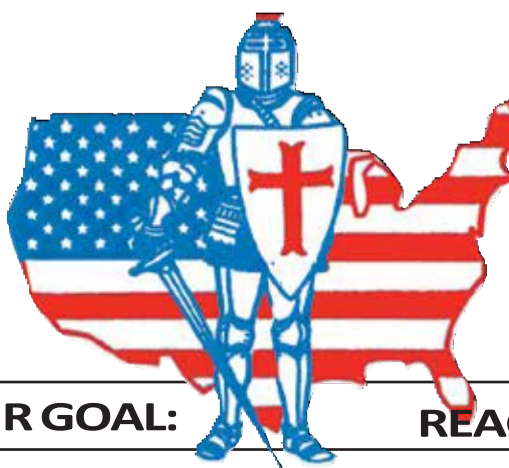




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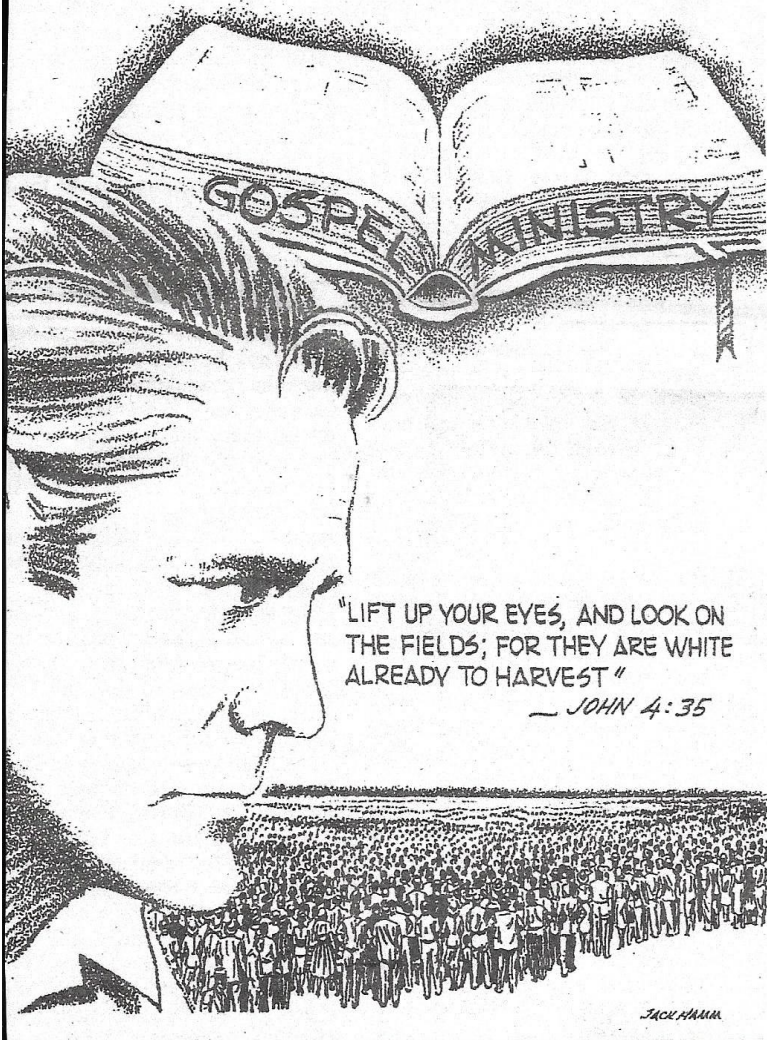
CHRISTIAN NEWSPAPER

July-Aug 2021

OUR GOAL:

REACHING FOR LOST SOULS FOR CHRIST WHILE THERE IS TIME

"Then said I, Here am I; send me." — Isa. 6:8



WHO ARE THESE?

We are fields of standing grain. We are millions of individual Souls, unharvested, standing like millions of uncut stalks of grain in the harvest field. Like stalks of wheat have grains of value, so we, though still standing, are of value to the World's husbandman who has created us. What will we be? We will be sheaves. A sheaf is quantity of the stalks of cut grain bound together. Sometime, somewhere we will be sheaves. We shall not stand here forever.

We shall be gathered together and bound by someone. Who are we for? We may be "sheaves for Communism," for they are going into the fields and gathering the bundles of human souls together by the millions. Then again we may be, "sheaves for Moham-medanism," for they always seek new souls. Or it may be for Buddha, or for Shintoism, or for Catholicism, or for Protestant modernism.

For you see, we are just standing here waiting, and the grain has little to say about who harvests it in. It seems that whoever will put forth the effort, the time, the sacrifice, the money and come and get us we will be sheaves for them. Whoever cares enough about us to come and get us we are theirs.

But we would like to be "Sheaves for Christ." If only His real, true church would come and gather us. We know that the Master does want us for He said, "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." And again He said, "Say not ye There are yet four months and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Oh do not wait it is growing late !

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CHRIST IS THE ANSWER

Greetings to the Saints of God!



Pastor Junior and Brenda Tingle

Hello Christian Friends

By the time you receive this copy of America's Christian Newspaper we will have had The Western Kentucky Youth Conference there was such an expectation of these services after all the closures

during the year, there was such a hunger to be in service with the people of God in worship and also the desire for fellowship of like faith precious saints. We are excited about seeing new young people, our prayer has been that God will do a great work in many lives during these services. We will have many capable men of God in the pulpit to bring forth the word of the Lord.

It is a glorious time to be living and working for God. We appreciate any prayers that were prayed for this Youth Conference it takes all of us working together in unity to see great things happen in our midst. In our next issue we hope to publish pictures from the conference and we will announce our dates and ministers for next years Conference. If you were unable to attend this year, we hope you will be able to attend next year. A special thank you to all who support this work, without you we would be unable to reach out. Many prisoners are receiving the newspaper because you have a burden for souls. Our prayer is that God will bless you by saving your lost family.

Bro. Junior Tingle

We aren't judged by what we want to do and can't,
but by what we ought to do and don't

My Bible

Though the cover is worn and the pages are torn.

And though places bear traces of tears,
Yet more precious than gold is the Book,
worn and old,

That can shatter and scatter my tears.
When I prayerfully look in the precious
old Book.

Many pleasures and treasures I see.
Many tokens of love from the Father
above. Who is nearest and dearest to me.
This old Book is my guide; 'tis a friend
by my side.

It will lighten and brighten my way;
And each promise I find soothes and
gladdens my mind as I read it and heed
it today.

To this Book I will cling, of its worth I
will sing,
Though great losses and crosses be mine:
For I cannot despair, though surrounded
by care.

While possessing this blessing divine.

*Only Jesus can
satisfy the soul!*

The Christian Tabernacle Church



*1406 Tucker Schoolhouse Road
Madisonville, Kentucky 42434*

**Phone: Bro. Tingle
270-584-4248**

Service Schedule:

**Sunday Morning
Word & Worship
10:00 a.m.**

**Sunday Evening Word
& Worship 6:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday Evening
Bible Study
7:30 p.m.**

Please remember To pray for this Newspaper!

Don't Forget!

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.

The Way Unto Life

"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:14).

"Well, anyway, we are all going to the same place," the old native gentleman remarked as he noted his church affiliation was different from mine. While his words were with kindly intent, I fear he was taking too much for granted, especially in a matter as serious as our eternal destiny. We cannot afford to take chances; you and I must know that we are on the right road. Several years ago, a freighter named the "Trans-Pacific Faith," developed trouble in stormy seas several hundred miles south of Kodiak. The crew was ordered to abandon ship, a life boat was filled with men; but the tackling broke before it could be launched and the men were dumped into the sea and lost. The life saving equipment had not been inspected and ropes were rotten. If you are not sure of the salvation plan you are trusting to save you, certainly it is high time to check carefully. To assume that each of us can take a way or plan of salvation of our choice, and all arrive at the same destination, is unique reasoning indeed.

Jesus, who came to save people and give them eternal life, said there is only one road that leads unto life (Matthew 7:13). Coming from the Lord, this is an absolute fact and cannot be denied. All the opinions of men cannot change that truth for He, Jesus, is the Author of salvation. A narrow road to life, a broad one to destruction, and the road we choose is really a choice of where we will spend eternity. For these two roads, my friend, do not go to the "same place." A confused and frustrated man, who later styled himself as the "chief of sinners," was traveling from Jerusalem to Damascus on

a mission of persecution, imprisonment, and possible death for the Jesus people, when he was stopped by a blinding light. The light was a heavenly one and the



voice that came was that of the glorified Jesus (Acts 9). The man, Saul of Tarsus, blinded and lying on the ground, received a directive from Jesus Himself that was brief, kind, but as firm as the highest authority in heaven and earth could make it: "Arise, go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do." Note this, Saul was going to be told something to do and that "something" was "a must." The Lord spoke to a man in Damascus named Ananias and told him Saul was coming. Jesus did not tell Ananias what to tell Saul because He knew what he would tell him. You see, they did not have a list of salvation "plans" in those days for a sinner to choose from and still go to the "same place." That kind of teaching was still in the bottomless pit from whence it has come forth in our day.

What Ananias said was this, "Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou earnest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost" ... "and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized" (Acts 9:17, 18). Later Saul testified that Ananias had said; "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16).

This generation contends that there are no absolutes. What Ananias told Saul was an absolute, "a must." Jesus said it was a "must!" The Lord's words have never changed and never will!

This "absolute" absolutely saves.

A short time later Saul was preaching Christ in the synagogues. The people were amazed; the absolute had worked. The doctrinal "wishy-washyness" of our time does not produce the same results. When you are baptized in Jesus name, every sin you have repented of is gone. When you are filled with the glorious Holy Ghost, it is the Spirit of the Lord inside to help you. Like the people of Damascus, I too have been amazed and filled with wonder again and again at what this glorious gospel will do.

By Kenneth W. French

The Holy Spirit

A city full of churches; Great preachers, lettered men! Grand music, choirs and organs, If these all fail, what then? Good workers, eager, earnest, Who labor hour by hour, But where, oh where, my brother, Is God's almighty power? It is the Holy Ghost, That quickeneth the soul; God will not take man-worship, Nor bow to man's control. No human innovation, No skill, or worldly art, Can give a true repentance, Or break the sinner's heart. We may have human wisdom, Grand singing, great success. There may be fine equipment, But these things do not bless. God wants a pure clean vessel, Anointed lips and true, A man filled with the Spirit, To speak His message through. Selah!

Bro. David Gray



Are Premarital Relations Okay If We Marry?

QUESTION:

I have been told that I Corinthians 7:36 means that premarital relations are okay and not a sin if we get married later on. I haven't given in, but a lot of young people seem to think this way, and this verse appears to teach that it is all right. But if it is true, why does our church preach against it?

ANSWER:

I am glad you have not given in, because first of all, the verse of Scripture to which you refer and which we will examine a little later on, I Corinthians 7:36, certainly does not teach such an unholy and ungodly doctrine; and second, because the Bible actually teaches the very opposite, that a sexual relationship before marriage is sin, and a particularly defiling one at that.

Before we look at the subject verse, permit me to point out to you the Bible's teaching on premarital relations. First, it is only the marriage bed that is undefiled: "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4). "God will judge these who sin sexually whether single or married," is how the Beck Version translates the last part of the verse. Nowhere in the Bible do we find any verse that even suggests that it is all right for sex to come first and marriage later. The very opposite is taught.

In I Timothy, Paul instructed his son in the Lord how he should conduct himself toward ladies. He counseled him to treat "the elder woman as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity [thinking only pure thoughts about them-Taylor Version]"

Questions & Answers

In his second epistle to Timothy, Paul added these words of exhortation: "Flee also youthful lusts" (II Tim-othy 2:22). One paraphrase puts it, "Do not allow your youthful passions to overcome your good sense, but stay pure." Could anything be plainer in teaching that single men and women should not allow themselves to indulge in any type of sexual activity between themselves prior to marriage?

The scriptural exhortation against premarital relations is based upon unshakable reasoning. Paul cried out in no uncertain terms, "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body" (I Corinthians 6:18).

Why is this sin of sexual uncleanness singled out as particularly offensive to God? The answer is found in the next verse: "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (I Corinthians 6:19). To defile the temple of the Holy Ghost with fornication is in God's sight a sin against Himself, for it is His dwelling place that is defiled. God has reserved sexual intimacy for marriage alone. To do otherwise is to dishonor God.

In the light of this fact God's Word instructs the single person to either remain pure and separate from sexual sin, or if he cannot contain himself, to get married: "I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn [with passion-RSV]" (I Corinthians 7:8-9). Only after one is married is the relationship involving intimacy sanctified and pure (Hebrews 13:4).

Now let us look at I Corinthians 7:36. Notice first the setting. All Bible scholars agree that Paul was dealing with a situation much different from what we face today. Paul revealed this fact in verse 26: "I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be" [that is, as he was, unmarried, verses 7-8]. Paul's advice in these verses has to do with those who were undergoing "the present distress," conditions existing at that time. It was because of those abnormal conditions he recommended that those who could do so without lusting remain unmarried (verses 8-9). The word for "distress" (Greek *anagke*) is the same word used to describe the great tribulation in Luke 21:23, and it denotes calamity, persecution, tribulation. Evidently Nero's horrible persecutions against the Christians had begun. Adam Clarke said concerning Paul's reference to "the present distress": In such times, when the people of God had no certain dwelling place, when they were lying at the mercy of their enemies without any protection from the state the state itself often among the persecutors he who had a family to care for, would find himself in very embarrassed circumstances, as it would be much more easy to provide for his personal safety than to have the care of a wife and children. On this account it was much better for unmarried persons to continue for the present in their celibacy.

Barnes' Commentary adds that "he by no means meant that this should be a permanent arrangement in the church."

The verse to which you refer, verse 36, was written in this context, not in the light of normal living conditions in which God's plan is that marriage is recommended for all. (See Proverbs 18:22; Hebrews 13:4; I Corinthians 7:2).

Now let us see what I Corinthians 7:36 says: But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry

(continued page 12)

God's Message To Nineveh

Will He Find a Man to Deliver it ?

Bro Wright

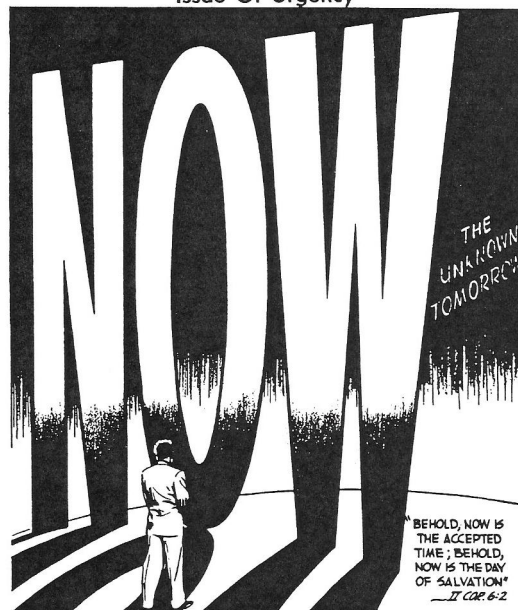
Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. (Jonah 3:2).

While driving through the states of the northeast I was deeply disturbed by the numerous cities which had no apostolic church. The souls of these cities had no preacher of truth, no altar at which to pray, no witness, no hope, and no living God. I questioned, "Lord, why isn't there a church in these cities? Don't you care that these people are lost? If our message is true, how are these people going to have a chance with no preacher?" God then startled me with His reply. He said, "I have called men for these cities, and they would not come. Those who have refused My call will stand before Me at the judgment to answer for these cities." I sat stunned and dismayed at His answer. Is it too idealistic or naive to wonder how any God-called preacher could refuse to do the will of God, especially when the consequences of such a decision are so severe for himself and for those of the city he has rejected?

After returning home, I again questioned, "Lord, how can these people be lost, they haven't. ever had a chance?" He answered, "Surely they will be lost because their wickedness is great; but, as they perish, their blood is upon the hands of those who have refused to go to them and deliver My message" (Ezekiel 3:18, 19). No one deserves to be lost, no matter how wicked he is, without first being warned! God had a message for the city of Nineveh. His mercy would not allow the city to be destroyed without first warning the people. However, His messenger refused to go. How many of us have been dealt with by God about the need in a certain area, only to reject

His call and to go the opposite direction? God's unalterable plan is for men of God to preach the gospel to every creature. If, when He calls us, we rebel, how shall the lost be saved and how shall we survive?

Issue Of Urgency



We have completely underestimated the urgency of the need and God's determination to accomplish His mission of mercy. Many have fled like Jonah only to find that God has not given up on His intention that they must deliver His message. Could it be that some of the storms that have hit our churches are caused by a Jonah hiding in the pulpit? Instead of obeying God, some have sought out a place of refuge from the seemingly unpleasant will of God only to encounter trouble, problems, and difficulties too great for them to handle. Is it possible that some who have made shipwreck first started on that course by falling spiritually asleep in their hiding place from God's call? While the church that Jonah pastors, out of the will of God, flounders in the raging sea of trouble, the

A.W.O.L. messenger secretly knows the answer he is fleeing from the mission. There are some storms which have been sent by God that can only be calmed by throwing Jonah out.

It is amazing that Jonah could surrender to being cast out of the ship, but could not surrender to simply doing the will of God.

The fundamental question that must be answered is, "Can a man be saved and not do the will of God?" The answer is, "a resounding "No!" (Matthew 7:21; 12:50; John 4:34; 5:30; I John 2:17). It is the height of presumption to think that God will save someone, anyone, who abides in rebellion. Jonah repented! Repented? Yes, he repented because he had sinned. To refuse to obey is sin, no matter how distasteful God's destination for us might be.

Jonah did not like Nineveh, but God did not share his feelings. The original Hebrew in Jonah 3:3 reads, "Nineveh was a city great unto God." Jonah viewed it with repulsion, but God with compassion. Our carnal reasonings as to why we could not or should not go to a certain area to build a church may seem so logical. But, to God, they are nothing but froth and foam intended to disguise our rebellion.

"Have we become so secure in the womb of Pentecostal society that we are unwilling to be ordered to the front lines of the battle?"

In Mark 10:28, the disciples confessed that they had left all to follow Jesus. Is our obstacle to following that we do not want to leave all? Have we become so secure in the womb of Pentecostal society that we are unwilling to be ordered to the front lines of the battle? If our present church, houses, lands, mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, wife or life can prevent us from doing the will of God, we are not worthy of the title, "man of God." If a bigger church, a better income, a parsonage, or an opportunity for greater position or prestige can influence us to follow self will and not God's will, we have prostituted the gospel. Some messengers have the Spirit of Jesus, who even though they have to pray many times under the pressure of Gethsemane, finally can say, "Not my will, but thine be done." Others have the spirit of Judas, who betrayed the will of God, selling it for the insignificant gain of this world's goods. Con't page 6

God's Message To Nineveh (Con't)

These Judases force God to substitute a second, third, or fourth choice, sometimes even having to send a novice, so that, at least, some can have a chance to heed the warning.

God loves the lost. He so loved the world that He gave His all. He also loves the multitudes. Jesus loves cities. He wept over Jerusalem. His mercy is so great that He even loved Sodom. Jesus implied that Sodom could have been spared if it could have had a messenger. He found someone who would pray, but He found no one willing to deliver His message. Even prayer does not work unless there is someone to go. As Sodom hurled through the darkness toward its day of judgment, Sodom's messenger was finally stirred out of his selfish complacency. However, his concern was for himself and his own, and not for the multitude who were soon to perish. A desperate message which is delivered in a final moment saves only the messenger. Will we also procrastinate until it's too late to save anyone but ourselves?

Some feel that the cities of the Northeast are too hardened, too wicked, and too rebellious to have revival. They feel that if revival comes, it will come to the cities of the "Bible belt," to "God's country." However, it was hardened, heathenistic Nineveh that heard the voice of the prophet and repented, while religious Jerusalem rebelled and killed her messengers of warning. Nineveh was spared; Jerusalem was destroyed.

God is still calling, searching, longing for men who will deliver His message to the Northeast. The 55 million souls between Washington, D.C. and Boston, Mass. have the right to hear the gospel. The 84.5 million souls of the Northeast Region are hungry, not hardened. They are waiting for someone to reach them before judgment. How shall they hear without a preacher? How shall they hear without a man who will accept God's call to "Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee"? (Jonah 3:2). Is God

calling you? Will you answer yes? **Will you go? Nineveh is waiting for the message!**

A Positive Message

And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations: and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14).

An able sectarian writer of our day has written a popular book entitled, "The Power of Positive Thinking." We preach a positive message; one that stirs the sinner to action, builds a fire under the lukewarm, puts to silence the voice of the critics stops the mouth of the modern-day church member'. and rocks the strongholds of Satan. Why? Because we preach a message with power in it.

Faith in this message demands action, for, as Paul puts it, " ... it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth " (Romans 1: 16). Obeying his message brings about a change in one's life. It causes an inward revolution, giving one the power to rebel against the Devil, thus breaking his strong hold, and freeing from the bondage of sin. Nothing else will do this. The modern social gospel which appeals to the whims of the people, allowing sin to ease into the church, will not do the job. Such a gospel is lacking in the real power of God necessary to perform the work. The use of such substitutes seems to work for a while, but when the real testing time comes, it does not produce fruit in accordance with the Word of God.

Some are usually ready to recommend caution (so called), trying to cast doubt and fear upon the work of God. Others say, "Let's use a little wisdom now; don't get over zealous about this thing, or you might have to take back some things." This is exactly what the Devil wants us to do - to settle down in our little nests with our favorite doctrines and prove to our neighbors and friends that we can be nice people, not even disturbing their sinful ways. Satan would tell us to just try to hold what we have, and begin to educate our coming generation into the way of Pentecost. Oh yes! He would have us seek to grow in popularity in our town, and become just another church denomination, with self-respect and a defensive message.

Certainly the Devil would like for us to cool off in a lot of ways, and say nothing against the evils which God condemns. God forbid that we should soften up one bit! Let us rather expose sin, whether in or out of the church. For we preach a positive message, backed by all the powers of heaven.

In this modern, materialistic age there is certainly no danger of producing people who will lift the standards of righteousness and holiness TOO HIGH. The danger does not lie in preaching the message too much on the positive side; the real danger lies in "soft-pedaling," and allowing the situation to justify the sinful life.

Yes, we should praise the Lord for a message of power, and not one of defense, whereby we seek to justify our failures. Let us speak out against the evils of our day. This positive message warns us all, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world " Do not forget that the greater our sacrifice and consecration, the greater our faith and power with God.

The text has in it these words: " ... this gospel of the kingdom " The FULL New Testament message is what the world needs. In fact, there is only one gospel; besides it there is no other, according to God's Word. New Testament conversion is a radical and definite experience which completely changes a person.

Believing the gospel truth means more than the shedding of a few tears, or merely trying to quit the world. Faith in the Word of God brings into action in one's life the very power of God. The Apostle Paul's conversion was a definite one. It led him to ask, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" One does not come into such an experience gradually, a little at a time, here a little and there a little. Rather it is a turning to God with all the heart, and demands that everything be placed upon the altar.

The question, then, should not be, "May I keep my television set?" or "Do I have to let my hair grow?" or "What about worldly entertainment?" No! The question should rather be that asked by Paul, "Lord, what will you have me to do?"

There are always some who want to walk the path of least resistance. They are ready to prove their spirituality by various means, while holding on to as much of the world as possible.

They want to do as little as they can to get by, and still be called Pentecostal. But if one desires the world, and yet wants to be a church member, he should join a church that condones sin and worldliness. Let us beware of lowering the standard of holiness, as set forth in God's Word, lest we find ourselves completely without the power of God. Of course some say, "God does not want us to be without some diversion in this highly nervous age." But the truth is, He wants to give us real joy and peace instead of all this modern make believe.

Paul said, "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5: 17). Let me ask you, "Does this verse describe some present day conversions?"

Yes, what this troubled world needs is a positive message of deliverance, through faith and obedience. Some would dare preach a defensive message, trying to explain why those who apparently live good lives have not received the Holy Ghost. But in the Bible we find such positive statements as " ... shall receive" "will send"; "came on them"; "they were all filled," etc.

Surely the days of revival are not over. Let us go with the gospel while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work. There are scores of towns and cities without the true message. Laborers are needed to carry the truth to all men everywhere.

May we say, as did Isaiah, "Here am I; send me."

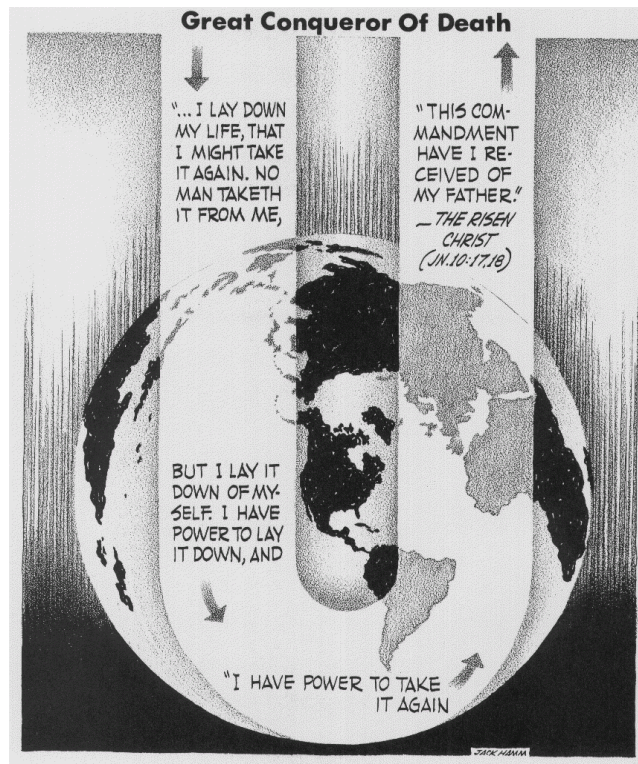
A Reputation Or A Name

Ernest Breithaupt

JESUS CHRIST, supreme deity, had a work to do on the earth. Man, beloved jewel of His creation, was hopelessly enslaved by Satan. Worse yet, man did not realize his servitude or his need. Perhaps Jesus reasoned with Himself in the following manner. How can I best accomplish man's deliverance? What would be the best approach to win his love and devotion?

In His omnipotence, every option imaginable was available to Him. Let us use our imagination for a moment. He could have come in a chariot of fire on a highway of lightning, accompanied by sonic booms of thunder. He could have sent out legions of angels with the power of life and death in their hands to declare His greatness and to destroy any that would not re-pent. He could have created a mighty reputation that would have been declared to all men. But He did not choose to come in this fashion. He came in the form of a servant. " ... he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him" (Isaiah 53:2). He did not come to receive a reputation but to establish a name. For the purpose of our consideration in this article, let us define these words. Reputation: certain estimation of a person as told by others and generally con-sidered to be true. Name: that which is known about a person and has been established by deeds and actions. Many times we think that we could be great workers in the kingdom of God if only some way we could gain a reputation that said we were great workers. We go through our Christian experience hoping that someone will recognize our latent ability and begin to promote us. We feel that the ensuing reputation gain would be a catalyst propelling us into great accomplishment. A certain young man was having difficulty finding the break in the business field that he desired. He went to the successful business man to ask for his help.

The successful man, correctly sizing up the young man, said, "Son, go look on the front door. What you need to succeed is written there."



The young man looked at the door and on it saw the word "PULL." "That's what I mean," he moaned. "I can't get anyone to promote me." But the successful man had intended him to look at the other side of the door the one that said "PUSH." The problem with seeking a reputation is that we want to use it for a crutch. Often it is felt that if others would acclaim us that some way we would rise to the level of their expectation. The reverse of this is most often the case. Tragedy generally ensues when some-one is promoted beyond his accomplishment. The novice who is given a reputation that he has not earned usually falls victim to pride (I Timothy 3:6).

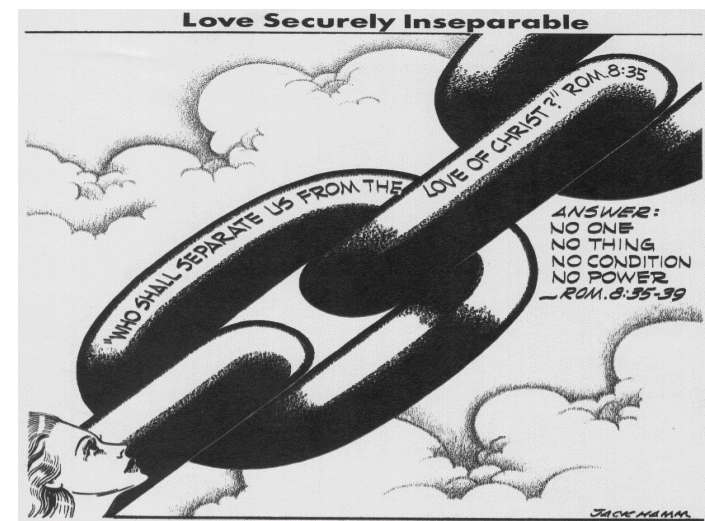
The story is told of a young preacher who had his first opportunity to preach in a conference. Several people had told him that he was a great preacher, and he believed them. He approached the service and the pulpit with supreme confidence. Immediately after reading his text, his thoughts deserted him. After a short rambling discourse, he turned, humiliated, to his chair. At the close of the service an elder minister told him, "Son, if you had

come in like you went out; you could have gone out like you came in."

Our Savior had the greatest task that the world will ever know. Yet He chose to come without fanfare. " ... made himself of no reputation ... " (Philippians 2:7). In the great temptation one of the things that Satan offered Him was to cast Himself from the pinnacle of the Temple (Matthew 4:6). This type of spectacular performance could have created a great reputation with which to begin His ministry. Jesus refused the sensationalism approach. He had not come to be ministered unto by the adulation of men (Matthew 20:28). He had come to minister and to give Himself that men might be saved. God's work is not done by the reputation of men, but it is accomplished through His Spirit and the power of His name. Having a reputation as a spiritual person or a spiritually-gifted person is not important. Possessing a walk with God whereby we are endued with His Spirit and power, that is important.

Satan does not fear us or our reputation, just as he had no fear of the seven sons of Sceva (Acts 19: 15). But he does fear God and the power of His name (James 2:19). Also he fears those who are filled with the power of God and have authority to use His name. (He said to the sons of Sceva, "Paul I know.") When those who have submitted themselves fully unto God resist him, the devil is powerless to stand before them and must flee (James 4:7).

We cannot improve on the work of God or His method. If He didn't need a reputation to precede Him, then neither do we. Who we are and what reputation we have does not matter to the work of God. The thing that matters is to humble ourselves and submit our ego unto Him and go forth in the power of that name which is above every name.



WHAT WE DO BY FAITH



The Missing Link

"The worlds were framed by the word of God. .. " (Hebrews 11 :8)

The VASTNESS OF SPACE, dotted with heavenly bodies, is a testimony of God's creative power. Creation's splendors reflect the awesome power of its Creator, who simply spoke and it was so. God made the earth complete with atmosphere and teeming with life. No human engineering was involved in the resplendent beauty produced when God spoke the landscapes into being. God's masterpiece of creation was not complete until His breath was breathed into the lungs of the earth-man. When man was made, creation was complete, and then God rested. God's world was incomplete without a man.

The pool of Bethesda had hosted a man who had an infirmity for 38 years (John 5 :5). He could have been healed if he had had the mobility and speed to be the first into the water after the angel troubled it annually. This man's anguished reply to Jesus revealed the desperate need he lived with: "Sir, I have no man " The words, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk," made him completely whole. He had been introduced to God, who was robed in the flesh of a man.

It was the "man Christ Jesus" (I Timothy 2:5) that linked lost man with a holy God. God deals with men through other men. If a spiritual revolution were to sweep the world, it would not be propagated by angels, neither would preaching be done by the voice of God. The Scriptures are replete with examples of God's dealings with people. When He chose to talk to them He always used a man. God called men to minister to his own kind. Without the ministry of a godly man the lost will remain lost forever. **SOME THINGS GOD WILL NOT DO!** Faith holds the intangible until it becomes tangible. Faith is the first step to God. But James 2:20 declares that, "faith without works is dead." Faith is never passive, it is always active. Believing demands reactions and responses.

It is man's part that must be enacted before God will respond with the miraculous. **IS IT THE WILL OF GOD TO HAVE REVIVAL?** At times it would appear as though God was not interested in revival. Struggles, failures, "dry spells" and disappointments sometimes plague a church. A prayer may seem ineffective, and anticipated revival crowds that do not materialize are very disappointing. What's wrong? Doesn't God care? Doesn't anyone want to be saved'? Is this city gospel hardened? The truth is that so often the principles of revival are neglected. God is asked to do His part before His commission has been executed by the one making the request. The Lord gave two graphic examples of **HOW TO REACH THE LOST**. He said, "I will make you fishers of men." The absolute basics of soul winning demand fasting and intercessory prayer, but after the prayer is made there is still something that a man must do. To catch fish you must follow some basic rules.

1. Go where they are (home).
2. Stay as invisible as possible.
3. Determine what they want (need).
4. Use the proper bait (Jesus).
5. Take time to reel it in (don't rush it).

So often every rule is broken and yet the fisher of men wonders why there are no results. The second example (from nature) of how to win the lost relates to the harvest. To have a harvest it is necessary to:

1. Go forth-Psalm 126:6 (out of your home).
2. Weep (prepare the ground).
3. Plant the seed (after preparation).
4. Let the Lord of harvest take over after harvest hands have done their part.
5. Reap the harvest and bring it in from the field (in due time).

No farmer would build a barn in preparation for a harvest unless he had carefully planted the field. Too often God is expected to give the harvest, but the harvest hands have not put, seed in the ground. To be effective in soul winning you cannot ignore the principles related in God's Word.

God will not knock on a door, witness to a sinner, teach a home Bible study, or pray with a seeker. God will not even disciple the new convert. Someone's hands must touch the new "babe" or his experience will dissipate, and slowly he will lose the joy of his new found "birth" This seems so unfair to the new convert, but God has ordained that a man be involved, and without that man God will not work. God and the right man constitute a revival. The difference between a revival and a spiritual vacuum is the man.

It is the will of God to evangelize the world. The plan of salvation is not dependent on anyone convincing God that it needs to be done. He wants to save the lost. He wants to perform His miracles. But God will wait and the world will die lost without burdened men. These men must forget selfish ambitions, commit their lives to Jesus Christ, and follow simple, basic principles of reaching the lost. The lost still sit by the miraculous pool and alas, they still cry,

"Sir, I have no man." By J.E Yonts

Come Down From The Cross

"... If thou be the Son of God, c o m e down from the c r o s s" (Matthew 27:40).

THIS was the taunt of the people as they stood gazing upon the rough cross where Jesus hung. Society was well represented at Golgotha. There were the townspeople, the priests, the soldiers, and criminals. All classes joined in the chorus,

"Come down from the cross."

To sin blinded men the cross is ever foolishness. Man accepts Christ as a figure of history, but not His cross nor His redemption. Twenty centuries have not tempered human nature. Men still jeer, perhaps in a less literal way, but even more diabolically, "Come down from the cross."

Notice especially the presence of the priests and Levites. It was the religion of Jesus' day that implemented His death. He announced to His followers that He must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes (Mat-thew 16: 21). Organized religion, under Satanic control, has always been opposed to Jesus Christ. In the days of His flesh they stoned Him; in the hour of His death they mocked Him.

It can be readily seen why Satan challenged Him to come down from the cross. Satanic religion is not so much opposed to His birth or His ethics. But Satanic religion is opposed to His cross. Such men will have Christ, to a certain extent, as Teacher, but not as the Saviour.

Unregenerate man has an inclination for the spectacular. The sensational attracts him. He would walk by sight, not by faith. He cannot conceive of believing without seeing. Naaman is a good example. He anticipated some mystic movement from the prophet for his healing (2 Kings 6: 11). He did not choose the simple washing in Jordan. Another example of this is the rich man in hell. He thought the resurrection of Lazarus would persuade his brothers to repent. To this, Abraham replied, "... If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead" (Luke 16: 31). Bringing the dead back from the cemetery is not God's pattern for bringing men to repentance.

TO THIS END WAS HE BORN



God's sole method is the anointed proclamation of His Word (Romans 10: 17).

Suppose Jesus had complied with the mob's request. Suppose He had come down from the cross. (And certainly He COULD have come down! A whole angelic militia could have come to His aid. A flaming chariot of fire could have carried Him back to glory.) It was not that He could not; it was simply that He would not.

If Jesus had descended from the cross, perhaps some would have, for a time, become His followers.

Perhaps all might have believed but this is unlikely, for unbelief is always illogical and stubborn. (When Jesus performed miracles, His enemies accused Him of doing it through the power of the Devil. When He arose from the dead, His disciples were accused of stealing His body.) But if Jesus had come down from the cross, what about all those of generations then past, who had believed? What of the millions who had died in faith? What would have been the eternal destiny of the many patriarchs and saints, who rejoiced to see His day, and saw it, and were glad?

Each bloody altar of Old Testament times would stand a monument to their folly. The Old Testament believers would be herded into hell, exiles from heaven. And what about all those of future generations? If Jesus had come down from the cross, all these would have been hopelessly damned.

If Jesus had come down from the cross, what of you and your loved ones? Every funeral would be sh r o u d e d in impenetrable gloom; every song would be a dirge. If Christ had descended from the cross, the fate of some would be the fate of all. Thank God He did not descend! How glad we should be that He remained on the cross!

Love held Him there. Our sins held Him there. God's perfect will held Him there. And, because He stayed, we have salvation. Because He stayed, we have victory over all sin. Because He stayed, we have a hope of glory.

The mob jeered, "He saved others; himself he cannot save." The truth is, He saved others because He refused to save Himself.

If you have not yet surrendered to Him, will you not behold Him bleeding and dying on the cross, and trust Him. He has made the way plain. Let us take the way He took. He died, was buried, and then rose again. This is, in a spiritual sense, what everyone must do to be saved. One must die (repent), be buried (baptized in Jesus' name), and be resurrected (raised to walk in newness of life, through being filled with the Holy Ghost).

How thankful we should be that Jesus did not come down from the cross.

By J.C.Cole

Don'ts For Church Goers

Don't visit; worship.

Don't hurry away. Speak and be spoken to.

Don't dodge the preacher. Show yourself to be friendly.

Don't dodge the collection plate. Contribute what you are able.

Don't stop in the end of the pew. Move over.

Don't stare blankly while others sing, read, and pray. Join in

Don't wait for an introduction; introduce yourself.

Don't criticize remember to think of your own frailties.

Don't monopolize your hymn book. Be neighborly.

Don't stay away from church because of company; bring them with you.

Don't stay away from church because the church is not perfect. How lonesome you would feel in a perfect church.

WHAT DOES YOUR PASTOR NEED?

There is a myth about the omniscient pastor.

Many believe their pastor should be an excellent speaker, a skilled counselor, a biblical scholar, a prayer warrior, a public relations expert, a good administrator, a soul winner, a visitor in hospitals and of senior citizens, a friendly handshaker, a part-time janitor and repairman, a model spouse and parent, always available on the phone, able to turn delinquent young people into model citizens, and one who loves babies and children.

Some people believe the pastor is hired by the congregation to do all the work. They assume if they hire a better pastor, more work will get done. Then the church will grow, and the congregation can sit back and enjoy it.

But pastors are not supposed to do all the work. Instead they work to get the members to discover their gifts and do their share of the work. They believe each member of the Body must do his or her part. The pastor has a distinct role, but he is only one member.

While a pastor's role is to minister to people, a pastor also has needs. Do you know what your pastor's needs are? A pastor needs to be loved.

Good pastors care for their sheep. Some sheep need constant care. They never seem to improve.

I look at some people in my congregation, and I know they are hurting. I hurt for them. That is my pastor's heart. Many times I pray for people, and they don't even know it. Sometimes pastors give out so much and love so much they need someone to say to them, "I love you. I care about you."

When pastors receive healthy love from a congregation, it lessens the likelihood they will be so emotionally needy that they will fall into the trap of receiving unhealthy love from one person.

A Pastor Needs Healing

Because of the nature of a pastor's caring heart, pastors get hurt. The shepherd hurts when a sheep is lost to a wolf. When people move away,

they say they don't want to leave because they have so many friends in the church. I wonder if they understand how it hurts the pastor to have people move away.

It bothers me when people leave the congregation to go to other local churches. People may think it doesn't hurt because pastors don't always talk about their hurts. Do you know how it feels when you have cared for, fed, nurtured, and looked after the sheep, and then they are gone? Months later you hear they are involved in another church. They make excuses why they left. It hurts. Pastors feel it.

A pastor needs healing too. After every service I go to my office and am critical of myself because I feel I should have said this or done that. When pastors preach funeral services and minister to the family, they do their best to strengthen and encourage. I wonder how many understand that their pastor often is grieving too. Sometimes we think pastors are so strong they never hurt, but they do.

A Pastor needs a personal life.

Pastors need a personal life. They must have time when they are not pastors. A pastor's heart always cares, but somehow there must be times and places to restore one's own battery. The pastor needs family time. A pastor needs prayer.

Pastors need our prayers. They are failing for one reason or another because the devil targets them.

I don't feel worthy to stand in the pulpit. I know I fail God many times. The devil tries to tempt me. Pastors of other congregations sit in my office, and we share, talk, or pray. We pastors need our people to pray for us.

The church will only be great and strong as each member recognizes that those who stand in the pulpit and preach every week are a gift to the church. They are called of God, but they have needs. They need prayer.

By Paul Tinlin

I Wonder Why

*I think of those for whom Christ died,
Who still have never heard;
Who do not know of God's great love,
Recorded in His Word:
And wonder why, and wonder why
They still have never heard.*

*I think of people lost in sin
Who sit in darkness still
Because no light has come to them '
This cannot be God's will'
And wonder why, and wonder why
They sit in darkness still.*

*I think of us who have the light; But
still have failed to share
The message of the grace of God 'His
love beyond compare '
And wonder why, and wonder why,
We still have failed to share.*

*Lord, thoughts are not enough I see
some action must begin.
Send me, I pray, with light to those In
darkness and in sin.
In thy great strength, Lord, now I go,
The action to begin.*

*To a quick question give
a slow answer.*

*Attention Package receivers :
Please let us know if you need less
newspapers than you are receiving
or if you would like to receive a
package of the Newspapers to
distribute. Please inform us so we
can prevent needless cost.
Thank you Gail Huddleston*

THIS IS THE BIBLE
WAY OF SALVATION

ACTS 2:38

REPENT, AND BE BAPTIZED
EVERY ONE OF YOU IN THE
NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR
THE REMISSION OF SINS, AND
YE SHALL RECEIVE THE
GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST.

GOING WITH THE GOSPEL

People are "on the go" today more than ever before going on foot, in cars, in jets, or some other way. But how many are going with the gospel, or care to send those who do go?

Before He went away, Jesus gave us the great commission to go into all the world and preach the gospel. He also said, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations .. ." The need for carrying out these orders today is greater than at any other time in history.

The population of the world is claimed to be increasing at the rate of 44,000,000 each year. According to statistics, during the last generation alone 750,000,000 souls went into eternity who were never touched by the gospel of Christ. Why should some people keep hearing the gospel over and over again, while millions have never heard it once?



may walk with Him and work to share His grace. Our services are not to gain respect for ourselves, but that Christ, through us, might be glorified. If we would be great among the children of God, we must serve unselfishly. Greatness has been defined as selfless humility, received as if undeserved; worn as if it did not exist, and lost when vainly displayed. The road we travel not only leads through low and sorrowful places, but also from the shadows and tears to walk with God in the cool of the evening. With joy I pray that individuals will be loosed, and find in Christ the emotional balance I enjoy. There is a marvelous satisfaction in loving the unlovable and returning good for evil. There is a deep solid satisfaction when we reach into the word of God and know that it has met a vital need, and we are able to recognize the light of a new understanding. It is the burdens we help another bear that make our own seem light. It is the danger seen for another's feet that helps us along the path of right. It is the good of each passing day, with a heart sincere and true in giving the world our best, that makes life worthwhile. Give to the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you.

WHERE TODAY MEETS

TOMORROW

By Mabel Drummond

Many scientific achievements have changed our way of life in the last few years. Modern conveniences make our work so much lighter. It is easy to see that today the world is undergoing technical upsurge unequaled in the history of man. Industry is meeting this space age challenge by applying the best talent, the best equipment, the best materials available and the results are colossal. Our late President Kennedy said, "I believe space is a new ocean, and we must sail upon it." Some have spoken of our space accomplishments as "touching the fringe of eternity."

Today we must remember that we have a great God to glorify, a wonderful Saviour to imitate, a soul to save, a body to mortify, virtue to acquire, heaven to gain, eternity to meditate upon, temptations to resist, the world to guard against, and death to meet. God is calling for laborers to work in His vineyard while it is yet day, for the night cometh when no man can work. We are fast approaching the evening time of our dispensation of grace. Many souls are crying for help; what are we doing about leading these to the Lord?

Are we telling them of the power in the wonderful name of Jesus to heal, to deliver from sin, and to fill with the Holy Ghost? There is much work to be done; to be sure, the fields are white unto harvest. As surely as we enjoy the fullness of God's blessings today, so another day will come. Where today meets tomorrow our work will be finished the clocks will stop, the wheels of industry will cease to turn, the last deed will have been recorded, time will be no more. There will be rejoicing, but there will also be sorrow and anguish for those who did not avail themselves of every opportunity in what we now call "today."

Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the heart of man the things which the Lord has prepared for them that love and serve Him. Our calling, is the very call of love. It is the motivation of the good Samaritan, the teacher, or counselor, who goes about doing good. It is the catalyst that breaks down a hostile, anger charged situation, finds the motive and makes forgiveness an ennobling experience. As each new day dawns, we shut ourselves in with God, that we may have strength and wisdom for that day, in order that we

Questions & Answers (con't)

I confess that our King James Version is not as clear in this verse as I would like. However, with a little help the meaning comes right out, especially when we keep in mind the special circumstances of that time, which Paul called "the present distress." The New International Version makes it much plainer: "If anyone thinks he is acting improperly toward the virgin he is engaged to, and if she is getting along in years and he feels he ought to marry, he should do as he wants. He is not sinning. They should get married."

Notice carefully: virginity is kept until marriage. The point of issue is not whether they can have premarital relations; that question is not even considered, for they are true Christians. The point of issue is whether or not they should get married because of the terrible conditions of "the present distress."

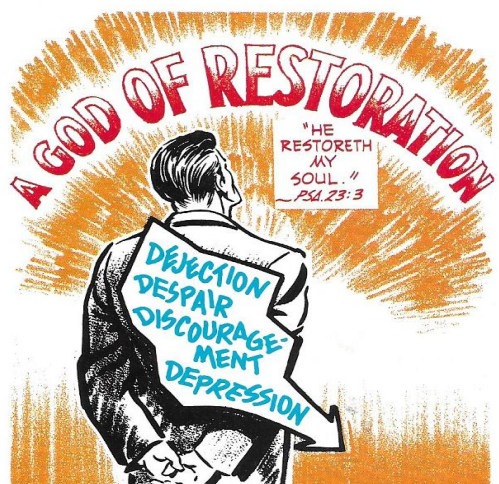
The utterly false concept your friends advocate is nothing short of blasphemous, for it condones using the holy temple of God, your body, for fornication. That is the teaching God calls "the depths of Satan" of the woman Jezebel in the Thyatira church. The awful curse God pronounced against this woman and her followers is found in Revelation 2:20-24.

I hope you understand now why your church preaches against premarital relations. Believe me, God's church will always preach against this sin until Jesus comes for His bride. Unrepentant fornicators are among those who will not be in that holy number.

If you want to know how much God hates this sin, read I Corinthians 6:9-10. God's Word says that fornicators will never inherit the kingdom of God. The only place they can go is to the lake of fire. They will have to live in the same hell with homosexuals and adulterers for all eternity.

Worry Less, Praise More !

PUTTING DESTRUCTIVE DOWNPULLS BEHIND



Faith came singing into my room,
And other guest took flight.
Fear, Anxiety, Grief and Gloom
Sped out into the night.

I wondered that such peace could be,
But Faith said gently, "Don't you see,
They really cannot live with me."

Daybreak

A man whose youth and early manhood had been spent in evil ways was converted, and one night he was giving his testimony. During the week he had met a former drinking pal, who had chaffed him about turning pious. "I'll tell you what I said to him. 'Bill,' I says, 'you know what I am (a lamplighter). When I goes round turning out the lights, I looks back, and the road over which I've been walking is all blackness. That's what my past life is like. I looks on in front, and there's a long row of twinkling lights to guide me. That's what my future is like since I found Jesus.' 'Yes,' says my friend, 'But by and by you gets to the last light and turns it out, and where are you?'

"'Then,' says I, 'Why! when the last light goes out it's dawn, and there ain't no need for lamps when the morning comes.' " George Jackson

Don't Worry About Tomorrow

The incident is told of a man who was eighty years of age. He walked briskly up the hill to a North Carolina post office, carrying a stack of letters that had been addressed in a firm, bold hand. The postmaster at the window looked, then looked again and asked, "Is that your handwriting?"

"Yes."

"Why, this is amazing. There is certainly nothing here to indicate that you might be old."

The old man beamed, and with a glint in his eye he said, "Well, I have never had a toothache, earache, or headache in my life."

"What," asked the astonished postmaster, "is the secret of your good health?"

"New Testament Greek," came the ready reply. "Matthew 6:34 in the Greek says, 'Don't worry about tomorrow.' I said to myself, when I read that in college, 'If God says not to worry, then He must know what He's talking about, and I'm not going to worry.'"

"From that day to this, I've never allowed anxiety to enter my life or my home. There are only two kinds of things you can worry about anyway: things you can help and things you can't help. If you can help them, then do something about them and don't worry. If you can't help them, then worry will have no effect, and there is no use engaging in it."

Live today in the practical outworking of Matthew 6:34, and "don't worry about tomorrow."

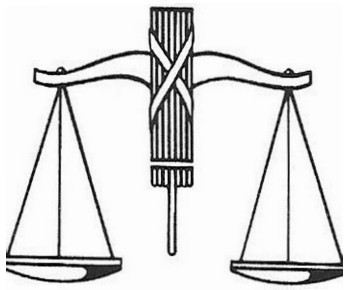
Christian Cynosure

WORDS OF WISDOM

I believe the secret of knowing the power of the gospel is to be willing to go all the way with the Lord. I believe a man who is on the fence cannot enjoy the things of God. I believe when he tries to be betwixt and between he gets into an awful mess.

R. G. LeTourneau

A little boy was leading his sister up a mountain path. "Why," she complained, "it's not a path at all. It's all rocky and bumpy." "Sure," he said. "The bumps are what you climb on."



By G. E. Wesson

Let A Man Examine Himself

"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup" (I Corinthians 11 :28).

IT IS A FACT that when we examine others, we are justifying ourselves; but if we will examine ourselves, we will be more apt to justify others. At any rate, I wish to propose that we obey the suggestion given in this scripture: "Let every man examine himself." I feel that the urgency of the times demands our personal heart search as never before. It seems that there are so many uncertainties that we are facing in this year. In the light of these times, let us search our hearts together around the Word of God!

Someone has said that we are what we eat. I think it would be wise to give some thought to the diet we are feeding our minds. What about our thoughts? Do we discipline our thought life? Do we feed our minds on good, wholesome, spiritual values? Many people allow their minds to be poisoned with the latest news, or views of some "big-mouthed, black-hearted gossipier." If we allow this, we will become guilty of sin. Others allow themselves to sink in the mental pit of self-pity!

Our minds can play real tricks on us, with the aid of Satan. I have counseled with people from time to time, who have imagined things about others and convinced themselves that these imaginations were established facts. It would be good for each of us to examine our thought life! (Proverbs 23:7), "For as he thinketh in his heart, . so is he. " You can see by this scripture, that it is very necessary for us to examine our thought life.

The Scripture gives us some very definite instructions along this line. "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Romans 8:6). We must ever keep our guard up lest we suffer spiritual death, through. our "thought diet." Let us now examine our affections. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:1, 2).

This is where so many good people have missed their spiritual mark in life. They have majored on minors. They have allowed the cares of this life to choke out their spiritual life. The Scripture declares that we are pilgrims and strangers in this life, and that we seek a better country. Therefore, we are citizens of another country. This life is just a dressing room, for the world to come. We must have our affections on things above. Let us examine our affections! Is our real affection set on things eternal?

I feel that it is always safe to reexamine ourselves. Make sure that we are not fooling ourselves and playing games with our eternal salvation!

2 Peter 1:4

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

The Power of Prayer

*When life brings pain and sorrow That you
feel too weak to bear, There's strength
in God's abiding love
And in the power of prayer;
For when your heart
turns heavenward
You find a sweet release,
And you understand the meaning Of "His
mercies never cease."*

*And though at times you feel as if Your prayer
has not been heard, Remember, God is
listening,*

*And He hears your every word. He may not
always give the things You wished and hoped
He would, But in His love and wisdom
He does all things for your good*

Jean K McManus

"Sorrow"

*Are you passing through some sorrow?
Is your pillow wet with tears?
There is only One can help you,
He will banish all your fears.*

*Do you wonder why you suffer
And if God does understand?
Yes. He knows your future pathway, All
your life is in His hands.*

*All God's testings have a purpose,
Someday 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 surround you,
Just remember He is near,
He will never, never leave thee,
He will always, always hear.*

*Faithful is He that has promised,
He will never let you fall;
Daily strength to you be given Strength
for each, and strength for all.*

Jean Graham

Think On These Things

HOW ABOUT THE DREARY DAYS ?

How about the dreary days
When gloom seems everywhere, And life
seems all in vain,
For no one seems to care,
While sun has gone in hiding
And sends no cheerful rays
To drive away the gloom
And brighten up our days?
Well, that's the time, my friend, To look to
God in prayer,
For though the world looks dark, Our Lord
is always there:
And soon we'll see a change,
For God still answers prayer.
Just when we need Him most We will always
find Him there.

Jim Henry

THE FOOLISH PROFESSOR

A college professor being ferried across a stream asked the boatman, "Do you understand philosophy?"
"No, never heard of it."
"Then one-quarter of your life is gone. Do you understand geology?"
"No."
"Then one-half of your life is gone. Do you understand astronomy?"
"No."
"Then three-quarters of your life is gone." Presently the boat tipped over and both fell into the water. "Can you swim?" asked the boatman.
"No."
"Then the whole of your life is gone!" Friend, you may know more of this world's culture than the professor mentioned above, but if you don't know Christ as your Savior, you will lost for eternity. A child who has the Savior is supremely better off than a millionaire who remains in sin and is on his way to hell.
"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Mark 8:36). Pulpit Helps

GOOD ADVICE

Work more hours, walk more miles.
Be more lavish with your smiles.
Be more hopeful, use more skill.
See more prospects, and more still.
Think more clearly, more intense.
Use more muscle, and more sense.
More seasons with the Saviour share
In study of the Word and prayer.
More love for God, more hate for sin.
More praise without, more peace within.
Claim more and more for mind and heart, And have more graces to impart.
Fill the moments, fill them well.
The more you do, the more you 'll sell.
The more you sell, the more you'll see
Of souls saved in eternity.

Edward Urquhart

God, Be Lord Over Me

Tis easy to pray to God in Heaven
"Be Lord, over land and sea,"

It's much more difficult to pray

"God, Be Lord Over Me.

"Take away all bitterness

Bless my enemies each day,

Help me smile when ridiculed

Be Lord Over Me," I pray.

This takes positive faith, beloved, For each personality

Is different from another

"Father, Be Lord Over Me."

Help me love, when I am hated,

Smile through pain or difficulty,

Only what's done for Christ will last

Please, God, "Be Lord Over Me."

For every sin the devil has an excuse

It's not what you know that counts, its who you know.....

JESUS

Myself and Me

I have to live with myself, and so
I want to be fit for myself to know.
I want to be able, as days go by.
Always to look myself straight in the eye. I don't want to stand. with the setting sun.
And hate myself for the things I've done.
I never can hide myself from me;
I see what others may never see.
I know what others may never know:
I never can fool myself. and so Whatever happens, I want to be Self-respecting and conscience free. -selected-



HE TOLD ME TO WATCH

He told me to watch for His coming,
No matter how long He might be; He bade me be ready to meet Him,
Christ Jesus who died on the tree.
His words are so plain and so simple
Their meaning I cannot mistake,
And so I'm just watching and waiting,
His promise He never will break.
He told me to watch for His coming,
And so I am living each day,
Prepared any moment to meet Him
And ready to hasten away.
My garments, unblemished and spotless,
Are washed and made white in His blood
And thus for His coming I'm waiting,
Christ Jesus, my Lord and my God.
He told me to watch for His coming,
How dare I His Word disobey?
Oh may I be loyal and faithful
Until I am raptured away.
His church from the world must be gathered, The Bride for her Bridegroom made meet Then let me toil on till He cometh In triumph and victory complete. -Oswald J S.mith/

Pray on! Pray on! Cease
not to pray,
And should the answer
tarry ,
WAIT!
Thy God will come, will
surely come, And He can
never come too late.

Faith came singing
into my room, and
another guest took
flight.

Fear, anxiety, grief,
gloom sped out into
the night.

I wondered that such
peace could be, But
Faith said gently,
"Don't you see, they
really can't live
without me"

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Acts 2:38

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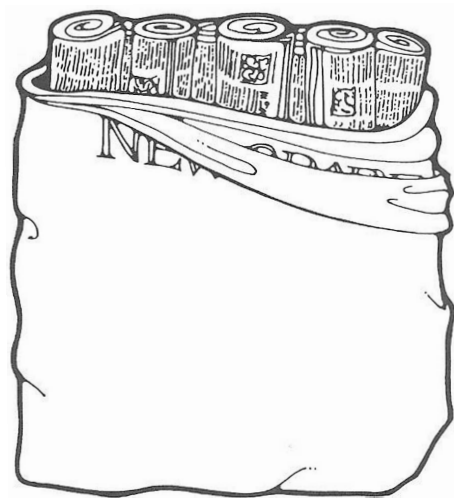
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*Even the word
impossible says:
I'm Possible*



A Little Good News

The apostle Paul taught the uniqueness of this gospel of grace, even going so far as to say that anyone who preached anything different would be accursed (II Corinthians 11 :4; Galatians 1: 7-8). All roads might lead to Rome, but all roads do not lead to heaven.

There is only one gospel: "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5). We must "earnestly contend for the faith" that was once and for all delivered to the church (Jude 3). It is imperative that we recognize there is only one gospel of grace, one plan of salvation, one true faith. God's grace is revealed through the blood, water, and Spirit. (See I John 5:8.) These same three elements are evident in Peter's response to the Jews' question on the Day of Pentecost regarding salvation: "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). Under the anointing power of God's Spirit Peter quickly responded, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38). The writer of Hebrews recorded, "Without shedding of blood is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22). Remission of sins comes through the blood of Jesus, and according to Peter it occurs when a repentant person is buried in water in Jesus' name. In Peter's anointed statement, then, we see the three elements: blood (death through repentance), water (baptism in Jesus' name), and Spirit (receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost).

"I sure could use a little good news today." Every day the morning paper is filled with sour news, and the afternoon paper is no sweeter. Wars, lawsuits, mur-der, robbery, rape, violence, terrorism, and misunderstandings dominate the headlines. Yes, we have our daily quota of bad news.

To a world filled with bad news, there is some good news. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the message of hope and salvation to a despairing, lost world. The gospel is literally the good news of Jesus! It is the "gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24). The good news is that God has extended grace to humanity. In a vision John saw an angel flying in the midst of heaven heralding the "everlasting gospel" to the entire world (Revelation 14:6). Jesus said the gospel would be preached to the whole world before the end comes (Matthew 24: 14).

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"To all the World with all the Truth"

Repentance is death to sin. Romans 6 describes repentance as a death to willfulness and a confession of unrighteousness before a holy God. This act is more than an acknowledgment of sin; it is also a decision to forsake sin. This decision is the result of godly sorrow and is more than a calm, logical, rational choice, but is evidenced by indignation, vehement desire, fear, zeal, and vengeance toward our former lives (II Corinthians 7:9-11). While repentance is powerful, it is not all there is to the gospel. God seeks to grant us "repentance unto life" (Acts 11: 18). Death occurs at repentance after which the dead man, the old way of life, must be buried. After the crucifixion of our former lives with Christ, we are "buried with him by baptism" (Romans 6:4). Our old lifestyles, conversations, and attitudes are covered in water baptism. There is no confusion regarding baptism so far as Scripture is concerned. From the church's birthday at Pentecost forward, all believers were baptized or immersed in water with the name of the Lord Jesus being called over them (Acts 2:38; 8: 16; 10:48; 19:5; 22: 16). The purpose of baptism is more than to make an outward show of an inward change; it is also for the remission or forgiveness of sins. Ananias told Paul, "Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins" (Acts 22: 16). Repentance unto life goes beyond admitting guilt; true repentance will lead to the confessed guilt being washed away in the waters of baptism. Finally, the apostle Paul said that just as Jesus was resurrected from the dead, even so should we rise from the waters of baptism to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4). Resurrection power, the Spirit of Jesus Christ, must be born in us. This is the quickening power, the life-giving Spirit, that Paul spoke about to the Colossians: get your Good News today! Bro Gurly

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