

## Benefits of Being a Christian

**Built up Col 2:6-7** As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude. **1Thes 5:11** Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

**Fruit of the Spirit Gal 5:22-23** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. **1Thes 1:6** You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit, **Rom 14:16-17** Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil; for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

**Wisdom Col 1:9-12** For this reason also, since the day we heard of it we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. **Col 3:16** Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **James 1:5** But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. **James 3:17-18** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

**Strength 1 Pet 4:11** Whoever speaks, let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God; whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. **Heb 2:18** For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted. **1 Cor 10:13** No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.

**Truth Col 1:5-6** because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel, which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as it has been doing in you also since the day you heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth; **1 Pet 1:22** Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

## **Benefits claimed by some but which were not promised by God**

**Financial security** **1 Tim 6:9** But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. **1 Tim 6:17** Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. **James 1:9-10** But let the brother of humble circumstances glory in his high position; and let the rich man glory in his humiliation, because like flowering grass he will pass away. **1 Tim 6:4-5** he is conceited and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain.

**A lack of difficulty** **1 Pet 3:14-16** But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled, but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. **1 Pet 2:20** For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God. **Heb 12:5-8** and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor faint when you are reprov'd by Him; For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives." It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

**All bad things in this life happen because of the victim's sin** **Col 3:25** For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality. **2 Cor 10:6** and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete. **2 Pet 2:9** then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment, **Matt 25:46** "And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."