

“Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God (Gr. Theos-supreme divinity) commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.” 1 Peter 4:19 KJV



Keep: Hold, restrain, preserve, guard, protect, perform. (Webster’s 1828) The best castles were built on inaccessible rocky crags or precipices. The Castle Keep was a well-guarded tower that often housed the Queen, the king’s treasure, and valuable parchments in times of siege. Its top accessible by only one narrow staircase built into the wall with strategically placed arrow slits along its rise for crossbowmen. Its roof’s ramparts had more arrow slits for bowmen. It could be well-defended with only a handful of men, so was usually destroyed with fire by anyone overtaking the castle. To KEEP your soul from eternal Hell Fire, you cannot KEEP it yourself, but must *“commit the KEEPING of [your] soul to [God] by well doing (through obedience to God’s Word).”* The Psalmist wrote, *“The LORD is my Rock, and my Fortress, and my Deliverer; my God, my Strength, in whom I will trust; my Buckler, and the Horn of my Salvation, and my High Tower.”* Solomon wrote, *“The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.”* God has many names, each reflecting one of His infinite attributes. We know Him as the Father, Jehovah, Emanuel, The Son of God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Word, the Truth, the Life, the Light, the Door, the Good Shepherd, The Bread of life, and it would require pages to list all given in the Holy Scriptures. The particular name dealt with in our passage is, God. God is His Word! It will KEEP you from sin through faithful obedience. The very act of faithful obedience to God’s Word commits the KEEPING of your soul to God by virtue of your trust in His Word. You believe therefore you do! Beliefs dictate actions, which is why God’s Word says, *“By their fruits ye shall know them. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. As he thinketh in his heart, so is he.”* You cannot help but obey your thoughts. To control your deeds and protect your soul you must KEEP God’s Word constantly in thought. *“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to Thy Word. Thy Word have I hid in mine heart (mind/thoughts), that I might not sin against Thee. Christ also Loved the Church, and gave Himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water BY THE WORD.”* Jesus said in the Upper Room, *“Now ye are clean THROUGH THE WORD which I have spoken unto you.”* He also prayed the night of His betrayal, *“Father, I pray...that Thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through Thy Truth: Thy Word is Truth.”* I run into God’s Tower through trusting obedience to His Word. I cannot believe what I do not know and I will not trust what I do not believe. *“Faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen.”* You cannot “see” God’s Voice, but you can hear His Truth in your mind if you will learn it in stillness. *“Be still and know that I Am God!”* That assurance in your soul will knit your deeds to God’s Word and KEEP your soul forever!

Keeping what I cannot hold,
God’s Word will keep the faithful bold,
They’ll have no care for earthly ties,
For their hope lies beyond the skies! -CGP

How much is spent world-wide to guard or mend the health of the body, to only end in death? How can you KEEP your soul if you cannot even defeat death? God's Word is the Castle Keep of your Life!

“For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the Gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when He cometh in the glory of his Father with the Holy Angels.” Mark 8:35-38 KJV

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