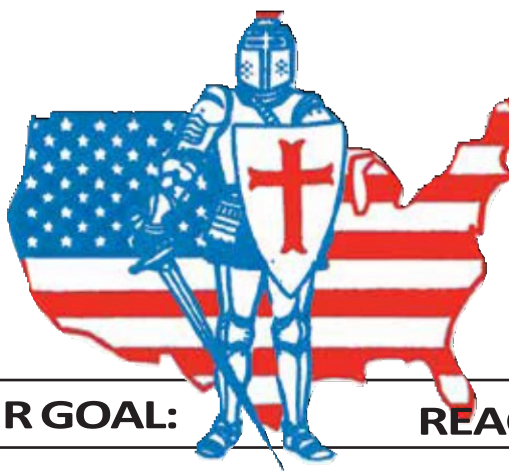




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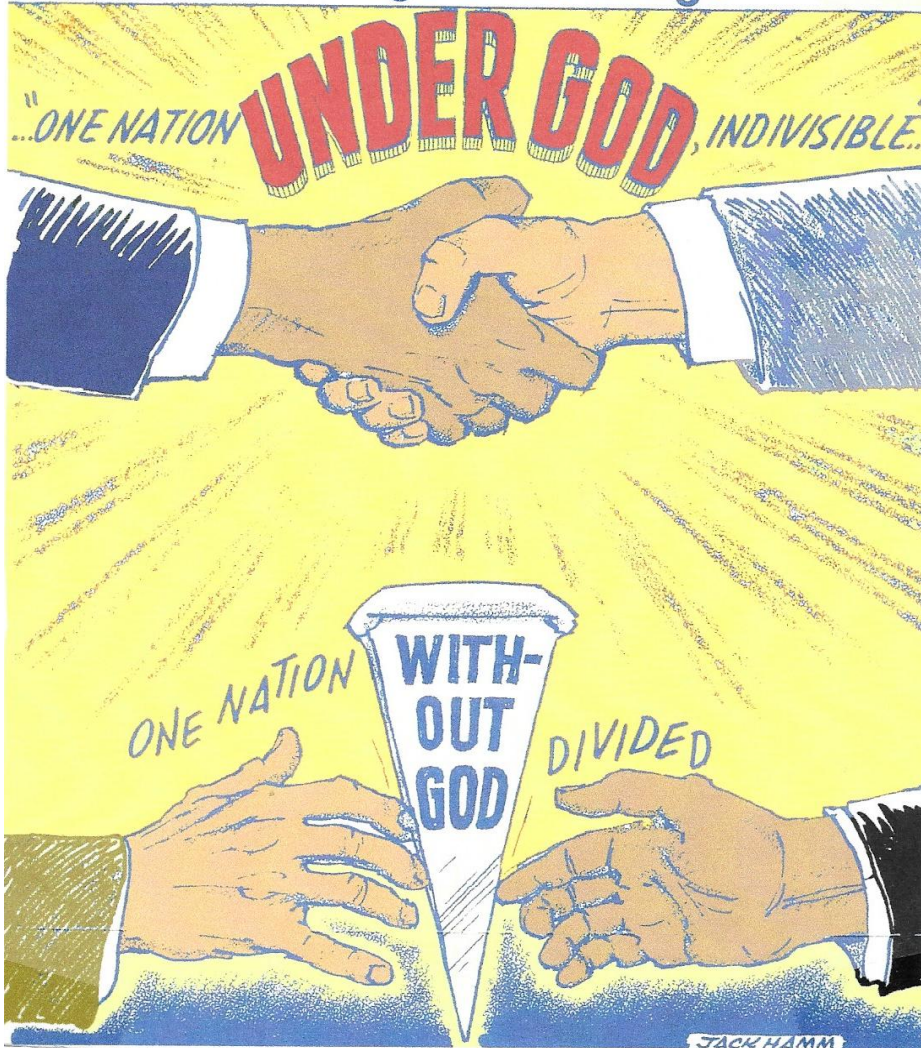
CHRISTIAN NEWSPAPER

Mar-Apr 2025

OUR GOAL:

REACHING FOR LOST SOULS FOR CHRIST WHILE THERE IS TIME

The Pledge or the Wedge



Unity in Faith

In hands clasped tight, a bond is born, A nation under God, unshaken, sworn, One heart, one soul, indivisible, whole, In unity, we rise, in division, we fall.

With faith as our guide, we stand tall, Against the trials and storms that call, Hand in hand, we weather the night, Together, we find the strength to fight.

One nation, one dream, a shared fate, Bound by love, dispelling hate, In God's embrace, we find our way, In unity, we thrive, come what may.

Yet without faith, the bond frays thin, Discord creeps, and shadows win, Divided, we falter, our vision blurred, A nation adrift, with voices unheard.

So let us remember, in times of strife, To hold on to faith, the anchor of life, For in unity, we find our might, One nation under God, shining bright.

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**CHRIST IS
THE ANSWER**

Greetings to the Saints of God!



Pastor Junior & Brenda Tingle

Dear Fellow Laborers in Christ ,

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with immense gratitude for God's unwavering presence and guidance. Through every challenge and triumph, His love has been our anchor, providing strength and hope in times of uncertainty. We give thanks for the countless blessings He has bestowed upon us and for seeing us through yet another year.

As we look ahead to the future, our hearts are filled with a renewed vision and a steadfast determination to press forward. Our mission to reach lost souls and share the message of God's love remains at the forefront of our efforts. We are called to be a light in the darkness, offering hope to the downhearted and oppressed. In a world often clouded by despair, we draw confidence from a power much greater than ourselves.

Let us remember that our strength comes not from our own abilities, but from our faith in God. He is our refuge and our source of unwavering confidence. With Him, all things are possible, and we are empowered to make a difference in the lives of those around us.

As we embark on this journey, let us hold fast to the promises of God, knowing that He is with us every step of the way. Let us encourage one another, lift each other up, and remain steadfast in our commitment to serving Him. Together, we can achieve greater things and bring hope to the hearts of many.

May we continue to rest in the assurance of His love and draw strength from His unending grace. With God by our side, we look forward to a future filled with hope, purpose, and the fulfillment of His divine plan.

In faith and unity,

In His service,

Sincerely, Bro. Jr. Tingle

The Christian Tabernacle Church



1406 Tucker Schoolhouse Road

Madisonville, Kentucky 42431

Phone: 270-584-4248

Service Schedule:

Sunday Evening Word & Worship 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

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Oh Yes! Don't forget to send a donation to keep this great paper alive.
Please If you need to discontinue your Package please let us know.

Thank you Gail Huddleston

" SETTLED"

Zephaniah 1: 12 -"And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees ... "

In a very colorful way the prophet revealed God's determination to punish Jerusalem. He prophesied, " ... I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees ... " What does the figure of speech mean settled on their lees? New wine was left upon the lees only just long enough to fix its color and body. If not drawn off, it became thick and syrupy with a sweet and sickly taste. So Jeremiah says, "Moab hath been at ease from his youth and he hath settled on his lees, and hath not been emptied from vessel to vessel. .. therefore, his taste remains in him, and his scent is not changed." The prophet Amos puts it this way, "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion ... "

It seems as though we are living under the curse spoken of by the prophet Zephaniah today. We have allowed ourselves to become "settled on our lees." Get saved and sit down and all of our constituency says, Amen. This seems to be the spirit of the hour in which we live. We must somehow stir up ourselves to take hold on God lest we let a generation, an age, slip by our fingertips, unwarned, and not saved. "God's causes," said a Scottish preacher, "are never defeated by being shown up, but by being sat upon." The devil is not going to defeat this generation by showing up their mistakes, but by causing us to relax, put up our feet, and say to our soul, "Soul thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." But God said unto him, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee ... "

Settled is the curse of today. We seem satisfied with our giving. But remember, the moment we sit back, we lose the prestigious position that we have worked for. The theme of our Foreign Mission program this year is: "It is joy unspeakable, except for those who have never heard." It is time that we, who with pious hands folded with an attitude of indifference, wake up to realize that we will never conquer the world for Christ sitting down. Our pleasure with our deeds and victories stink like wine long left on the lees. Our righteousness, like the stink of filthy rags, is ascending today into the nostrils of Christ. Somehow I feel that the words of prophetic doom spoken in Zephaniah 1: 12 are echoing into the hearts of satisfied Christendom.

This picture drawn to us by Zephaniah is a picture of our society today. Today men are trying to tie God's hands. But God cannot be programmed out of existence or out of lives. The only answer is that we move out with a vision, that we cease being satisfied with our meager accomplishments, that our hearts be charged with the ever increasing responsibility that faces us today. Church, remember, our job is only over when we make the rapture.



Unbelief can't kill the Word of God!
"Which liveth and abideth for ever."

God will punish us for being settled in this generation. And, God is displeased with YOU and with ME any time our hearts become satisfied. Remember the words of Solomon, "Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die. Remove far from me vanity and lies; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me. lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of God in vain."

My cry is, Lord give me just enough to keep me running back for more. The cry of the field is, Lord, keep men on fire for you, so that the vision and call of the harvest will never die. Glen Barnhill

*Jesus is a friend who knows
all your Faults and still
loves you anyway.*



Questions

&

Answers

Question:

Do you think the New Testament teaches tithing?

ANSWER: Yes! I do! There are some who fail to see that "grace" does not do away with our obligations to God's house and His ministry. It is true that the sacrificial laws of burnt offerings of animals was fulfilled when Jesus offered once and for all himself on the cross for our sins. He did not relieve man from his duties and obligations in material matters in supporting the work of the Lord. It may be true that Jesus was talking to the Pharisees when he said, "These (paying tithes) ye ought to have done, and not leave the other undone," but He was talking to New Testament followers of His when He said, "For I say unto you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisee, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 5:20)

The New Testament certainly does not teach against tithing. But rather embraces it. The New Covenant brought us greater promises and blessing, which gave us a greater sense of responsibility and appreciation for His Word and the House of the Lord.

Jesus is our high-priest, not after the order of Aaron, but after the order of Melchizedek, to whom Abraham paid tithes of his spoil. Tithing was honored of God before the Law was ever given. The seventh chapter of Hebrews establish the truth of God honoring such a service. God ordained that they which preach the gospel, shall live of the gospel, (1 Cor. 9:14), and Paul said, "If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we reap your carnal things?" (1 Cor. 9: 11). The third chapter of Malachi was not given altogether for the children of Israel in the Old Testament, but was prophetically given to the New Testament church. The first several verses refers to the Holy Ghost baptism experience,

and the blessing of bringing the tithes and offerings into God's house, and the chapter closes with the last four verses referring to the coming of the Lord, and Him remembering the people who were zealous of His NAME, and that is that Jesus' people, who will be ready and awaiting His appearing in the clouds of heaven.

Those who object to giving a tenth to the Lord, sometimes refer to "ALL" I have belongs to God, but His work seldom receives any of it. In fact tithes of our increase today, which is ten percent, is far less that what Israel was compelled to give under the law, because it all added up to about twenty-two percent we are told, considering all the other gifts and offerings they had to give.

When we realize what God has done for us today, the call of God that brought us from sin, saved and washed us from our sins filling us with the Holy Ghost experience, delivering us from all the old habits and expenses of the life of worldliness, bringing us into His fellowship and also with His people, how could a person feel right to give any less than one dime out of a dollar? In fact I feel that that dime belongs to God in the first place, then I get that extra blessing too by giving some more of my ninety percent.

Some seek to condemn tithing, for they fear the pastor will receive "too much." Why don't they feel that way about the grocery man? Also the lawyer, the doctor, the contractor, the builder, the banker or broker? No man is ever accused of getting too much money but the preacher. Is it a sin for him to enjoy a few comforts of life, after he has perhaps given the greater part of his life for his flock? I think not.

Examples have proven, a tithing church is a church who prospers spiritually and financially. It is equally so with an individual. "The liberal soul shall be made fat."

"Rise Again"

**When darkness falls
and hope seems gone,
Remember, soon will
come the dawn.
With every fall, rise up
anew, For strength and
courage lie in you.**

**Your words are
windows to your
heart!**

The Power of One

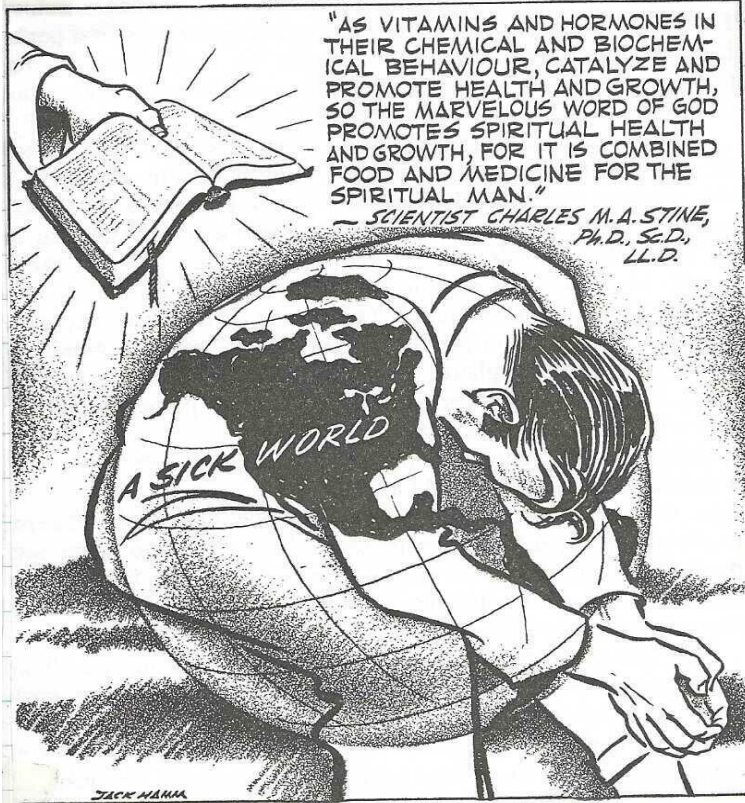
**One song can spark a moment,
One flower can wake the dream,
One tree can start a forest,
One bird can herald spring.
One smile begins a friendship,
One handclasp lifts a soul,
One star can guide a ship at sea,
One word can frame the goal.
One vote can change a nation,
One sunbeam lights a room,
One candle wipes out darkness,
One laugh will conquer gloom.
One step must start each journey,
One word must start each prayer,
One hope will raise our spirits,
One touch can show you care.
One voice can speak with wisdom,
One heart can know what's true,
One life can make a difference,
You see, IT'S UP TO YOU!**

America Is Coming to Her Knees

IN CRITICAL NEED

"AS VITAMINS AND HORMONES IN THEIR CHEMICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL BEHAVIOUR, CATALYZE AND PROMOTE HEALTH AND GROWTH, SO THE MARVELOUS WORD OF GOD PROMOTES SPIRITUAL HEALTH AND GROWTH, FOR IT IS COMBINED FOOD AND MEDICINE FOR THE SPIRITUAL MAN."

— SCIENTIST CHARLES M. A. STINE,
Ph.D., Sc.D.,
LL.D.



Time is running out for America. Our beloved nation has forgotten God and they will follow a path that many nations have trod in history. America's silent partner is the Church of Jesus Christ. Behind the scenes she is the mediator that has helped stay the judgment of God. Yet, even this in time will not prevent the uneventful and dreadful day of God's wrath.

A Nation Humbled

Once a nation so strong and proud is now paying its respects to third rate nations. We are humbling ourselves to Arabs, who a few years ago were begging us for food. Now they are buying our land as though we were the paupers and they are the kings. We are forced like Samson of old to surrender ourselves to their proud boastings. Never have we been at the mercy of nations and problems like we are facing now.

America has been living on borrowed time for several decades now, and the fierceness of God's anger has come. The beginning of sorrows has already unfolded across our land. The roaring lion is chasing the tired doe, and it is only a matter of time until the kill will be made.

James the fifth chapter says, "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days." James seems to have zeroed in on America in prophecy. Without question, our gold and silver will be valueless in the not to distant future.

The Depletion of Resources

It is certain that America's storehouse is running low. Shortages are cropping up everywhere. There are not enough answers for the questions of world problems. A land once so proud and able to boast of our vast natural resources, now is searching for allies to help them in desperation. America has lost face with her allies and has no one to turn to for help or sympathy. The rich are howling and weeping because their miseries are come upon them.

Darkness Covers The Land

Darkness and even gross darkness have covered the land and the people. Eastern religions have found their place in our society. Many ridiculous cults have risen in many areas of our country. How long will God put up with our idolatries and backslidings?

America needs to repent and turn her face to God. She has sought natural means to turn judgment away. Peace talks have failed as well as Salt agreements, and Armageddon is ever nearer. America, your time has nearly expired and you are coming to your knees. You are living on the prayers of the saints and the blessings of your church. The church will leave soon and there will be none left to comfort you. Who will you turn to then? Bro Dennis Croucher

Not One Word Goes Unheard

God hears our prayers, every one,
Exceptions, dear friend, there are none!
Prayer gives wings to words on high,
Prayer brings Jesus very nigh.
Hearts are relieved of every care
When we go to God in prayer,
Earth can't give the peace we need,
When from earthly cares we're freed.
Prayer paints the clouds with glory,
Prayer tells the wondrous story,
God's answer, friend, is always assured,
Not one word ever goes unheard!
Edward M. Brandt

Missionary

The call of God to Christians comes
To make His message known
Till dwellers of all climes and tongues
Bow down before His throne.
Few give their time and few their gold
Obedient to His will,
And few their lives and few their prayers,
His purpose to fulfill.
Yet millions walk in darkest night
E'en though the beams divine
With healing streams of purest light
Upon earth's Pathways shine.
selected:

What Does God Require

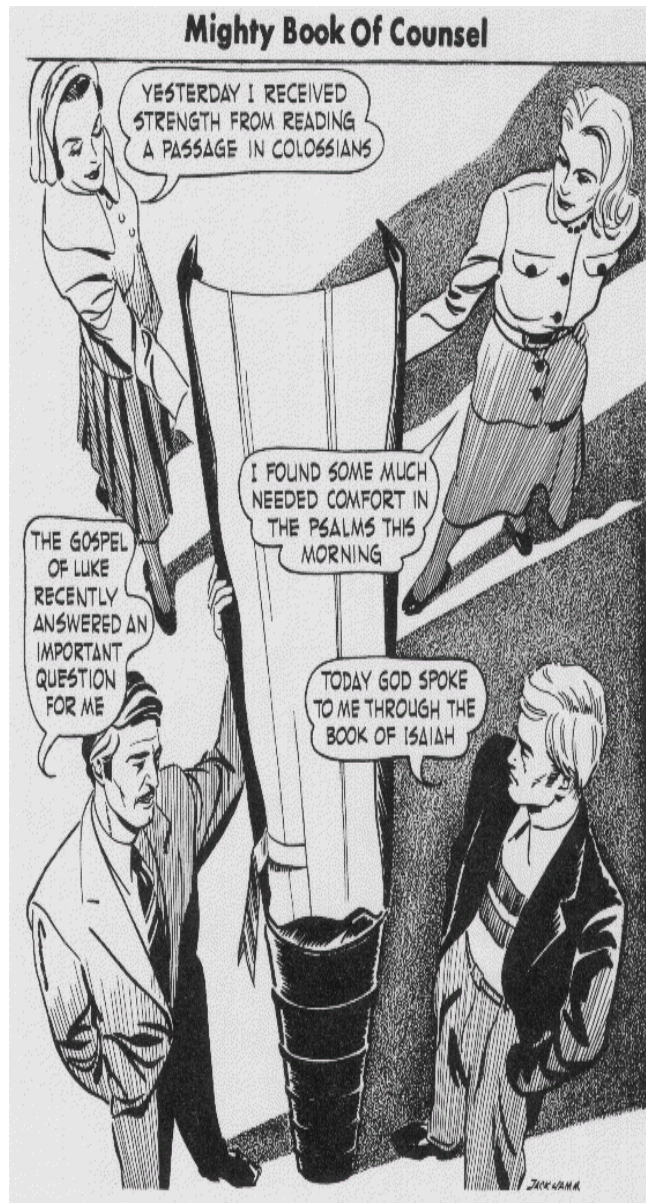
What does God require of us? Let us look at the scripture Romans 12:1 wherein Paul wrote: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service."

The three aspects of the scripture brought to our attention here are these: holy, acceptable and reasonable service.

First of all, we must know what the word HOLY implies. Webster defines holy as set apart to the service of God. Characterized by perfection and transcendence: commanding absolute adoration and reverence for Him. How could one offer something to God without complete love and reverence for Him? The scripture says that our bodies must be kept holy and pure. We cannot serve God with half of ourselves and contaminate the other half with the filth and low morals of the world. We must set apart our bodies so that they can be of service to God.

I Corinthians 3:16, 17 says: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you. If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." Does God accept a half holy body? Is your body defiled or holy? Is there any question as to what is required of your temple or body?

Secondly, let's talk about the word acceptable. Webster tells us it is taken from the root word accept which means to take, receive, to tolerate, take passively and to receive or act upon favorably. For our bodies then to be acceptable to God, they must be worthy of being received, welcome and gratifying. How could you accept a gift from someone who does not want to give a gift? God does not force His way into anyone's life. He does not go where He is not welcome. We must wholeheartedly receive God and accept His Word in order to be worthy for Him to accept us. A false front has no place here ... the qualifications are to be honest and sincere. We must give God our all. We cannot allow our bodies to become trash filters for all



There is no question that giving of ourselves, to spend and be spent for God's cause is only reasonable. A half-hearted and unwilling body will not qualify. We are the only means and method God has to further His cause.

It is plain to see that all three of these qualifications are necessary to be fully acceptable to God. I am afraid that I, as well as many of you, may find that we have a lot of learning to do.

Nelda Hopkins

Common Sense

Laziness:

Laziness is often mistaken for patience.

Insanity:

Some people don't suffer from insanity. They seem to enjoy every moment of it.

The CARDIOLOGIST'S Diet:
If it tastes good, spit it out.

PRAYER & THE DEVIL

The devil believes in the power of prayer more than anyone. He doesn't practices it. He suffers from it.

Politics

It's time for both political parties to come to the aid of their country.

MARRIAGE

All men make mistakes, but married men find out about them sooner. [Red Skelton]

COMMON SENSE

It is a thousand times better to have common sense without education than to have education without common sense. [Robert G. Ingersoll]

CHRISTIAN LIVING

Live as though Christ died yesterday, rose from the grave today, and is coming back tomorrow. [T. Epp]

Aging

It is easier to get older than it is to get wiser.

Truth

Truth does not cease to exist because it is ignored.

Just Passing Through

In the past twenty years many people have come out of the world, and have been born into the kingdom of God, receiving a wonderful experience from God. For a time they were on fire for God, and did a good work, but due to the lure of the world, and for various other reasons, they fell away from God. It grieves our hearts to think about this great number of people who are lost to the church and the cause of Christ; the many people who are "just passing through."

It would pay us to examine these cases and see what it was that did so easily beset them. If one goes to a physician with ailment, he wants to know where, and how much, it hurts, when the first symptoms appeared, etc. After a thorough examination and diagnosis, he prescribes what he thinks will best enable the patient to recover and be well again.

Now we have a Great Physician who is not only more able to heal our bodies than any earthly doctor, but who is also able to heal men's sin-sick souls. Yet we are continually losing "patients," as it were.

One of the first symptoms of spiritual sickness, and approaching spiritual death, is the giving up of the prayer life. Prayer is the key to a healthy, well-adjusted soul. Another symptom is the failure to attend church as regularly as possible. Prayer and Bible reading at home cannot take the place of worship in the house of God. There is something about a church service that helps us to draw strength for life's daily battles. As God's blessings are there poured out upon us, the trials, troubles and cares of the world that try to hinder our Christian experience begin to fade away.

The Bible declares, "... he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." As our spirits are renewed within us by our congregating together to worship God, we are able to take a confident stand on His promise not to allow more to be put on us than we can bear.

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us . . . run with patience the race that is set before us., These are the words of the oft-tempted, tried and persecuted Apostle Paul he who endured imprisonment, shipwreck, and many other things for the cause of Christ. Endurance and patience are the qualities you will find in the rooted and grounded believer. And of such you will never hear the tragic remark, "Oh, he was just passing through!"

There is a story of a comedian who, in becoming "successful," had to travel from engagement to engagement, leaving his wife and children at home. He assured himself that he was doing this for them. When the train took him through his home town,

he would stand at the window and wave to his family as they waited at the station for just a glimpse of Dad. At best he occasionally had just a few minutes to stop and visit them. He would have been highly insulted had some dared suggest that he was not a good husband and father.

One day this comedian decided to take a few days off, and visit his family. Upon arriving home, he met the doctor leaving his house. His wife had become ill, and had died, and the children had not known how to get in touch with him. His household was upset, and the children were grief-stricken. He ascended the stairs to his oldest son's bedroom. As he entered, his son looked up with tear-filled eyes, and said, "Hello, Father. Just passing through?"

This man is, in some ways, illustrative of many backsliding Christians. They neglect to assemble themselves with the saints, often because they think they are too busy. All the time they assure themselves that they are doing it for their families, etc. They would be highly insulted if someone dared suggest that they were not good Christians. They go on in this state for years, and finally lose contact with the church. Finally they decide to return to church. Sitting in the congregation, they hardly recognize anyone but the pastor and a few older saints, and feel like strangers. The picture is complete when someone meets them, and says, "Hello there. Is this your first visit? Do you live here, or are you just passing through???"

I hope that this finds you, not as one just passing through, but as an active member of your assembly, helping to hold aloft the standard of Christ against the forces of Satan. May you always do your part to uphold the cause of holiness against the worldliness that seeks to invade the sacred enclosure of the church. Present your body to Christ, holy and acceptable unto him, which is your reasonable service. Then at the end of the race you will hear these words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant ... enter thou into the joy of thy Lord," rather than those terrible words, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire ... "

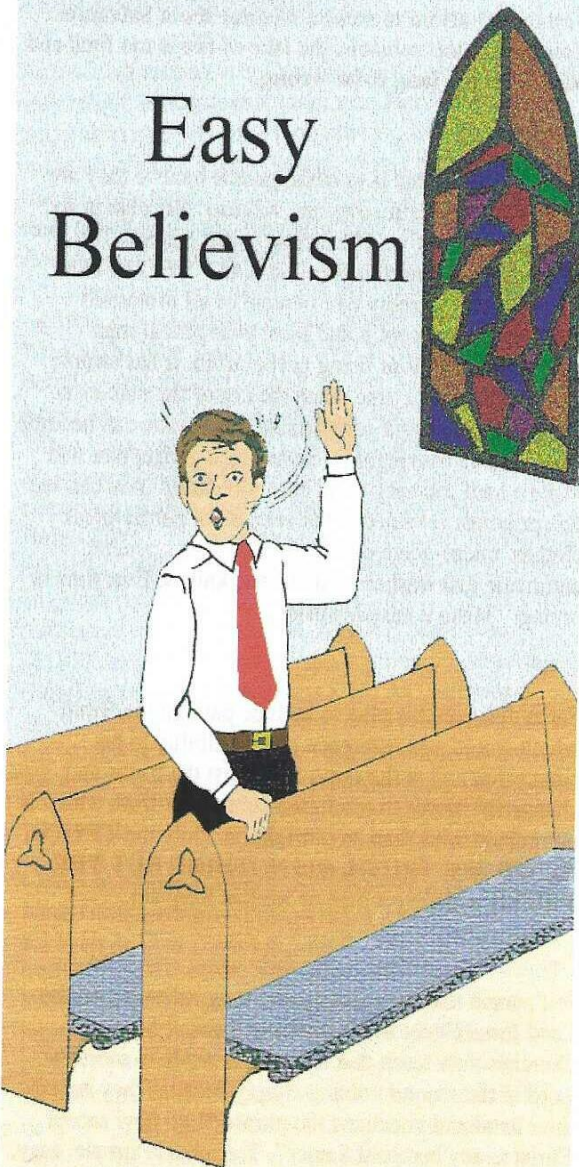
"One Of Them"

*Why yes, of course, I'm one of them-
And proud am I to be
A servant of the living God
Who's done so much for me.
With eyebrows raised they pass me by.
With looks of scorn, you know,
But how my soul doth yearn to tell
Of One so high yet low.
O sinner friend, reject Him not,
Our Saviour good and true,
Receive Him for your very own
And joy will come to you.
It won't be long 'ill Jesus comes.
Get ready while you may.
And then you'll meet Him in the skies
On that most glorious day.* Fern Peterson

ETERNITY IS Too Long To Be Wrong!

There's MORE
to being saved
than

Easy
Believism



You cannot afford to make a mistake about Salvation. Your soul is too valuable, the Jake of fire is too final and eternity is too long to be wrong.

Satan's master plan is to make people believe they are saved when in reality they are still lost. His plan is sly, crafty and deceptive. His timing is just perfect.

The name of his counterfeit is called EASY BELIEVISM. Approximately ninety five percent of all protestant churches now accept it and most evangelical tract companies print it as being gospel truth. It has swept upon our land at a time when the cry of the masses is, "We like it easy and comfortable". A person can become a millionaire overnight by inventing a gadget that will make a hard job easy or an easy job easier. You can see this principle revealed in the success of perma-press clothes, micro-wave ovens, electric door openers, automatic dishwashers and electric knives. Everyone is crying, "Make it easy brother".

Satan designed his plan to include parts of the Bible which would add reverence and credibility to his counterfeit and at the same time twist the truths and change the words to produce a subtle half-truth which is more dangerous than an outright lie.

Only the TRUTH, the WHOLE TRUTH, and NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH will save a man or woman from sin.

Is a person saved by simply and only believing on the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior?

Many churches now teach that a person is ready to meet the Lord in the second coming simply because they raised their hand and vocalized the phrase "I do now accept Christ as my personal Savior". This plan is simple, easy, soothing, mild, and effortless, but OH ..SO FALSE! Ministers will be judged by God on the grounds of criminal negligence who allow their church members to continue in their sinful habits and at the same time believe they are gloriously saved. Saved from

WHAT ???

There is more to being saved than Easy Believism please notice Acts 16:31 very closely. And they said " . . . thou shalt be (future tense) saved ... "

The Apostle Paul used the future tense, shalt be, which places the act or event in the future. Notice, he did not say, "Believe on the Lord Jesus and thou art saved ", like so many do today. It takes more to being saved than saying, "I believe". James 2: 14 teaches that faith alone can not save.

"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith and have not works? Can Faith Save Him?". James 2:20 declares, "Faith without works is dead". You do not have faith if you do not have works. Faith without works is dead. It can not save you if it is alone.

Works are the proof of faith. If works prove faith, then the absence of works prove unbelief. Yes, faith is necessary to be saved, but it takes more than just faith.

Was Simon the Sorcerer saved in Acts 8:13 by easy believism? We quote, "then Simon himself believed also ... " the answer to this question is "NO". Simon was not saved by only believing. We know this to be a fact from Apostle Peter's stinging rebuke in Acts 8:20-21. Listen to what he said, " ... but Peter said unto him, thy money perish with thee, because thou has thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

Thou has neither part nor lot in this matter, for thy heart is not right in the sight of God". He believed but was still unsaved.

Even Simon Peter himself believed and made a confession of faith in Matt. 16: 16. "And Simon Peter answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God". Was Peter saved according to the New Testament plan of salvation by his confession of faith? The Bible teaches he was not. In Luke 22:32 Jesus revealed Peter's spiritual condition by saying, " ... when thou art converted (future tense) strengthen thy brethren". Mark 14:71 lets us know Peter was still in an unconverted condition of lying and cursing. Revelation 21:8

teaches us that all liars shall have their part in the lake of fire.

(continued on page 10)

Joy On Your Journey



Not Growing Old

This frail old shell in which I dwell
is growing old, I know full well-
But I am not the shell.

What if my hair is turning Grey?
Grey hairs are honorable, they say.
What if my eyesight's growing dim?
I still can see to follow Him
Who sacrificed His life for me,
Upon the Cross of Calvary.

Why should I care if Time's old plow
Has left its furrows on my brow?
Another house, not made with hand,
Awaits me in the Glory Land.

What though my tongue refuse to talk?
What though I falter in my walk?
I still can tread the Narrow Way,
I still can watch, and praise, and pray.

My hearing may not be as keen
As in the past it may have been,
Still, I can hear my Saviour say
In whispers soft, "This is the way."

The outward man, do what I can
To lengthen out his life's short' span,
Shall perish and return to dust
As everything in nature must.

The inward man, the Scriptures say,
Is growing stronger every day.
Then how can I be growing old
When safe within my Saviour's fold?

Ere long my soul shall fly away,
And leave this tenement of clay,
This robe of flesh I'll drop, and rise
To seize the "everlasting-prize"-
I'll meet you on the Streets of Gold,
And prove that I'm not growing old.

John E. Robert



Take A Walk Around Yourself

Poet: Unknown

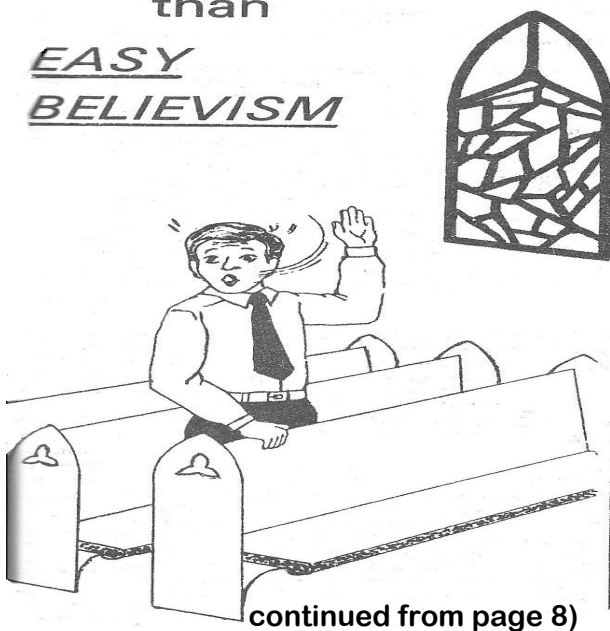
*When you're criticizing others,
And are finding, here and there,
A fault or two to speak of
Or a weakness you can tear:
When you're blaming some one's
weakness,
Or accusing some of self -
It's time that you went out
To take a walk around yourself.*

*There's lots of human failures
In the average of us all,
And lots of grave short comings
In the short ones and the tall;
But when we think of evils
Men should lay upon the shelves,
It's time we all went out
To take a walk around ourselves.*

*We need so often in this life
This balancing of scales,
This seeing how much in us wins
And how much in us fails;
But before you judge another -
Just to lay him on the shelf -
It would be a splendid plan
To take a walk around yourself.*



There's **MORE**
to being saved
than
EASY
BELIEVISM



continued from page 8)

What about the thief on the cross? in Luke 23:43 we read, "And Jesus said unto him ... Today shalt thou be with me in paradise". How was the thief saved without obeying the New Birth Plan of Salvation? The answer is, the thief actually lived in the Old Testament dispensation and did not have access to the Baptism of the Holy Ghost as we know it today.

This is made clear in John 7:39, "But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive; for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified"

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost or the New Testament inheritance could not be given until the testator died. Hebrews 9: 16-17. The thief was not saved according to the New Testament Plan of Salvation which is found in Acts 2:38.

What about Romans 10:9? "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thy heart ... thou SHALT be saved". Again please notice that the Apostle uses the future tense, shalt be, placing salvation in the future. The Apostle Paul realized that no man

can truly confess Christ without the Holy Ghost. 1 Corinthians 12:3 teaches, "No man can say Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost". Besides all of this, he is not addressing sinners, but a church of saved individuals.

We know this because he addressed them as brethren in 1 Corinthians 12: 1. Were the disciples saved under the New Testament Plan of Salvation in John 6:66-69 when they made their confession of faith? Let us read, "We believe and are sure, that thou art that Christ ... " Easy Believism must answer "yes, they were saved here". Let us, however, notice what Jesus said to these same disciples in Matthew 18: 1-3. At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus ... and Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, Except ye (Disciples) be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter(into the kingdom of heaven". If the disciples could not be saved by Easy Believism, then neither can you or I.

Are the Devils saved? Easy Believism. must answer in the affirmative. Why? Because James 2:19 teaches "The devils also believe ... " Let us now examine the scripture to see if devils will be saved. Revelation 20:10 says, "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire ... " Also notice II Peter 2:4, "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness to be reserved unto judgment". NO! Devils are not saved by only believing.

Acts 10:1-6 records that Cornelius, the centurion, was a very religious and devout man; who feared God, gave much alms and prayed to God always. Was he saved by doing all of this? After doing all of this the angel spoke and told him to send for Peter in Acts 11: 14. "Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved".

In Acts 26:27-29 we read that King Agrippa believed. "I know that thou believest King Agrippa still remained unsaved however. What is the New Testament Plan Of Salvation' Only Believe? Accept Christ? Join a Church? Pay dues every week? NO?

Acts 2:38 is where the true plan is found. "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost". Repentance, Baptism in Jesus Name, and the experience of the Holy Ghost were the keys to the kingdom spoken about in Matthew 16:19.

They are the fulfillment of the birth of the WATER and of the SPIRIT in John 3:5, and the resurrection power of the church as recorded in Romans 8:11. As there was a death, burial and resurrection in the life of Jesus; so repentance is our death to sin, Baptism in Jesus name is our burial, and receiving the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is our resurrection (To walk in newness of life). The church at Jerusalem believed this plan in Acts 2:38. The church at Samaria believed in Repentance, Baptism in Jesus Name, and receiving of the Holy Ghost in Acts 8: 12, 16-22.

The church at Caesarea also affirmed this truth in Acts 10:44-48. The church at Ephesus obeyed Paul's preaching and were baptized in Jesus Name and received the Holy Ghost, Acts 19:5-6.

As you can see, believing in Jesus is necessary, but after they believed, these people in the book of Acts went on to REPENT; be BAPTIZED in JESUS NAME, and receive the HOLY GHOST (Which comes with the evidence of SPEAKING IN TONGUES as the SPIRIT gives the utterance - Acts 2:4).

*Blessed are they which do hunger
and thirst after righteousness: for
they shall be filled.*

Matthew 5:6

The Correct Formula For Water Baptism

Judging from some arguments in the controversy over the correct biblical formula for water baptism, one could believe either that Matthew was not present on the Day of Pentecost or that he was a careless individual or that he was not quite as alert as the other apostles.

Standing with the other apostles, including Matthew, Peter declared to the inquiring multitude that water baptism was to be administered in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). There is no record that Matthew objected to the formula given by Peter. There was no mention of the words that Jesus spoke and that Matthew recorded that converts were to be baptized "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19). Nor are there any references to these words in the Book of Acts or in any of the epistles or in any of the other Gospels.

If Jesus had intended for the apostles to be baptized in the titles, why did not Matthew defend this position? The answer is obvious: Matthew agreed with Peter on the formula. He was not careless in recording the words of Jesus and neither was he wrong in agreeing with Peter.

Let's look at the facts.

1

Who was Matthew? His name was Levi until he became a disciple of Jesus Christ. He was a publican, a tax collector, who lived in Capernaum of Galilee. As a tax collector, he may have been in charge of the Roman custom house.



2

Did his position require a person of ability and accuracy? Yes. He handled custom receipts and other records of taxes collected for the Roman government in an important city on the route between Damascus and the Mediterranean seaports. Evidently he was a man of accurate details.

3

How does Matthew's Gospel compare with the other three Gospels? The Gospel of Matthew is so thorough that it has often been referred to as the "Bible in miniature." Matthew had the attribute of exactness, accuracy, and painstaking patience. His Gospel traces the genealogy of Jesus back through the kings to David, and then back to the beginning of the Hebrew race to Abraham, as proof that Jesus had the right to be the Messiah, the King of the Jews.

Matthew recorded the details of Jesus' birth, His baptism at Jordan,

His temptation in the wilderness, His sermon on the mount, His giving the keys to Peter, His transfiguration, His praying in the garden, the betrayal, the crucifixion, and the resurrection. It seems that he overlooked nothing of major importance.

4

Matthew in the group of apostles and disciples who tarried in the Upper Room for the coming of the Spirit? Yes. Matthew was included in the 120 who received the Holy Ghost on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 1:13). He spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave utterance (Acts 2:4). He also stood up with Peter and the other apostles as Peter preached to the multitude concerning the experience of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:14).

5

Would Matthew let Peter make a mistake on the formula of water baptism when the people were asking how to be saved? No. If Peter had made a mistake, Matthew or one of the other apostles would have corrected him, and the correction would have been recorded in the Bible. There was no conflict between the words of Jesus in Matthew and the formula given by Peter

The Correct Formula For Water Baptism

All the apostles agreed, for they knew that Jesus is the mighty God, the everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). One of the greatest proofs that Peter was correct is that Matthew stood by his side in approving silence, sanctioning every word. Moreover, Matthew probably helped in the baptizing of the three thou-sand converts who were baptized on the Day of Pentecost. If so, he baptized many in the name of Jesus Christ. Furthermore, the apostles continued to baptize in the name of Jesus Christ. "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship" (Acts 2:42). (See Acts 8:16; 10:48;

6

Is there any record in the Bible of anyone being baptized in the titles of Father, Son and Holy Ghost? No. This proves that Jesus did not intend for us to repeat His words, but to use the one name, which is Jesus.

7

Did the apostles believe in the doctrine of the Trinity? No. The trinitarian doctrine was a historical development in the third and fourth centuries. The apostles, including Matthew, believed that God is one, not three, and that Jesus was that one God in flesh that is, He was Emmanuel, God with us (Matthew 1:23).

8

How did the apostles know that the name in water baptism was to be Jesus? The Gospels record the life and ministry of Jesus. Often He spoke in parables or simple stories and used illustrations that the disciples might understand His identity and His message.

But they did not easily grasp His meaning, even when He plainly told them that He was the Father (John 10:30; 14:1-9). It was only after the resur-rection that they recognized Him as the one true God (John 20:28).

On the Day of Pentecost, the apostles knew that Jesus had been made "both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36) and that in Him the fullness of the Godhead dwells (Colossians 2:9). They knew He was the mighty God and the everlasting Father (Isaiah 6:9). Jesus said to baptize in the singular name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19). The one name is Jesus. Therefore they baptized in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Moreover, Jesus is the only saving name given to us: "Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). Matthew was present on the Day of Pentecost when Peter command-ed that the people be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:14, 38). He offered no objection; rather his silence speaks of his agreement with the formula as the correct application of the words Jesus had spoken. The consistent biblical record of the church proves that the only way to be baptized is in the name of Jesus Christ or Lord Jesus for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5).

The question every person should ask himself is, Have I been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins? If the answer is no, then he should immediately obey the words of Jesus and the apostles, being baptized into Jesus Christ, to rise with Him to walk in the newness of life (Romans 6:1-4). 0

Drinking For What

- We drank for happiness and became unhappy.
- We drank for joy and became miserable.
- We drank for sociability and became argumentative.
- We drank for sophistication and became obnoxious.
- We drank for friendship and became enemies.
- We drank for sleep and awakened without rest.
- We drank medicinally and acquired health problems.
- We drank for relaxation and got the shakes.
- We drank for confidence and became doubtful.
- We drank to forget and were forever haunted.
- We drank to erase problems and saw them multiplied.
- We drank to cope 'with life and invited DEATH.

Thought Provoking Gems

*To quote the words said by William Arthur Ward,
"Flatter me, and I may not believe you.
Criticize me, and I may not like you.
Ignore me, and I may not forgive you.
Encourage me, and I will not forget you."*

The Power of One

*One song can spark a moment,
One flower can wake the dream,
One tree can start a forest,
One bird can herald spring.*

*One smile begins a friendship,
One handclasp lifts a soul,
One star can guide a ship at sea,
One word can frame the goal.*

*One vote can change a nation,
One sunbeam lights a room,
One candle wipes out darkness,
One laugh will conquer gloom.*

*One step must start each journey,
One word must start each prayer,
One hope will raise our spirits,
One touch can show you care.*

*One voice can speak with wisdom,
One heart can know what's true,
One life can make a difference,
You see, IT'S UP TO YOU!*

Author Unknown

House In Order

Is my house set in order
If Christ should come
today?

What tasks would be
unfinished If I were called
away?

Suppose an angel told me
At early morning light,
"Your Lord will come this
evening-You will go home
tonight! "

Would ecstasy be clouded
By thought of things
undone,

The seed I might have
scattered,

The crowns I might have
won?

The soul I meant to speak
to,

The purse I meant to share,
And O, the wasted moments
I meant to spend in prayer!

The weight of unsaved
millions Would press upon
my heart.

In their death am I certain
That I had no part?
And just a few short
moments

In which to set things right!
How feverishly I'd labor
Until the waning light!
O slothful soul, and careless
heart, O, eyes which have
no sight-

Work, lest you reap vain
regrets-Your Lord may
come tonight!

Unknown

*How soon the year has passed away!
How soon its race was run!
And of the work I planned to do,
How little has been done!
I vowed to more of kindness show
To those who were in need;
To help the fallen, save the lost,
And sow the precious seed;*

*To soothe the sorrow, dry the tear,
And others' burdens bear;
To be more Christlike every day,
And in his work to share;
To live more pure in mind and thought,
And evil habits shun;
To be more careful of my words,
And kind to every one.*

*But as I look back o'er the past
And view the things I've done,
The very work I planned to do
Has only been begun.
On every side were open doors
I might have entered in;
On every hand were sinful hearts
I had the power to win;*

*On every side were saddened hearts
And heads bowed down with woe,
Where dearest joys had fled away
To these I did not go;
And when some hard and crushing blow
The trusting heart had broken,
A kindly word would heal the wound
That word was never spoken.*

*Shall I go on through all the years
And all these duties shirk?
Shall I presume upon His love
And fail to do His work?
Can I expect to wear a crown
And join the blood-washed throng?
Shall I, with saints and angels, join
To sing redemption's song?*

*No; I must bravely take my cross
And do His work in love,
Assured if I will do my part,
I'll share his joy above.
Lord, give to me thy grace divine,
That through each coming day,
My feet may ever keep the path
That leads the upward way.*

unknown

What Disturbs You Most ?

A soul lost in hell . . . or a scratch on
your new car?

Your missing the worship service ... or
missing a day's work?

A sermon ten minutes too long ... or
lunch a half hour late?

The church's not growing ... or the
garden not growing?

Your Bible being unopened ... or your
newspaper not read?

Your children being late for school ... or
late for Sunday School?

The offerings decreasing ... or your
income decreasing?

Your church work being neglected ... or
your housework being neglected?

Missing a good Bible lesson....or
missing some worldly entertainment.

The past cannot be altered; the future can.

Days are like suitcases; all nearly the same size, but
some people can pack a lot more into them.

Signs Of True Greatness

The ability to apologize; to forgive and forget; To avoid
arguments; to avoid being self conscious; To take snubs and
reproof well; to mastery over the flesh; to stoop to help others

God will accept a broken heart, must He must have all the pieces

A child is not likely to find a Father in God unless he finds
something of God in his father.

I Can't and I Can

Poet: William Allen Butler

*As on through life's journey we go day by day,
There are two whom we meet, at each turn of the way,
To help or to hinder, to bless or to ban,
And the names of these two are "I Can't" and "I Can."*

*"I Can't" is a dwarf, a poor, pale, puny imp,
His eyes are half blind, and his walk is a limp;
He stumbles and falls, or lies writhing with fear,
Though dangers are distant and succor is near.*

*"I Can" is a giant; unbending he stands;
There is strength in his arms and skill in his hands;
He asks for no favors; he wants but a share
Where labor is honest and wages are fair.*

*"I Can't" is a sluggard, too lazy to work;
From duty he shrinks, every task he will shirk;
No bread on his board and no meal in his bag;
His house is a ruin, his coat is a rag.*

*"I Can" is a worker; he tills the broad fields,
And digs from the earth all the wealth which it yields;
The hum of his spindles begins with the light,
And the fires of his forges are blazing all night.*

*"I Can't" is a coward, half fainting with fright;
At the first thought of peril he slinks out of sight;
Skulks and hides till the noise of the battle is past,
Or sells his best friends, and turns traitor at last.*

*"I Can" is a hero, the first in the field;
Though others may falter, he never will yield;
He makes the long marches, he deals the last blow,
His charge is the whirlwind that scatters the foe.*

*How grandly and nobly he stands to his trust,
When, roused at the call of a cause that is just,
He weds his strong will to the valor of youth,
And writes on his banner the watchword of Truth!*

*Then up and be doing! the day is not long;
Throw fear to the winds, be patient and strong!
Stand fast in your place, act your part like a man,
And, when duty calls, answer promptly, "I Can!"*

Think On These Things

The Power of One

*One song can spark a moment,
One flower can wake the dream,
One tree can start a forest,
One bird can herald spring.*

*One smile begins a friendship,
One handclasp lifts a soul,
One star can guide a ship at sea,
One word can frame the goal.*

*One vote can change a nation,
One sunbeam lights a room,
One candle wipes out darkness,
One laugh will conquer gloom.*

*One step must start each journey,
One word must start each prayer,
One hope will raise our spirits,
One touch can show you care.*

*One voice can speak with wisdom,
One heart can know what's true,
One life can make a difference,
You see, IT'S UP TO YOU!*

Author Unknown

The man who says he is kept away from religion by hypocrites is not influenced by them in any other area of life. Business is full of them, but if he sees a chance at making money he does not stop for that. Society is crowded with them, and yet he never thinks of becoming a hermit. Married life is full of them, but that doesn't make him want to be a bachelor. Hell is full of them, and yet he doesn't do a thing to keep himself from going there. He wants you to think that he is trying to avoid the society of hypocrites and yet he takes not a single step toward heaven, the one place where no hypocrites go!

Don't Quit

Poet: Edgar A. Guest

*When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit -
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.*

*Life is queer with its twists and turns.
As everyone of us sometimes learns.
And many a fellow turns about when he
Might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow -
You may succeed with another blow.*

*Often the goal is nearer than it seems
To a faint and faltering man;
Often the struggler has given up when he
Might have captured the victor's cup;
And he learned too late when the night came down,
How close he was to the golden crown.*

*Success is failure turned inside out -
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And when you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit -
It's when things seem worst,
You must not quit.*

Read & Obey Acts 2:38

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For with God nothing shall be impossible
Luke 1:37

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