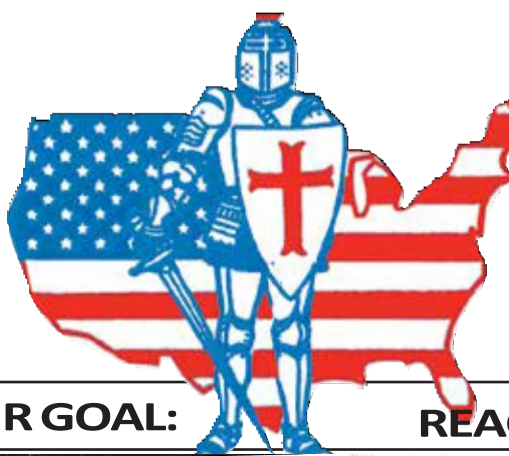




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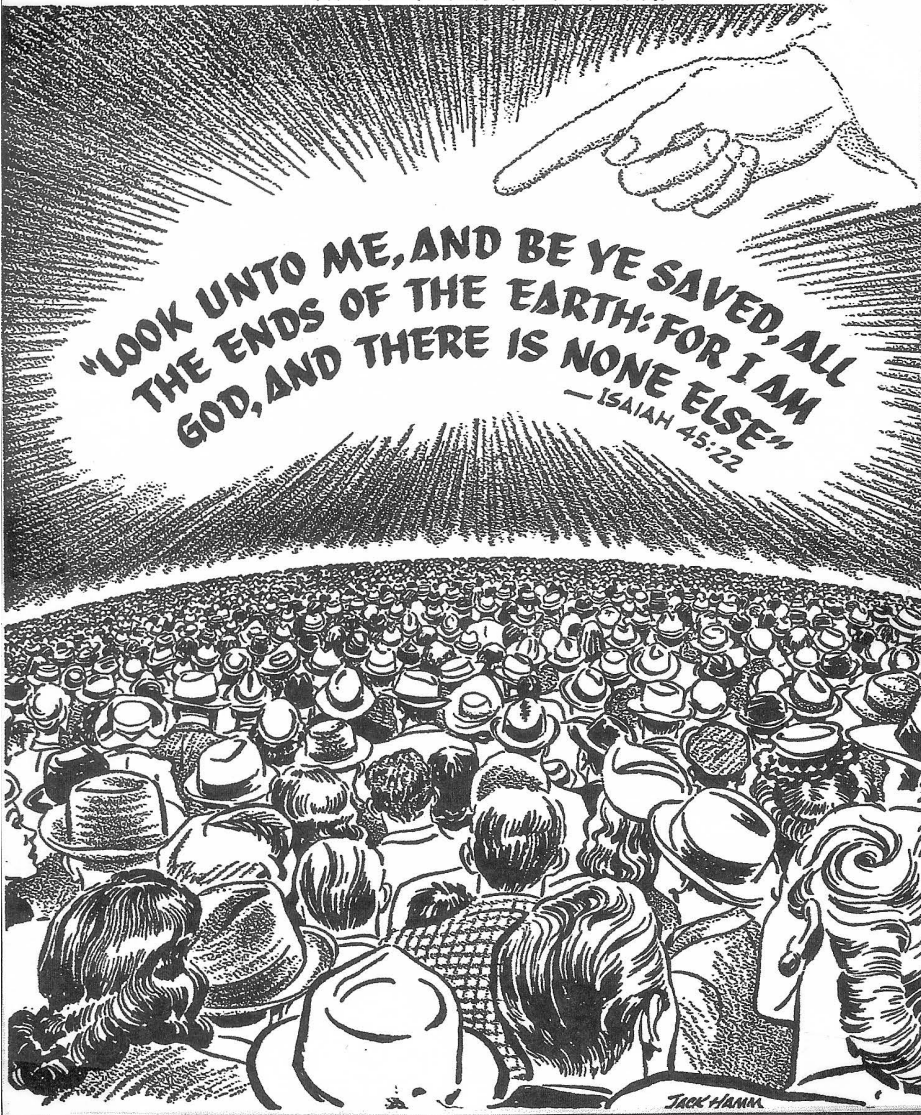
CHRISTIAN NEWSPAPER

Nov-Dec 2020

OUR GOAL:

REACHING FOR LOST SOULS FOR CHRIST WHILE THERE IS TIME

WHILE THERE IS YET TIME



Look To Jesus and Be Saved

The only qualification that you need for God to save you is to be a sinner. "The more sin I have the more cause I have to hope for mercy." The Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." That qualifies each of us for salvation. The greater our sins the better reason for seeking God's grace and mercy.

"Look sinner," God says, "Look to Me, and be saved." That is the means of salvation. "Look to Me, and be saved." God said it. That is the good news. God does it all that way so that He alone can get all the glory. He does it so He can demonstrate to proud sinners that He alone is God. Grace destroys our arrogant pride. The simple way of salvation is, "Look." "Look unto Me and be saved."

"A sinner's first step is to believe; Believe Jesus Christ is Lord and died for you. Be sorry for your sins and recognize your need of the Savior as in Acts 3:19. Be buried with Him by total immersion in water.

Have the saving name of Jesus Christ pronounced over you as in Acts 22:16. Obtain remission of sins in baptism through obedience and faith in His name. Determine to turn from sin and give your life completely to Him.

RECEIVE THE HOLY GHOST BAPTISM EVIDENCED BY TONGUES Meet the conditions of repentance, faith, and obedience. Believe God has promised it and that you can receive it as in Acts 2:4. Know that tongues is the initial evidence of receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost. "Look unto Jesus, and be saved, all the ends of the earth." That is an invitation to every sinner to come, look to Jesus, and be saved.

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CHRIST IS THE ANSWER

Greetings to the Saints of God!



Pastor Junior and Brenda Tingle

Greetings to our Brothers and sisters in Christ

In these unsettling times, a letter of support and reassurance may well be received by many of you.

I know we have all experienced a very stressful year, Many are experiencing weariness at times in their lives, Weariness flourishes when our hearts are preoccupied by the situation immediately in front us, We have never been in the situation we now find ourselves. Our world is turned upside down. Fear, and anxiety concerning how we will be affected, those we love, and our communities, and church family consume us.

Overwhelmed by all the information coming at us on radio and newspapers, we feel confused, by the many voices we are hearing .

Yet our faith commends us to do otherwise, to not be consumed by fear, and anxiety. As followers of Jesus, we put our trust in God who raised Jesus from the dead and who, in the power of the Holy Ghost sends us to be about God's mission of restoration, reconciliation and wholeness in the face of brokenness, alienation, and illness. There are countless circumstances that can leave us perplexed, afraid of the future, and feeling powerless to improve our situation.

However, despite how helpless we may feel in these moments, we are never truly helpless, and it's never a surprise to God. In fact, it's in these very moments that we are driven into a deeper trust in God's sovereignty, goodness, faithfulness, and power, and have the opportunity to watch him work in ways that only he can.

Now is the time for us to be the Church that God wants us and needs us to be, the message of the gospel has a way of putting its finger under the chin of weary children of God and gently raising their gaze to the sure hope that is on the horizon. Our journey through life isn't easy, But don't let your faith waver, just keep trusting the Lord. God loves you and is mindful of you and will never leave or forsake you no matter what the situation looks like. the message of the gospel has a way of putting its finger under the chin of weary children of God and gently raising their gaze to the sure hope that is on the horizon. Thank you for remaining loyal to the work of God and for consistently praying and supporting this newspaper
We appreciate your confidence, ~ Bro. Junior Tingle

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!

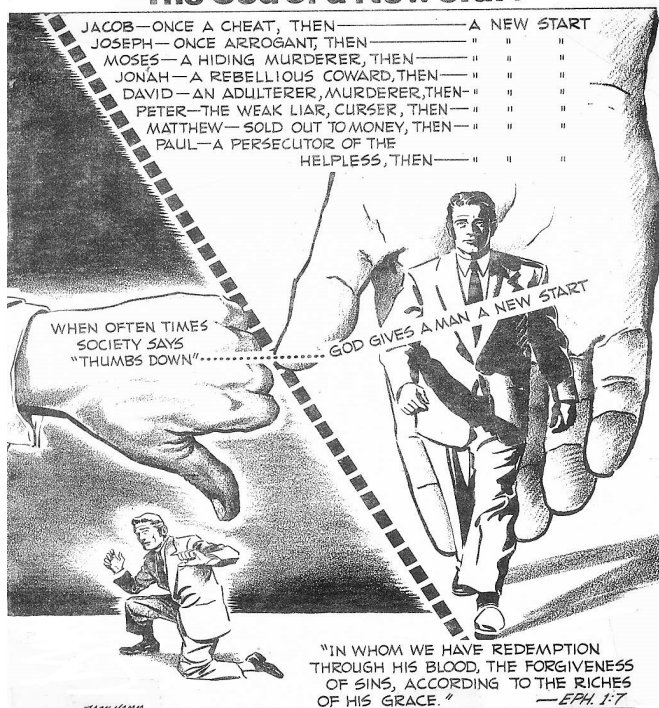
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Oh Yes! Don't forget to send a donation to keep this great paper alive.

The God of a New Start



WATER BAPTISM

by E. L. Holley

Jesus, our exemplar, set forth the necessity of water baptism by precedent. Coming to John, He insisted that the Baptist baptize Him, and the reluctant prophet acquiesced (Matthew 3:13-17). Then, at the close of His earthly ministry, our Lord commissioned His church, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19). Thus, our Savior Himself initiated water baptism by both precedent and precept. On this basis, water baptism has always been observed by true believers. Moreover, water baptism is of such importance and consequence that it is worthy of careful consideration. The mode and meaning of baptism, its purpose, the formula, and whether or not water baptism is essential to salvation are matters of utmost concern. The Scriptures depict only one mode of baptism—immersion.

John sought and selected sites where ample water was available for baptizing (John 3:23; Matthew 3:13). Jesus came up out of the water after He was baptized (Matthew 3:16). Philip and the eunuch "went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him" (Acts 8:38). The word baptize, in its Greek form means

"to dip," and there is no reason to think it means otherwise. The scriptural mode of baptism is immersion.

What is the meaning of the act of baptism to us?

Paul taught that we who are dead to sin were buried with Jesus Christ by baptism "that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life"

(Romans 6:1-5). As He died, was buried, and arose, so we followed in His steps. We died out to this world (repented), were buried with Him by water baptism, and in the likeness of His resurrection, we arose to walk in a new life!

Peter amplified the beauty of baptism by relating how that "once the long suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure where unto even baptism doth also now save us ... by the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (I Peter 3:10-21). The "like figure" refers to the similarity between the salvation of Noah "by water" and water baptism which "doth also now save us."

Noah's old life—the world and all that was in it—was destroyed by water, but, when the ark rested on Mount Ararat, a new life began! We were "baptized into his death" when we "were baptized into Jesus Christ" (Romans 6:3). He died and we laid down our old life in repentance, being baptized into His death. But we were also made partakers of the resurrection! The world, with all of its snares and entanglements, is under the curse of death and we are made aware of it. We are in the world, but not of the world. When we went down into the baptismal water, the world system that is contrary to God went with us. We came forth washed in the blood of the Lamb; but the world and all that is in it was overflowed with the water. There is the "figure" and it is beautiful!

What does baptism do? What is its purpose?

When a convicted sinner turns to God in faith and repentance, he is pointed to God's answer to man's sins. Through the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus, every person has access to God. This is accomplished by complying with Peter's Pentecostal message: "Repent, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost that is God's answer to man's sins!"

The purpose of baptism is clearly stated. It is "for (in order to obtain) the remission of sins." Jesus said that His blood was "shed for many for the remission of sins" (Matthew 26:28). Clearly, He shed His blood in order to obtain remission of sins for many. Anyone who suggests that we are baptized "because" we already have remission of sins would, in order to be consistent, be forced to say Jesus shed His blood "because" we already have remission of sins!

Peter preached "that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins" (Acts 10:43). This statement introduces us to the correct formula for water baptism. It tells us who receives remission of sins and the means by which the remission of sins is received, that is through the

name of Jesus. Clearly, the correct formula for water baptism is one that uses the name of Jesus. Every recorded baptism supports this truth. (See Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5.)

Those who fail to see the tremendous marvel of water baptism often attempt to dismiss the subject as irrelevant—as nonessential. The thinking person is not so inclined, however. He understands that the essentially of water baptism emerges again and again in Scripture.

For the honest-hearted the question is easily settled. The cogent words of the Lord of glory are adequate for such a person. He speaks, and the matter is forever settled!

Let us hear Him as He says, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:15-16). In those pointed words, He set forth the order of events: faith, baptism, salvation. He did not say, "He that believeth shall be saved, and he should be baptized." Instead, salvation is contingent upon our believing and being baptized. Clearly, baptism is essential to salvation!

Essential as water baptism is, by itself it is insufficient. It must be an act of faith, and that is why Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Without faith, it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6).

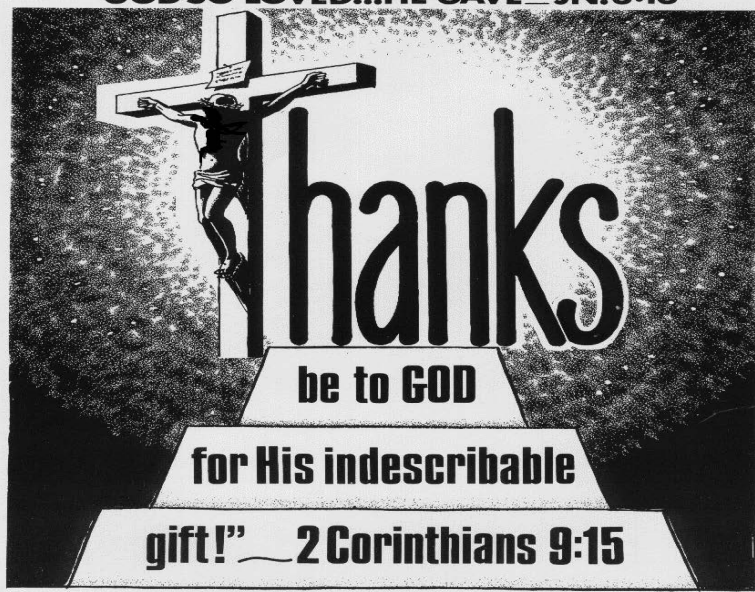
Water baptism without faith is not efficacious. And, of course, saving faith is a belief which is founded upon the Word of God.

Water baptism is indeed worthy of careful-prayerful-consideration to both believers and to those who have not heard. It is a subject that we must share with the world!

INVITATION THAT EXCEEDS ALL OTHERS



"GOD SO LOVED...HE GAVE" JN.3:16



The Oneness of God By Frank J. Ewart

GOD is the final, certain, solitary ONE: "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord." The Apostolic faith for which we are ex-horted to earnestly contend, was based on this essential truth. The Apostle James quotes this great commandment as the fundamental of all faith that is proved by works. "You believe that GOD IS ONE, and you are quite right: evil spirits also believe this, and shudder." (See James 2:19. Wey.) Any theory that violates that, violates the basis of all truth about the Deity. Deny that and you attack truth in its essential essence; you assault the truth at its basic foundation. The Psalmist

saw this great truth in the Spirit, when he cried out: "If the foundation be removed, what will the righteous do?" Jesus said: "I am the truth." He also said, "I and my Father are ONE." The startling and inevitable conclusion to be drawn from these two statements is absolutely inescapable: Jesus was the Visible of the Invisible God.

True science recognizes but one absolute. All mathematical science can be reduced to a common factor: That factor is ONE. When you say One you have said a million. When you say a million you have said ONE. A million is six cyphers, plus ONE. Remove the ONE, you have nothing multiplied by six. One is absolute: A million is subordinate. God is the absolute ONE. He has no equal. You cannot duplicate Him. He cannot be multiplied. There cannot be two other spiritual persons beside HIM: God says, "I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me" (Isaiah 45:5). There cannot be two others like HIM; for God asks, "To whom will ye liken ME, and make ME equal, and compare Me, that we may be like?" (Isaiah 46:5). The carnal reasoning of men has created two other separate persons, exactly like God, the Father, and equal in glory and eternity. Yet God declares, "My glory I will not give to another."

This doctrine assumes that there was always three individuals in heaven. They deny that God, Himself, was incarnated, but teach, that the middle one, left the other two, came to earth and was incarnated through the Virgin birth. Thus the doctrine of the so called Trinity, not only denies God's declarations about Himself, but does infinite violence to both the name and nature of the Deity, as revealed in and by Jesus Christ, the Son. There is nothing more absolute than the Oneness of the Godhead. Nature—the handmaiden of the Bible, announces her creator everywhere: "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." Nature has made a tree in God's image.

We have three distinct constituents in a tree: the wood, the sap and the bark—but one tree. No wonder the poet says, Poems are made by fools like me. But only God can make a tree. Light is composed of three distinct elements or parts: the antenic, the calorific and the luminiferous. Take any of these elements away and you have no light. The One True God is Father, Logos and Spirit. The three are in the one. "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Spirit, and these three are one." Man, himself, is the most absolute unit we know: body, soul and spirit, but one man. Yet the Bible emphatically declares that God made man in His own image. Now, every clear thinker will admit, that when this one true God took on a flesh body, He took on limitations. Jesus was the Creator confining Himself to the limits of a creature. There is a clear distinction between the perfect humanity and the Deity of Jesus, but the distinction is that of a human body indwelt by God. Jesus recognized the distinction of Father and Son. He called himself the Son of God, but emphatically claimed that the Father was dwelling in Him. God had the image of a perfect SON before Him in the beginning; and Paul declares that "those whom he foreknew he predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son." The Son of God was the Logos incarnated, but the Logos in God answers to the soul in a man.

It is that part which may be called God's expression. Jesus was God's expression, in the terms of a perfect human life; for God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake unto the fathers by the prophets hath in these last days spoken unto us in His Son."

Now, let us go back through the Scriptures and take a brief review of the main landmarks as we are swept irresistibly towards the great beginning and conclusion of all truth—that God is ONE: We need to watch two important scriptures. They are pivotal, and indeed fundamental to a correct understanding of this—the greatest truth of Divine revelation. I Timothy 3:16, reads: "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." This startling passage if taken at its face value as it appears in the Authorized version of the Scriptures, would mean an end to all controversy. And surely this would be a consummation devoutly to be desired. It would practically do away with sectarianism. Personally, I see no need of controversy about this great passage. If it does not say that God was manifested in the flesh, then, whom does it say was manifested in flesh? (continued on page 5)

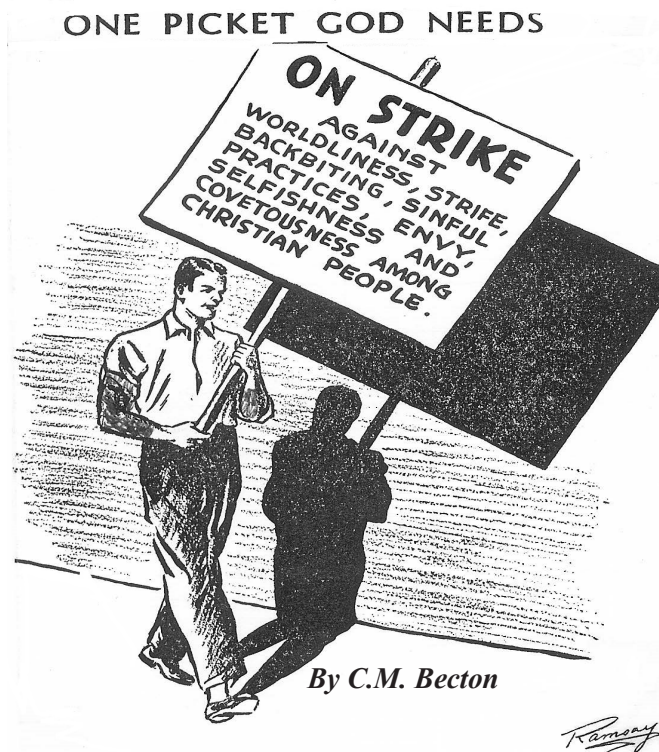
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The Oneness of God

either an angel or a man or the devil. We are shut up to this conclusion; because the text declares that somebody was manifested in the flesh.

Was it an angel? If so, what would be the sense of saying an angel was seen of another angel and calling that a mystery. Was it a man? Nonsense! What mystery is involved in a man being manifested in flesh? A man is a spirit clothed in flesh. Well was it the devil. Let us hope not; for the text declares that the one who was manifested in the flesh was also received up into glory. You can boil this wonderful declaration down in the melting pot of higher criticism, and you can not make anything more or less out of it than the grand old Authorized Version puts into it—that God—the One True, God—the mighty maker of this illimitable universe, was manifested in the flesh, and His name was Jesus—the Lord who saves you.

The other great text is I John 3:16, "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down His life for us." John is talking about Calvary's tragedy here. Every theologian confesses gladly, that because the life of God, was in the blood of Jesus Christ, it made an atonement for the sins of the whole world. When you see this great truth, Calvary assumes a far grander meaning. God could not prove His love for us by sending another to die for us. Jesus declared that he was not another. He said, "I and My Father are One." When Calvary was bathed in blood, the universe shuddered, the sun hid his face, and nature went into convulsions. God reveals what Calvary meant to him in the great passage in Zechariah, "Awake, O sword against my shepherd, and against the man who is my fellow, saith the Lord of hosts." The one who died there was God's Fellow, God's Person and God's dwelling place, and God—the Eternal Spirit, had to vacate the body in order for the flesh to die. Such is Calvary's glory! No wonder the poet wrote, *In the cross of Christ' I glory. Towering o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sacred story, Gathers round its head sublime. All eternity looked forward to it. All eternity will look back to it; for it was there the Eternal God, Himself, provided a Lamb, that taketh away the sin of the world.*



Separated by His Holiness

At last we are accepted. We have taken one long leap from the "other side of the tracks" to the drawing rooms of the elite denominations. No longer do we stand out as the proverbial "sore thumb." We thought it would never happen to us; we watched as similar Pentecostals blended into the background until they could no longer be distinguished from the rest. We said, "We will never do it!"

While this description may be true of many people in various churches, it does not describe true Christians. Those who follow God will not reflect the values of a Christ-less society, nor will they pattern their lives after the worldly behavior and dress of sinners. Nobody wants to be different. Nowadays, it is not the trend to stand apart from others. Some people condemn separation by alluding to the parable of the Good Samaritan. They point out that we should be the Good Samaritan who went to the place where the dying man was. They compare standards to the priest and the Levite who were so concerned about keeping themselves free from any possible contamination that they drew their robes of righteousness around them and went to the other side of the road to pass the injured man.

After all, they tell us, separation can become isolation; sanctification can become escapism; holiness can become aloofness. And surely God does; not expect us to be exclusive.

The story of the Good Samaritan is not a good illustration to prove their point. If they do not want to be separate, they should not look on those who do as self-righteous priests and Levites, afraid of being contaminated. The story has no connections with biblical separation. Sure, we love the unsaved, and we will go anywhere they are to pour in the oil and wine. And we will gladly walk while they ride and we will take them to an inn where they can be nursed to health.

But one thing we will not do is get down in the ditch and die with them.

Fine feelings, new insights, greater interest in religion mean nothing unless they make our actual behavior what it ought to be. One of the most wonderful things about the gospel is its transforming power. God can take a sin-diseased and sin-distorted life and make it again until it emerges from His hands in the likeness of Jesus Christ—a miracle!

Let us get down to the business at hand. Just what is holiness?

Perhaps no word in the Christian vocabulary has been more misused and misunderstood. Basically, the word holiness comes from a root which in both Greek and Hebrew means "separateness." In its highest sense it is used of God Himself. God is holy because He is "high and lifted up" (Isaiah 6:1-3).

Man was created for the glory of God. He was created for the praise of God.

God, who is love, created mankind as a special being of His care and the recipient of His love. God wants us to praise Him, adore Him, magnify Him, fellowship with Him, and become the object of His great love.

If God does not have fellowship with us in His holiness and righteousness, He is robbed by whatever takes us from Him. This fellowship with Him is the basis of separation. God wants the Christian to be separate from everything that would take away the purpose of the creation and the redemption of mankind. (continued Page 6)

Separated by His Holiness cont:

This means that since God made us for Himself and redeemed us for Himself, He wants us to be separate from anything that detracts from His praise, from His glory and from His fellowship.

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? and what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" (II Corinthians 6:14-17).

God is not just being "picky"; He wants us for Himself. He wants the purpose for His creating us and redeeming us to be fulfilled. Therefore, since His purpose would be hindered by our fellowship with unrighteousness, He demands that we separate ourselves from all evil.

Holiness is essential. It is the realization of God's purpose in calling us to have fellowship with a holy God, and this fellowship is possible only by those who have "clean hands and a pure heart." Without separation, a professing Christian dishonors God in the eyes of the world; for the world, strangely enough, expects the Christian to be different in the way he lives. In fact, sinners are actually disappointed when they observe that "Christians" are no different from them.

Recent Gallup polls have uncovered conflicting trends in society. They reveal that religion is on the upswing, but so is crime and immorality. Furthermore, Gallup said there is little difference in ethical behavior between churchgoers and those who do not attend church services; the levels of lying, cheating, and stealing are remarkably the same. The polls indicate that there is a distressing drift toward a Christianity that does not demand a life-changing walk with God.

History shows that the church has had its greatest impact during difficult times. not when Christianity was popular. When Constantine became the Roman Emperor in A.D.313, he made Christianity a legal religion. Christians welcomed the change. But as Christendom absorbed the culture around it, genuine Christian conversion was replaced by dead forms and empty ritualism!

The stigma of Christianity is gone, but so is its power. Someone said in a newspaper interview, "Today you can't say turning to Jesus means you are turning your back on the world."

In these days of permissiveness and easygoing standards, we need to remind ourselves that the Christian is called to purity, modesty, honesty, and that he is to avoid the appearance of evil. We are living in a global Sodom, and we need to take great care that its attitudes and standards do not seep into our souls as they did into the souls of Lot's family.

There is no idea so positive as that of holiness; it is the very climax of positiveness. Holiness is not characterized merely by not doing wrong, but by a positive direction toward doing right. It is the character of God in us and reflecting through us. The biblical view of holiness is wonderfully positive. Moses declared that God is "glorious in holiness" (Exodus 15:11).

True holiness is the loving response of the heart to every request that Christ makes in His Word or through, the constraints of His Spirit. True holiness is the many-splendored radiance of the perfection of Jesus Christ!

Biblical separation is necessary for the preservation of New Testament Christianity. We must not lose our identity. The erosion of once held convictions can turn our great "Mount Zion" that stands high above all other religions into a mediocre landscape without any distinction from the world around us.

There was no way that Balaam could curse the Israelites. But perhaps the saddest verse of the whole story, Numbers 31:16, reveals the tragedy, of lost separation: "Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD"

Israel lost their identity when they followed the counsel of Balaam to mix with their enemy. Christians lose their identity when they are intimidated by those who taunt them with such words as isolation, exclusive, snobbish, and accuse them of having a "holier than thou" attitude.

We are so in love with God that we want to be more like Him every day. If others want to brand us with unkind remarks, we may not be able to stop them. But we can refuse to cast aside our devotion to God and our commitment to His holiness in order to please them.

"Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God" (Leviticus 20:7).

"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

1 John 3:18

Prayer Links—Our Bond of Strength

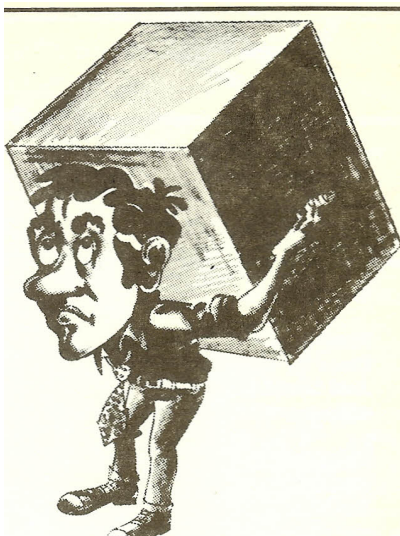


C.T. Studd Said

Christ's call is to save the lost, not the stiff-necked; He came not to call not to call scoffers, but sinners to repentance; not to build and furnish comfortable chapels, churches and cathedrals at home, in which to rock Christian professors to sleep by means of clever essays, stereotyped prayers, and artistic musical performances, but to capture men from the devil's clutches and the very jaws of hell. This can be accomplished only by a red-hot, unconventional, unfettered devotion in the power of the Holy Spirit to the Lord Jesus Christ.

When we are in hand-to-hand conflict with the world, the flesh and the devil himself, neat little Biblical confectionery is like shooting lions with a pea shooter; God needs a man who will let go, and deliver blows right and left as hard as he can hit in the power of the Holy Ghost . . . Nothing but forked-lightning Christians will count . . . A LOST REPUTATION IS THE BEST DEGREE FOR CHRIST'S SERVICE . . . I belong to the 'Great-God Party' and will have nothing to do with the 'Little-God Party' . . . Christ does not want nibblers of the possible, but grabbers of the impossible."

Help US... Carry The Load



NEEDED, MEN OF PRAYER

James 5:16, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. **"THE EFFECTUAL FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILETH MUCH."** What the church needs today is not more machinery, not

new organizations, or more methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use, men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. The church is seemingly looking for better methods, but God is looking for better men. As a minister of this great fellowship, I am lead to believe more every day that **PRAYER** makes the preacher. **PRAYER** makes the pastor.

If you will take notice throughout the word of God, the men that God used to spread this Apostolic message, and to lay the foundation, were men that were given to prayer. These men were distinguished by one feature, they were men of prayer. Differing in many things yet they have always had a common center. They may have started from different points, travelled different roads, but they converged to one point, they were one in prayer. God to them was the center of attraction, and prayer was the path that led to God. (Col. 3:11) but Christ is all, and in all.

I would to God that prayer could be to me as it was to Paul, a striving with earnest of soul, what it was to Jacob, a wrestling and prevailing; what it was to the Lord, strong crying and tears as great drops of blood. The effectual fervent prayer has been the mightiest weapon of God's soldiers. Life giving preaching costs the preacher much. Death to self, crucifixion of self, the travail of his own soul. Crucified preaching can only come from crucified men. If the devil can make a covetous minister out of us, a lover of praise, of pleasure, of good eating, he has ruined our ministry. The Apostolic church was born in a prayer room; and it is to the prayer room we must go to maintain our strength. I have often times made the statement, That the devil is one of the firmest believers in prayer that there ever was; why? Not because he practices it, but because he suffers from it. Prayer, in our life, prayer in our study, power in the pulpit! As the engine is never moved until the fire is kindled; so, preaching, with all its machinery,

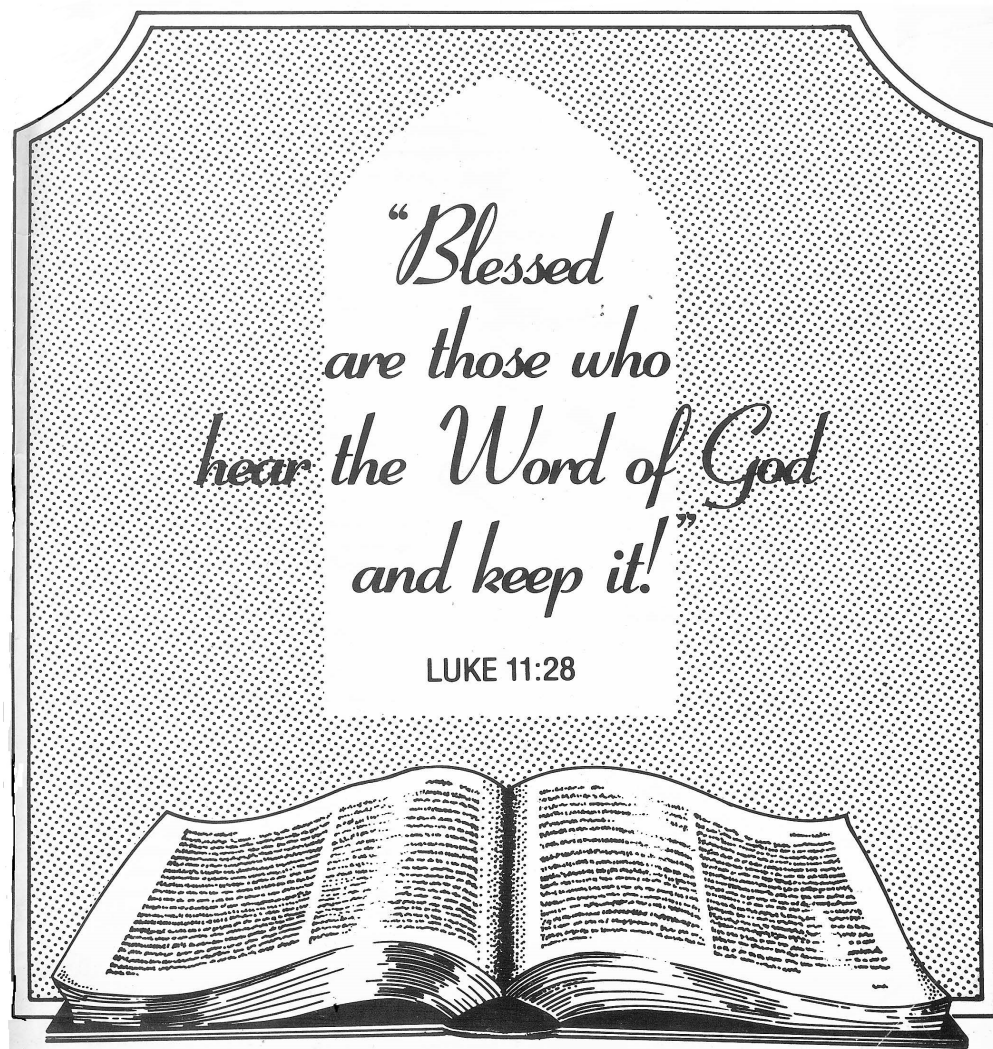
perfection, and polish, is at a dead standstill till prayer has created the steam. Prayer weakens the pull of earth, and intensifies or strengthens the tug of heaven.

In my observation of the book of the Acts of the Apostles, I find that prayer is mentioned eleven times in the first ten chapters. The four gospels record only 51 days of the Lord's earthly ministry and in this period of time I would like for us to notice the way in which our Lord himself started His day. (Mark 1:35) **AND IN THE MORNING RISING UP A GREAT WHILE BEFORE DAY. HE WENT OUT, AND DEPARTED INTO A SOLITARY PLACE, AND THERE PRAYED.** What a perfect example for you and I to follow after. God help us as the church, to realize that without prayer we are helpless, as well as defenseless, what God is looking for in this Laodicean age is men and women who want a battle and not a bottle. You see some folk pray and use God as an errand boy. Their prayers have no sense of direction, their prayers are aimless, and they usually get just what they are aiming at. **MUCH PRAYER, MUCH POWER, LITTLE PRAYER, LITTLE POWER, NO PRAYER, NO POWER.**

Bro Larry Fletcher

*"Blessed
are those who
hear the Word of God
and keep it!"*

LUKE 11:28



Who Is This?

"Who is this that cometh from Edam, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength. I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save."

Isaiah 63: 1.

By Ace Summers

WHO IS THIS?

This virtually, has been one of the paramount questions of all ages. This question attracted the thoughts of Abraham, invoked a response from Moses and stirred the deepest emotions and loftiest praise of David as he sung his immortal songs in the plains and on the hills of Palestine. The celebrity in question was to be the entire theme of the Bible. He said in Luke 24:44-47, "These ere the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which was written in the Law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, and said unto them, thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.' In Psalms 40: 7 He said, "La, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God."

WHO IS THIS? This question has turned the wisdom of the wise men backward. Physicists have failed to find the answer in matter or energy. Astrologers, in their astronomical deductions, have not answered it. Geologists, who have delved into the Paleozoic, Mesozoic and the Cenozoic periods, have given us no light on this all important question. Yes, it has rung down through the corridors of history, dipped itself into the far-flung and remote 'corners of the earth and has confronted statesmen, diplomats, kings and potentates. Theologians, skeptics, agnostics and infidels have stood aghast and are unworthy of their names.

Since these supposed Titans are all leaky vessels and are unable to answer our question, we must turn to other sources.

LET US CALL IN A FEW WITNESSES
Isaiah, WHO IS THIS great being that is the mystery of the ages? Isaiah answers: "This is the mighty God, the Everlasting Father and the Prince of Peace." Now let us summons the angelic host that sang on that memorable day when Jesus was born. What did they sing? And did not their singing answer the question, WHO IS THIS? The answer rung throughout the world as they sang, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Next, hear what the forerunner of Jesus said: "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world." And next, hear what one 'Of the greatest men of all said, even Paul the Apostle: "He is the image of the invisible God, the blessed and only potentate, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords." Even doubting Thomas was brought to the stark reality of his false impressions and had to say, "My Lord and my God." Now, Peter, the apostle is on the witness stand: As this man, who was given the keys to the kingdom, begins to speak, there is great silence in heaven and earth: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." He continues speaking in positive terms: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ." After hearing what Peter has said, Paul can hold his peace no longer. He, must return to give more proof of the positiveness of Jesus Christ: "BEWARE lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Writing to Timothy, his beloved son in the Gospel, he further states:

"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."

GREAT MEN TESTIFY

Now, that we have heard witnesses out of the Bible, let us listen to some of the renowned men outside the Bible.

1. Mr. O. DeWette, the great critic of Germany says: "This only I know, in Jesus only is there salvation."

2. Jean Jacques Rousseau leaves this testimony: "If the death of Socrates be that of a sage, the life and death of Jesus are those of a God."

3. Napoleon, the mighty general, recognizes God as supreme. Though thou art a great warrior thou mighty son of valor, striding through the world like a colossus, and lighting the darkness at midnight with the fires of battle, what is your answer, WHO IS THIS? Napoleon says: "I think I understand somewhat of human nature, and I tell you, all these (the heroes of antiquity,) were men, and I am a man, but not one was like Him.

Jesus Christ was more than man. Everything in Him amazes me. I see nothing here of man. Near as I may approach, closely as I may examine, all remains above my comprehension ... great with a greatness that crushes me. It is in vain that I reflect ... all remains unaccountable. I defy you to cite another life like that of Christ."

4. Jean Paul Richter has this to say of Christ: "The life of Christ concerns him, who being the holiest among the mighty, the mightiest among the holy, lifted with His pierced hands empires off their hinges,

(continued page 9)

Who Is This?

and turned the stream of centuries out of its channel, and still governs the ages." In the light of the witnesses we have heard, both from within the Bible and without, the opponents of Jesus Christ of today are mere pygmies so contemptible in mentality, and so questionable in morality as to be ruled out of every court of testimony where intellectual ability and moral worth have weight.

JESUS, THE MIGHTY GOD, TESTIFIES

As the Master appears to John on that rocky, barren island in the Aegean Sea known as a place of exile, we hear him say:

Rev. 1: 8: "I am the first and the last. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come the Lord Almighty."

In St. John 14: 8, Philip said to Jesus: "Lord shew us the father, and it sufficeth us." Jesus saith unto him, "Have I been so long time with you and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the father, and how sayest thou then, shew us the father?" Today there are many who, like Nicodemus, ask the question, "How can these things be?"

After Jesus had finished His work on the earth, He led His followers to the Mount of Olives. While they beheld Him, He was taken up and a cloud received Him out of their sight. For He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens that He might fill all things. And as he ascended through the heavens, He lifts up His voice and cries: "Lift up your heads, Oh ye gates, and be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in." The Hosts of heaven answers: "WHO IS THIS King of Glory? The answer came back in thunderous tones, "The Lord, strong and mighty; the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, oh ye gates and even lift them up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. And the gates of heaven

were opened to welcome Jesus Christ, the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords. It has been over 1900 years since He stepped through the gates from our view. However, He has given us a promise that He would return again.

ARE YOU READY?

May we all see Him in His majesty 'and glory and worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. Let us all sing with the poet: "Hail Him who saves us by His grace and crown Him Lord of all." - end-

TIMELY APPEAL



AGONY FOR SOULS

THE overheard closet supplication

of Knox was, "Give me Scotland or I die!" That of Whitefield was, "Give me souls, or take my soul!"

Of Alleine, it is said that "he was infinitely and insatiably greedy; if the conversion of souls; and to this end he poured out his very heart in prayer and preaching."

John Bunyan said, "In preaching I could not be satisfied unless some fruits appear in my work."

Said Matthew Henry, "I would think it a greater happiness to gain; one soul to Christ than mountains of gold and silver to myself.. If I do not gain souls, I shall enjoy all other gains with very

little satisfaction and I would rather beg my bread from door to door than neglect this great work."

Doddridge, writing to a friend, remarked "I long for the conversion of souls more sensibly than for anything besides. Me thinks. I could not only labor but die for It with pleasure."

When the attendants" around the death bed of David Stoner thought that his spirit had taken flight, he raised himself up in bed and cried: "Lord, save sinners! save them by scores, save them by hundreds, save them by thousands!" His work on earth was finished. The ruling passion was strong in death.

Brainerd could say of himself on more than one occasion: "I cared not where or how I lived, or what hardships I went through, so that I could but gain souls to Christ. While I was sleep, I dreamed of these things, and when I awakened, the first thing I thought of was this great work; all my desire was for the conversion of the heathen, and all my hope was in God."

On the coldest winter nights John Welsh was often found weeping on the ground, and wrestling with the Lord because of his people. He said to his wife, when she pressed him for an explanation of his distress, "I have the souls of three thousand to answer for, and I know not how it is with many of them."

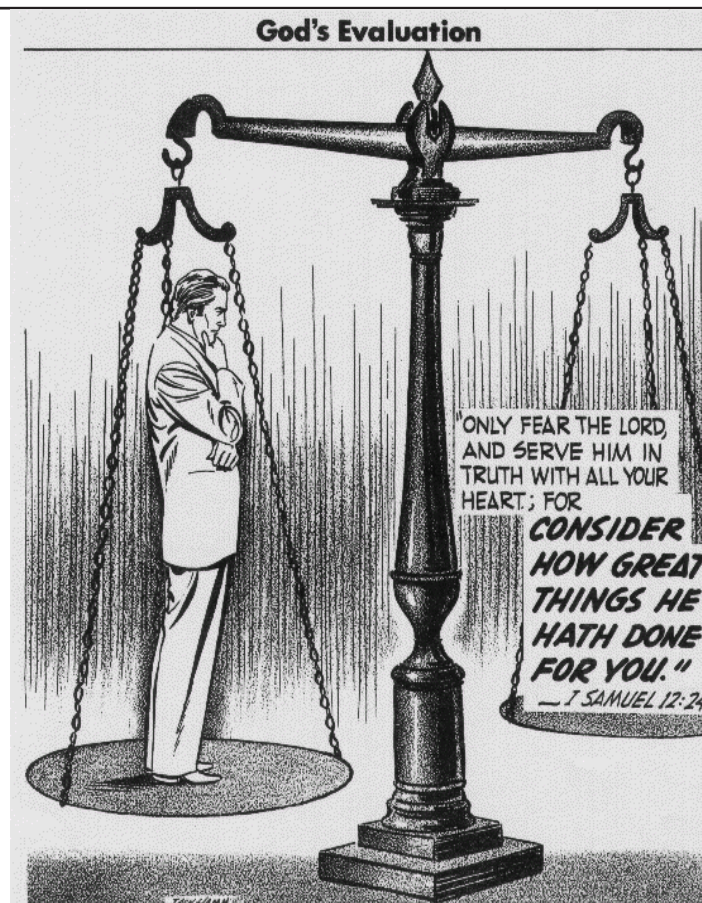
Ralph Waller wrote in his diary as follows: "My greatest desire and constant prayer is for God to convert sinners, and revive the people. Oh, for souls! the salvation of souls!" Again: "I need a more affecting apprehension of the value of souls a more tender regard for the honor of God, and a more intense sympathy for perishing sinners. Oh, could I always live for eternity, preach for eternity, pray for eternity, and speak for eternity." Two days before his death he called his faithful wife to his side, and said, "At Liverpool and Boston I appropriated one hour each day to pray for souls, and I frequently spent that time prostrate on my study floor. In addition to this, at Boston, I held something like vigils, arising to pray each night at twelve o'clock. I do not say it to boast, but it appears plain to me that the secret of success in conversion of souls is prayer.

It is said of Wm. McDermott that "he used to spend whole nights in prayer with John Smith before those memorable seasons of revival in which multitudes of sinners were won to Christ. In an agony of prayer with broken heart and weeping eyes and the pleading of faith, they prayed until they knew that they had taken hold of the strength of God."

Are You a Well-Balanced Christian?

WE PENTECOSTAL PEOPLE are known for our vehement desire to let the Holy Ghost have complete control of our lives. From the outset, I would like to make it crystal clear that when all humanity stands before the eternal God, the **ONE** thing that will make the difference where the individual spends eternity, will be this **ONE** fact: Did they or did they not have the Holy Ghost? Of course, we are dealing primarily with those of the "Golden Candlestick Age" or as is commonly called "THE GRACE ERA" which extends for approximately 2000 years from Pentecost to the rapture of the church. When the Bible speaks in such clear positiveness as to the disposition of those who have never received the Holy Ghost, it unmistakably clarifies our position as Spirit-Filled Saints. The Bible states in one place (without any trace of compromise in other passages) that "without the Spirit of Christ, we are none of His." This scripture, alone, strengthens our hands to preach the necessity of being Spirit-filled. My whole being is enraptured with the thought of His being able to abide in temples of clay. And only as Christ remains **IN** us have we hope of the glory that is to come. We believe that to be Spirit-filled is the secret of holy living in these Godless and Christ-less days.

But have we forgotten the next most important factor in our Christian make-up? Many and varied arguments can be mustered to our defense, when preaching the necessity of the Holy Ghost which is the one thing that should make us spiritual people, but it is utterly impossible to be spiritual if we forget the practical side of our Christian make-up. I am very much afraid that the devil is using this forgetfulness to his own advantage and is causing many to be led to spiritual death. We must never forget that in spite of the fact that God has so wonderfully filled us with the Holy Ghost, we are still men. Often times we get carried away with ecstasy and with the effulgence of God's glory only to



find out that after we have had the feeling of angels, the power lifts and we are but men again. This only teaches us what we have always known: We are still free moral agents in spite of the Holy Ghost. We are only awak-ened to the fact of a truth that so many of us are forgetting, that is, the Holy Ghost will only keep us as long as we let it keep us. The Holy Ghost is not a blockade that will keep us from sinning if we have the desire to sin. We can do as we choose, but when we let the Holy Ghost make our decisions in all matters, we will always be led in the path of the just.

Why do saints get angry? Why are there contentions and babblings among us? Why the hate, the jealousy, the spiritual pride? Why the backbiting, the seeking for prominence, the gloating over a little success? Why the competition, the honoring of the big, the abhorrence of the small? Why the bribes, the welcoming of the rich, the despising of the poor? Why? Friends, if we are guilty of one or all, we did so in spite of the Holy Ghost. Is the Holy Ghost to blame? Why didn't the Holy Ghost stop us? No the Holy Ghost is not to blame: we well remember the power of the SPIRIT, but we have forgotten to do our part or to manifest that practical side of our Christianity

We remember the spiritual standard, but we have forgotten the moral standard. We have forgotten what part we are to play in this spiritual battle. When I read the following scriptures, I become aware of the great part that I, as a man, play in the success of my salvation.

1. "Cleanse your hands, ye sinners."
2. "Come out from among them, and be ye separate."
3. "Let us cleanse OURSELVES from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit."
4. "I will wash my hands in innocence."
5. "Awake to righteousness and sin not."

In all these scriptures, the moral obligation is upon us. Principle is involved.

Being Christ's ambassadors, we are responsible for our conduct, and how we live before God and men.

IS THE HOLY GHOST NECESSARY?

In all trials, temptations and pitfalls, is it possible that I can survive without the Holy Ghost? Can I operate successfully on the moral standard alone? When we see people in the world that sometimes act better than some in the church, does this mean that God's Spirit is unnecessary in our lives?

May I say that there is nothing that is as important as the Holy Ghost. It is the very life of God. It is the only identification mark that we can have that makes us a child of God. It will take the Spirit of God to place us in the bride of Christ. It is only by the Spirit of God that we can be led in this dark world. "As many as are led (not driven) by the Spirit of God are the sons of God." It is only by (cont

Are You a Well-Balanced Christian?

the Spirit of God that we can know what is the mind of Christ. To really know Christ is to be like Him, and we cannot be like Him unless we are Christ-like, and we cannot be Christ-like, until we have His life coursing through our mortal bodies. "As we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly." However, aside from the Holy Ghost, I notice these several things that make an impression on me, and makes me to realize the necessity for me to have my flesh under subjection to the Spirit, and at the same time make certain this fact: "That God only works through me as long as I remain an unclogged medium through which Christ can be conveyed to the world." The following proves to me that God and man must work together for the salvation, security and ultimate success of man:

1. God opened the Red Sea, but it was Moses that stretched out the staff.
2. God caused Israel to drink from the rock, but it was Moses that smote the rock.
3. God called Enoch home, but it was Enoch that did the walking and the pleasing.
4. God put out the desire in Joseph's heart to commit sin with Potiphar's wife, but it was Joseph that did the running.
5. It was God that wrecked the ship, but it was Paul who told the men to abide in the ship in order to be saved.
6. It was the plan of God for Jacob to be separated from Esau and his house, but it was Jacob that had to come back and kiss and make up.

7. We know it's wrong to have youthful lusts, but we are instructed to "flee away from them."

In the face of these evident facts, . it can be plainly seen that we must "Present our bodies to God as a living sacrifice" in order to prove our acceptability before God. It IS not enough to be Spirit filled, it is vitally necessary to offer God our bodies that He may prove to the world His worth to humanity in the practical way.

These are days when dietitians instruct us to -have a well-balanced diet for the purpose of good health. We must be equally as careful and cautious in the balancing of our spiritual diet. If we seem to be spiritual with no practical aspect in our religion, our religion IS vain. If we are so taken up with the practical side of religion and with the menial tasks of the church, we also are worshiping in vain.

It would be well to adopt a spiritual barometer in our lives to see if we are well balanced in our spirituality. If we can obey the following we can almost be assured a future and happy Christian life that God will be pleased to use for the promotion of His great and endless work.

In order for me to be a well balanced Christian, I must be one,

1. Who can work for God, and care little who gets the credit in this earth. I know that the rewards will be given in heaven, and what I miss here will be given to me over there.
2. Who has a great desire to be in God's house and will do my share to contribute to every necessity, both in a spiritual and practical way. By this I mean that I will not be one of those 'supposed Christians that spends half of his time in a whirlpool and the other half in the glory clouds, so as to be blinded to the practical needs of the church. My money will be as consecrated to God as my life.
3. Who can preach the Gospel, but not for filthy lucre. I am aware of the fact that the laborer is worthy of his hire, . but I will never measure my worth in dollars and cents. I will, in my preaching, win souls for eternity and as Paul said, so I believe, that the seal of our

ministry are they in the Lord

5. Who will be as holy as my speech and as consecrated as 'people suppose me to be. I will honor humility, for the sake of peace, rather than to have my way in matters that no matter the outcome, it will not effect me either way.

6. Who will not infer that God has favorites because my brethren have more than my- self. I will rather infer that God has given me what is due me. What my brother has, works no ill towards me. I am come to realize that while I may want what belongs to another, someone is at that moment wanting that which belongs to me. Therefore, I will be content with such things as I have.

7. Who will forgive and forget. One who will be slapped on both cheeks and still not retaliate. In so doing I shall be the greater victor, for I have kept Christ's command. May God, in these perilous days, keep us in the middle of the road and may our lives give to God the opportunities that He desires ... an avenue through which He can be beautifully portrayed to a lost and dying humanity. (end)

Profit And Loss

I COUNTED dollars while God counted crosses;
I counted gains while He counted losses.
I counted my worth by the things gained in store,
But He sized me up by the scars that I bore.
I coveted honors and sought for degrees;
He wept as He counted the hours on my knees.
I never knew till one day by a grave
How vain are the things that we spend life to save. . .
I did not yet know until Jim went above
That richest is he who is rich in God's Love !

WHAT ABOUT NOW?

thirty minutes after his denial? Perhaps he would not have spoken at all. This we know: to have said anything edifying, his testimony would necessarily have been prefaced with some such remark as this: "I remember the time



"He would have been forced to speak of past victories, or none at all, for he was NOW living a life of defeat.

This brings into focus an undeniable fact: Past victories and achievements are of no personal value in the time of present failure and defeat. And he who does not NOW have victory, condemns himself when he speaks of the past. The question naturally arises, "If then, why not NOW?"

Certainly there are few Christians who would say, in response to a question asked by the adversary, "I do not know Jesus." But there are other ways of denying Him. Paul said of certain supposed-to-be Christians: "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him" This same apostle also wrote that in the last days there would be some "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof."

It is possible for one who has received the Holy Ghost to lose his spirituality, and fall into the habit of performing religious duties in a cold, listless manner. He has a form of godliness, but he is denying God the right to work in and through him by His Spirit.

There are certain vital questions that you should ask yourself. What about your spiritual experience? When you speak of the blessings of God, must it always be of something that happened in the long distant past? Do you have victory NOW? How long has it been since you felt the thrill of God's love burning in your heart? When God blesses others in a church service, are you blessed?

What about your experience with God NOW?

Arthur L. Clanton

New Beginnings

Every day is a fresh new start,
A chance for a new beginning-
To live better than the day before,
A day to keep from sinning.
This day can be a day to spread
God's love and peace around,
To thank Him for a lovely world
Where Nature's gifts abound.
Each day a new experience,
A time to thank and pray
And to feast upon His mercies
As we make it our Best Day.

Helen Gleason 2003

*"You cannot escape the
responsibility of
tomorrow by evading it
today"* Abraham Lincoln

TUCKED AWAY in the tragic record of Jesus' arrest in Gethsemane and of His consequent arraignment before the Jewish court, is a verse that teaches a valuable lesson. It reads, "Now Peter sat without in the palace" These words form the preface to Peter's denial of Jesus. In its entirety, the gloomy account presents Peter at his wretched worst, committing the sin that hurled him from the pinnacle of self-confidence into the abyss of near despair.

To learn the vital lesson 'in the foregoing verse, marked emphasis must be placed on the word now. This word denotes the present, and seems to imply that Peter's conduct at that time stood in sharp contrast to his deeds of the past.

In happier times, before this day when Peter's life was blighted by pathetic failure, he had been a man of remarkable achievements--a man worthy of honor. To begin with, he was deeply sincere. This is seen in his forsaking his means of livelihood to follow Jesus, simply because he had been commanded to do so. As a disciple, Peter had been highly respected by his Lord. He had been chosen as one of the "big three." In addition to this, he had been a man of outstanding faith. Through faith, he had walked on the surging waves of storm-tossed Galilee, a feat of faith never duplicated by any mere mortal. True, he had begun to sink, but do not lose sight of the fact that he had walked on the water before this occurred, and had no doubt walked on the water again, as he and Jesus had returned to the boat. Finally, Peter had been a man richly blessed. To him Jesus had given the revelation of His deity.

The profile of Peter in the above paragraph is presented for one reason--to show the possibility of one's falling after he has risen to the heights. Now ... NOW .. NOW--Peter sat without, and denied his Lord.

Can you imagine Peter in a testimony service



Fix the World

A small boy who loved to do things with his father was anxious that day for his dad to get home from work. However, that day had been toll-taking on the father, and what he looked forward to was rest and quiet. yet the boy tugged at his father's leg time after time with another idea of something they could do together. Finally, in total frustration, the father tore from a magazine a page with a world map, tore it into 100 pieces, handed it to his son and said, "Here, go fix the world." "Ah, peace at last," he thought. But in a few minutes here stood the boy with the page all taped back together. "That's incredible, son. How did you do it?" "It was easy, Dad," said the boy as he turned the page over, showing the back side of it. "You see, on the other side of the picture of the world was a picture of a man, and when I got the man straightened out, the world was ok."

Note: God once looked down on our world and saw it broken into a thousand pieces by sin. So, He came and gave His life, to fix it for all who would accept His gift of salvation.

Helen Perkins

Examine Yourself

"Examine yourselves, as to whether you are in the faith. Prove yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? - unless indeed you are disqualified?" (2 Corinthians 13:5)

1. Are you pure in heart?
2. When you find sin in your life, do you repent or do you keep on doing it willfully?
3. Do you harbor hatred in your heart for someone?
4. Are you a gossip?
5. Are you a peacemaker?
6. Are you helping to build up the church?
7. Are you covetous?
8. Do others enjoy being around you because you encourage them spiritually or are you a discouragement?
9. Are you a positive influence for the Lord at work, at school or in your family?
10. Do you lie?
11. Do you have a forgiving spirit toward others?
12. Would people describe you as kind and considerate?
13. Do you use bad language?
14. Do you lose your temper often?
15. Are the movies you watch acceptable to God? Would you feel comfortable being there if the Lord were to return?
16. Do you drink or use drugs?
17. Are you respectful of your parents?
18. Do you consider your children's point of view in making decisions?
19. Do you study your Bible daily?
20. Are you a regular pray-er?
21. Do you put in a full day's work for a full day's pay?
22. Do you treat others as you would like to be treated?
23. Are you giving sacrificially to the Lord?
24. Husbands, are you loving your wife as Christ loves the church?
25. Parents, can your children talk to you about their lives or are you the last people they would ever talk to?
26. Bosses, are you treating your employees fairly?
27. Is there a special kind of immorality that you really struggle with?
28. Is it a joy for the elders to watch over your soul or is it a burden for them?
29. Are you doing what you can to help others who are in need?
30. Are you growing spiritually? Or falling backwards?
31. Men - are you trying to qualify as an elder or a deacon?
32. Older ladies - are you helping younger women to grow in Christ?
33. Do you always obey the laws of the land?
34. Are you selfish?
35. How long has it been since you invited a non-Christian to services?

--Roger Hillis

"Every man must live with the man he makes of himself "

" The best way to live in the world is to live above it"

Think On These Things

Recipe for a Happy Year

I WILL:

LIKE PAUL- forget those things which are behind and press forward. ,

LIKE DAVID- lift up mine eyes unto the hills , from whence cometh my help.

LIKE ABRAHAM- trust implicitly in my God. ,

LIKE ENOCH- walk in daily fellowship with my , Heavenly Father.

LIKE JEHOSEPHAT- prepare my heart to seek the Lord.

LIKE MOSES- choose rather to suffer than to , enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. ,

LIKE DANIEL- commune with God at all times and in all places. ,

LIKE JOB- be patient under all circumstances. ,

LIKE CALEB & JOSHUA- refuse to be discouraged because of superior numbers. ,

LIKE JOSEPH- turn my back on all seductive advances.

LIKE GIDEON- advance, even though my friends are few.

LIKE AARON & HUR - uphold the hands of my minister and the leaders of the church with my prayers and support. ,

LIKE ANDREW - strive to lead my brother to , Christ.

LIKE STEPHEN - manifest a forgiving spirit to-ward all who seek my hurt.

LIKE JESUS- go about doing good.

Realizing that I cannot hope to achieve these objectives by my own strength, I will rely upon Christ, for "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13

Perfect Timing

"God's help is always sure

His methods seldom guessed;

Delay will make our pleasure pure,

Surprise will give it zest.

His wisdom is sublime,

His heart profoundly kind;

God never is before His time,

And never is behind."

In the Center of God's Heart

By Marjory Windsor

The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear Him, in those that hope in His mercy.

Psalm 147:11

The Lord delighteth in thee
Isaiah 62:4

It is easy to be discouraged When looking at your life, Perhaps feeling that you have failed, Or weary with daily strife.

But think about this fact-

And it is really true-

That the great God almighty

Finds His pleasure in you!

He chose you before creation, In

His image you were made:

Perhaps feeling that you have failed, Or weary with daily strife.

But think about this fact-

And it is really true-

That the great God almighty

Finds His pleasure in you!

He chose you before creation, In

His image you were made:

You are precious in His sight, But even more than this-

In you He finds delight!

Heaven's glory and all creation, And yet with joy does He regard

God Is On My Side

Trials come and bring much stress.

They rise up on the tide.

But I've an anchor sustaining me

For God is on my side!

In the midst of troubles

The waters roar deep and wide.

But what have I to fear?

For God is on my side!

His my Lord. In Him I trust,

In Him I will abide.

I'll live this life in victory

For God is on my side!

By Joan Clayton

Begin Today

Dream not to much of what you'll do tomorrow, How well you'll work another year; tomorrow's chance you do not need to borrow-

Today is here.

Boast not too much of mountains you will master

The while you linger in the vale below,

To dream is well, but plodding brings us faster

To where we go.

Talk not too much about some new endeavor

You mean to make a little later on.

Who idles now will idle on forever

Till life is gone.

Swear not some day to

break some habit's getter,

When this old year is dead and passed away;

If you have need of living, wiser, better Begin today!

-Anon

Yet Will I Trust Him

God has never shielded His own from the fury's blast He has ever sent them out into it and asked, "Will you go out there and let the enemy: do his worst and prove that Heaven has power to see you through?" The battle that tries the soul and the storm that proves the set of the sail are never that which we understand perfectly. There, is no such thing as an ideal battle. Conflicts do not come in ways for which. we had planned and prepared. When you volunteer to go with God, you volunteer to go to the depths-where understanding fails, reason quivers, the spirit shudders, and the heart cries with pain until, like Job, you say, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him" (Job 13:15).

And out of that abyss of trial will arise a purer heart, which has its affections set more firmly on heaven and whose treasures have been rein- vested in the unfailing bank of God's love. There they are kept until this short life of testing is over and we gather on the other side of the vale to revel in the fun fruition of the accumulated interest of eternal treasure that fadeth not away'.

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