

*"And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His Commandments: for this is **The Whole Duty Of Man**. For God shall bring every work into Judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." **Ecclesiastes 12:12-14 KJV***



Do you ever just get tired of trying to be a Christian? To be faithful? Good News! *"It is God that worketh in you, BOTH TO WILL AND TO DO of His good pleasure. Being confident of this very thing that He which hath begun a good work in you WILL PERFORM IT until the Day of Jesus Christ."* You don't have to work at being a child of God; if you are a believer by Grace through faith, you ARE a child of God. People don't have to worry or work at being who they are. Tom is Tom and Mary is Mary. They just are. They were born and they are. They don't have to get up every morning and make a conscious effort to be Tom or Mary; they are who they are by birth. In spite of all the evil gender propaganda, humans don't have to fret about slipping into cat-hood or horse-dom. It's not going to happen! Apples aren't oranges just because they want to be! The same is true for every true believer. They are birthed into Christ's family through faith, *"and that not of yourselves; it is the GIFT of God. IF any man be in Christ, he IS a new creature."* It is not your conscious effort or power that makes or keeps you a child of God. God's Word is *"the Power of Salvation unto every one that believeth."* Do you believe? The desire to obey God's Word is the evidence of faith! You can be obedient or disobedient, but you are still a child, IF you have believed God's Word by faith. By the same token, God will *"scourge EVERY son whom He calleth. BUT if ye be without chastisement, whereof ALL are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons."* Many of our afflictions are God given to bring us back to obedience; to mold us into the Image of Jesus Christ. *"For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the Image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brethren."* If God spared not His own Body, but submitted it to the torturers, why would you expect a bed of ease? Know this: *"Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of Glory."* Paul, the Apostle, never admonished us to march, but rather *"to stand; to run with patience; [and] to endure hardness as a good soldier."* We are not to entangle ourselves with the affairs of this world. We keep ourselves unspotted from the world through daily, nay hourly, choices. We cleanse our souls with the washing of the Water of the Word. Do you bathe daily? For the same reasons, we should "bathe" our minds daily in the "Fountain" of Living Water. Keeping God's Word in your heart & mind is spiritual bathing. It washes evil away. *"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to Thy Word. Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee."* Some of us need a long hot shower!

We fear our God, His Word obey,  
It matters not what others say,  
The child of God is here to stay,  
We've naught to fear on Judgment Day. –CGP

You don't have to try to be a child of God. If you truly believe through faith in God's Word, you ARE a child of God. It's up to you whether or not to be a good child. *"And hereby we do know that we know Him, IF we keep (obey) His Commandments."* Jesus said:

*"A New Commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have Loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are My Disciples, if ye have Love one to another. – If ye love me, keep My Commandments." John 13:34-35; 14:15 KJV*