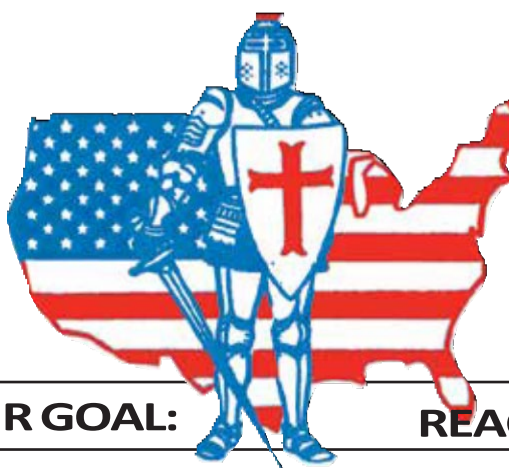




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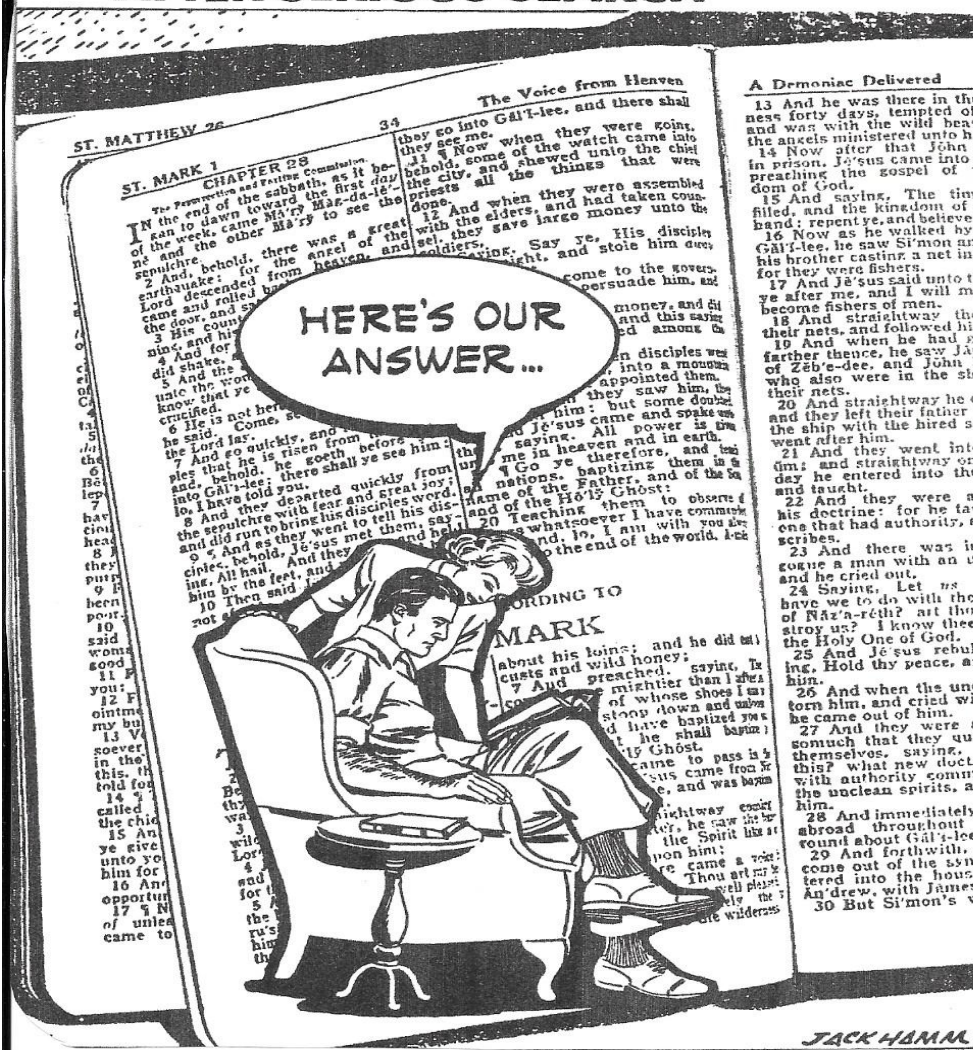
CHRISTIAN NEWSPAPER

May-June 2025

OUR GOAL:

REACHING FOR LOST SOULS FOR CHRIST WHILE THERE IS TIME

AFTER SERIOUS SEARCH



The Unchanging Answer

In a world of chaos, shifting sand, The Bible stands, a guiding hand. Its truth eternal, steady, sure, A refuge strong, a hope secure.

When storms arise and shadows fall, Its faithful voice will answer all. Through every trial, doubt, and fear, Its whispers tell us God is near.

No fleeting trend, no earthly tide, Can shake the Word, our steadfast guide. Forever faithful, ever true, Its ancient words renew what's due.

It lights the path, reveals the way, With wisdom fresh for each new day. No matter how the ages turn, Its flame of truth will always burn.

So trust this treasure, firm and pure, Its promises will long endure. The Bible is the answer still, The proof of God's unchanging will.

America's Christian Newspaper (non-profit org.
Permit #15124)
Published Bi-monthly by Christian Tabernacle
Church P.O. Box 747 Madisonville, KY 42431
Free Subscription. Periodical postage paid at
Madisonville, KY 42431
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to
America's Christian Newspaper, P.O. Box 747,
Madisonville, KY 42431

CHRIST IS THE ANSWER

Greetings to the Saints of God!



Pastor Junior & Brenda Tingle

Dear Faithful Supporters,

As we reflect on the challenges that have come our way, we are reminded of the enduring truth that God's love is unshakable and His promises never fail. Though we may face troubled times, we rest in the assurance that our faithful and loving God is with us, guiding our steps and strengthening our hearts.

We are profoundly grateful for the blessings we have received while living for the Lord. Each step of this journey is a testament to His abundant grace and mercy. We are indebted to Him for His abiding hand that sustains us through every season of life, providing us with hope, strength, and peace.

Looking ahead, we are filled with hope and excitement for the victory He has prepared for His people in the coming year. Always looking forward to the next Youth Conference where we see God reaching out to His people old and young. This victory is not just for us but for the countless souls yet to encounter the transforming power of His grace and mercy.

With this vision in our hearts, we are committed to expanding our outreach and deepening our impact. Together, we can shine His light in the darkest corners, bring His message of hope to the hopeless, and draw others into His loving embrace.

We thank you for your unwavering support, your prayers, and your partnership in this sacred mission. May we continue to walk hand in hand, trusting in His faithfulness and striving for His glory.

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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Thank you Gail Huddleston

Trusting the Word of God in the Last Days: A Vital Need

In these uncertain and tumultuous times, it has become increasingly apparent that we are living in what many would call "the last days." The signs of the times—moral decline, global unrest, and widespread spiritual confusion—highlight the urgency of turning to an unshakable source of truth. Now more than ever, it is crucial to trust the Word of God as the ultimate guide for all our answers, hope, and direction.

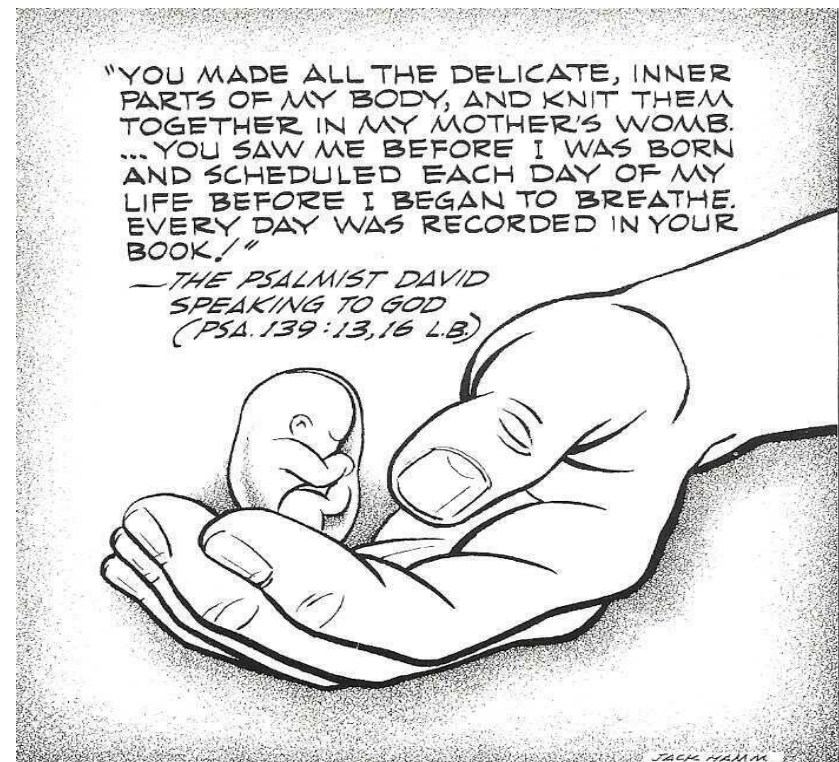
The Word of God is not merely a collection of ancient texts; it is alive, powerful, and timeless (Hebrews 4:12). It carries with it the authority and wisdom of the Creator, offering solutions to every challenge and providing a steadfast foundation in an ever-changing world. When we anchor ourselves in Scripture, we are not just accessing words on a page, but we are drawing near to the very heart of God.

One of the defining marks of the last days, as foretold in the Bible, is widespread deception (2 Timothy 3:13). People are seeking answers in fleeting ideologies, human philosophies, and temporary fixes, but these can never satisfy the deepest longings of the soul. Without the Word of God as our compass, we risk being swept away by every wind of doctrine (Ephesians 4:14). The Bible stands as the unchanging truth in a sea of relativism, lighting the way in darkness and revealing the path of life.

The Scriptures are filled with examples of individuals who trusted in God's Word and found victory, even in the face of overwhelming challenges. Consider Noah, who obeyed God's instructions to build the ark despite the ridicule of those around him. His faith in God's Word not only preserved his family but became a testament to the reliability of divine promises. Similarly, the Apostle Paul endured persecution, imprisonment, and hardship, yet he remained steadfast in his reliance on Scripture, declaring that all Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

In these last days, trusting the Word of God is not just a recommendation—it is a matter of spiritual survival. Jesus Himself warned that in the end times, many will fall away, betray one another, and be led astray (Matthew 24:10-11). The antidote to falling victim to deception is to stay rooted in the truth of God's Word. It not only equips us to discern between truth and falsehood but also fortifies our faith in the promises of God, even when circumstances seem bleak.

Moreover, the Word of God brings hope and encouragement in a world desperate for answers. When fear threatens to overtake us, Scripture reminds us of God's faithfulness: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1). When the weight of the world feels too heavy to bear, we find solace in the words of Jesus: "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Such promises are not mere platitudes but anchors for our souls, rooted in the unchanging character of God.



Is Abortion Murder?

A mother stepped into the doctor's office carrying a bright and beautiful baby a year old. Seating herself near her family physician, she said, "Doctor, I want you to help me out of my trouble. My baby is only one year old, and I have conceived again, and I do not want to have children so close together."

"What do you expect me to do?" asked the physician.

"Oh, anything to get rid of it for me," she replied.

After thinking seriously for a moment the doctor said, "I think I can suggest a better method of helping you out. If you object to having two children so near together, the best way would be to kill the one on your lap, and let the other one come on. It is easy to get at the one on your lap, and it makes no difference to me which one I kill for you. Besides, it might be dangerous for you if I undertook to kill the younger one."

As the doctor finished speaking he reached for a knife and continued by asking the mother to lay the baby out on her lap, and turn her head the other way.

The woman almost fainted away as she jumped from her chair, and uttered one word, "MURDERER!"

A few words of explanation from the doctor soon convinced the mother that his offer to commit murder was no worse than her request for the destruction of the unborn child. In either case it would be murder. The only difference would be in the age of the victim.



Question:

Why do our churches have so many rules? I get so frustrated when new rules are handed down to us. I thought getting the Holy Ghost set us free from man-made rules and bondage, but it seems like I am in more bondage now than I was before I was saved. Why cannot the Bible be the only rule we need?

Answers:

It is true that we do have rules in our churches, and they should be based upon the Word of God. Rules are necessary to safeguard the testimony of the church. They also provide guidelines for conduct so that a Christian will not stray from his commitment to Jesus Christ.

You ask why the Bible cannot be the only rule we need. Many of our modern sins were unknown in Bible days. Ecclesiastes 7:29 says that "God made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions." And when these "inventions" are made, they are evil when they pull a person away from his uprightness.

In Bible times, they did not have such things as cigarettes, narcotics, motion pictures, television, professional sports, mini-skirts, and many other things that technology and modern lifestyles have given our generation. Since these things were invented after the Bible was written, we must have rules governing our conduct with respect to them.

Yet these rules should be based upon principles taught in the Word of God. For instance, we condemn the use of tobacco as sin, and therefore have a rule that none of our members can smoke, chew tobacco, or dip snuff. Tobacco is not specifically mentioned in the Bible, for its use was unknown in those days. It was introduced to the "civilized" world by explorers who obtained it from the Indians of the New World.

Even though the use of tobacco was unknown in Bible days and therefore not mentioned in Scripture, such passages as I Corinthians 3:17; I Corinthians 6:12, 19, 20; and II Corinthians 7:1 proclaim divine principles which condemn its use.

The application of biblical principles results in rules which are especially important for the young, either in years or in spiritual attainment. Although mature Christians should have their spiritual sensibilities keenly trained "to discern both good and evil" (Hebrews 5:14), it is sad to note that many do not, and therefore rules help these saints to know how to conduct themselves in an ungodly social climate.

A person may chafe against rules, but if he is truly spiritual and consecrated he would not do so; he would realize that rules serve to assist the church in keeping a clean fellowship from compromise and contamination, and to help people be ready for the soon return of our Lord.

Bro .David F. Gray

Question:

Is it wrong for a Christian to buy things on the installment plan, or to have a charge account (credit)? Please explain the scripture: "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another

Answer: Once a group of men, seeking an occasion to accuse Jesus to the government, asked Him if it were lawful to give tribute (pay taxes) to Caesar.

whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor."

Then verse 8 declares, "Owe no man any-thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law."

Therefore, the wrong would be this: **TO REFUSE TO PAY THE BILL.** Much is said in the Old Testament about paying or restoring the pledge. This means that which is promised, or agreed upon to be paid. For example: "Again, when I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right; If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed (or taken, and refused to pay), walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die" (Ezekiel 33: 14, 15).

To agree to purchase something, to be paid for on a certain date, be it a thirty-day account or an "installment plan," is not wrong, unless and until you fail to keep your promise to pay when it comes due. I have always preached that repentance includes restitution, that is, one must pay up his back bills, make right his promises, and correct his wrongs (even to the extent of asking forgiveness of those whom he has mistreated or falsely accused).

Bro. O.F.Fauss

*Jesus is all and
all together, all
I need !*

The Truth That Is Important

by L A. Meeks

In these last days, what we all need is to hear a clear sound, words that will give us the right direction. So many do not know what is right morally or spiritually.

Pilate asked Jesus a question, "...What is truth?" (John 18:38). Truth scripturally may be defined as conformity to fact or actuality; faithfulness to original or to a standard. One of the most positive voices of direction and truth must be found in the Christian church today. Jesus Christ must be our standard and prototype. We as Christians must point mankind to Jesus. Jesus is the truth. " ... I am the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6). I have learned that people want to know what is right and the things that will help them have a better quality of life. Every soul that we have helped to find Jesus has come to see that serving the Lord is the greatest thing that has ever happened in their life.

If a person desires to know what is right morally and spiritually, let me point him to the Lord. Truth is a moral and personal characteristic of God. He is merciful and gracious and long suffering, and abounding in goodness and truth.

We must not forget that all of God's work, precepts and judgments are done in righteousness and truth. Furthermore, because of the Lord's character and perfect nature, it is imperative that He speaks and acts in complete truth, hence He cannot lie. Not one person should ever be reluctant in following the Lord. According to John 1: 14, God became flesh, thus, Christ became the vessel that the Father used to lead and guide men in the correct pathway of life.

Grace and truth today is found in the person of our Lord. All that James declared was truth, the message he spoke came from the Father.

The promises He made to men surely came to pass and are coming to pass in the lives of those who will step out by faith and obey His voice as He speaks. The Bible is the truth we must live by. It is the Word of God.

Heaven and earth may pass away, but the Word of God will endure forever. David said the entirety of God's Word is truth (Psalm 119: 160).

Jesus is our example in love (John 11:36); in forgiveness (Luke 23:34); in compassion (Matthew 14:14).

What It Amounts To



"For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart." - Hebrews 4:12

Nothing compares to the Word of God. It is Active, Operative, Energizing and Effective.

The work that the Word of God does is like no other. There is something about God's Word that reaches into the unreachable places of our spirits and exposes what needs exposing. God's Word brings into alignment our thoughts, actions and our plans - with His truth.

Whatever there is within us contrary to the Word of Truth, it will be exposed so we can make changes. Sometimes this can be a painful time if it is a past hurt or a painful memory we have long before buried deep within. We often don't want to revisit the past, when it brings us so much pain.

God's Word can bring healing, restoration, comfort and hope. It builds up our faith to be able to stand firm. We need to allow God's word to do a thorough work within, and align our lives to God's truth.

The world disguises lies as truth, but God's Word will stand and expose it for what it is. Don't get caught up in what the world says, but measure it up with what God's Word of Truth says.

© By M.S.Lowndes

"Paul's Own Teaching on Water Baptism"

By OLIVER F. FAUSS

It will be well for us to consider the life and doctrine of the Apostle Paul, even on the subject of Water Baptism.

His statement to the Thessalonians (1 Thess. 1 :5), "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but in MUCH ASSURANCE," should encourage us to look into what and how he preached the gospel.

His challenge to the angels to contradict his message makes it all the more important that we believe and preach accordingly. "But though we or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you (Acts 19 :1-6), let him be accursed." (Gal. 1-8).

He informed the Corinthians that what he preached unto them, he had also received himself first before delivering it unto them (1 Cor. 15 :1-4). He further stated to them that he preached the same thing everywhere he went in every church. (1 Cor. 3:17).

It cannot be denied that Paul was baptized in water in the NAME of the Lord JESUS (Acts 22 :16), and that he practiced baptizing his converts, even though they had formerly been baptized in water, in the NAME of the LORD JESUS. (Acts 19 :1-6).

Paul goes so far as to say that water baptism in the NAME of Jesus is necessary to put you into Christ. "Know ye not, that so many of you as were baptized into Christ were baptized into His death?" (Rom. 6.3). Some try to make you think he was talking about the baptism of the Spirit here, but the following verse shows plainly that he was talking of water baptism, and that in the (singular) NAME of Him who died for us. "Therefore, we are buried with Him (not them) in baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life (the baptism of the Spirit); for if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death (Who died for us), we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection." (Rom. 6 :4,5).

The same term, "buried with Him in baptism," is used in Paul's epistle to the Colossians (2 :12), for he had already informed them that Jesus was (in His earthly life) the "image of the invisible God, the first-born (resurrected and glorified) of every creature: for by HIM were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by HIM and for HIM: and HE is before all things, and by HIM all things consist. And He is the head of the body of the church: who is the beginning, the first born from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence; for it pleased the Father that in Him should all FULNESS dwell ... For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

Paul said to the Galatians. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ" (Gal. 3 :27). This is fulfilled in Acts 2 :38, the authority of the entrance into the body of Christ.

Let us notice the record of Paul's experience and what took place at Philippi. His vision of a man calling for help over in Macedonia, made him to know the Spirit of God had called him there to preach the gospel (Acts 16:6-10).

His first service was held out of the city by the river side. (Acts 16 :12, 13). His first convert was a certain woman named Lydia. She was baptized and her household. (V. 115).

After a number of days, Paul cast out an unclean spirit from a girl, which resulted in both he and Silas being placed in jail. (Acts 16 :16-24).

The miracle that took place that night, and resulted in the conversion of the jailer and his family, will surely prove the essentially of baptism as we read: "And he took them (Paul and Silas) the same hour of the night (midnight), and was baptized, he and all his, straightway." (Acts 16 :33). It is certain they were baptized in the NAME of the Lord Jesus, due to the wonderful exaltation of Jesus in Paul's letter to the Philippians. "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him (Jesus), and given Him a NAME which is above every name: that at the NAME OF JESUS every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that JESUS CHRIST IS LORD; to the glory of God the Father." (Phil. 2 :9-11).

BEATITUDES FOR FRIENDS OF THE AGED

Blessed are they that understand
My faltering step and palsied hand.
Blessed are they that know my ears today
Must strain to catch the things they say.
Blessed are they who seem to know
That my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.
Blessed are they that look away
When the coffee spilled at the table today.
Blessed are they with a cheery smile
Who stop to chat for a little while.
Blessed are they who never say,
"You've told that story twice today."
Blessed are they who find the way
To bring back memories of Yesterday
Blessed are they who make it known
That I'm loved and not alone.
Blessed are they who ease the days
On my journey Home in loving ways.

Esther Mary Walker

God's Plumbl ine

"Behold, the Lord stood upon a wall ... with a plumbline in his hand. And the Lord said to me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel" {Amos 7:7-8}

Our text comes from the stirring message of the prophet Amos who lived in Judah about 750 years before Jesus was born. Out from the rustic rural background where life was simple, quiet and good, this awkward pheasant came to the city of Bethel, where the ways of life were more complex. Can you not imagine his horror when he saw how the religion of the people had become weak, insipid, and colorless, while, at the same time, the temples were thronged with worshipers who were apparently going through empty rituals and formalities to no consequence? And little wonder that the man of God shuddered when he found prevarication in the court of justice, for there was one law for the rich and another for the poor. He found these people to be living superficial lives. Luxury had made them fat and indifferent.

Amos had a message to deliver to his generation. It was one of rebuke and judgment. In the manner of all great prophets, he spoke the need of his day. But his message met unreceptive hearts, which quickly denounced him by shouting. "Flee to your own land you rough cowherd! Preach there if you like, but do not bother us with your fanatical preaching."

Thus they silenced him. Back to his home in the hills of Tekoa, he went. God spoke to his heart by vision, and as he stood on the scrubby limestone range, with the towers of Jerusalem breaking the horizon, he saw the hand of God holding a plumbline beside a wall. He heard a voice saying, "Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel."

God's messenger today who sounds a warning should always be welcome in the pulpit of a Pentecostal church. The faithfulness of the anointed ministry to lower the plumbline has provided the church with positive direction.

Of recent years the spirit of evangelism has been intensified, bringing about a tremendous growth; also, there has been an increasing hunger for the outpouring of the Holy Ghost. However, it is not without an incessant battle that we retain the ground that is gained. It is the man of God who stands in the cross-current of everyday events where he sees men loving that which is wrong and destroying what is right, and he lowers a plumbline, as he says, "Thus said the Lord ... "

Recently I read some excerpts from an old Methodist book entitled, "Perfect Love or Plain Things for Those Who Need Them," by J. A. Wood, published in 1861. The author spoke out of a burdened heart, and obviously had noticed some tragic trends. However, in spite of the warning, the powerful current of worldliness swept across that movement until the thing John Wesley feared would happen, happened! A religious body without power! These were Wesley's words:

"We believe the great present want of the church is a mighty baptism of the Holy Ghost. The church has numbers, wealth, talents, and influence; but she needs something more than these the power of the Holy Ghost, the gospel preached in the demonstration of the Spirit the Holy anointing from heaven. When the Methodist church, or any other church, relies for her success upon anything but deep, vital, and practical godliness, she will inevitably fail in accomplishing her great mission. Numbers, wealth, learning, position or popularity, can never supply the place of piety. This is indispensable, and it must be first, last, and always." clear warning to the Methodists by admonishing them not to lean upon the arm of flesh. While talent, methods, wealth, influence, programs, organization, and numbers may be helpful and needful, it is all vanity unless the church is motivated by the power of the Holy Ghost.

Was Mr. Wesley fearful that the people called Methodists would ever cease to be? He said: "I am not afraid that the people called Methodists shall ever cease to exist, either in Europe or America. But I am afraid lest they shall exist as a dead sect, having the form of religion without the power. "

John Wesley feared that the movement he had given his life for was fast slipping from a prayerful, God fearing church into a mere form of religion. The meetings which had once been charged by the presence of God, as the people had worshiped in the simplicity of faith by shouting, dancing, and speaking in a unknown tongue, were now becoming streamlined, very formal and ritualistic.

The fires of evangelism that had once burned with red hot flame, spreading through Europe and America, was now a dying ember. Now, John Wesley, an aged man, cried, "Come back! Come back, my people, to your first love!"

God grant that Pentecost shall ever be motivated by the Spirit, ready for the direction in which the Lord should lead. It should never be uncommon for the gifts of the Spirit to be operating in our midst. But let us make positively sure that this gift operates genuinely and sincerely and never to propagate an opinion of an individual or a group of individuals expressing their own personal philosophy. When this gift operates it should operate within the bounds and order that GOD'S WORD doth allow.

continued page 8

God's Plumbline

Here is another quotation from the old Methodist book: "How is a compromising Spirit with the world usually manifested?" The answer:

"In efforts to popularize Christianity with the world, and looking to increase its influence in that way."

"In efforts to lower the Bible standard of holiness, in order to make it less repulsive to the minds of carnal men. "

"In efforts to regulate sin, instead of opposing and prohibiting it."

"In acts which pander to the vices of wicked men, or which countenance, directly or indirectly, the commission of sin."

"In depending for the prosperity of the church upon her wealth and popularity, or upon the learning, talents, and eloquence of her ministers, rather than upon the baptism of the Holy Ghost and a solid, high tone of piety in her ministry and membership."

In considering the preceding steps of the compromising spirit, we must first state that the Pentecostal message, as given in Acts 2:38, has never been, and will never be popular with the world. And the Bible standard of holiness must always be upheld. The spirit of this ungodly world would hope that we would regulate sin rather than oppose it. The ecumenical trend of our day is to water down the message, sugar coat it with the enticing words of men's wisdom, to be delivered with all eloquence of speech, homiletically designed for resounding applause from the audience, but without the meat of God's Word and the anointing and demonstration of the Spirit Their way is to never take a pronounced stand against sin, to always avoid any issue, and sidestep that which is considered controversial. But this is not so with the anointed of God. For, as they lower the plumbline, they say, "Thus saith the Lord."

It is interesting to note what the Methodist book has to say about the wearing of jewelry. I quote: "Is there any harm in the putting on, or the wearing, of jewelry or costly array? Thousands in the church of God, and many ministers and their families, are drifting away from the old landmarks on this subject. . . It is positively and distinctly forbidden in the Scripture { I Timothy 2:9' I Peter 3: 3-4; I John 2: 15; Romans 12:1-2. Aim at obeying and pleasing God, and all your ornaments, if you have them, will drop off at once. It cannot be put on or worn in the name of Jesus, or to the glory of God {Colossians 3: 17/. Christians should so dress as to show that their minds are occupied with nobler objects. Their external appearance should evince gravity, simplicity, decency, and modesty.

They should dress neatly, plainly, and suitably to persons professing godliness. " It is gratifying to know that the true Pentecostal Church has sought to uphold these standards. For it still can be said. "You can tell Pentecostals on the street at any time, for they are identified with Christ."

If you are to continue to thrust forward, and be recognized as the mighty oracle of God, it will only be so as the ministry lowers the plumbline by saying, "Thus saith the Lord." end...

Chinese Farmer Story

Once upon a time there was a Chinese farmer whose horse ran away. All the neighbors came around that evening and said, "That's too bad." And the farmer said, "Maybe." The next day the horse came back and brought seven wild horses with it. And all the neighbors came around and said, "That's great, isn't it?" And the farmer said, "Maybe."

The next day his son, who was attempting to tame one of these horses, and was riding it and was thrown broke his leg. And all the neighbors came around in the evening and said, "Well, that's too bad, isn't it?" And the farmer said, "Maybe."

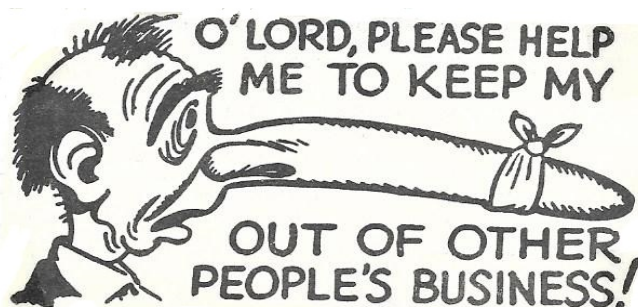
The next day the conscription officers came around looking for people for the army. They rejected his son because he had a broken leg. And all the neighbors came around that evening and said, "Well, isn't that wonderful?" And the farmer said, "Maybe."

The moral of the story: We should be careful labeling the things that happen to us as good or bad.

Romans 8:28

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Joy On Your Journey



Nosey No-More

I've got a nose, it's mine, it's fine,
But it won't cross your boundary line.
For sniffing rumors, here's the rule:
Poking 'round makes me the fool.

When tempted by a juicy tale,
I'll sail my ship with a better sail.
Your business isn't mine to peek,
My nose will mind its own this week.

Why meddle in your neighbor's life,
When it might just cut like a knife?
A silent nose keeps drama at bay,
And peace becomes my takeaway.

So here I vow to live nose-free,
In your affairs, I'll let you be.
For snooping only leads to mess—
And truly, I don't want the stress!

"And that ye study to be quiet, and to
do your own business, and to work
with your own hands, as we
commanded you;" 1 Thess 4:11

A timeless reminder about leading a
peaceful, diligent life!

Look on the Sunny Side

There are always two sides,
the GOOD and the BAD,
The DARK and the LIGHT,
the SAD and the GLAD

But in looking back over
the GOOD and the BAD
We're aware of the number
of GOOD THINGS we've had

And in counting our blessings
we find when we're through
We've no reason at all
to complain or be blue

So thank God for GOOD things
He has already done;
And be grateful to Him
for the battles you've won,

And know that the same God
who helped you before
Is ready and willing
to help you once more -

Then with faith in your heart
reach out for God's Hand
And accept what He sends,
though you can't understand

For OUR FATHER in heaven
always knows what is best,
And if you trust in His wisdom
your life will be blest,

For always remember
that whatever betides you,
You are never alone
for God is beside you.

Helen Steiner Rice



The Tithing Tightrope

I once thought tithing was a bit too steep,
"My budget's tight! I need to keep!" But
then I read the Good Book's say, "God
loves a cheerful giver"—oh, okay!

So I clutched my wallet, held it tight,
Thinking, "Surely ten percent's not right."
But every time I gave my share, Blessings
came from everywhere.

A flat tire fixed, a bill erased, Groceries
bought, a gift embraced. God outgave me
every turn, With kindness I could never
earn.

Now I know that when I sow, His grace
will overflow and grow. So when that
offering plate comes by, I toss it in and
grin—not sigh!

The Keys To The Kingdom

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:18, 19).



AT THE OUTSET of this message, I would like to give you an explanation of the words of Jesus relative to the construction of His church upon the rock foundation. A correct exegesis of Scripture can come to us only through the aid of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, "It is the Spirit that quickeneth ... the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:33).

Realizing that it is the Spirit that quickens, we come to understand the meaning of the words: "For the word of God is quick and powerful. ... " (Hebrews 4:12). The Apostle Paul added impetus and weight to the truth that the great illuminating agency in this gospel dispensation is the marvelous Word of God, when he said, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3: 16).

Therefore, if we are to properly understand Jesus' words to Peter, we must seek the explanation in the Word of God.

Some espouse the idea that Peter was the foundation stone of the early church. They affirm that he held primacy, or a place of supreme episcopal jurisdiction. They further state that he passed his primacy on to his successors.

But we are compelled by the Spirit to focus our attention upon the inspired writings of the Bible, where Peter admitted that he was not that foundation stone upon which the church, the spiritual temple of the Lord, was to built. Peter plainly stated that the stone was Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:4-9).

There are, in the Greek language, two words in Matthew 16:18 that must be correctly defined. First, there is petros (translated Peter), which means "a little rock." Then there is petra (translated "rock," which literally means "a large mass of stone." So Jesus said, "Upon this rock (petra-a large mass of stone--meaning Himself) I will build my church."

On page 302 in Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, under the heading of "Rock," are these words: "Petra denotes a mass of rock, as distinct from petros, a detached stone or boulder, or a stone that might be easily moved or thrown."

Commenting on Matthew 16:18, Mr. Vine further said, " ... here the distinction between Petra (concerning the Lord Himself) and Petros (the Apostle) is clear."

Luke, the inspired writer of the Book of Acts, also records that Peter made a distinction between the Lord and himself, in relation to the spiritual foundation, when he said, "This (the Lord) is the stone which was set at nought by you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:11, 12).

Actually, the church's foundation is a twelve-fold one, incorporating not only Peter, but all the Twelve Apostles. This is seen in Paul's words: "And (we) are built upon the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone" (Ephesians 2:20). So Peter was one of the stones in the foundation, but he was not the chief cornerstone.

Though Peter held no place of primacy among the apostles, Christ, in relation to the establishing of the New Testament church, did place in his hands greater authority than that held by any other man. To him He had said, "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." The New Bible Commentary says of this verse: "This means that Peter would have the right to enter the kingdom himself, would have general authority therein (symbolized by his possession of the keys), and, by preaching the gospel, would be the means of opening the kingdom of heaven to those who believed, and shutting it against all unbelievers."

Around the world today there are many church denominations, many doctrines, many ways, many ideas, many doors, many folds, many gospels. But this is not endorsed by the Bible. Job prophesied of one way. David spoke of one path. Jesus spoke of one door, one sheepfold, one church and one gospel. Paul echoed this great truth when he wrote, "There is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5).

There is one door to salvation, and that door is Jesus Christ (John 10:9). All who try to enter by any other way are thieves and robbers (John 10: 1).

The key of man's making will never unlock the door of salvation in any generation. Only the plan which the Lord gave to Peter, and only the doctrines preached by the apostles will unlock the door of salvation. (cont page 11)

continued from page 10

The Keys To The Kingdom

What are the keys, or doctrines, which Jesus placed in the hands of Peter? What were the great truths by which Peter unlocked the door in the beginning-truths that were to be perpetuated by the church? And what was that form of doctrine spoken of by Paul, which could make one the servant of righteousness? (Romans 6:17, 18).

Turning again to the inspired writings of Scripture, we can find that form of doctrine preached by Peter, and later by all the disciples and apostles of Christ. That form of doctrine was the Apostles' doctrine (Acts 2:41). It was later spoken of as the decrees ordained of the apostles (Acts 16:4).

In truth, it can be said that Peter's preaching of the gospel was the means of opening the kingdom of heaven to all who would heed its call by responding in faith and obedience.

What was the form of doctrine Peter delivered in the beginning? What was that gospel he preached, which opened the kingdom of heaven to those who heard?

It is the gospel or doctrine found recorded in the second chapter of Acts. After preaching a powerful sermon concerning the Lordship and the Messiah ship of Jesus Christ, Peter commanded those of the multitude: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38). "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine" Acts 2:41, 42).

Some teach that Paul's instruction to the Philippian jailer: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31), is God's complete New Testament plan of salvation, and that faith in Jesus Christ is all that is required today. Those who support such a position make two mistakes: (1) They fail to consider that the Philippian jailer was a heathen with no knowledge of Jesus Christ, so that before he could obey the commands of

Christ, he must have knowledge of Him and faith in Him. Remember that Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). (2) They put Peter at odds with Paul, in the gospel message preached. To do this is to confuse the whole issue, and the Scriptures declare that God is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33).

A study of the Scriptures will reveal that the doctrine Peter preached on the day of Pentecost was the same doctrine that Paul preached to the Philippian jailer.

After Paul said to this jailer: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," we read that " ... they spake unto him the word of the Lord" Since the word of the Lord was spoken to the jailer, it is necessary to know what this word embraces, in order to know what was required of him.

The Prophet Isaiah declared, " ... out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Isaiah 2:3). In connection with this, Jesus said, " ... repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47). The word of the Lord began to be preached in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2). Acts 2:38, already quoted, shows that this was a message of repentance and remission of sins. This, then, was the word of the Lord.

If the word of the Lord was preached to the jailer in Philippi, it must have been the message of repentance and remission of sins, and the receiving of the Holy Ghost. This is further confirmed by the fact that the same results occurred both in Jerusalem and in Philippi. At Pentecost, they that gladly received the word were baptized. At Philippi, the jailer " ... was baptized, he and all his straightway." The form of doctrine delivered by the Apostle Paul was

the same as that delivered by the Apostle Peter.

The keys to the kingdom of heaven had been given to Peter, and he used them on the day of Pentecost. Now the door of the kingdom has been unlocked, and stands open.

Have you entered?



Hope in His Name

**When trials come and fears arise,
Look to the Lord, lift up your eyes.
For in His name, our hope is bright,
A guiding star through darkest night.**

**The nations place their trust in Him,
A light that never fades or dims.
His promises forever true,
His love will always carry you.**

**So do not fear, stand firm, believe,
His grace is more than we conceive.
For in His name, both great and small,
Will find their hope—He saves us all.
Catherine Pulsifer**

Faithful

*Is He who has promised
Are you passing through a testing?
Is your pillow wet with tears?
Do you wonder what the reason. Why it
seems God never hears?
Why it is you have no answer
To your oft-repeated plea.
Why the heaven still is leaden
As you wait on bended knee?
Do you wonder as you suffer. Whether God
does understand.
And if so, why He ignores you,
Fails to hold you in His hand?
Do black doubts creep in, assail you, Fears
without, and fears within,
Till your brave heart almost falters And
gives way to deadly sin?
All God's testing have a purpose— Some
day you will see the light,
All He asks is that you trust Him, Walk by
faith and not by sight,
Do not fear when doubts beset you, Just
remember—He is near;
He will never, never leave you,
He will always, always hear.
Faithful is He who has promised,
He will never let you fall,
Daily will the strength be given Strength
for each and strength for all. He will gladly
share pain with you, He will gladly give
you peace,
Till your tired and weary body
Find its blessed, glad release.
When the darken veil is lifted,
Then dear heart, you'll understand Why it
is you had to suffer,
Why you could not feel His hand Giving
strength when it was needed, Giving power
and peace within Giving joy thru tears and
trial,
Giving victory over sin.
So till then just keep on trusting, Thru the
sunshine and the rain,
Thru the tears and thru the heart-aches,
Thru the smiles and thru the pain Knowing
that our Father watches, Knowing daily
strength He'll give, Victory for each
passing hour,
This is life, so let us live! — unknown*

About Us

America's Christian Newspaper
(Christian Tabernacle Church)
is a non-profit entity dedicated

to our purpose of reaching men and women, boys and girls, and prisons with the truth from the Gospel We are very thankful for the years that we have been able to publish this newspaper. Through the years we have been very successful in reaching the lost throughout the United States as well as other countries.

Since we began this work, one of our core values has been careful steward-ship.

Our Church has supported this newspaper as well as faithful newspaper supporters. I write this letter today because I want you to know that that America's Christian Newspaper is in great need financially, many of our older supporters who have been very faithful to the paper for years have passed away.

We never want to lose this great outreach therefore we appeal you, our readers. We have always been discreet in asking for contributions but we are a place where we need your help. If you have received the newspaper and have enjoyed it, please remember us today with your donation we send out this newspaper free to all, your gift not only benefits you but you are reaching others with us.

Thanks to you in advance
God bless you.

What can you do to help

What can you do today? Do something amazing by helping change the lives of people who don't know the truth. There are lots of ways you can make a difference: Prayer, because God is mindful of prayer, prayer is an action that gets God involved, but giving is an action you take by faith that gets you directly involved to help the work of God get carried out to the lost. Every other month we have been able to mail America's Christian Newspaper out but not the volume we need. Please help us to reach others. Any donations great or small is a blessing. All donations are used strictly for reaching out with this newspaper. God bless you.



Thought Provoking Gems

Things to Be Remembered in 2025

That it pays to forget those things that are behind.
 That what I would do for Christ must needs be done for others.
 That a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.
 That the greatest thing in all the world is love.
 That the way to find happiness is to forget self.
 That a word once spoken can never be recalled.
 That no suffering is too great if it contributes to the building and
 nurture of Christian character.
 That to correct one fault in myself is greater than to correct ten in my
 neighbor.
 That yesterday is gone forever; tomorrow may never come; today, only
 is mine.
 That time is too precious to be used other than for His glory.
 That to offer a cup of cold water in His name or to help one
 discouraged soul, is a greater contribution than to speak with the
 tongues of men or of angels.
 That the glory of life is: To love, not to be loved; to give, not to get; to
 serve, not to be served.
 That nothing short of loving the Lord my God with all my heart and my
 neighbor as myself will please Him.
 Evnagelist of Truth

Denying Self

When I refuse the easy thing for love of my Lord,
 And when I choose the hardest thing for love of my Lord
 And do not make a fuss or speak a grumbling word,
THAT IS DISCIPLINE
 When everything seems going wrong and yet I will not grouse,
 When it is hot, and I am tired and yet I will not grouse,
 But sing a song and do my work in shop, in office, and in the house,
THAT IS DISCIPLINE
 When Satan whispers, "Scamp your work," to say to him, "I won't"
 When Satan whispers, "Slack a bit," I say to him, "I won't"
 To rule myself and not wait for oth-ers' do and don't,
THAT IS DISCIPLINE
 When I look up and triumph over every sinful thing.
 The things that no one knows about, the cowardly selfish thing,
 And when with heart and will I live to please my glorious King,
THAT IS DISCIPLINE
 To trample on that curious thing inside me that says "I"
 To think of others always, always, never, never of "I"
 To live according to my Saviour's word, "Deny,"
"That Is Discipline"

WHY WORRY?

Worry? Why worry? What can worry do?
 It never keeps a trouble from overtaking you.
 It gives you indigestion,
 and wakeful hours at night.
 And fills with gloom the days,
 however fair and bright.
 It puts a frown upon the face and sharpness
 in the tone.
 We're unfit to live with others and unfit to
 live alone.
 Worry? Why worry? What can worry do?
 It never keeps a trouble from overtaking you!
 Pray? Why Pray? What can praying do?
 Praying really changes things,
 arranges life anew.
 It's good for your digestion, gives peaceful sleep at
 night,
 And fills the grayest, gloomiest days
 with rays of glowing light.
 It puts a smile upon your face,
 the love-note in your tone,
 Makes you fit to live with others,
 and fit to live alone.
 Pray? Why pray? What can praying do?
 It brings God down from Heaven
 to live and work with you! selected

WHAT IS BROTHERLY LOVE?

It's **SILENCE** when your words would hurt.
 It's **PATIENCE** when your friend is curt. It's
DEAFNESS when some gossip flows, It's
COMPASSION from a brother's woes,
 It's **COURAGE** when misfortune falls,
 It's **PIRMNESS** when one's duty calls,
 It's **WILLINGNESS** to help another,
 It's **TRUSTING** and especially a brother,
 It's **RESTITUTION** made when due t It's
PORGIVING when it's asked of you.

-Pulpit Helps

Think On These Things

Have you Harkened to the Bible?

Revelation, chapters 1 and 22, call The Holy Bible A Book of Prophecy, which all men can read aloud in their own homes to their own family members, whose words must not be changed in any way or there were things the Lord God would do.

Israel's prophet Malachi said A Book of Remembrance would come for a disobedient remnant of the sons of Jacob before the Lord made up His jewels, and burned up all proud men like stubble.

Peter wrote to the strangers scattered throughout Pontius, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia who had partaken of the divine nature and escaped the corruption of this world through lust to add to their faith virtue, and knowledge, and temperance, and patience, and godliness, and brotherly kindness, and charity.

Then he warned them to make their calling and election sure, for if they did those things they would not fall, but would enter into the everlasting kingdom of their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

What a promise!

In John 21, Peter said that while he was still in this tabernacle (his fleshly temple) he wanted to put the saints in remembrance, knowing that shortly he would be sacrificed on a cross as the Lord Jesus Christ had showed him.

We who can read both Testaments of That Book of Remembrance in our own homes should give diligence to make our calling and election sure. Revelation 1:1-3 says men can read That Book of Prophecy aloud to the members of their own families while it is still the age of God's grace to Gentiles.

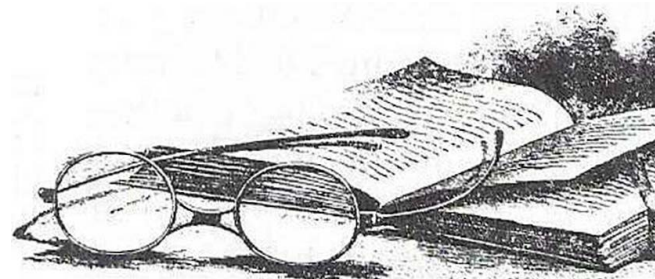
Christ fulfilled everything written on Him in The Law, and Psalms, and Prophets, and then returned to His Heavenly Father's right hand to prepare a place for us. That Book of Remembrance shows us who seek the Kingdom of God first, and His righteousness. (Matt. 6 and Luke 12)

It is urgent that we read the Scriptures every day, so that we do not "neglect so great salvation." by Paula Philby Brodin

"Likewise reckon ye yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:11)

"And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with affections and lusts." (Gal. 5:24)

"It is a faithful saying, for if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him." (II Timothy 2:11)



A Man of One Book

I have often thought I am a creature of a day, passing through life as an arrow through the air. I am a spirit come from God, and returning to God; just hovering over the great gulf, till a few moments hence, I am no more seen; I drop into an unchangeable eternity! I want to know one thing-the way to Heaven; how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this very thing He came from Heaven. He hath written it down in a Book. Oh, give me that Book! At any price give me the Book of God! I have it, here is knowledge enough for me Here, then, I am far from the busy ways of men. I sit down alone; only God is here. In His presence I open, I read His Book, for this end, to find the way to heaven.

***"Holiness unto the LORD"
signifies complete dedication and
consecration to God. It reflects God's desire
for His people to be set apart for His purposes.***

Holiness And Fruitfulness

Personal holiness, and overt fruitfulness are achieved indirectly under heaven's rule, not by focusing directly upon them as such. That is to say, they are realized by individuals as a result of their abiding in Christ (Jn. 15:1-10). And such realization requires that "the inward man" be "renewed day by day" (II Cor. 4:16). It is also well to consider that this renewing will not take place through the eating of stale manna. The mind and heart of the justified, as well as his "path" must shine "more and more unto the perfect day" ever increasing in the knowledge of God (Prov. 4:18). In Zion, it will be recalled, "they go from strength to strength every one of them" (Ps. 84:7), and it is "a man of knowledge" that "increaseth strength" (Prov. 24:5), not one who has an aversion thereunto.

Read & Obey Acts 2:38

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For with God nothing shall be impossible
Luke 1:37

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