

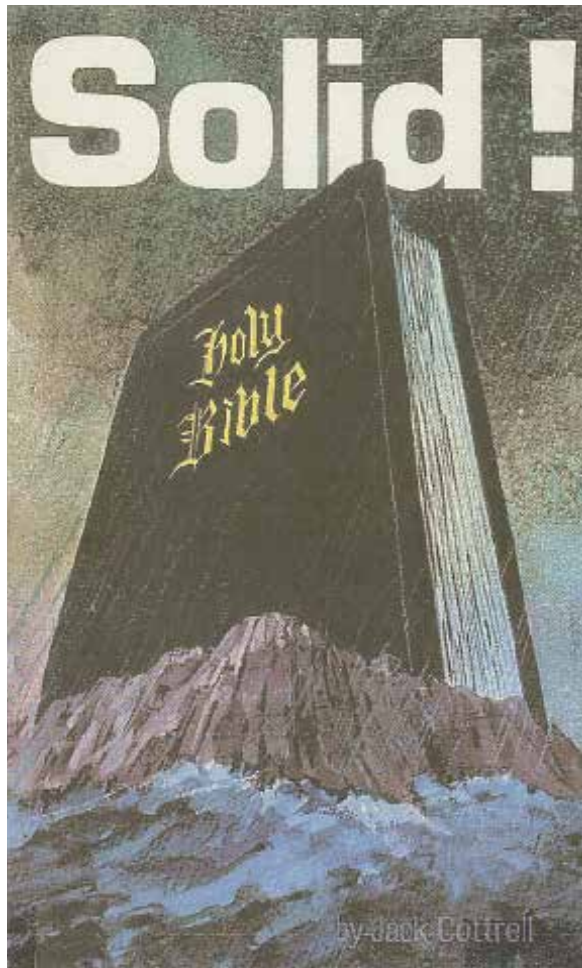


AMERICA'S

CHRISTIAN NEWSPAPER

May -June 2019

OUR GOAL: REACHING FOR LOST SOULS FOR CHRIST WHILE THERE IS TIME



The Bible Stands

The Bible stands like a rock
undaunted
'Mid the raging storms of time;
Its pages burn with the
truth eternal,
And they glow with a light sublime.
The Bible stands though the hills
may tumble,
It will firmly stand when the earth
shall crumble;
I will plant my feet on its
firm foundation,
For the Bible stands.
The Bible stands like a mountain
towering

Far above the works of men;
Its truth by none ever was refuted,
And destroy it they never can.
The Bible stands, and it will forever
When the world has passed away;
By inspiration it has been given,
All its precepts I will obey.
The Bible stands every test
we give it,
For its Author is divine;
By grace alone I expect to live it,
And to prove and to make it mine.

—Haldor Lillenas

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**CHRIST IS
THE ANSWER**

Greetings to the Saints of God!



Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus

As you have already noticed America's Christian Newspaper has taken on a new look. As with all things in this day things are changing and going into a more digital world. In order to move with the times, we are changing our way of doing layouts for the newspaper, I will say we have been behind in moving ahead for some time.

People usually avoid changes and prefer to stay with what they are familiar with, but once that you get the courage and take the first step to change, then hopefully things

will fall into place. One never knows what each change may bring. It is our sincere desire that the changes will be for the better and that you will enjoy and be inspired by the word of God in the pages of America's Christian Newspaper.

The Newspaper has been blessing to many souls for over 40 years, one thing that hasn't changed and that is, the message from the word of God. The Bible itself says, "The word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). The Bible is alive, it speaks; it has feet, it runs; it has hands, it lays hold on us." But the writer of Hebrews never meant that the Bible is subject to revision or "new revelations" according to shifting public tastes and political moods

The Bible doesn't change; it changes us. If we disagree with something we read in Scripture, it's not the Bible that needs to change—it's us. We must reexamine our opinions and change them in the light of God's unchanging Word. As many in the church subtly move away from a Biblical teaching the church is being led into apostasy and error, the church has sidelined itself and made itself irrelevant at the very time that the world is in desperate need of God's Truth.

God's message to us hasn't changed since the beginning of time. It remains the same: Do not tamper with the Truth of God. Christ taught His disciples the importance of knowing, speaking, and defending the Truth because Jesus Himself is Truth incarnate. Christian complacency and apostasy are a threat to the life of the church. The church can only be destroyed from within if we stray from the Scriptures and contaminate God's Truth with worldly ideas. The church must wake up and shake itself from its long stupor. You and I and everyone who claims to follow Jesus must take an unshakable stand on the unchanging Truth. As always we thank you for your support and prayers you inspire us to do the work of God

~ Brother Junior Tingle

I am overcome with joy

because of your unfailing love, for you have seen my troubles,

and you care about the anguish of my soul. Psalm 31:7

TROUBLES

Are you troubled, does it seem, That in this World of pain,

The sun may never shine its face, Upon your life again?

Are you worried, do you think, Your life holds nothing good, That everything you say or do, Is just misunderstood?

Are you lonely, do you feel, No one on earth could care, As you daily walk in sorrow, To the rhythm of despair?

Are you hurting, do you long, For a kindly word or touch, From gentle hands of someone, Who will love you very much?

Are you seeking, do you wish, Your problems would be cured, That in the place of heartaches, Only blessings could be stored?

Though answers may elude you, To life's problems you will face, Perfect peace is found in Jesus, God of comfort, love and grace.

For Jesus came here to save us, He braved the cross at Calvary, Asking just that we accept Him, To be saved ~ eternally.

So at every precious moment, Heaven's blessings we can claim, Since our victories in battle, Have been won in Jesus' name.

© Sylvia Lavalley

The Christian Tabernacle Church



1406 Tucker Schoolhouse Road
Madisonville, Kentucky 42434

Phone:
270-584-4248

Service Schedule:

Sunday Morning	Sunday Evening	Tuesday Evening	Thursday
Word & Worship	Word & Worship	Bible Study	Evening
10:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	Youth Service
			7:30 p.m.

Please remember To pray for this Newspaper!

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To write to America's Christian Newspaper if you want to be on our mailing list.

You can also text us your name and address to 270-339-0873 and we will be glad to send you the next issue.

Oh Yes! Don't forget to send a donation to keep this great paper alive.

Paul's Gospel

By A.L. Clanton

Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to MY GOSPEL" (2 Timothy 2:8).

The word gospel originally came from godspell, which meant good story, or good news. Later the word was rendered godspel, and assumed the meaning of God's story. Specifically, it is the good news of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ. This good news embraces both the existence of salvation, and the conditions one must meet to receive it.

Paul boldly used the words "MY gospel." This he could do because his gospel was Christ's gospel. The apostle declared, "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after men. For I neither received it of men, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." There is only one true gospel—the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The gospel preached by Paul was this one true gospel.

Paul received the gospel through revelation in 34 A. D., when he was saved. Fourteen years later he was led of God to go to Jerusalem and confer with the other apostles. He later testified that those with whom he conferred added nothing to him (his knowledge of Christ). This proves that the gospel he had been preaching was exactly identical with what the other apostles had preached. All were preaching the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is easy to find in the Scriptures the gospel that Paul preached, the gospel that he received by revelation, the true gospel of Christ.

In Ephesians 1:13 Paul said, "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salva-



tion: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise." Paul, writing to the Christians in Ephesus, reminded them of some things that had occurred when they were saved. These things came as a result of their hearing and obeying what he called the word of truth; the gospel of their salvation.

God, in His divine omniscience, saw fit to re-cord in minute detail what Paul preached to the Ephesians—that which the apostle later called the gospel of their salvation. God did this simply and plainly, so that any mature person with unbiased mind can understand it.

The gospel of salvation that Paul preached to the Ephesians is found recorded in Acts 19:1-6. Paul, on his travels, went to Ephesus, where he found twelve men who were disciples of John the Baptist. They were not Christians in the real sense of the word. They had heard John's message, probably through some of his followers, and had been baptized with John's baptism.

Paul immediately detected a lack in the lives of these twelve men. Consequently he asked them, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" This question clearly reveals that one does not necessarily receive the Holy Ghost when he believes. Some erroneously assume that all who believe, do, by virtue of their believing, automatically receive the Holy Ghost. If this were true, Paul's asking the twelve men if they had received the Holy Ghost since they believed, would have been utterly absurd.

The twelve Ephesians readily admitted that they had not even heard of the Holy Ghost. Paul immediately asked them, "Unto what then were ye baptized?" He knew that every believer, properly baptized, was promised the Holy Ghost. Since they had not received this experience, he concluded that they had not been properly baptized. His conclusion was justified; they replied that they had (only) been baptized with John's baptism.

"Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance." With that statement, Paul confirmed the vital doctrine of repentance. He did not there enlarge upon it, for the twelve men had already repented. The doctrine of repentance is generally ignored by most preachers today. To repent is to turn away from all sin, and to turn to God, in believing prayer, for forgiveness. Jesus said, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish!" According to Paul, John had also taught the people "... that they: should believe on him which should come after him (John), that is, on Christ Jesus."

Thus Paul sanctioned John's teaching of the necessity of believing on Christ. Such faith is an integral part of thee gospel. "When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus." Do

not lose sight of the fact that Paul, later writing to the Ephesians, designated these various things collectively as the gospel of their salvation. Water baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ is, therefore, an essential part of the gospel.

The apostles always baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (see Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48). The words "in the name of" Jesus Christ are a part of the actual baptismal formula. They are not to be construed as "by the authority of" as some erroneously teach.

If the words "in the name of" actually mean "by the authority of," then these words would necessarily have the same meaning in Matthew 28:19, Baptismal candidates would consequently not be baptized IN any name.

History plainly states that the words "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost" were not used in the baptismal formula until many years later.

"And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied."

These men had believed, repented, and had been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Still Paul was not content with their spiritual state. They needed to be baptized with the Holy Ghost. From this we see that laymen should receive the Holy Ghost as well as ministers. There is no record that these twelve men were called into the ministry.

And remember, Paul's first question to them was this: "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" This shows the extreme importance of this experience.

Have you received the Holy Ghost? When the Holy Ghost came upon these men, they spoke with tongues, and proph-

The GIANT in front of you IS NEVER
bigger than the GOD inside you!

Q & A

By O. F. Fauss

Please explain Hebrews 6:4-6. Does this mean that if one backslides after he has been saved, there is no place of repentance for him?

This passage of Scripture reads: "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame."

The term "fall away" means more than what we refer to as backsliding. However, backsliding is the beginning of falling away, which I doubt ever happens to a person suddenly.

Paul wrote, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but

became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened ... Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves ... For this cause, God gave them up unto vile affections ... And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient" (Romans 1: 18-28). The next four verses show the fallen condition of these people, and the judgment of God which was to follow. Read also 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12.

There is only one approach to God-through

repentance, and that' comes from godly sorrow, for Paul said, "Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repent-ance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort " (2 Corinthians 7:9-11).

Therefore, when a person backslides, he can repent. But when a person falls away, until he has no feeling of regret, and is possessed of a reprobate mind, believing a lie because of strong delusion, there is no hope of repentance. All this starts when one rejects the truth, for Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

When a person who has repented, has been baptized in Jesus' name, and has received the Holy Ghost, backslides and goes back into sin, is it necessary for him to be baptized again in water when he returns to the church, and is refilled with the Holy Ghost?

To become a child of God, one must be born again. Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Then He added, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:3,5).

Jesus told His apostles, "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his (Jesus') name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem"

(Luke 24:47). (Read also Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16; Acts 1:3-8.)

On the day of Pentecost it all began when Peter answered the question of the multitude: "What shall we do?" His answer is found in Acts 2:38, 39, which shows by pattern, precept and example how one becomes a child of God and enters into the kingdom of God.

When one backslides, he becomes a disobedient child. He does not need to be born again of water and of the Spirit, but rather needs to come back to God in repentance, asking forgiveness, and for a refilling of His Spirit. He must again take up his cross where he laid it down. Unless he does this,

FORBIDDEN FRUIT

Heavenly Treasures

Treasures come in many
forms—Money, houses, and land,
Cabins in the mountains,
Condos on the sand,
Fancy cars and clothing,
Diamonds, silver, and gold.
No good thing is withheld
from those
Within the Shepherd's fold.
But, these material gifts we
enjoy
As we travel this earthly sod,
Can be a curse, rather than a
blessing,
If we let them become our
god.
When we love the gift more
than the Giver,
We're treading on dangerous
ground;
For those things we valued so
highly
Aren't the treasures we
thought we'd found—Our souls
are left impoverished,
Hungry and thirsty within,
As we find we've left our first
Love,
And fallen into sin.
I'd rather have nothing of ma-
terial worth,
As I sit at the Master's feet,
Than to have the wealth of all
the world—
And miss Heavenly Treasures
so sweet.

By Connie Bratcher

BY ELMO RODGERS

"... she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat" (Genesis 3:6).

WHAT IS KNOWN about the forbidden fruit? Very little, I assure you. Many have given their ideas as to what it was; but to call it an apple, or anything else except fruit, would be purely guesswork on the part of anyone. We do know, however, that there was a tree, which grew in the midst of the garden of Eden, that it was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and a tree to be desired to make one wise. The fruit of the tree was good for food, and pleasant to the eye.

Sometimes, though, what we do not know about something can tell us far more than what we do know. This, I believe, is one of those instances. For example, we do not know how big the fruit was. Was it the size of a grape, or cherry; or was it the size of an apple, or larger? Moreover, when Adam and Eve ate of that fruit, how much did they eat? Was it a whole piece, or just two bites? All of these questions, so far as the Scriptures relate, are unanswered.

No doubt, the reason all these questions are left unanswered, is due to the fact that they are not relevant to the subject. It is enough just to know that the fruit was forbidden, and that Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating it. How much they ate is not important. One bite, in God's sight, was just as much disobedience as eating half the fruit on the tree would have been.

However, the way some people today look at it, they would not have

been of sinning if they had just eaten a bite or two; they would have had to eat a bushel of it.

But regardless of how people look at it, the fact remains that they were driven out of the garden, and never allowed to re-enter it. Furthermore, the curse placed on Adam of having to earn his bread by the sweat of his face, and of the earth yielding thorns and thistles to him, with that of Eve's bringing forth children in pain, is just as real, even today in the descendants of Adam, as it was the day it happened, whether they ate a large or a small portion of the fruit.

This illustrates to us very plainly the difference between man's reasoning, and God's reasoning. Men have sins classified. There are large sins, and small ones; there are white lies, and black ones. But God knows no such classifications. To him a lie is a lie, and a sin is a sin. These "classified" sins are entirely men's ideas. Therefore, in view of this, let us use a little of God's in our own lives. Ladies, is it wrong to cut your hair? If it you don't have to cut it until you're bald for it to be wrong. Just a little taste of the "forbidden fruit ... " You know what I mean; one whack with the scissors, or anything else you might use to cut it off just a little around the edge, is sufficient.

Most of the time we want to excuse what seems to us to be the little things. We say, "Oh well, that doesn't amount to anything. There's no harm in a little thing like that." Oh no? Well, a little 22 rifle shell will kill you just as dead as an atom bomb. If sin will cause a man to lose his soul (and it will), a small one will be just as effective as a one.

Moreover, that sort of thinking can, and will, if it is not put down, place us in the same category as certain other religious groups. You know the kind I mean. Those who say: "It's all right to drink, as long as you don't get

drunk"; or, "There's no harm in gambling, as long as it's for a good cause, like helping the church, or a charity." You can even call your neighbor every name in the book (and perhaps a few that aren't), just as long as you go to church on Sunday morning, and drop your "bribe money" in the collection plate to support the preacher.

Achan didn't steal the whole city of Jericho. He took only one Babylonian garment, a golden wedge, and two hundred shekels of silver. But God didn't punish him for what he took; He punished him for disobedience. God had said for Israel not to partake of Jericho at all, for it was accursed to him. That meant not to take even a tooth pick from off a dinner table (if there were any tooth picks). Achan, no doubt, would have been punished just as severely if he had taken only one piece of silver, and left everything else behind.

The commandment of God to His people today is for them to be a peculiar people unto Him. That is, they are to serve no other God; and to be completely separated from the world. Anyone who tries to camouflage, or excuse himself, with the idea that small sins don't count, will awaken someday to the sad fact that he, too, must pay the same penalty for his sins that the "big" sinners have to pay. For this world, with all its sin, is accursed to God.

Let me implore you, therefore, to look at sin as it really is. For even as ice is just as surely ice, regardless of whether it be in a cube from the refrigerator, or in a five hundred pound block; and water is just as surely water, no matter if the quantity is a cupful, or an ocean full, so is sin just as sure to be sin, regardless of its size, shape, color, or quantity. There is no way to excuse for it; let us not seek one.

It is forbidden FRUIT.

Wheel of Prophecy

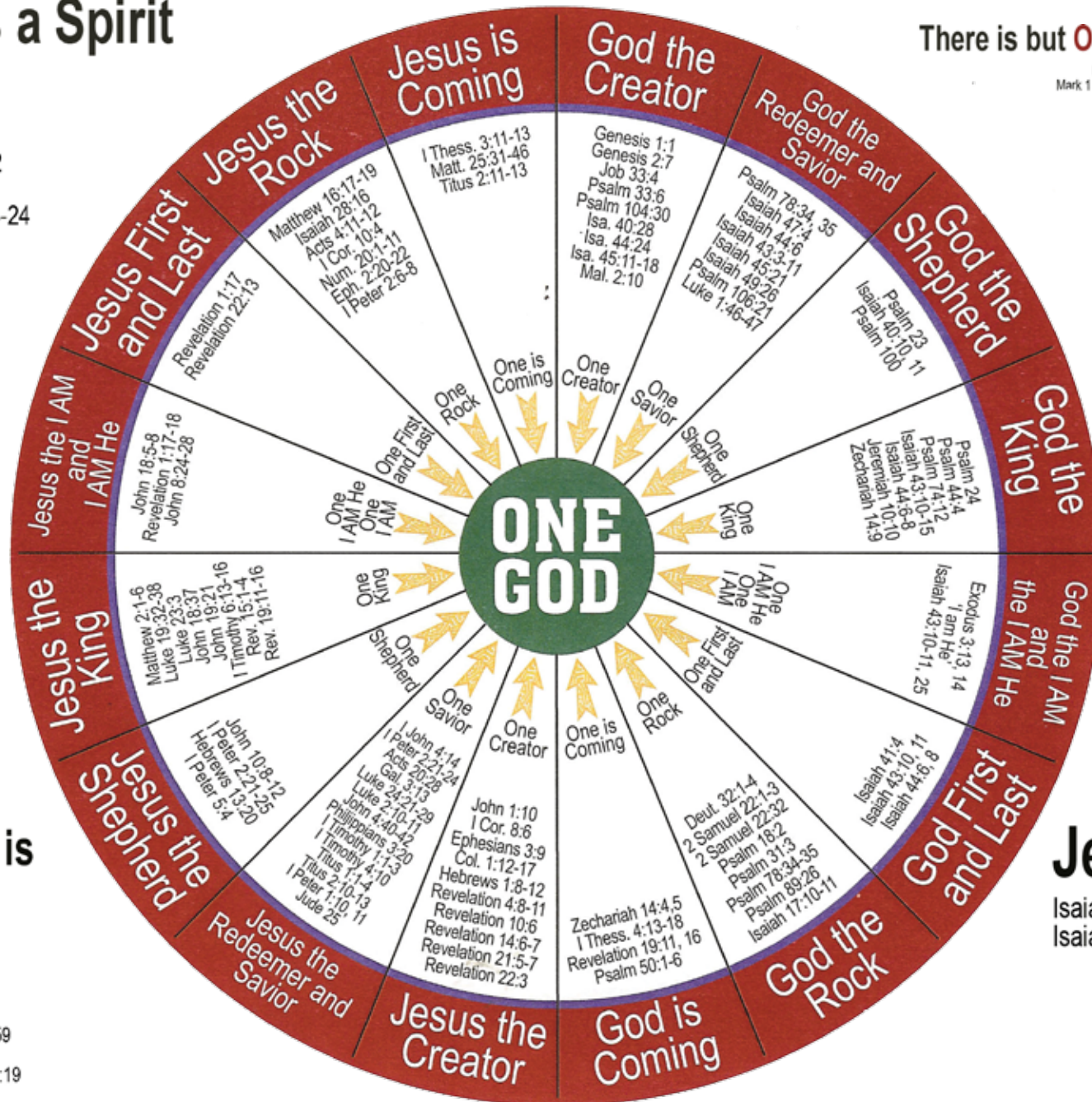
Who Is GOD?

God Is a Spirit

John 4:23-24
Acts 7:48-49
Acts 17:24-28
Psalm 139:7-12
I Kings 8:27
Jeremiah 23:23-24

There is but One God

Deuteronomy 6:4-9
Mark 1:28-34
Malachi 2:10
Isaiah 44:6-8
Isaiah 45:2-6, 21-23
Isaiah 46:8-9
I Corinthians 8:4-6
Ephesians 4:5-6
I Timothy 2:5
James 2:19
Revelation



Jesus is God

Isaiah 7:14
Isaiah 9:6
Micah 5:2
John 1:1, 14
John 1:10
John 8:24, 58-59
John 14:6-11
II Corinthians 5:19
I Timothy 3:16

Jesus Is Man

Isaiah 7:14
Isaiah 9:6

Luke 1:31; 2:6-7
Acts 17:31
Galatians 4:4
Philippians 2:7-8
I Timothy 2:5
Hebrews 4:15
Hebrews 7:24-25

Forgiveness is a central rule of Christianity. This Christian poem reminds us that we must forgive as Jesus forgave us.

If...

If the world were full of Christians
who studied their Bible daily,
who really did believe
God's commands
applied to them,
who put what they learned
in God's Holy Word
into practice,
their actions reflecting that
Word,
then earth would be close to
heaven.

If the world were full of Christians
who knew that being a Christian
is more than going to church,
who lived their lives according
to God's will,
service to Him their
main purpose,
who practiced Jesus' teachings
every day, with everyone
they met,
loving and helping their
neighbors,
then the earth would be a place
of heavenly harmony and peace.

By Joanna Fuchs

SOMEONE ELSE SUDDENLY DIES

The Church was saddened to learn this week of the sudden and unexpected death of one of our parish's most active members; Someone Else.

As we approach the middle of 2019 and look ahead to the next year, we must reflect, all of us, upon this very sobering news.

Someone Else's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for years and for everyone of those years, Someone Else did far more than a normal person's share of the work. When-ever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results: "Someone Else can work with that group." When there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend ... "Let Someone Else do it."

It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the largest givers in the parish. When-ever there was a financial need everyone assumed that Someone Else would make up the difference.

Someone Else was a wonderful person, some times appearing to be superhuman, but a person 'can do only so much. Were the truth known, every-body expected too much of Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone!

We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is go-



ing to follow it? Who is going to do everything for us.

do the things we were always too willing to let Someone Else do? This means of course, that we can no longer depend on Someone Else to

If all the areas of ministry and needs that exist here are to be taken care of, then we must do it together.

Our Partners in Helping to Spread the Word

America's Christian Newspaper is blessed to have the support and help from congregations all over the country, spreading the Word far and wide.

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A Lot Depends on Fathers

1. Don't underestimate the importance of your role. As head of the family, the basic unit of society, you and all other fathers vitally affect the destiny of the community, nation, and world.

2. Give your home top priority. No matter how successful you may be on the job or in your business ventures, your life can be a failure if you neglect to give your family the time and personal attention they both need and deserve.

3. Find fulfillment by living up to your parental duties. When men abandon the up-bringing of their children to their wives, a loss is suffered by everyone, but perhaps most of all by themselves. Your children need you, and you need your children.

4. Let strength distinguish everything you do. A man's contribution should be strength, as an influence on his children and on society.

5. Set aside time for your family. Young people measure their father's interest in them in direct proportion to the time he spends with them.

6. Make your home a happy home. Make the family a center of joy.

7. Be a good listener. Share your children's experiences and problems by listening.

8. Set an example for your children. Practice what you preach.

9. Teach them to take responsibility.

Don't hand them everything "on a platter."

10. Develop each child's personality. Treat each child as an individual to be guided and encouraged.

11. Understand the true meaning of discipline. Let your authority be motivated by love. Be considerate, but firm when you need to be.

12. Spur their creativity. Give them a chance to dream dreams, to unlock their imaginations, to awaken their senses to God's creation.

13. Nurture their spiritual life. Instill in them a sturdy sense of religion and worship.

14. Take their studies seriously. Insist on regular study hours.

15. Help them to acquire a liking for books. Introduce them to joys and treasures of good books.

16. Teach them the value of money. Show them how to use their money wisely.

17. Give them a healthy attitude towards sex. Instruct them and give them reverence for the body and the sanctity of marriage.

18. Inspire them to lead constructive lives. Train them to think beyond self in planning their lives.

19. Look at things from their point of view.



These church signs are not original material but if you haven't read them for a while, I'm sure you'll find them both witty and wise.

"Prevent truth decay. Brush up on your Bible."

"The best vitamin for a Christian is B1."

"Under same management for over 2000 years."

"Soul food served here."

"Tithe if you love Jesus! Anyone can honk!"

"Beat the Christmas rush, come to church this Sunday!"

"Don't wait for the hearse to take you to church."

"Life has many choices, Eternity has two. What's yours?"

"Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due."

"Wal-Mart isn't the only saving place!"

"Preach the gospel at all times. Use words if necessary."

"It's hard to stumble when you're down on your knees."

"What part of 'THOU SHALT NOT' don't you understand?"

"A clear conscience makes a soft pillow."

"The wages of sin is death. Repent before payday."

"Never give the devil a ride. He will always want to drive."

"Can't sleep? Try counting your blessings."

"Forbidden fruit creates many jams."

"Christians, keep the faith...but not from others!"

"Satan subtracts and divides. God adds and multiplies."

"If you don't want to reap the fruits of sin stay out of the devil's orchard."

"To belittle is to be little."

"Don't let the littleness in others bring out the littleness in you."

"God answers knee mail."

"Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will always take you."

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 stewardship. 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

Sister Gail Huddleston



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.

Commandments for Connubial Content

TEN COMMANDMENTS

FOR HUSBANDS

- 1) Thou shalt put thy wife before thy mother, thy father, thy daughter and thy son, for she is thy lifelong companion.
- 2) Abuse not thy body either with food, tobacco, or drink, that thy days may be many and healthful in the presence of thy loved ones.
- 3) Permit neither thy business nor thy hobby to make of thee a stranger to thy children, for the precious gift a man giveth his family is his time.
- 4) Forget not the virtue of cleanliness.
- 5) Make not thy wife a beggar, but share willingly with her thy worldly goods.
- 6) Forge not to say, "I love you." For even though thy love be constant, thy wife doth yearn to hear the words.
- 7) Remember that the approval of thy wife is worth more than the admiring glances of a hundred strangers. Cleave unto her and forsake all others.
- 8) Keep thy home in good repair, for out of it come the joys of thy old age.
- 9) Forgive with grace. For who among us doth not need to be forgiven?
- 10) Honor the Lord thy God all the days of thy life, and thy children will rise up and call thee blessed.

TEN COMMANDMENTS

FOR WIVES

- 1) Defile not thy body either with tobacco or alcohol, that thy days may be long in the house which thy husband provideth for thee.
- 2) Put thy husband before thy mother, thy father, thy daughter and thy son, for he is thy lifelong companion.
- 3) Thou shalt not nag.
- 4) Permit no one to tell thee that thou art having a hard time of it; neither thy mother, thy sister, nor thy neighbor, for the Judge will not hold her guilt-

less who letteth another disparage her husband.

- 5) Thou shalt not withhold affection from thy husband, for every man loveth to be loved.
- 6) Forget not. the virtue of cleanliness and modest attire.
- 7) Forgive with grace, for who among us doth not need forgiveness?
- 8) Remember that the frank approval of thy husband is worth more to thee than the admiring glances of a hundred strangers.
- 9) Keep thy home in good order, for out of it comes the joys of old age.
- 10) Honor the Lord thy God all the days of thy life, and thy children will rise up and call thee blessed.

• • • •

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT

To Love Thy Neighbor As Thyself

God of the fathers of our land, Teach us to fear Thy mighty hand. Oh, Lord, Oh, God of Israel.

Thou in whom we say we trust, Teach us, and chasten ... if You must. Oh, Lord, Oh, God of Israel.

Lord, fill our souls beyond all measure with all Thy blessed inward treasure. Teach us, as You have taught of old,

To love our brothers more than gold, The lesson that has always been

that we must love all other men.

As children asking father or mother,

"Do you love me, or love my brother?

Which of us do you love best?"

This is the answer from Thy heart,

"No child of mine is set apart.

Which of you do I love best? You know I love you all the best."

Harry M. Sarason

Loving Honor and

Obedience to

Parents Enjoined

"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." (Ex. 20: 12).

"Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, and keep my sabbaths: I am the Lord your God" (Lev. 19:3).

"My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother" (Prov. 1:8).

"Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness" (Prov. 20:20).

"The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it" (Prov 30: 17).

"Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begettest thou? or to the woman, What has thou brought forth?" (Isa. 45:10).

"For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death" (Matt. 15:4).

"But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God" (I Tim. 5:4).

"My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother" (Prov. 6:20).

"Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old" (Prov. 23:22).

"My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee" (Prov. 7:1). "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise)" (Eph. 6:1, 2).

The Touch Of The Master's Hand

God Said...

If you never felt pain,
Then how would you know that
I'm a Healer?

If you never went through dif-
ficulties,
Then how would you know that
I'm a Deliverer?

If you never had a trial,
Then how could you call your-
self an over-comer?

If you never felt sadness,
Then how would you know that
I'm a Comforter?

If you never made a mistake,
Then how would you know that
I'm forgiving?

If you knew all,
Then how would you know that
I will answer your questions?

If you never were in trouble,
Then how would you know that
I will come to your rescue?

If you never were broken,
Then how would know that I
can make you whole?

If you never had a problem,
Then how would you know that
I can solve them?

If I gave you all things,
Then how would you appreciate
them?

If I never corrected you,
Then how would you know that
I love you?

If you had all power,
Then how would you learn to
depend on me?

If your life was perfect,
Then what would you need Me
for?

unknown

Without our hands we would have a hard time making a living or doing anything worthwhile. Our civilization is the result of many centuries of hard work by millions of hands. Hands play a great role in the world. Hands have produced master pieces in art, music, literature, and architecture that will live as long as civilization lasts.

The greatest masterpieces, of course, come from the hands of those who have been touched by the mas- ter's hand. It is consecrated hands that have produced the greatest religious art, music, literature, and architecture. The hands that have built our church buildings and institutions of mercy throughout the world have been a means of blessing to untold thousands. The hands that have writ ten and produced our Gospel literature have brought many in touch with the Savior

But hands can curse as well as bless the world. We dislike to enumerate what evil hands have produced throughout the centuries. We wish to forget the hands that produced the guillotines, the torture chambers, the dungeons, the stocks and shackles, the guns, the swords. We wish to forget the hands that have cheated the poor, that have committed abominable crimes. Much of our modern music, literature, art, and architecture, produced by the hands of ungodly men, is an abomination.

Hands can strike or hands can soothe. Hands can curse God or be uplifted in humble prayer. Hands can sow to the flesh or sow to the spirit. Hands can reap the harvest of an unholy life, can send men behind penitentiary bars, can send men to hospitals writhing in pain. Or hands can reap the harvest of a holy life, can send men to their neighbors to spread the joys of salvation, can send men to Heaven taking their sheaves with them.

Some years ago, a man managed to pile up over three hundred million dollars by buying or wrecking or stealing railroads. In middle life he became a wreck in health and would sit for hours in his splendid hotel room twirling his thumbs around each other as fast as he could. It was as if all the car wheels that he had ever stolen from poor stockholders had been melted and poured into his blood turning him



into an insane, revolving car wheel. Those hands that had cheated the poor finally enslaved and killed this man. Hands can bring you life or death.

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart" (Psalm 24:3-4). The first man and woman, Adam and Eve, had clean hands and pure hearts when first created by God. The hands of God made man in His own image, but man surrendered his hands to Satan when those hands partook

of the forbidden fruit, and man lost that divine image.

God has always blessed clean hands, even though there may be little in those hands. When God gets hold of the little that is in clean hands, He makes it mighty. Moses had just a small rod in his hand, but he let God use it to break down the stubborn will of Pharaoh and make a way of escape for the enslaved children of Israel.

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The Touch Of The Master's Hand

Continued From Page 12

Gideon's army with mere empty pitchers and lamps routed a whole army. David, just a mere lad, un armed save for a sling and a stone, killed the giant and brought salvation to a whole nation. Five loaves and two fish fed a multitude when the master's hands touched them.

Christian friend, you may not feel that you have much in your hands, not many talents or abilities, but given over to God, what you have can become mighty.

Then there are hands that are clean and withered.: powerless, dried up, idle hands. You remember the story of the man with the withered hand who was brought to Jesus. Je sus commanded him, “Stretch forth thine hand and he stretched it forth: and it was restored whole, like as the other” (Matthew 12:13). This man’s hands were unsanctified, powerless hands until the Master touched and restored them to normal use.

Christ's hands are tear-stained hands, because when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion. Those were loving hands, for everywhere He went He opened blind eyes and made the deaf to hear. To the Christians who have never been able to witness for Christ, who have

never been filled with the blessed Holy Spirit, Christ commands, "Stand forth; stretch forth thine hand." To obey will result in restoration, fit for the master's use. But it takes the master's hand to restore it.

Weak hands can be made strong, withered hands can be made whole and flexible when touched by the power of God. A weak Christian can be made into a powerful Christian. A shallow experience can be turned into a full experience. Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). If your life is dry, shallow, Christ can touch it and make it new.

The story is told of an auctioneer, who during a sale came to an old violin, battered and scarred. "Who'll start the bidding?" he asked, holding it up. "A dollar, now two, only two? Two dollars, and who'll make it three? Three dollars once, three dollars twice, going for three "

Then from way back in the crowd a gray-haired man came forward and picked up the bow, wiped the dust from the old violin, tightened up the strings, and played a melody pure and sweet. The music ceased and the auctioneer said, "What am I bid for the old violin? A thousand dollars, and who'll make it two? Two thousand, who'll make it three? Three thousand once, three thousand twice, go-

ing and gone."

Some of the people cheered and some cried, "What changed the worth of the old violin?" The reply was, "The touch of the master's hand."

The story goes on to say that many a life battered and scarred and out of tune is auctioned off for per haps a gambling game or a glass of wine or some momentary thrill.

The man is going once, he's going twice, he's going and almost gone until the Master comes along. The crowd can't quite understand what changed the worth of that man, but the change was wrought by the touch of the master's band.

The Master with His holy hands came into the world that man's hands might become clean. Yes, take a look at the master's hands. They are strong hands, anointed by God to conquer all the foes of man, all the fears of man. They are also calloused hands that worked hard in the carpenter shop at Nazareth. They are tear-stained hands, because when Christ saw the multitudes He was moved with compassion. Those were loving hands, for everywhere He went He opened blind eyes, made the deaf to hear, the dumb to speak, the lame to walk. Yes, they were healing, all-powerful hands. And those hands were crucified hands, nail-pierced

hands, saving hands. Cruel men drove spikes through those hands.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my
soul, my life, my all.

It was those hands of the that changed rebellious Saul into one of the greatest saints the world has ever known.

When the Master touches any individual and commands the work to be done, nothing can hinder the divine flow of grace, the healing and cleansing power. When the shackles of sin are commanded to be broken, they are broken asunder once and for all. When sin is commanded to be removed, it is removed.

One touch of the master's hands on your hands which may be scarred and stained by sin will restore them to purity. There may be those who have little in their hands, but one touch of the master's hands on yours will multiply marvelously what you do have. There may be those whose hands are withered, powerless. One touch of the master's hand on yours will do the work. Whatever your need, that need can be met by the touch of the master's hand.

Selected

Heavenly Treasure

Treasures come in many forms-
Money, houses, and land,
Cabins in the mountains,
Condos on the sand,
Fancy cars and clothing,
Diamonds, silver, and gold.
No good thing is withheld from those
Within the Shepherd's fold.
But, these material gifts we enjoy
As we travel this earthly sod,

Can be a curse, rather than a blessing,
If we let them become our god.
When we love the gift more than the Giver,
We're treading on dangerous ground;
For those things we valued so highly
Aren't the treasures we thought we'd found-
Our souls are left impoverished,

*Hungry and thirsty within,
As we find we've left our first Love,
And fallen into sin.
I'd rather have nothing of material
worth,
As I sit at the Master's feet,
Than to have the wealth of all the
world-
And miss Heavenly Treasures so
sweet.*

[illegible]

ONE CROSS ONE BURIAL ONE RESURRECTION

NO ONE WILL DENY the title to the subject which concerns the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. For, everyone that believes the Bible to be infallible and unadulterated will agree that Jesus died on one cross, He was buried in one tomb, and He arose from the tomb only once. There is no confusion in the religious circles concerning these three great events in the life of Christ. The confusion comes when men, who handle the word of God, misconstrue, misinterpret, and in some cases twist the scriptures to fit their own theory. The confusion has come when men have incorrectly tried to tell men how to die, how to be buried, and how to come to life again. These men know that the death, again, and resurrection of Christ has some bearing on a man trying to obtain salvation, but in their own blindness they have sought to help others, and in the end they both fell by the wayside. We may be able to look with pity and regret upon those who have never been enlightened to the closeness of our death with Christ's death, our burial with His burial, and our resurrection to His resurrection. Nevertheless, we are stirred to the depths when we see those who have once embraced the truth of salvation and have now become insensible in their dealings with the souls of men. I refer to those who have lowered the standard and will sidestep the fundamentals of the New Testament born again experience, and will inject a less offensive plan into their religious system. If we still believe the doctrines of the Apostles and prophets, we will adjust ourselves to those doctrines and will also teach them that more people will receive this glorious experience of being born again. This experience comes not through a belief alone, or through the faith we have that Jesus died, was buried, and arose again, for it is dreadful to think that our experience in Christ was limited to just an enlightenment of certain developments and a fulfillment of certain prophecies. Our possession of the death, burial and resur-

rection experience goes beyond the mere knowledge of the matter, Salvation may be full free, as many might suppose, and it might be displayed as something easy to receive, yet it requires more than just a confession of faith in Christ and a passing attempt to take Him as your personal Savior. Jesus Christ will withhold Himself from no man, neither will He withhold anything from them that walk upright) before Him. If He seems hard and if He will not open the door, and if He will not answer our prayer, all this does not deem it impossible, but the fact remains that we have not paid the price. He has the power to give and He will give to the limit of our capacity if we will meet the qualifications. He has the power to distribute, but the only recipients are those who have eaten His flesh and have drunk of His blood; otherwise we have no part with Him. It is, indeed, a hard saying, but Jesus spake concerning the death that we should die and the life that we should afterward live. This He spake concerning our acceptance of our death by way of repentance, our burial by way of being baptized in Jesus Name, -and our speaking in other tongues, which is our resurrection from trespasses and sins, and the ONLY way which bears evidence to our being alive in Christ. And, if we are to follow -in the steps of Jesus, there can and is only One way to be born again. Please let me -explain:

Man's Death Must Answer to Christ's Death

JESUS died on ONE cross by one method ... crucifixion. Jesus was placed in ONE tomb by one method burial. Jesus was released from the bands of the tomb and death by ONE method ... the resurrection, which only came by the divine power of God whom He had dismissed from His body of flesh three days previously. He was raised incorruptible by the "glory of the Father." Our death to sin and our adamic nature must answer to the cross that was erected on Golgotha, upon which

a man died for the sins of The world. If we say He spilled His blood, then the whole affair was an accident. If we say He shed His blood, then we can say that He voluntarily submitted Himself to the tortures of death, and GAVE Himself a ransom on the tree for the sins of the world. If we would die to sin, we must die by one method ... "by the crucifying of the deeds of the flesh. through REPENTANCE. No one has ever died out to the filthiness of the flesh through restitution, good works, charity, and many other less-costly substitutes for genuine repentance. These never touched. Calvary, consequently were never covered by the blood. Repentance is tied up to the cross; and if we would die we must repent. It is utter foolishness for us to head for the laver of water to be buried until we are found completely dead at the altar.' If we are dead we are welcome to take the next step:

Our Burial Must Answer to Christ's Burial

Christ was buried in one tomb . . . it belonged to Joseph of Arimathea. It was necessary for Him to be buried in the heart of the earth to fulfill the saying that He spoke to the sign-seekers of His day. 'For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.' After Christ's death they could have let Him down at sea, or they could have cremated His body or they might have disposed of it in many different ways . . . but He was buried, thank God, in the heart of the earth. Without that burial, there could be no bringing forth the Christ from the sealed tomb. This certain type of burial has a deep aspect in regards to our burial.

As Jesus Christ had one burial . . . • by one method . . . so also Paul, the Apostle, says, there is ONE BAPTISM. Now, baptism in water does not mean life nor death, but it means to be buried with Christ.

It follows death, and points to life, and though it is the middle step to all who dimb toward complete salvation, it is just as important as any step. There is a tendency among many reheous-thinkers and subscribers to the faith, to have a desire to by-pass the laver, and term it as a non-essential to salvation.' If this were true, the account of Jesus' burial in the Bible was a waste of space, and the making of the laver for the tabernacle in the wilderness was a waste of material. And, furthermore, Peter and all the 'rest of the Apostles labored needlessly in the baptizing of the three thousand on the day of Pentecost. If water baptism is not essential to salvation, neither does the Name of Jesus Christ have any bearing on the plan of salvation, for we make no contact with the name at the altar nor at the mercy seat that is behind the veil. We only are buried with CHRIST by being baptized in HIS name . • . which is Jesus. It is not feasible to argue the point . . . "when is the name or blood applied," for it must be acknowledged that only through death, burial and resurrection will we be admitted to the marriage supper, therefore, if we have only taken one step or two steps and we come short of the infilling of the Holy Ghost, it is obvious through the scripture that we will be left behind. And, if we have completed all three steps, of repentance, water baptism in Jesus name, and receiving the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues, it is also obvious that the name of Jesus and the blood has been applied somewhere in the act of our obedience to the three steps, and we are complete in Him, and if we are faithful to death we shall sit with Him in His throne.

Continued On Page 15

Redefining the Position of the Church in the World

By David F. Gray,

Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places. And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness

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Our Resurrection Must Answer to His Resurrection

The resurrection of Jesus is typical of our arising from our burial place- to walk in newness of life. We do not imply that because we have been baptized in Jesus name and have separated ourselves from the waity grave that we have this life. The y of Jesus could have been moved from the tomb, and the burial place to another, and this would have indicated no sign that He was resurrected from the dead, and that He was able to walk again among His disciples. The very fact that He talked and ate with His disciples indicated and bore out the fact of His resurrection. The only sign of our being resurrected to walk in the newness of life is the seal of the Holy Ghost. And the evidence of this life is that we speak in other tongues as the Spirit of God gives the utterance. It is and that if a man is good, moral upright, apart from the Holy Ghost, that he manifests the Spirit of Christ: This is not done through the Spirit of Christ; but rather through the power of his own integrity and will power. The Bible answers the question plainly: "If we have not the Spirit of Christ we are none of His." And this Spirit does not come by our moral uprightness, but through implicit obedience to the plan of salvation as given in the word of God. Yes, one cross, one burial and one resurrection. Let's be determined to know nothing but Jesus Christ, the crucified, the buried and the resurrected. Let's be faithful to that which becometh "sound doctrine." And then we shall have hope of a reward that fadeth not away, eternal in the heavens.

of him that filleth all in all.

Ephesians 1:20, 22, 23

Of the divine attributes of God is His foreknowledge. We're told in I Peter 1:2 that we are elect according to the foreknowledge of God. That means that God foresaw a Church and (I speak reverently when I say this), He dreamed a dream in eternity past. It was a vision of a glorious Church, a beautiful bride. She would be pure, holy, chaste, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, worthy to be His companion through all eternity. He yearned for the fulfillment of this dream. He foresaw the number of the elect, a multitude which no man could number. He saw the variety of the redeemed, of all nations and kindreds, and tongues, and peoples.

Before the first star twinkled, God built His Church in His plan. He planned a perfect church. Ephesians 2: 10 tells us that "we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus." The word "workmanship" is the Greek word "poiema" and is the word from which our word "poem" comes from. It literally means "masterpiece." God planned His Church to be a poem, His masterpiece. Redemption is greater than creation. It took God six days to create everything. It has taken Him 2,000 years to redeem a Church.

He planned for this Church to breathe the air of revival, to breathe the air of the supernatural. He planned it to be more spiritual than natural. He planned it to dwell on this earth in midst of a corrupt world and not be corrupted; to be in a degenerate world and not be degenerate.

He planned the birth of the Church. He planned Pentecost, and the early rain and the latter rain. Then He planned for the end-time. He knew the conditions that would be in the world, and He put a Church here to meet the needs of this day, just as He planned the first Church to meet the needs of that day. He planned for all the gifts, the supernatural power of God to be in this Church. He told the Corinthian church "you come behind in no gift." I do

not believe the latter day Church should be any different.

In Ephesians 1, Paul prays that we might know what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us who believe. Then he described the power that He has invested in His Church and said that this was the same power that raised Christ from the dead. The supernatural, omnipotent power that raised Christ from the dead is the power He has invested in His Church. He said, "I want the eyes of your understanding to be enlightened that you might know this." We sometimes get the idea that the Church is pushed into a corner and we're just about ready to fold up and be defeated. No, the Church can never be defeated. He has invested omnipotence into it.

This means that there's no reason why an end-time revival shouldn't be a natural accompaniment to the ministry today. Revival is the Church's Canaanland. The Church is made to conquer, to march around Jerichos, to have walls come tumbling down, giants slain, and mountains taken. The Church is not designed for defeat. This was the dream that was in the mind of God.

In Acts 1: 1, we read, "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen." He chose His successors, the apostles, and through them, the first Church. Then He ascended. Now, the question is, does the Church have the same burden as the Founder-the same vision, the same dream, the same purposes? That's the question we must answer today.

The only way God's plan can be fulfilled is for the successors to have the burden of the Founder. They must feel as He felt. They must work as He worked. This thing must take hold of their lives. He commissioned others... can He depend on them? He said in Ezekiel 22:30, "I sought for a man among them that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before

the land "

So now, as God looks at us, He asks the question, "I gave my life, what are you giving? Are you helping to bring about what I died for? Do you share my vision; do you share my goal? Is my vision being carried out?" What will take hold of us to cause us to pray as He prayed, all night on the mountain. What will take hold of us to cause the tears to come from our eyes and out of our hearts when we look at a lost world? As He wept over the city, do we weep over our city? His Church does, because that's the way He planned His Church to be. It must be!

Now, let's get down to a few basic things here for a few moments. What is the Church? There are various false concepts. I'm sure that nobody here feels that the United Pentecostal Church alone is the Church. A dear friend of mine thinks that the Church is the local congregation, that each local congregation is sovereign in it's own right; and that as far as God's concerned, that's the Church. He looks upon local congregations collectively as the Church. But the local congregation can be as corrupt as any organization can be corrupt. The true Church of the living God is something entirely different. It can't be seen with natural eyes. That's why Paul prayed that the eyes of our understanding might be enlightened.

Ephesians 1:23 says that the Church is His body. The Phillips rendering of the last part of that verse says, "In that body lives fully the one who fills the whole universe." The King James Version says that it is "the fullness of Him that filleth all in all." That's what the Church is. Christ is the head of the Church. The head has no way of working out it's purposes except through the body. The body is the servant of the head. The Church is the servant of Christ. So, Christ is the living, thinking, head of the Church, His body.

The Bible tells us that we are not our own, but we, as members of God's Church, are the hands, feet, eyes, and tongue of Christ, working in harmony and obedience to Him. Fulfilling His will.

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