

The Way of Truth

Vol. 75 "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." No. 10

October
2017

"Living Up to the Name"

See page 12.

Christians

Saints

Believers

Brethren

Disciples

THE CHURCH OF GOD IS MADE UP OF "DOERS"

WE READ these words in Genesis 31:16b: "Now then, whatsoever God has said unto thee, do."

The Church of God is the church that Jesus said He would build. The government is on His shoulders, and God places the members in the body as it pleases him (I Corinthians 12:18). The Lord is the door to the sheepfold. You must pass through Him to be saved. To try to climb up some other way makes you a thief and a robber (John 10:1). You can join many religious groups, but you cannot join the Church of God! To enter it, you must be born again.

The Church of God has a standard: "Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people" (Isaiah 62:10).

The watchmen are not the ones who set the standard. God has set the standard, and the watchmen on the walls are to lift it up. The standard is holiness of heart and life. "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8).

The writer of Hebrews said, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Living holy simply means you are living a life free from all known sin.

A holy people are to worship in the beauty of holiness. Jesus told the woman at the well, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). "An highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; ... but the redeemed shall walk there" (Isaiah 35:8, 9). You must live holy to be able to worship God in the beauty of holiness. "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" (I Chronicles 16:29).

The apostle James said: "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only" (James 1:22). There is much more to being a "doer" than just worshiping in spirit and in truth. Let us notice a few things—

1. "Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32). Jesus taught us if we did not forgive others their trespasses against us, our heavenly Father would not forgive us of our trespasses against Him.

2. "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). Jesus warned us against the deceitfulness of riches in the parable of the sower. "He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful" (Matthew 13:22).

3. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (I Thessalonians

5:18). Paul, in Athens, told the people that the God who was unknown to them was the One in whom "we live, and move, and have our being; ... For we are also his offspring" (Acts 17:28). So, that being true, it is only natural that we should give Him thanks and praise. The Psalmist said, "From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised."

4. "Pray without ceasing" (I Thessalonians 5:17). This does not mean we must pray 24 hours every day, but it does mean we need to have our regular seasons of prayer every day. We understand from the Scriptures that Daniel prayed three times each day. Jesus got up a great while before day and went out to pray, at least some days. I have often said that to live a victorious Christian life, we must have a victorious prayer life.

5. "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others" (Philippians 2:4). "Do nothing for self-interest in the things of God, but for the good of all."

6. "See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men" (I Thessalonians 5:15).

7. "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

8. "Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good" (Romans 12:9). [*Dissimulation*: "to disguise or conceal under a false appearance; to conceal one's true motives, thoughts, etc., by some pretense; speak or act hypocritically.]

9. "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

10. "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you" (James 4:8).

11. Knowing and doing the will of God. "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31, 32). "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).

12. "Do all things without murmurings and disputings. That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world" (Philippians 2:14, 15).

13. "Let your [life] be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

14. "Above all these things put on [love], which is the bond of perfectness" (Colossians 3:14).

15. "Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful" (Colossians 3:15). There are a number of things in this verse for us to note: peace, one body of Christ, be thankful.

ABOUT THE COVER

A stream flowing in the midst of fall foliage graces our cover this month. God, in His great wisdom, created a colorful world which can never be revealed fully by a photograph or an artist's canvas. One has to see the natural beauty with his own eyes to fully grasp it.

THE WAY OF TRUTH

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Vol. 75 October 2017 No. 10

Devoted to the gospel of our loving Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave freely His life-blood, to save us from our many sins, to sanctify our fallen nature and to bring into one body all true believers, by whose stripes we are healed.

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—Alvin A. Craig, Editor

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16. "The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Romans 13:12-14). Again, there is a lot of godly instructions for us to follow—for us to be doers of!

17. "Be careful for nothing [don't worry or be fretful]; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6, 7).

18. "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another" (Romans 12:10).

19. "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of [immodest] apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, ... the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (I Peter 3:3, 4).

20. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

21. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

I have not tried to teach the whole Bible in this editorial, but the Church of God has a standard, and we are to be doers of it. †

HEALING THE LAND

2017 Hagerstown Convention Message by Bro. M. H. Trisler, Jr.



I AM HAPPY to be here tonight. I am thankful to the Lord that He made it possible for me to be here, and I am especially thankful to see this lovely gathering. There are people who still love to go to church and serve the Lord.

Before I get into my part of the service, I'd like to take a moment to express my love and my appreciation to each and to every one of you. I am also thankful to the Lord that He allowed me to come one more time to see your lovely faces. I thank you from the depths of my heart for your love to me. Your calls, prayers, letters, and your cards were just enormous. You don't know what that meant to me during the course of losing my dear wife. We were married 71 years, 4 months, and 22 days, which is a long time. We were hardly ever separated. We were together most of our time, with the exception of when I was called into the service in 1945. I was gone 18 months. When I came back, the longest I was ever away from her was when I went to the Philippines. So I'm very grateful to the Lord for all those many years that He gave us together. What a wife she was! She was my best friend. She had beautiful, beautiful wisdom. Many times I would confer with her about situations that would arise in the church, and she would advise me with the most beautiful wisdom. Generally, it always worked out to the glory of God. So I miss her, but I'll be with her again. I went by her graveside the day before I left. I've been there every day, with the exception of maybe one or two since she died on the second day of January this year. She's in heaven, and I have to do my best to make it. So I desire your prayers as I continue my journey. May the Lord bless each and every one of you. I love you dearly.

I enjoyed the two messages we had today, actually three with our prayer meeting this morning. Our prayer meeting by Bro. Terry really set the stage for a beautiful convention. It was a challenge to all of us to reach out to higher ground, and to be true to God and true to our own souls. Of course, Bro. Alvin's opening message was delightful, and Bro. Ford brought a beautiful message this afternoon. So we've been blessed today. God has been with us. Remember this: God has said to us, "I will never leave you nor forsake you. I will be with you, even unto the end of the world." That's a promise that can never be broken. God is with us.

Dear Hearts, if you have your Bibles, turn with me to II Chronicles, chapter 7. I will commence reading at verse 12: "And the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice. If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear

from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." I am going to use verse 14 to bring out some thoughts. I do cherish your prayers. It says again, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

I'm going to entitle the thoughts this evening, "Healing the Land." Our land is sick. It is sick! Everywhere you look, it is sick, and it needs healing. God is with us, and God has promised to never leave us. Therefore, we must put forth every effort we can to rescue souls and bring them over into the camp of the saints, and raise up an army that will face this world and turn it around through God. Dear Ones, the voice of God can be clearly heard, and America needs to hear that voice today. We need to hear it. He's pleading.

The prophet Isaiah, son of Amoz, was shown a vision. What he saw was a vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem, the church and the nation. In the first chapter of Isaiah, verses 2-5, we read, "Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me. The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider. Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint."

Isaiah continues in chapter 1, verses 14-16: "Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them. And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil." This was like it is today. People are full of hypocrisy. They've gone away backwards. They're pretending to be Christians when they're not. They're doing all kinds of things to bring people in to deceive them. God says, "Away with that evil. I'm tired and sick of it."

Let me tell you something, Dear Hearts, we need to turn around. We need to make a complete 90 or 180 degree turn around and get back to the old paths. God is sick of sin. He hates sin. He can't look on it. When Jesus was on the cross, He cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" God had not forsaken Him. Jesus had all the sins of the world on Him. God

couldn't look on sin. He hated sin. He still hates sin. If you're living in sin, God hates the sin, but He doesn't hate you. Jesus died for you. He died for everyone of us.

After numerating those things that the people were doing, and they had turned their backs upon Him, Jesus simply said so tenderly, "Come now, and let us reason together. Come, return; come." That's an invitation. Come now! The Lord wants to reason with man. Do you know what He said? "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." He loves you. He loves me. If there were no other person but Junior Trisler upon the face of this earth, He would have died for him. He died for everyone of us. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." The Lord is saying that to those who are unsaved, and He's saying that to those who are not where they ought to be. We need to examine ourselves daily and see if we're walking in the light.

Every time I kneel on the floor at home, I say, "Lord, let me be Jesus to someone today." He reaches out that hand of love and mercy and kindness. If Jesus was here and He walked by and saw you with a need, He'll be moved with compassion. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He will never change. He changes our lives and makes us new creatures. He reaches out to the lost. He goes the last mile in trying to rescue the perishing. Again, He says, "Come now, and let us reason together"; and, "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." The Lord has said those words.

I don't want to miss heaven, especially since I now have more treasure over there. My daily prayer is, "Lord, show me anything in my life that I need to change. Help me to change it, Lord." I want to make heaven my home, and I want everyone of you to make heaven your home. Whatever I can do to help you, I will do it, because I love you. Sometimes when I'm leaving a grocery store, I say to the clerk who waited on me, "I love you." It seems like it shocked her. I said, "Now look, I'm not talking about it in a material sense. I'm talking about it from a Christian viewpoint. I love you as a Christian, and I want you to go to heaven." She replied, "Oh, thank you, thank you for saying that to me." Yes, God has shown us the way, and He will continue to do so. Praise the name of the Lord! Isaiah 1:5-6 says, "The whole head is sick. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no [healing] in it." God is saying that if you will come and let Him reason with you, He will heal you.

Let us think: What happens when a nation repents and turns to God? What happens? We're talking about returning to God. Our whole country needs to turn to God. Other nations need to turn to God.

Let us go to Jonah 1:2, 3. The Lord said to Jonah, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship

going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord." Jonah did not want to carry this message because Nineveh was an enemy and wanted to devour and destroy Israel. Perhaps Jonah felt like he should not go down and warn those people because they might still turn to God, and He wouldn't destroy them; but that was not the right attitude. The right attitude was to go down to preach the gospel to them. Jonah was running away from God. God wouldn't let him run. Let me tell you, when God gives us a message, we better deliver it because He is in it. There's a soul that needs to hear it and be redeemed.

A great wind came up, and the ship was about to sink. Those on board began to pray and unload some of their cargo, but still the ship was about to sink. Eventually, they found Jonah fast asleep down in the ship. They asked Jonah, "What are you doing down in here? Aren't you bothered about this? Who is your God?" Finally, Jonah said, "Well, this is all because of me. God gave me a message, and I'm running from Him." They asked, "Well, what shall we do?" Jonah said, "Just throw me overboard."

They threw Jonah overboard, and God prepared a great fish to swallow him. Let me tell you something, if the Bible had said that Jonah swallowed a big fish, I would have believed that too, because I believe the Bible. I believe all of the Bible. As soon as they threw Jonah overboard, the fish got him. Down in the belly of that fish, he came to himself. He began to pray, "Lord, help me; save me out of here." Jonah had seaweeds all wrapped around him, along with everything else. The big fish vomited him out on the ground. God said, "Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee."

Nineveh was a big city. At that time, it was about a three days' journey to go across it. The major wall was 50 feet high and extended eight miles. It was fortified by five walls and three moats. The wall was broad enough for four chariots to be raised on top of it. We don't know just how many people were in the city, but we are told that God said that the 120,000 who were there did not know their right hand from the left. God was merciful, and He wanted them to be saved and delivered. He still wants everyone to be delivered. He wants you to be delivered if you're not a Christian tonight. He will do whatever He can to deliver you.

Jonah backed up and went to Nineveh. When he arrived at the gate, he went in to preach. "In 40 days, God's going to destroy Nineveh." The people heard what Jonah said as he went along preaching. He spoke with such authority. God gave him the authority to preach a message. He will give us authority to preach a message. "In 40 days, God's going to destroy Nineveh." Jonah preached from one side of the city to the other side. The major wall of that city extended eight miles long, but Jonah was still preaching the message. The people became concerned. They got down in sackcloth and ashes and began to pray. They went to the king and told him about it. He also became concerned. That's what God will do. When you get down in sackcloth and ashes, God will work for you. The king got down in

sackcloth and ashes and began to talk to God. He declared a fast. He even declared the beasts to fast—no food or water. God delivered the people of Nineveh. They came to God and gave their hearts to Him. That's what happens when a nation repents. When they turn to God and repent of their sins, God will bless them. Yes, He will, praise the Lord!

America has been blessed beyond measure. God has been so good to us, but we have so many people who have gone so far away from Him. They don't even want to believe that there is a God. I want to tell you one thing, there is a God in heaven. He loves us. He will heal and save you. If you will ask Him from your heart, He will deliver you. I guarantee that. That's what happens when people repent and turn to God.

Our next question: What happens when a nation does not repent? Let's go to Nahum 3:1-3: "Woe to the bloody city! it is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departeth not; The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the pransing horses, and of the jumping chariots. The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcasses; and there is none end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses." Yes, they killed the people in the streets and rode over them. Oh, how evil! how ungodly! Who are you talking about, Bro. Junior? I'm talking about the same city, Nineveh, that repented and was delivered by God. This happened 150 years after God had delivered them. They began to drift away, drift away, and the same thing will happen to us if we don't stay alert. We cannot let down or depart from the faith. If you know the truth, stay with the truth, no matter what! I was preaching a few Sundays ago at home, and I addressed my people on the standard of dress. Now, some may not like it, but I'm going to preach it. Why? Because I want my soul to go to heaven. If I let it down, I'll lose my soul. I love you, and that's why I preach it. It is part of the gospel.

Let us go a little further. Nahum 3:4-7, "Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts. Behold, I am against thee, saith the Lord of hosts; and I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, and I will shew the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame. And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazingstock. And it shall come to pass, that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her? whence shall I seek comforters for thee?"

Nineveh was destroyed. In fact, there was not one soul left alive. For hundreds of years, no one knew where it was. Nineveh was completely wiped out. Finally, in 1840, I think it was an Englishman who found it. In fact, Alexander the Great, who was in such power, passed within just a few miles where Nineveh was located and didn't even know it. A lot of people didn't believe it ever existed. I want to tell you, if you leave God out, you're on dangerous ground. You're on dangerous ground, especially after God had delivered before. They dug down under 30 or 40 feet of rubbish, sand,

dirt, and found it, and proved the great city of Nineveh did exist at one time. It was one of the first cities that the world ever had. Nineveh no longer existed. Why? When you fail to repent and stay with God, you lose all. I heard here today that if you were once saved and did a lot of great things working in the field for God, and you turn back, you lose all of those things. Even if you are fortunate to get back to God, you'll never recover what you did for Him before. Think about that!

As each age comes around, we think it is a modern age as compared to times past. We can look back and see progress in Arts and Science and inventions, but what we fail to see is that our moral change is sin and not progress. God hates sin. We learn from history that the Ninevites enjoyed the best chariots, the finest food, and the most exotic entertainment. It had an extensive business and commercial system like none in the world. They ruled the world for 200 years. This is what happens to a nation that fails to repent and turns from God.

Our own dear land of America, Folks, needs healing. Some say, "Let us start at the top and get Christian men and women to lead us." With the populace of America lusting in sin and corruption, and lobbying in Washington, how can we change by electing some people there? We must start at home. Turn to God, repent, and turn away from sin. A revival of God in the lives of fathers and mothers returning to the blessed old Bible is the only way. God's way is the only way. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Jesus says, "Come, I want to make you pure. I want to cleanse you. I want to get you ready for heaven."

Proverbs 14:34, "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

Isaiah 1:19, "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land."

Psalms 9:17, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."

Matthew 11:28-30, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Jesus is calling. He is saying, "Come, come; cast your burdens upon Me. I can handle them, and I will make your sins as white as snow." Why not tonight? We are going to be here tomorrow if the Lord tarries His coming; but tonight, now, won't you come? The Bible says, "Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Don't you want to turn to Him, where He can bless your soul, where you can bring your children to Sunday school and church to learn about God in heaven?

This is so sad: Some years ago, I was holding a revival in West Monroe, Louisiana, for Bro. Smith. On a Sunday morning, there was a young girl in her early teens who came in off the streets. She sat down in the second row of the church. No one in the service knew her. When the message was finished and we sang the invitational song, she got up and came to the altar.

SIN, MAN'S GREATEST ENEMY

THE ORIGIN OF SIN

Scriptures: Genesis 2:8, 9, 15-17; 3:1-6; James 1:13-16.

Genesis 2:8 And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

9 And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

15 And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.

Memory Verse: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.—James 1:14, 15.

Aim: To show that sin begins with disobedience to the commands of God.

INTRODUCTION

THIS lesson has somewhat of a historical character, and we cannot trace sin back farther than our first parents. However, we do know that the devil is called by the Scriptures (I John 3:8) a sinner, and sin is the transgression of the law. How far back in eternity Satan first transgressed the law of God we do not know. At any rate, we know that sin originates with the devil, and we also know its origin in the family of man. The consequences of man's fall are so evident in human nature that its reality is commonly recognized. The fall of Adam and Eve was by deliberate, intentional violation of the divine commandment. Though the act of eating the forbidden fruit may have been insignificant in itself, yet its consequences were of incomparable importance. Their act implied a flagrant rejection of

No one immediately went to talk to her, but my precious wife went and knelt down beside her. She said, "Honey, what would you have the Lord to do for you?" She said, "I want to be saved but I don't know how." My wife asked, "Do you go to church?" She said, "No, I've never gone to church. I'm not living with my mother any more. I live with my grandmother. She doesn't go to church, so I don't know what to say or what to do, and I feel like I need God in my life." My wife instructed her and told her what to do. The poor little thing prayed through and gave a testimony that she was saved.

There is danger in not bringing your children to church and teaching them about God. That's a responsibility of yours. Don't send them; bring them. Get right with the Lord so you can set a godly example before them, and when the time comes that the Lord is dealing with them, they'll know exactly what to do. They'll know how to kneel down and say, "Lord, forgive me of my sins."

Let's get back to the old paths. God said, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Our land needs healing! What about it tonight? God is calling. †

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their Creator, contempt for His good law, and a love of things and self more than of God.

Man was not created with a sinful heart; he came from the hand of God pure and clean. God cannot sin; so it follows that the wickedness in the world came from an evil personality, and the human family was infested by obedience to him.

MEDITATIONS

GOD PROVIDES FOR MAN—Genesis 2:8—God planted—It is an evidence of great ignorance for anyone to say that the natural world just came into existence by the process of evolution, leaving the powerful, all-wise, invisible God out. Be sure, God exercised great care in creation, having the welfare of man in mind. After God created the world, then He planted a garden in the area of the world called Eden, thus we have the Garden of Eden. In this beautiful garden God placed the man whom He had formed.

THE EVIL TREE—Genesis 2:9—Knowledge of good and evil—The fruit of this tree was good for food and was pleasant to look at. The fruit within itself had no power to harm the soul of man; it was the disobedience to the command of God that injured the soul. Before they ate of the tree, Adam and Eve knew nothing about evil. The one transgression brought upon them and all their offspring the terrible deluge of the whole panorama of sin.

LABOR IS HONORABLE AND NOT EVIL—Genesis 2:15—To dress it—At this time the earth had not been cursed with thorns and thistles; nevertheless, it was necessary to do some work to keep the garden in order, pruning and keeping legitimate things in their proper places. Labor has always been a blessing to mankind, and early in life its value should be learned by every man.

THE ONE LAW IN THE GARDEN—Genesis 2:16, 17—Thou shalt not eat—God speaks no idle words. Let every man know that God means every word He says, so let life be ordered accordingly. Could not God have created man and put him in the lovely garden without this or any other command? He could not carry out His plan, that of having a creation with a free will and, consequently, a tried people. God gets glory and pleasure to Himself when anyone by appropriation of His power says no to sin. He who says no to sin has defeated and disappointed Satan.

SATAN'S ATTACK—Genesis 3:1—Hath God said—Satan has never been known to be on the side of right; and if he does appear to be, it is most necessary that we very carefully examine the situation, for he is a master at deception and a skillful counterfeiter. Notice his first attack was on the "weaker vessel." Woman is not, however, a weak vessel, but weaker than the man. Satan, by his words, desired to confuse the woman and inject doubt concerning the words God had spoken.

THE WOMAN HAD NOT FORGOTTEN—Genesis 3:2—We may eat—She was in full possession of the command of God, but she was making a grave mistake, which many souls have done and are doing. No man should ever give ear to Satan. God says, "Neither give place to the devil" (Ephesians 4:27). He often makes his approach with such mildness, coupled with

a degree of reasonableness, seemingly, but you may be sure that if he gains attention, swiftly will come a second attack more deadly in nature. **Verse 3—Lest ye die**—The woman understood God perfectly. God does not leave us in a cloudy atmosphere; such is always the work of Satan. She knew well that death would follow disobedience. It is still true today that every sin carries with it the death penalty, be it large or small (Romans 6:23).

SATAN'S SECOND EFFORT—Genesis 3:4—Not surely die—There can be no doubt here that the devil had direct reference to the fact that they would not die physically were they to eat of the tree. This is similar to the temptation Satan laid before Jesus when he said, quoting scripture, that if He fell, the angels would bear Him up. God had given His angels charge concerning Christ and us, but we cannot expect to jump from a pinnacle, as Christ was tempted to do, and receive protection from God. **Verse 5—Be as gods**—The devil moves upon the desires to explore the unknown, to satisfy the lust of inquisitiveness. To know evil for the sake of evil has never been a benefit to man.

YIELDING TO TEMPTATION—Genesis 3:6—And did eat—The devil overpowered the woman with his reasoning. Had she resisted the devil at the start, he would not have gained the advantage. Yielding to temptation brought sin, spiritual death, or separation from God. The same is still true today, so we need not be critical of our first parents. That awful effect did not stop with Eve. At once she became a tool in the devil's hand to the destruction of her husband. The first false prophet used by the devil was a snake, because Satan had no human to use.

TEMPTATION NOT FROM GOD—James 1:13, 14—Neither tempteth he—Temptation comes from Satan, and we overcome by resisting it. The flesh may have desires upon which the devil moves but our activities are always to be kept within the limitations of the Word of God by His power. Satan would love for us to dwell upon the thought of improper use of the flesh, for his evil work is well under way when he gets us to dwell in thought on the wrong thing. God tells us where to place our thoughts in Philippians 4:8.

GIVING PLACE TO EVIL DESIRES PRODUCES SIN—James 1:15—Bringeth forth sin—Dwelling too long on the wrong thoughts reduces moral strength beyond the point of resistance, and sin is the immediate result. Paul said to flee fornication (I Corinthians 6:18). Do not draw nigh to sin, but keep as far from it as possible.

OBEY GOD—James 1:16—Do not err—Sin is always wrong and God is always right. To be sure you never err, obey willingly and gladly all the known commands of the New Covenant.

CONCLUSION

We all, perhaps, have wondered what kind of world this would be had not Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden and had each succeeding person remained pure. Had this been true that no one ever sinned, no one ever would have known the joy of being delivered from the power of sin. Greatness in the light of eternity does not lie in the fact that we have not sinned, but in the fact that our souls have risen in arms against temptation and subsequent sin.

But Adam and Eve did transgress, and we find ourselves in a world of sin. So now the only thing that we can do is to follow closely the map of life as given by God Himself, empowered by the sacrifice of His Son. Every man when he comes to the knowledge of himself finds that he is bound by the fetters of sin; but, thank God, everyone is invited to take God's appointed way out. The blood of Jesus Christ has within it the power to restore our souls to the original, sinless, spiritual purity that was our foreparents' as they came from the creative hand of God, but our bodies must wait unredeemed until the second coming of Christ when they also shall be vested with immortality.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. What is sin?
2. With whom does it originate?
3. What are the common approaches that the devil uses to cause man to sin?
4. Was there anything evil about the forbidden tree in Eden?
5. Wherein did the sin lie?
6. What is the way to overcome temptation?
7. With whom does temptation originate?
8. What does the blood of Jesus Christ do for the man who receives it? †

THE PROBLEM OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

By the late M. H. Craig

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."—John 17:20-23.

"Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely: And they shall be my people, and I will be their God: And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them."—Jeremiah 32:37-39.

CHRIST'S prayer that His people be one as He and the Father are one implies more than just an outward form of unity. It really implies a change of nature to the likeness of Christ and His Father, because Christ and His Father are one in nature. Jesus said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father [also]" (John 14:9).

God through the prophet said, "I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them." This implies a likeness in heart experience.

This experience the apostles received on the day of Pentecost. It is said of them that they were of one heart and one soul. This unity was an inward experience and was not based on an outward form—not even on doctrine, for they knew but little about doctrine.

I still maintain the idea that the main essential to Christian unity is a heart experience. To obtain and maintain Christian unity, we need a likeness of heart experience. Then, when the likeness of heart experience is obtained, we may by and through much patience come into the unity of the faith.

The main essential to maintain Christian unity is the heart experience. The pastor who would keep unity among his flock must look well to the spiritual welfare of his flock and see that they are prayerful and students of God's Word.

A unity based upon doctrine alone is a head or mind unity. A true heart experience is calculated to keep the head right as well as the heart. If the heart experience is lacking, the head will go wrong also.

The spirit of Christianity is what we need more than anything else. Paul said, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Romans 8:9). This would imply that if a man knew all the doctrines and had not the Spirit of Christ, he would not belong to Christ. Don't misunderstand me, doctrine is essential—but not the first or main essential.

Paul said if he gave all that he had to feed the poor and though he gave his body to be burned, yet had not charity, it would profit him nothing. Let us have a little more charity (love) and we will have more unity and less division.

The tendency has been, and is in certain quarters, that if a man doesn't agree with us then cut him off. *We must have agreement in doctrine*, they say. An agreement in doctrine is good, but an agreement in spirit is better, and in reality, is the only way to complete unity—in the spirit and in the faith. †

—Taken from notes of the editor's father, penned more than 70 years ago.

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We want to hear from you but keep this in mind.

CLIMBING THE LADDER OF SPIRITUAL SUCCESS

Radio Message by James Arch



I WILL BE speaking to you today on, “Climbing the Ladder of Spiritual Success.” I’ll be reading two verses of scripture. II Peter 3:17, 18, “Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”

It has always been my practice to try to motivate and to encourage everyone, especially the Christian body, along life’s way. I tell the Christian body all the time to keep going, to keep looking upward, and to keep climbing to higher heights. It is a wonderful thing to be able to leave behind a testimony that you have fought a good fight, and that you have left a pathway along the road for someone else to follow.

We know what a ladder is. A *ladder* is “something used as a means to get higher.” Of course, the word *success* is “the achievement of something desired, planned, or attempted.”

Not everyone who began in the Christian race has ended it well. Unfortunately, some people fall out by the wayside, and some keep going, keep going, and keep going until the very end. The more we go, the better it is; the longer we go, the more we learn and know about God and His wonderful way.

Verse 17 of our text in II Peter 3 is referring to the previous verses. It says, “Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things ...” In light of that, hold fast, and don’t be led away. In other words, climb the ladder. Some of the preceding verses refer to the second coming of Christ and Christians being scoffed at. It even says in verses 3 and 4, “Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming?” It also speaks of the longsuffering of God who wills that no one perish. Because of God’s longsuffering for the world, I believe that is the reason why Jesus has not returned. It says in verse 9, “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” It goes on to say in verse 10, “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night.” This verse continues with what will take place upon His return, but I’ll not read what it says.

Aim for the goal. Every rung of the ladder gets you higher and nearer home. The writer advises diligence in order to be found in Him. II Peter 3:14, “Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and

blameless.” There are two ways to look at this verse: we will easily leave this world before Jesus comes, or we will be alive when He comes. Whichever way it will be, we are bound to go. The Apostle is trying to emphasize here that it is good to be ready and always good to be prepared. “Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.”

We live in a real world. There are very, very strong influences prevailing in the world today. Many people are losing their focus and convictions, and their very beliefs in God and what they stood for. They have fallen out of the Christian race. The writer goes on to say in verse 18 of II Peter 3, “But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.” Thank God, it doesn’t matter how old we become, we can always keep learning and learning and learning.

The purpose of the church, in fact, is to meet the spiritual needs of the people, and to teach them the way of life, but we also have to help ourselves. Someone else is not going to run this race for us. We have to do something, too, as individuals. If you will look into the 27th Psalm, you will see in verse 4, where David said, “One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple.” So we have something to do. It is not all on God. He can’t do this alone. It is between us and God. We have to walk this road with God.

Christians are like students in God’s school. His Word is our instruction Book. Psalm 19:7, 8, says: “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.” What does this instruction Book teach us? What does it really teach? Thank God for this instruction Book. It teaches pursuance. Our pursuance of our desires will be rewarded. Jesus said in the Beatitudes, “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.” Whatever we go after in life, we will likely to get it. If we go after spiritual heights, we will get them. If we will reach out for more of God, we will find those spiritual heights.

Be careful on what we set our hearts. Matthew 6:19-21, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” Those words are very, very true. Don’t waste your energy on resentment, envy, and dislike. Life is too short for those kinds of things.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:43, 44, “Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.” That is the superiority of the Christian dispensation—the dispensation of Christ—the dispen-

sation of grace, as compared to the Old Covenant system. Thank God, when Jesus died on the cross the Old Covenant system ceased, and the New Covenant came into effect, sealed with the blood of Jesus. We are now under this new and living way, a much better way.

We are told to walk by faith and not to worry. "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" (Matthew 6:34). Sometimes we tend to worry so much about the future and about tomorrow, but God is already there.

How do we grow? How do we climb this ladder? How do we mature into higher heights, and reach toward success of this enterprise that we're on called "the Christian way"? We grow. It is natural to grow. Plants grow. People grow in their bodies. Christians grow, too. They mature into strong Christians. The apostle Peter said to the newborn Christians, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." In other words, don't lose your appetite. Desire the sincere milk of the Word. Babies drink milk. Young Christians dwell on the easy parts to understand in the Bible, the instruction Book. Read the Gospels; read the Psalms, which feed your soul and causes you to grow. As young Christians mature, they dwell on the other parts of the Word.

Practice trying to talk to God. What a wonderful privilege we have that we can sit down, kneel, and stand, or whatever position we're in, and talk to God! Commune with this great God. Get alone in the room and commune with this great God and invite His presence to be with you. It is a wonderful thing! Yes, practice talking to God. The more you pray, the stronger you will be.

Keep measuring up to the truth as soon as you learn it. We grow by walking in the light of the gospel. That is how we grow and mature into strong Christians. Do you know what the apostle John had to say about the light? I John 1:7, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." We don't walk any old way and be a Christian. We don't live any old kind of life and be a Christian. A Christian life is a life that is sought out of the world. God calls His people out. They're blood-washed and walking close to God.

Keep pressing on. Paul said, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded [what words!], that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." So we have to keep pressing on.

Ladders bring you back down, too. You have to walk backwards to get down off a ladder. Verse 17 of II Peter 3 says, "Seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness." The Bible speaks of

a man named Demas who worked with Paul. Demas looked back at the world, and his affection for the world pulled him back. Paul said, "Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica." Keep climbing the ladder of spiritual success. My Beloved Friends, the ladder can take you right up to the goal. Keep walking with God; keep moving onward. There is nothing that God cannot do, and He never fails one who has his trust in Him. It is a wonderful life.

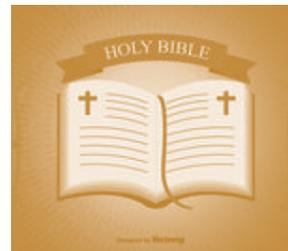
It won't be too long before we get old and leave this world. It will be worth it all when we see the Master. There will be no more sickness, no more problems, nor disappointments. Everything will be clean and pure. We'll be in the presence of the Lord forever and ever. What a wonderful day that will be when the Lord we shall see! What a day that will be when we all get to heaven! It will be worth it all. Regardless of the problems, trials, and conflicts that we go through here in this world, it will be worth it all when we see Jesus. As good as it might be here for some of us, it is not good for all. Some have it rough in this world, but as good as it might be for some of us, it is better higher up. Thank God, the ladder will take us higher up †

SALVATION LIFE

By the late E. E. Byrum

IT IS ALMOST like entering into a new world to make the change and have the sweet approval of God upon us, and His love dwelling within the soul, with a knowledge that we are at peace with Him. Let the manifestations be such as they may, it is widely different from a self-made change, or mere life of morality, living upon good resolutions and a mere profession without the grace of God in the soul.

I once visited a lady whose hair was turning gray with age, and as she lay upon her couch stricken with disease, we asked her some pointed questions concerning her soul. "Oh," said she, "I have always been a Christian, and cannot remember when I did not serve the Lord." But as the questions were pressed more closely, she acknowledged that she never could remember of any time when she realized a change of heart, but had always tried to be good. She was in the same condition as the man whom Jesus told that he must be born again. It took some time before she could throw down her empty profession and come to the Lord, asking Him to forgive and grant unto her a change of heart; but as she did, realizing her real condition, the work was instantly done, and she could then realize upon what dangerous grounds she had been resting, like thousands of others are doing. As she believed, God witnessed to the work done, and now she had a real possession, instead of a pious, empty profession



as before. This gave her much courage and strength to have faith for the healing of her body, and as we obeyed the Word of God in James 5:14, she received the healing touch by the power of God, and realized that she had much for which to give praises unto God.

But, what is the difference between the one who has reached this state of grace, and the one who lives a good moral life and does all the good he can by way of helping others? There is considerable difference. The converted person, having met the conditions of the Bible, is at peace with God, on the "narrow way," ready to be called into eternity at any time, and meet the Lord in peace. The other one is only at peace with his fellow men, and is on the "broad way," with his soul in darkness, not ready to meet the Lord, should He suddenly come. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Yet he expects to get through because of his charitable works. But, "though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and have not charity [love], it profiteth me nothing." So it is a failure without the love of God in the soul.

A WELL OF LIVING WATER

Truly the blood-washed soul can rejoice with exceeding great joy, and can with the Palmist say, "Truly I have chosen the way of truth," and the truth gives freedom to the soul. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36). "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14). The fountain has been found of which the prophet foretold: "In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness" (Zechariah 13:1).

Where anger and strife would formerly arise and destroy the peace of mind, now the weight of sin is removed and this "living water" is a "river of peace" to the soul. The one who has gone through a severe ordeal in order to get into favor with God, and has had many struggles with the enemy of his soul, now sees the way so plain and simple and wonders why he was so dull of comprehension, and so slow to grasp what is offered so freely; and now as it is so plain he thinks others can surely see it and will accept more readily. But they have the same enemy with which to contend, who is just as ready to prevent their believing as he was in the case of those who have escaped his deceptive and binding powers. The rescued one now feels like crying out with the words of the prophet: "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money. ... Hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. ... Hear, and your soul shall live."

Anyone obtaining the experience of salvation desires to tell what great things the Lord has done. And almost the first desire is then to try to get others to accept the ways of the Lord and receive His blessings. It is not a treasure that makes one selfish, which is hidden away in some secret place; but the wealth of its abundant riches is blazed abroad, that others may thereby learn of their privileges and believe, and likewise receive their portion of the blessings contained therein.

AT PEACE WITH GOD

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). There is more in these words, "peace with God" than can be expressed. One cannot sit down in meditation, and fathom the depth of this wonderful peace, nor find the limit of its height, nor the boundary lines of its width, as it expands far beyond the limit of our finite comprehension, because the infinite God is the author and giver of it.

The peace which this world gives is not of a lasting nature, but this heavenly peace is everlasting. Although one may lose it out of the soul through disobedience to God, and if His favor is not sought in accordance with His Word, it may never be found again; yet that does not limit the extent of His peace which is still offered unto all who will accept. And wherein there is a failure it is because we have not done what we know to be our duty, and lived up to our privileges in order to enjoy what has been so freely offered to us. In order to enjoy these riches constantly, we must continue to do His whole will at all times. David says: "I will hear what God the Lord will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly. ... Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven" (Psalm 85:8-11).

"The peace of God which passeth all understanding" is not only our privilege to have while here in this world, but it is an inheritance to be enjoyed in the life to come. Who would not be willing to give up all things else in order to obtain this great treasure? †

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THE POETRY PAGE

IF I SWING WIDE THE DOOR

Ina Jarvis Kellogg

If I swing wide the door
To let the Lord Christ in,
His mercy will restore
My heart from guilty sin.

He will live there, control
Whatever mastered me.
With Him inside, my soul
Shall be forever free.

I open wide my life,
Come in, dear Lord, just now;
Cleanse all the sin and strife,
Before Thy cross I bow.

Thy Spirit fills my heart!
Lord, I am wholly Thine;
I am of Thee a part,
And You, dear Lord, are mine.

ALL THE WAY FOR JESUS

Earl L. Van Sipe

When'er I look upon my past,
A deep, dead sea of sin,
'Tis then I sing and cry with joy
To know I'm cleansed within.

To know I'm cleansed from every sin—
Oh, what glad joy that gives!
It fills my heart with peace and love
That in me Jesus lives!

Yes, Jesus talks to everyone
With that soft, pleading voice,
Will you not listen to His call
And make Him now your choice?

He'll never lead your soul astray
Or in the paths of woe;
So when He seeks and calls for you
Then quickly say, "I'll go."

I'll go where'er You want me to go,
I'll be what You want me to be,
For Thy blessed will is mine, dear Lord,
And I'm going to follow Thee.

Thou shalt be my guide and leader always
And always be my stay;
I make, O Lord, this solemn pledge:
I'll follow Thee all the way.

SAVED

Mrs. W. Friedly

I belonged to the world and its pleasures,
I was held by its magic spell;
And I gave it my time and talents,
Till my eyes on my Savior fell.

I saw Jesus, bleeding, dying,
On the cross of Calvary,
Alone the crown of thorns He wore,
And He suffered there for me.

My heart was touched by His suffering,
And I came to the foot of the cross,
Confessing, forsaking the things I loved,
And He saved my soul that was lost.

I have joy in my heart, and peace in my soul,
And my life for His service I've given;
And with His help I'll prove faithful and true,
'Til my soul is home in heaven.

GUIDE THOU MY BARK

Mary J. Nichols

Guide Thou my bark, I know not how,
Upon Life's stormy sea;
The hidden rocks, the dangerous reefs,
The gales—too much for me!
But Thou, O mighty Pilot wise,
The Maker of the earth and skies,
Thou knowst every turn and nook
In ocean-depths or babbling brook!

Guide Thou my bark, I know not how,
Whene'er I try, 'tis pain;
I dare not wreck my little boat,
The heavens I must gain!
O mighty Master of the sea,
Hear Thou my cry, and come to me!
When waves my little craft would fill,
Thou sayest to the winds, "Be still!" †

"Peace, be still"
and there was a great calm!

LIVING UP TO THE NAME

Message Delivered 08/13/17 by Bro. Gregory E. Tyler



I AM SO GLAD to be a child of God this morning. It is the greatest privilege on earth to know God and to be a part of the family of God. I am not deserving or worthy, but through God's grace I'm redeemed. There are other redeemed ones here, and we're tied together through the blood of Christ and by the love of God. We're thankful for everyone in attendance, and especially for the Lord's presence.

As the chairman has said, I sought the Lord this week for a message, and this is what He has laid on my heart. I call your attention to Acts, chapter 11, beginning with verse 19: "Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only. And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord. Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord. Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." I've entitled my thoughts, "Living Up to the Name."

Names mean something! In this temporal world, a governor should live up to the name governor. A congressman should live up to the name congressman. The president of the United States should live up to that name. It is very high, very lofty, but the man who is in the office should endeavor to live up to the name.

I wrote down something over a year ago that I had found and put in my notes. This was something the theologian, Andrew Fuller, wrote back in the 1700's—

The Scriptures give four names to Christians—saints, for their holiness; believers, for their faith; brethren, for their love; disciples, for their knowledge.

I want to deal with these names and endeavor to challenge the congregation to live up to the name. I believe that God wants us to do so.

THE NAME "CHRISTIANS"

Christian once meant a lot more than what it does today. The term today is used quite profusely, without much meaning or power with it. In reality, the word

Christian means, "living like Christ; following the example of Christ."

Peter tells us in I Peter 2:21-23, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously." It is up to us, who profess the name of Christ, to live up to the name *Christian* and to walk in the steps of Jesus. Endeavor to follow in His footsteps; endeavor to follow His example.

Someone is quoted as saying—

To be like Christ—that is our goal, plain and simple. It sounds like a peaceful, relaxing, easy objective. But stop and think. Jesus learned obedience by the things He suffered. So must we. It is neither easy nor quick nor natural. It is impossible in the flesh, slow in coming, and supernatural in scope. Only Christ can accomplish this within us.

It is impossible to live like Christ or to follow in Christ's footsteps without an experience of salvation. But, those of us who are redeemed from our sins and have been washed in the blood of the Lamb, with Christ living in and through us, we can do so. Christ is able to help us to walk in His footsteps. He is our example. If we bear the name *Christian*, we should endeavor to live up to the name *Christian*—like Christ; following in the footsteps of Jesus.

I remember reading the book years ago, *In His Steps*, by Charles Sheldon. It dealt with the question in everyday life, when circumstances arose, where the congregation would ask themselves, "What would Jesus do?" Are we willing to do that through the course of our lives? Now listen: God doesn't want us to just sit and pray and read the Bible for 24 hours a day. There's a place for prayer and for study, but He wants us to live a holy life. He wants us to be an example of Him. He wants us to enjoy life. The Bible tells us, He "giveth us richly all things to enjoy"; but we need wisdom and understanding in applying the principles of the Bible to our everyday lives. That's one wonderful thing about the Word of God—it is applicable to all generations. As long as time shall last, the Bible is pertinent. The Bible is real; the Bible works. The principles of the Bible are applicable to any generation. So, we need to ask ourselves in times of decision, What would Jesus do? Through the Bible, and through accounts therein, we can come to an understanding of what the Lord would do in that circumstance. That's what we should do in living up to the name *Christian*. It means something.

John Drummond wrote—

To become like Christ is the only thing in the world worth caring for, the thing before which every ambition of man is folly and all lower achievement vain. Those only who make this quest the supreme desire and passion of their lives can even begin to hope to reach it.

So, the first name that I want to challenge us to live up to is, *Christian*. It means something. Be proud of it. It means you're a follower of Jesus Christ and endeavoring to walk in His steps.

THE NAME "SAINTS"

Another name in the Bible for Christians is *saints*. Saints—for their holiness. Yes, the children of God live holy. They have power through Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit to choose to do right and refuse to do wrong. There's no trial or temptation that comes upon us that's greater than we can bear. "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." So one name for Christians is *saints*. We need to live up to the name *saints*. Be saints in our conduct and appearance. Stand before the mirror before you go out in public and ask yourself, "Am I a representative of Christ? Am I dressed like a saint? We need to live up to the name. Don't be afraid of it. It is a wonderful thing to be a saint of God.

Paul, in writing to the Church of God at Corinth, said: "Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both their's and our's." We are called to be saints. Again, it means something. Saints of God, live up to the name. Walk carefully. People are watching. The community is watching. God is watching. The world is watching. We need to endeavor, by God's grace, to be a saint of God in every way: in our appearance, in our lives, in our attitudes, in our words. Someone has written: "When embraced by faith, the gospel produces godly character and noble conduct in its converts."

Paul said to the church at Ephesus, "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus." If we're living up to the name *saints*, we're going to be faithful. We're going to be at our post of duty. Our hearts are going to be in the work of God.

The faith of the gospel is committed to the saints. Jude 1:3, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." Again, another name for Christians is *saints*. It means something. Live up to the name. Be proud to wear it; not a carnal pride, but a self-respect. It's a blessing to be a saint of God in this time world. There are few who are willing to bear the name and live up to its meaning.

Now, saints are not perfect, Beloved; saints are human, but saints are being perfected. Look in Ephesians, chapter 4, verses 11 and 12. We are called *saints* for our holiness. "And he [Christ] gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body

of Christ." So, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, God gives for the perfecting of the saints. I believe God gave this message this morning for the perfecting of the saints, to challenge us to live up to the name *saints* of God. We do that by walking in the light. We do that by measuring to the truth. None of us knows all the truth. We're still learning; but when the truth is brought to our attention, saints of God have hearts that desire to walk in the light.

II Corinthians 7:1, "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." This is a lifelong challenge. "Perfecting holiness in the fear of God"—by cleansing our lives from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit. As Bro. Alvin has said, " 'Filthiness of the flesh and spirit' is anything that the Word of God condemns." So, we must endeavor to live carefully, honestly, and holy before God. Some people have in their minds that living holy and living without sin is a bore, or a dull life. It is anything but that. It's an exciting life to live for Christ! To be in the midst of this battle—right against wrong—Satan against God, and to be on the right side.

Paul said to the Ephesian church, "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints" (Ephesians 5:3). "As becometh saints": There are some things that become saints, and some things that do not. Fornication, uncleanness, covetousness, and many other things do not become the saints. So, we endeavor to please the Lord, to walk in the truth, and to be an example. Living up to the name *saints* of God is a wonderful thing. Hebrews 12:14, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Live up to the name *saints*. Verse 15: "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled." Not allowing bitterness to spring up in our hearts is a part of being a saint of God. We should rather have the love of God abiding in us. Living up to the name! Do we want to do that? Do we want to be faithful? Do we want to let the world know where we stand? "I am a Christian; I am a saint of God, through God's grace."

THE NAME "BELIEVERS"

Another term used in the Bible for Christians is *believers*. I am a believer. It means something to be a believer. Live up to the name *believers*. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6). Christians have faith in God. Christians are believers.

Christians are justified and sanctified by faith. We're not justified or sanctified by works. We don't just shake a preacher's hand and become justified. We're justified by faith. Romans 5:1, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Believers have peace. They have peace with God. Live up to the name *believers*. We have peace with our fellow man, with our wife, our husband, our neighbor, and ourselves, because we believe.

Now, Thomas was a doubter. When Jesus appeared to the disciples and Thomas wasn't there, he wouldn't

believe unless he could see the scars in the hands and side of Jesus. Jesus finally revealed Himself and said to him, "Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." I have not seen the Lord physically. I didn't see Him die on Calvary. I didn't see that stone rolled away from the grave, but I believe! I am a believer, thank God! I don't have to have scientific evidence to convince me. I don't have to have miracles, or something else to happen. I simply believe because God put faith in my heart. I thank God for that faith. We should be known as believing people. After all, one of the terms for Christians is *believers*.

We're not only saved by faith, but sanctified by faith. Romans 5:2, "By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." So, we are saved and sanctified by faith into this grace—the second work of grace—wherein we stand. Thank God for the privilege of being believers. Our faith is under attack by the world and Satan. Our faith is trying to be undermined, Saints of God, but we need to hold on to our faith. We need to have our faith challenged. We need to exercise our faith. Don't give up! Don't doubt God. One of our names as Christians is *believers*. So let us believe. Live up to the name!

We need to know God on a personal basis for our faith to be sustained. II Timothy 1:12, "For the which cause I also suffer these things [We suffer some things, don't we? We go through some things.]: nevertheless I am not ashamed [I'm not ashamed to be a believer. I'm not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.]: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." Are you persuaded this morning? Are you a believer? Are you standing on the promises of God? What a powerful verse of scripture!

Believers are examples to the world, to the church, and to all who believe. If we're going to live up to the name *believers*, then we're going to be an example to those who believe. I Thessalonians, chapter 1, beginning with verse 5, "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost. So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing." So the Thessalonians' faith and belief in God rang out through Macedonia and Achaia, and to every place that it went.

I want people, when they think of the Hagerstown congregation, to be inspired to believe. We are examples. We are believers! Let that sink in. I'm a believer. I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I believe that He gave His life on Calvary for all men. I believe He was divine. I believe He died in our stead, took our

place on Calvary. He arose again. I believe He ascended into heaven. I believe right now that Christ is at the right hand of the Father to make intercession for His saints. Let our faith take hold because we are believers. We are believers! We're not faithless. Are we? God help us! One of the names for Christians is *believers*.

Living up to the name—II Thessalonians 1:11, "Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all

the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power." That's what we want. That's what we're aiming and working for—faith with power. Church of God, we are believers. Don't let the devil

tell you anything else. Believe in the Word of God; believe in the promises of God. Believe in God, and He will bring our desires to fruition.

This little illustration is entitled, "Faith in the Worst of Times"—

*Sweeping across Germany at the end of World War II, Allied forces searched farms and houses looking for snipers. At one abandoned house, almost a heap of rubble, searchers with flashlights found their way to the basement. There, on the crumbling wall, a victim of the Holocaust had scratched in rough lettering, this message: **I believe in the sun—even when it does not shine; I believe in love—even when it is not shown; I believe in God—even when He does not speak.***

Do you believe this morning? "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). We don't have to see to believe. Our faith takes it in. That which is in our hearts takes it in.

THE NAME "BRETHREN"

Then we have the word *brethren*. We are brethren. The church, believers, saints of God, and Christians are called *brethren* for their love for one another. That's why the Hebrew writer said, "Let brotherly love continue." Are we living up to the name *brethren*? Romans 12:10, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another." Whenever I read that verse of scripture, I think of Bro. D. A. Simpson. How many of you remember Bro. Simpson? He was a blessed old man. He was feeble in body, but powerful in spirit.

Bro. Ollen told me of a time when he was in Jamaica, and Bro. C. G. Shaw, which was Bro. David Shaw's father, had a financial need. Bro. Ollen opened up his wallet and took out \$100 and handed it to him. Bro. Simpson was sitting there, and Bro. Ollen said to Bro. Simpson, "I don't mean to offend you by giving him this money." Bro. Simpson said to Bro. Ollen, "Oh, Bro. Ollen, my heart rejoices. I could not be happier if you had given twice as much to me. Thank God for that gift to Bro. Shaw." That was the kind of man Bro. Simpson was. "In honour preferring one another."

Living up to the name *brethren*—I Thessalonians 4:9, "But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to

love one another.” I Peter 1:22, “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently”; not just to love one another, but to love one another with a pure heart fervently. How do we love fervently? Love consumes our being and it pours out. You find expressions to show it. Are we living up to the name *brethren*? If we are, then we will treat one another as brethren.

I Peter 3:8, “Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.” Church of God throughout the world, love as brethren. Honor one another. Be respectful. Be polite. Don’t be rude. Don’t be selfish. Live up to the name *brethren*. If you do, you will be careful what you say. You’ll not speak evil of another. James 4:11, “Speak not evil one of another, brethren. [Don’t run one another down. Don’t pass along negative feelings or negative thoughts about another.] He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.”

If you’re going to live up to the name *brethren*, you’re not going to hold any grudges. James 5:9, “Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.” Let it go! If someone said something about you years ago, let it go! If someone did something against you years ago, let it go! Don’t hold a grudge. Live up to the name brother; live up to the name sister. You’re called that because of your love. Sometimes we have to visit the altar to get rid of a grudge. We have to pray through and let any bitter feelings go!

Ephesians 4:1-3, “I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called [Our vocation is a high vocation. It’s a high state; it’s a high standard.], With all lowliness and meekness [Live up to the name.], with longsuffering [Live up to the name.], forbearing [an evidence of a brother or a sister] one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Isn’t that beautiful? Isn’t that wonderful? “Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Live up to the name. Jesus said, “By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:35). I believe this congregation is a very loving congregation. I’ve found it so through the years, but I want to point you to the fact that one of our names is *brethren*, and we need to conduct ourselves as brethren.

THE NAME “DISCIPLES”

The last name that I would like to speak about is *disciples*. We are called *disciples* because of our knowledge. A disciple is a learner, a student. Live up to the name *disciple*. A disciple should be like his Master. Jesus said in Matthew 10:24, 25, “The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?” A disciple endeavors to be like his Lord, and he does so by studying and following the teachings of the Bible. If we’re going to live up to the

name *disciple*, we’re going to grow. II Peter 3:18, “But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.” My Friends, as long as we live, we’re students, we’re disciples, we’re learners, and we need to take time to study and to learn more. We can’t coast into heaven. We have to labor in this kingdom that God has put us in. We have to be true. Learning continually more about God, His promises, more about the history and teachings of the Bible. *Learners*—We don’t always think of ourselves in this sense. II Timothy 2:15, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” As you study, you might learn some things, i.e., as Paul said in I Thessalonians 4:11, “Study to be quiet, and to do your own business [Do we do it?], and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you.”

I know when many of us were in school, we didn’t like to study, but that’s how we learned. You learn by studying, and it takes work. Take time, not just to read the Bible, but study it. You’re a disciple. I am a disciple of Christ. I am a learner. I am a student. Some people will show up for a social gathering, but they won’t be anywhere near for a Bible study. Live up to the name *disciple*.

If we’re truly a disciple living up to the name, we should be able to admonish one another, or encourage, or teach one another. In Romans 15:14, Paul said, “And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.” Share with each other a scripture that you came across or has jumped out at you. Sometimes you can read a scripture 100 times and it didn’t mean a lot to you, then you read it for the 101st time, and a word or two just jumped out and impressed you. Has that ever happened to you? Share that scripture with others. Get on your phone and text it to them. Tell them to look up that verse of scripture. We’re students. We’re disciples. I’m proud to be a disciple of Christ.

Living up to the name—Colossians 1:9, 10, “For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.”

I want to leave you with this thought: *Disciples are ever increasing in the knowledge of God*. Have a hunger and thirst after righteousness; have a hungering for the Word of God. Don’t be satisfied just skimming the surface. Go deep into the things of God because you’re a disciple.

CONCLUSION

Are we living up to our name? I’m not saying or asking that accusingly at all, but to challenge each one of us. Are we living up to the name *Christians*? *Believers*? *Saints*? *Brethren*? *Disciples*? God help us, for this work of the gospel is the greatest work on the face of the earth, and it deserves our very utmost as we live for Christ.

Thank you for your attention this morning. I trust that these words have been a blessing to you. †

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER



STUCK TIGHT

A Bible Lesson by Sis. Rebecca Bland

"It's so hot!" my younger sister, Twila, said to me one summer afternoon. "There's no cool place, inside or outside!"

"I know," I agreed. "This kitchen feels like an oven!"

"There isn't any way to cool off, either," Twila moaned.

"We could open the refrigerator door and stand in front of it for a little while," I said.

"Mommy wouldn't like that," Twila said.

"Maybe there's some ice in the freezer," I said. "We could put some in a glass with water and drink it. That would cool us off."

"We could put ice down each other's backs," Twila said. "That would feel good!"

I laughed and dragged a kitchen chair over to the refrigerator. I wasn't tall enough yet to see into the freezer compartment above it.

"Is there any ice in there?" Twila asked after I had climbed up and opened the freezer door.

"No," I said slowly as I looked through the contents of the freezer. "The ice cube trays are empty. I guess no one filled them the last time we used ice."

I looked around the freezer one more time. Its metal sides were covered with a delicate layer of frost. *How good that frost would feel on my tongue!* I thought to myself. No sooner had the thought crossed my mind than I stuck out my tongue to lick the frost on the inside wall of the freezer.

Instantly, my tongue stuck tight to the cold metal. I could not pull it away.

"What are you doing?" Twila asked. "If there isn't any ice in there, we should shut the freezer door. Mommy wouldn't like us to have it open for this long."

"Ah cahhh ahh ahh wah ah ah!" I said.

"What?" Twila asked. "What did you say?"

No matter how hard I tried, I could not form the words to tell her what was wrong. Tears filled my eyes and froze on my eyelashes.

"Wah ah ah hah cah!" I cried. The fear in my voice galvanized my little sister to action. I heard the scrape of a kitchen chair and felt it hit the side of the refrigerator. In a moment, Twila had climbed up on the chair to stand next to me. She peered around my head as best she could to see what was the matter. Suddenly, she understood.

"Your tongue is stuck to the freezer!" she announced.

"Cah ah wuh ah wah!" I cried.

"What should we do?" she asked. "How can we get your tongue off of there?"

I knew what we should do. I remembered times when I'd had ice cubes stick to my wet fingers. All I'd had to do then was run a little warm water over my hands, and the ice immediately came loose. But I couldn't tell my little sister what to do. Without my tongue, I couldn't say the words.

"Ahh wah wah ah," I said. "Geh wah ah!"

"Oh!" my sister groaned. "I can't understand you, and I don't know what to do! Mommy's out in the field helping Daddy. Can you wait till I go get her? Will you be OK until I get back?"

"Geh wah ah!" I repeated.

Suddenly an idea struck my sister.

"I know!" she said. "I know!" She jumped down from the chair. I heard her run across the kitchen floor. I heard a drawer open with a loud clatter. *It must be the silverware drawer,* I said to myself. The drawer closed, and my sister ran back to the refrigerator.

"I got a knife!" my sister said. "I'll scrape your tongue off of the side of the freezer. Just hold real still!"

"AWW WAHH WAH GAWH!" I cried in alarm and pulled on my tongue as hard as I could. To my relief, my tongue came away from the side of the freezer. Some of the skin was left behind, and I knew my tongue would burn for a few days. But at least my head was out of the freezer and my tongue hadn't been cut off by my helpful little sister.

"What a silly thing to do!" my mother said when she heard the story later that day. "I hope you learned a lesson—think before you act!"

I nodded soberly. I had been foolish. I had acted without thinking. It seemed that I did that a lot. It seemed that I was always hearing my mother or my father say, "Think before you act!"

Children, I am sure you often feel the same way. I am sure you feel that you are always being told that you've done something the wrong way, or that you've made a foolish choice. Don't be discouraged. The only way to become wise is to make mistakes and learn from them. Your parents and teachers want you to grow up in wisdom. They want you to have a happy, successful life. That is why they point out mistakes and explain how you can avoid them.

In Proverbs 9:6, we read, "Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding."

Sometimes people's very lives depend upon whether or not they are willing to listen to wise counsel and good advice. If you have godly parents and teachers who endeavor to lead you in wise paths, you are very fortunate. Listen to them and follow their example. Most of all, listen to the voice of God as you read His Word. Follow His teachings, and you will live in safety.

Activity

God's Word is a treasure chest of wisdom and advice. Here are just a few of the many wise counsels we find there. See if you can fill in the blanks to complete each one.

1. Children, obey your _____ in the Lord: for this is _____.

2. A soft answer turneth away _____: but grievous words stir up _____.

3. By humility and the fear of the Lord are _____, and _____, and _____.

4. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are _____, whatsoever things are _____, whatsoever things are _____, whatsoever things are _____, whatsoever things are _____; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

5. Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy _____, while the evil _____ come not, nor the _____ draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no _____ in them.

Answer to Last Month's Activity

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not *want*.

2 He maketh me to lie down in *green* pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of *righteousness* for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of *death*, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a *table* before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the *house* of the Lord for ever.—Psalm 23. †



Dear Young People,

Autumn is in the air. I love the change of seasons, don't you? God, in His great wisdom, has provided such variety of color, of species, of people. And this variety is manifested in the presentation of the gospel. Some individuals are emotional, some are reserved,

some are intellectual, some enthusiastic. The Lord knows how to supply the needs of all.

Last month, we began a sermon by Bro. Mick Akers, a local young minister who preached in Friday's Young People's service during our recent convention. He approached the gospel with an unique look at Paul's journey by sea. As we conclude that message, we trust that some soul will be blessed.

Yours in His service,
Bro. Greg Tyler

THE FAIR HAVENS

2017 Hagerstown Convention Message

by Bro. Mick Akers

(part two)

I know many of you have heard a gospel message before, and you've sat under inspiring messages by many of these ministers. Many of you who are unsaved have come to services before. I hear all the time, "Is

Bro. Junior preaching tonight? I'm coming if he is. Bro. Terry? Bro. Greg? I'm coming tonight." I've heard it. You've sat under messages over and over again, and you've turned the Spirit of God away again, again, and again. Do you know what happens? Your heart becomes hardened. The Bible says, "My spirit shall not always strive with man." You presume on the mercies of God when you do that. You hear a gospel message and say, "Well, I've heard that all before. I've heard about Christ dying. I've heard that I'm not right with God, and it's the same message over and over again."

This made me think of Noah who was a preacher of righteousness. I thought of how repetitive his preaching must have sounded for 100 years. He called out, "It is going to rain."

"Rain? Whoever heard of that?"

Noah said, "I'm going to build a boat."

"What are you going to build a boat for?"

Noah replied, "I want you to get on board."

After awhile, the people probably wondered what Noah was thinking about. The years continued to pass, but the message kept on, "I'm building a boat. There is destruction coming. I want you inside." Again, "I'm building a boat. Destruction is coming. I want you inside. This is the only place where salvation is. Anyone who is outside this ark of safety is going to perish." Over and over again Noah preached this message, but the people rejected it over and over again. One day a drop of water began to fall. Maybe the people didn't even recognize that the door of the ark was closed. Noah wasn't preaching any more. Another drop, another drop, but by that time God had shut the door, and it was too late.

I don't want it to be too late for anyone here tonight. I know you've heard the gospel message before and you're familiar with it. I know you're familiar with the Spirit of God dealing with your heart, pleading and drawing you to an altar of salvation. I know you've heard it before, but I want to tell you again that there is an Ark. Anyone who is not inside that Ark of Safety is going to perish. Anyone who is not anchored in God's chosen Anchorage, Jesus Christ, is going to perish.

Awful destruction's at hand. It's at hand! I'm not inflating it into something greater so I can scare you. I'm not trying to scare you. I'm trying to tell you the truth. I want you to hear the truth and respond to it. I want you to allow the Spirit of God to melt the ice that is on your heart, and let go of the hardness that is there from the years of rejecting Christ. Turn to Him. Receive salvation. It is for you. It is for everyone here. The Bible tells us, "Today is the day of salvation. Now is the accepted time." That was for yesterday, for today, and it will be for tomorrow if it comes. It is for everyone of us.

How often a gospel message goes unheeded because it doesn't follow the wisdom of the world! I Corinthians 1:18-23, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness [How do you value the preaching of the cross? Is it foolishness to you? Those who count it as foolishness are going to perish.]; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written [What does that mean? Someone in the Old Testament wrote it, and it was so important that Paul put it in his letter

to the Corinthians so they could be reminded of it.], I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness." I trust the preaching is not a stumblingblock to you. I trust it is not a foolish thing for you to hear the preaching of the gospel. It's real! I've experienced it, and I'm not alone. If I were the only one here telling you that it's real, you might be able to doubt it, but there are others here that it is real to, too.

I've felt the cleansing power in my heart. I want to tell you something about it: I had a lot of serious problems as an unsaved person. They didn't necessarily change right away, but God gave me a new heart, a new attitude, and Christian principles to live by. As those principles were applied in my life, things began to change for the better. It was a period of time that God worked, and before long all those great problems in my life were worked out. It took time. It took years to work some of those things out. Now, the transformation in my heart happened instantaneously, thank God. I was cleansed and forgiven. But there were some problems that took effort on my part and diligence in seeking God and applying gospel principles to my life for God to work those problems out.

God can work out problems for everyone. He can do that for you. He can help you resolve your problems, but the first problem that you have is one that you can't do for yourself. You have to be saved. You have to seek God. He'll cleanse you from sin. You can step out yourself. Take that first step. That is the hardest one. There are many who can testify, "Oh, how I struggled over that first step." After they took the first one, they remembered being at an altar of prayer. The fleshly world and modern religion is so opposite of the way of Christ, aren't they?

I want to say again, an unheeded message has dire consequences, just as it did for those on that ship in Acts 27. When the storm came, what good did the promise of comfort mean? What good did it mean? The promise of comfort didn't hold any merit to them at all. They would have traded all to be in safety. They threw out everything on the ship that they could to save their lives. Their lives were valuable to them. They threw out the tackling of the ship. The ropes and the tackle which were used to navigate the ship were beyond their control. It was dead weight. They threw them out. They threw out the grain. They threw out everything that they could throw out to save their own lives. Their lives were valuable to them!

How valuable is your life to you? I tell you, there is an impending storm. It is not just the storms in this life you are facing, but there is a storm of destruction coming for all mankind. That is when time will crash into the banks of eternity, and the judgment will come. At that moment, you'll want to throw everything out

that you can when you realize you need to be ready for eternity, but it is going to be too late. That is just the way it is going to be.

What did the assurance of the captain's skill and his years of experience mean? Nothing. His worldly wisdom, his skill meant nothing. Julius rejected Paul's counsel in favor of the worldly way. There is danger in rejecting the gospel.

Let me read what Jesus said to His disciples in Matthew 10:14: "And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet." Now, listen to what happens to those places. Verse 15: "Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city." That is very serious. You know the story of how God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah with fire and brimstone. The wicked will be destroyed. They will be sent to a place of torment and punishment. They'll long for destruction at that point, but they'll have an eternal body that will endure that punishment for all eternity. They'll long for death, but it won't come.

True value of the safe harbor was revealed. Safety was back at "the fair havens." Safety was listening to the gospel message. That harbor may not have seemed like much to the mortal eye, but it was God's chosen anchorage; God's chosen place. God has a place for you amongst the body of saints. That is where He wants you to anchor through Christ. He wants you to anchor. Your harbor is here amongst the saints. Take your rightful place.

Christ offers protection. Christ offers life. He offers a peaceful transition to the next season, just as that safe harbor did, if they would have stayed there. That is what I want you all to be ready for. There is going to be a changing of the seasons, figuratively speaking. I think you understand what I mean. You need to be ready for it. You need to be prepared for it with peace. The only way to do that is through giving your heart to God, having your soul ready, and receiving eternal life.

Oh, to be anchored and resting in Christ! That final storm of destruction is going to come, but oh! the peace of being anchored in Christ. There are no regrets. You don't have to have regrets. You can serve Christ. You don't have to go through eternity with regrets. You can live for Christ. You can get rid of the sin that is keeping you from eternal life. Let go of it! Don't pull it closer, like so many are doing. Turn it all over to God, be washed, be made pure and whole by the blood of Christ.

There's a song which says—
*I've anchor'd my soul in the Haven of Rest,
I'll sail the wide seas no more;
The tempest may sweep o'er the wild, stormy deep,
In Jesus I'm safe evermore.*

Jesus Christ is the Anchor for the soul. He will keep you centered and grounded. He will give you help in the trial when you need it. There is grace, comfort, and peace there. There is resolution to the problems. That is one of the best things about being a Christian. When you have issues, something you may need help on, and you may think there is nothing that can be done, Christ

is there. With Christ, all things are possible. You have an avenue through God for the things that can be accomplished. It is wonderful to serve God.

Let me read Psalm 107:23-32: "They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; These see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep. For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof. They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble. They reel to and fro [They can't support themselves. The storms are tossing you.], and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end. [Oh, how many people are at their wits end because of sin! But listen to this:] Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven. Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders."

What will you do with the gospel message? What will you do with it? Will you heed to the materialistic side of life, or will you turn to Christ, the Anchor for your soul?

Let me read again what Paul said: "Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives" (Acts 27:10). That is the message to you, the unsaved. I perceive that your voyage, if uncorrected, will result in much hurt and damage. It will ultimately cost you all that you have, even your very life. It doesn't need to be that way.

Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." You need a restful Haven. You need a place to anchor your soul. I ask you again, What will you do with the gospel message? †

MISSIONARY PAGE

2017 JAMAICA YOUTH REVIVAL

July 25-July 30

(compiled by Sis Talia Shaw)

Theme: "The Sweetest Story Ever Heard—Jesus."
Scripture text: Matthew 1:21.

Tuesday: Service began at 7:15 P.M. Speaker: Bro. David Shaw spoke on the theme. Excerpts: "When Christ came into this world, it wasn't just to forgive sin. He brought healing and life. It's a wonderful thing to have Jesus. 'Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest' (Matthew 11:28). With Jesus, there is complete happiness."

Wednesday: Morning prayer meeting was led by Sis. Shera Campbell. Text: John 3:16. She spoke on the thought of "Love."

10:00 A.M.—This service was filled with praise and worship and exhortations, along with testimonies.

2:30 P.M.—A presentation on public speaking was presented by Sis. Susan Darby-Ellis. Included was, "Strategies for Overcoming Public Speaking."

7:15 P.M.—Speaker: Bro. Hezekiah Lamey. Title: "Look Up, Redemption Draweth Nigh." Text: II Timothy 3; I Timothy 4:1. Excerpts: "The end of time shall come. The world will not get any better. God revealed in His Word through the apostles that perilous times would come. Whether or not you are tired of hearing about the judgment, or whether or not you believe it, it is true. People are turning away from God, but we are urged to press the battle on. The Church of God can never lose. It's time to settle and get grounded in God's Word."

Thursday: Morning prayer meeting was led by Bro. R. Wilson. Thoughts were centered on "The Family." Text: Ruth 1:16. Prayers followed.

10:00 A.M.—This service consisted of a choral speech, a praise session, and songs.

2:30 P.M.—Service: Group Interactions coordinated by Sis. Norda Wilson. Devotions were held. Activity: Three groups were formed to read, discuss, and make presentations based on the topic: "Are You a Soul Much Discouraged Because of the Way?" (This was adapted from an article in *The Way of Truth* paper.) The members were provided with scriptures that related to the topics which were to be incorporated in the discussions and presentations.

7:15 P.M.—Speaker: Bro. Franklyn Bascoe spoke on the theme. Text: John 3:1-7. Excerpts: "The story of Jesus has success and virtue in it. The story of Jesus is good news to us. He is our Savior. We cannot separate the Savior from salvation. Sin has blinded the eyes of people, so they look at the life of salvation as sadness. Salvation is available by the presence of Jesus. The life of Jesus was not a tragedy; it was the plan of God. The death of Jesus for the life of men is a story worth telling. In order to tell this story, we need an experience.

Friday: Morning prayer meeting was led by Bro. Orville Bascoe. Thoughts were directed toward the youth. Before prayer, he exhorted on determination, which is the key. Once we've started as a Christian, we must not stop but keep going. Text: Hebrews 12. Prayers followed.

10:00 A.M.—Praise and Worship in Songs.

2:30 P.M.—Presenter: "Parenting Styles" by Sis. O. Shaw-Allen. The following was brought to our attention: Parents should regulate their emotions; discipline is not to vent, but to correct the child's behavior; communicate with children so they know why they are being punished; do not isolate your child, for the way you treat your child can affect him or her further on; when upset and frustrated, calm yourself, and then react.

Demonstrations were done on the presented parenting styles.

Authoritarian and uninvolved parenting styles result in children suffering from depression, low self-worth, suicidal thoughts, communication/socialization problems, and may perform poorly in school, adult life, in relationships, and in performing their jobs. Love needs to be shown to your child. Basic and essential needs should be met. Parents should work together and agree on parenting styles.

INDESTRUCTIBILITY OF THE CHURCH

By the late H. M. Riggle

UPON THE erroneous supposition that the church which Christ built [is building] was entirely destroyed, Mormonism has built her house. Her adherents maintain that the apostasy destroyed the church, that hence it became necessary for man to build another, and that under divine inspiration Joseph Smith reestablished the church of God upon earth. Now, if we can prove that the church of God has never been destroyed, but that it exists today, we shall establish the fact that all the Mormon sects are but frauds imposed upon the people.

In Daniel 2:44 the New Testament church was prophesied of as a kingdom set up by the God of heaven, a kingdom which should never be destroyed, but should stand forever. This accords with the language of Jesus in Matthew 16:18: "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." These solemn declarations of heaven's truth are sufficient to establish the fact that the church which Christ built will stand forever. If the gates of hell cannot prevail against it, it is indestructible and exists today.

Yes, dear reader, that divine temple stands just as solid and firm as in days of yore. Though it has witnessed bloody scenes of martyrdom and has for centuries been largely hidden from human view by the ecclesiastical rubbish of men, yet it has never been destroyed—never. Earthly kingdoms and governments have passed away; great and mighty changes have been wrought in the earth; but the church of God has stood unshaken; and now, as the burning truth of God consumes the piles of ecclesiastical rubbish, and the glorious light of the evening time dispels the mists and fogs of the dark and cloudy days, she appears again in her wondrous beauty and pristine glory. So shall she stand while the cycles of eternity roll.

Let us briefly view the elements that compose the church. Christ is its head (Colossians 1:18), foundation (I Corinthians 3:11), door (John 10:7, 9), and governor (Isaiah 9:6, 7). Its walls are salvation (Isaiah 26:1); its law is the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2); its bond of union is the love of God (Colossians 2:2); its membership consists of the saved of all nations. Now, to destroy the church would be to destroy its foundation, which the apostle Paul declares "standeth sure"; its head, which is alive forevermore; its door, which no man can shut; its law, which endureth forever; its walls, salvation; and all the people of God, who compose it. Since, however, there never has been a time when God did not have a people, and since all the above named elements are eternal, the church of God is indestructible. Its walls of salvation no man can batter down.

Only one phase of the church went into apostasy, the people, and not all of them; for three million, rather than bow down and acknowledge the ungodly doctrine of popery, sealed their testimony with their own blood. The foundation, head, door, government, unity, purity,

7:15 P.M.—Speaker: Sis. Dorrett Clarke. Title: "Even Now, I Know." Text: John 11:19-22, 26. Excerpts: "There are people who are in hopeless situations, circumstances that seem to appear as if there is no return. But even now, there is hope. With the power of the blood of Jesus, all becomes possible. Out of the darkness, God created light. He spoke things into being, but created man special. God breathed into man. God can breathe into sinners and make them live again."

Saturday: Morning prayer meeting was led by Sis. Kerrona Ellis.

10:00 A.M.—Bro. Adrian Shaw conducted with a few songs and prayers before we dismissed to go out on street evangelism.

2:30 P.M.—Activity: Gospel songs to each letter of the alphabet; Scriptures from the books of the Bible to explain and connect to our spiritual lives; Discussion held on "Life Being an Echo." What you put out you receive, and whatever you see in others can reflect what's inside you.

7:15 P.M.—Speaker: Bro. Donovan Barnaby. Title: "Come Now, and Let Us Reason Together." Text: Isaiah 1:16-20. Excerpts: "Everyone can reason based on the subject of the Word of God. God invites man to reason with Him on the issue of sin. Sin broke the relationship between God and man, hence the communion was demolished. God, therefore, made a plan to provide man with an opportunity to be clean again. If God gets the chance to come into your heart, He will save you."

Sunday: Sunday school began at 10:00 A.M. Bro. Orlan Malcolm was in charge of the preliminaries. Bro. Franklyn Bascoe taught the lesson.

Worship Service followed with a few speakers.

First: Bro. B. Bascoe. Title: "Jesus Is My Friend." Texts: Revelation 1:18; II Chronicles 20:6-12, 15. Excerpts: "Salvation is a wonderful thing. Being able to communicate with God is a wonderful thing. We as saints have a Friend to help us with our burdens, no matter what time of day. There is nothing impossible for Him. God is in control of everything."

Second: Sis Sheray Campbell. Title: "Assurance in Jesus." Text: Psalm 121. Excerpts: "With Jesus, there is full assurance. There are no catch phrases when it comes to being secured by Jesus. God's assurance can never end. When you are covered with the blood, God's power is able to keep and protect you."

Third: Bro. Orville Bascoe. Text: Ephesians 6:10-13; 16. Excerpts: "It is truly a blessing to serve God. It is important to stand. It's going to take some determination. There is no way to enter heaven by just relaxing. Only our best is good enough for God."

5:30 P.M.—Speaker: Bro. P. Ramsay spoke on the theme. Text: Matthew 1:21. Excerpts: "Jesus was compassionate as He walked on this earth. What is your infirmity? What is causing you to be uneasy on this earth? The Master is able to loose people from their distresses. Through all of Jesus' distresses, He continued to do good. Jesus had peace, and in Him only is peace. The story of Jesus might seem old, but it is relevant for our time. Man needs to seek peace in Christ. How is it with your soul? Have you any hope within? There is a life-giver, Christ Jesus." †

etc., of the church never went into apostasy; and in these last days when we come out of the apostasy we simply return to these primitive elements again. We come to the same Zion that Christ established in the beginning.

The church of God is a spiritual institution. “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, and holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ” (I Peter 2:5). Its door of admission is a spiritual door. Jesus says, “I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved” (John 10:9). “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body” (I Corinthians 12:13). Its foundation is spiritual. “For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (I Corinthians 3:11). “That spiritual Rock that followed them [the children of Israel in the wilderness]: and that Rock was Christ” (I Corinthians 10:4).

Thus we cover every specification of the New Testament church and find it holy, divine, spiritual, and eternal; therefore it is utterly impossible for men to build an organization like it, for they cannot manufacture spiritual things. This church is the finest organization the world has ever seen. It is truly worthy of God Himself. It is His temple, in which He dwells; therefore there is nothing so august as the church, seeing it is the temple of God; nothing so worthy of reference, seeing God dwells in it; and nothing so solid, since Jesus is its foundation, and it is declared to be the pillar and ground of the truth. There is nothing so closely united and indivisible, since all hearts are knit together by the perfect love of God; nothing more lofty, since it reaches higher than heaven; nothing so regular and well-proportioned, since Christ and the Holy Spirit are the architects; nothing so beautiful, since it is ornamented with Christ’s holiness; nothing so brilliant, since Christ is its light; nothing so strong, since Christ is its walls and bulwarks. There is no institution so spacious since it is spread over the whole world and takes in all that have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb; no institution so spiritual, since all its members are living stones, animated by the Holy Spirit; no institution so lasting, since it is destined to stand forever. In it the poor, the wretched, and the distressed of every nation find shelter. It is the place where God does His marvelous works, for there He is to be sought and found and worshiped. Such is the church of the New Testament. She is a strong tower, into which we have run and are safe. †

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Radio Log

The Way of Truth Broadcast

Alvin A. Craig, Radio Minister

Check the following listing to find a station near you that airs the truth and then tune in!

(Aired on Sundays unless otherwise noted.)

Alabama, Mobile, WIJD 1270, AM & 97.9 FM 6:00 A.M.
5,000 Watts—Heard in part of AL, and MS

October 2017

Arkansas, No. Little Rock, KMTL 760, 10:30 A.M.

10,000 Watts—Heard in part of AR, MO, TN, MS and LA
Listen live—Go to www.kmtl760am.com

Georgia, Augusta, WFAM 1050, 8:00 P.M. Wednesday & 11:30 A.M. Sun.
5,000 Watts—Heard in part of GA and SC

Illinois, Carmi, WROY 1460, 9:00 A.M.

1,000 Watts—Heard in part of IL and IN

Kentucky, Prestonsburg, WDOC 1310, 7:30 A.M.

5,000 Watts—Heard in part of KY, WV and VA

Louisiana, Ball, KWDF 840 & 99.7 FM, 9:00 A.M.

10,000 Watts—Heard in part of TX, AR, MS and LA

North Carolina, Mooresville, WHIP 1350, 6:30 A.M. Sat.

1,000 Watts—Heard in part of NC
Listen live—tunein.com/radio/whip-1350-s29320/

Oklahoma, Marlow, KFXX-FM 92.1, 7:00 A.M.

100,000 Watts—Heard in part of OK and TX
Listen live—Go to www.kfxx.com

Oklahoma, Sulphur, KIXO-FM 106.1, 8:30 A.M.

2,650 Watts—Heard in part of OK

Pennsylvania, Altoona, WFBG 1290, 9:00 A.M.

5,000 Watts—Heard in part of PA and MD

Pennsylvania, Martinsburg, WJSM 1110, 11:03 A.M.

1,000 Watts—Heard in part of PA *Listen live—Go to www.wjsm.com*

Pennsylvania, Martinsburg, WJSM-FM 92.7, 11:03 A.M. & 7:30 P.M.

1,460 Watts—Heard in part of PA *Listen live—Go to www.wjsm.com*

Tennessee, Chattanooga, WLMR 1450, 3:00 P.M.

1,000 Watts—Heard in part of TN, GA and AL

Tennessee, Chattanooga, WLMR-FM 103.3, 3:00 P.M.

Heard in part of TN, GA and AL

Virginia, Narrows, WZFM-FM 101.3, 8:00 A.M.

3,000 Watts—Heard in part of VA

Virginia, Lynchburg, WKPA 1390, 1:30 P.M. Fri., 5:30 P.M. Sat. & 6:00 A.M. Sun.

4,700 Watts—Heard in part of VA

Virginia, Lynchburg, WKPA-FM 106.7, 1:30 P.M. Fri., 5:30 P.M. Sat. & 6:00 A.M. Sun.

250 Watts—Heard in part of VA

Virginia, Roanoke, WKBA 1550, 1:30 P.M. Fri., 5:30 P.M. Sat. & 6:00 A.M. Sun.

10,000 Watts—Heard in part of VA and WV
Listen live—Go to www.wkbaradio.com

Virginia, Smithfield, WKGM 940, 6:30 A.M.

10,000 Watts—Heard in part of VA and NC

West Virginia, Summersville, WCWV 92.9, 8:30 A.M.

50,000 Watts—Heard in part of VA and WV

INTERNATIONAL

PHILIPPINES, Malaybalay, Valencia, Bukidnon, Mindanao

DXWS-105.3 FM, Saturdays at 1:30 P.M. & Sundays at 2:30 P.M.

PHILIPPINES, Baguio, Luzon, DZBS-1368 AM, Saturday 7:30 A.M.

Heard throughout central Luzon

JAMAICA, MELLO-FM, 88.1, 88.3, 88.5, 7:00 A.M. Sundays

Heard throughout Jamaica; *Listen live—Go to www.mellofmjamaica.com*

SHORTWAVE

WWCR, Nashville, Tennessee 4.840 on SW band

Sunday, 7:30 A.M. Eastern Time—12:30 G.M.T.

Listen live—Go to www.wwcr.com

WINB, Red Lion, Pennsylvania 9.320 on SW band

Friday, 9:30 P.M. Eastern Time, Saturday, 9:30 P.M. Eastern Time—2:30 G.M.T.

Listen live—Go to www.winb.com

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The Way of Truth
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**THE CHURCH OF GOD
 STANDS FOR**

An eternal God	Psalm 90:2
A divine Christ	John 1:1, 14
An infallibly inspired Bible	II Timothy 3:16
Salvation from sin	Matthew 1:21
The new birth	John 3:1-7
Entire Sanctification	Ephesians 5:25, 26
A holy life	Titus 2:11, 12
	Hebrews 12:10-14
Unity of God's people	John 17:21
	I Corinthians 12:13
Divine Healing	James 5:14, 15
The ordinances	Matthew 28:19, 20
Eternal life	Matthew 25:46
	John 3:15; 6:54; 10:28
Eternal punishment	Mark 9:43-46
	Revelation 20:15

**YOU SHOULD KNOW MORE
 ABOUT THE CHURCH OF GOD,
 THE CHURCH OF THE NEW TESTAMENT**

Jesus bought it with His own blood	Acts 20:28
It has a good foundation	Ephesians 2:20
	I Corinthians 3:11
Christ is the Head	Ephesians 1:22; 5:23
	Isaiah 9:6
Christ is the Door	John 10:9
	John 10:1
	Acts 2:47
Only the saved are members	John 15:2-6
	I John 3:8, 9
Membership is offered to all	II Peter 3:9
	Revelation 22:17
Membership is rewarded	John 14:2, 3

COMING MEETINGS

2017 CAYMAN CONVENTION

83A Walkers Rd.

George Town, Grand Cayman

November 21-26, 2017, Lord willing

Bro. James Arch, Host Pastor



2017 PHILIPPINE CONVENTION

Lacayanga Subdivision

Paniqui, Tarlac, Philippines

December 26-30, 2017, Lord willing

Bro. Rey Fabian, Host Pastor



2018 JAMAICA CONVENTION

Lapland, Catadupa, St. James

February 13-18, 2018, Lord willing

Bro. Hezekiah Lamey, Host Pastor



Revival Services

Jonesville, Louisiana

October 3-8, 2017, Lord willing

Bro. Harley McClung, Evangelist

Bro. M. H. Trisler, Jr., Pastor



Essex, Maryland

October 4-8, 2017, Lord willing

Bro. Doug Shenberger, Evangelist

Bro. Doug Koerner, Pastor



Salem, St. Ann, Jamaica

October 24-29, 2017, Lord willing

Bro. Harley McClung, Evangelist

Sis. Dorrett Clarke, Acting Pastor