



## PRELUDE

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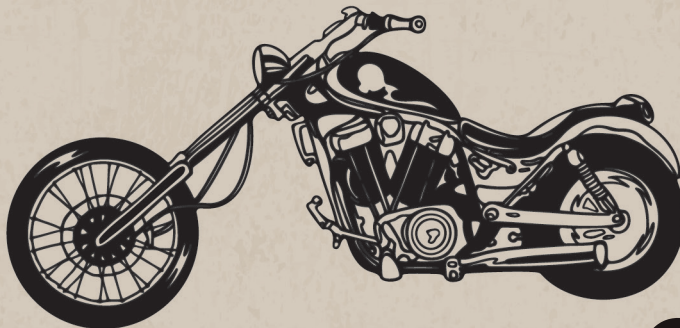
Published by União Sul Brasileira  
Rua João Carlos de Souza Castro, 562  
CEP 81.520-290, Guabirota, Curitiba, Paraná





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## Route 66

- Who likes motorcycles, likes to travel. The sensation of freedom that feels to accelerate on a road with a beautiful landscape in the background is almost indescribable. In Brazil, we have several fascinating routes such as the Estrada Rio-Santos, with beach landscapes and Serra do Mar, the Via Serrana in Rio Grande do Sul, with the beauties and charm of the Serra Gaúcha, the Green Line in Bahia, the Serra do Rio do Rastro in Santa Catarina and the Estrada Real (Minas-Rio), among others.
- But the biggest dream of 9 out of 10 motorcyclists is one day trek the most iconic of all the roads in the world: the U.S. Route 66 in the United States. With 2,387 miles crossing America from Chicago to Los Angeles in California, it is marked by beautiful landscapes such as the urban Willys' Tower in Chicago, the Grand Canyon, the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco and the Santa Monica Boulevard just off the highway, on the beaches of the Pacific. Traveling the road was already the yearning for youngsters in the 1960s, which were hoping to get out of the icy east-central US to California's sunny beaches. The trip was typically by motorcycle, preferably in a Harley-Davidson.



- Whatever route you plan to take, it is important to prepare yourself properly. For this, here are some tips:
- Do a check up a few days ahead, not the day before travelling. No matter how good mechanics may be, take time to test your motorcycle before your trip. Surprises on such a trip are usually not pleasant.
- Carry a safety kit. Finding mechanics for cars along the road is relatively easy, but with bikes is different, it is difficult to find someone who understands the mechanics of motorcycles, especially imported ones. So have in hand basic tools and spare parts; like, brakes, throttle and clutch cables, fuses, light bulbs, spare chambers, spark plugs and used current. Also have a small set of screws, washers and nuts.
- Take care of the tires. Much of your safety passes through them. Bald tires or misaligned ones, NO WAY! At each stop check the calibration.
- Wear a helmet. Helmet is very important equipment for your safety. Choose light colors, and use reflectors.
- Carry a map. The GPS system is useful, but if it rains hard to use it. In Brazil, roads also run the risk of being interdicted by landslides, floods or falls. Therefore, a physical map is fundamental in any trip you want to make.

Of course these are just a few tips for a safe and quiet journey. In our lives we also have a travel map, a travel lamp for the darkness, a safety kit, and a user manual. These items can be found in a single object: the Bible.

### 1. How does the Bible present itself to us? **Psalms 119:105; Jeremiah 23:29; Psalms 19:9-11**

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*Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.*

*Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?*

*The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the*



*LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.*

## **2. How were the Scriptures given (another name for the Bible) 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21**

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*Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great: He appeared in the flesh, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.*

*For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

## **3. What is the Bible for? 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

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*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

The Bible is originally a set of 66 books written by more than 40 authors. It was written over a period of more than 1,600 years, from 1,500 BC to 100 AD. It is as if a book began to be written in AD 400 and only ended now. Incredibly, these books are extremely harmonious. One author never opposes what the other wrote. This is because it was God, the Holy Spirit, who guided and inspired each of his writers.

The Bible contains safe instructions on how to live a better life. A book with more than 1,900 years and that has already transformed the lives of millions of people during all this time can be your travel map. God instructed the people who wrote the Bible so we could have access to information that we would not get otherwise. Although there are good



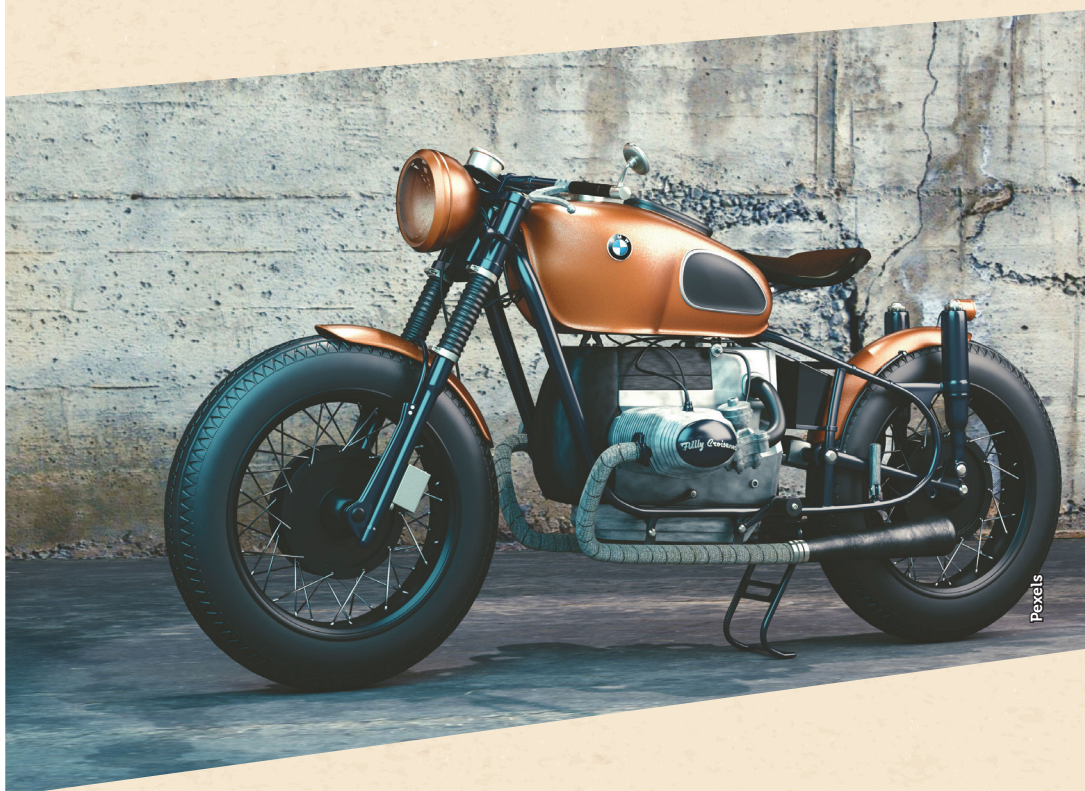


books today, none of them compare to the greatest of all: the Holy Bible. It worth to spend time each day to seek for guidance in this map.

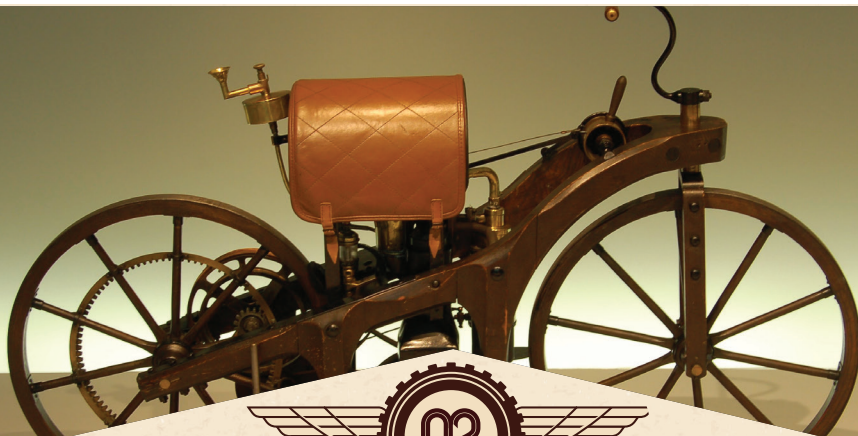


***Recommended Reading:***

Psalms 105 and Psalms 19







## ***The Inventor***

To ride a motorcycle is an experiencing pleasure. The wind in the face, the feeling of freedom, the desire to go further, the surrounding landscape, all make it a unique experience. How did it all begin? Who created the motorcycle that is much more than a simple means of transport? How did the motorcycle get to us?

The first motorcycles in history were invented at the same time, coincidentally, in France by Louis Perreaux and the American Sylvester Roper in his country in the year 1869. In fact, it was a bike in which an engine was adapted, for you to have an idea it was ran by steam. At the time, steam engines, which used coal as fuel, were already common on trains and ships. In 1896, Roper perfected his invention to race with a few cyclists. Although, he left everyone behind, Roper had a heart attack while giving a second lap on the track to beat his own record.

The first motorcycle, with an internal combustion engine, was invented by the German Gottlieb Wilhelm Daimler, the same from the Daimler-Benz factory, then Mercedes-Benz. Together with Wilhelm Maybach they built the motorcycle up. It had wooden wheels and a motor of 0.5 horses that

developed a speed of 12-miles/ h. Hildebrand and Wolfmüller built the first factory in 1894, which manufactured the first motorcycle in series.

Thanks to these men, we now have the pleasure of driving our motorcycle and enjoying the freedom and pleasure they provide us. Today, modern motorcycles have more than 20 subsystems such as frame, fairing, wheels, suspension, steering, power system, engine and transmission. Specialized engineers are responsible for designing these systems, all interconnected and necessary for the comfort and safety of the vehicle. Like motorcycles, we also have several systems and sub-systems in operation in our body, and like them, we also have an Engineer who designed us. This Creator has left us a manual (it is also a GPS-map) that we have already learned. It is called the Bible. Let's see what it says about our maker.

## 1. Who created the human being? **Genesis 1:26, 27; Luke 3:38**

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*Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

*The son of Enoch, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.*

## 2. How can we know about our Creator? **Psalms 19:1; John 5:39**

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*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.*

*You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them You have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me.*



### 3. What does our Creator want from us and for us? **Ezekiel 18:32; Jeremiah 31:3**

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*For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!*

*The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness."*

Just as a complex vehicle like a motorcycle needs an engineer, our much more complex organism is the signature of an intelligent Creator. Clearly a superior Engineer designed the human being. This Creator is called in the Bible of Elohim, which means God, a God above us, He is also called Yehova, or Jehovah, translated into our modern Bibles as "Lord," and which also means "The Eternal." Other names of God include El Shaddai - meaning "God Almighty," or "God the Rock" (Genesis 17: 1), El Elyon - "God Most High" (Genesis 14: 18-20) El Olam - "Eternal God" (Isaiah 40:28) and El Roi - "the God who sees me" (Genesis 16:13). Each name of our God gives us the assurance of guidance all the time in the journey of our lives.

Through His guide, the Holy Bible, we can know this God. The nature created by Him also reveals His great love for us. It is with this love that God cares for us and gives us everything we need. His greatest desire as a loving Father is that we should not be afraid to approach and ask for what we need. Standing before this greatest love, the love of such a powerful being, what must be our reaction? He expects us to give our life to him. We need not fear, just with air. We do not need to fear, just trust.



#### ***Recommended Reading:***

Psalms 23, Isaiah 53





Pexels



## ***Freedom***

Motorcycle riding provides a sense of freedom that no other means of transportation can offer. Many of us have a motorcycle as a lifestyle just because of the emotional feeling of riding it and feeling free. The wind in the hair, the sun on your face, the fresh rain that gently soaks, the cold or the heat weather, the strong and clear sounds, all this provokes pleasant and gratifying feelings. Nothing compares to riding a motorcycle from the middle of the urban chaos to an open road, surrounded by mountains, woods, rivers or the beach. However, even the maze of a big city can give you the same feeling. Exceeding other vehicles (always safely) is a unique feeling brought about by unique transport. Finally, riding is synonymous with freedom.

Man has always sought this feeling; moreover, more than a feeling, freedom is a universal human value. Many people lost their lives in search for freedom. Settlers fought for freedom against the metropolis in the past, slaves were searching for freedom with all their might. Today, human groups fight for their rights, the most important of which is freedom. A human being without freedom is less than a complete being. So that we could enjoy freedom, many lost their lives before us. On the Spiritual plan, there is a war



for our freedom, and a Liberator. On the other hand, there is also an Enemy who desires to enslave us.

## 1. Who is the great Enemy of our freedom? 1 Peter 5:8 and Revelation 12:12

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*Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."*

*Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.*

## 2. Who is the hero who fought for our freedom? John 10:10-14 and Luke 4:18

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*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*

*The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.*

*The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,*



### 3. How did Christ pay the price of our freedom? **Isaiah 53:5;** **Hebrews 2:14 and John 3:16**

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*But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

*Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil*

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

### 4. How can we get this freedom today? **John 20:31 and Acts 16:31**

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*But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*

*They replied, Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.*

Freedom is an expensive value for motorcyclists and one of the main reasons for riding a motorcycle. But it is still very small compared to the freedom that God, through Christ, has to offer. The Bible calls the evil of sin. It is from this evil (sin) and from its master, the Devil, that God wants to set us free. Evil enslaves us and makes us sad, depressed, anxious and frightened. No one can be totally free and happy being under the dominion of evil. Christ is the hero who overcame evil and defeated his emperor, Satan.

In order for us to have the chance of a full and happy life, so that we might know him better, God has sent us his son

Jesus. He lived a life far from evil to serve as an example, but more than this, with his death, he paid the price of our sin, and today we can change our life from the domain of evil to eternal freedom. For this, we need to accept God's plan for us.

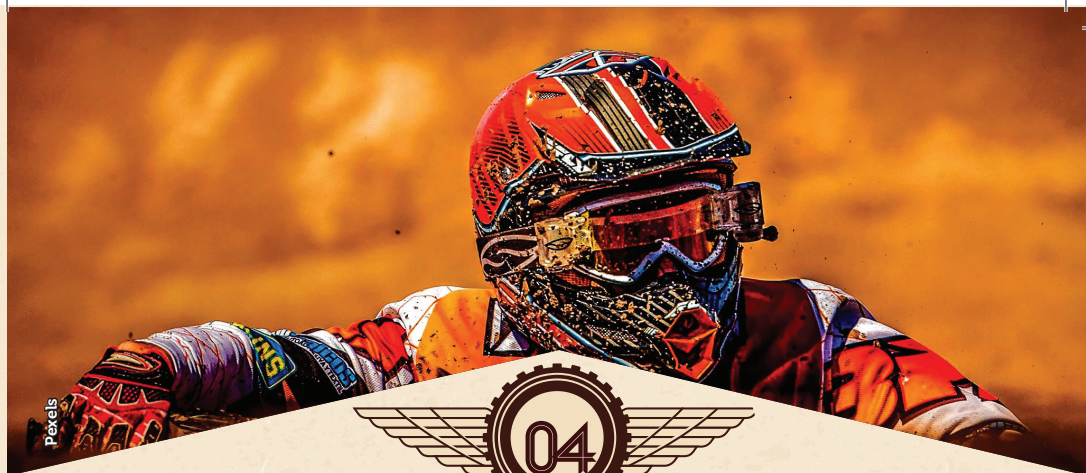


***Recommended Reading:***

John 8:1-17







## Signs and warnings



Traveling is one of the most enjoyable and challenging activities for a motorcyclist, travelling in-group requires a lot more of the driver. Sharing feelings, good laughs, incredible places, and the fellowship of good friends who share the same values is an invigorating experience.

However, group travelling brings some challenges and dangers. It is necessary that the pointer (who travels forward) and the bolt (the last of the group) are very experienced. One of the major dangers, it is the abrupt braking of those who are ahead, which can cause a real strike in the whole group. To avoid this and other dangers, there are a number of signs that every motorcycle rider must know. They serve as communication and alertness. Do you know them?





Signs are a mean of communication and as a warning of hazards. They are also useful for indicating what is ahead. Knowing them can mean a very quiet trip without distress, but not understand these signs it can cause unpleasant surprises. For our life in this world, God also left us some warning signs. They will help us to have a peaceful journey through this world.

**1. What signs has God left us?** Matthew 24:6-7, 10-14; Luke 21:25-26

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*You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places.*

*At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*

*There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.*

**2. What are these signs telling us?** Matthew 24:29-31; Luke 21:27

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*Immediately after the distress of those days 'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.' Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the*

*clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.*

*At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.*

### **3. What should be our position with these signs? Luke 21:28**

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*When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.*

The signs mentioned in the Bible are happening before our eyes. Wars, earthquakes, old diseases (such as syphilis and tuberculosis) and new ones like Zika virus and AIDS, violence are all signs that something big is about to happen. However, the imminent crisis in our world should not frighten us. First, because it was already foreseen in the Bible, it will not take us by surprise and especially because it advocates God's definitive intervention in history. He will come to punish the wicked and reward the good; He will come to do justice. Injustice is every day before our eyes. Leaders who steal and everything remains for this, cruel killers who are loose, innocent victims who suffer without nothing being done with their aggressors, thefts and robberies carried out by cruel people, the constant feeling of insecurity, for all this God will come to finally repay as each one deserves.

Jesus will return to this world, and we must be prepared to receive it. One day, all men will have an encounter with God. Jesus is our pointer. He goes ahead indicating the way and warning of the dangers along the way. One day he will come back to take us on the biggest trip of all. Are you ready for it?





### ***Recommended Reading:***

Matthew 24; 2 Timothy 3: 1-5; Revelation 21 and 22



Pexels



## ***Rules of Conduct***

The rules for using motorbikes vary from country to country. In China, for example, it is forbidden to use a motorcycle in the centers of large cities or on motorways, leaving motorcyclists to use motorcycles on vicinal roads only. In the United States, helmet use is required only in 19 of the 50 American states, and it is optional for those who are of legal age in other states. In France large-capacity motorcycles are used to transport passengers at airports, and this mean of transportation costs more than an ordinary taxi ride. In Germany, Italy and France it is forbidden to drive in the aisle. In Thailand motorcycles can make conversions at crossings that are forbidden for cars, to make traffic flow easily. In Brazil, helmet is mandatory, motorcycle taxi drivers have specific regulations and running between vehicles is very common in our large cities.

Following traffic laws is a good way to drive safely. In addition to the Brazilian Traffic Code, there are other rules that we must follow to ride a motorcycle with peace of mind.

- Do not make risky maneuvers between vehicles. The highest risk is always the motorcycle rider, never the car; so do not take a chance.



- Do not overtake a car on the right. There is a blind spot, and in general the driver is not expecting such an overshoot, in which case you may have an unpleasant surprise.
- Do not accelerate abruptly when overtaking. Someone may be distracted and you suddenly find a car in front of you or on your side, causing an accident. When overtaking, keep constant speed.
- Do not cross corners without looking and listening carefully, even if the preference is yours. Remember, the highest risk is always the rider, so double your attention.

Here are some golden rules when traveling in groups:

- Do not talk to the rider at your side. You can get distracted, when riding a motorcycle the attention should be total, any distraction, especially at high speed can be fatal.
- Do not cross lanes without signaling.
- Do not accelerate or brake abruptly. Whoever comes after you can be frightened, or worse, can lose balance.
- Do not get too close to the side or behind other bikes or cars. Let me remind you that, the biggest risk in an accident is always yours.
- Do not maneuver, changing lanes or conversions without signaling and giving time to other drivers to respond.
- resposta para outros motociclistas ou motoristas.

All these rules are extremely useful for safe driving through cities and roads. God has also given us ten golden rules, which will guide us safely along the road of our lives.

## 1. What are the 10 golden rules of God for our lives? **Exodus 20:2:17.**



*I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.*

*You shall have no other gods before me.*

*You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.*

*You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

*You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.*

*Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

*Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.*

*You shall not murder.*

*You shall not commit adultery.*

*You shall not steal.*

*You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.*

*You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.*

## **2. What is God's purpose in giving us these rules? Psalm 19:7-8; Psalm 119:165**

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*The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of*



*the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.*

*Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.*

### **3. What should be our attitude before the Law of God?**

**Psalm 1:1-2; 1 John 5:3; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14**

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*Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.*

*In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,*

*Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.*

God gave us Laws, so that we might have peace and security. Today, many of these laws are in our constitution, and they are not only religious laws, such as prohibiting stealing or killing. It is interesting to imagine what the world would be like if these laws were practiced by all people. Laws exist to give us security and protection, as well as to ensure our happiness. On the top of all, the Ten Commandments are an x-ray of God's character, for they teach what He likes and what He hates. So, if our God is love (1 John 4: 8) His law also expresses this love. Therefore, these laws grant us liberty, keeping us safe from evil. Our duty is to practice them, for our safety and those around us. As Jesus himself says, those who love me keep my commandments (John 14:21).



#### ***Recommended Reading:***

Psalms 119; Romans 7



## ***A day to Relax***

We work hard throughout the week. We wake up early, we go out to work, we produce, we keep up with all our errands, but as long as we live our life normally, we are really eager for the weekend, or holiday, where we can finally get out of the daily routine, ride our motorcycle and relax. Traveling, resting, strolling over our recreational best friend is to rest mentally. Life is much better when running some hundreds of miles on a motorcycle. And that's why motorcycle and weekends are an insurmountable duo. It is for this reason that we look forward to both the weekend, and if prolonged with a holiday, even better.

However, to really relax, here is some advice on posture while riding:

- Be careful with the position of the feet. Keep your feet firm with the tip on the pedal, putting your feet out of it or loose it, the risk of accidents become more serious, 20% of motorcycle accidents occur due to improper use of the feet on the pedal. In addition, firm feet on the pedal maintain correct posture and prevent aches and fatigue.
- Shoulders and arms should be relaxed. Your arms help on the shock absorber system; very hard arms will hin-



der quick emergency maneuvers and can even cause accidents. They need to be flexed to absorb better twitches and reduce the impact on the trunk.

- The hip should be as close as possible to the tank; this posture facilitates the ride and ensures greater safety. The legs should gently hold the tank. What guarantees a correct fixation of the pilot on the motorcycle, is allowing the arms and hands to remain more relaxed. This is mainly used to guide the motorcycle and this position prevents back pain.
- Hands should always be on the handle, do not bother to keep your thumb on the horn.

These brief guidelines aim to help you have a relaxing ride and enjoy your day. The Bible tells us that our God has given us instructions about a special day to relax physically, mentally and spiritually. This day is so important that God calls it My Sabbath.

### 1. Why was the Sabbath created and who created it? **Mark 2:27-28; Exodus 20:9-11; Genesis 2:2-3**

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*Then he said to them, The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.*

*Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

*By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

## 2. How should we enjoy Sabbath day? **Matthew 11:11-12; Isaiah 58:13**

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*Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it.*

*If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord's holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words,*

## 3. What is God's promise to those who obey His commands on Sabbath? **Isaiah 58:14; Isaiah 66:22-23**

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*Then you will find your joy in the LORD, and I will cause you to ride in triumph on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob. The mouth of the LORD has spoken.*

*As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me, declares the LORD, so will your name and descendants endure. From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me, says the LORD.*

Sabbath, which is actually the weekend, because it is the seventh day and last day of the week, was given to us as a gift from God. He knew our needs and separated to us one day of the week, so that we could physically, mentally and spiritually rebuild ourselves. The Sabbath was given as a day to worship our Creator, and give him an exclusive dedication, rest mentally and physically, and at last help our neighbor's needs. Those who obey God and keep His holy day have a unique experience. It has already been proven that this weekly rest is good for your mind, decreasing stress and other illnesses related to it.



The Sabbath day is a gift from God. Do not let anyone take it from you. By doing God's will, you will surely live better and happier. After all, He knows what is best for us.



***Recommended Reading:***

Exodus 16; Isaiah 58

For more information on correct posture when driving, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wC7PKQd7KLU> or search for Motorcycle Body position- How to use FEET & HANDS for beginners.





## ***Skull***

The skull is undoubtedly the most used symbol for motorcycle club brands. It is also stamped widely on jackets, T-shirts, sweaters and tattoos. It is a virtually omnipresent symbol at motorcycle rallies. Used in such a way, it lost its meaning.

This symbol has a strong cultural identity with motorcycling. It is found in Hell's Angels and Outlaws coats. Even Marvel took advantage of the symbolism and created the Ghost Rider, a burning cave that rides a motorcycle also on fire. It symbolizes, at first, the equality of all men; all are equal, no matter color, race or belief. Therefore, it would be a symbol of brotherhood and equality. However, the skull symbol has something deeper. It is widely used in Mexico on the holiday known as The Day of the Dead. There is even a character that carries a scale, and on the human skull there is a golden crown and a red robe. It is known as Santa Muerte, being venerated by both Catholics and pagans, in a common syncretism in Latin America. In the 16th to 19th centuries, it was used by pirates, along with crossed bones, in the well-known Jolly Roger figure, which would be a sign that the captain wanted the death of its enemy sailors, thus became a symbol of violence and terror. The skull is appropriately a symbol of death.



Death, for most people, is the greatest of all fears. It causes the most reckless feelings. The main cause of this terror is the certainty about its inevitability and at the same time the doubt about what happens after it. The Bible, however, opens the mysteries of death, explaining every detail about it.

**1. Who knows all the secrets of death and has power over it? Revelation 1:17-18**

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*When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.*

**2. How does the Bible describe the state of the dead? John 11:11-14; 1 Thessalonians 4:13 and 16**

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*After he had said this, he went on to tell them, Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up. His disciples replied, Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better. Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So then he told them plainly, Lazarus is dead.*

*Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.*

**3. What can we know about the state of the dead? Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6 and 10; Psalm 146:4**

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*For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing; they have no further reward, and even their name is forgotten. Their love, their hate and their jealousy have long since vanished;*

*never again will they have a part in anything that happens under the sun. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.*

*When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.*

**4. What is the hope for those who have already died?** Ho-sea 13:14; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22; John 5:28-29; 1 Corinthians 15:55; 1 Corinthians 15:26

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*I will deliver this people from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. Where, O death, are your plagues? Where, O grave is your destruction? I will have no compassion,*

*For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.*

*Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.*

*Where, O death is your victory? Where, O death is your sting?*

*The last enemy to be destroyed is death.*

Death is only intermediary stage in our existence. God did not create us for death, but for life, and that life He promises to all those that accept him as a savior. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16) The dead are sleeping, which resembles a sleep rest, It has no contact with anything on earth or anywhere else. In death there are no thoughts, emotions, and feelings. One does not participate in any type of activity; therefore, one



inhabits the region of silence (Psalm 115: 17). This is a blessing. In death one is resting, one cannot see, hear or touch anything. This way, there is no suffering in seeing the pain and struggles that family and friends can go through. Imagine if the dead were for years or centuries witnessing all the pain and suffering that their families are going through? What kind of rest would there be?

One day this middle stage will pass away, and the Bible clearly says that all those who die in Christ will one day be resurrected. Christ, our Savior has already passed through this experience. He died, but on the third day, he overcame death and resurrected. Now, by His power, all who accept Him as Savior and Lord will also be resurrected, and from there on they will have conquered death forever. They will live the eternal peace and joy. What a great promise. We do not need to fear death, nor the skull or any of its symbols. We are the Children of God and death will not have the victory over us.



***Recommended Reading:***

1 Corinthians 15; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18



## ***Fuel and Oil***

For proper operation of our motorcycle it is important to use adequate fuel and oil. The best way is to follow the manufacturer's recommendation. But it's worth knowing a bit about the topic. There are two types of oils; the mineral and the synthetic, besides these, there are oils that are a mixture of the two, called semi-synthetic. The mineral oil is extracted from the petroleum a refining process. The synthetic is made in a lab and it is purer, practically free of impurities. That does not mean synthetic oil is the best. This also depends on the degree of viscosity, which is marked as 40, 50, 5W30, 10W40, 20W50, and so on. The letter W is for winter, in English and the number before it informs the cold engine viscosity, when it is turned on. The number after the letter is the degree of viscosity with the hot engine. The higher the viscosity, in general, it is better for the engine, it will suffers less, but it is important to note that up to 75% of engine wears out happens with the engine cold, and in this case lower viscosity is better, so the right thing to do is to follow the manufacturer's instructions. Remember that motor oil is not suitable for motorcycles. Although they are similar and their regulations are similar, in motorcycle the oil also has the function of lubricating the clutch system, which does not happen in cars, so motorcycle oil has spe-



cial additives to fulfill this function. The fuel used in most national motorcycles is ordinary gasoline. There are, however, many flex-bikes on the market today that also accept ethanol. These motorcycles are in general more modern, since all already comes with electronic injection. The tendency is for bio-fuels to gradually increase their market share. Again, it is important to follow the manufacturer's recommendations. For example, a common recommendation is to mix fuels during cold weather, because bikes are different from cars, they do not have an extra gas tank for winter departure. It is also good to check out the price of ethanol that should be up to 70% of the price of gasoline, since alcohol consumes 30% more; it is only worth it in this proportion. The golden tip for you is to follow the User Manual, that is, the manufacturer's recommendation, who knows exactly which fuel and lubricating oil are suitable to use. Misuse can lead to increased consumption; the engine can wear out and in extreme cases even get damaged. We also have a Manual, and in it, our manufacturer has established what kind of fuel we must put in our body.

## 1. What is the original diet proposed by God? **Genesis 1:29**

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*Then God said, I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.*

## 2. What adjustments did God make to this diet and why? **Genesis 3:18, 9:3-4**

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*It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.*

*Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything. But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it.*



### 3. What types of animals God forbade us to eat? **Leviticus 11:1-22**

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*The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, Say to the Israelites: 'Of all the animals that live on land, these are the ones you may eat: You may eat any animal that has a divided hoof and that chews the cud. 'There are some that only chew the cud or only have a divided hoof, but you must not eat them. The camel, though it chews the cud, does not have a divided hoof; it is ceremonially unclean for you. The hyrax, though it chews the cud, does not have a divided hoof; it is unclean for you. The rabbit, though it chews the cud, does not have a divided hoof; it is unclean for you. And the pig, though it has a divided hoof, does not chew the cud; it is unclean for you. You must not eat their meat or touch their carcasses; they are unclean for you. 'Of all the creatures living in the water of the seas and the streams you may eat any that have fins and scales. But all creatures in the seas or streams that do not have fins and scales—whether among all the swarming things or among all the other living creatures in the water—you are to regard as unclean. And since you are to regard them as unclean, you must not eat their meat; you must regard their carcasses as unclean. Anything living in the water that does not have fins and scales is to be regarded as unclean by you. 'These are the birds you are to regard as unclean and not eat because they are unclean: the eagle, the vulture, the black vulture, the red kite, any kind of black kite, any kind of raven, the horned owl, the screech owl, the gull, any kind of hawk, the little owl, the cormorant, the great owl, the white owl, the desert owl, the osprey, the stork, any kind of heron, the hoopoe and the bat. 'All flying insects that walk on all fours are to be regarded as unclean by you. There are, however, some flying insects that walk on all fours that you may eat: those that have jointed legs for hopping on the ground. Of these you may eat any kind of locust, katydid, cricket or grasshopper.*

### 4. What advice do we have about alcoholic beverages? **Proverbs 23:29-32; Hosea 4:11; Habakkuk 2:15; 1 Corinthians 6:10**

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*Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaints? Who has needless bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes? Tho-*



*se who linger over wine, who go to sample bowls of mixed wine. Do not gaze at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly! In the end it bites like a snake and poisons like a viper.*

*Old wine and new wine take away their understanding.*

*Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbors, pouring it from the wineskin till they are drunk, so that he can gaze on their naked bodies!*

*Nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.*

Eating and drinking are an important part of our lives, in fact they provide some of the greatest joys we can have. But just like our motorcycle needs adequate fuel and oil, our bodies need adequate food to function properly. We find in the Bible, instructions from our Creator about the best foods for our physical and mental health. As we follow these recommendations we will have more disposition and energy to enjoy our life here in this world. We will be preparing ourselves to live one day in a better world, where we can finally live in peace with our God. So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)



***Recommended Reading:***

Luke 21:24; Proverbs 23: 20-21; 1 Corinthians 6: 9-10



Pexels







## ***The Brother's Club***

Moto Clubs (MC) are entities that promote fellowship and brotherhood among motorcyclists. The first MC of Brazil was created in the state of Rio de Janeiro, first in Fluminense capital of Rio de Janeiro in 1927 and was called Moto Club of Brazil. In 1932, the Moto club of Campos appeared. In the United States, the AMA (American Motorcyclist Association) considers as the first Moto Club the Motor maids MC that is a women's club established 1940 was made up by women. As you can see, motorcycle is not only for man. Some clubs, however, were formed apart from the AMA, called Outlaws, and they are considered to be the oldest, such as the Cook Outlaws formed in 1936, which later came to be called Chicago Outlaws and is now known as The Outlaws Motorcycle Club. Other famous outlaws clubs are the Hells Angels, acting in more than 40 countries and being perhaps the most famous MC of the world; and the last the Bandits, formed in 1966 that has its base in Houston, Texas.

The story of how Moto Clubs are viewed by the general public is strongly influenced by Hollywood films such as the 1953 classic *The Wild One* starring Marlon Brando, *Easy Riders*, starring Peter Fonda and *The Great Escape* with Ste-

ve McQueen. The Wild One is based on another important American world public opinion on the subject; the event was organized by AMA in the small town of Hollister in California in 1947.

With no structure to host the event, the small town found itself in trouble when many outlaws got drunk and caused some confusion, especially when the Sheriff of the small town with a police force in a small minority decided to arrest a motorcyclist. Life magazine took advantage of the scandal and published an article with photos that strongly marked negatively public opinion regarding motorcyclists. In the 1960s and 1970s, ex-combatants from Vietnam finished with the outlaw clubs and created new ones, even more hassling, which did not improve the popular image of motorcyclists. It was only from the 90's that this image began to change. This made it easier to create new clubs that included ordinary people who saw a healthier lifestyle. These clubs promoted social and charitable actions and had good visibility.

The MCs have as a purpose to unite people who have motorcycle as a lifestyle, organize rides and meetings, promote equality between motorcycle riders, support social projects and encourage motorcyclists get together. It is a great pleasure to belong to a MC, to share the same interests and motivations, have same spirit, help one another, and finally to be among brothers. God also has a club for his people. This club is open to all those who want to share a special mission, projects that cares to others and spiritual growth. This club is known as the Church.

### 1. What is the Church of God compared to? 1 Corinthians 3:9-10, 16-17

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For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building. By the grace God has given me, I



**laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care.**

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*Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?*

*If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.*

**2. On what foundation is this building built? 1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Peter 2:4-8**

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*For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

*As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him; you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame. Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone, and, A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall. They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.*

**3. What other figures are used to compare the church? Galatians 6:10; Ephesians 2:19; 1 Timothy 5:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:12, 17**

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*Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,*

*Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.*



*Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.*

*If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?*

#### **4. How to identify those that belong to the Church of God?**

**John 13:35; Revelation 12:17 and 13 and 14:12**

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*By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*

*Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring—those who keep God's commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus. When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.*

*This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus.*

The word church comes from the Greek *ekklesia*, which means called out. It indicates a group of people called by God with a purpose and a mission. The purpose is to find a welcoming environment where it is possible to develop spiritually and a family that helps us reach God and feel like we are in heaven. From this point on, we accept the mission, to introduce others to God, and help this family to get prepared for eternal life. As a body, we all have gifts and talents that we can use to fulfill this mission.

One day Christ Himself will come to seek His Church to dwell with Him eternally. Just as it is pleasing to belong to an MC because we share the same worldview and goals, it is also a pleasure to belong to a special group founded by Christ himself. This group, the Church must be loving and true, supportive and altruistic. If we all have the same Fa-



ther, we will seek to work together in a same purpose and mission, preparing ourselves to be with the Lord forever (1 Thessalonians 4:17).



### ***Recommended Reading:***

1 Corinthians 12: 12-31; Galatians 3: 26-4: 7

If you would like to participate in an MC in Brazil, with a spirit of adventure, which focuses on the positive and proposes good deeds, contact an Adventist Motoclube.

- [www.motoclubeadventista.com.br](http://www.motoclubeadventista.com.br)
- [www.amm-brasil.org](http://www.amm-brasil.org)





## ***Big Prize***

Who of us motorcyclists ever imagined riding a Honda, Yamaha or Ducati in a MotoGP Grand Prix? Flying low at speeds up to 186 miles/h, making curves, leaning against the knee on the asphalt, fantastic overtaking and finally achieving victory. Hearing the applause and cheering of the crowd, screaming your name would be fantastic.

It is for these and other reasons that Valentino Rossi, Dani Pedrosa, Marc Márquez and other big names like the multi-champions Giacomo Agostini, Michael Doohan, Max Biaggi and our Alexandre Barros fill our lives with excitement and joy on Sundays, - with their often unbelievable victories.

Valentino Rossi is considered the greatest rider of all time; Rossi has already won 9 world championships, one in the 125cc category, and the other in the 250cc class and another 7 in the main category of the motorcycle. Since 2002, when he was renamed MotoGP, Rossi has already won 75 victories in 260 GPs, and has also won 165 podiums and 50 pole positions. He really is a phenomenon of tracks; he already tested a Ferrari in F1, ran in rallies and trained in NASCAR. His cheerful and friendly personality with his winning spirit made him one of the greatest idols of the



Italian crowd and many others who admire him and enjoy the speed motorbike. Although the joy of a victory or even a world title is great, nothing compares to the joy that the saved in Christ will have when they arrive at Christ's victory feast.

**1. What is Christian life compared to?** 1 Corinthians 9:23-25;  
Hebrews 12:1-3

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*Do all this for the sake of the gospel that I may share in its blessings. Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

**2. When and what will we receive as emblems of our victory?** John 5:28-29; 1 Peter 5:4; 2 Timothy 4:8

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*Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.*

*And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.*



*Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.*

### **3. How will the good be rewarded?** Hebrews 11:10 and 16; Revelation 21:2-4; 22:2-4

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*For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.*

*I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.*

*Down the middle of the great street of the city, On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.*

Just like a professional sport competition, we are also in a race. A little different, however, in the Christian race, not only the one who arrives first, get the prize but all those who arrive, is the winner. It is also different because our adversary is Satan and ourselves, not our fellow men. In this race for the perfection of our character, we need the help from our coach, the Lord Jesus Christ. He promises us that if we get to the finish, we will win the crown, the crown of victory reserved for all those who in this life have committed themselves to Christ, put God first, and love



your neighbor as you love yourself. We will then dwell in an eternal city, the New Jerusalem, the city that God Himself designed and built. There all evil will have passed; there will be no more death, sorrow or pain. No human ceremony or reward can be compared to the ultimate reward that God has prepared for us. We will dwell with God Himself, we will have access to the Tree of Life, and we will be one. It is God's desire that we prepare ourselves for this reward. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.

*The Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let the one who hears say, Come! Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life. (Revelations 22:14-17).*



### ***Recommended Reading:***

Revelation 21 and 22





## *The right motorcycle*

One of the cool things related to motorcycles is that there are several categories, types and models, each suited to a particular taste. There is a big variety that it is practically impossible to speak about it all. If you like motorcycles, you probably have your favorite model, and particular way to drive. Let's look at some categories.

**Scooter:** Known in Brazil as Vespa. It has low displacement. The feet are accommodated in front of the driver. They are easy to drive and are usually the first motorcycle for new drivers.

**Street:** These are the most common bikes in Brazil. They have a simple design and have small powerful engine, they are light, fast and resistant. Ideal for urban areas, they are very economical and the most sold in Brazil.

**Custom:** These are models based on the 50s and 60s designs. They are comfortable for long journeys. They have the bass tank and pedals forward, which provides comfort when riding. The designer uses a lot of leather and chrome parts. They are known by the famous Harley-Davidson.



**Naked:** As the name implies, they are bare. They are good performance bikes, however, designed for cities, since the position of the rider is more upright in relation to sports bikes. They are an intermediate model between street model and the sports ones. They are also good for travelling, though they do not have a windshield.

**Sports:** High performance motorcycles used in sports competitions, but also sold for private use. Made with lightweight materials and modern design. It uses fairing for good performance at high speeds and wide tires compose the design for this model, they help out when braking and cornering at high speed. Pilot position is low to overcome air resistance.

**Chopper:** These are customized bikes that differ from the Customs ones by the position of the tank, they are high in the front and down behind, they also have a different advance angle and a distance between the axles. It also has elongated forks and bench glued to the tank and frame. They are usually well colored and clean of accessories.

**Pocket bikes:** They are miniaturized motorbikes, between 19 inches and 39 inches long used in sports competitions. There are several European Championships in this category.

**Off-Road:** There are several types of bikes for motocross, hard, cross-country etc. It has larger tires appropriate to use in various terrains and suitable suspension for uneven terrain.

**Motard:** These are motorcycles with hybrid characteristics between off roads and streets, they are prepared for competitions where bikes use both road and dirt roads as well as asphalt. Initially handcrafted, today they are manufactured by most automakers.

There are of course many other categories that are not listed here, such as Baby, Touring, Trial, Underbone, Tricycles, Big Biker, Puff, and dozens of other categories and



subcategories.

All adapted to the use for which they were created and developed, from road to city, from competition to leisure. In Christ's church, there are also people with special talents to accomplish tasks and special missions assigned by God.

## 1. What are gifts and what are they for? Ephesians 4:11-15

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*So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.*

## 2. How many are trained in the church and who trains them? 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

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*Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.*



### 3. What is the church compared to and why? 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

*Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body, it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body, it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, I don't need you! And the head cannot say to the feet, I don't need you!*

*On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

God, through the Holy Spirit, grants gifts (talents) to every member of His Church.

The purpose of this gift is to help you get involved in the mission of the Church and to grow in grace and spiritual capacity. Just as for each trail there is a different category of motorcycle, for each function of the Church God enables a different person with a gift. That is why, this diversity exists in the church and because of it; the church is strengthened.

You are also trained and gifted by passing the baptism ceremony (John 3: 5, 8).

We must take advantage of these special talents to help in the growth of God's Kingdom. Well-used talent will bring more personal growth and assists in the development of others. God loves diversity, and so he has created different people, with different characteristics, to fulfill different roles, to perform different functions and to perform specific missions. The greater danger lies in abdicating the use of these gifts, whether through disinterest, laziness, or apathy. God has a great deal of interest in this gift that He gives us, and He will ask us to report them to him one day. But if we use them properly we will grow in grace and be a way of blessing to others.



***Recommended Reading:***

Matthew 25: 14-30; 1 Corinthians 12







## ***Baptism***

One of the most important moments in the life of a motorcyclist is the moment of his official reception in an MC. Since there are hundreds of MCs in Brazil and thousands worldwide, there are also several ways of receiving them.

However, there is a period of preparation and integration with the group to which they want to belong. In this way there is an evaluation of both sides, the candidate to participate in the MC and the MC itself to observe if the candidate really deserves to belong to the Club. After this evaluation, a ceremony is scheduled, which can be closed only for MC members or open to anyone who wants to participate, but of course with the focus on MC. This ceremony may include (and in most MCs includes) an anointing with oil, which in general means love for the motorcycle. Others include the use of water, pouring some in the head or a dive. But in 95% of the receiving ceremonies usually dress up the candidate with the MC Vest with its symbols. The use of the vest is restricted to official members of the MC and receiving this vest is a symbol of pride and recognition by MC and the new affiliate. With all this, the new member deserves to use it and now belongs to the fraternity of MC. The day of the baptism to the MC group is a day of great joy and satisfaction.

The church also has a ceremony, an important one that marks the life of a candidate that wants to belong to God's family. This ceremony is known by the name of Baptism and it deeply marks the life of those who pass through it.

## **1. How is the Christian baptism ceremony?** **Matthew 3:13-16;** **Acts 8:38; Matthew 28:18-20**

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*Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me? Jesus replied, Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness. Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.*

*And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.*

*Then Jesus came to them and said, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

## **2. What does baptism mean?** **Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3-8**

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*And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.*

*Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like*



*his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin, because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.*

### **3. Who can be baptized and what is its importance?** Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38 and John 3:5

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*Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.*

*Peter replied, Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

*Jesus answered, Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.*

Christian baptism is a very important decision to those who desire to belong to God's family. The Bible compares baptism to a new birth, a spiritual resurrection to a new life after dying from an old life of sin and turning away from God. Baptism is performed in the waters; the Greek word comes from the verb baptizo, which literally means, to plunge. When submerging into the waters, symbolically means dying to the world, and when coming out of it, it means spiritually rebirth for a new life.

Baptism is a requirement for salvation. Without it, it is impossible to get in to God's Kingdom. God in His wisdom established a simple ceremony in itself, but of profound significance, to mark our entrance into His Kingdom. He also expects you to give yourself completely to Him by going through baptism. On this day, you will be part of God's family, you will be born of the Holy Spirit, and you will receive a special gift and have your name written in the Book of

Life. The appeal of Ananias to Saul is the same to all today: And now wait no more. Get up, ask for the Lord's help and be baptized, and your sins will be forgiven (Acts 22:16).



***Recommended Reading:***

3 John 1:15; Romans 6: 1-14



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## ***The price of a dream***

Buying a motorcycle is a great joy. Either is your first bike or the exchange for the desired model you want, it is always a reason to celebrate. Of course, the price of the bike is forgotten in the realization of that dream. Many motorcyclists are so focused on saving money to buy that perfect model that they forget the total sacrificed involved in getting the so dreamed motorcycle.

When we buy a motorcycle, we also need to take into account the cost of maintenance. In Brazil, there is a Property tax on Motor Vehicles, known as IPVA fee, which varies from 1% to 6% of the motorcycle value from state to state and Insurance is required throughout the country. In addition to these, it is always good to have motorcycle insurance. This will be different depending on where you live, your age and how often you use your bike. We can roughly say that for a male, in the age range between 25 and 30 years of age in Brazil, for a motorcycle with 150 displacements will have an insurance between R\$ 900.00 (US\$225) and R\$3,000.00 (US\$750) per year. You still need to calculate the depreciation of your vehicle. Depreciation is how much devaluation it has annually for sale. This value is important

to keep in mind, because it is the total cost of the vehicle per year. A brand new bike is the one that has the greatest devaluation, staying between 20% and 30 % in a year. This value will depend on the brand (most famous brands devalue less) and the model of the motorcycle chosen.

Other costs vary and should be calculated carefully. When calculating you should include fuel and vehicle maintenance. Of course the fuel depends on how much you drive. You can calculate it per week; you should look in the manual for the average consumption of your motorcycle. Maintenance is very important and required. It is necessary to change your bike's oil, every 4,000km (3,000 miles) if you use your motorcycle in short routes without forcing the engine, the oil change will cost around R\$ 20.00 (US\$5,00) to R\$ 40.00 (US\$ 15,00). Air and oil filters also need to be replaced every 10,000km (6,000 miles) or 12,000km (8,000 miles), they cost about R\$ 50 (US\$ 12,00) each. Tires are also an important item, especially when it comes to safety. In some particular brands, the manufacturer asks to change tires every 3,000km (2,000 miles) and these tires cost here in Brazil around R\$ 150,00 (US\$ 37,00) to R\$ 190,00 (US\$ 47,00). You cannot forget pads and brake band, you change it according to the owner's manual.

You can customize your bike and make it the way you want it to be according with your style and personality. This is a dream of many Brazilian motorcyclists. Customization has a huge variety of prices. The cheapest can cost around R\$2,000.00 (US\$500,0) to R\$ 3,000.00 (US\$800,00). From there, prices can rise until they are greater than the value of the vehicle purchased. As we know dreams are priceless, the cost of seeing your bike as unique and different from the 20 million bikes in a national route, it's worth it. God also asks us a part of our income in order for His dream of seeing the planet covered with His light and all human being knowledgeable about the truth come true.



**1. How much does God ask of our income for the sustenance of His work?** **Leviticus 27:30; Proverbs 3:9; Numbers 18:21**

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*A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.*

*Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops;*

*I give to the Levites all the tithes in Israel as their inheritance in return for the work they do while serving at the tent of meeting.*

**2. Did the New Testament church also use this method?**  
**1 Corinthians 9:11-14; Matthew 23:23**

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*If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? If others have this right of support from you, shouldn't we have it all the more? But we did not use this right. On the contrary, we put up with anything rather than hinder the gospel of Christ. Don't you know that those who serve in the temple get their food from the temple, and that those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar? In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.*

*Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.*

**3. On what ground does God ask me for a share of my income?** **Psalms 24:1; Haggai 2:8; Deuteronomy 8:18**

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*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;*

*The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the LORD Almighty.*

*But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today*

Tithes and offerings are the way God has chosen for the maintenance of his Work in this world. Everyone proportionally returns according to the amount earned. This secures the maintenance of gospel preaching throughout the world, with this act of giving back a portion of my gains to God helps me to develop altruism and detachment from the material things of this world.

In the Adventist church, tithing is used for the maintenance of pastors and all that is tied to church organization and evangelism, both local and worldwide. Adventist pastors do not have direct access to the money returned by the members of their churches; voluntary treasurers deposit it in the bank. In the Adventist church, pastors also receive maintenance assistance (equivalent to the workers' salary), which does not vary according to the increase or decrease of the entrance of tithes or offerings of their churches, so if a church increases the value of its tithe, the pastor does not earn more for it. Adventist pastors also have equivalent gains, that is, a pastor of a large, rich church receives the same as a pastor from a small, humble church. Therefore, tithe and offerings received by the Adventist Church is used in order for the Gospel to be preached around the world and not for the enrichment of the ministry. Today the church is present in 215 countries and preaching in more than 970 languages. It has more than 150,000 churches congregating about 20 million Adventists led by more than 19,000 ordained pastors. There are also 15 media centers in Brazil, TV New Hope, schools, hospitals, clinics, daycare centers and various social works maintained by ASA, the Adventist assistance agency. It was only in 2015 that the



agency served nearly 15 million people in the world. All of this is possible only by the fidelity of each member and the return of the tithes and offerings. Think and pray about it. I invite you give yourself completely to the Lord in response of His great love. See you on the road!



***Recommended Reading:***

Malachi 3: 6-12 and 2 Corinthians 9



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