

# Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## A Check List For The Godly

(Jerry Fite)

**T**he godly are those who have reverential piety toward God. They are not merely “God-like” in their actions, but they reverence Him and His word in their hearts. Such inward reverence will manifest itself in living holy lives as God is holy. (*1 Peter 1:14-16*). Godliness is a goal that is reached through spiritual exercise (*1 Timothy 4:7*). From time to time it is good for us to make sure our spiritual exercise is producing true godliness.

The inspired Psalmist writes, “*Teach me, O Jehovah the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it to the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight*” (*Psalms 119:33-35*).

The Godly seek to understand God’s law. Our prayer is for Jehovah to not only teach us, but give us understanding. How does God answer this prayer? Paul exhorts Timothy to “*consider what I say; for the Lord shall*

*give thee understanding in all things*” (*2 Timothy 2:7*). Paul is revealing God’s mind through his letter to Timothy. Timothy needs to consider or give thought to what he reads from Paul. Understanding will follow.

We encourage one another to participate in the Daily Bible Reading Program. We can read it through in a year! But the purpose of having God’s Word in our mind is to roll it over and think about it day and night (*Psalms 1:2*). We should read it with the purpose of understanding it. If we do not understand something from our daily reading, we should think about it till we understand what God is teaching us in His Word.

God’s word can be understood (*Ephesians 3:4, Acts 8:30-35*). The godly choose to not just read God’s Word daily, but daily meditate upon what they read till they come to a true understanding.

The godly keep God’s law with their whole heart. The heart can be divided by understanding God’s prescribed way, while being drawn to an easier, less de-

manding, more popular, and fleshly enticing way. Since God is the One God, we must love Him with our whole heart, soul, strength and mind (*Luke 10:27*). True understanding will move us to depart from the evil way (*Job 28:28*). The undivided heart will help us succeed.

The godly truly delight in walking in the path of God’s commandments. The effectual lights in this dark world of sin do not murmur or complain about the restrictive path prescribed by the Lord (*Philippians 2:14-15*). They rejoice knowing the narrow and restricted way is the way of eternal life with the Lord (*Matthew 7:14*).

You may be reading your Bible daily, but not understanding what you read. You may serve God from the heart, but not with the whole heart. You may follow the way of Christ, but are miserable. The Godly understand what they read; follow God’s way to the end with their whole heart; and delight in following God’s instructions along God’s pathway!