

<sup>17</sup> And if you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your sojourning. <sup>18</sup> For you know that you were not redeemed from your vain way of life inherited from your fathers with perishable things, like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

<sup>20</sup> He was foreordained before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for you. <sup>21</sup> Through Him you believe in God who raised Him up from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope might be in God.

<sup>22</sup> Since your souls have been purified by obedience to the truth through the Spirit unto a genuine brotherly love, love one another deeply with a pure heart, <sup>23</sup> for you have been born again, not from perishable seed, but imperishable, through the word of God which lives and abides forever.