesus felt a love for him.* Jesus recognized the man's earnestness. His response was not intended to shame him by exposing failure to understand the spiritual depth of the commandments but was an expression of genuine love. *One thing you lack: go and sell all.* The young man's primary problem was his wealth (see v. 22), and therefore Jesus' prescription was to rid him of it. There is no indication that Jesus' command to him was meant for all Christians. It applies only to those who have the same spiritual problem. *treasure in heaven.* The gift of eternal life, or salvation. This treasure is not to be earned by self-denial or giving of one's material goods but is to be received by following Jesus. In giving away his wealth, the young man would have removed the obstacle that kept him from trusting in Jesus.

10:22 *he went away grieving, for he . . . owned much property.* The tragic decision to turn away reflected a greater love for his possessions than for eternal life (cf. 4:19).

10:25 *eye of a needle.* The camel was the largest animal found in the Holy Land. The vivid contrast between the largest animal and the smallest opening represents what, humanly speaking, is impossible.

10:27 *With people it is impossible, but not with God.* Salvation is totally the work of God. Every attempt to enter the kingdom

(I am being humorous here):

So, at the end of the age, we can all stand boldly and with confidence at the Judgment Seat of Christ - **KNOWING** (by God's grace, help, and strength) . . . **THAT WE LOVED HIM HIS WAY!**

AND WAVE HIM OUR "VIP" PASSES! . . . "I LOVED YOU YOUR WAY!"

V.I.P PASS



Whoever
has My commands
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Lord Jesus Christ
John 14:21

ADMIT ONE
ETERNAL LIFE IN HEAVEN

In common Christian circles, we are taught to "read your Bible regularly."

Most Christians probably experience too many times of this activity seeming to be Dry, Dead, and Empty . . . So, we quit reading the Bible. Or we read it minimally. We have lost the desire and excitement to read it. It just seems like a bunch of words. There doesn't seem to be any LIFE in it.

I keep this card in my Bible - as a book marker - and as a powerful reminder card - **that keeps the excitement and motivation going** to keep **PRAYERFULLY** reading it... **FINDING** His commands...doing my best to **MEMORIZE THEM**... with the resolution of **DOING THEM**. (*Prayerfully reading the Bible is way-more powerful than just casually reading it!*)

**Cracking open that Bible
with the intention of finding, learning, reviewing,
and doing Jesus's commands**

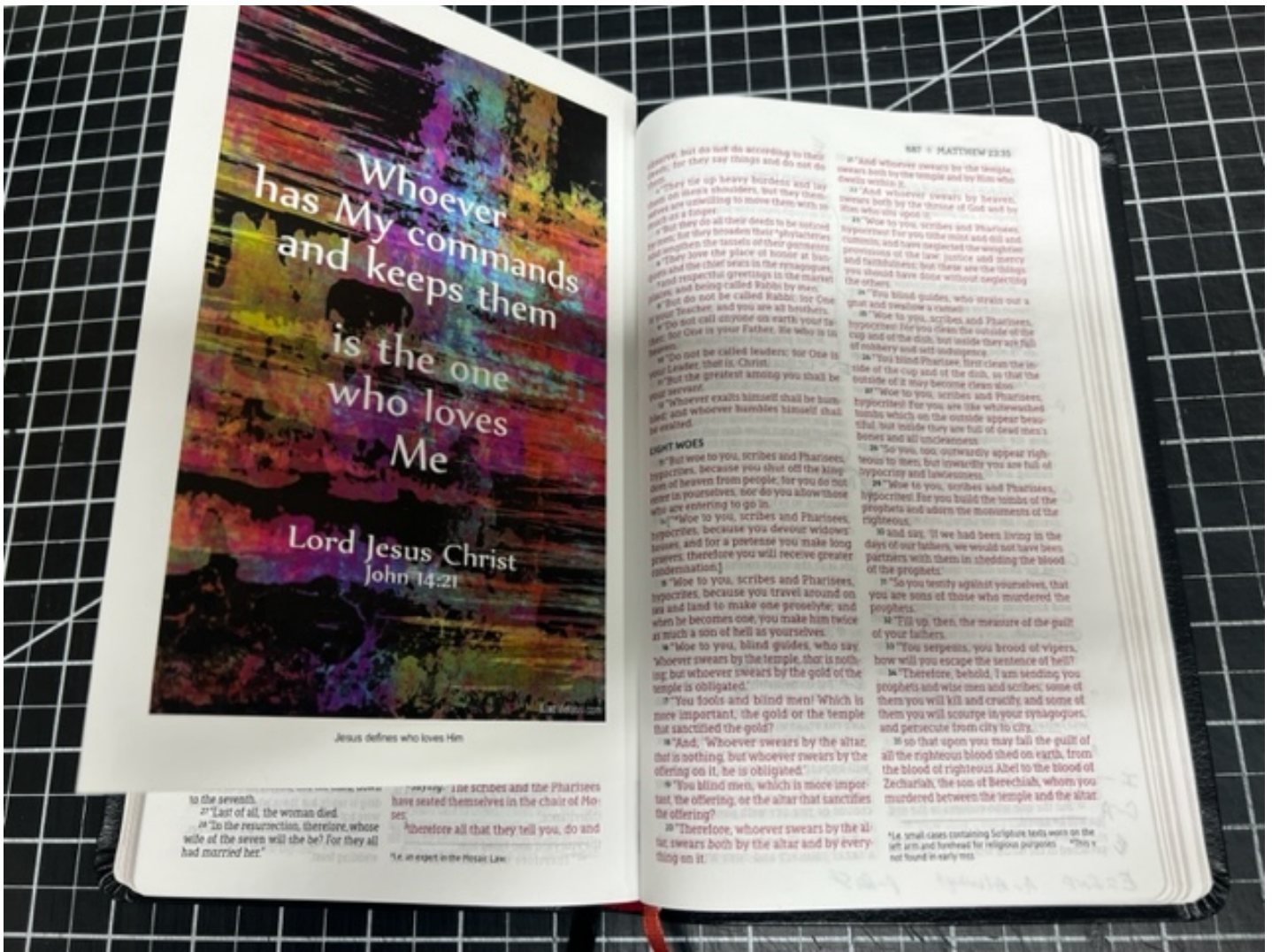
**tells God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy
Spirit immediately – loud and clear -
at that moment**

“I LOVE YOU!”

and

“I AM TRULY LOVING YOU – YOUR WAY!”

Thus, reading the Bible now has more excitement; this activity pleases God and brings joy to His heart. We are motivated to do it whenever.



I regularly pass out Red-Letter Thinline Bibles (to those that want one) along with this reminder card. (A reminder of what my main purpose is when reading the Bible - and what theirs should be.)

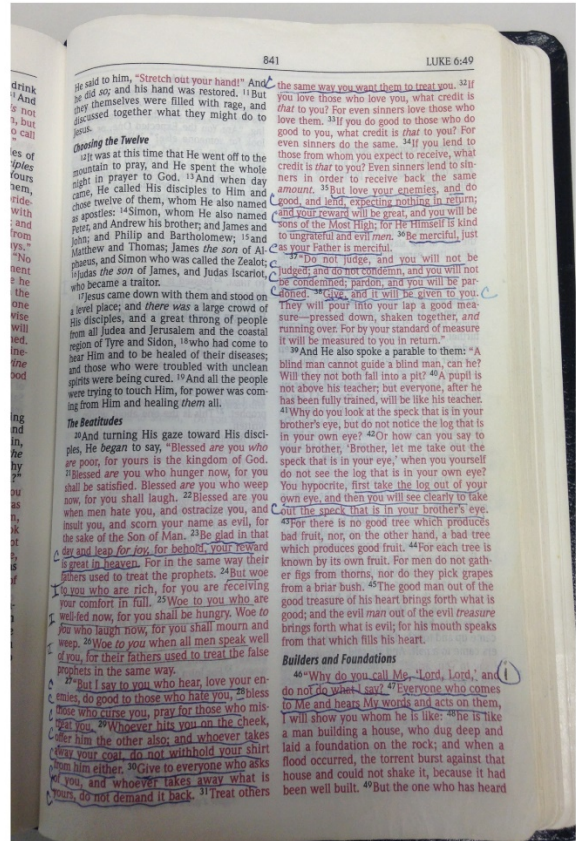
If you would like one of these cards, or several of these Book Marker/Reminder Cards for yourself or to help others, just email your name and address, and I would be happy to send you one/some no charge. They are printed on both sides in a heavy card stock.

mattviolassi@gmail.com



Jesus defines who loves Him

Side A

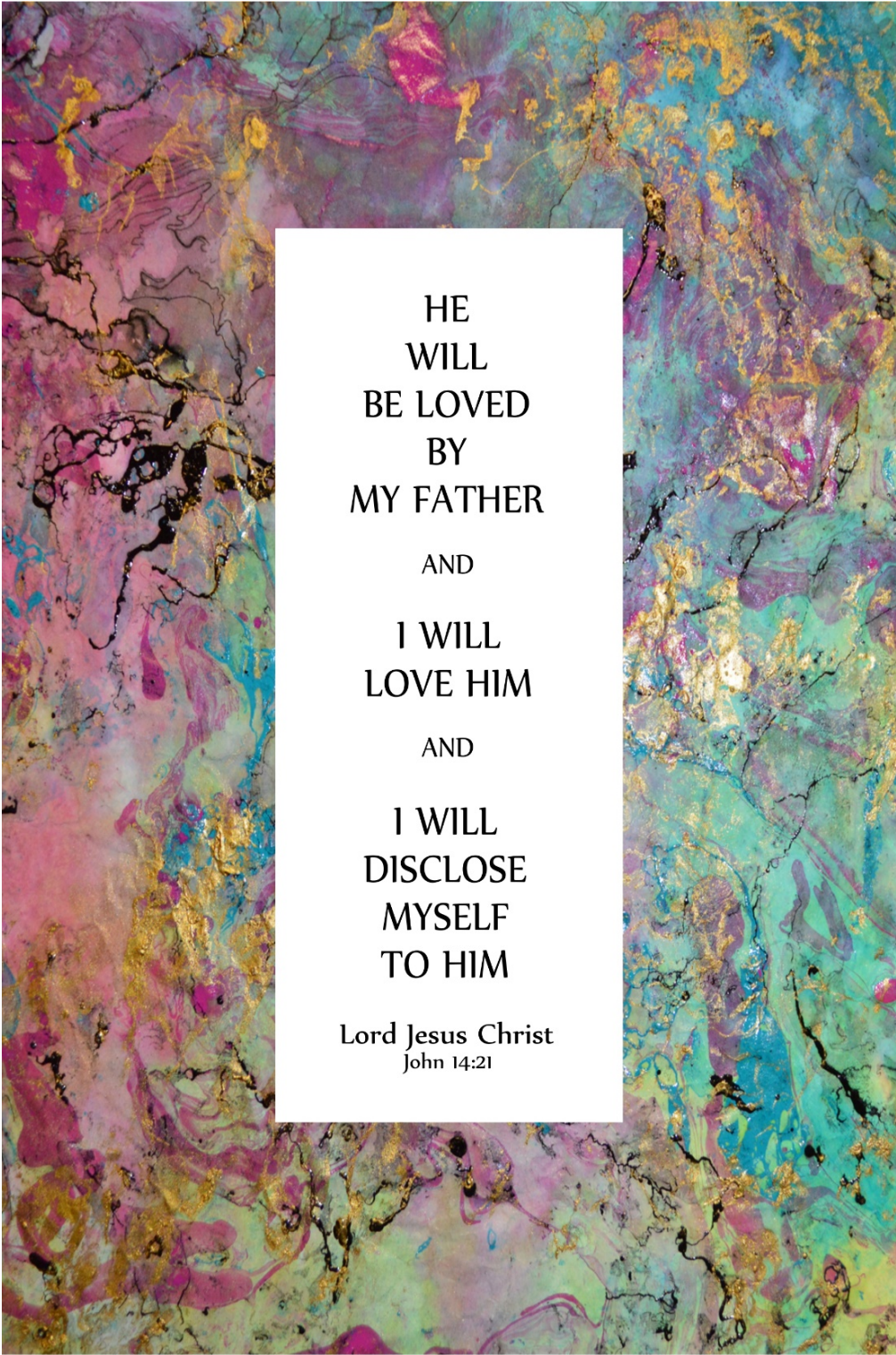


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Side B

PLUS! BLESSING ALERT!

Jesus says He REWARDS for doing this activity/discipline!!!! (John 14:21)



HE
WILL
BE LOVED
BY
MY FATHER

AND

I WILL
LOVE HIM

AND

I WILL
DISCLOSE
MYSELF
TO HIM

Lord Jesus Christ
John 14:21



MY FATHER
WILL LOVE HIM

AND

WE WILL
COME TO HIM

AND

MAKE OUR ABODE
WITH HIM

Lord Jesus Christ
John 14:23

If bringing a person to a spiritual level of **"working the Red Letters"** - is all we could do in this lifetime . . . whether we got them to attend church meetings or not - *we did a great thing!*

But let us keep "working the Red Letters" ourselves!

matt violassi

