THE FIGHT OF YOUR LIFE...THE WAR AGAINST YOUR FLESH - Bro. Elijah

Many professing Christians do not even know that we are in a battle against the flesh. This is because they have been duped into thinking that they are saved. Thus, they do not believe that they must keep God's laws for salvation, which means they are living according to the flesh. For us that know the commandments, we have a larger responsibility to do what thus saith the Lord. Knowing the truth does not make it any easier to obey God. Therefore, we must be aware that naturally we are wicked, and the only way to overcome the flesh is to be spiritually minded.

Opening scripture

Psalm 37:1-11

King James Version (KJV)

1 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

- 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.
- 3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land,

and verily thou shalt be fed.

- 4 Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
- **5** Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.
- 6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.
- 7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.
- 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.
- **9** For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.
- 10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.
- 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

The heart is desperately wicked. The fact that "The Lord knows my heart" should be an incentive to change and do his will. We will all get judged according to what we think, say and do.

Jeremiah 17:9-10

King James Version (KJV)

9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked:

who can know it?

10 I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

In order to change our carnal heart that is desperately wicked, we need to develop a new heart (mind) based on the doctrine and precepts of God. The Lord has no pleasure in our death and destruction but he will destroy us if we do not turn from our wickedness and keep his commandments.

Ezekiel 18:31

King James Version (KJV)

31 Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a **new heart and a new spirit**: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

32 For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

Spiritual Warfare: God's law is Spiritual, The flesh is Carnal and contrary to God's law.

Romans 7

King James Version (KJV)

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

5 For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.

(This is not saying it is okay to kill, steal, and commit adultery. It is saying, through the blood of Jesus we are delivered from the penalty of breaking God's law, which is death.)

6 But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

(God's law is not sin, breaking God's law is sin)

7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.

17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

We must be spiritually minded (subject to God's law) to battle our flesh. Obeying God's laws will grant us peace and eternal life.

Romans 8

King James Version (KJV)

(You will not see eternal death if you walk after the Spirit)

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

(You will pursue whatever your mind is focused on. We should always stay focus on God's law to prevent succumbing to the

flesh)

5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

(All the so called Christians that believe they do not have to keep the law, are carnal minded)

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

(It is only through focusing on and doing the law's of God will we overcome our carnal desires)

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

The lust is contrary to the spirit. If we operate in the flesh, then we are not keeping the law of God and thus will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:16-26

King James Version (KJV)

16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the

lust of the flesh.

(We must be mindful that our lusts will prevent us from keeping God's laws)

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

(If we keep the law, then we are not under the penalty for breaking the law)

18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

(The works of the flesh is anything that is against God's laws aka sin)

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

(There is no law against doing the right thing. If you stop at the red light, you will not get convicted for breaking it)

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

We cannot blame God for our mistakes. We are our own worse enemies. Satan tempts us with our lusts, but he does not force us to do anything. If we were saved, we would not have to worry about temptation and this fight against the flesh.

James 1:13-15

King James Version (KJV)

13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

We have to realize that we are always in a spiritual battle in order to strive to do God's will at all times. The O.T. is not done away with. It is our foundation and the stories are for our example so we do not do it.

1 Corinthians 10:5-13

King James Version (KJV)

- **5** But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.
- 6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

(Churches do not speak of idolatry today because they condone idolatry. There are no restrictions when serving false gods, hence so many people follow after the "other Jesus". People claim to be free, and those that keep the law are in "bondage". Yes, they are free, just as free as these Israelites were who felt that they could do whatever they wanted to do, until they were killed by God)

7 **Neither be ye idolaters**, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

(We still have the restrictions of the old testament)

- 8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.
- 9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.
- 10 **Neither murmur ye**, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

(No one is saved at the moment, therefore people reject the instructions of God, are blind to spiritual warfare and worship the Lord in vain)

11 Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

(We can fall at anytime! No one is saved now)

12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

(Temptation is common, we all have our cross to bear. God is not tempting us, but he wants us to have faith in him, to overcome the temptation. Therefore, he tells us what to expect and how to overcome it because he is fair. He guides us away from the temptation so we do not fall victim to it, but we have to be cognizant that we can be tempted at anytime)

13 There hath no temptation t.aken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Jesus had the fight of his life against the flesh. No one is saved now! We must engage in warfare and keep faith in God, the Father to see us through.

Matthew 26:38-41

King James Version (KJV)

38 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

(Jesus' flesh was weak, and he wanted an escape to do what he knew he had to do, however he focused on doing God's will and so should we. We know that this spiritual warfare is serious because Jesus struggled without ever sinning. But we are born into sin, so trying to deny the old man will be very difficult, thus we must stay vigilant)

39 And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed,

saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

(Jesus got abandoned during the worse time of his life.. We can expect the same thing)

40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

(This warning is for people who know God, hence the "spirit is willing". We have to monitor ourselves at all times and not think we are saved because that is when we will lose the battle against the flesh. God will help us overcome the temptation thus we must pray to him.)

41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Following Jesus signs us up for the GREATEST and most challenging battle of our lives but it is for the GREATEST REWARD.

Luke 22:24-32

King James Version (KJV)

(Jesus disciples were around him for 3.5 years and still had the wrong mindset which shows us that we can be around the Word and still have issues. Jesus was about to die, and the disciples were caught up in their pride. We must always be cognizant of Spiritual Warfare)

24 And there was also a strife among them, which of them should

be accounted the greatest.

25 And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.

(Jesus corrects their carnal desires through teaching them about servant leadership and humility)

26 But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.

(In the worldly realm, the one that is getting served is greater than the servant but on a Godly realm, the one that serves is greater)

27 For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

(Jesus has temptation but did not sin. Therefore we can expect to have temptations. Just because we serve God today, does not mean we will not fall tomorrow. Judas was one of Jesus' disciples but he did not overcome his temptation and betrayed Jesus. Thus, no one is "saved")

28 Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations.

29 And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me;

30 That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

(If we were saved and did not have to worry about anything, then Jesus would not have warned Peter of this:)

31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:

(If we were saved now, our faith would not be able to fail, but no one is saved now. We are in a spiritual battle and must overcome our desires and help our brethren)

32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Example of Spiritual Warfare: King Saul, the first King of Israel was anointed King and God gave him a new heart (way of thinking) by allowing his mindset to be changed.

1 Samuel 10:1

King James Version (KJV)

1 Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?

9 And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.

10 And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

(King Saul was able to do things that he was not able to do before just by changing his mindset. God ultimately has the power to change our mind set.)

11 And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What is this that is come unto

the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?

24 And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the Lord hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king.

Even after we get called into the TRUTH, it does not mean we are "saved". We still have to do what God tells us to do: King Saul was anointed and it was a joyous time for Israel, but he disobeyed God early and often, and as a result God rejected Saul as King and gave him over to a reprobate mind which led to his death. The only way to overcome our carnal mind that is contrary against God is to obey the Word of God.

1 Samuel 15:16-23

King James Version (KJV)

16 Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the Lord hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

(Saul did not even think much of himself but the Lord had to give him a new heart to make himself capable of handling the position of king)

17 And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee king over Israel?

18 And the Lord sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

19 Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the Lord, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the Lord?

(Saul lies about obeying God)

20 And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and have gone the way which the Lord sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

(Saul makes excuses for his greed)

21 But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God in Gilgal.

22 And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

The Lord replaced Saul after anointing him and giving him a new heart. We must understand that we can easily be replaced if we disobey God. Once saved, always saved, is a lie. To be saved from our flesh, the Devil, and destruction, we must walk in the Spirit/deny the flesh, aka obey God.

1 Samuel 16:1

King James Version (KJV)

1 And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

(Just because you have the Spirit of God one day, it does not mean you will always have it)

14 But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him.

(God is the one that controls good and evil)

15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee.

(Music has always played a part in soothing out minds)

16 Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well.

17 And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me.

18 Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the Lord is with him.

There is a condition to being saved. We will only get salvation if we keep in memory the Word of God. But if we do not always keep the Word in memory, our belief (for how ever long) will be in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:1-2

King James Version (KJV)

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand:

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

Paul knew that he was not saved! Our Strive for Salvation is supposed to be a FIGHT! People put all kinds of time and energy into education, jobs, sports, and other worldly achievements yet many Christians believe that they will become GOD and receive eternal life as rulers in God's kingdom without doing anything!? The reward of becoming God is greater than anything one can accomplish in this life, therefore we should realize that the fight for this eternal reward will be the most difficult challenge of our life. There are many that jeopardize God's eternal rewards for temporary rewards in this life, which goes to show that we are truly in a spiritual warfare.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

King James Version (KJV)

We must run for God!

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

(People make sacrifices for rewards in this world that will fade away, yet many so called Chrisitans think they do not have to do anything to receive a reward from God that will last forever?)

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

(Paul knew that he was in a fight for his life. He does not fight against the air so he knows what he is up against. We need to realize that we need to keep God's laws.)

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Jesus was radical! He knows about excuses and therefore, has taught us that we cannot put anything before him because we are in the Fight of our Lives. The reason Jesus said these things because he knows that we will have a tendency to look back and put things before doing his will because the flesh is weak. This fight also includes preaching the gospel and serving

others as seen above by Paul and Jesus.

Luke 9:59-62

King James Version (KJV)

59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

(A lot of things that we worry about, that will hinder us from serving the Lord, will take care of itself anyway. Therefore, we must get our priorities in order when it comes to serving God)

60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.

61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Paul makes it clear that he is not saved in the present. Therefore, he made sure to strive forward for salvation and not worrying about the things behind us.

Philippians 3:12-21

King James Version (KJV)

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

16 Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

(No one is saved in the present, as people have known the truth and have turned back. Satan is trying to get us to go against God at all costs. When we disobey God, we become his enemy, and to be his friend we must obey him)

18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

(When you mind things of the flesh, you serve yourself)

19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

(We must have our mindset focused on God's will and agenda)

20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

(The reward for overcoming the flesh)

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working

whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

When we tell people that we strive to keep the laws of God, they call us radical but Jesus was a true extremist.

Luke 14:25-35

King James Version (KJV)

25 And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them,

(Honor your mother and Father but do not choose them over the Lord when it comes to serving God. We are not to literally hate our family and friends but we are to hate and reject their ways that may get us to go contrary to God)

26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his OWN LIFE also, he CANNOT be my disciple.

(Following the Lord is supposed to be a battle! But we can overcome it!)

27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

(We have to know what we are up against before we decide to serve God. It is better to find these things our before hand, as opposed to finding out after the fact)

28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to

finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,

30 Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.

(Consider the cost)

31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?

32 Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.

(We have to be willing to make the sacrifice to serve God)

33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

34 Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned?

35 It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

If we know and follow truth, then turn back to our old man, without repentance, there is no way we can get eternal life. Therefore, "once saved, always saved" is a lie, and we must stay vigilant of the life long battle that we are in.

Hebrews 6:1-9

King James Version (KJV)

1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us

- go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,
- 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.
- 3 And this will we do, if God permit.
- 4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,
- 5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,
- 6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.
- 7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:
- 8 But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.
- 9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.

Knowing that we have to fight the good fight defeats the belief that we do not need works for salvation because you cannot fight the fight unless we take action. The Lord will not just give us eternal life. We have to play our part that we may be granted eternal life.

1 Timothy 6:12

King James Version (KJV)

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Paul knew he had to fight the good fight!

2 Timothy 4:6-8

King James Version (KJV)

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

(In this battle for our life, it is possible for us to lose our faith, hence Jesus prayed that Peter's faith did not fail)

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

(Paul knew that when you died, you do not go to heaven but that our reward will be everlasting life in Jesus' soon coming kingdom)

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Following Jesus is the fight of our lives and is a fight

against our own flesh. We are all going to have to bear our own burdens.

Matthew 16:24-27

King James Version (KJV)

24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

(We have to lose our lives (spiritually) by denying our flesh, changing our carnal desires, and walking with God)

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

(There is nothing worth trading for eternal salvation, not ever possession and rulership over the whole world)

26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

(Contrary to popular belief we have to work to receive eternal salvation)

27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.