

Jehovah can rightfully claim ownership of all humans. Thus, he requires our exclusive devotion. Some individuals, though, pursue a course of disobedience while pretending to be faithful to God. In the first article, we will draw vital lessons from the Bible accounts of Cain, Solomon, Moses, and Aaron. In the second article, we will consider various ways that we can show appreciation for the privilege of belonging to Jehovah as his people.

(Psalm 33:12) Happy is the nation whose God is Jehovah, The people he has chosen as his own possession.

Paragraph 1

(Deuteronomy 10:14) Look, to Jehovah your God belong the heavens, even the heavens of the heavens, and the earth with all that is in it.

(Revelation 4:11) “You are worthy, Jehovah our God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, because you created all things, and because of your will they came into existence and were created.”

(Psalm 100:3) Know that Jehovah is God. He is the one who made us, and we belong to him. We are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Paragraph 2

(Psalm 135:1-21) Praise Jah! Praise the name of Jehovah; Offer praise, you servants of Jehovah, 2 You who are standing in the house of Jehovah, In the courtyards of the house of our God. 3 Praise Jah, for Jehovah is good. Sing praises to his name, for it is pleasant. 4 For Jah has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel for his special property. 5 For I well know that Jehovah is great; Our Lord is greater than all other gods. 6 Jehovah does everything he pleases to do In heaven and on earth, in the seas and all the depths. 7 He causes clouds to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightning for the

rain; He brings the wind out of his storehouses. 8 He struck down the firstborn of Egypt, Both man and beast. 9 He sent signs and miracles among you, O Egypt, Against Phar'aoh and all his servants. 10 He struck down many nations And killed mighty kings 11 —Si'hon the king of the Am'or-ites, Og the king of Ba'shan, And all the kingdoms of Ca'naan. 12 He gave their land as an inheritance, An inheritance to Israel his people. 13 O Jehovah, your name endures forever. O Jehovah, your fame endures for all generations. 14 For Jehovah will defend his people, And he will feel compassion for his servants. 15 The idols of the nations are silver and gold, The work of human hands. 16 A mouth they have, but they cannot speak; Eyes, but they cannot see; 17 Ears they have, but they cannot hear. There is no breath in their mouth. 18 The people who make them will become just like them, As will all those who trust in them. 19 O house of Israel, praise Jehovah. O house of Aaron, praise Jehovah. 20 O house of Le'vi, praise Jehovah. You who fear Jehovah, praise Jehovah. 21 May Jehovah be praised from Zion, The One residing in Jerusalem. Praise Jah!

(Psalm 135:4) For Jah has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel for his special property.

(Hosea 2:23) I will sow her like seed for myself in the earth, And I will show mercy to her who was not shown mercy; I will say to those not my people: “You are my people,” And they will say: “You are my God.””

(Acts 10:45) And the circumcised believers who had come with Peter were amazed, because the free gift of the holy spirit was being poured out also on people of the nations.

(Romans 9:23-26) And if this was done to make known the riches of his glory on vessels of mercy, which he prepared beforehand for glory, 24 namely, us, whom he called not only from among Jews but also from among nations, what of it? 25 It is as he says also in Ho-se'a: “Those not my people I will call ‘my people,’ and her

who was not loved, ‘beloved’; 26 and in the place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’”

(1 Peter 2:9, 10) But you are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for special possession, that you should declare abroad the excellencies” of the One who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 For you were once not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not been shown mercy, but now you have received mercy.

(Isaiah 65:22) They will not build for someone else to inhabit, Nor will they plant for others to eat. For the days of my people will be like the days of a tree, And the work of their hands my chosen ones will enjoy to the full.

Paragraph 3

(Luke 12:32) “Have no fear, little flock, for your Father has approved of giving you the Kingdom.

(John 10:16) “And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; those too I must bring in, and they will listen to my voice, and they will become one flock, one shepherd.

Paragraph 4

(Hebrews 12:9) Furthermore, our human fathers used to discipline us, and we gave them respect. Should we not more readily submit ourselves to the Father of our spiritual life and live?

(Psalm 40:7, 8) Then I said: “Look, I have come. In the scroll it is written about me. 8 To do your will, O my God, is my delight, And your law is deep within me.

Paragraph 5

(Matthew 3:16, 17) After being baptized, Jesus immediately came up from the water; and look! the heavens were opened up, and he saw God’s spirit descending like a dove and coming upon

him. 17 Look! Also, a voice from the heavens said: “This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved.”

(Psalm 149:4) For Jehovah takes pleasure in his people. He adorns the meek with salvation.

Paragraph 6

(Exodus 34:14) You must not bow down to another god, for Jehovah is known for requiring exclusive devotion. Yes, he is a God who requires exclusive devotion.

Paragraph 7

(Malachi 3:16) At that time those who fear Jehovah spoke with one another, each one with his companion, and Jehovah kept paying attention and listening. And a book of remembrance was written before him for those fearing Jehovah and for those meditating on his name.

(Proverbs 23:15) My son, if your heart becomes wise, Then my own heart will rejoice.

Paragraph 8

(Exodus 32:33) However, Jehovah said to Moses: “Whoever has sinned against me, I will wipe him out of my book.

(Psalm 69:28) Let them be erased from the book of the living, And may they not be enrolled among the righteous.

Paragraph 9

(1 Peter 4:1, 2) Since Christ suffered in the flesh, you too arm yourselves with the same mental disposition; because the person who has suffered in the flesh has desisted from sins, 2 so that he may live the remainder of his time in the flesh, no more for the desires of men, but for God’s will.

Paragraph 10

(Romans 12:9) Let your love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is wicked; cling to what is good.

(Malachi 3:18) And you will again see the distinction between a righteous person and a wicked person, between one serving God and one not serving him.”

Paragraph 11

(1 Timothy 4:15) Ponder over these things; be absorbed in them, so that your advancement may be plainly seen by all people.

(Matthew 5:16) Likewise, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your fine works and give glory to your Father who is in the heavens.

(Psalm 119:46) I will speak about your reminders in front of kings, And I will not be ashamed.

(Mark 8:38) For whoever becomes ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of man will also be ashamed of him when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Paragraph 12

(1 Corinthians 2:12) Now we received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit that is from God, so that we might know the things that have been kindly given us by God.

(Ephesians 2:3) Yes, among them we all at one time conducted ourselves in harmony with the desires of our flesh, carrying out the will of the flesh and of our thoughts, and we were naturally children of wrath just as the rest.

(1 Timothy 2:9, 10) Likewise, the women should adorn themselves in appropriate dress, with modesty and soundness of mind, not with styles

of hair braiding and gold or pearls or very expensive clothing, 10 but in the way that is proper for women professing devotion to God, namely, through good works.

(James 4:4) Adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever, therefore, wants to be a friend of the world is making himself an enemy of God.

Paragraph 13

(1 Peter 2:11, 12) Beloved, I urge you as foreigners and temporary residents to keep abstaining from fleshly desires, which wage war against you. 12 Maintain your conduct fine among the nations, so that when they accuse you of being wrongdoers, they may be eyewitnesses of your fine works and, as a result, glorify God in the day of his inspection.

Paragraph 14

(1 John 2:16) because everything in the world—the desire of the flesh and the desire of the eyes and the showy display of one’s means of life—does not originate with the Father, but originates with the world.

(Titus 2:12) It trains us to reject ungodliness and worldly desires and to live with soundness of mind and righteousness and godly devotion amid this present system of things,

(1 Corinthians 10:31, 32) Therefore, whether you are eating or drinking or doing anything else, do all things for God’s glory. 32 Keep from becoming causes for stumbling to Jews as well as Greeks and to the congregation of God,

Paragraph 15

(1 Thessalonians 5:15) See that no one repays injury for injury to anyone, but always pursue what is good toward one another and to all others.

(John 13:35) By this all will know that you are my disciples—if you have love among yourselves.”

Paragraph 16

(Numbers 1:50, 51) You should appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the Testimony and over all its utensils and over everything that belongs to it. They will carry the tabernacle and all its utensils, and they will minister at it, and they are to camp around the tabernacle. 51 Whenever the tabernacle is to be moved, the Levites should take it down; and when the tabernacle is to be reassembled, the Levites should set it up; and any unauthorized person who comes near should be put to death.

(Zechariah 2:8) For this is what Jehovah of armies says, who after being glorified has sent me to the nations that were plundering you: ‘Whoever touches you touches the pupil of my eye.

Paragraph 17

(Malachi 3:16) At that time those who fear Jehovah spoke with one another, each one with his companion, and Jehovah kept paying attention and listening. And a book of remembrance was written before him for those fearing Jehovah and for those meditating on his name.

(2 Timothy 2:19) Despite that, the solid foundation of God remains standing, having this seal, “Jehovah knows those who belong to him,” and, “Let everyone calling on the name of Jehovah renounce unrighteousness.”

(Hebrews 4:13) And there is not a creation that is hidden from his sight, but all things are naked and openly exposed to the eyes of the one to whom we must give an account.

(Hebrews 13:16) Moreover, do not forget to do good and to share what you have with others, for God is well-pleased with such sacrifices.

(1 Peter 4:8, 9) Above all things, have intense love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.

Paragraph 18

(Philippians 2:15) so that you may come to be blameless and innocent, children of God without a blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you are shining as illuminators in the world,

(James 4:7) Therefore, subject yourselves to God; but oppose the Devil, and he will flee from you.

(Romans 12:10) In brotherly love have tender affection for one another. In showing honor to one another, take the lead.

Paragraph 19

(Psalm 94:14) For Jehovah will not forsake his people, Nor will he abandon his inheritance.

(Romans 8:38, 39) For I am convinced that neither death nor life nor angels nor governments nor things now here nor things to come nor powers 39 nor height nor depth nor any other creation will be able to separate us from God’s love that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 14:8) For if we live, we live to Jehovah, and if we die, we die to Jehovah. So both if we live and if we die, we belong to Jehovah.

(Matthew 22:32) ‘I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob’? He is the God, not of the dead, but of the living.”

(Psalm 33:12) Happy is the nation whose God is Jehovah, The people he has chosen as his own possession.