AMERICA'S CHRISTIAN NEWSPAPER

May-June2024

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



The difficulty in believing Jesus is coming back soon is that 2,000 years have passed since he said he was coming soon, and we are still waiting. This forces us to come to grips with the word "soon." We tend to think of "soon" with immediacy. Clearly, "soon" to Jesus is different from "soon" to us. The fact that Jesus is coming soon does not mean he is coming tomorrow.... **But He Could.** Jesus coming soon could mean he will return within the next few days, the next few years, We must deal with the question of him coming soon and be prepared. Watching is being aware that he could return at any moment. This takes us back to soon. We don't know the day or the hour, but we know the times and the seasons. Praying is making sure your heart is ready for when he returns. Are you walking and living right? Are you seeking to live in a manner that is pleasing to God and that recognizes **He could come at any moment?**

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

CHRIST IS THE ANSWER

Greetings to the Saints of God!



Pastor Junior & Brenda Tingle

Hello, Christian Friends,

We would like to express our gratitude to all of you who have written in. We are also thankful to those who have sent offerings or stamps, and to those who have requested prayer or have been praying for this ministry. Your support enables us to reach new areas with the truth, sharing the true plan of salvation from the Word of God with people who may have never heard it before.

Every day, we recognize that time is running out to reach the multitude. Our world is swiftly moving toward its appointed end, as we witness the unfolding of events. It is our duty to do everything in our power to reach the lost. Your assistance is greatly appreciated, and we recognize that we could never accomplish what we do without the faithful help of our supporters.

One of the fundamental principles we were taught is to never cease reaching out for souls. Many individuals have never encountered the truth, and it is our responsibility to share it with them. For 50 years, this ministry has diligently reached out, knowing that any day could be the last. The Bible instructs us to work while it is day, for a time is coming when no one can work.

God has consistently blessed our efforts, and we remain as determined as ever to fulfill His will. The signs of the times indicate that the Lord's return is imminent. Let us purpose in our hearts to do even more, in whatever capacity the Lord deals with us, to see His will accomplished in these last days.

May God bless you abundantly. That is my prayer.

Sincerely, Bro. Jr. Tingle

God Seen In His Works

There's not a tint that paints the rose,
Or decks the lily fair,
Or streaks the humblest flower that blows,
But God has placed it there.

At early dawn, there's not a gale
Across the landscape driven,
And not a breeze that sweeps the vale,
That is not sent by Heaven.

There's not, of grass, a single blade,
Or leaf of loveliest green,
Where heavenly skill is not displayed,
And heavenly wisdom seen.

There's not a tempest, dark and dread,
Or storm that rends the air,
Or blast that sweeps the ocean's bed,
But God's own voice is there.

Around,--beneath,--below,--above,--
Wherever space extends,
There God displays His boundless love,
And power with mercy blends.

James Cowden Wallace

"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to a garage makes you an automobile."

The Christian Tabernacle Church



1406 Tucker Schoolhouse Road
Madisonville, Kentucky 42431

Phone: 270-584-4248

Service Schedule:

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

Tuesday Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

Please remember To pray for this Newspaper!

Don't Forget!

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. If you desire a package of newspapers to distribute in your town or church text us your name and address.

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

If you need to discontinue your Package please let us know.

Thank you Gail Huddleston

Marks of A Real Christian



THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT may startle and shock you: Most professing Christians are not real Christians at all! Of the over 900,000,000 estimated Christians, few fall into the category of real Christians.

Are you a real Christian ?

Your immediate reaction will be defensive, perhaps even evasive. Your answer will probably be, "Why, of course, I'm a real Christian!" You might add that you attend church regularly, support home and foreign missions, contribute to multiple charities, pay your tithes faithfully and give freely of your time to various church social activities. But are you a real Christian? What makes a real Christian? Someone wrote, " ... Vitality, hustling, ferreting out the truth. A love of their God, uncompromising loyalty to Christian precepts, and scorn of anything that smacks of inaccuracy, a lack of integrity or dullness."

Are there any rules on being a real Christian? Perhaps there are.

The only practical objection to calling a rule a rule is the danger of misleading, on the one hand, those who want to believe that Christian living is all a matter of rules, which, if mastered, will quickly assure success, and, on the other hand, those who reject rules of the guidance of any standard whatsoever, on the assumption that it might be spiritually or intellectually inhibiting. But rules do not make, inhibit, restrict or debase a Christian; they are just part of the consciousness of what he must do.

There are definite guidelines to follow for a balanced Christian life.

Balance is important in things: equations, mathematical and chemical formulas, scales, rockets, gyroscopes, motors and environment. Balance is essential to growth and stability in the physical dimension, and, especially so, in the spiritual realm.

The real Christian is a balanced Christian, and love is the balancing agent. Jesus related the spiritual guidelines when He said, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment" (Mark 12:30). Jesus not only taught these guidelines, but instituted them as a command.

The real Christian is balanced mentally, physically, spiritually and socially.

Let's examine these four dimensions of total commitment, realizing that each dimension must be balanced and in harmony with the other three.

Mental: "Fix your thought on what is true and good and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely, and dwell on the fine, good things in others. Think about all you can praise God for and be glad about" (Philippians 4:8-Living Bible). The mind is the motivating force of the body.

The mind activates the physical processes, determines attitudes and motives, intellectual ability, reasoning power, and is the seat of all temptations. Sin is first conceived in the mind before being committed or rejected.

The mind is also the center of "sin by thought" (Matthew 5:28). Strong emotions are determined intellectually. Hate, envy, pride and lust are all mental sins. To begin spiritual development, we must cultivate the proper mental spiritual attitude. Paul instructed us to have the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5). Throughout the Scriptures we are encouraged to develop positive attitudes. Solomon wrote, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he ... " (Proverbs 23:7).

Soren Lierkegaard noted that "Thoughts invite us, more than words and deeds, to continue in sin, for thoughts can be concealed, while words and deeds cannot."

The soul is dyed with the color of our thoughts. If our thoughts are positive, we're positive; if negative, we're negative; if happy, we're happy; if spiritual, we 're spiritual.

There are three sources of thoughts: God, Satan ourselves. To cultivate spiritual depth, our thoughts must be God-inspired and spiritually-centered. Anything less and we're cheating ourselves.

We must develop the mind of Christ, as exemplified in the Gospels, and especially the fifth chapter of Matthew.

Physical: One's body is the vehicle through which God works. It is more than flesh, blood and bones; it is the temple of the Holy Ghost. (1 Corinthians 3: 16; 6:15, 19).

How do we cultivate a physical-spiritual mechanism? Paul was concerned with this mechanism when he instructed the church in Rome: "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lust thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead and your members as instruments of righteousness unto him" (Romans 6:12-13).

We are to be physically yielded to God. This not only encompasses church duty but our appearances as well. You've heard it said that first appearances make lasting impressions. How true this is. As ambassadors of Christ, we must concern ourselves with this sometimes trivial matter proper Christian dress.

We must, as ambassadors of the great King, dress with a sense of taste and godliness. Our clothes and manner speak for us. We reveal our character through our manner of clothing ourselves. Dress godly and tastefully. You don't have to be fashion conscious to be holy conscious. Dress in a manner that exemplifies Christ and our standard of holiness. Another physical aspect is the condition of health. Take care of yourself. Watch your diet.

Tyrone D. Thomas

(continued page 4)

Mark Of A True Christian

Get rest and exercise. In short, get your physical power plant motivated and tuned up. Then turn those energy resources loose for God.

Sex is one of the most popular topics in the world today. The current increase of sex-oriented magazines and motion pictures attest to this fact. And the Christian is certainly concerned with sex in its wholesome aspect.

Let's set the record straight. Christians have been falsely accused of believing that sex is, of itself, dirty. Genuine Spirit-filled Christians have never believed this. What they do believe is that sex, outside the bonds of marriage, is sinful and wrong. This they have always believed this they still believe in spite of their being branded as prudes for doing so. They must believe this, for it is taught in the Bible.

Dating and attraction to the opposite sex is normal and proper. Single couples will continue to date as long as this planet is populated with human beings. But improper desires between single couples must be overcome. The failure to control the emotions of sex has ruined countless lives.

When all your physical desires and capabilities are controlled and submitted to God, they work for you.

Social: Not much has been written about Pentecostals and social involvement. But socializing, solving social problems and beneficence was an important segment in the lives of early Christians. In Deuteronomy 15:7-18 we read that we are to help our deprived brethren. Jesus taught the same in Matthew 25:35-45. As Christians, we must involve ourselves in helping others. Benevolence will go a long way in encouraging others to serve God.

But when you socialize, be a Christian; don't compromise your convictions. Stand for the truth and boldly proclaim the gospel. Our social attitude toward authority reflects our attitude toward God. Respect those in authority (both spiritual, legal and executive), and obey those who have the rule over you (Hebrews 13:17; Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20; 1 Samuel 15:22).

Center your activities upon Christ. Help your pastor, teachers and youth leaders (Hebrews 4:16; 1 Corinthians 12:28). Encourage others to follow your example. You'll be glad you did.

Spiritual: Much could be written about this important dimension. It is the power behind Christian living. Your spiritual walk is determined by the way you worship and pray. Shallow worship and prayer creates a shallow walk with God. Take time to pray (James 5:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; 1 Corinthians 14:15; Luke 18:1). Worship God with all you've got (Psalm 45:11; 95:6).

Once again, don't compromise. Be a nonconformist for Christ. Exercise faith and love.

The guideline, then, is to love God with the strength of the heart, soul, mind and body. The whole person wholly dedicated to God. Unless there is wholeness of devotion, there will be inner division. Where there is inner division, there is conflict. And where there is conflict, there is spiritual and physical breakdown.

There are no half-ways to loving God. We are to love Him affectionately (heart), volitionally (soul), intellectually (mind) and physically (strength). No part is left out.

If you lack any of these four characteristics, you are unbalanced: a half-formed Christian.

For example: One may love God with the strength of the emotions (heart) but with the weakness of the mind, soul and will. This produces the emotionalist in religion. Such will be in-and-out, up-and-down spiritually. Others love God with the strength of the mind, but with the weakness of the will, body and soul. This produces the Christian bookworm. A philosophical, know-it-all but spiritually weak.

All who love God in only one way are spiritually unbalanced and missing the greatest blessing of total Christian service. The spiritually unbalanced person is a typecast of the church at Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7): they have left their first love.

There is no such thing as a Christian accident! The truth is that success in Christian living is much like success in any endeavor. Essentially, it is a matter of individual attitude and love of God.

A Christian must be able and willing to make the same sacrifices as the aspirant to success in any occupation. He should apply himself with no less determination, dedication and enthusiasm than a young student who aspires to be a physician or an attorney. Anything less, and he will drift into mediocrity.

Let us strive for perfection in full Christian service.

I Gave My Life For Thee

I gave my life for thee, Gal. 2:20.
My precious blood I shed, 1 Pet. 1:19.
That thou mightest ransomed be, Eph. 1:7.
And quickened from the dead. Eph. 2:1.
I gave my life for thee; Tit. 2:14.
What hast thou given for me? John 21:15-17.

I spent long years for thee 1 Tim. 1:15.
In weariness and woe, Isa. 53:3.
That an eternity John 17:24.
Of joy thou mightest know. John 16:22.
I spent long years for thee John 1:10, 11.
Hast thou spent one for me? 1 Pet. 4:2.

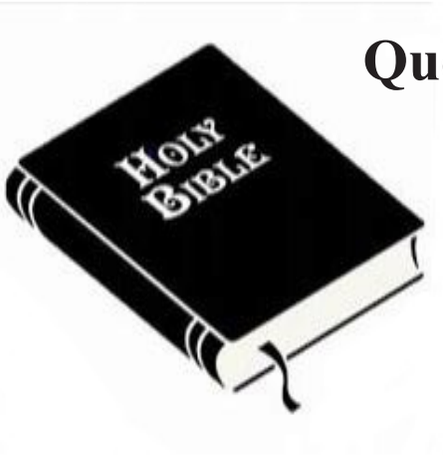
My Father's home of light John 17:5.
My rainbow-circled throne Rev. 4:3.
I left for earthly night Phil. 2:7.
For wanderings sad and lone. Matt. 8:20.
I left it all for thee; 2 Cor. 8:9.
Hast thou left aught for me? Mark 10:29.

I suffered much for thee — Isa. 53:5.
More than thy tongue may tell — Matt. 26:39.
Of bitterest agony, Luke 22:44.
To rescue thee from hell. Rom. 5:9.
I suffered much for thee; 1 Pet. 2:21-24.
What canst thou bear for me? Rom. 8:17, 18.

And I have brought to thee John 4:10, 14.
Down from my home above, John 3:13.
Salvation full and free, Rev. 21:6.
My pardon and my love. Acts 5:31.
Great gifts I brought to thee; Psa. 68:18.
What hast thou brought to me? Rom. 12:1.

Oh, let thy life be given, Rom. 6:13.
Thy years for him be spent, 2 Cor. 5:15.
World-fetters all be riven, Phil. 3:8.
And joy with suffering blent! 1 Pet. 4:13-16
I gave myself for thee; Eph. 5:2.
Give thou thyself to me! Prov. 23:26.

Frances Ridley Havergal



Questions & Answers

Bro. O.F Fauss

Question:

Please explain the scripture, "For many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:14). If one felt the call to be a minister or a missionary in early life, and failed to obey, would he be forgiven in later years when too old to heed the call? I live in fear of missing the rapture.

Answer:

I do not believe that Jesus was referring altogether to a ministerial or missionary call. He had just concluded the parable of the laborers in the vineyard. From the day that one is saved, he is called to live for God, and to work in His vineyard.

God has called all men to repentance (Acts 17:30). After heeding that call, we become His chosen. Then it is up to each one to prove himself faithful. We read in Revelation 17:30, "For he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful." After one has heeded the call to repentance and salvation, he becomes God's chosen, and then he is to prove himself faithful.

What is wrong with participating in worldly sports? For an answer, I am quoting an article from Gospel Tidings, written by Brother Clyde Haney.

"There are many recreational activities that Christians can enjoy among themselves as Christians. Becoming a Christian does not mean that a young person must sit down and fold his hands. But worldly sports require our becoming involved with the world. It requires having fellowship with the world. This the Bible condemns. Eph. 5:11 says, "And have no fellow-ship with the unfruitful works of darkness." II Cor. 6: 17 asks, "What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness, what communion hath light with darkness?" Verse 17 declares, "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate said the Lord." I John 2: 15 commands, "Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the the love of the father is not in him." I John 5:4 asserts, "For whosoever is born of God overcometh the world . . . " These and many more scriptures plainly indicate that the true born again child of God does not mingle and fellowship with the world in their activities and sports. To do so has been the result of many backsliding and losing their souls.

"The desire to participate in any way is a sign of spiritual weakness and, if yielded to, will become the loss of power of one's testimony and finally the loss of one's soul. "And whatever ye do in word or deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Col. 3:17).

"If the believer makes sure all his deeds fulfill this scripture he will stay separated from the world and its fellowship."

Question:

Please explain 2 Corinthians 5:6-8. Did Paul mean that the righteous dead went to heaven at death? I thought that the righteous dead would sleep in the grave until the Lord comes to rapture His church. Are the righteous dead now somewhere with the Lord? Are the wicked dead now in hell? If so, what is meant by the graves giving up their dead? Will those who have departed be brought out of heaven of hell to the judgment?

Answer:

The references in 2 Corinthians 5:6-8, reads: "There-fore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." As for our bodies, or rather the bodies of the righteous dead, they will sleep, or remain in their graves, even as the body of Jesus stayed in the tomb, while he descended first into the lower parts of the earth, and then ascended up far above all heavens. He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Read Ephesians 4:7-10.) And again we read in 1 Peter 3:18-22, where the apostle stated that "Jesus went and preached unto the spirits in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when 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.

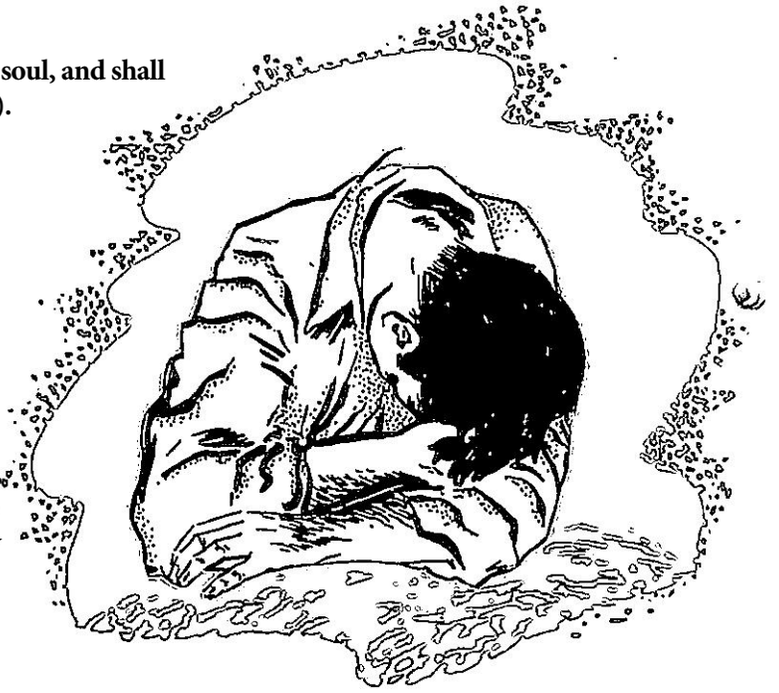
The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us ... by the resurrection of Jesus Christ Who is gone into heaven .... " We believe that the bodies of the righteous, whether in the earth or in the sea, will become like unto His glorified body, at His appearing. (Philippians 3:20, 21; 1 Thes-salonians 4:13-18, 1 Corinthians 15:51-55)

Remember that Stephen, when he was dying under a shower of stones; was "calling upon God, and say-ing, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit" (Acts 7:59). And Paul said: "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him" (1 Thessalonians 4:14). Then again he expressed his own personal desires: "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and be with Christ; which is far better." (Philippians 1:23). Therefore, we have to conclude that in God's great plan, he has a paradise, a place of rest, a place of waiting (read Revelation 6:9-11), for those who "die in the Lord," and in that great day, in an instant, in the "twinkling of an eye," we know not how, our spirit and soul shall be united with a "new" (changed and glorified) body, and" so shall we ever be with the Lord." Then also, the wicked dead (even as the "angels that sinned, but were cast down to hell, and delivered unto chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judg-ment") are somewhere waiting (I don't think they are resting) for the judgment.

Therefore, my admonition is: It matters little, where the souls are who have departed this life, whether "up there" or "down there." We who KNOW the truth, cannot afford to lose this race set before us _to win eternal life with Christ. Just remember, it is written, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him" (1 Cor-inthians 2:9). And, " ... the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). Let us choose LIFE.

"He shall see the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied .... " (Isaiah 53:11).

By Sallie Morley



The Travail Of The Intercessor

IN NO REALM of the Lord's work, or in the prayer life, does the Christian meet more resistance from powers of spiritual darkness than when praying for a lost soul. If a soul is of infinite value to God, it must be very valuable to the devil also, considering the way he builds bulwarks around those whom he has in his power. It is not necessarily difficult to pray for religious projects that we have on our minds, or to seek the Lord's blessing on certain programs that we have planned. But when we make up our mind to "pray through" for some lost soul until we can feel the victory, right from the start we feel an opposition so strong that we are tempted to give up before we begin. We doubt that the person can really be saved, or that now is the time. Or our own spiritual weakness rises up before us, and we seem not to have strength 0to go on. So we stop praying and get busy doing something else. It is always easier to do than to pray.

No wonder the Bible admonished us to PERSEVERE in prayer. PERSEVERING is pushing, forcing our way into the Holy of Holies. Intercessory prayer is hard work-soul labor. Sometimes the darkness is so great we cannot feel the presence of God. We seem to be struggling alone, but as we PERSEVERE, the anoint-ing of the Spirit will come to help us.

A Lonely Life

The intercessor is a lonely person-at least, from an earthly standpoint. Other Christians can spend much time talking, eating, fellowshipping, and seem content with a meager prayer life. But the person who dedi-cates himself to God for this priestly work will become eternity-conscious. The burden of lost souls weighs upon him. There is a gnawing at his heart which finds no relief until he is weeping before the throne in be-half of lost humanity.

The Intercessor Is A Burden-Bearer

Carrying burdens for others is not a pleasant task. Our own flesh rebels; it is humiliating to our puffed-up, inner SELF. But just as in the physical realm an expectant mother must carry the embryo and submit to times of depression, discomfort and self-discipline until her time comes to be delivered, the same is true in the spiritual realm. Patient submission to the tedious task of burden bearing mellows the soul and stamps a Christ like image on the burden-bearer.

Bringing To Birth

When the time comes for a physical birth, the mother must exercise will power; she must press on when her own strength seems to be gone. Even so, in the spiritual realm, the intercessor must not recoil from labor pains. There is a time of soul anguish. The enemy withstands us. We feel his hot breath; the hellish force would seem to crush us. We must not draw back. We seem to be struggling against a wall of darkness, and we think we can't go on. We lack words to pray more. But we must maintain our position, take

I Will Not Doubt

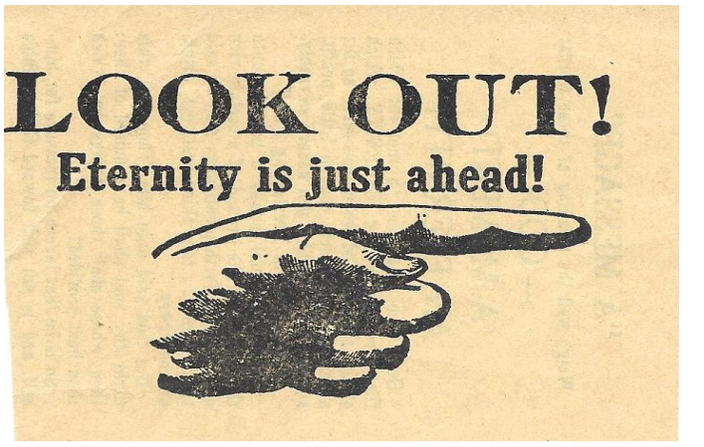
I will not doubt, though all my ships at sea
Come drifting home with broken masts and sails;
I will believe the Hand which never fails,
From seeming evil worketh good for me.
And though I weep because those sails are tattered,
Still will I cry, while my best hopes lie shattered,
'I trust in Thee.'

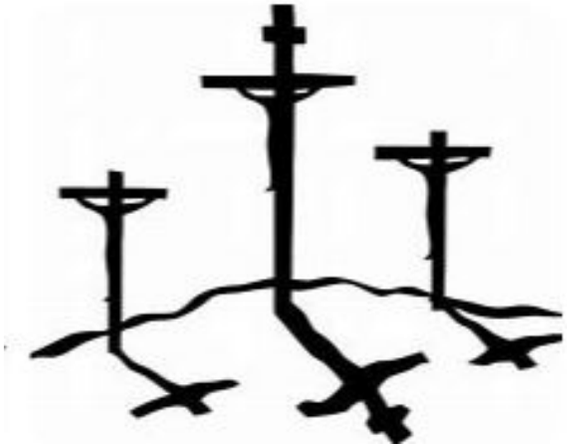
"I will not doubt, though all my prayers return
Unanswered from the still, white realm above;
I will believe it is an all-wise love
Which has refused these things for which I yearn;
And though at times I cannot keep from grieving.
Yet the pure ardor of my fixed-believing
Undimmed shall burn.

"I will not doubt, though sorrows fall like rain.
And troubles swarm like bees about a hive;
I will believe the heights for which I strive
Are only reached by anguish and by pain;
And though I groan and writhe beneath my crosses,
I shall yet see through my severest losses
The greater gain.

"I will not doubt, well anchored is this faith.
Like some staunch ship, my soul braves every gale;
So strong its courage that it will not quail
To breast the mighty unknown sea of death.
0, may I cry, though body parts with spirit,
'I do not doubt,' so listening worlds may hear it.
With my last breath."

Ella Wheeler Wilcox





Doubters Never Win

THE TWO THIEVES, crucified one on either side of our Lord, present a graphic illustration of how two people made use of their opportunity. Faith and doubt these two qualities are always filled with contrast.

The Curse of Doubt

"One of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, 'If thou be Christ, save thyself and us." The unbelieving thief was a hard-hearted doubter, caught in his crime and sentenced to death. His position in these final minutes put him at arm's length from the Son of God, but his evil, doubting attitude held him a million miles away. He was so taken up with bitterness that he never grasped the marvelous spiritual opportunity that was his.

"If thou be the Christ. .. " He never gave an opportunity to hope. The disbelief expressed by the word "if" betrays our true feelings, as it did his. Although this man sought solace with his words, he found none. Doubt brings the night of gloom, not the dawn of hope. The Lord made no response, for divine assurance is denied the doubter. The Great Forgiver, with all His kingly powers, cannot release the soul that is shackled by doubt.

True admission of the need of faith 1s this confession, "Lord help my unbelief."

The Reward of Faith "But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?" The feeling of faith in another reacts to rebuke doubt. A defeatist attitude strikes horror to the heart of even a benighted soul.

In sharp contrast was the surprising faith of this thief on the opposite cross. He had nothing to lose. A condemned man, caught in his crime and made to pay with his life. His faith stood out like a white lily in black soil. There was no hesitation. There were no "ifs" coming from this condemned man. Here was open faith and full surrender.

His rebuke to an associate in crime was his first expression of faith. He said, "You and I die justly for our deeds, but this man hath done nothing amiss." Then faith, in full expression, asked, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." How typical of a truly repentant soul!

"And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." A dying man found his way to God by simply using faith. As the trusting thief focused his eyes on Jesus, his faith enabled him to view what ordinary eyes could never see truly a Saviour of mankind, the Son of God. Both thieves looked upon the same face. The first man saw only the face of another dying man. The second saw Him as God.

Which One Are We?

Can we capture such faith in a day when to doubt seems the easier way? Can we eliminate our unbelieving "ifs" in an age of cutting cynicism, bitter sarcasm, stinging character assassination, and general disruption? Can we scatter the symptoms of self defeat and gloom?

For the spiritual faith-filled heart, there is no option. We accept wholeheartedly this challenge to replace sick attitudes of doubt and pessimism with the healthy ones of faith and trust. Only in this spirit can we accomplish worthwhile achievements during our days on the earth. How true the lines: "A man who follows behind others to steal golden crowns from their heads will some day be startled to learn that there are multitudes walking along behind him, trying to steal any crown that he might gain. If, on the other hand, a man goes through life placing golden crowns on the heads of others, he will be amazed at the number of people following his way, trying to place crowns on his head." This is a law of life. Doubt begets doubt. Faith begets faith. By J.O. Wallace

A Guiding Voice

A touching story came to us from Minnesota. A farmer, living on the edge of one of the many lakes of that state, started to cross it in a small sailboat one evening after dark. The wind changed, and a gust overturned the boat when he was in the middle of the lake.

The surface of the water was covered with large masses of floating ice. The farmer was an expert swimmer, and he struck out boldly toward the shore, where he thought his house stood, but he grew confused in the darkness. The ice formed rapidly over the whole lake.

He was in a small, quickly narrowing circle, in which he beat about wildly, the chill of death creeping over his body. He gave up at last and was sinking in the freezing water when he heard a sound.

It was the voice of his little girl calling him: "Father! Father!" He listened. The sound of her voice would tell him which way home lay. It put fresh life into him. He thought: If she would only call once more! But she will be frightened at the dark and cold. She will go in and shut the door.

Just then came the cry, loud and clear, "Father!"

"I turned,° said the man afterward, in telling the story, and struck out in the opposite direction. I had been going away from home. I fought my way. The ice broke before me. I reached the shore and home at last. If my dear little girl had not persisted in calling me, though hearing no reply, I should have died there alone under the ice."

What a multitude of souls about us, like that poor man, have lost their balance and let go their grip on the lifeboat and are struggling amid the cold, icy waves of sin soon to sink to the bottomless pit and be forever lost, unless someone goes as near to them as possible and calls them in the right direction. Just one word spoken in Jesus' name may show them the right way and be the means of their salvation.

Dear one, the sound of your voice, the words you speak, the kind action you do may show some fallen brother or sister the way home. 0 let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. selected...

"People who are wrapped up in themselves make small packages."

DO BELIEFS REALLY MATTER?

IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER what a person believes. It's the life he lives that really counts."'..Have you ever heard this statement? Or perhaps you have heard the song sung in some churches: "I don't care what church you belong to .... " After reading some articles on religious topics, after listening to some sermons, and after hearing some songs, one could get the impression that beliefs really make no practical difference in everyday life.

The old Anglo-Saxon word, "belief," literally means, "What men live by." The Bible says, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he .... " (Proverbs 23:7). This scripture does not say ... "As a man thinketh in the top of his mind, so is he," but "As he thinketh in his heart." On the basis of the Bible definition, we would have to say, "Beliefs are tremendously important, and it does make a difference what church you belong to." Your real beliefs are not what you lazily give assent to, or the ideas you put on public display as being your beliefs, but they are the truths that you really hold to in your heart, and that you live by.

A Beautiful Front

The contractor can dress up the appearance of an old building without improving the basic structure of the building. Here in Argentina in recent months a number of seemingly beautiful buildings have collapsed and even killed people because the inward structure and foundation had flaws. It was not the appearance of the building that lacked. The builder can put on a beautiful front to a building that the passing crowd will admire, and yet the building itself may be at the very point of collapse. Could it be that when our children, friends and congregations ask us questions about our religion, aoout our beliefs and about our teachings, we often show them the lovely outward facade? But it is when we are out in the rough and tumble world of living and doing business that we actually operate on the truths that we really believe. It is in our homes behind the closed doors and drawn curtains that we really operate on what we believe.



Is Your Heart Saying, "Amen"?

I will never forget the words an old minister who, shortly before his death, said to me, "Remember this: many people say things with their mouths, that their hearts do not say Amen to." How true this is. There is a lot of difference between the truth to which the intellect says, "Yes," (and which the emotions I may accept easily), and the truth which has actually laid hold of one's heart and mind. And so, when we state that "beliefs are important," we are not speaking of the ideas we display to the public, nor the opinions we have formed about certain things, but of the things we really believe in our hearts, and that we act upon. Jesus said, "and why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). It is one thing to call Him Lord, and another thing to really make Him Lord in your life. Jesus spoke of the day when some would come saying, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in they name have cast out devils?" He added, "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:22, 23). These men said the right words and held to a right formula, but their hearts were not right with God. They were J esus' name people in word only. It is one thing to stand on the conference floor and declare we are the true people of God, but we had better make sure that our daily lives and conversation are bringing honor and glory to that worthy NAME by which we are called.

We have the right formula for baptism when we baptize in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, but do we really know what it means to "be buried with Him in baptism," and to rise to walk in newness of life? It is right that we contend wholeheartedly for the new birth of water and Spirit, but let us be sure that our lives are giving evidence that we are indeed "new creatures in Christ." What evidence do our children see of this new birth in our homes and daily activities? Can they reconcile the joy of the New Birth with the grouchy attitude we sometimes exhibit? Can they reconcile our teachings on holiness with the smutty stories we tell our close friends? Do they see the name of JESUS magnified in our lives when we bite and devour our fellow-Christians? Are we just pretending that spiritual matters come first, and material things are secondary, when we spend so much of our time, money and interest on acquiring houses, cars, appliances, furniture, while God and His cause play second-fiddle? Have we really come to the place where we have no more interest in this world than a dead person does? (See Living Letters, Colossians 3:2).

Truth in the Inward Parts

David came to realize, after his sin, that God " ... desirest truth in the inward parts ... in the hidden part .... " (Psalm 51:6). This conviction gripped David when his heart was broken because of his sin, and he was coming to God in repentance. He knew that he needed more than some facts in his head. He needed more than simply maintaining an outward form of religion and piety. It was difficult to keep up the public impression of being a good father and a good king, when the cancer of sin was eating away on the inside. He needed something in his heart! He needed God! There is no alternative for this heart relationship with God. David's son, Solomon, failed here, Of him we read " ... his heart was not perfect with God" (!Kings 11:4). He didn't openly apostatize. He continued his attendance of the worship of Jehovah, and punctually gave his offerings. He didn't tear the temple down. He just built other temples for other gods. The nation practically apostatized from the true God, and yet, theoretically, never ceased to hold that Jehovah was the true God. **(continued pg 9)**

DO BELIEFS REALLY MATTER?

Where was the problem? In the heart I When unholy affections are given a place in the heart, sooner or later unholy actions will follow.

Beliefs Do Matter

The things we believe in our hearts are crucially important! In the business world they are important. A man may have all the qualifications for leadership, but if he suddenly declares that he is a Communist in heart, our evaluation of the man immediately changes; for beliefs do matter.

In the political world, beliefs matter. Hitler acted on his belief that conscience was just an archaic Jew-ish invention. He acted on his belief that there was no God. Over the gateway of a concentration camp was stated, "There is no God here." "The Nazi creed led to the Nazi deed." The quiet countryside of Europe was scarred with the horrors of war because he acted on his belief.

In the matter of marriage, beliefs matter. Imagine the marriage where the groom views such as a tem-porary arrangement. He can't go for this "better or worse" stuff. He feels that as long as they are happy together, and all goes well, they will remain married. But when the chips begin to fly, they will be looking for new partners. His beliefs may well lead to the destruction of his marriage!

Your Beliefs Are What You Live By

The right belief will lead to joy and peace and spiritual satisfaction. The wrong beliefs, held in the heart, will lead to failure, to tragedy and eternal damnation. It is the convictions we hold in our hearts that will determine the kind of lives we lead. These deep-seated beliefs affect our destiny far more than we may realize. It is easy to become actors and actresses and carbon copies of others. But to have a heart be-lief that Jesus Christ is the only Saviour, the only answer, and that men are eternally lost without Him; and to truly believe that the Word of God is the only reliable guidebook and the only true authority, will make for some remarkable changes in one's entire life, here and hereafter.

By John Klemin

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUE RELIGION AND FALSE RELIGION

Living in a Dangerous Time

There are so many confusing and mixed-up teachings in the name of religion today that one can easily become confused by dabbling too much in all the different theories. Spirits lurk in those different institutions, so I want to deal with some of the differences between true religion and false religion. We need to be aware of these differences, because we are living in a very dangerous time. I have read many stories about saints of old who had to fear for their lives. Perhaps you have read about Christians who were tied to a stake or a post and burned to death because of their stand for Truth. Many had their heads chopped off because they refused to back away from serving God. In this day and time we do not have to worry much about someone coming into our homes or our places of assembly and dragging us out to torture or kill us. That kind of persecution is rarely heard of today; nevertheless, we are living in a very dangerous age. While there may be little physical persecution, many spirits and false prophets have gone out. The enemy wants to destroy your chances of making Heaven your eternal home.

I think about the currency used here in the United States. People are making counterfeit money, so the government has made changes in the currency, and they have published those changes in the newspaper. They show a picture of the new currency and describe different identifiable features because they want you to recognize the real money and not be confused. Like wise, I want you to know the difference between true religion and false religion. There are definite differences, and God wants you to know the differences so that you can recognize what is true and what is false.

In our Scripture lesson we read about an event that took place approximately three thousand years ago. This recorded history lets us know that men of God had to deal with false religion even in those days. The devil has always been in the business of providing an alternative to the Truth.

Should someone become offended by the Truth, the devil always has other options. Sinner friend, God is interested in you, and He will prick your heart because He wants you to repent and draw close to Him. Nevertheless, the devil will always be right there to give you another option. He has always been in the business of providing men and women with alternatives to true worship. Sometimes in this Christian walk, things get a little difficult. However, the Apostle John said in 1 John 5:3 that "his commandments are not grievous," but sometimes they are hard on the flesh. Whenever times get a little difficult, the devil will supply you with an alternative.

A Problem Facing Christianity Today

According to our Scripture text, one is made to realize that having a large following is not evidence of being on the right side. Greater numbers do not necessarily mean that you have favor with God. If you study this entire chapter, you will read that 450 prophets of Baal were at the altar and another 400 prophets were out in the groves. This made a combined total of 850 prophets of Baal (false religion) compared to one true man of God, Elijah. Large numbers of people do not indicate that the presence of God is in the midst. In our day and time, unfortunately most ministers are more interested in obtaining quantiies of people rather than quality saints of God. They are interested in large numbers because they feel that it gives them more prestige, more income, and greater ability for advancement. How sad that they sacrifice the Truth to draw in more people! They ought to be more interested in quality. In other words, they ought to be more interested in having people who genuinely want to serve the Lord and walk in the way that God has outlined in His Word. Many people will sacrifice Truth to gain a greater following.

(continued on next page)

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUE RELIGION AND FALSE RELIGION

Solomon wrote in Proverbs 15:17, "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith." In essence, the wise man was saying that it is better to sit down to a little meal of herbs and have peace and love and the presence of God than to have all the high quality cuts of meat that one can eat and have hatred raging. It is better to be in favor with God and to dwell in the presence of God with few provisions than to have plenty and be filled with anger. Virtually the same thing is recorded in Proverbs 16:8, which says, "Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right."

Friend, we want people to come to church to hear the Gospel and to be saved. We are not against having large numbers of people in attendance. We are seeking to get as many people in touch with God as we possibly can, but we are not going to compromise Truth to draw people in. Surely you have heard the old adage that says, "The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence." While a cow, a goat, or another kind of animal may be grazing in a field of green grass, it will stick its head through the fence to eat on the other side. This wonderful salvation is something that really is greener and truly is lasting. So, naturally, we want as many people as possible to be saved. A faithful minister will labor to win souls, but he refuses to sacrifice the Truth to gain numbers. A problem that faces Christianity today is that people are looking for signs. They want to see something, such as large crowds or big events taking place. They have been taught that by false religion.

The Possibility of Backsliding

Revelation 9:1-2 says: 11And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit."

Christian men and women are not infallible, but I am thankful that, should one fall, God can restore that soul. God's faithfulness is great, and anyone who lives for God will soon realize that. The possibility of back-sliding is always there, but thank God, it is also possible not to backslide.

Some people falsely teach that it is impossible to go back on God once you have been saved; nevertheless, the Bible lets us know that it is possible to backslide. Thank God, even though the possibility is present, God can give you the power and the grace to keep you true to the end. Again, Revelation 9:1 reads, "I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth." This lets us know that even ministers are not infallible. We need to realize that ministers who are anointed and ordained by the Spirit of God can yield to temptation.

James said in James1:16, "Do not err, my beloved brethren." In other words, do not give in when temptations are strong; do not follow after the flesh. Sadly, not everyone heeds that advice. Some who once preached the Gospel and stood strong for the Truth have walked away from God. The Apostle Paul knew this was true, and he admonished in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." Paul understood that if he failed to keep under his body, he could become a castaway. He knew that he could get out of the will of God and become of no use to God.

In the natural sense, stars are a form of light, just as the sun and the moon are. However, Revelation 1:20 lets us know that stars represent the ministry that God has called to bring forth light and understanding to lost souls. Jeremiah 3:15 reads, "And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding." Ministers are to live godly lives and to preach the Gospel to others.

Nevertheless, if they become disobedient and get out of the will of God, they can fall just as anyone else can.

In Revelation 9:1 we find that a star, or a ministry, fell. It says" ... to him was given the key of the bottomless pit." The bad thing about a ministry that falls is that many times it refuses to take down the sign and go home. The best thing one can do if he should backslide is to say, "Pray for me; I am not right in my soul." Regrettably, too many choose an alternate way that involves less suffering and less humility, a way that is easier on the flesh. They just go on as if nothing ever happened and keep singing, preaching, and doing as they did before they fell, but God is no longer with them.

The result of that kind of activity brings about a never-ending fall. Whenever an individual or a group of individuals begins to go contrary to God's way and men begin to be the head, they are on a fast track downward into a bottomless pit, because they have no foundation on which to stand. This is being proven in our world today. Several years ago no one would have even considered having a homosexual or a lesbian stand behind a pulpit and preach, but this is taking place today because men are falling further and further away from the Truth.

The Result of Letting the Flesh Gain Control

It is impossible to satisfy the flesh. There will never be a time in your walk with God when the flesh will simply give up. It does not work that way.

Continued next page

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUE RELIGION AND FALSE RELIGION

You may surrender to the flesh a little today to try to satisfy it, but it will soon be back to demand more. The flesh must be crucified and brought under control. The Apostle Paul said in
1 Corinthians 15:31, I die daily. Every day he had to bring his flesh into subjection, lest it start to go the wrong way. If you let the flesh gain control, there is no end to how low it will take you.
A few years ago, no one would have thought of being a drunkard and claiming to be a Christian at the same time. I attended an auction some time back, and a man whom I knew was the auctioneer, and he held a prominent position at a local church. However, he could barely auction the items without cursing. He auctioned items and then walked over to a refrigeration unit. Someone made the comment, "You could put your coats in there." He said, I'd rather put my whiskey in it. One day as I was at a grocery store, I saw him, so I said, "How are you getting along?" He replied, Well, I'm sober, yet he is a high-ranking member of a church in town.
Years ago one would not have dared to be so bold. Can you see what is happening in modern religion? People are falling further and further away from the Bible standard. Some things may not be outlined in black and white in the Bible, but we know they are wrong in principle. A fallen ministry began to let man be the head rather than God. I am thankful that Jesus Christ built a sure foundation. He is the Chief Cornerstone and the Apostles are the foundation of the Church of God. You can build a good life on Jesus Christ. He will never do you wrong or deceive you. You ought to build your life on Him. Christ is solid, and He will not change. You can trust in Him. Great is His faithfulness! Friend, He is real, and He will be true to your soul. Jesus is wonderful!
In the early church some were dissatisfied and caused much trouble and overthrew the faith of some. Paul, when writing to Timothy, in 2 Timothy 2:19, said, "Nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure." The foundation of God is sure, and it will not change. Young person, you can live for God successfully. I see many other saints who are standing true and upholding the Truth. The years do not have to change you. Why? Because the foundation of God stands sure; it is unchangeable. God's Word has remained the same throughout the ages. Our duty is to be obedient to it. We should not try to put our heads together and try to change it. There should not be any of that business going on. We should just stand on the foundation.
If you lay aside the Bible teachings and put a man at the head rather than God, you are heading for trouble. You may say, You do not know this individual. He has great wisdom and insight. He has been instrumental in getting many people converted, plus he has money and influence. No matter how good a man may be, if you put a man at the head of the church, you are pushing God out. Regardless of the abilities a man might have, he will take it down every time. Some may go down faster than others, but it will be a bottomless pit. Revelation 9:2 says, And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

The God of This World Has Blinded Men's Minds.

Paul wrote to the Corinthians in
2 Corinthians 4:3-4: " But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."
False religion has blinded the eyes of many people. The Bible says that smoke was coming out of this bottomless pit. You know what happens when smoke gets in your eyes: you can hardly see. Sometimes I have burned trash or brush or a pile of wood and the wind direction changed and brought the smoke toward me, and then I could hardly see. Smoke blinds your eyes. People in false religion are blinded to the Truth. We should do our best to let our light shine before them. We need to be careful of how we live, even in the little things. People need to see the Gospel light shining. in a restaurant if the waiter takes too long to serve us, I do not act too impatient, but I do my best to keep the peace. I also try to refrain from becoming impatient in the grocery store.
As I was standing in the checkout line at one store, a foreign woman was trying to pay for several items and was having a hard time communicating with the clerk. I think she had to put some things back and then replace some other things. When she finally got it all worked out and went to pay the bill, she found that she had left her checkbook in the car and ran out to get it. The people in line directly behind her were very upset with her. They had no patience. They became so angry that their faces turned red and they were cursing and carrying on shamefully. Ungodly people may do that kind of thing, but a saint should never behave that way.
Child of God, you need to let your light shine. People need to see Christ in you. I try to be very patient with adults and children. Even children need to see your light shining. Sometimes children can really try you, but you need to pray for God to help you to be patient with them. You should not allow your temper to get out of control. If a neighbor throws trash into your yard, you may not like it, but you ought to be patient and kind so that he can see your light shine. False religion blinds people to the Truth. The smoke that comes up out of the pit obscures Truth and makes it impossible to see clearly.
Many people are deceived by all that is going on in false religion. However, if you talk to them about the Truth and tell them that God said we must live free from sin, they do not have any time to listen. If you try to explain that God can help them to get their lives straightened out, they will say, "Oh, I'm already a member of a certain church, and we really have a lot going on over there." They have been blinded.

(continued on page 14)

Think On These Things

God Knows Best

Poet: Caleb Davis Bradlee

**My God knows best! through all my days
This is my comfort and my rest,
My trust, my peace, my solemn praise,
That God knows all, and God knows best.**

**My God knows best! That is my chart;
This thought to me is always blest;
It hallows and it soothes my heart,
For all is well, and God knows best.**

**My God knows best! then tears may fall;
In his great heart I'll find my nest;
For he, my God, is over all,
And he is love, and he knows best.**

Caleb Davis Bradlee

There's A Way

**There's a way that no fowl knoweth
And no vulture's eye hath seen; Over it
no lion goeth,
Neither passeth aught unclean.**

**There's a way where weary mortals
Find release from sin and strife;
'Tis a way that's everlasting, Blessed
way and truth and life.**

**'Tis a way that's straight and narrow,
Where we walk by simple faith, Even
through the midst of trouble And the
shadowy vale of death.**

**'Tis a way beside still waters, Where
are found the paths of peace, Where
we rest amid green pastures, And our
sighs and sorrows cease.**

**There's a way, and walk ye In It
Meekly, humbly with thy God; They
shall run and not be weary, That are
hid with Christ in God.**

Georgia C. Elliott

What Faith Does

B. E. Warren

**Faith does not dwell in fancy's dream
Nor in the gloomy maze;
Faith lives beside the flowing stream
Where victors take their ease.**

**Faith gropes not in secluded night,
In doubtful regions wild;
"Faith is the victory, lost in sight,"
Sings God's obedient child.**

**Faith mounts the hills of trouble here,
And soars above the clouds;
Faith drives away each slavish fear,
And lifts the mourner's shroud.**

**Faith sweeps the barricades of wrong,
Bombards them left and right;
Faith is the victor's conquering song,
Amid the hottest fight.**

**Faith brings triumphant through the fire,
The soul that will abide;
Faith warms our soul with good desire,
Though we be greatly tried.**

**Faith plows the tossing sea of life,
And strikes the other shore;
Faith walks amid the raging strife,
Now as in days of yore.**

**Faith raises valleys, lowers hills,
Faith spans the chasm wide;
Faith makes a way where none is seen,
And crosses o'er the tide.**

**Faith climbs the peaks and reaches God,
Above the stormy sky;
Faith sees the sunny side of life,
And wings the soul on high.**

**Faith passes on with steady tread,
Mid coldness, scoffs, and jeers;
Faith takes the pathway Jesus led,
Though thronged with joys or tears.**

**Faith, like a rock, stands firm and sure,
While things around may change;
Faith "counts those happy who endure,"
Though pilgrims here and strange.**

**Faith like a pillar stands the test,
While shaky things shall fall;
Faith clings the closer to God's Word,
For he is all in all.**

**Faith peers through disappointed hope,
And rests in peaceful trust;
Faith into darkness does not grope;**

**It conquers, yea, and must.
Faith overcomes the world around,
And quenches fiery darts;
Faith is the shield that will surround**

**Devoted Christian hearts.
Faith never stumbles, never falls;
Faith never fails or doubts.
Faith builds those unsurmounted walls**

**Of great salvation; shouts
Eternal victory o'er the foe,
By heaven's power and grace.
Faith links the soul to God, we know;**

**Unveils his smiling face.
Faith is the key that opens wide
His treasured store to all;
Faith brings those wanted riches nigh**

**To those who simply call.
Faith coolly weighs life's issues great,
And counts the final cost;
Faith glories in its rich estate,**

**If all on earth were lost.
Faith walks the narrow way alone,
And never does complain;
Faith in Christ's blood doth now atone**

**For every sinful stain.
Faith counts the fancied feelings chaff,
Which ebbing tides control;
While it leans on the golden staff
Of Truth, which saves the soul.**

Created For A Purpose

Your life has a purpose,
You were created by Almighty Lord above.
He chose you for a special task,
Always showing compassion and love.

God will use us all in His way,
If we just open our heart.
His glory is like the sun's light,
Always shines from the start.

You have been given special talents,
By God who is so gracious
Whatever happens in life know this –
Have faith you were created for a purpose!

Catherine Pulsifer



Christ has no hands but our hands
To do his work today;
He has no feet but our feet
To lead men in His way;
He has no tongue but our tongues
To tell men how he died;
He has no help but our help
To bring them to his side.

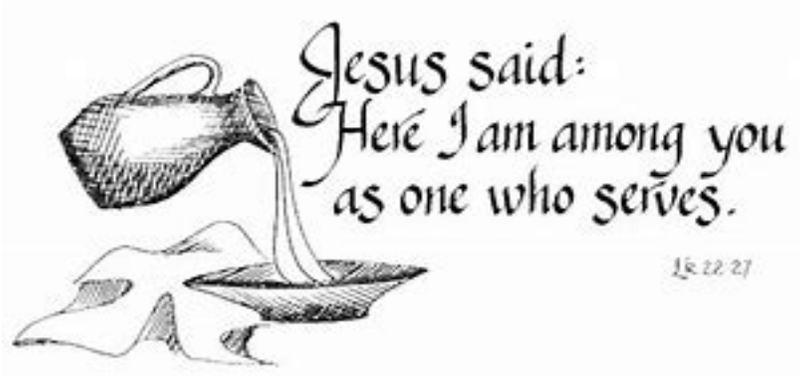
We are the only Bible
The careless world will read;
We are the sinner's gospel,
We are the scoffer's creed;
We are the Lord's last message
Given in deed and word-
What if the line is crooked?
What if the type is blurred?



God's Power

In every waving blade of grass,
In every little flower.
That daily in my walks I pass,
I see God's wondrous power.
And every tiny drop of rain
Which falls in gentle shower,
And then in mist ascends again.
Tells of His wondrous power.
The little birds that gaily trill
Their songs in morning hour,
And all the air with music fill.
Sing of His wondrous power.

Maria J Dodge



It's Not About You!

Life wasn't meant to be easy, a time to lay down and rest,
Life's a process of learning with many a trial and test.
Life's not a bed of sweet roses or a sunny beach on the shore,
The hurdles we face are many, there's much that one must endure.

Yet all the while we are traveling God is fully aware,
We're pilgrims, this place is not permanent, a wee space of time that we share.
But we have a mission, a duty, a call to the lost must go out,
The message of Jesus the Saviour is what our journey's about.

It's true, we'll find much rejection, many will treat us with scorn,
But life was not meant to be easy, at best we might feel quite forlorn.
He knows when you feel like a failure, He knows when your plans don't succeed,
He feels the pressure you're facing, He knows where your future will lead.

Take heart, the Master of Glory knows when you're tattered and torn;
There's nothing that's hid from the Saviour, the sins that cause you mourn.
When folks reject what you stand for, the message that falls on deaf ears,
The personal message of Jesus that caused Him the taunts and the jeers.

Try to remember your calling, this whole thing is not about you;
God has requested your service, and to that mission you need to be true.
God's not concerned about numbers, it's faithfulness that He desires,
You take the message of Jesus; the Spirit's the One who inspires.

Leave the results with the Saviour, diligently pray and prod;
Earnestly follow His guidance, and leave the results up to God.

Greta Zwaan, © 2010

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUE RELIGION AND FALSE RELIGION

"From Such Withdraw Thyself"

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:5, ". . . supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself." Basing one's relationship with God on material things and certain accomplishments is futile. That is not what serving God is all about. Thank God for every blessing and for everything that He enables you to do, but what really matters is how you live your daily life.

The prophets of Baal had much activity going on. They were jumping on the altar and cutting themselves with knives. The Bible says blood gushed out upon them. You talk about seeing activity, they had it going, but God was not in any of it. Today people are looking for signs, and they want to see all kinds of activity.

They are blinded by all the "smoke." In the Old Testament some-times smoke was an indication of the presence of God. At times, smoke filled the tabernacle and the glory of God came down. However, the smoke that the Revelation speaks of blinds men and women through false religion. One major difference between true religion and false religion is the focus. The primary focus of false religion is on gaining large numbers of people, on activities, and on events.

We read in our Scripture text in verse 37 that when it came time for Elijah to talk to God, he said, "Hear me, 0 LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again." The focus of true religion is in getting people to know God. If large numbers of people come to the Lord, to God be the glory. If not, our focus is not going to change. Our focus is to help lost souls to get in touch with God. We want to preach, sing, pray, and live in such a way that others can get to know God. My prayer is that many more people will find a personal relationship with God so that they can have their sins washed away and live clean lives.

The focus of false religion is on gaining numbers through the many activities and events. Do not misunderstand me. I love times of fellowship with God's people. However, if that is your focus and the Truth is crowded out, then there is a problem. The Bible gives warnings concerning these things. Titus 1:16 reads, "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

A verse that has been a help to me is found in 2 Peter 2:18, which states, "For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh." The flesh has a natural desire to want good things. God designed us that way. Desiring good things will cause one to get out of bed and go to work. Nonetheless, one can easily be allured by great swelling words of vanity if he is not careful. False religion will boast of having many people in attendance and of having a good time. They will even say that God is in their midst, but they speak great swelling words of vanity. There is no wrong in leting people know that you have been having good services, but you can do so without boasting of having large numbers of people in attendance and of all the many activities and functions you have taking place. What is important is, did God speak to your heart? Great swelling words of vanity can allure you and cause you to lean that way because it sounds good. Dear one, you need to be cautious, lest you get caught up in that because someone came along and really put on a show.

False Religion Brings Torment

True religion dearly preaches deliverance from sin through salvation and holy living. If you will read on in Revelation, Chapter 9, you will find that false religion brings torment to people. Sinners go to church wanting to be delivered because their conscience is bothering them and they need help. A false preacher will approach them and ask, "Won't you make a decision to join the church and be a Christian?" Then they are told, No one can live free from sin. That is torment. They are not told that they must die out to sin. False ministers convince people to come forward and get involved, and then they tell them, "Everyone sins a little." Friend, that is not true. The true church preaches death to sin. One must give up sin and die out to it. You have to turn away from all wrongdoing and leave it alone. You must put it all behind you and walk with God. Living a holy life does not permit one to sin a little more or less every day.

The problem with that teaching is that it leads to more sin rather than less. If something hinders you in your walk with God, you must give it up and put it behind you. If you are having a struggle, you should ask someone to pray with you for strength and grace to overcome it. The Bible says to come to Him in every time of need. You can obtain victory if you really want to. God will supply the power to overcome.

The servants of Baal, after all their activity and carrying on, were unable to awaken their god. Elijah chided them and urged them to cry louder. They carried on until evening. When evening was come, the Bible says they were worn out. They sought Baal, but he never did answer. Then Elijah told the people to come near, and he called upon God for all the people to see. The fire fell from Heaven and consumed the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, and licked up the water.

Much activity is no sign of power. You can run, jump, shout, and carry on, but what really is important is how you walk when your feet hit the ground. In Acts 2:38 Peter said unto them, 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. this is the True way to salvation. This is the foundation then build on this in separation and holiness. end...

Our Partners in Helping to Spread the Word

America's Christian Newspaper is blessed to have the prayers and support from congregations all over the country, spreading the Word far and wide.
Thanks to all who have been so faithful and generous.

GOD BLESS YOU!

Degrees IN Theology Home Study Course
P.O.Box 1536
Van, TX 75790
E-Mail
Cypress@texascellnet.com

(903)963-7863
www.cypressbiblecollege.or
Acts 2:38
Associate of Theology

Payment plans available

Bachelor of Theology Accredited by SICMI

Master of Theology
We accept previous

credits
Doctor of Theology

Incarceration rates available
Doctor of Philosophy in Religion Center For Academic Research

First Apostolic Church
5752 Main St.
Bailey, NC. 27807
Pastor Preston Taylor

Holiness Temple Apostolic Church
401 E. Main St.
Sparta, IL 62286
Pastor Juanez D. Wilson Sr.

Pine Grove Apostolic Church
2196 Hwy 506 East
Kelly, LA 71441
Pastor Johnny Barnhill
"More than a church we are a Family"

Apostolic Lighthouse Tabernacle
401 N. Main St.
Laurinburg, NC. 28352
Pastor Joe Barnhill
Discover Original Pentecost

Solid Rock Pentecostal Church
322 Quitman Lane Brookhaven, MS 39601
Pastor Jerry W. Sullivan

Apostolic
Theological Seminary
Kaplan, Louisiana
All courses are taught live via the internet with real degreed professors
337-285-6045

First Apostolic Church
1801 Durst St.
Nacogdoches, Texas 75965
Pastor Brent Crosswhite

Lighthouse Apostolic Church
310 Co. Road 195
Waterloo, AL 35677
"Your invited to Come Worship With Us !

Libourn Apostolic Church
P.O.Box 376
Libourn, MO 63862
Bro Larry Gammons

First Apostolic Church
11384 Crossett Rd.
Bastrop, LA 71220
Bro. & Sis. J.T. Wheat

Apostolic Faith Tabernacle
1699 Forest Ave.
Maysville, KY 41056
Randall Osman, Pastor
"A Church that Preaches What The Bible Teaches"

Bible Truth Tabernacle
Apostolic Church
850 East Main Street
Bedford, VA 24523
Pastor Wayne Lawhorn

Knoxville Apostolic Church
7504 Chapman Highway
Knoxville, TN 37920
Pastor B. Scott Sparks

Truth Tabernacle Church & School
7601 Ohio River Road
Wheelersburg, Ohio 45694
Robert E. Davis, Pastor

Apostolic Lighthouse Pentecostal Church
A place to Quench your spiritual hunger & thirst
1801 Durst Street
Nacogdoches,TX 75964
Pastor Brent Crosswhite
936-560-6601

Apostolic Lighthouse
701 Floral Ave
Cannon City, CO. 81212
Pastor D.A. Rouesseau
"Healing,Deliverance,Miracles"

Church of Jesus Christ
Hwy 51 North
Dyersburg, TN. 38024
Pastor Ray Winstead

Truth Tabernacle
3200 Rush Branch Rd.
Somerset, KY 42501
Pastor Mike Phillips
"A place where needs can be met and lives changed"

Apostolic Church
1400 West Everly Brothers Blvd
Central City KY 42330
Pastor C. W. Schroader
270-754-4829

Apostolic Church of Wasson
4340 US 45 North
Harrisburg, IL 62946
Rev. Nathan Prather
618-499-0848

Truth Tabernacle
18027 San Bernardino Ave.
Bloomington,CA 92316
Pastor R.D. Frazier
909-877-6288

For with God nothing shall be impossible
Luke 1:37

What on Earth are you doing for Heavens Sake?

Western Kentucky Holy Ghost and Fire Campmeeting

"TRULY A GREAT FAMILYCAMP"

Western Kentucky Apostolic Youth CONFERENCE

JULY 9TH thru 12TH 2024

4 Nights and 3 Days

LOCATED AT THE FAIR GROUNDS ON ARCH ST
Madisonville, Kentucky



Pastor Junior Tingle Welcomes All.

Vacation Bible School for Children up to 12 years old.

We Are Looking forward to seeing you this year

Make Plans to Attend.

Great Free Meals served after each Service

Everyone Is Invited

SPECIAL SPEAKERS

Elder John Bullock.....1:00 p.m.

Elder Jon Lambeth…….....7:30 p.m.

Special Singing and Choir