SAVED FROM SIN

(FROM THE INSPIRED SERMONS OF ALONZO F. KILGORE)



Volume III

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ALONZO F. KILGORE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – ALONZO F. KILGORE

Alonzo Freeman Kilgore was born on November 29, 1941 in Badin North Carolina. He was the second of three children born to Harold and Tommie Kilgore. Young Alonzo and his family moved to Baltimore Maryland in 1942. Alonzo received a grade school education in the Baltimore County Public Schools. Through the earnest efforts of his parents, Alonzo's educational training continued at the University of Maryland, where he received a degree in Education. In September 1966, Alonzo became employed as an elementary school teacher with the Baltimore City Public School system.

In 1971, Alonzo had a vision. In this vision, he saw a bright light, and heard a voice speaking to him, telling him to go and help someone. Not understanding the meaning of the vision, Alonzo was troubled. Alonzo often spoke to his wife concerning the vision and indicated to her that he believed he would be required to help people in the future.

In November 1976, Alonzo's wife, Annette, who had received Christ into her life some three years prior, began to notice a change in her husband's way of living. She noticed that he began to separate himself from his well-loved social crowd. He began to withdraw from other worldly habits, such as using profanity, gambling, and liquor drinking.

In about January 1977, Alonzo began to attend church services with his family. He also took an interest in reading the Bible and other religious literature. In March 1977, a miraculous change occurred in the life of Alonzo Kilgore. His dear wife relates to us the event of his spiritual conversion:

"It happened on a Thursday, the tenth day of March 1977, at about 10:45 p.m. Alonzo was watching one of Billy Graham's revival service programs on television. The sermon topic was "Is Your Name Written on the Lamb's Book of Life?" After listening to this sermon, Alonzo realized that in order for his name to be written on the Lamb's Book of Life, he would have to receive Jesus Christ into his life, and be saved from sin. When the call was made for people to come to Jesus Christ to be saved, Sporty, as Alonzo was called at the time, immediately jumped up from the bed where we were sitting, he went to the television and with outstretched arms accepted the Lord Jesus Christ into his heart. I immediately received the witness in my heart that God had saved my husband and filled him with the Holy Spirit. God had truly performed a miracle right before my eyes. From that night to

this day, Alonzo Kilgore has been a changed man. His entire family can witness to the fact that he has truly been born again"

On March 14, 1977, Alonzo Kilgore became a member of the church where his wife and children were members. In July 1977, Alonzo Kilgore was called by God into the ministry. He now understands that the light which he saw, and the voice which he heard in his vision of 1970 was the Lord telling him that one day he would be called to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, so that others could receive spiritual help and be saved from their sins. In February 1980, Elder Alonzo Kilgore was led by God to resign his job of fourteen years with the Baltimore City Public System, that he might give himself and his time totally to the ministry of the word of God.

Elder Alonzo Kilgore has proven to be a true minister and servant sent by God. The scripture teaches in Romans chapter 10, verse 15, "And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

MORE ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Elder Kilgore has shared copies of Volumes I, and II of his book "Saved from Sin" with President, Barack Obama, from whom he received a favorable response. Elder Kilgore teaches that a prophet or religious leader sent by God should be a peacemaker between God, the government, and the community. He expounds upon this topic as follows. "A true religious leader will not be a seditious leader to disrupt the governmental system of society, but if the leaders of the land, political or religious, lead the people contrary to what God requires, God will then send a prophet to warn them of the way that they are going, showing them that they are going wrong. It will be left up to the people and government leaders to turn from their course according to the warnings from God. God will not send another group to overthrow the government using rebellion and sedition; such are sinful acts (Galatians 5:20). Jesus did not do so; neither would God send a prophet today to disrespect the President or the government.

Our Constitution was given by God to our forefathers. Included within our Constitution is the freedom of religion. This gives the nation the right to reject or to accept the teachings of Jesus. God will not take from us our free will of choice. If we reject Jesus Christ, such as establishing laws to separate church from state, and taking prayer out of the schools, God will not send another government to set up a revolutionary style of rebellion against the existing government; such would be the works of Satan. All who reject the teachings of Jesus Christ will be judged in the next life. Since the coming of Christ, a righteous man or prophet of God has never led a group in a nation to rebel against the existing government. Christ is our example. Jesus' disciples thought that Jesus had come to establish an army to overthrow Rome and the hypocritical Jewish leaders. However, Jesus allowed them to crucify him before he attempted to do such rebellious acts.

When a religious or political leader is rebellious against the existing government of his nation, such are wicked leaders. It is the job of a religious leader to help keep order in society, and to encourage the people to help support government. A religious leader sent by God would never condone civil riots or insurrections. A godly leader would work to keep peace in society and in communities. The godly religious leader would try to establish peace between God, the government, and the people of the nation. If government becomes unfair or corrupt, then as a Christian nation, we have the privilege to go to the polls and vote against the existing government, and to vote in a new government. To be part of civil and community disorder is devilish and the works of Satan. We have the right to vote and to demonstrate against anything that we believe is unfair or corrupt in society. If we have a president, such as our current president, who is working hard, trying to improve the conditions of the nation, we should get behind him with prayer and letters of encouragement.

For a religious leader to lead his people to be part of acts contrary to our governmental system that lead to rebellion and revolutions to overthrow government, is sinful, and God is against such. In our church, we keep the American flag on display because we believe that our nation was established by God. We love and support our president as long as he does not do anything contrary to the constitution of heaven. If our president or any other government official makes laws that are against the law of heaven, we will simply try to warn them that it is wrong. If the government, however, does not respond positively, we will not be rebellious against our government or president. We will continue to love and support our government, country, and president in the things that they are doing right. I personally think that our government and president are doing many things that are right today, though, I think they would do better if they put prayer back in our schools and government.

I am a veteran of a foreign war, along with most of the brothers in our church, and we believe that Christians should serve in the military, as I teach in my church. My step- son and son-in-law are state policemen and I think that it is an excellent service to render to society. We have a wonderful nation to live in; it is a blessing to be born in the United States of America. I considered it a blessed privilege to serve in the military as a soldier in a foreign war.

We as a nation must work hard to get closer to God, and to allow God to help us with our governmental operations and national decisions; this would make life so much easier for us."

A SAVED WIFE OR HELP MEET IS INDEED A BLESSING:

Additionally, Elder Kilgore has learned and observed through divinely given experiences that the value of a good woman or wife is beyond measure, especially if she is a godly woman. He reflects upon the positive impact that a saved or godly wife, such as his wife Mrs. Annette Kilgore, can have in a man's life. He expounds on this in a previous sermon as follows:

"One of the greatest blessings that a man can receive from God is a truly saved wife to help him. God was wise enough to know what would hinder man; therefore, God freely gave him a wife or help meet, and admonished him to use and enjoy his wife. God initially made man one flesh, male, and female. When man got lonely, God separated the woman from the body of the man to be his companion. Today I thank God for the gift of a woman who has been a blessing to me. Any spiritually minded, sensible man can see how a godly woman can be a blessing to him. An unsaved woman can be a continuous hellish nightmare for a saved man. Such a man should pray that God would save his wife. Nothing else in the creation can be a comfort and a consolation to help a man like a godly woman.

One of the devil's main purposes today is to break up a marriage or cause a man and woman to get a divorce. The devil loves to undo what God has done. God brought man and woman together by the institution of marriage. The devil separates them by the institution of divorce. The devil mostly destroys marriages by means of adultery, which God strongly forbids. You can always tell when the devil is at work because he works directly contrary to what God establishes. The devil hates to see a happy marriage and family, and when he finds one, he starts working on them until he gets one spouse to break from the bonds of happiness in the marriage and causes such a spouse to break up the peace in the household. Satan doesn't use the forbidden fruit as he did on Adam and Eve, but he uses deceit to fool the weaker person in a marriage. In most every area of a man's business or dealings, a good woman can enter to be of some adequate assistance to the man. The help that the woman first began to give man was broadened after Adam and Eve were banished from the Garden of Eden. Such spirit of assistance has been greatly extended in this present day now that women have been given more rights to exercise their abilities and intelligence. In times past, it was thought that a woman could help only in the home, but in many instances in days of old and well as today, the solemn advice of the devoted wife when accepted, was a great factor in delivering the husband or home from some annoying problem.

If you go to a home where a man lives, you can tell by looking around if he has a woman. A woman's touch is different from a man's touch and it becomes immediately noticeable. Nevertheless, there is a difference in the nature of a man and a woman. Though man was made first, and is the original mother of the woman, God nevertheless brought the woman into existence in this manner because he wanted the woman to have the nature and spirit to be subject to the man. He wanted the man to recognize his responsibility to rule over her. The woman in the proper spirit should always have a feeling of respect for the man as a child for the mother. Today if a woman loses respect for a godly man, her children will lose respect for her as a mother. The fact that the woman was made a help meet for the man signifies that she would be associated to him as an assistant, and he would be her supervisor. God gave the man the law, and the man gave it to the woman.

God gave the man the power to rule and have dominion over the creation. As help meet of the man, the woman was to give whatever assistance the man might need from time to time. The woman was not given any specific work to do by God, as far as the affairs of the world were concerned. She was not told to name the animals or attend the garden by dressing and keeping it. God simply said, "I will make him an help meet for him" (Genesis 2:18). Whatever was necessary for the man to do, he had to do it, and the woman had to help him.

A woman helps to develop sensitivity, affections, and humility in a man. Without a woman, a man would be tough, mechanical, and cold. Because of a woman's role in a man's life, he is thoughtful, sentimental, and considerate towards someone other than himself. A woman teaches a man to have sense enough to know that he needs somebody other than himself. A godly woman can help a man to understand that she is compatible to help and to accommodate his desires. Such a woman is a priceless gem and a wise man will perceive such a valuable woman. Many things about life would never have been revealed or understood had it not been for a woman. Life consists of beauty and sweetness that only a godly woman can bring out. Regardless of what a man's nature is, when a woman enters his life, there is a change for the better, and those who have dealings with him will be able to see the improvement in his life.

Though a godly woman can be a great asset to a man, it is also true that a devilish woman can be a severe hindrance to a man if he gives heed to her. Job would be in hell today had he listened to his wife during his time of hard testing. Eve's unfortunate persuasion over Adam was instrumental in causing the downfall of Adam. However, for the most part, a woman can be of great assistance and benefit to a man if she obeys God, and seeks to please God as the word of God instructs her to do."

Elder Alonzo Kilgore is currently Pastor of The Church of God, Gospel of Peace Association, located at 33 Gopa Haven Drive in Brevard, North Carolina. The members of his congregation daily thank God for sending them such a pastor. Both Elder Kilgore and his wife, Annette Kilgore are dedicated to helping and serving others and ministering the word of God, that others may receive the light of Christ and be "saved from sin".

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Foreword

In Volumes I, and II of Saved from Sin, Elder Kilgore taught that in order to experience true salvation (deliverance from sin) an individual has to be born again of the Spirit of God. Being born again or the new birth in Christ Jesus is a process, or set of procedures, which one must experience and not merely say verbally.

In Volume III, Elder Kilgore continues to instruct, and guide us along the path of true salvation. In each chapter, he expounds upon and points out the things that an individual must take on, put off, or adjust to, that pertain to a godly lifestyle and conduct in order to acquire true salvation. In order to be saved, a person's life and experiences must be in according to and in harmony with the scriptures or the gospel of Jesus Christ (Original King James Version of the Bible).

It is hoped that as you read in this volume, you will be enlightened and encouraged to seek eternal life in Jesus Christ, and thereby escape eternal damnation.

INTRODUCTION

The Mystery Of The Gospel:

It is my intent and purpose to bring you knowledge from God which you most likely do not have. I am a teacher of the gospel sent from God to give you an understanding of how to follow the plan of salvation in these last days. In each generation that God desires to save a people, he will send a religious leader to make known to the people a plan by which they can be saved.

The knowledge that I am teaching was not taught to me in some religious seminary, college, or university. My gospel is a revelation of the word of God, given to me by the Holy Spirit. I am less than the least of any preacher that you might know. However, the grace of God was given to me that I should preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to an unsaved and dying world. In so doing, those who desire to be saved might see what is the fellowship of the mystery of salvation, that God has hid from the world, but in these last days has revealed to us in Christ all things pertaining to salvation.

<u>Ambassadors Of Heaven</u>

The minister of God is an ambassador of the kingdom of heaven. Such a minister of God is recruited from the earth, and is taught to preach and teach according to revelations given from God by means of the Holy Spirit.

The minister of God teaches primarily of concerns that the kingdom of heaven would have for the well-being of people on the earth. The minister of God brings heavenly information to the earth. Heavenly information is different from earthly information, whereas the main concern is that people of the earth learn what is required to escape the dangers of their earthly habitation. Earthly people live under perilous conditions that are not always visible or made known to them by an earthly means.

God in his mercy sends information to the people of earth by means of his ambassadors to alert the people of the earth to dangers of the times that they are presently living. You are blessed when you receive information from God by means of an ambassador of heaven.

The Bible, A Dictionary And Good Common Sense:

In most homes in America you will find the Original King James Version of the Bible and a dictionary. On the front cover of your Bible you will see the words "Holy Bible". If you look up the meaning of the word "holy" in your dictionary, you will find that it means to be "free from sin" (Romans 6:22).

The Bible is a book given to the world by God with instructions in it for men and women about how to live free from sin. The word holy does not mean to live in sin, but free from sin. When you are free from sin, your life is above sinful practices, such as adultery, fornication, lying, stealing, drunkenness, envy, strife, malice, hatred, emulation, idolatry, homosexuality, covetousness, witchcraft, heresies, seditions, wrath, revellings, and any unclean habits, such as smoking and the use of illegal drugs.

If God does not require that we be holy, he would have given us a Bible named unholy, teaching us how to be unholy. Further information on what sins are can be found in the following scriptures: St. Mark 7:21-22; Romans 1:29-31; I Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21 and Revelations 21:8. It is recommended that you use the Original King James Version of the Bible.

Sin Is A Transgression Of The Law Of God:

When you disobey the word of God, you will have transgressed or violated his law. You are then under condemnation of the government of heaven. When you live above sin, you live above the law of God and man. This means when you do not commit sin, you have violated no law, under these conditions no laws have any affect on you (I Timothy 1:8-10).

When you don't violate the law, you are a righteous person and the laws are not made for a righteous person, but for the unrighteous person. These principles are very important because in the judgment of the last days, the law is what God is going to use to judge the unsaved.

While you are saved and living in this present world, God will allow you to use the knowledge of his word or law to judge yourself, so that you will not be judged by his law with the unsaved in the judgment of the last days (I Corinthians 11:31-32). This means to correct yourself.

When you live above the law, you are not under the law, but under grace (Romans 6:13-15). The law is righteous and holy, thus when you live above the condemnation of the law, you would have become righteous and holy. We are not making reference to just the law of God; for an example, the laws of New York,

which forbid you to walk the street drunk, also forbid you to steal, commit perjury and adultery or fornication. So then, if you live according to the laws of New York, you would be a righteous person.

The problem is that the laws are weak because they have to be enforced by man. The law is weak when it has to be enforced by carnal men, because oftentimes, carnal men are guilty themselves of the very offenses that they have to punish others for committing. This causes people to lose confidence in the law and those who are supposed to enforce it. The law should be executed only by the righteous person who lives above the law, and then people would have respect for the law.

Now some churches don't mind you being a member when you get drunk, commit adultery, fornication, gamble, lie, steal and are a crooked politician. Some churches don't mind the members living continuously in adultery and fornication, but the laws of many states are against such transgressions. So then, the laws of some states are more righteous than the laws of some churches.

If you live in a state where the laws are more righteous than your church laws are, you should send your tithes and offerings to the state and obey their laws rather than the laws of your church. This is because you would have a better chance to be saved being faithful to the laws of your state than the laws of your church.

To be under grace means to be saved from the condemnation of the laws. You can only be under grace when you have been born again. When you are born again, you are born of the Spirit of God or filled with the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:1-3). This means you are not living in the flesh. To live in the flesh is to be condemned under the law.

When you are born of the Spirit of God, you live by the power of God, and not after the weakness of the flesh. You are then cleared from the law that condemns your old fleshly nature by the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, which has made you free from the law of sin and death.

We Are Not Responsible for Our Birth In Sin:

Angels are created spiritual beings that were created with the ability to be righteous. Such spiritual beings were created by God (Genesis 1:16). Humans were conceived in sin and shapen with the nature of iniquity to be unrighteous; their conceptions were initiated by Satan (Psalm 51:5).

The angels that rebelled against God and became devils did so by their own choice. Humans had no privilege to choose to be righteous or unrighteous during

their conception. Therefore, God in his merciful way arranged a plan for humans to be born again, if they desire to make a choice to be righteous beings, such as the holy angels who reside in heaven.

Though humans are born in sin, they are not born under condemnation until they are old enough to know right from wrong, and decide to live a sinful life (Revelation 20:12). Initially, all human beings are born with their names on the book of life. When humans are old enough to know right from wrong and they decide to do wrong, their names are taken off of the book of life and placed into the book of the condemned. A record of all their sinful practices will be kept against them (Daniel 12:1, St. Luke 1:17).

It is for this purpose that God sent Jesus to present a plan to humans whereas if they accept the teachings of Jesus Christ, they can be born again and have their names placed back on the book of life (Colossians 2:13-14).

<u>Angels (Ministering Spirits):</u>

God created two kinds of beings; they are angels and humans. Angels were created to live in heaven. Heaven is a habitation of eternal or timeless existence. Humans were created to live on the earth. After Adam sinned, he was demoted to a lower level of existence controlled by time. We as humans live in time on a trial status to decide whether or not we would like to live in eternity with God. This decision can be made through the process of repentance. When we repent of our sins with a sincere heart, God will give us the new birth. The new birth will qualify us to receive a new mind that will enable us to later live in an eternal body like angels possess. Such a body will be designed by God to allow us to live in an eternal environment as angels in heaven are presently living in.

Today angels can transfer themselves from a heavenly environment quicker than time can measure, to assist humans who are trying to obey God. Without the assistance of angels and the Holy Spirit, it would be impossible for born again humans on earth to obey God.

<u>A Hypocrite's Hope Shall Perish:</u>

When God speaks to a hypocrite, salvation is not offered to a hypocrite. God does not extend an invitation for a hypocrite to be saved (St. Matthew 9:13). God does not present himself to a hypocrite as he does to a sinner. A hypocrite is a religious person who has acquired what he or she thinks is salvation in a deceitful way, which they are satisfied with.

A hypocrite takes pleasure in being a religious fool. Such a religious practical is content with following erroneous religious principles that do not offer salvation. Hypocrites think that retaining sinful practices and going to church exercising religious rituals are acceptable for salvation.

Jesus encountered different people who were unsaved while ministering during his time; he had a solution for each of their spiritual problems, with the exception of a hypocrite. When Jesus met Nicodemus (St. John 3:5) he taught him that it was necessary to be born again. When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well (St. John 4:13) he offered her living water. However, when he met the Scribes and Pharisees, who were practicing hypocritical ways of worshipping God, he offered them no procedure by which to be saved. He simply condemned their religious practices (St. Matthew 23:13).

Are You Looking For Jesus?

If you are looking for salvation in Jesus Christ among some of the more prominent secular churches of our society, you might be looking in the wrong places. God usually develops a pattern in the way that he does things for mankind, so that we can identify his works.

During Jesus' day, when he was being introduced to the world, the more prominent and popular secular religious organizations were the scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, Zealots, Herodians and the Essenes. When God made arrangements to have the first religious service to honor Jesus' appearing, none of the above prominent religious sects were invited (St. Luke 2:8-20). God sent an invitation to shepherds who were watching over their flock by night. Shepherds at that time were among the lowest social groups of people in that environment. They were among the least educated and had very little recognition among the people of that day. So God chose this social group to send Jesus among. God allowed Jesus to be born in a stable, which was the work place for shepherds. This was done by God that it might be an example to us of the kind of people that Jesus will be looking for during his second appearance.

Beware of your religious environment and associates if they consist of prominent, higher class personnel, produced by the educational secular institutions of our day.

The Carnal Mind:

After Adam sinned all humans were born with the carnal mind. The carnal mind was a curse that was passed down to every generation of human's for the sin of the first man. The carnal mind is a mind to be disobedient to God's commandments. The nature of a person who possesses the carnal mind has desires to get pleasures from sinful practices. Humans cannot help from being overwhelmed with a desire to please the carnal mind.

Jesus is the only remedy for a person who possesses the carnal mind. Unless Jesus saves a person from the desires to please the carnal mind, such a person will experience the second death, which is eternal torment and permanent separation from God in the next life (Revelation 20:10-14). Indications of a person possessing the carnal mind are that they will have no ability or desire to please God (Romans 8:6). Such a person will live after the desires to satisfy the flesh or sinful cravings. When a person is saved, they are saved from the power of the carnal mind. The Holy Spirit will deliver them from the desires to please sinful cravings (Romans 8:9).

<u>Satan's Kingdom:</u>

Satan's kingdom is established in the minds of humans. Satan rules the world through the minds of men and women who are not saved (St. Matthew 12:25-28). The influence of thoughts and desires are produced by Satan to conduct a world of evil activities. Such activities are sinful, sensual, carnal, ungodly, and contrary to every principle of righteousness that the government of the kingdom of heaven represents. (I John 3:8).

Jesus was sent to the earth to destroy the works of the devil in the minds of humans. When you are born again you are renewed in the spirit of your mind (Ephesians 4:22-23). The new birth in Christ is a new mind which produces new desires that are free from sin (Romans 6:17-18). When this process has taken place in your life, the kingdom of heaven would have come unto you to set you free from the kingdom that Satan rules in this present world (St. Matthew 12:28).

From Time To Eternity:

There is a place where God resides, which is called the kingdom of heaven. This environment is a holy habitation for God, Jesus, The Holy Spirit, and countless, millions of angels. Heaven is a place where the highest standard of righteousness prevails, more than what humans on earth can imagine. Our strongest ability to comprehend joy, peace, kindness, pleasantness, and love cannot grasp any level of these virtues that will be found in this heavenly habitation.

An event will soon take place that is referred to by the word of God as the "first resurrection". The purpose of this event is to transfer all born again saints, which will include the dead and the living, to the kingdom of heaven (I Thessalonians 4:16). This event will be introduced by the appearance of Jesus Christ and angels from heaven. The Holy Spirit will be the power that will prepare saved people or saints of the earth to be transferred into the kingdom of heaven.

You cannot enter eternity by traveling a distance from one place to another; you must be re-created from time into eternity. Only the Holy Spirit can do this for you. Such a transfer will require that you experience a transformation from a corruptible, mortal, flesh and blood body to an incorruptible, immortal, or spiritual body, which will process you into eternity. You cannot travel from time into eternity. You must be processed into eternity by the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 15:53). You must be re-made into eternity. This process is similar to the way that water is processed into ice. Water does not have to travel a distance to be processed into ice, but it has to experience a change of environmental temperature from a warm environment to a cold environment. So is it also with being processed from an environment of time into an environment of eternity.

The Holy Spirit is the means by which born again saints will be processed from a life of time on earth to eternal life in heaven. It is impossible for flesh and blood humans to live in an eternal environment. This is because their human nature is not compatible with an environment that consist of an overwhelming atmosphere of righteousness, no more than it is possible for ice to exist in a warm temperature (I Corinthians 15:50).

<u>He Did Not Appear To Qualify To Be The Messiah Of The Jews:</u>

During Jesus' ministry, Pilate was the governor of Rome assigned to rule over Jerusalem, which was under the rulership of Rome and Caesar. Jesus was turned over to the Roman authority by the Jews being accused of blasphemy. Jesus was accused of blasphemy because of his claim to be the Son of God. The Jews considered such a claim to be disrespectful to God and against the teaching of their law, and that such a crime deserved the death sentence.

When Pilate examined Jesus, he knew that Jesus had done nothing detrimental against the rulership of the Roman Empire that would establish Jesus as a dangerous element and justify his execution; therefore, Pilate felt that Jesus should have been released. The Jews, who had to rely entirely upon the police powers of the Romans to execute punishment against offenders of their religious laws, objected to Jesus' release on the grounds that Christ had offended grievously by breaking their sacred rule, which constituted blasphemy.

The Jews were expecting a Messiah to come and deliver them from the captivity of the Roman Empire. They thought their Messiah or deliverer would be a great military leader who would come as a king in great splendor. They expected Him to regiment the manpower and resources of Israel, to conquer the Roman armies and drive them out of the land, and set up a powerful kingdom that all the world would fear and respect. The Jews expected their Messiah to have regal dignity, royal blood, and to be exalted in the eyes of men. Therefore, when Jesus came out of Nazareth, the least of all communities of that day, and from a humble birth, the son of a carpenter, they knew he just did not have the qualifications to be their Messiah. Jesus' claim therefore was blasphemous.

In addition to having such a ridiculous claim to be the Son of God, Jesus spoke boldly to the people in their synagogues. He condemned them for their corruption, their sin, and for their disobedience to God. On the mountainsides, in the fields, in the market places, and in the cities, Jesus often chided those who were teachers and rulers of the Jews because of their unrighteousness and misunderstanding of the Law of Moses. Jesus tried to show them the error of their ways, and help them to see the true way of God. When they would reject His overtures and attempts to turn the hearts of the people away from Him, Jesus would reprove them stoutly. Jesus would tell them that his Father would not own them as the seed of Abraham, unless they returned to God.

The rulers of the Jews then became angry and took counsel against Jesus. They rejected Jesus as their Messiah and refused to recognize his authority to teach or do missionary work among the Jews. They remembered that He was born in a stable. They wanted a king who would be like Pilate or Herod, for only one like them could have the power and ability to lead the nation out of bondage of the Romans. That was how the ruling class considered Jesus. If God sent a leader today under similar circumstances as Jesus was sent, I wonder how the ruling class today would receive the leader. I wonder how the Christian society of today would receive such a Messiah or religious leader.

Although Jesus came working great miracles in the midst of the people to bless their souls and heal their bodies, that no other man in their midst could do, they were still unwilling to give God the glory and recognize the fact that only one sent from God could do such things. They preferred to believe that He did those miracles by the power of the devil. Bitter hatred in the hearts of a man can make them very stupid. Even Barabbas, an insurgent and notorious robber was more respected and received more honor. Weren't they very stupid? The devil can make people with malice, envy, and hatred in their hearts very stupid in spite of how intelligent and well educated they are.

Of course, there were those among the common and less educated class who had faith in Jesus and deep reverence for him. They heard Him gladly and followed Him from the marketplace to the synagogue and to the mountainsides to hear and understand every word that He uttered. They believed that Jesus was from God because every blessing he had for them was free. This was not the case with the religious personnel of the Jewish sects or with the sorcerers, diviners, and wizards. They charged the people for their services. Those who were familiar with Jesus' works knew that it was lofty, and pure and not tainted with evil and deceitful tricks to impress the ignorant. Jesus invited them to come without money and the only requirement was that they should go in peace and sin no more.

The rulers among the Jews who rejected Christ were amazed at Jesus' accomplishments, but were ignorant as to the source of his power. They knew of Jesus' great influence with the people, and realized that if this were not checked, they would soon lose control of the religious life of the people. Jesus' opposition to their hypocrisy and his attacks upon their interpretation of the Sabbath, together with his advocacy of the new doctrine, which banded their formalities of worship under the laws of Moses, caused them to discredit Jesus as a servant of the Lord and branded him as a devil. In their opinion, Jesus didn't have the qualifications of the Messiah. Surely, the Messiah would not have taught contrary to what they understood the laws of Moses to require. Moses never said anything about repenting; Moses said offer sacrifices for your sins. Therefore, they did not believe that Christ came from God, and by no means could he be the Son of God.

<u>Citizens Of Heaven:</u>

America has good parents for the children of this nation. Many families will take custody of children that were not born unto them, and rear them just as they would their own children. We saw this quite a bit among white families that adopted black children from Haiti after the earthquake in 2010. America is a nation of good people, but it will take a little more than human goodness to qualify to be citizens of the kingdom of heaven.

To be a citizen of the kingdom of heaven, you must be born again of the Spirit of God, which will replace your human nature with the divine nature of God. When you are born again of the Spirit of God, God's Spirit will dwell in you for the remainder of your life on earth. Human nature is a product of the earth, and is not compatible with the environment of heaven. Human nature does not possess the virtues that are necessary to live in an eternal environment, such as heaven will offer.

The kingdom of heaven is a holy environment where as it possesses and is made up of the very substance of holiness. Holiness is the absence of sensuality and partiality. Holiness is the absence of anything that is false or artificial. Holiness is an environment that consists of divine love, which is pure love. Divine love has no respect of persons, or hypocrisy in it. It does not cater to special interest groups. Divine love is love that will be spread throughout the entire habitation of heaven, instituting the commonwealth of heaven rather than wealth for isolated groups of people.

Everybody in heaven will be servants of one another. Every quality of character in heaven will be the same among all of its citizens. Such qualities will consist of kindness, love, humility, meekness, peacefulness, and a people who are easily entreated. It will be a good thing to allow God to save you so that you can qualify to be a citizen of heaven.



CHAPTER I

SIN AND THE SINNER

Subject: You Can Be Religious With Sin In Your Life But You Will Not Get Saved:

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;" (Titus 2:11-12). Jesus came to teach you how to live in this manner, but unless you follow the instructions that he gives, you will be confused by the religious doctrines of the world. The world is totally confused about the plan of salvation.

Everything that you want to know about being saved is written in the Bible. Such things lead you to righteousness and holiness; the world is led to be unholy and unrighteous. If you don't know what to do on any matter concerning the process of salvation, God will send somebody to teach you how to get started. The first step is to learn what sin is and try to get rid of it. If you try to keep sin in your life, and be saved at the same time, sin will confuse you and disrupt the proper channels leading to salvation. You might be religious with sin, but you will not be saved.

Subject: Is Your Heart Right With God?

You don't have long to live on this earth, and your heart (mind) must be right with God when your end comes. You must allow Christ to have rule over self and sin in your life in order for your heart to be right with God. If your heart is not right with your neighbors or your enemies, then your heart is not right with God. God is soon going to destroy sin. This is because sin is a disease that has plagued His creation since the fall of Adam. If your heart has sin in it, you will be destroyed with the world. God wants to destroy sin, not you. However, if you desire that sin continue to be your motivation for pleasures of this life, you will be destroyed with sin.

You have two hearts. One pumps blood through your veins to supply your biological organs, but the other is your mind that pumps thoughts that direct you to do good or evil. If you have given your mind to Jesus, he will cause you to pump good thoughts from your mind, that you may be directed to do good before God. Jesus is the only one who can make your heart right with God, but you must invite him into your heart.

Peace begins in your mind when you let Jesus rule it for you. The condition of your mind affects your entire life; therefore, if your mind is wrong, you will go wrong. However, if it is right, then you are right. When you have a clean mind that Jesus has washed and made clean, you will also have a clean conscience. If you are living with envy, strife, and hatred in your mind, you are under condemnation and you are unhappy. If you have given your mind to Jesus, he will remove the condemnation and cause your mind to be at peace with God. God has arranged a plan through Jesus so that we won't have to remain in the state of condemnation. God has provided a plan of salvation whereby we are lifted from the condemned state and given a clear mind.

Subject: Sin Condemns Your Conscience:

False preachers and deceitful workers of Christ have come along and are saying they are bearing witness to the teachings of Jesus Christ, yet are professing that you cannot help from sinning after you are supposed to be saved. Sin condemns you because it reveals the truth concerning your condemned destiny. When you do wrong, your conscience in you sends an uncomfortable signal to your mind, leaving you in a state of discontent. A condemned conscience takes your inner peace. You will no longer have peace with God or yourself when you are condemned in your conscience. If you obey God and someone else tries to condemn you, it won't bother you. Only sin will condemn you to the extent that your conscience will leave your mind without peace.

Subject: The Word Of God And Your Conscience:

You will not as an individual be able to say that you did not know right from wrong. God has put a witness in you that is called your conscience that makes you know when you are wrong. However because there's no help for your conscience from the church that you attend, you will nevertheless continue to practice sin or do wrong.

Your conscience needs help from the word of God in order for the condemnation of your wrong deeds to turn you around into the path of righteousness. When your conscience and the word of God condemn you, there is a good chance for you to turn around. When you come to a church where the true gospel is being preached, and it condemns you along with your conscience you have two witnesses against you. For in the mouth of two witnesses the truth is established. As long as there is one witness, you can argue with that witness in court or in your mind. However when another witness comes, it weakens your personal viewpoint, causing you to consider that you could be wrong leaving your mind uncomfortable.

Subject: Adultery And Fornication:

When a person desires to commit adultery or fornication with you, such a person does not think very much of you (Exodus 20:14). To persuade a person to commit adultery or fornication is one of the most disrespectful, degrading, and ungodly acts that the individual can indulge in (I Corinthians 6:19).

All sins are in violation of God's word, but adultery or fornication is the lowest act of sin that a person can commit, because those involved would be sinning against their bodies, which were designed by God to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. Fornication is having a sexual relationship with somebody other than a spouse.

Jesus died that our bodies might be united with God by means of the Holy Spirit. When a person commits fornication or adultery, this means as far as they are concerned, Jesus died for nothing. The only way that a person can participate in a sexual relationship without committing adultery or fornication is by having sex only with their husband or wife, male and female.

Subject: Carnal Attractions:

Carnal attractions are desires that cause men and women to get married; such desires are less than holy desires. Attractions that bring men and women together in holy matrimony, that are less than holy attractions, will allow their marriages to be short term.

Carnal attractions are lustful desires, which can be limited to physical attractions such as sexual satisfaction and a lucrative lifestyle. These can cause a marriage to become very fragile, after a period of time. Such carnal attractions do not have lasting durability.

Holy attractions, on the other hand, are virtues (moral excellence) that a person is seeking for in a spouse that are the fruit of the Holy Spirit, such as patience, meekness, kindness, goodness, faith , peace, humility, divine love, gentleness, longsuffering and temperance (Galatians 5:22).
When Adam sinned, all of mankind was cursed with the desire to possess carnal attractions. Men and women began to desire spouses who had worldly and physical attractions, rather than holy virtues. After Adam sinned, nothing holy was a part of men and women's attractions for one another. When God saw the hardness of such desires that had possessed the hearts of men and women, and that they had developed such sensual desires in their attractions for one another, God had Moses to compose a law that would permit a bill of divorcement for those marriages that could not endure because of such short term attractions. St. Matthew 19:7-8 read as follows:

Verse 7 -	They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?
Verse 8 -	He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.

When men and women become saved and filled with the Holy Ghost, their attractions for one another will be like the attraction that Adam and Eve had for each other before Adam sinned. Before Adam sinned, he and Eve were brought together by God under holy conditions only. After Adam sinned, the desires between men and women were cursed with carnal attractions or sensual desires. They fail (or fell) from grace. Such desires caused the nature of men and women to be exploratory for other desires outside of their marriages, leading to fornication, adultery, homosexuality, and resulting to divorce.

Subject: The Characteristics Of A Hypocrite:

In St. Matthew 23:25-26 it reads as follows:

- Verse 25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.
- Verse 26 Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

- 1. A hypocrite loves to have influence over fellow church members.
- 2. A hypocrite wants to be a church pillar, and desires to impress people more than God.
- 3. A hypocrite loves to be seen and identified as one who is faithful and true to the people, but not to God.
- 4. A hypocrite has no conscientious relationship with God.
- 5. God is not a reality to a hypocrite.
- 6. A hypocrite is church oriented, and has very little righteousness outside of the church doors.
- 7. A hypocrite can find ignorant or unlearned members who are not true and desire to influence them.
- St. Matthew 23:15-16 reads as follows:
 - Verse 15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisee, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.
 - Verse 16 Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor!
- 8. If you are in the company of a hypocrite, it is because you are perceived to be ignorant. They are blind leaders of the blind.
- 9. A hypocrite wants to be exalted.

If you come to church for years and do not get saved, your only recourse is to be a hypocrite. When you learn any religious ways and don't get the Holy Spirit, you won't have power to get above hypocrisy. If a hypocrite has truly saved religious leaders, they will be deceitful and rebellious towards their religious leaders. Don't try to enjoy the life of a saint without the Holy Ghost. St. Matthew 6:33 teaches us, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you". It is a mistake to enjoy material blessings without being saved.

Subject: Hypocrisy And True Holiness Are <u>Not</u> Compatible:

Unless you have been truly born again, you will not want to bear the name "Holy"; neither do you have a right to bear the name. A person who has not been born again into the family of God cannot hide in the name Holy, because their sins will expose them. God will not allow you to use his family name unless you are his child. You will think that Holy is a foolish name, and will retreat to some other denominational sect name such as Baptist, Methodist, Catholic, or some notable false holiness sect name.

In order to qualify to use God's name, "Holy", you must learn to live holy. When you fail to live the same life that Christ lived, and yet claim to be his child, you will be called a liar, if none other than by your own conscience. You will have a hard time trying to be holy playing the part of a hypocrite.

Subject: There's Help For The Backslider But No Hope For The Hypocrite:

The job of The Church of God is to save souls. You cannot take backsliders and set them up to run the church, but you must accept backsliders as a brother or sister and teach them how to serve God. The church should help the backslider to desire to obtain nothing but salvation. The church should love the backslider and show them nothing but courtesy.

Now a hypocrite is not going to abide. All that is necessary to do is to preach the gospel against whoremongers, liars and liquor heads and no hypocrite will stay around under those conditions. The hypocrite is a sham, self-righteous and he or she would not subject himself or herself to God if God came down in person.

Subject: When You Are Not Of The Truth You Will Go Out From It:

Hypocrite worshipers will follow a false leader because they will be comfortable with his spirit of leadership. They will not listen to a true leader because he condemns their spirit. Such will separate from the truth because they are not of the truth. You have to be of the truth in order to stay with the truth.

In the early churches of the apostles, many went out from the truth because they were not of the truth. This manifested the spirit of anti-christ in them because they were not one of the saints of God. When you are not one of God's children, you will not be able to continue with them, and the spirit of error will be manifested in you.

Subject: A Sinner's Praises To God Are A Reproach To God:

God saves man so that he might be a witness to the goodness of God, by praising God. Actually all that man can do for God is to praise him. All the works of God's hand praise him. Man is God's workmanship created by God unto good works. The stars, moon, sun and all the magnificent forces in heaven and in earth are praises to God. God desires for man to praise him. A man cannot praise God living in sin. Sin is a reproach to man, and when he tries to praise God living in sin he becomes a reproach to God.

God cannot be glorified by a religious sinner. Such a person makes a mockery of God when he attempts to praise God in the carnal nature. When you are living above sin, you can praise God for health, strength, and every material blessing that God has made available for you.

Subject: Be True When You Are Trying To Live For Christ:

When you fail to obey God, you will be reproached. If you go to a church, wear a false face, and become a hypocrite, the judgment of God will come upon you. Never allow yourself to become false at any time. Keep yourself under strict surveillance so that you will be able to detect the first sign of deceit or hypocrisy in your life. God detests every false way, and will not acknowledge you during your time of trouble.

Never let the habit of pretending become a part of your life. Learn to practice true religion the correct way, and live it at home, on the job, in your neighborhood, and testify about it in the true Church of God. You are wasting your time trying to be true in a church full of hypocrites. If your church is no good, you would be better off worshiping with your family at home than to go to a devilish church.

Subject: If You Were Born The First Time In Sin What Were You Born Again For?

When religious leaders fail to preach to you that you can live above sin, they are false witnesses and deceitful ministers. Such ministers pretend to be working for God, but they are not, unless they tell men and women that Jesus can save them from the practice of sin. We were born in sin and shaped in iniquity, so then when we are born again, why would God allow us to be born again in sin?

To be born again is to be born of the Spirit of God, and God's Spirit would not be helping us if it led us to live a life of sin continuously. Our previous lives of sin caused us not to be saved, so if we are yet in our sins, how can we be saved? Don't depend on a preacher to get you saved. Many preachers teach contrary to the word of God. You must depend upon the word of God to save you if you obey it.

Subject: Be Careful That You Are Not A False Witness For Christ:

If you testify that Jesus cannot save from sin, you are a false witness for Christ. If you say that you are saved and you have not been saved from sin, then you could have saved yourself. You can live in sin by your own strength. You don't need God to help you to live in sin. If you are living in sin, what is Jesus doing in your life for you? Why do you need the power of God in your life to help you to live in sin? You can live in sin by yourself. The power of God does not help you to live in sin. The weakness of the flesh helps you to live in sin. Along with all the things that you can do by your own strength and ability, you can also live in sin. You don't need anybody to help you to be a sinner.

Jesus came to save you from your sins, you cannot save yourself from sin no matter how hard you try, however, Jesus can do this for you. Therefore, if you are living free from sin, it is by the power of God. If you are living in sin, it is by your own power; you can do that all by yourself.

Subject: Christ Helps You To Crucify Your Sinful Character:

Don't be a Christian who advertises Christ with your mouth, and when someone looks for him in your life, they won't be able to find him. If Christ is not in your heart, people won't be able to see him in your life. A lot of talk about Christ can be a cover up for a hypocritical life style. There are more hypocrite Christians in our society than truly born again people.

If you are a truly saved person, you should be living above sin. If you are not truly saved and someone does you wrong, you won't be able to take it. You may not try to get back at them openly, but you will reject and despise them in your heart. When you don't have Jesus in your heart, you will have no power to love those who oppose you. Only Christ in you can love your enemies. When Christ comes into your life, he helps you to crucify yourself, and not the other person's character.

Subject: Christ Will Not Kill Your Sinful Nature You Must Kill It Yourself And Christ Will Give You Life:

You may be a church going Christian, but if you don't have Christ in your life, you will think that people are mean because they don't do to suit you. However, you must remember that they may think that you are mean when you don't do to suit them. When you don't have Christ, you can't see yourself; you can only see other people and their faults. When Christ comes into your life, he shows you yourself, and teaches you how to kill the sinful part of your nature. Without Christ, you will always be fighting somebody else. You will always see faults in your wife, husband, or co-workers.

You have to die to live in Christ, but Christ won't kill you. You must be willing to kill that sinful part of your life of your own free will. When you get weak, Christ will revive you and give you strength to live, but you must assassinate your own sinful nature. You can do this by denying that sinful part of your nature of the pleasures that it enjoys.

Subject: A Test Of Man's Devotion To God:

The things that you do in life will destroy you and send you to hell. God does not destroy men and send them to hell; it's God's plan to save men if they repent and obey the gospel. God revealed the penalty for disobedience to men and women. He made hell to separate the wicked from the righteous, to keep the wicked from tormenting the righteous in the next life. God teaches man about hell and he teaches man how to avoid going there. If man obeys God, he can receive salvation. If he disobeys, he will be going to hell by his own choice; it will not be God's decision.

The choice of life and damnation was presented to man in this manner, so that God could test man's devotion to him. If you are a Christian with very little devotion to God, you have a very good chance of going to hell.

Subject: It Won't Help To Cover Your Sins:

Because God does not correct every wrong action of man, does not mean that he is not watching every evil action. God waits until the cool of the day to pay man a visit concerning his sins. During Noah's time, the cool of the day was when the floods came. It is better to correct yourself before God pays you a visit.

There is no need to try to hide your sins with fig leaves, as Adam did, thinking that God won't notice them. God can see through either your fig leaves or whatever you are using to cover your sins. We are presently living during the cool of the day, and God will soon pay us a visit again.

Subject: If You Live By Worldly Principles Of Greed And Selfishness You Will Spend Eternity In Hell:

In order for an individual or church group to be saved, the spirit and ways of the kingdom of heaven should come into their lives and churches on earth. The kingdom of heaven is not just a place, but an idea based upon principles of righteousness, holiness and the love of God being implemented into an individual, society, church, or a civilization, such as it is in God's kingdom at this time. If anybody wants to be a part of God's civilization for the righteous, he or she must allow the idea and principles of the kingdom of heaven to govern their lives while they are living in this present world. Jesus prayed that God's kingdom would come to the earth, and that his will would be done in earth as it is in heaven.

When Jesus came to the earth, he set the example that men and women of the earth might get a taste of the kingdom of heaven where love reigns, by opening the eyes of the blind, and allowing the lame to walk. When God sent his Holy Spirit, the disciples were all of one spirit, and when they saw their brother in need, they sold their possessions and goods and parted to them such as they needed. God is showing us through this spirit of love how the kingdom of heaven will be. In heaven, no one possession will belong to any one person, but everything will belong to everybody, just as you go into a restaurant to be served by a waitress, or in a hotel to receive the services of the hotel. That is the way your life will be in heaven. Everybody will have specific duties that are designed to service, serve, and share with others without any charge, or gain for anyone, because everything will belong to everyone. It will be a civilization conducted by love, and the joy that those who are partakers get will be joy unspeakable. There will be no shortages or lack in heaven. This is what God was demonstrating to the disciples on the day of Pentecost. That is, when you have the love of God working in the midst of you, it will cause a group to share to the extent that everyone will have a sufficiency. II Corinthians 8:13-15 reads:

- Verse 13 For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened:
- Verse 14 But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality:

That everything may belong to everybody.

Verse 15 - As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.

Everything that God teaches and demonstrates on earth is a shadow (example) of the things of heaven. When Jesus fed a few thousand people, with a few fish and a couple loaves of bread, this was an example of how the power of heaven works to distribute, and there is never any lack when heaven is at work on earth. If a man or group of people cannot receive and practice the ways of heaven on earth they would be failing the test to show that they would be a part of the civilization of heaven in the next life. Selfishness and greed are not of heaven, but of this world. It is the things that you do in this life, and the principles that you live by that will determine in what civilization you will spend eternity. If you learn and practice heavenly principles as were taught by Jesus while living in this life, it means that you are not a citizen of this world, but a citizen of heaven. When Jesus returns you will be resurrected into his kingdom. To live according to the standards of greed and selfishness in this life means that you will spend eternity in hell with the damned, because this world will pass away and all who lived after the ways of the world will be transferred to a society called hell.

Subject: The Reprobate:

God can stop your temptations to commit sin if you want to be delivered. But if you are getting pleasures out of your sins, and you want to be saved at the same time, God will let you believe that what you are doing is right. After you learn the truth and continue to commit sin, you are getting pleasure out of unrighteousness, and God will send you a strong delusion and make you think that what you are doing is right. Under these conditions, nobody will be able to convince you that you are wrong. You will then become a reprobate because the Lord would have forsaken you. Satan will build a religious barrier between you and God, causing you to believe unrighteous principles that will take you on a slow walk to hell.

Subject: A Sinner Lives In A Spiritually Lower Class Than A Saved Person:

If you are a natural sinner, you have nothing to do with being a sinner; you were born of a deprived nature. If you make up your mind that you want to live above sin God will reveal to you how you can live above the underprivileged conditions in which you were born. To be born in sin is to be born on a lesser level of spirituality than God would like you to have.

A sinner lives in a spiritually lower class than a saved person. However, God keeps the door of opportunity open for the sinner to be upgraded to a higher level of spiritual living conditions.

Subject: The Natural Sinner Needs A Light To See What Is Right:

It is hard for a natural sinner to be able to see what is right except someone holds the light of righteousness before him. Even with these conditions, he or she must fight against darkness. If the natural sinner makes up in his or her mind to live or die, because he or she believes in God, he will lift them up. God will lift them above everything that would be a stumbling block to all other sinners who have been in association with them in their former worldly life style.

When God saves a natural sinner, God will take them out of the world of sinful activities and make them a light, so that others can see that something has happened to them. If there is no change in the natural sinner, he or she has not been born again. The things that you have done in life and that you are now doing differently prove you.

Subject: A False Conversion Will Not Stand On The Day Of Adversity:

When you get saved, you need light, strength and understanding that will enable you to live as an individual in Christ. As the conditions of the world get bad, so will the conditions of those who have a false conversion in some religious teaching. If you don't understand that God is your leader under adverse conditions as well as good conditions, you will stop when things get rough. When you stop following a religious teaching, it is evidence that your conversion or your teaching is false.

CHAPTER II

OBEY GOD AND LIVE

Subject: Obedience:

To be obedient to God is an expression by a man or woman that they want to please God. Obedience to God is an acknowledgement of high esteem that a person is rendering to God leaving others with the impression that God is a reality in his or her life. Obedience gives reverence to God above all else that a person may be exposed to in life. Obedience shows that all other things in life have a lesser order of importance and that God's pre-eminence has been recognized by the person as being above all else. When you obey God, it is the highest expression of honor that you can give God.

Obedience to God is better than your church work, singing on the choir, testifying or preaching in the pulpit. No church formalities can exceed the value of obedience to God. Obedience to God extends your religion beyond your church doors. Obedience to God keeps his attention on you, no matter how much you may feel like you are alone.

Subject: If You Keep The Word Of God It Will Keep You Out Of Sin:

As long as you keep the word of God in your mind, with the intention of obeying it, you cannot sin. To keep the word of God is to obey it. When you keep the word of God in your mind, it will keep you from committing sin. The word of God is a good seed. A good seed cannot bring forth corrupt fruit and good fruit at the same time. You can't be a good person and an evil person at the same time. You will have to either make the tree good or make it evil. The tree is known by its fruit. Every good tree bringeth forth good fruit, and so is it with people. If you commit sin, you are of the devil, but he that is born of God doth not commit sin, because God's seed or his word remains in the person and they cannot sin.

Subject: The Backslider Must Be Sincere In His Attempt To Return To God:

If a person professes that he or she wants to follow God and are not true in their heart, it will be just a matter of time before it will be revealed. A person who tries to hide his or her sins shall not prosper. Sin disrupts your life and causes you to have conflicts in your dealings. Such people who are not sincere in their hearts will often times backslide and be in and out of the faith. If they make a second attempt to live right, they should not desire to be a big show off in the teachings of Christ, but sincere in their efforts to repent that their relationship with God might be restored.

Whenever a person falls from the grace or favor of God and later attempts to start back with God, if they are sincere in their attempt, all of the hellhounds of hell will be turned loose on the person. The person must know himself or herself, and be convinced that they really want to live above condemnation.

Subject: Trust And Obey:

Never be afraid to trust God. When you have a good purpose, God will make all grace abound towards you to honor your purpose. God can take an unsaved person and by ruling his or her mind, make them do what he wants done. If you trust and obey God, what God wants done will be done through you. God will not give the unsaved credit for doing what he did for you. This is because God made him do it, but you will get the credit out of the work because of your willingness to obey God. Obedience is better than sacrifices or works that the unsaved person does. Obedience is always honored above all that God requires. It is better to have a mind to obey God than to have the ability and means to do things for God.

Subject: The Entire Plan Of Salvation Is Built Around Obedience:

You can find many churches and many gods to worship, but there is only one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one Spirit and one God who is the Father of all. You can find many gods, but if you find another who has died for you and risen again, you have been deceived. There is only one Jesus who has done that. Obedience is everything to God; it covers all of your areas of weakness.

God spoke through Elijah and said to Naaman, "Go down and dip seven times in the River Jordan". There was nothing to the water; it was Naaman's obedience. If you obey the wrong god, you can dip in water all day and get no results. The entire plan of salvation and success with God is built around the obedience of those who want to be subject to the law of God.

Subject: Obedience To The Word Brings You Peace From Heaven And It Sanctifies You On Earth:

When you reject the word of God, you reject the peacemaker. Every individual who accepts the word of God, believes, and practices the teachings of Jesus Christ will have the peace of God in their hearts. If any church group obeys the teachings of Christ, peace will abide in their lives as well as their assembly. Such a group would be no different from other people for the exception of the teaching that they follow.

The only difference in a group that is saved and a group that is not saved is the teaching of Jesus Christ; otherwise, they would all be the same. The teachings of Christ cause the group who obeys them to be set apart from other church groups. A truly saved group will seek to help those who are seeking to be saved, but they will not mix with any group that is different from them in what they believe. Such is a sanctified group that will not mix and mingle with any ordinary church group. If you run with the heathen, you will take on their ways.

Subject: The Lord Will Visit Your House If You Obey And Ask Him:

If you humble yourself before God, he will come down and manifest his presence to you. You will not see Him in physical form, but you will feel the presence of His Holy Spirit. You invite the Holy Spirit of God down into your life through your obedience and humbleness of mind. If you are high-minded and proud, you will be repulsive to God, and he will not acknowledge you. God rejects a proud person who thinks very highly of himself or herself. Having high regard for yourself causes God to have low regard for you. That which is highly esteemed of men is an abomination unto God. Never value anything more than the knowledge of God's word.

When God pays you a visit through his Holy Spirit, you will receive joy unspeakable. When the power of the Holy Spirit brings God in your presence, you won't be able to hold your composure. You will "lose your cool", praising God with all of your heart. God's presence is more powerful than anything you can imagine. The joy of His love gives you strength to praise Him for his goodness. If you continue to obey God, his goodness and mercy will follow you all the days of your life. If you clean your life up and walk right before God, and ask him to send his Holy Spirit in your presence, he will do it, not just one time, but every time you need a little reviving. When you ask God to breathe his Holy Spirit upon you, such a request is a petition to God, and if you are obeying God, your petition will be answered. When God pays you a visit of this type it is better to be in a room or place by yourself, so that you will know that he is visiting you and not another person.

God's Spirit is so powerful that if he is visiting one person, and another is close by, who may not be so obedient to God, both people will receive the visit from God, overwhelmed with joy from on high. God's blessings fall on the just as well as the unjust. So to be sure that it is you who God is visiting, be sure you are obeying and when you request a visit from God, be in a room by yourself, so that there won't be any doubt that the Lord stopped at your house.

Subject: You Must Receive The Mind Of Christ To Obey God:

Until you get a mind to obey the command of God and eliminate sin from your life, you can't make it. You are going to fall short of whatever purpose you are trying to accomplish. Without the mind to eliminate sin from your life, you will be filled with envy, strife, selfishness, and always angry with somebody. Your ways will interfere with your purpose. Under such spiritual conditions, you will be divided from the truth. You might experience short seasons of success in some things, but you will eventually fall. Only in Christ can you stand against the troubles of this life.

The truth is found in living righteously without anger, strife, envy, hatred, partiality, and selfishness. There is no other way that you can find the truth except being free of your sinful character. Jesus is able to direct you into the channels of true life, but you must be willing to depart from iniquity. II Timothy 2:19 reads as follows:

Verse 19 - Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

You will have to separate yourself from sin if you want Jesus to help you. Jesus doesn't do anything with sinners, but lead them to repentance. Hebrews 7:26 reads as follows: Verse 26 - For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

If you are in sin you are separate from Jesus, and you have no fellowship with God. No matter how many things you think that Jesus has done for you in the past, he is not with you if you practice sin. If you believe that he is with you in your sins, he will allow you to have a serious problem one day, and you will call upon him and you won't get any help. Forsake your ways and Jesus will come into your troubles, and help to work things out. He will allow only what you are able to carry of your burdens. Your evaluation of your life is not always accurate; submit yourself to Jesus, and he will clear things up for you.

You need to be born again to receive a new approach to life through Jesus. When you have been born again, your mind will change its way of thinking and dealing with life. To be born again means to lose the old mind, and allow it to be replaced with the mind of Jesus. A new nature will produce new desires. If your mind changes in this manner, you have been born again. You should now be changed from the carnal state of mind (sinful desires of your mind) into a righteous state. Under such new spiritual conditions, you will be given a new religious leader who will counsel you with the word of God, and direct you further into the channels of salvation. Be of good cheer, you should have overcome the world and all of your ways that made you stumble through life.

Subject: Your Mind Must Be Subject To The Teachings Of Heaven In Order To Be A Citizen There:

If you can live in harmony and peace with your fellow man here on earth, you may establish your right to citizenship in the kingdom of heaven hereafter. However, if we live in envy, strife, contention, maliciousness, and hatred here, we will not be worthy to be heirs of the kingdom of heaven.

Heaven must be ruling your mind while you are on earth in order for you to be under its rulership throughout eternity. This is the will of God being done in earth (you are earth) as it is in heaven. His kingdom would have come unto you, when your mind is subject to the teachings of the kingdom of heaven.

Subject: The Peacemaker:

A man or woman who is able to come in the midst of a disturbance and make peace is a peacemaker. A peacemaker is one who brings peace out of confusion. A peacemaker will not step in a brawl between two people and take sides with one over the other; that would only deepen the intensity of the brawl. However, a peacemaker will show them that they have an invisible enemy, called Satan, who is causing the conflict. To take sides in a conflict is to be partial, and a peacemaker does not have respect to persons. A peacemaker is impartial. A peacemaker will show love, compassion, and empathy to both parties, with the purpose of restoring their relationship.

Subject: The Pure In Heart:

Always seek to comfort a brother or sister that you see with heaviness of heart, and God will see to it that you are comforted during your time of burdens and heaviness of heart.

If you desire to be right, God will teach you. Once you start doing right, God's Spirit keeps you doing right. Following God in this manner will cause you to be pure in heart. A very fitting reward for the pure in heart is that they will see God. It will be a great blessing to all that you fellowship with, when you become pure in heart.

The pure in heart person is true, genuine, loyal, and faithful. Such a person will not be two-faced nor a backbiter. He or she will not be a hypocrite, or a false pretender. He or she will be just as they look to be. You will be able to take them at face value. You will see everything on the outside of the person that God sees on the inside.

Subject: Fret Not Yourself Because Of Evildoers:

Never be concerned about what people say about you. What they say that is negative does not have to be true. If your hands are clean, and your heart is pure, what they say against you won't hurt your reputation.

A lie told against you is information that does not exist against you. If Christ is not in your life, a lie against you can send you to prison. However, if Christ is in your life, a lie is of non-effect against you. In Christ, you don't have to defend your reputation against what people say against you. Anybody who stands behind a lie will eventually fall.

Subject: Saved People Are Peacemakers In The Community:

Saved people are supposed to keep peace, harmony, and love in the community and among those with whom they worship. Such people are not the author of confusion, contentions, and conflicts. They are taught by God how to be peacemakers. They should be able to go into the midst of confusion and bring peace. It will be impossible for Christians to make peace in their communities when they can't do it in their churches.

Truly saved people are mediators between God and the people. They must show that the Spirit of God brings love in the midst of confusion by their conduct, love, and spiritual behavior in their communities. I would have no confidence in a Christian who is the cause of contention, conflicts, and confusion in the neighborhood.

Subject: Christ Prepares You For Death That You Might Live Again:

Living a life in sin for a while makes you prepared to live, but living a life in Christ makes you prepared to die. What many fail to understand is that they are born to die, not to live. The day a person comes into the world, death begins to work in the person. Jesus doesn't intercede with man's dying process, but he keeps the death of man from separating him from God. God offers man a life beyond the life to die that was inherited from his parents. Your parents gave you life to die; Jesus conquers your death, and gives you life more abundantly to live forever. Everyone must realize and understand without a doubt that the way they have chosen in sin is not the way to God. The way to God is freedom from sin, and at the end of this life, you will enter into eternity with God.

Subject: God's Voice Will Call The Dead In Christ:

If you obey God while you live in this life, when you die you will not really be dead, you will simply be asleep waiting to be awaken by the voice of God. When the time arrives for you to be awakened, God will call and you will get up. When the voice of God calls you, no matter how deep a sleep you are in, nothing will be able to stop you from getting up. God has planned that the grave will not destroy, nor prevent the dead in Christ from getting up. When you finish your life in time (your present existence), you will step into eternity when the voice of God awakens you.

It may appear to have been a long time since the promise of God has been given to man, but God is not slack concerning his promise as some men count slackness. God is longsuffering and patient and he will wait on many to come to the knowledge of the truth before destruction is allowed to come upon the world.



CHAPTER III THE MINISTERS OF GOD (TRUE PREACHERS)

Subject: The Apostles Of The Early Church Were With One Accord:

A group of religious folk cannot be one in spirit, unless they meet together and acquire a common understanding as one people. They must have one set of rules to abide by in order to reach this common understanding. One set of rules to follow unite a people in one spirit. Unless they all meet together to hear and be made to know the knowledge of oneness, as was given to the apostles on the day of Pentecost, they will not be able to become one in spirit.

When people get second hand instructions, being told by word of mouth what someone else said, they would develop differences of opinion that might cause divisions to develop among them. Today, practically everybody has the same Bible, but there are thousands of different religious teachings and beliefs. This happens because they don't all have the same spirit that was given to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The apostles were with one accord, which is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Today folk are on one accord with the wrong spirit, which leads them to develop the wrong religious teachings (Acts 2:1).

Subject: They Did Not Try To Win Us As Much As They Tried To Warn Us:

The primary purpose of the prophets and apostles in the Bible was to <u>warn</u> the people of their generation, more so than to win them to be their followers and supporters. Most of the prophets and apostles were unpopular, rejected and persecuted for telling the people what God had given them. When a preacher is more concerned about winning souls to build a large congregation, rather than warning souls of the destruction that the Bible teaches will come upon all who continue to practice sin, then this preacher is making merchandise of his congregation. In II Peter 2:1-3, it teaches as follows:

- Verse 1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.
- Verse 2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

Verse 3 - And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make <u>merchandise</u> of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

The primary purpose of God sending any preacher, prophet, or apostle throughout the history of the Bible was to warn the people about practicing sin. In Ezekiel 33:7, it reads as follows:

Verse 7 - So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.

The warning from God is that the unsaved should turn from their life style of sin.

Verse 8 - When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked <u>from his way</u> that wicked man shall die in his iniquity (sin); but his blood will I require at thine hand.

The preacher will be held responsible for every soul that he does not warn to turn from their sinful ways of living. In the judgment of the last days, one soul that was warned by the preacher to repent of their sins will be worth more to the preacher than five thousand members of a congregation who received no warning and their souls were lost in the resurrection of the last days.

The Apostle Paul was careful not to compromise with those to whom he preached, by using flattering words to win their acceptance as a religious leader, as many preachers are doing today. In the Book of I Thessalonians 2:3-6 it reads as follows:

- Verse 3 For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile:
- Verse 4 But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as <u>pleasing men</u>, but God, which trieth our hearts,

- Verse 5 For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloak of covetousness; God is witness:
- Verse 6 Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ.

May God have mercy on the preachers and congregations that have been compromised with for the price of their souls, and monetary gain for the preacher.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ has one primary purpose and that is to teach men and women that they can live a godly life free from sin right here in this present world, with Christ to help them. Any teaching or doctrine that diverts, deviates, or distracts from this primary purpose is the works of Satan. Titus 2:11-12 teaches us this purpose:

- Verse 11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation (deliverance from sin) hath appeared to all men.
- Verse 12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts (sinful desires), we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

Subject: He Came Not To Condemn The World But That The World Through Him Might Be Saved:

Your religious leader should be a representative of Christ. A true leader should be the closest example of the life of Christ that the members of the congregation should see until Jesus returns for church. Jesus is love; he represents the love that God sent to the earth to save his people from their sins. Jesus never condemned anybody that he encountered throughout the Bible; but the Scribes and Pharisees did. They condemned and were ready to stone the woman caught in adultery; but Jesus saved her from the Scribes and her adultery. If a person belongs to a church and their pastor condemns the members of the congregation, then such a pastor possesses the spirit of the Scribes and Pharisees (hypocrisy). St John 3:17 reads as follows: Verse 17 - For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Jesus is the light of the world and his purpose is to show the world that sin was the cause of all the problems that made them unhappy. Before Jesus came into the world men and women did not know that their sins were the cause of their unhappiness. Satan deceived the whole world by blinding everybody to the effects of sin. Jesus came to uncover the sins of men and women that he might destroy the works of Satan in every person's life who believes in his teachings. People should never be ashamed or feel put down because of sin. People of the world did not introduce sin to mankind; Satan introduced sin to mankind through Adam. When the gospel shows us sin in our lives, Jesus is putting Satan down, and not us. If we obey Jesus, then righteousness will exalt us. I John 3:8 reads as follows:

Verse 8 - He that committeth sin is of the devil;

Notice God does not blame us for sin he blames Satan,

Verse 8 con't - for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Notice Jesus was sent not to condemn men, but to destroy the works of Satan in the lives of men. If a man stops committing adultery and drinking liquor because Jesus saves him, then he is no longer ashamed of the sins that he once practiced. Sin is what condemns, not Jesus. Jesus removes the condemnation by helping us to overcome our sins. A religious leader should show the same spirit to his congregation. He should make known the works of Satan, and help his members to overcome their faults, not just by preaching, but also by personal counseling; and getting involved in the personal problems of the members; through love, longsuffering, prayer, fasting, and being empathetic with their problems; and never condemning them.

There should never be any condemnation in those who are trying to correct their lives and obey the gospel, though they may often fall short of obeying many things in the Bible. The fact that they are trying to obey should lift any condemnation that sin may have had in their lives. Romans, 8:1 reads as follows:

Verse 1 - There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit.

You are in Christ when you are struggling to obey him, though you might often fall short. With the frustration that liquor, drugs, financial problems, raising children, gambling and marital problems are causing people to have today; they should never have to endure the frustration of condemnation administered by their pastor or religious leader, if so, they are in the wrong church. Why support something that's discouraging?

I started my ministry in 1981, before we came to Christ; we had many problems, such as alcohol, gambling, adultery and many marital problems. Every fault that my wife and I brought to God he has helped us to overcome; and we took all of our faults to God. We used the same formula for each member, who came to us for help, some had drug problems, and alcohol, and all kinds of marital problems. We presently have 35 members not including visitors in our missions, and not one member is a victim of alcohol, drugs, adultery, or marital problems today, and all of our members have been successful in keeping their children from such problems.

When members come to us with such problems; my wife and I get personally involved, by counseling, praying, fasting, and sometimes we even live with families for a period or so to help them to get along; and teach them how to apply the things that God has taught us.

A pastor should be able to produce good members if he is a good pastor sent by God. The members of the congregation are the fruit of the pastor's labor. Jesus categorizes a pastor as a tree. Just as you can tell a good tree by good fruit, so also you should be able to tell a good pastor by the good members he is producing. If a pastor has liquor drinkers, adulterers, homosexuals, cigarette smokers, gamblers, liars, and thieves in his congregation, then that is a reflection of what he is. A man can only produce what he is.

A pastor sent by God should be able to help his members to overcome their sins or faults; if they cannot then he is a false prophet. Jesus teaches how to identify false prophets. St. Matthew 7:15 -20 reads as follows:

Verse 15 -	Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's
	clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

- Verse 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. (That is the members of their congregation.) Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?
- Verse 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; (every good pastor should bring forth good members, not some good and some corrupt.) but a corrupt tree bringeth forth

evil fruit. (If the pastor has evil members, then they are a witness against him that he is evil.)

- Verse 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. (A good pastor cannot bring forth evil members, neither can a corrupt pastor bring forth good members.)
- Verse 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. (Every church and pastor that does not produce good, saved members will be rejected when Jesus returns for his Saints, and they will be cast into hell.)
- Verse 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

The members are the fruit of the pastor's labor. They are the fruit of his spirit. A good pastor should struggle hard to help his members to overcome their sins, that he might produce good fruit. When a pastor condemns and ridicules his members, then he is condemning himself.

Subject: Greater Honor Should Be Given To The Government Of Heaven Than To The Nation's Government:

In order for any group of people to be true servants of God, God must have first call on all of their services. If we lose any necessary things of life because of our obedience to God, we must know that if God be for us, he is more than all the world, that might be against us. It is necessary that people, who call themselves children of God, get to the place in life where they are as true to God as people who claim to be citizens of our government are true to the flag of the government under which they live. When Uncle Sam makes a call, regardless of wife, children, house, or land, they answer the call. Therefore, if people are serving an authority, which they claim is greater than their nation's government; they should give that authority greater honor.

Subject: You Can Know A Person By Their Works:

You cannot forsake God and get by in life. God is the only means by which you can make it through this life. No matter how prosperous you may seem to be, no matter what you may think you have, you won't succeed without God. Trying to acquire material things of this life without God is like reaching out for air. You will end up with an empty bag and a hung down head. God teaches you how to prosper. If you try it any other way, you will be a failure. Failure to obey God results in failure in everything.

When you want to learn what God is doing on earth, learn from the man that he is using. Whatever God does on earth, he does it through a man, and you will know the man by his works. When Jesus began his work, he said to the Pharisees, "Believe that I am He for my works sake"; they prove that I am the one whom God sent to bring peace on the earth. You can know people not by talk only, but by their works. Of course, if people want you to know who they are, they will tell you, but they must back it up by their works. When a man's works are proven to be of God, it means that God sent him.

If a man's works are proven to be of the devil, it means the devil sent him. Every good tree brings forth good fruit and every evil tree brings forth evil fruit. Jesus said in St. John, 10:37-38, "If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not". Jesus was teaching the people to give more concern to the works that a man produces than the man himself. It is what a man is able to produce that reveals the quality of his worth. If a man cannot produce anything, then he is not worth anything.

Subject: The Instructions Of God Must Be Obeyed By The Preacher As Well As The People:

The instructions that are given to those who follow God are first given to the one who gives the instructions. The messenger should first be partaker of the message that he gives to the people. The messenger of God should be the example of how others can obey the instructions given by God; otherwise, he will be a castaway. The messenger should also be an example of faith. When a messenger's faith is not true, though he may be preaching the truth, his teachings will be of non-effect. The teachings of the word of God do not carry any power unless they are mixed with faith, first the preacher and next the followers.

CHAPTER IV

THE WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

(FALSE PREACHERS AND THEIR CHURCHES)

Subject: Divisions Is The Problem With Churches Today:

The worse spiritual condition that can come upon a group of church folk is divisions. It is not the followers that cause divisions, but the leaders. Divisions are brought about in denominational churches by the leaders not being with one accord and not on one accord with the teaching of the word of God. This is the result of the people, especially leaders, not having the same purpose in mind; and this is the result of one thing, the failure to understand oneness.

If the church leaders of today fail to be one and follow the faith of oneness, their followers will criticize them and not respect what they are teaching and preaching. Therefore, even if they are preaching the truth, without oneness of mind and spirit, it won't do much good.

Subject: God Will Not Dwell In A Church Assembly With Worldly Music Rhythms And Sin:

Everyday you should find a song to sing and make a melody in your heart to God. Don't sing gospel songs that have melodies, rhythms and beats similar to rock and roll songs; such songs make a mockery of God. In many churches today, the music sounds like a rock concert. God despises such profane church assemblies and he will not smell in solemn assemblies that have such desecrated music. The spirit of worldly music rhythms causes God to reject the offerings and sacrifices that such churches make. God instructs such churches to take away the noise of their songs, and that he will not hear devilish melodies of their viols (Amos 5:23).

A church must first get sin out, follow godly judgment, allow righteousness to be pre-eminent in their assembly, and not allow profane, worldly music rhythms to be a part of their worship services. You cannot worship God in any way that is sensual, worldly, fleshly, or carnal, and expect to get his attention: God is holy, which means he is free of any worldly, sensual, fleshly, or carnal way of operating. Man must learn to conform to God's way. A man cannot follow God being conformed to the religious world, but he must be transformed by the renewing of his mind, that he may prove, what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God (Romans 12:2).

If you are going to be saved, you cannot follow the pattern of present day secular systems and forms of worshipping. The sect church world has a reprobate status, being out of range of the requirements for true salvation. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of the churches of America are lost. They being ignorant of God's righteousness, have gone about to establish their own righteousness, and have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Subject: If You Have Not Been Fully Informed About The Correct Procedures For Salvation You Will Be Misled:

If you desire to be sure that your salvation is accurate, you must learn to follow the accuracy of the scriptures. The only way to do a work to please God is to do it the way that God has set forth. Many have been drawn away from obtaining true salvation because of the wrong instructions they have received from false disciples of Satan.

Such false disciples will set ordinances designed to answer to the conveniences of the people. When you are not fully informed you will be easily misled. In your heart, you may desire to follow the correct procedures of the ordinances for salvation, but if the truth is not given to you the way God has ordained, you will nevertheless be misled. No doubt ninety-nine per cent of the Christian society today has been misled, because of the lack of knowledge. You can perish just having a limited amount of knowledge for salvation.

Subject: If Your Pastor Tries To Please You He Is Not Pleasing God:

God sent John to baptize and John did not merely pick up some procedures for baptism as many religious leaders are doing today. Many Christians and pastors are trying to conduct the ordinances of baptism with no instructions, no knowledge, no understanding, and no authority from heaven to do what they are involved in. John's instructions for baptism were given from heaven and were not to be altered, not even for Jesus himself. On one occasion, John sought to alter from his instructions to baptize Jesus, until Jesus properly rebuked him. Afterwards, John followed his instructions to baptize to the letter.

John did not institute baptism of water, so he followed the plan of God, which did institute it. John did as God commanded him to do. He baptized all who desired to be partakers by submerging them under the water and raising them up again in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. John did not seek to please people, as do many religious leaders of today.

Subject: Any Religious Teaching Contrary To What Jesus Taught Will Take You To Hell:

No matter how saved you think you are, or what you think your relationship with God is, if you have not been baptized according to the instructions given in the word of God, you have rejected the counsel of God and have chosen to walk in the false counsel of men. However, if you love God and desire to be saved, it is possible for you to correct the matter and restore yourself in the favor of God's counsel. Jesus taught that men should be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. So then, if some are saying that men should be baptized in the name of Jesus only, they are rejecting the counsel of Jesus himself. You cannot obtain favor from Jesus trying to exalt him above God, and excluding the Holy Spirit. If you are trying to follow a religious teaching contrary to what Jesus has taught, you are welcome to take it to hell with you.

Subject: Sandlot Procedures For Salvation Will Be Rejected By God:

Every ordinance and set of instructions that God dictates has a significant purpose. It is better to get an understanding of God's ordinances and their purposes before you proceed to be a minister or a recipient of the ordinances. The scriptures outline a proper method for every ordinance that must be carried out according to the instructions. Any methods that are used contrary to what God outlines in the scriptures are improper and devilish. Your salvation is no more accurate than the instructions that you follow which are relevant to salvation.

When a person refuses to be baptized according to the plan of God, such a person rejects the counsel of God, making void all other attempts to be saved. God refuses to honor or recognize the person as having completed his instructions for his salvation. You cannot be saved following sandlot procedures for salvation. Your approach to God must be organized according to his plan in order for God to accept you into the major league as a candidate for salvation.

Subject: The Value Of A Hypocrite Church:

There is nothing to a church with hypocrite worshipers. There is no spiritual value, nor opportunities for salvation in such churches. People simply pretend that they are saved in hypocrite churches. People go to hypocrite churches simply because they find spiritual comfort in being false. Such people cannot abide in the tabernacle of the righteous.

A group of people cannot build a church for themselves and expect God to be in it. God is looking for people to save and not any hypocrite churches to meet people. There is really no relationship between what most folk are doing in their churches and being saved. Most churches of today offer no programs to direct people to Christ. The religion of hypocrite church folk is of non-effect when it comes to obtaining salvation.



CHAPTER V

SALVATION IS DELIVERANCE FROM SIN

Subject: What Is Salvation?

Your faith in God must be that Jesus can keep you under normal worldly conditions living above sin; otherwise, your faith is of non-effect toward acquiring salvation. Jesus wants to save you, but you must believe that he can. When you believe that Jesus is able to save you, you will acknowledge your faith before God. You should then take a stand for Christ with those who have accepted Christ, and have been saved prior to you. God will save you under the same or similar conditions by which he saved others. You will then be delivered from your sins, temptations, and difficulties as God sees fit. This is what is meant by salvation. Salvation has nothing to do with church music, hollering, screaming and unknown tongues. It simply means deliverance from sin and the problems that sin causes in your life.

Subject: There Is A Free Plan Available To Take Away Your Sins:

You don't have to commit sin; there is a free plan available to take away your sins. If you desire to receive the grace of God, it will bring you salvation, or deliverance from sin. This grace was made available by God in Christ with the purpose of teaching you how to deny ungodliness, and worldly lust, that you might live soberly, and righteously in this present world.

Sin includes everything that is contrary to the will of God, and grace includes all that is in accord with God's will. There are two works of grace that most churches of man have failed to preach, one is the forgiveness of sin, and the other is the power given to man which makes it so that he does not have to commit sin anymore. You have not received forgiveness for your sins unless you have received grace to help you not to commit sin. The devil can forgive you for your sins, but only Jesus can give you power to sin no more.

Subject: An Act Of God:

True salvation is an act of God. A person who experiences salvation in Jesus Christ would have been saved by a direct act of God from heaven. No power on earth can convert a person from the carnal nature of sin to a divine nature of
righteousness. Such a person's conversion would be similar to that which the Apostle Paul experienced while on the road to Damascus to persecute the saints (Acts 9:1).

When you are truly saved, you are born again of the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God would have conceived a new mind in you by the word of God, which you believed when you heard it. This would take place after the same order that Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary when Mary believed the message from God by the angel Gabriel (St. Luke 1:28-35). God is very particular about whom he saves, and he doesn't allow the devil or his angels to interfere with his choice and procedure to save a person.

Subject: Salvation Is A Total New Experience:

When a person experiences true salvation; they will discover that the knowledge and teachings of Jesus Christ are altogether different from what they learned in their church. Such a new convert will learn that true salvation is unlike anything that they have ever learned or heard of. When the new convert is introduced to a true preacher of the gospel, they will realize that all of their prior religious leaders were like thieves and robbers. St. John 10:7-8 reads as follows:

Verse 7 -	Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say
	unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

Verse 8 - All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.

When Jesus gives a person a new mind, they will lose the desire to hear an old religious teaching, or leader that God did not send. It takes a new mind to digest the new teaching of the gospel that will be new to everyone who comes to Jesus for the first time. St Matthew 9:17 reads as follows:

Verse 17 - Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.

God puts a new teaching in a new mind that both may be saved. An old mind cannot take a new teaching of the gospel neither can a new mind take an old

teaching. Jesus is the good shepherd and the door of your mind. Jesus prepares a new mind for the gospel that he wants a person to receive. A person that Jesus has truly saved will not follow a false religious leader. If you have a false religious leader, it means you are not saved. A saved person will not follow a stranger. St John 10:4-5 reads as follows:

- Verse 4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.
- Verse 5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

Salvation means that those who have been partakers of it have been renewed in the spirit of their minds, if they have been taught the truth of Jesus Christ. Ephesians 4:21-24:

- Verse 21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus:
- Verse 22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;
- Verse 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;
- Verse 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Subject: Holy And Acceptable To God:

God has arranged a plan by which humans that are born in sin can be redeemed from the condemnation of their conception, and be brought into the channels of salvation by Jesus Christ. Such redeemed humans are then given procedures by which they can live a life of holiness, living above the condemnation of their prior life of sin. These humans would be the redeemed of the Lord, sought out, and separated from the deceitful pleasures of the world. Their lives would be holy and acceptable unto God. They would live a life that is sanctified in Christ Jesus until the end of their life on earth. When you have been born again, God lives in you. You then become a part of God, allowing God to be your director through life (Colossians 1:27). Such a person would be God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works (Ephesians 2:10). When you are truly born again, it was not a last minute work of God; it was ordained that you would walk in Christ during this present day.

Subject: The Natural Man Receiveth Not The Things Of The Spirit Of God:

If you have not been born again, you are presently living in the natural state. This means that your mind has not been anointed by the Holy Spirit to receive knowledge from God. Under this condition, your way of thinking is at variance or an enemy to the knowledge of God (Romans 8:7). When you are born again of the Spirit of God, your mind will then be reconciled to God and the Spirit of God will be an intercessor to help your mind to receive knowledge from God. Without the assistance of the Spirit of God, you will be a continuous enemy of the knowledge of God.

Subject: A Holy Birth Is By The Power Of The Holy Spirit:

Jesus Christ was born holy because of the fact that Mary, his mother was overshadowed by the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost conceived the seed of life into Mary's womb, which produced the life of Christ. John the Baptist was conceived by his father's seed, and the Holy Ghost overshadowed Zacharias and Elizabeth to fill John with the Holy Spirit while he was yet in his mother's womb. If you believe and obey the word of God, it will do great works in your life.

Subject: The Father The Son And The Holy Ghost:

When you are truly saved, you will acknowledge all three members of the Trinity, which is God in three parts of his administration. Baptism is one very important ordinance of the Trinity that must be acknowledged. All trails lead from God when you fail to follow the instructions that he gives. In St. Matthew 28:18-19 you will find these words.

- Verse 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, *all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*
- Verse 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Some religious sects and denominations are baptizing in Jesus' name only, as you have just read in St. Matthew, 28th chapter, verse 18. Jesus himself teaches that baptizing should be in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, so they are cutting God and the Holy Ghost out. When this happens, such religious practicals are cutting themselves out of the plan of salvation. The plan of salvation is God's program.

Everybody who has not been baptized according to the word of God has rejected the counsel of God and has chosen to walk in the counsel of men. Baptism is a symbol and a memorial. It is observed that we might keep in mind the burial and resurrection of Christ. The only way we can symbolize His burial and resurrection is by being buried in the water and raised out of the water.

You who believe that Jesus died and rose again know that he died for you. Jesus did not die for any sins that he committed. Therefore, when you go down in the water to represent the burial of your sins, and you come up as a symbol of the resurrection after your sins have been buried, your baptism represents Christ's death, and the death of your old sinful life.

When you are truly saved, you are not just saved by Christ coming into your life, but by all three members of the Trinity entering your life. Christ further teaches this in St John 14:23-26, that along with himself, the Father and the Holy Ghost must be inclusive as a part of your salvation. Verse 23 reads as follows:

Verse 23 - Jesus answered and said unto him, *If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.*

In verse 26, He includes the Holy Ghost also:

Verse 26 - But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. In I John 5:7, it teaches us:

Verse 7 - For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

The Father who is God, and the word who is Jesus, bare record with the Holy Ghost in heaven and they are one in administration. They must also bear record of your salvation when you are truly saved, and that record must be in heaven where your name is written in the lamb's fair book of life.

Subject: The Father The Son And The Holy Ghost Are One In Administration:

If you get anywhere with Jesus, God will have to give you the increase. Whatever you accomplish in Christ has to come by the power of God. Don't try to have God without Jesus, neither try to have Jesus without God, because they are one in administration. God works with Jesus and Jesus works for God. The Holy Spirit is the power that is at your service, to assist you. The three will never be contrary to one another. They have perfect oneness. When you take on the spirit of oneness, then the three would have taken up residence in you. If you are divided in your church or belief, then you have never known them, because they are never part of any divisions. They are one and they only work in situations of oneness or complete unity. Any church group or situation of division means that the three are not there.

Subject: What Purpose Should Your Religion Serve?

True religion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ should have a good common sense purpose in your life. If the purpose of Jesus' ministry is not accomplished in your life, there is no profit in going to church singing, shouting, yelling, dancing, falling out, and speaking in some tongue that even monkeys don't understand. The purpose of Jesus' ministry won't be accomplished in your life if you are in such a church.

The purpose of true salvation should be no different from your doctor's barber's, beautician's, auto-mechanic's or plumber's purpose in your life. That is, your religion should take care of your spiritual need. All of the people and

technicians who render services to you are for specific needs and purposes. Everybody's spiritual need is to be saved from sin. Jesus came for that specific need and purpose. St. Matthews 1:21 teaches us the purpose for which Jesus came:

Verse 21 - And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

If you say that you have Jesus in your life and the purpose for which he came is not accomplished in your life, this would be the same as saying that Jesus has had no more function in your life than your plumber, barber, or doctor. Your doctor tells you what his purpose is. Jesus' purpose is to save us from sin. Your plumber's purpose is to fix the leak in the kitchen. If he comes out to your house for that purpose and he doesn't accomplish the job, you don't need this plumber. If you go to a church, and have not received Jesus into your life to save you from your sins, you don't need that church or pastor. Such a church cannot help you to accomplish what Jesus said he came to do.

Don't feel that because a preacher has a big congregation with a radio program that he has an effective ministry. If his ministry is not able to accomplish in your life what Jesus came to do, it simply means that Jesus is not working through his ministry to serve the people. When Jesus is working through a pastor or church, he will save the people from their sins. If you think that it is impossible, it is because you have not been saved from sin.

People are easily fooled by shouts and demonstrations in churches. They will gladly give their money and means of support to false programs. However, if their doctors or barbers don't give them satisfactory services, they will change their doctors and barbers. The services of doctors and barbers have to be given according to what they profess their purposes are for customers and patients. If they cannot meet their expectations, then they would have failed.

Jesus states his purpose in your life, and he said it is to save you from your sins. If your local church has not been able to help to accomplish this in your life, they have failed, but there is no failure in Christ. Therefore, a sensible conclusion is that they don't have Christ in their organizations or their lives.

Subject: You Cannot Rise Above Your Character:

Your character is the contents or qualities of your personality. It determines your bounds in life, or it determines how far you will advance. Poor character can work against your success early in life, or reserve itself to impede you later in life. Regardless of when it decides to go to work against you, poor character will deter your advancement socially, professionally and economically.

Some men have gone as far as being presidents or dictators, such as Adolf Hitler, and their poor character later destroyed them or their careers. If you want to advance in life, ask God to help you to remove sin out of your character. Sin causes a person to possess poor character. Sin is a reproach to your character. In the book of Proverbs 14:34 it reads like this:

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Verse 34 - Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.
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Because Joseph refused to commit adultery, his life concluded with him controlling all of the wealth of the world in Egypt at that time. It appeared at first that Joseph would spend his life in prison, because he refused to commit adultery with his master's wife. Genesis 39:7-8 read as follows:

- Verse 7 And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me.
- Verse 8 But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand;

Listen to how Joseph's career resulted in Genesis 41:39-40:

- Verse 39 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:
- Verse 40 Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

Joseph was appointed by the Pharaoh to hold the highest position in Egypt, not because of his intelligence or educational background, but because he refused to commit adultery. This promotion did not come from Pharaoh, but from God. Psalm 75:6-7 reads as follows:

- Verse 6 For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.
- Verse 7 But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

God promotes us because of our willingness to live above sin.

Subject: You Are Saved By Grace And It Is A Gift From God:

You cannot make yourself righteous. Whatever righteousness you can acquire by your own will is self-righteousness. You can only repent of your sins, but it takes God to build you up in righteousness. You cannot acquire the Spirit of God into our life until you have been established in righteousness by the word of God. When this has been properly accomplished, it means you have received grace. Grace does not come from your efforts, but it is a gift from God. When you become saved of a truth, you would have received a gift from God.

There is nothing in you, nothing you could have done or could do that would cause you to receive salvation or deserve to be saved. God simply gives it to you. Even though you repent of your sins, this does not give you salvation; it is simply an indication that you want to be saved. God's repentance that is granted to you gives you the power to turn from your besetting sins.

Subject: A Change Of Environment:

A change of social or religious environment won't help you unless Christ is in the new environment. For a person to stop running the streets with bad, sinful company and join a church to be in a bad, sinful church environment is worse than being in the streets with sinners. There is no spiritual advantage in coming out of one bad crowd to join another just because the new crowd is a church group. You would be the same old sinner in a new dress or suit. Jesus wants you to experience a change of heart, not just a change of social or religious environment. In Ezekiel 36:26, it reads as follows:

Verse 26 - A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out

of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

Most church folk today need as much help as unsaved people in the streets and bars who don't go to church. You can move to any new city and find different people practicing the same sinful habits. Jesus wants us to experience a change of life style rather than a change of social environment. The new religious change that Jesus wants to give will be within us, and we can establish our own religious environment right in our homes. There is no profit in going to church acting like an angel and going home acting like a devil. St. Luke 17:20-21 read as follows:

- Verse 20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, *The kingdom of God cometh not with observation:*
- Verse 21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

The Church of God is put within people, and not within a sin practicing church group. Jesus wants the husband, wife, and children to establish a religious environment in righteousness and true holiness. Most churches have many sinful practices among their members.

Subject: Jesus Is The Only Avenue To Heaven And He Uses Saved People To Direct You:

If you can find any fault in Jesus, then he is not the example to follow, but I guarantee you that you will not find any fault in him. Nevertheless, the scribes and Pharisees found false accusations against Jesus; they were of the spirit of Satan. If you have the spirit of the devil, you will find false accusations against a saved person. When the scribes and Pharisees made false accusations against Jesus, little did they know that they were blocking the only way into the kingdom of heaven for themselves and others.

A saved person today is the only way to Jesus. If you find false accusations against a saved person, Satan would have blocked your only avenue to heaven. You can only get to heaven through Jesus, and Jesus establishes himself in those that he saves. Such people are representatives (ambassadors) of the kingdom of heaven. It is by them only that you can get into heaven.

Subject: You Cannot Direct Others To Christ In The Sinful Nature:

You cannot direct others to Christ until you have been established by the word of God. When you are properly established in oneness with God through Christ, you can then help others to come to the Lord. God will not send anybody to hear a carnal person. You must be filled with the Holy Ghost to lead others to Christ. The devil can overpower you and take advantage of you in the sinful nature.

Subject: The Christian Show-Off:

To be a religious show-off is an abomination unto God. God detests a religious person who tries to impress others with styles of worshipping and rhetoric (eloquent speeches). This kind of religion was very prevalent among the Pharisees whom Jesus labeled as being hypocrites. The Pharisees relied on eloquent speeches and prayers to impress their colleagues of how religious they were.

Jesus said such religious persons trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others, St. Luke 18:9-14 reads as follows:

Verse 9 - And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

Jesus went on further to give an example of this kind of show-off spirit.

Verse 10 - *Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.*

The publicans were tax collectors, such as Matthew and Zacchaeus. They were despised for their harsh methods of gathering taxes.

Verse 11 - The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

The Pharisees were a very strict religious sect who upheld the Mosaic Law (Moses' teaching) but were void of understanding the teachings of Jesus Christ.

They were labeled by Jesus as self-righteous hypocrites, and by John the Baptist as a generation of vipers. The Pharisees were very eloquent religious orators (full of rhetoric); verse 12 reads as follows:

Verse 12 - I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

Verse 13 - And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

Jesus said the publican that most of the Pharisees despised was more justified than the Pharisee, because he humbled himself and acknowledged that he was a sinner.

Verse 14 - *I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*

To be a religious show-off is to be rejected by God.

True religion should not be a show to the world. God can tell when a person likes to attract attention through open verbal prayers and speeches. Your prayer should be a petition to God and not an impressive speech before your religious colleagues. If you are trying to serve God in sincerity and there is a slight inclination on your part to be seen or heard of men, Jesus says to go into your secret closet and close the door before you start your prayer. God can hear through the door. God sees the condition that inspires your prayer and religious ways. He knows what is motivating you to serve him. God knows when a person gets more pleasure out of others watching and listening to his or her religious ways than they do obeying God. Such a person therefore will be more impressive to his colleagues, than obedient to God. God is very careful to discern that you are either a saint or a hypocrite; the reward will come openly or not at all; St. Matthew 6:7 reads as follow:

Verse 7 - But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

Many think that their prayers and religious styles are more effective when they are loud and full of excitement. Such religious ways might excite other members, but they do not excite nor impress God.

Don't think for a moment that you are giving God a news flash when you present your petition to him. He is fully informed, not only of the condition that moves you to pray, but the motive behind your prayer and the spirit in it. You don't have to yell at God, he isn't hard of hearing. God is standing by ready to deliver you, if you are truly saved and living the life of a saint. If you are a hypocrite, as the Pharisees were, God is further away than your voice can carry. God is not moved by your eloquent speeches or fancy language and position of elevation in the church. The publican who said, "God be merciful to me a sinner", was far more justified than the Pharisee who probably used the best language in the dictionary.

Subject: Experience Versus The Novice:

A novice is defined as a beginner or one who is just starting out in an endeavor. Most beginners are young, energetic, and full of zeal for the thing that they are initiating.

Whenever a farmer attempts to teach a young mule how to plow a field, he would always hook the young mule up with an experienced older mule. The old mule actually does the work. The young mule would be pulling against the older mule, in most cases. This would often result in the older mule pulling the plow and the young mule. The young mule would have very little sense of direction and would be wasting most of its energy in excitement, poor judgment, and inexperience of how to plow a field.

So is it also often times with a young person or novice in the Lord. It is important that a novice be under the direction and instructions of an experienced saint. God hardly ever leads a novice to do anything, unless it is being done to assist the experienced leaders of the church. On a few occasions, God has used a novice prophet, such as Jeremiah, but on special occasions for special purposes (Jeremiah 1:6-7). Jeremiah was like John the Baptist; they both were filled with the Holy Ghost before they were born. If a novice is given too much authority and responsibility, the novice will become lifted up in pride and fall into the same trap that the devil fell in. In the book of I Timothy, 3:6 it reads as follows:

Verse 6 - Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

God reveals and directs a person in accordance to his or her experience, not according to everything that comes to their minds. Such revelations and direction are ordained for the saint with suffering, persecutions, and tribulations. The person who suffers the most learns the most. In the book of Ecclesiastes, 1:18 it reads as follows:

Verse 18 - For in much wisdom is much grief: and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow.

If you want to be a leader and have a lot of wisdom in the Lord, then be willing to suffer a lot of tests and trials. If you are afraid of tests and trials, then follow the experienced person who has been around much longer and suffered the most. Just because a person is old in years does not mean that they are experienced in the Lord. An older person who has experienced less suffering should follow the younger person who has been in the Lord longer and has had more experience and suffering in the Lord than the person older in years. In the book of Job, 32:7-9 it reads like this:

Verse 7 -	I said, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom.
Verse 8 -	But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.
Verse 9 -	Great men are not always wise: neither do the aged understand judgment.

Subject: A Beginner Can Be Deceived Without An Experienced Counselor:

In everything you attempt to do in righteousness, strive to get an approval from God. This approval can only be acquired through the knowledge of God's word. When you first become saved, God lights you up so brightly that you cannot see anything because you are so full of love; neither can you hear folks talking about you. However, after your illumination is over, then God allows you to go on your trial trip, and you will reap some of the things that you have sown before you were saved. The devil will tell you it is time to get your hat, and that this is not what you thought it was. Because things seem a little difficult, and you don't have much understanding, you will weaken and die unless God intervenes with someone to help you. You will hardly be able to stay saved without an efficient God sent leader.

Subject: You Might Have To Follow Him By Yourself:

In the book of St. Luke 13:23-24 it reads as follows:

Verse 23 -	Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that
	be saved? And he said unto them,

Verse 24 - Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

Jesus is teaching that many people are going to try to be saved, but they will be going into the wrong gate (or church). In St. Matthew 7:13-14, Jesus makes a comparison between the two gates. He is teaching that one is a strait and narrow gate and the other is a broad or wide gate:

Verse 13 -	Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate,
	and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction,
	and many there be which go in thereat:

Verse 14 - Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

The comparison that Jesus is making refers to two kinds of religions. The broad way is a kind of religious church or teaching that a person might be part of that allows them to live a worldly or sinful life, yet teaches that they can still be saved living such a life. This is the broad and wide way. Jesus is teaching that you will find many people going to these kinds of churches. However, the way of true salvation would be a strait and narrow way with only a few people going that way. On many occasions, truly saved people will find that they might have to follow this way by themselves, without relatives, friends or loved ones to accompany them. Jesus teaches that when he saves a person, it is not going to bring peace between them and their loved ones that are not saved. In the book of St. Matthew 10:34-35 it reads:

Verse 34 -	Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.
Verse 35 -	For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.
Verse 36 -	And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

When Jesus calls a person out of a world of sin to live a saved life, he also calls that person from among their relatives and former associates, that they might be sanctified or set apart socially and religiously. In most cases, a person's prior church company was not much different from their unsaved company. Jesus calls us to be a separate people, and often times a saved person will appear to be peculiar to those with whom they were once socially involved. Listen to how I Peter 2:9 reads:

Verse 9 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

In Romans 1:1, the Apostle Paul teaches that a saved person is separated unto the gospel of God. In the book of Isaiah 62:12 it teaches that when Jesus calls his people out of sin, they shall be called "The holy people, The redeemed of the Lord: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken". Unsaved relatives, friends, and loved ones cannot continue to be close associates of a truly saved person; it is impossible. Truly saved people live a life that is uncomfortable and confusing to the unsaved.

A truly saved person is directed by the power of the Holy Spirit, and the unsaved are directed by the power of the carnal nature (or ungodly desires) and these are contrary one to the other. The saved person walks in the Spirit of God, seeking only to please God. When a person lives so that he or she pleases God, that person will not be pleasing most of his or her relatives and former friends. The unsaved person walks according to their fleshly desires, and that is seeking to please him or herself. The Spirit of God and the carnal or fleshly nature of a person are contrary to one another. In Galatians 5:17 it teaches, "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would".

A person who is still under the power of the carnal nature or ungodly desires will follow after such things as in Galatians 5:19-21 and they may still belong to some church:

Verse 19 -	Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,
Verse 20 -	Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,
Verse 21 -	Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like:

However, a person who is truly saved will follow the fruit of the Holy Spirit, which is as follows in verses 22-23

Verse 22 -	But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
	longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Verse 23 - Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

The saved person will find that it is easier following the teachings of Christ alone, rather than trying to retain a close relationship with the unsaved.

Subject: No Matter What Happens God Is Able To Deliver You:

When you first start out with Christ, you must quickly get an understanding and the mind that no matter what comes against you, God is able to deliver you. You should learn the program for salvation that has been made available to you, and not allow yourself to be condemned no matter what anybody says.

You must quickly learn that anybody who is not saved can be used by Satan to prevent your stand with God, unless your love and stand for God are sincere enough to provoke God's help. You should associate yourself exclusively with saved people.

Subject: Your Enemies Are Elected By God:

You might think that living right and being saved will draw you friends and cause people to find favor in you. This will only happen to those whom God has ordained to receive such from you. Those whom God has not ordained to find favor in your conversion will be your biggest enemies. Anybody who is not saved can be the enemy of those who are saved. Because of the kindness you may have received from the unsaved, it may not appear to be so. This may happen in part because of the kindness that you would have sown since you were saved. The other part would be because the Holy Spirit of God goes before a saved person to greet their colleagues and neighbors. The Holy Spirit overpowers the unsaved person's wickedness and causes them to respond to the saved person in like manner as the saved person deals with them. On the other hand, there will be some folk in the lives and dealings of the saved person whom God has elected to be the persecutors of the saved person. God raises up such wicked people for this purpose.

A saved person's enemies are just as important as their friends are. The enemies of the saved person try them to see whether their salvation is true or not. This is why Jesus teaches you to love your enemies, because their part in your salvation is the will of God. We must accept and approve of God's will regardless of how bitter the cup is. To be saved, you made God your choice, and God made your enemies his choice.

Subject: Wherever Your Treasures Are There Will Your Heart And Soul Be Also:

When you go out to the cemetery for your last ride, no matter how big you were in this life, you will be just like everybody else in the cemetery. People may talk about your greatness after you are dead, but you won't hear it. They may make you a legend after you are dead, but you won't know about it. The Bible teaches that the dead knoweth nothing. Whatever you accomplish in the form of recognition, fame, monetary wealth or otherwise while you lived in this life will be worth nothing to you after you die, though many living people may get some benefit from it. Only what is done for Christ while you lived will profit you after you are dead.

The gains in the kingdom of this world will all perish and you will perish with them if you anchor your hope in them. Wherever your treasures are there will your heart and soul be also.

Subject: Be Careful Of The Snare:

You must know the devil to be able to avoid his tricks. If you are not familiar with the devil's devices, he will fool you and set a snare to trap you. When the devil gets you in a snare, you can't get out unless Jesus helps you. Traps are set contrary to the knowledge of that which the trapper is trying to catch. When a trapper is trying to catch an animal, he sets the snare so that the animal is ignorant of what it is getting into when it tries to take the bait.

When Satan sets a snare, his bait is sin or sin related. If a person tries to take the bait, they will be caught and they won't know how to set themselves free.

Subject: What Profit Is This Life With No Hope Beyond The Grave:

If while we live in this life, we seem to gain something material, then it is not just for our personal comfort and profit, but for others who are in need and are worthy of the blessings of God. So then, the mathematical formula for me when I come to the end of my life on earth is that nothing from nothing will permit me to leave here with nothing. However, it is my hope that the grace of God, which bringeth salvation, will grant me an escort to a better place.

The gains in the kingdom of this world will all perish, and anybody who has anchored their hope in them will perish with them. However, when such things are used to build hope in the kingdom of heaven, they are to serve a good purpose, and are multiplied without corrupting you.

Christ came to make the kingdom of heaven a reality here on earth, and that will extend beyond the grave. What profit is this life when you have no hope beyond the grave? You are only here for a few days.

Subject: Yesterday Will Meet You Tomorrow When You Start Out To Walk With God:

When you start out to walk with God (to live a saved life), you must be determined that you will let nothing separate you from the love of God. You become separated from the love of God when you are separated from the principles of righteousness taught in the gospel. The longer you live in sin the more Satan will have to use against you after you become saved. It is better to come to God while you are young, this will mean less suffering for you after you are saved.

The fruit of the evil deeds that you practiced before you were saved will come back to you later in life. Satan uses these things to separate you from the love of God. When you start out following the teachings of Jesus Christ, though you are living a different life in another day, yesterday will meet you tomorrow. There will be sorrowful days in your new life in Christ, but if you remain in fellowship with God, the joy will overwhelm the sorrow.

Subject: Be Careful Of The Kind Of Seeds You Sow Because You Will Reap More Than You Sowed:

You may not remember many of the things that you sowed in life (good or evil deeds), but you can be assured that whatever you are receiving in life is based upon what you put out. It is difficult to see where you previously did many evil deeds, because the principles of sowing and reaping are based upon the fact that you get more in return than what you put out. All of nature tells us this. What farmer does not receive more corn than the seeds that he plants? This is true also with the deeds that we perform in life, whether they are good or evil. We will receive a return many times that which we sowed, sometimes twenty, thirty, sixty or a hundredfold.

Subject: Is There A Barrier Between You And God?

There is no need to go to church to shout and sing unless you know what you're shouting about. When you don't know what the plan of salvation is all about, you are just getting a little exercise shouting in church. The wisdom you learn in the world may profit you, but you will find out that those who try to teach you in the world's churches don't know much themselves. If you ever wake up to the righteousness of Christ and stop sinning, you will discover how much time you have wasted in your church.

What you want in life is Christ, and if you haven't found him, though you go to a church, you are still empty. Unless you have experienced the fullness of Christ in your life, you are not satisfied. Your vessel is not filled with oil, your cup is empty, and you feel unsafe. Only Jesus can deal with your problems, but he won't do it unless you forsake your sins. You didn't know this; therefore, your lack of knowledge created a barrier between you and God. When the barrier is removed and knowledge is made available, what will your excuse be for not accepting Christ?

Subject: The Process Of True Conversion In Christ Is Sensible And Meaningful:

So many people have been baptized with water, but they go back into their sins before they are baptized with the Holy Ghost. You cannot be kept from sin without the power of God. The power of God is the Holy Spirit that he gives to everybody that he saves. The baptism of water is an open testimony that you have been partaker of the saving process. It won't get you into heaven, but it can keep you out of heaven if you are not willing to be partaker of it when the opportunity is available.

After being justified by faith, you must receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Foolish works of Satan have deceived many into believing false signs of salvation such as falling out, rolling in the floor, and speaking in unknown tongues. You will receive no power to live above sin if you allow Satan to incorporate these foolish signs in your conversion. God is not foolish; neither will he accept such foolishness in those who want to be saved. Every act and purpose in the process of salvation has a profound and sensible meaning that is relevant to a true and proper conversion in Christ.

Subject: A Child Of God Is Delivered From Sin By Following The Ordinances And Principles Of Righteousness Given By God:

Your concern above everything else in life should be to acquire salvation in Jesus Christ. Most everything that you do in life is governed by thoughts that enter your mind. The purpose of our gospel is to get thoughts into your mind that will bring you peace, joy, and happiness. You must be directed into the correct channels of salvation in order to receive this. The gospel was given to get your mind on God to the extent that you will seek to obey his commandments. If you receive the gospel as we are teaching it, it will deliver you from physical torments of this life, and from the eternal torments of the next life.

The foundation of salvation is obedience to God. God gives each person, who comes to him through Christ, rules to follow leading a child of God through a course that requires the child to follow certain ordinances and principles of righteousness that will deliver such a child of God out of sin.

Subject: That Which Thou Sowest, Thou Sowest Not That Body That Shall Be (I Corinthians 15:37):

God did not bring us into existence for us to pass out, die, and not exist anymore; such would be a meaningless existence. God has a purpose for man if man obeys him. The entire foundation of the teachings of Jesus Christ is based upon the resurrection that God has planned for man. If there is no resurrection for the saved, we are wasting our time talking about God.

Though most men must die, God has a plan for man to live again. Some men may say, "How is it possible that the dead can live again"? Listen! The life that you are living today, you are sowing this life. If you live in sin, you are sowing your life unto damnation, to be resurrected for damnation, to spend eternity with the damned (condemned). This cannot happen until you die (I Corinthians 15:36). That which you sow cannot be resurrected until it dies. The body and life that you presently live in is not the body that will be resurrected, no more than the seed of the tomato grows to be a seed. A tomato seed does not grow to be a tomato seed, but a big vine full of tomatoes.

Listen Again! If you sow or live your life above sin, obeying God, you will reap life everlasting. This is because you will be planting your life in the earth as a good seed, when you die to be resurrected unto eternal life. However, to live in sin is to sow your life unto damnation, or corruption, to be resurrected to spend eternity in hell with the damned.

Subject: If You Receive The Witness Of The Apostles The Witness Of God Will Be Greater:

If you can accept the claim that men have been to the moon, why not accept the belief that God created the moon. The apostles of Christ bore witness of the events recorded in the scriptures. If you receive the witness of the apostles, the witness of God will be greater in your life. If you support outer-space projects, your taxes will be greater next year.

Subject: Watch For Your Vain Imagination:

Your imagination must be brought under subjection of the word of God; otherwise it will be an imagination without a true vision. Such an imagination then becomes deluded, yet it can still hold your mind captive by means of the false visions that it gives you. When such an imagination is the substance of your religion, then your religion is vain. When your vain imagination has been replaced by divine inspiration through the promise of the word of God, then such inspiration will be compatible with the knowledge of salvation.

Subject: God Is Not Glorified By The Unsaved Though They May Do What God Wants:

Though God can take the unsaved and make him do what he wants by ruling his mind, he will not give the sinner credit, because God would have made him do it. On the other hand, God will bless a saved person who does something because he or she knows it is God's will and that God will be glorified through his or her obedience.

Subject: Ask According To The Will Of God And It Shall Be Granted:

When you get the mind to do something in the name of Jesus, the Holy Spirit must be your means of motivation; otherwise, you will be following a false vision, thinking that God is leading you. God makes a way for his purposes. When your purpose is in line with God's purpose, you are learning the will of God. You will be wise if you follow such a purpose. If you pray according to your desire to accomplish such a purpose you will be asking for a petition according to the will of God. If you ask anything according to His will, it shall be given.

Subject: Grace And Sin:

Sin includes everything you do that is contrary to the will of God. Grace includes the forgiveness of sin and the power given to man after he repents that makes him not commit sin anymore. If you believe anything different, you have not received grace and you are yet in your sins. After you receive these works of grace, justification and sanctification will follow. You will know that you are justified by grace when you have been sanctified (set apart) by the Holy Spirit. When this happens, your condemnation would have been removed from your conscience.

Subject: Grace:

Grace means unearned favor, or that you are receiving something that you do not deserve. There are two works of grace available to man. One work of grace is the forgiveness of sin, which many churches preach; however, the other is the power that God gives man which makes him a new creature, so that he does not have to sin anymore after being forgiven of his sins; this one most churches do not preach .

Included in the power of not continuously living in sin are justification and sanctification. When you receive the power of the Holy Spirit to live above sin, you become justified and you are set apart or sanctified by the Spirit. All these things are included in the keeping power that grace offers you. Any experiences of being saved that are different from these are deceptions of Satan.

Subject: God Looks At Your Heart:

God doesn't look at your outward appearance; he looks at your heart. No matter how well you dress up and go to church to be seen by others, God pays you absolutely no attention if your heart is not right. You must have clean hands and a pure heart for God to see you. He doesn't pay any attention to your expensive clothes and the new shiny car you drive to church. That beautiful home you live in doesn't mean a thing to God if you regard iniquity in your heart.

Whatever you are giving your church you should keep if God is not in your heart. God is not impressed by the attractiveness of your possessions as people are. People will admire you when you have a beautiful home, fine clothes, and fancy cars to ride in, but God doesn't look at the quality of your material life. God looks at the substance of your spiritual condition.

Subject: God Knows You Better Than You Know Yourself:

You can't save yourself no matter what you do in your church. You can go to church and pay your tithes, shout, sing, pray and testify, but nothing that you do can save you. If you become saved, you will be saved by grace. Your best efforts should be put towards repenting of your sins, but it still won't save you. God gives you grace for salvation based upon the intent mysteries of your heart, which you don't know about. The secret intents of your heart will be made known to you as being good intentions if God saves you. Otherwise, though your efforts were good, and your repentance seems to be ever so sincere, if you don't receive grace, it means that your good impression of your intent of heart has deceived you. Failure to receive grace from God means that you didn't have good intentions to obey God, though you thought you did, but God knows you better than you know yourself.

Subject: Would We Recognize God If He Were Introduced To Us?

If you want to meet God, you will have to change your way of thinking. It is difficult to perceive a person, or subject when what you have envisioned is different from what the subject is. If you have ever gone to visit a place that you have never been to before, you might have found that it was altogether different from what your mind had envisioned it to be. So is it also with God. Unless you have truly been born again, and have established a true relationship with God through Jesus Christ, then your perception of God is probably distorted.

A person, who is not saved, possesses a carnal (non-spiritual) mind, and the carnal mind cannot recognize the things of God. It takes the Spirit of God to reveal to us the reality and proper perception of God. I Corinthians 2:10 reads as follows:

Verse 10 - But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

God is not an earthly perception, but he is Spirit that must be presented to us by the knowledge of his word. Man cannot receive things that are contrary to his way of thinking. However, when a man has been born again, his thinking process is changed by the Spirit of God. This will enable him to think as God requires. All this is done by the Spirit of God. I Corinthians 2:11 reads as follows:

Verse 11 - For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

When a person thinks unholy (unrighteous), then the things that the person will understand are received in an unholy manner. To recognize and understand the presence of God necessitates a mind that has been anointed, or overshadowed by the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit of God helps us to receive, and to be able to obey God's commandments. Without the Spirit of God creating a reception room for God to come into your mind, it will be impossible to recognize God. The Spirit of God enables us to respond to the introduction of God. Genesis 1:1-2 helps us with this:

- Verse 1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
- Verse 2 And the earth was without form, and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
- Verse 3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

Notice the earth was void, crude, and needed to be refined by the Spirit of God, that it might be able to respond to the commandments of God. So is it also with an unsaved person's mind before they have been born again. On one occasion, the disciple Philip requested of Jesus to show them the Father. Jesus responded in St. John 14:9:

Verse 9 - Jesus saith unto him, *Have I been so long time with you,* and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then,

Shew us the Father?

Jesus is teaching that God is Spirit and that he is the word of God presenting the Spirit of God to the world. An ambassador, who goes to a foreign country to present the policy and beliefs of the president, also presents the spirit of the president to the foreign country. The spirit and doctrine of the president is manifested through the words of the ambassador, and it is the same as meeting the president himself. The ambassador is not speaking of himself, but of the president. So, is it also with God.

Verse 10 - Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

So to meet God is to meet those who carry the word of God in their lives, God is his word (St. John 1:1). Saved people on the earth are ambassadors for Christ to introduce God to the world. Whenever you meet a saved person telling you about salvation through Jesus Christ, you have met God. If you honor the ambassadors for Christ, then God will further manifest himself and honor you. If you receive the witness of man, then the witness of God will be greater. I John 5:8 reads as follows:

Verse 8 - And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

Subject: Salvation Is Nature In A Reverse Course:

Every person that repents of his or her sins and returns to God will one day be given the benefits of living in an environment that will not be controlled by the crudeness of Mother Nature's life cycle. The Bible promises that this environment will be set-up by God in a new heaven and a new earth. In the book of Isaiah 11:6-8, it gives an example of how in this new environment nature will be operating in reverse of the way things exist in this present world.

Verse 6 - The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

- Verse 7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- Verse 8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den.

These things are not natural in our present environment. In our present existence, the stronger animals feed upon the weaker. This scripture was put in the Bible as an example to us of how nature should be reversed in our lives, and Christian churches, if we are truly saved, and would like to be a part of the new environment. It is natural for men and women to commit adultery, steal, extort, lie, commit homosexual acts, argue, and not get along or agree in their community churches.

On many occasions, we hear about the trustees, deacons, pastors, and other church officers being at variance against one another. All of these kinds of acts are natural ways of nature operating in human beings. It is the lesser light ruling the night, as taught in Genesis 1:16, "And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also". The greater light was the first course of life that God gave Adam to enjoy by living in the Garden of Eden without sickness, "old age", death, labor, or stress. This course of life even offered peace between the animals of which Adam was keeper: The lion and the calf were at peace with one another. when the Bible teaches that the greater light was given to rule the day, the word "Day" means righteousness; that is in the first course of life righteousness was the dominant power over the environment. God also created a lesser light to rule the night. The word "Night" means evil or unrighteousness.

While Adam lived under the rule of day, evil was kept under subjection and confined within the tree in the middle of the Garden; better known to Adam as "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil" (Genesis 2:17). The power of evil was kept under subjection or in prison, as long as Adam obeyed God, and did not eat of this tree; this was the lesser light to rule a world of darkness with the power of sin, if Adam ever decided to disobey God. God created both of these orders of life, because he wanted man to obey him by his free will of choice.

God implemented the first order of life allowing the greater light (righteousness) to be in power over the lesser light to get Adam off to a good start; but he left it up to Adam to stay in this course of life. Only Adam could implement the power of the lesser light and allow it to be dominant over the power of the greater light. By Adam disobeying God, he implemented his own punishment. God warned Adam of how to avoid the punishment of death. Adam failed to obey God therefore the lesser light is in power today throughout the world. The greater light will only return to power after *a* man repents, and puts forth an effort to obey God. The lesser light rules the world by operating in a natural course of existence better known as Mother Nature. Mother Nature allows the life cycle of man to follow a crude way of existence, sometimes referred to as survival of the fittest, whereas the strong takes advantage of the weak, in animals as well as humans. This is a natural way of life, but it is not acceptable to God. God's way is spiritual, that is a course of life controlled by the greater light, which Adam rejected.

In order for a man to receive life by the greater light, he must reject the ways of the natural life or lesser light. The Bible teaches in I Corinthians 2:14 as follows:

Verse 14 - But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:

This means that a man or woman who has not repented of his or her sins, and has failed to put forth an effort to obey God cannot understand the teachings of Christ for they would be foolishness to them, because he or she is under the power of the lesser light.

Verse 14 - (continued) for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned (or spiritually recognized).

The teachings of Christ can be only made known to a man after he has turned from his sins and has struggled to obey God that the carnal nature might be broken down. Some men and women naturally commit adultery, just as church officers naturally argue and divide their churches. We are victims of nature, just as a lion naturally attacks a deer for food.

When God sent Jesus into the world he was born of a virgin; that was not natural; we might say that it was nature in reverse. When Jesus comes into our lives, the sinful, natural deeds that we did before receiving Christ will be reversed. Jesus reverses the course of nature in our lives. If a man or woman committed adultery, lied, or stole prior to Jesus coming into their lives, then all of those evil deeds will be reversed to good deeds. Never look for Jesus to come into your life based upon the good you have already practiced. Some good deeds are natural just as bad deeds are natural. Always look for Jesus to make himself known in your weaknesses; his grace is made known only in your weaknesses and not in your good ways. In II Corinthians 12:9, it teaches as follows:

Verse 9 - And he said unto me, *my grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness*. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

When I testify about the power of God in my life, I always testify about how he saved me from my faults, sins, and weaknesses, rather than how I already had some good qualities. Good inborn qualities are fine, but they are not the works of Christ in your life. Jesus only came to save us from our sins.

Subject: That Which Is Highly Regarded Among Men Is An Abomination (Detestable) Unto God!

To discover things that are pleasing and acceptable to God, a person must rearrange his values *in* life. God does not hold high regard for things that men value. Most things that men value are highly detestable to God. In order to learn what God esteems, we must first evaluate the things for which we hold high regard. If men desire to be wealthy, famous, influential, and hold high positions in life, then God rejects such desires, and those who are a part of such. If men desire to be in a social class with famous, well- known people, then God will be found among the "not so famous" people. In the book of I Corinthians 1:27-29 it read as follows:

Verse 27 - But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound (confuse) the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

You may believe it or not Mr. Man, but the things and the people that you don't think so much of could be what God has chosen to be a part of.

Verse 28 - And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, (the very thing that most people of the world despise, is what God delights in, if it is righteous) yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

In every organization, and among established groups of people, God will choose an unknown and "not so well established" group of people to bring to nothing that which is well- known and highly recognized among men that no worldly, fleshly, or carnal men should glory in his presence.

Verse 29 - That no flesh should glory in his presence.

When God first decided to choose a people to serve him, he did not select the people of a big reputable nation. He looked down upon the earth and chose a people who were in bondage. There were many great nations at the time, but God chose the fewest and the least of all people to be with, and to establish them as a great holy nation. Deuteronomy 7:7 reads as follows:

Verse 7 - The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:

God makes himself known among the unknown, and not that which is already established and well known. Just because a group of people are famous and well established does not mean God is with them. God is not impressed by anyone's reputation or fame; that is, God accepts no man's person. On one occasion, Peter and James were ministering to the gentiles until certain reputable Jews appeared on the scene. Peter, fearing damage to his image by being seen with the Gentiles, withdrew himself from their company. The Apostle Paul later came along and reproved Peter by informing him that God accepts no man because of his fame or influence among others. In the book of Galatians, 2:6 it reads as follows:

Verse 6 - But of these who seemed to be somewhat, (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person:) for they who seemed to be somewhat in conference added nothing to me:

The only thing that God acknowledges is righteousness, no matter how well known or not well known a person may be.

Subject: Determination Versus Ability:

When an individual desires to overcome a habit, fault, weakness, or sin in their life, that individual must first be sure that he or she has stopped doing the things that they are able to overcome. Such faults could be cigarette smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, taking illegal drugs, practicing adultery, fornication, homosexual acts, telling lies or using profanity.

Many bad practices are not hard for people to overcome. If a person can overcome a bad habit by his or her own will power or determination, then this act of repentance is not the works of Jesus in his or her life. Jesus will not do for us what we are able to do for ourselves, it is not necessary. However, it is necessary for us to stop doing everything that we know is wrong when we are able to do so. Jesus helps us to repent of only the things that we do not have the ability to stop doing. Jesus only gives favor or grace to help us overcome our faults when we are struggling to overcome, yet not succeeding. In the book of Isaiah 40:28-31, it teaches the kind of stress that one must be under to receive the works of God in his or her life and it reads as follows:

- Verse 28 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.
- Verse 29 He giveth power to the faint;

We become faint when our efforts and abilities have reached their limitations.

Verse 29 - (continued) and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Notice, it teaches that God doesn't give any of this assistance to those who are already equipped with necessary strength.

- Verse 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:
- Verse 31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

In most every situation throughout the Bible in which God worked in the lives of men, it was in their time of distress. He helped Moses when he was backed up against the Red Sea; he helped Gideon after he reduced his troop strength down to impossible odds. God helped David slay Goliath when he was just a boy, not big enough to wear the armour; he helped Samson when he was strongly outnumbered by the Philistines. God helped Daniel when he was cast into the lion's den after his friend King Darius was no longer able to help him; he helped Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego after they were cast into the fiery furnace. God performed many other deeds of assistance for those who did not have the ability to help themselves, but they had a strong determination. Today our biggest enemy is sin. If we have a strong determination to overcome our faults, Jesus will make his strength known in our weaknesses. In II Corinthians 12:9, it reads as follows:

Verse 9 - And he said unto me, *My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.* Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Jesus did not come to the earth to fellowship with our already established good habits, and qualities. He only came to call men and women to repentance and to help them to overcome the things that they did not have strength to overcome. This is the only reason that Christ died for us. In Romans 5:6, it reads as follows:

Verse 6 - For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Notice it didn't say anything about Christ dying for those who were already righteous; but the ungodly. In the book of St. Luke, 5:31, Jesus teaches that if a man is not sick he doesn't need a physician, and if he is already righteous, then he doesn't need Jesus in his life. St. Luke 5:31 and 32 reads as follows:

Verse 31-	And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole
	need not a physician; but they that are sick.

Verse 32 - I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Subject: God's Family Unit Operates Under One Name And That Name Is Holy:

It is of no profit to go to church because of tradition, or just to be going. You must go to the correct church with an open mind to receive a workable understanding of the word of God. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The heavens are His throne, or His headquarters where the heavenly portion of His family resides, and the earth is the place where the earthly portion of His family is supposed to reside. He created angels to inhabit heaven, and gave them His name in which they were referred to as holy angels. Angels are appointed positions and have responsibilities in heaven.

The angels were known as the stars in heaven, leaders, or outstanding in their abilities to excel and to perform. The word "star" as used by man is referred to as one who obtains fame as a result of their outstanding performance in their field, whether it be politics, sports or the theater. Whoever is outstanding is called a star. This description of performance was first used in heaven to identify the angels of God.

The angels could excel in their abilities, because this was the way God created them. Such angels were commissioned by God to look over his works in heaven and in the earth. Such angels were grouped together in a family unit, working as one person for a common cause. No matter how many people are involved, when you are working by God's commission, you then become many people working as one person. In Christ, you are one in administration and spirit.

So then, the family is the foundation of God's operations in heaven and in earth. The family unit of angels in heaven is one, and the family of God in the earth is one because God gives them one name, and that name is holy.

Subject: The Spirit Of Adoption:

The family of heaven is one, because God put them in one name. When a person on earth is saved; the person is adopted into the family of God by the same name. It is the name that you are given that brings you into a family, whether you receive the name by adoption or birthright. The angels of heaven were created into God's family and the people of the earth are adopted into the family of God by the Spirit of God. Roman's 8:14-15 reads as follows:

Verse 14 - For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Verse 15 - For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

God's family name is "Holy", because God is holy, as well as his angels, his spirit and his only begotten Son.

Subject: To Be Born Again Gives Your Mind A Common Bond With The Mind Of Christ:

God will always make it possible for those who seek after righteousness to find the truth. When you are born again, Christ abides in you and you in him. He will not abide in a sinner, nor will he allow a sinner to be partaker of his nature. When you are born of God, the Bible teaches that you cannot sin. The word of God condemns sin, and it teaches you how to overcome sin. The word of God remains firmly in your mind to warn you when sin is about to overtake you, and to give you directions as to how you might resist the devil and escape his traps.

If you sin, you break the law of God, because sin is a transgression (violation) of the law of God. Christ was revealed in the flesh to take away our sins. When you are born of the Spirit of God, your mind becomes wrapped up in Jesus' mind and the two minds become mutual and united. If one mind is sinful and the other holy, they will clash having no common bond. When you take on the mind of Christ, whatever the will of God is, it is the will of Christ, and it too will become your will.

Subject: To Be Saved Is To Be Kept By The Power Of God:

When Jesus was on the earth, he prayed to his Father in heaven that he would keep those who were called in his name. You are not really saved unless you are kept by the power of God, in Jesus' name. Under these conditions, you will be kept holy because Jesus is holy.

You don't go back to a life of sin when you are saved. Backsliding results from a person not being truly saved. When you are saved, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise until the day of total redemption. To be saved in this world means that your mind has been redeemed. When Jesus returns for his church, he will also redeem the body.

Subject: You Can Set Your Own Judgment:

If a man or woman uses the word of God to judge him or herself, God will not judge the individual. God would send his Spirit upon the person to help the person exercise good judgment, and this judgment will not be unto condemnation.

If a person fails to judge him or herself, according to the word of God while living on the earth, they will be judged in the next life with the world. Such judgment will be unto condemnation with no chance for justification (I Corinthians 11:31-32).

Subject: You Don't Have To Resist Contradictions Unto Blood Because Jesus Did It For Us:

When you start out to be a child of God and say that you are sinless, the world is going to contradict you. However, when the contradictions come because you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, God will bestow such love upon you that you will be able to endure such contradictions of sinners. You must remember and look to Jesus who first withstood such contradictions, yet there was no sin or guile ever found in his mouth. You won't have to resist contradictions unto blood because Jesus did this for you.

Subject: A Living Epistle:

If you are saved, you should be a living epistle to be read and known by all men. To be a living epistle means that you have to acquire the epistle that was given by the Holy Spirit and live by it. A living epistle means to be alive in righteousness walking according to the teachings of Christ. The purpose of the word of God is to cause you to live according to God's precepts.

Subject: Believe In The Lord So Shall You Be Established Believe His Prophets So Shall You Prosper:

A group of people cannot be together unless they meet together. When people fail to meet together, there is no chance of oneness being established among them. When people assemble as one in the Spirit of God, believing the things that the gospel teaches, the Lord will establish them. II Chronicles, 20:20 reads:

Verse 20 - And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah,

Judah was the ruling tribe of Israel. It was through Judah that God ordained his law should be given to keep the other tribes out of sin. When Jacob was blessing his sons just before his death, and he got to Judah he said, "Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up:"... "The sceptre (which meant the rulership of Israel) shall not depart from Judah until Shiloh come; (Shiloh was Christ!) and unto him shall the gathering of the people be" (Genesis 49:9-10). He'll gather everybody who's one in Christ. You cannot be one unless you are in Christ.

Verse 20 - (continued) Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

If you believe the gospel, you will be established. To be "established" means that you cannot be moved. If you believe his prophets so shall you prosper.

Your success in the Lord is measured by your material prosperity. When you are obedient to God, he blesses you materially. He blesses you so that you can prosper in what you do. When your spirit is right, the work of your hands will bear witness to it, because whatever you do God will cause it to prosper.

Subject: Seek To Edify One Another:

When a group of people believe the gospel and become established, nothing is going to stop them from prospering as a people. Nothing can stop you when the word of God is carrying you forward. When you obey God he wants you to prosper, so what can hinder you? God doesn't work for just one person; he blesses the entire group when they are one. If you seek to build up one another, God will build you all up. When you seek to build up one another in righteousness, you are building up the kingdom of heaven. Never work against one another, but seek to help one another and God will help you.
Subject: Be Careful Of Being A Big Advertiser Of Christ With Your Mouth:

Don't be an advertiser of Christ with your mouth, and when the devil sends someone to try you, a lot of fight will come out of your heart in the form of hatred and ill feelings. If you have the Spirit of God, don't let your enemies overcome you with evil. You should be able to overcome evil with good. If someone does you wrong and you don't have Christ, you won't be able to take it.

You cannot love your enemies if you don't have Christ. If you don't have Christ, you will think that people are mean when they don't do things to suit you. Under these conditions, you will be just as they are; they think you are mean when you don't do to suit them.

Subject: Is Your Religious Talk Backed Up By a Righteous Life?

Just because folk talk about God does not mean they know about him. People talk about many things, but many don't know what they are talking about. The accuracy of your conversation about God should be measured by the righteousness of your life. When your walk is not like your talk, you are just throwing words of no profit into the air. What good is an auto mechanic who talks about cars but can't fix anything? There is no profit talking about Christ and not be able to live as he teaches.

Subject: Don't Talk About God Unless You Really Know Him:

You shouldn't talk about God unless you are going to walk in a straight path. Otherwise, when Satan sees that you are trying to magnify God in a false way, he knows you don't have any protection from God with such a spirit of hypocrisy. When he gets ready, he is going to silence you. It is a dangerous thing to talk about God when God is not in your life; you leave yourself open for Satan to drop you.

Unless you really know God with an obedient spirit, it is better that you don't know God otherwise. Satan has his eyes on everybody who is talking about God with his (Satan's) spirit. The graves are full of people that he put there for running their mouths about God in a false way. Satan is holding their souls captive. So don't talk about God if you don't know him. Let someone else talk about him.

Subject: What Good Is Religion Without Salvation?

Religion can be just a form, fashion, style, or tradition in the way that you worship a god. Salvation is deliverance from sin. You can get religion without acquiring salvation. If you get religion and fail to acquire salvation, you will use your religion to justify your sins. Sin will take an occasion with your religious teaching, thereby deceiving you into believing that you can be saved in your sins. Religion is a dangerous thing to have without salvation.

People are being deceived with religion everyday. Satan is building within them an immunity system to reject salvation when they hear the true gospel being preached. Having religion is like having membership in a local lodge, which really doesn't change the inner man, but gives you a social crowd with which to associate. You don't want religion without salvation. You want your salvation to become your religion.

Subject: The Steps Of A Righteous Man Are Ordered By The Lord:

When a man comes forth and does something that shapes or changes the destiny of a nation or nations, such a man's purpose was planned and ordained by God. The destiny of a nation is not coincidental; it is pre-arranged by God. Moses was born in Egypt and when he was quite young, he was hid in the bulrushes by his mother. Later he was found and adopted by the Pharaoh's daughter, who reared him in the king's palace as a prince. Moses was taught all there was to be known about the Egyptians and their customs. God had a definite purpose in planning the life of Moses.

When Moses was forty years of age, he fought with an Egyptian and slew him, after which he fled to the land of Midian. He spent forty years there with Jethro, his father-in-law. God was training Moses for a work. He became a shepherd and watched the flock by day and night. At the end of the forty years, God called Moses one morning and commissioned him to go back to Egypt to lead the children of Israel out of bondage. The incidents in Moses' life that directed his destiny did not happen by chance. They were the works of God directing Moses' life into the purpose for which he was born. When God plans the work for a man, at the appointed time the man will appear on the scene to fulfill his purpose. Not only did God plan Moses' life and purpose, but he also planned the Pharaoh of Egypt's life and purpose, though Pharaoh was an evil man used of Satan to keep the children of Israel in bondage. The Bible teaches that for this purpose God raised up the Pharoah.

Subject: Anybody Can Be An Enemy Of A Saved Person Unless The Spirit Of God Is Present:

If you want to be saved, you must understand that you will not escape suffering. If Jesus did not escape suffering, how do we who are in Christ expect to escape? Must Jesus bear the cross alone and we go free? If you are going to chicken out when things get a little rough, then you may look back and wish that you had not started with the Lord.

As you travel the way of salvation you will meet many who won't appreciate you. When you become saved, you must have an understanding of who you are in Christ and that anybody who doesn't have Christ can be your enemy at any time. You will be able to get along with some people because the Spirit of God will move upon them to give you favor with them. Otherwise, any unsaved person can be your enemy anytime that the Spirit of God does not go before you to greet them.

Subject: The Nature Of God Gives You An Understanding Of God:

You can't understand God unless you acquire the nature that leads you to God. Jesus took upon himself the nature of men anointed with the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God allows the human nature to be able to understand God. When you accept the teachings of Jesus into your life as a guide, your nature is overshadowed by the Spirit of God and it causes you to understand God.

Subject: God Will Not Forsake You During The Time Of Trouble If You Have Tried To Obey Him:

A man or woman likes to know after that he or she has had trouble that they are coming out of the trouble. If you are holding God's hand when you are in trouble, he will bring you out with great experience and knowledge. By and by, you will get to the place, when trouble comes, that you will take it with a smile. You will know that if your hands are clean and your heart is pure, God will bring you out of your trouble.

So then, when your trouble comes you should put your confidence in your history of obedience to God. God will never forsake a person who has tried to obey, though they may have often times made mistakes in obedience. Your willingness to obey God moves him to help you in the time of trouble.

Subject: Be Careful That You Don't Charge God For Your Troubles:

Be careful how you think when you are in trouble. Never blame your troubles on God. It is the devil who makes trouble, and if you are not knowledgeable of his works, he can make you blame God for your troubles. If you are practicing sin, you will not get help from God in trouble. Satan will deceive you by causing you to use one problem to create another problem. Satan deceives sinners and keeps them making trouble. Even if you are saved and don't have good judgment and much experience, Satan can cause you to make trouble. You must learn to be wise and watchful to avoid making trouble.

Subject: Never Look To Unsaved People Or Hypocrite Christians For Assistance During Your Time Of Trouble:

If you are trying to live right and you encounter trouble, don't look to your former unsaved friends, relatives or church members. Be sure that you have repented of everything that you know is wrong and look to God for help. God will lead you to good servants and fill their mouths with the counsel that you need to ease the effects of your troubles. Some troubles God will never deliver you from altogether; other troubles he will ease the effects of by giving you grace to bare them, and later deliver you from them.

Subject: You Will Not Be Saved At Death Unless You Are Saved From Sin While You Live:

When you are saved from sin, you are saved from death, because the wages of sin is death. You can only get life in Christ who offers salvation, which is deliverance from sin and death. You cannot be delivered from death unless you are delivered from sin. Don't be fooled thinking that you will be saved when you die if you are not saved from sin while you lived. Sin and death go together. You cannot be saved from one unless you are saved from the other.

When Jesus is in your life, he saves you from sin that you might be saved from death. Only Jesus has the power to penetrate sin and death and save you from the power of their bind.

Subject: Man's Choice:

Just as it was man's choice to fall from the grace of God, it must also be man's choice to obtain grace. God has given man the freedom of his will that he may do to suit himself. Nothing has the power to stop man from obeying or disobeying God. It was within man's power to do one or the other at his own discretion. However, if he chooses to disobey God, he will surely perish. Such a punishment then would not be done by God's choice, but by man's choice.

If man chooses to be subject to God's will, in Christ there is grace available to help man maintain a good standing in his choice, that the adversary might not cause him to go wrong in his ignorance, contrary to his good choice.

Subject: You Must Be Sympathetic Towards The Unsaved:

Never become so righteous that you think the other fellow is wicked. The righteousness of God is sympathetic towards the weakness of others. So then, if you want to show how righteous you are towards the unsaved, show how sorrowful you are towards them.

After God exalts you in righteousness, don't get so high that you can't see down. If your eyesight is not good enough to look down at the unsaved, maybe your memory is better and you will be able to think back from where God brought you.

Subject: The Works Of God:

God creates beautiful things in life for man to enjoy. In the beginning, God created the Garden of Eden for man to keep and to enjoy the pleasures of its beauty. When you are saved, God gives you beautiful blessings and things for you to be in charge of. Nothing that you can obtain by your own means can exceed the blessings and joy that God can give you.

In the beginning, God created man and his environment perfect, and planted the first paradise on earth. God caused everything in the Garden of Eden to work in a perfect way. Anything that is operating on the earth today in less than perfect order is because man has had an input in it. Man through sin, has marred the beauty and perfection of the earth as it was in the beginning and caused sickness, sorrow, war, crime, pain, and death. However, God has not given up on man. God is planning to create a new summit for all men, who are willing to repent of their sins, to enjoy.

Subject: People Must See That Your Way Is Different From The Unsaved:

You won't really know what a temptation is until you meet it. This will only occur after you have been given an understanding of the reality of Satan and his works. You can never tell ahead of time what the devil will use to tempt you with; but when you are tempted Satan is trying your righteousness to see whether or not it will endure. You will be able to see the same thing. You can ask God to allow Satan to do this, but don't forget to ask God to help you go through it.

You cannot endure the temptations of Satan with human strength alone. The only way you can know that you are a child of God is when you see a change and a difference in your life. The way that you handle temptations will be different from the way the unsaved person deals with the same problems. The things that come upon you in life should not cause a reaction in you as it does the unsaved person. When people see how you deal with problems or temptations, they will understand without a doubt that the way you have chosen is the way of holiness.

Subject: You Must Persevere:

When you are saved, you should know that your life is different from what it used to be. When you know this, it doesn't matter whether or not other people agree with you, but they will know that there is a change in you. Just because they disagree with the change, it will not deter your spiritual advancement in Christ. In fact, if you are determined to stand, some contradictions will stimulate your spiritual growth. It is by adversities that you grow in grace. The Bible teaches: "Woe unto you when all men shall speak well of you". You will not escape sufferings and persecutions, but don't fret yourself because of evil doers or workers of iniquity, or you may look back and reconsider what you left. This is when you need an understanding of how to live in Christ as an individual because all around you people will be criticizing you and falling like soldiers on a battlefield. However, you must persevere, and remember, there is no discharge in this army.

Subject: If You Are Right With God You Are Safe:

When the leaders of the world cannot see clearly because of their dull spiritual minds they will make bad decisions, and the people will receive the effects. The discretion of those sitting in high positions is now cloudy. They are trying to figure out what to do next concerning the world's problem, but when things become dark and confusing, they won't know what to do.

If you have confidence in anybody other than the Lord, you have no foundation to stand on, and you will be walking in a slippery place. However, there is still hope if you seek to know the source of that hope.

It doesn't matter what happens to the world; everything will come out all right in the end for those who put their trust in the Lord. As long as your hands are clean and your heart is pure, you are safe, and you can say this prayer at night when you lay down; Psalms 4:8 reads as follows, "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety".

Subject: Talk To Jesus:

If you have experienced a false conversion in a false church, as the conditions in the world get bad, so will the conditions in your personal life get bad.

If you don't understand that God is available to be your leader, your religion will fail you. When you know God you won't try to save yourself from troubles in the world, you will commit your keeping to God. You would have learned that only God can make you dwell in safety, and you will have faith in God to the end that you will know you are helpless without him.

When you know that God is your leader, you will live with or without those around you. The man or woman who is godly understands that God has set them apart for himself. So stand in awe and sin not, and don't talk so much with other folk; talk to Jesus, he will help you.

Subject: Self-Righteousness:

Never justify your righteousness by the weakness you see in other people. You don't have to find fault in other people to make yourself feel superior in righteousness. You don't have to look for others to be unsaved; everybody is unsaved who is not right, including yourself if you are not right. You should look for your own faults, and ways to improve your righteous life; this is more profitable than looking for somebody else's faults.

If you discover those who have less righteousness in their lives than you, it will make you self-righteous, relaxed, and complacent. Under such a spiritual condition, you will see very little need for improvement and correction, which later results to hypocrisy. This is why the Bible teaches if you see your brother in a fault, "ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness". You are not spiritual when you are self-righteous. It teaches to consider yourself when you see someone else in a fault, unless you will be overtaken also.

The Word of God is a mirror for a man to behold his own natural face. When you look in the mirror in the morning, you are looking for something in your face, not your next-door neighbor's face; you are looking at your own natural face. James 1:23 and 24 read as follows:

Verse 23 -	For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is
	like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

Verse 24 - For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

If you look at somebody else's face, you will forget what you look like.

Subject: Tomorrow Belongs To God:

Today many people are making necessary preparations for the future; they are preparing for old age retirement, arranging trust funds for their children, and are making every necessary plan for the way they think the future will be. God does not promise us tomorrow; God admonishes us that today is the day of salvation (II Corinthians 6:2), and that we should put no confidence in what we think tomorrow will bring. In the book of James, chapter 4, verses 13-16 it read as follows:

Verse 13 -	Go to now, ye that say, Today or to-morrow we will go
	into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and
	sell, and get gain:

- Verse 14 Where as ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, then vanisheth away.
- Verse 15 For that ye ought to say, if the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.
- Verse 16 But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.

If things are going well for you today, then today belongs to you, it is your day to enjoy as you please. However, your prosperity and good fortune of today do not determine what tomorrow will bring; "after all tomorrow is another day".

In the city of Sodom, all of the people enjoyed the pleasures of sin until the day before they were destroyed. One day was theirs to enjoy and the next day belonged to God. Luke 17:29 reads as follows:

Verse 29 - But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

All of the people of Sodom were destroyed in one day. God reserves the right to claim any tomorrow to use for his own purpose, though many may do what they desire today.

During the time of Noah the people gave parties, banquets and enjoyed themselves eating and drinking until the day that God decided to claim as a day of destruction, and everybody who did not repent of sins died the next day. God has the power to destroy all human life in one day, and it could be tomorrow. Luke 17:27 reads as follows:

Notice they enjoyed their pleasures up to the day of their destruction. One day belonged to the people and the next day belonged to God.

The Bible teaches that God will have another day, and all who are practicing sin will be caught by surprise. St Mark 13:35-37 read as follows:

Verse 35 -	Watch ye therefore; for ye know not when the master
	of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the
	cockcrowing, or in the morning:

- Verse 36 Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping (practicing sin).
- Verse 37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

So the Bible teaches us to watch and to be sober (spiritually alert) for the day of the Lord cometh as a thief in the night. I Thessalonians 5:2-11 read as follows:

Verse 2 - For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

When the world thinks that they have acquired peace on earth, then sudden destruction will come upon the earth and destroy all of the unsaved.

Verse 3 -	For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden
	destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman
	with child; and they shall not escape.

- Verse 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.
- Verse 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

Verse 27 - They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

- Verse 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.
- Verse 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.
- Verse 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.
- Verse 9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,
- Verse 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.
- Verse 11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together and edify one another, even as also ye do.

Subject: Whatsoever A Man Soweth That Shall He Also Reap:

Life rewards every human being according to the deeds that they perform. The deeds that we perform in this life determine what the fruit of our rewards will be. If a farmer plants corn seeds plentifully, then he will reap corn plentifully. If he plants diseased seeds, then his fruit will be diseased. If he plants good seeds, then he will reap good fruit; so is it also with life. If a man or woman goes about doing evil deeds, then his or her evil deeds will be their ultimate judgment; their evil deeds will return unto them manifold. The sword of the wicked is the judgment of the wicked.

During World War II the Japanese and the Germans set out to conquer the world by imposing war on their neighboring countries. If you read your history book carefully, you will find that the German leaders became divided, and began to destroy themselves; such as Adolf Hitler having General Rommel put to death, and eventually committing suicide. Life itself aborts those who seek to harm others.

No man or nation is greater than the power that is in God's word. God is not mocked; whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap (Galatians 6:7). Only righteousness will exalt a nation or person; sin is a reproach to any person or

people (Proverbs 14:34). On one occasion, Peter, the disciple of Jesus used his sword to defend Jesus by cutting off the ear of the servant of the High Priest. Jesus instructed Peter to put up the sword into his sheath; for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword (Matthew 26:51).

For approximately 45 years, Russia practiced sowing discord among the smaller nations of the world to incite communist aggression against the United States; now the fruit of Russia's seed is returning unto her, that is, her own one time subordinate nations are turning from her leadership. Russia is reaping what she has sowed.

Not only does the process of reaping and sowing work on a large scale, but it also works in our personal lives, families, and churches. If a church group practices doing wrong, then their wrong deeds will return unto them many times. There will always be arguments and confusion in that church. Life is predicated upon the fact that whatever is planted, or deployed must return, or be reproduced. We as human beings are not able to produce miracles; we must have something to work with in order to receive something. Whatever goes up for us must come down. If a man and a woman mate, they can only reproduce human beings. Chickens can only reproduce chickens; apple seeds can only reproduce apple trees. So is it also with the deeds of men. Kindness reproduces kindness, though you may not receive it from everybody that you are kind to. However, kindness is a part of the fruit of the Spirit of God (Colossians 3:12) and God rewards his seeds.

God rewards kindness to those saved persons who are kind to others regardless of whether others are kind to them. Notice I said saved persons; God only rewards those who obey him; not just anybody who sometimes might want to be kind to someone else. Life is unfair to the unsaved; that is why the Bible teaches that every good deed should be done as unto the Lord, though you may be rendering a service to an unkind person. The Lord will reward you. But if you are not saved, your rewards can be unpleasant for many of your good deeds. Colossians 3:22-25 read as follows:

- Verse 22 Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eye-service, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:
- Verse 23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;
- Verse 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

When a saved person is kind to other people, though others are not kind to them, the saved person understands, that he is rendering the services to the people, but he is a servant of God, and that he shall receive his reward from God.

Verse 25 - But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong Which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

Being obedient to God means that we are sowing to the Spirit and the reward for sowing to the Spirit of God is eternal life after your life on earth. If we disobey God, that is called sin, and it means we are sowing to the flesh or the (carnal nature).

The Bible teaches, "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption" (or damnation), because the wages of sin is death. If we sow to the flesh, we will reap miseries in this life and damnation in the next life. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith (Galatians 6:8-10).

Subject: Abortions And Birth Control Methods:

God knows every child that would be born before they enter into their mother's womb, and he names them before they are conceived. The name that you have was put into your parent's or guardian's minds by God. Jeremiah 1:4-5 read as follows:

Verse 4 - Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

Verse 5 - Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

God knows everybody that would have been born before the seed is conceived. Therefore, when a person destroys or interferes with the conception of the seed, before or after it has been conceived to prevent the seed form developing into a fetus, such a person would be preventing or destroying a child that God already knows of, and has prepared a name for.

In the judgment of the last days, God is going to charge such a person as being a murderer of the child that he prepared a name for. Many parents won't know their children's names in the judgment. If you repent, God will destroy your record and forgive you.

Men and women maybe the instruments by which other human beings come into existence, but God is the actual giver of life. I Corinthians 3:6-7 reads as follows:

- Verse 6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.
- Verse 7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

Man plans and makes preparations for events of life that he sees sure evidence of happening, but God plans and judges life's events according to his foreknowledge. Before the human seed of life is planted, God takes note of it, which means, God knew you before your mother, and father knew each other. Your mother and father, most likely, made plans for you when your mother was pregnant, but God made plans for you before they met each other.

If your mother and father worked with God by properly caring for you, then God's plan for you would be fulfilled. Probably ninety per cent (90%) of the plans that God has for children are not fulfilled because their parents fail to cooperate and obey God. Moses' mother and father did not honor the decree of the Pharaoh, and God got in their faith, causing their child Moses to be the great deliverer of Israel. Hannah worked faithfully with her child Samuel, and God made him a great prophet. If a parent, or parents work with God, he will make the plans for your child known to you and help you to develop and care for your child.

When God makes his plans known to the parents, they will think that they are making the plans. This is because God works in the minds of men and women giving them desire to do things that he wants to be fulfilled. If parents don't work with God, then God will let his own plans for their child be defeated, and your child will be a failure in life.

Subject: The Purpose Of A Healing:

Many may ask the question, "Why is it that Jesus does not heal the sick and afflicted today as he did many years ago"? Probably one of the main reasons that he doesn't do it is because many people today are following the wrong religious teachings and are out of communication with God. Still another reason is that Jesus did not come to the earth with the purpose of healing your body, but he came

to save your soul. Nevertheless, he will select a person every now and then to heal whenever the person ask in faith following the correct religious teaching. Ninetynine percent (99%) of Christians today will never get their bodies healed because of the false religious teachings that they follow. Nevertheless, Jesus will, on some occasions, find a person who is following the correct religious teaching and heal their body as a witness to others that he is able to save their souls. Jesus uses the healing of a sick body to get the attention of those who are living in sin to believe that he is able to save their souls from sin.

Subject: The Purpose Of Healing Is That We Might Acquire Faith To Be Saved:

Jesus didn't come to heal your body, but he came to save your soul. If Jesus heals you of any afflictions, which he might do depending on your faith and faithfulness, you would have been granted a bonus from God. The conditions for such a healing must be that you first ask in faith, and it must be Jesus' will to demonstrate his power in your life at the time of your request, though he may not heal you at such time. If he heals you, he will do it whenever he pleases. He will not heal everybody today no more than he did in the days of his ministry on earth.

If Jesus decides to heal a person he will select someone to heal that the doctors have given up on, and there is little hope for the person to get help from modern medicine. Such a person, because of their being healed, will acquire more faith in the name of Jesus so others will see it is to that end that God sent him into the world. God sent Jesus into the world that by faith acquired through seeing the works of Jesus in the lives of men, we might acquire faith to be saved.

Subject: You Must Improve Your Position With God:

How much would it profit a man to get his body healed and lose his soul? It doesn't matter what comes to you physically, the blessing of God is being delivered from the penalty of sin, which will bring eternal death. The name of Jesus is the only name under heaven whereby we can be saved. Though God may reveal his power in many ways, such as miraculous healings and blessing man to accomplish many things that he could not have otherwise accomplished, God has only one aim and that is that you acquire faith in God to the end that you learn that you can't get anywhere without faith. Faith is the victory that caused nature to take a new course. If you acquire anything from nature, you must first have faith in God. Nature will work against you unless you believe that God will help you. Unless a farmer has faith that God will send the rain for his crop, nature will allow the drought to kill his crop. Nature is God's hand that responds to God's will for man when man has faith in God.

Subject: The World Must Seek The Light Of Christ:

The world is living in darkness when it's noonday. The sun may be shining, but the world cannot see where they are going. This happened because the judgment of the world's leaders is now cloudy. They cannot see clearly. They don't know what to do next, because when things get too dark, you can't see what to do. The only way that they can get light is that they must know where the source of light is found.

If the people of our nation have confidence in anybody other than the Lord, they will have no sure foundation to stand on. However, there is still hope if America would seek that source of hope. To obtain hope in Christ you must be willing to suffer your fair share, and endure difficulties in order to prove your sincerity in the Lord.

Subject: I Will Both Lay Me Down In Peace And Sleep For Thou Lord Only Makest Me Dwell In Safety (Psalm 4:8):

You must be willing to accept your share of suffering while maintaining a righteous life and God will help you when the burden gets too heavy. Today I am willing to take my share of the suffering that will come upon the people of the world. Though I am obeying God, I will nevertheless get my share. When you acquire light and understanding of God's word you will know that it doesn't matter what may come or go, or what may happen, everything will turn out all right for you in the end, and all who put their trust in the Lord. When your hands are clean and your heart is pure, you are safe. So today in Psalm 4:8, this is what you will be able to do each evening:

Verse 8 - I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety.

Subject: Jesus Is The Rider Of The White Horse:

Jesus is the rider of the white horse who came down from heaven more than nineteen hundred years ago to bring peace. Jesus was given power by God to conquer every king, ruler, nation and enemy of God by the power of God, (which is the sword of his Spirit), and to make peace between nations. However, the world has rejected the grace of God, which has appeared unto all men. The world has not yet accepted the word of God. Why do the heathen rage and the world accept vain gods that cannot save? The world today takes counsel against God, and worships everything except the God of Abraham.

The leaders of the world's nations come together to meet, and have no recognition of God or his word. They are afraid to pray even when they open their conferences where other nations are concerned. They fear that those nations will be offended if they pray to the God of Abraham; they fear that their idol gods will be insulted.

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God" (Psalm 14:1). The God of Abraham is the only God that can save. All gods and religions that are contrary to the teachings of the God of Abraham are idols and they are worshiped by religious fools. Today the nations of the world worship inanimate gods made of art and images of earthly things that cannot save a drowning rat.

Subject: If You Reject The Word Of God You Will Be Rejecting The Peace Of God:

When you reject the word of God, you reject your peacemaker. You can have no peace unless you get it by means of the word of God. Your sins destroy your peace. The word of God is designed to remove your sins, thereby leaving you with the peace of God. When you associate or worship with people who are contentious or argumentative, the devil will use such people to disrupt your peace.

You must be set apart among peaceful people in order to experience the peaceful unity of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' peace is not as the world gives peace. Jesus' peace leaves your conscience without condemnation. When you are a partaker of Jesus' peace, you have peace in the morning, at noon and at night. You have peace as you go through life in your daily occupation, while others who don't have Jesus are surrounded by confusion. When you are not saved, you live in a confused state of existence.

Subject: Please Don't Lose The Game Of Life:

Unless you get an understanding of the plan of salvation, you cannot rejoice over its benefits. You can be in a church shouting and rejoicing and not know what you are rejoicing about. You can be like a person watching a football game, and unless you understand the game, you won't know why the spectators are rejoicing every time a touchdown is scored. You can jump up and shout when the crowd shouts, but if you don't understand the game you will simply be making a lot of noise for nothing. You must understand the game to enjoy it. So is it also with the game of life.

The game of life is a wonderful game and you are playing for high stakes. There is no higher stake than your soul. You must understand that you are born in a game; life is merely a game. You are not trying to score a touchdown, but you are trying to score eternal life. If you lose the game of life, you will have lost your soul. Eternal life is what you want. Eternal life is the prize that you win; your soul is the stake that you lose. The devil is your contender. He is known to win unless you have Jesus as your coach.

Jesus is the only one who can help you to win the game of life. Satan uses sin to cause you to lose the game of life. Sin is Satan's trump card. He can successfully play his trump card against you unless you have Jesus as your coach. Today many are losing the game of life. Jesus will help you to run this race with patience that you might obtain the prize. "Know you not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize?" (I Corinthians 9:24). You must run that you might obtain the prize.

Subject: The Apostles Of The Early Church Were With One Accord:

A group of religious folk cannot be one in spirit, unless they meet together and acquire a common understanding as one people. They must have one set of rules to abide by in order to reach this common understanding. One set of rules to follow unite a people in one spirit. Unless they all meet together to hear and learn the knowledge of oneness, as was given to the apostles on the day of Pentecost, they will not be able to become one in spirit. When people get second hand instructions, being told by word of mouth what someone else said, they will develop differences of opinion that might cause divisions to develop among them.

Today everybody has the same Bible practically, but there are thousands of different religious teachings and beliefs. This happens because they don't all have

the same spirit that was given to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The apostles were with one accord, which is the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. Today folk are on one accord with the wrong spirit, which leads them to develop the wrong religious teachings (Acts 2:1).

Subject: You Cannot Save Yourself Simply Because You Have Repented:

You cannot save yourself simply because you go to church and have knowledge of the plan of salvation and you desire to be saved. You can repent of many sins that you have knowledge of and make many confessions to God, but this will not save you. Nothing that you can do will save you. You are saved by grace and not by any effort that you can initiate of yourself. It is necessary that you repent of your sins, but your repentance won't save you. You must receive repentance from God to be saved.

Subject: In Adam We All Die:

You would be surprised to know that ninety percent of the people that you see daily walking around are sick. They don't always lie upon their beds and die very often, but nervous tension is so high that before they know it they die. They simply drop dead. This is due to one thing, sin!

The Bible teaches that sin came into the world after Adam disobeyed God, and death entered by sin. Through the centuries, as men walked from God they possessed attributes, to a great extent, but gradually they degenerated. As people leave God, they gradually begin to degenerate though they are apparently going strong.

The wages of sin is death. The point I'm trying to give you is that when men were just leaving the presence of God and going into sin, they lived hundreds of years. Genesis 5:18-20 reads as follows:

Verse 18 - And Jared lived an hundred sixty and two years, and he begat Enoch:

- Verse 19 And Jared lived after he begat Enoch eight hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:
- Verse 20 And all the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty and two years: and he died.

In this day and time, we would be so far from this world at the age that Jared had his first son, that no one would know where we were buried. In spite of his long life, however, Jared died, because in Adam we all die.

Subject: Only God Can Help You To Live Right:

If you desire to live right according to the scriptures, you must have God to help you, through Christ. Nobody can live above sin unless God helps them. To live otherwise is to live without Christ in your life. If you are not living above sin, you don't have Christ. Though you may keep some of the commandments of God, you will find as you go through life that sin can take an occasion (tag along) with many of the commandments of God in your life.

Everything that you get in life relating to true salvation is from God. Anything that teaches or is contrary to salvation is of the devil, and it doesn't matter if it is your million-dollar lottery jackpot, or your pastor in the church. God is holy and he makes no concessions for anything or anybody that is contrary to his holy principles. If you do wrong, you are wrong and God is as far from you as the heavens are from the earth, until you decide to correct your wrong. If your pastor does wrong, the entire church is wrong, no matter how much the members think that they are more righteous than the pastor is.

Subject: There Is Good And Evil In The Unsaved Person:

Every person has the Spirit of God in his or her conscience to an extent; however, it is not enough to save them, unless they repent. God reflects his goodness through saved and unsaved people that certain things may be done according to his will. Anything good that you get in life comes from God, even though an unsaved man may be the means by which God gave it to you. The carnal nature of men won't give or do anything for anybody. The good that is done through man is the God working in man. When a man becomes saved, he will no longer perform evil deeds with his good deeds, but all of his deeds will be good. Such a person will be clothed with honesty.

Subject: Christ Is Able To Break Down The Barrier Of Ignorance Between Man And God:

You can receive the power of the Holy Spirit from God to help you live above sin, and you won't have to be confused and wondering about whether there is a God or not. If you will read the Bible and follow it along with our sermons, you will find that everything it teaches is true. There is nothing that you need to know in life that is not in the Bible. It is explained so plainly that there will be no question about you understanding, because God does not deal in ignorance, he brings you to the light of his instructions.

If you are confused today, it is because you do not have God working in your life. God is not the author of confusion, but of light. The light of Christ gives you the ability to comprehend God's word, and to apply it to your life. Without light (understanding), you have no life in Christ. It is the ability to understand God's word that gives life in Christ; otherwise, you will be walking (living) in darkness. Darkness means confusion or not being able to identify right or wrong. When you are in darkness, you can be doing wrong and think you are doing right. You cannot fellowship with Christ in darkness.

You must learn to live and think according to the will of God to have fellowship with Christ. When you walk in the light of Christ, you will have fellowship with other truly saved brothers and sisters of the faith. When you are in darkness, you cannot know God, nor understand his will. This leaves you alienated from God through ignorance. Christ is able to break the barrier of darkness (ignorance) in your life and bring you to God if you repent and believe his gospel.

Subject: God Does Not Communicate With Man In His Ignorance:

When God talks to you, he talks to you using subjects, or parables about things that you are familiar with. God does not speak to you on some foreign subject that is not within our ability to comprehend. God talks to you about such subjects as plants, animals, birth, and death. Most everybody is familiar with birth, death, and things that live and grow in their environment.

Such subjects were often used by Jesus to illustrate the most essential spiritual experiences concerning the salvation of man. God does not deal with man in ignorance. He educates man and brings to his attention the knowledge of how the simple things in his environment can be compared to salvation. Thus, if man rejects the plan of salvation, it won't be because he did not know better, but by his choice did not want it.

Subject: You Must Believe The Simplicity Of The Gospel To Be Saved:

We are presently living during a high-tech era whereas everything appears to be very complex. This is so because of man's way of doing things. The most important thing in life is so simple that even a wayfaring man or fool can follow it. God does not deal in complexity; he does things so simple that a little child will be able to understand it. The only requirements that are necessary to be a part of God's plan is first to believe and second be willing to obey his instructions.

Your obedience to God is proof that you believe him. Those who heard Jesus teach during his ministry on earth had to bear witness that no man ever taught with the simplicity of his teaching, yet revealed such wisdom. It was because of the simplicity of Jesus' life and common status of his background that many did not believe his teachings. However, as many as believed him, he gave them power to be saved from their sins. Though Jesus is not walking the earth in human form today, he can give you power to live above sin today just as easy as he could do it years ago, if you believe his gospel.

Subject: The Harvest Is Past The Summer Is Ended And You Are Not Saved:

When you hear the word of God and don't understand it, the devil will then come along and take away that which was preached out of your mind. This means you received it by the wayside. This happened when you had little interest in what you heard, and put forth very little effort to keep it. Under these conditions, the harvest for eternal life will pass, and you will not be saved. Summer would have ended and no fruit of righteousness would have been produced in your life for you to be saved. The prophet Jeremiah said, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved" (Jeremiah 8:20).

Such a spirit is like being asleep when the gospel is preached to you. While men are spiritually asleep, another option of the devil is to come along and put a lot of meaningless stuff in their minds. The Bible teaches that while men slept, the enemy came and sowed tares (bad seeds) among his wheat (good seeds) and went his way. Right along with folk who hear and believe the gospel will be wicked people who heard the same gospel, but were the results of the seed that Satan sowed. When the servant of the householder saw tares or evil fruit (evil people) growing among the wheat (good people), he questioned the householder by asking, did you not sow good seed in the field? From where did the tares come? The householder then informed his servant that an enemy hath done this. The servant said unto him, wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said to his servant, no, lest while you gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let them both grow together until the harvest, and in the time of harvest, I will say to the reapers, gather ye together first the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into the barn.

God will let the unsaved people, who are wicked, worship, and work right along with the righteous. However, when the end of the world comes, the wicked will be separated from the righteous, and cast into a sea of fire and brimstone, but Jesus will take the righteous to heaven to meet God.

Subject: The Harvest Is The Time Available To Receive The Grace Of God:

Jesus came to sow the word of God (good seed) in our hearts, that we might be subject and obedient to God. When men and women, through the hardness of their hearts, allow the devil to get into them so boldly that it is impossible for them to receive the word and be saved, they would have reached a point beyond redemption, and the harvest will pass.

The word of God is the only given knowledge of the things that shall come to pass at the end of the world. God tells us the ending in the beginning so that we can be prepared. It is not that God is willing that any perish, but that the devil has filled man with so much evil and hardened man against the gospel. Therefore, God warns man not to let the harvest pass or the season to be saved, and fail to take advantage of it. The harvest is the time that you can receive grace from God, if you repent of your sins with the intent not to live in sin anymore.

Subject: The Sixth Sense:

You have five natural senses, such as hearing, smelling, seeing, feeling and tasting, but God wants to give you a sixth sense, which is "faith". Without the sixth sense of faith, you are spiritually dead. The sixth sense causes you to love your enemies, to do good to them that despitefully use you, and pray for those that don't like you. The sixth sense also brings you instructions from God. It is by means of the sixth sense that you will have success in God.

In order to acquire success in God through the sixth sense, you must be an obedient and faithful servant of God. The sixth sense causes you to do those things commanded by God that you are not so particular about denying yourself to do.

Subject: You Are Saved By Faith:

You are not saved because you joined the church and made confessions. You didn't come to the Lord just because you cried in church. You are saved by faith, and your faith must be to the extent that you believe that Jesus can keep you living under normal, worldly conditions above sin. You can't be saved by anything on your part except faith. You repent because you believe the gospel. You hear the gospel preached and the testimonies of others and you conclude that if God saved them from sin, he can save you also. Through your faith by their testimonies, you overcome.

By faith, you receive grace from God. Grace only hooks up with faith. Without faith, you cannot receive grace, because grace only knows faith. You can't get a favor from a person if you don't believe the person will give it to you, because you won't see any need to ask for it. However, if you have confidence and faith in the person, you will ask for the favor.

Subject: Faith Is A Process That Leads To Results:

Faith has been established as such a necessary process of pleasing God that you can't get anywhere without faith. In past times, faith has nature to take a new course. A farmer needs faith in order to work with nature, or we won't have anything to eat next year. If a farmer is going to work with nature, he has to have faith. If he doesn't have faith in the things that he is dealing with, he will put down less seeds each year resulting to fewer crops. You become weaker and weaker when you don't have faith in the things that you are dealing with.

Subject: You Will Be Great In Righteousness If You Are Humble:

The greatest thing that a man can be is a true minister of righteousness. If you are a minister of righteousness, you have heaven and all of its forces behind you. Your greatness will only be established by God, providing you minister in the spirit of humility. God does not exalt anybody who is high-minded and proud. When you think that you are great because of some impression you have of yourself, you then become nothing. Don't pay any attention to folk who try to flatter you by telling you how great a speaker you are, God is not connected with such a spirit. All praise and glory should go to God. If there is any good thing in you, it is the God in you. If you ever try to glorify yourself rather than God, you are headed for a fall. Though folk may praise you and talk about you in a wonderful way, you should then pass the glory to God. Jesus knew that he was the Son of God only by what he did, and by the fulfillment of the prophecies. When what you are doing is worth anything, it is because Jesus is in it.

Subject: Be Humble And God Will Help You:

When you are in sin, nobody can help you but God. When you receive the word of God and do whatever it says to do, you will get help. Don't try to pretend you are right when you come to God, but confess to yourself that you need help, and God will come down and sup with you. If you are self-righteous, God will turn away from you, but if you have a humble heart and a repenting mind, you can get God's attention. A high-minded and proud spirit is repulsive to God. Obey God and keep his commandments and you will see a difference in your life.

Subject: If You Want Something To Be Perfect Use A Perfect Measuring Device:

If you have a rule, you can be perfect. All you have to do is use the rule to govern your life, and not use your mind. Every problem and mistake that you have made in life resulted from you following your mind.

If you want a perfect foot of lumber, use a twelve-inch ruler and you will have a perfect foot. If you want a perfect pound of something, use a sixteen-ounce weight and you will have it.

If you want your life to be perfect, use the word of God to measure your conduct and you will have it. The word of God is a perfect measuring device for your life.

Subject: In Many Things The Saved Person Offends All:

God said Job was perfect (Job 1:8), but Job's associates who were religious also, said Job must have had some sin in his life because of the way that he was suffering. When God makes you perfect, other church folk will say that you can't be perfect and that you are doing something wrong when you are going through a test. Job had not done anything wrong; he was going through a test to prove that God was right, and God said Job was perfect.

When unsaved folk see you suffering, they blame your suffering on something that you did wrong, yet they don't know what you did wrong. Listen to Job's associates in Job 4:7, which reads as follows:

Verse 7 - Remember, I pray thee, who ever perished, being innocent? or where were the righteous cut off?

A perfect man is one who lives above sin and speaks to others, not with the intent and purpose to offend them, though in many things, he may offend most everybody (James 3:2). If you offend a person and you did not intend to do it, it could be that the person is overly sensitive about a matter. However, when you become knowledgeable of their sensitivity to the matter, an apology will impress upon them that your offense was in error, and not intent of heart. This will allow you to remain in the channels of perfection as one who is a peacemaker and seeks not to offend with words.

Subject: When You Are Perfect You Will Not Allow Satan To Deceive You Into Charging God For Your Suffering:

When you are being brought up to the standard of God's righteousness, you should not be offended, because it is for your benefit. God corrects you for your profit that you might be saved. When God corrects you, he brings you unto perfection. God's correction gives you a mind that is above doing the things that God said not to do. When you have this mind, you won't do contrary to God's instructions. Therefore, to accept God's correction leaves you with no condemnation, because you will then have the mind of Christ.

Job was declared by God to be perfect, and Job demonstrated that no matter what is said or done to a perfect man he does not charge God. You must be perfect to have the spiritual strength and knowledge not to charge God when Satan is persecuting you and constantly casting the blame on God. Job did not allow his accusers to cause him to sin with his lips. Job took all that came upon him, though he did not know why it had happened.

Subject: Christians – Part I:

God calls his children "saints" and not "Christians". We have been given the name Christian by those who don't appreciate the order of the doctrine of Christ, but if you obey the order of the doctrine of Christ, you become a saint, not a Christian. The devil has been successful in branding people who follow Christ as Christians, that he might deceive them through that name. Jesus never called anyone after his name. Jesus did not want to be magnified, or to make of himself any reputation.

Now don't stagger at the word "saint". It is much easier to be a saint than it is to be a sinner. Christians try to hide under the name Christian and they do everything that a sinner does, and yet claim that they are Christians rather than sinners. The Bible teaches that if you commit sin, you are a sinner, and if you do righteousness, you are righteous. To be a righteous person is to be holy, born again, or filled with the Holy Ghost. Such a person is a saint, which means these processes have set them apart from being a mere Christian or sinner. To be a Christian according to the religious standard of today's church, is to be a hypocrite. If you were to give a religious description of a Christian of today, based upon their standard of living and life of the person, you would be able to work the description in with the meaning of a hypocrite. Christians today don't practice living a righteous life free from sin. They practice church rituals, and get involved in religion as a business, hobby, social club, or corporation to make money. Christian churches today place the spiritual emphasis on making money, and building large memberships. Most are not concerned about developing a good quality saint who should be taught how to live above sin. There is no salvation acquired in a Christian church. It takes a fool to try to be saved in a Christian church. Christian churches don't produce saved people. If you go to a secular Christian church, what are you saved from? You are still practicing sin, so what has Jesus done in your life? It doesn't take Jesus in your life to teach you how to sing on a choir, or to be on the deacon board counting and stealing money. A preacher doesn't need Jesus to teach him how to preach a perverted gospel; he can learn that at some religious seminary.

Subject: Christians – Part II:

The name "saint" strengthens and dignifies your religious identity with a more meaningful description of a saved person. The word "saint" makes you socially and religiously particular. A Christian is not a particular person, they will go anywhere, and they will do most anything that the average unsaved person of the world would do. You probably know some who call themselves Christians who drink liquor, lie, steal, and commit fornication or adultery. A Christian can be a homosexual, but the Bible teaches to let not those be once named among you who becometh saints (Ephesians 5:3).

Saints are called by God from among the Christian churches to be a peculiar people unto God. Saints are a holy generation and a royal priesthood. Saints don't do anything that the gospel of Jesus Christ teaches them not to do. Saints struggle against their prior sinful nature to be perfect before God. If you don't believe that you can be perfect then you are a Christian.

Subject: Christians – Part III:

The people who followed Christ were mocked by those who tried to condemn his teachings. They referred to the saints as hypocrites and false pretenders. They tried to reproach Christ through people who followed the teachings of Christ loosely. Judas Iscariot was a Christian. Saint Peter, Saint Paul, Saint Luke, Saint Mark, and Saint John were all saints. Every person who obeys the teachings of Christ with a sincere intent to live above sin becomes a saint while they live in this life.

God has saints on earth today. How can you become a saint after you are dead? The dead can't do anything, and they certainly can't live above sin. You must become a saint before you die in order to be one after you are dead. Can the medical profession make you a doctor after you are dead? You must earn that title while you are living before they will give it to you after you die. So is it also with God; you must earn the title of "saint" while you are living.

Subject: Christians – Part IV: The Devil Is The Pastor Of The Christian Church:

The devil is the pastor of the Christian churches. God recognizes only one church, and that is The Church of God. The Church of God is the body of Christ, consisting of people who have obeyed the teachings of Christ and have become saints. Many people followed Christ and never obeyed him; such people were called Christians. You become a saint when you obey Christ.

The word "Christian" has many meanings, but the word "saint" has only one meaning, with many virtuous descriptions, and that is to be holy. To be holy means to be free from sin and worldly ways. A saint will correct mistakes and sins. Common sense will tell you that there is something wrong with people who claim to be followers of God when they do everything that the fellow does who doesn't claim that he is following God. What good is it to have the name Christian and your life hasn't changed from that of a sinner? Names do not change you, but the power of God does.

Subject: Be Careful That Government Is Not Just For Government Officials:

There is only one safe place today and that is in the Lord. People of the world are dissatisfied, and when people become dissatisfied, they become violent to their neighbors. Dissatisfied people will also desire to take their neighbor's property, land, and do harm to one another. The commandment of God tells you not to covet your neighbor's ox, ass, or anything that is your neighbors

The Spirit of God commands man not to take from his neighbor, but to give to him. The Communist nations have awakened to part of the knowledge of the truth, and that is that God created the world for all men to enjoy. However, Communist governments transgress the other part of God's word by taking from the people, rather than allowing people to share with others, as with many rich people in America, who support charitable programs. There is no profit in transgressing one part of God's word in order to obey another part. Communist type governments are fools and all who support such governments are foolish people.

America is closer to the righteous principles of God than any nation in the world. However, if we are not careful, we will allow our government officials to have too much power and authority over the teachings of the word of God. Government should be inspired by the knowledge of the word of God to serve the people. America is getting close to having a government for the government officials, which is not far from Communism. God will only bless a government when it honors the government of the kingdom of heaven, and is set up primarily for the benefit of the people.

Subject: Everywhere You Leave Jesus Out The Government Will Come In:

The more power and control that we allow the government to have, the closer we are getting to the spirit of Communism. When we fail to implement the principles of righteousness in our lives, churches, schools and communities, God leaves and Communism comes in, not by armies from foreign countries, but our government officials will invite Communism in by the front door. Everywhere that churches fail to stand up for the principles of Christ, the government will set up some policy that will give politicians more authority over our nation.

Everywhere that we leave Christ out, the government walks in and takes over. We allowed Christ to be put out of our schools so the government took over the schools and our schools are now a dumping ground for crime and drugs.

You can play around with Jesus if you like, and after you get your house paid for, you will be paying more property taxes than you paid for your monthly mortgage. It will be your dollar and the government's choice.

Subject: God's Church Should Be An Institution Of Love And Good Works:

We as a nation must get back to the standard that God set up, we who claim that we are the evangelists of the world. The whole world looks to America for salvation, and the devil has fooled Christians of America. Christians of America are more interested in running church organizations than they are in spreading the good news of salvation and the principles of righteousness. Until we get the spirit that the apostles had in the early church, we as a nation are on our way down with the rest of the world. The Communist nations are gaining ground on us, calling the Christian churches of America institutions of hypocrisy that are given to making money. They are saying that Christians of America have a form of God, but not the love of God in their hearts. The true Church of God should be an institution of love and good works.

Subject: Your Love For God Must Be Constructed Upon A Rock:

Every night when I lay down, I go to sleep having made peace with God and with no hate in my heart for anybody. If you hate somebody, you don't have peace with God. I have learned that only God can make me dwell in safety. So, I am trusting in God so much that I know I am helpless without him. If you don't have Christ and you think you can make it through this life without him, you are operating under the power of deceit.

You must get to the point where you will know that God is your leader; therefore, it doesn't matter what happens, you are trusting in God. Under these conditions, you will be able to live with people of the world or without them. Whichever way the world goes or the wind blows, it won't disrupt your love for God because your love will be constructed upon a rock, and that rock will be Christ.

Subject: The Love Of God Versus Lust:

It is surprising to discover that many people have confused true love with lust. Many are using the word "love" in place of "lust" to the extent that it is difficult to discern the difference. When a man marries a woman simply because she has a beautiful face, and a shapely body and she is able to fulfill his sexual desires, then this kind of affection is lust.

When we say we love a person because of the way they look, the Bible describes such feelings as the lust of the eye. If we say we love a person simply because they are able to satisfy our sexual desires, this is described in the Bible as the lust of the flesh, and this is not of God, but of the world. The word "world" in the Bible means ungodly. In the Book of

I John 2:16-17 it reads as follows:

Verse 16 - For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

This is why men and women who marry because of lust rather than true divine love, often times will not stay together, or will end up with a divorce. The Bible teaches that anything that is worldly or ungodly will not last, but will pass away.

Verse 17 - And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.

It is not wrong to marry a person because of physical attraction, but it will take more than physical attraction to hold two people together. True love is of God, and seeks for godly character in an individual rather than just good looks or sexual pleasure. Godly character consists of holy virtues rather than just an attractive physical appearance. Virtues are moral excellence, or good spiritual qualities. Such an individual will be filled with the Holy Spirit of God. Their life will consist of kindness, temperance, unselfishness, patience, humility, gentleness, honesty, longsuffering, being agreeable with things that are right, meekness, goodness, faith and not quick to anger. These virtues give a person character, and they are the result of true, divine love, which comes from God. Every good and perfect gift comes from above. In James 1:17 it reads as follows:

Verse 17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

If men and women would seek for these characteristics in each other, rather than just physical attractions, then the love of God would keep them together. Such character is not earthly or sensual, but comes from above. The individual that possesses this kind of character would be pure, peaceable, easily entreated, full of mercy, and without partiality or hypocrisy. If a man or woman finds a wife or husband with this kind of character, then they would have no need for spoil (adultery).

Many people may have some good qualities and an attractive appearance, but the above character excels them all. Whosoever finds such a spouse has found favor with God, because of their obedience to God. Only God can prepare and reserve such a person for another to meet.

Subject: Against God's Love There Is No Law:

No laws of any nation of the world today have ever been issued greater, nor can any law be greater in its statute than the law that God gave Moses. They were fulfilled through Jesus Christ because the law that God gave was perfect. Through Christ, we were introduced and allowed the privilege to be partakers of the fruit of the Holy Spirit, whose origin is in the Law of Moses. All the teachings of the prophets, Moses, the apostles, and Jesus Christ were brought to completion through grace, which results to those who are partakers being able to manifest the fruit of the Holy Spirit, against which there is no law. The only thing that there is no law against is the love of God, which is incorporated in the fruit of the Spirit, taught in Galatians 5:22-23, which reads as follows:

- Verse 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
- Verse 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Subject: When You Are Saved You Are Not Under The Law But Under Grace:

Jesus and his disciples preached the gospel of the kingdom of heaven. Today many religious leaders are preaching a gospel of this world. The gospel of this world is earthly or sensuous and is not able to save men from their sins. This is primarily what is being preached in most churches today. The gospel of the kingdom of heaven is sent forth for the purpose of teaching righteousness. It is the theme by which every saved person must be governed. The two kingdoms that exist are the kingdom of heaven, and the kingdom of this world. One is ruled by law (the world), and the other is ruled by love (heaven).

If you are a member of the kingdom of heaven, which is the kingdom of love, you will live above the law, which governs the kingdom of this world. Living above the law simply means that the law was not made to govern you, because the laws forbid certain acts that you don't do. Under these conditions, the law would have no power over you. You are not under the law, but under grace (love).

Subject: If You Desire Not To Sin Or Break The Law God Will Give You Power Not To Do So:

The law teaches that thou shalt not steal, since you don't steal that law doesn't exist as far as you are concerned. The law says to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Since you keep everyday holy, that law doesn't refer to you. Therefore, it is not necessary to have those laws as far as you are concerned, because you live above them.

When you are moved by your love for God to do right, you can live without a law to force you to do right. Your love for God causes you to refrain from breaking the law or committing sin because you desire to please God. Since you desire to take on this attitude of love towards God, God in return gives you the power that takes away all appetite to break the law or to commit sin. Without the desire and appetite, you find that you cannot sin, nor break the law.

Subject: Unless The Love Of God Is Implemented Hell Is Going To Break Loose On Earth:

Today the emphasis that is placed on receiving the works of the Holy Ghost is when you speak in unknown tongues; such is the works of the devil. In the early church of the apostles, emphasis was placed on love when the Holy Ghost was given. The Holy Spirit moved on the apostles of the early church to share with each family as they had need. The thing to do to provoke the works of the Holy Ghost is for a God sent preacher to stand up and preach the word of God until the hearts of men turn to love and they are willing to do as they did on the day of Pentecost. Unless this manner of love starts from the so- called Christian churches, hell is going to break loose on earth. When churches lean toward building expensive buildings and cathedrals, and forget the needs of the people, more violence than they have ever seen is yet to come into their communities.

Subject: The Church Has Taken A Back Seat:

The world needs God's love or else it will perish. The church must first manifest the love of God; the church must first set the example. Churches must get back from whence they have fallen, or else their works will be worthless.

Christ did not come to teach us how to get to heaven, but how to get the kingdom of heaven to come down here. To love one another as Jesus loves us, is to share, and to serve those whom we love. The church has fallen from the standard of love that the Holy Spirit demonstrated in the early church, and until God prepares and sends a preacher who will preach and teach the principles of righteousness as the early apostles did, the churches of today are only marking time. This is the reason the churches have taken a back seat in society allowing governments to rule the people in place of God. The separation of church and state means that God is not in the decisions that government hands down to the people.

Subject: The Spirit Of God Leads Men To Share With One Another:

One of the main purposes that the Spirit of God is given to man is for man to share his possessions with his neighbors, or those who are in need. Every wealthy person is responsible for the poor. This responsibility cannot be placed upon the wealthy legally, it must be assumed by love. The Spirit of God causes this love to move upon the wealthy when they obey God. God will not force the rich to share with the poor. It must be done by an effort to please God. When we pay taxes to support the welfare system, this is not accredited to man by God as an act of love, because we are forced to pay out taxes.

When the Spirit of God is inspiring man to do good, it will move upon the hearts of men to do as the apostles of the early church. Acts 2:44-45 reads as follows:

Verse 44 - And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

Verse 45 - And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

God commands that when his people, who are filled with his Spirit, gather themselves together in his name that those who have plenty should share what they have with those who have not. If a group of church folk do not have the spirit of love, as was taught in the early church of the apostles, that group is not saved. The love of God in a people is willing to surrender all that it has to those who are in need, especially if they are brothers and sisters of the same faith.

Subject: The Spirit Of God Leads Men To Be Interested In The Welfare Of Their Brothers:

It is the duty of a man when he becomes born again to be interested in the well-being of his brother who is less fortunate than he is. To overlook the needs of your brother is to overlook the principles of righteousness given by God for man to follow. Poverty causes underprivileged people to resort to crime, violence, and to use escape mechanisms such as drugs and alcohol. Such principles have to be taught by the church. When the church loses its power and influence over society, God will be forgotten and evil will be pre-eminent. No matter how much we educate our children, if they are not taught the true principles of righteousness, they will be educated criminals.

The church must lift up a standard of righteousness in order for the Spirit of God to come down and influence the minds of the people; otherwise, people will practice hypocrisy and evil deeds. The Spirit of God is given to man for the purpose of man learning how to share his power, strength, wealth, and knowledge with his brother, who may not be as blessed as he is.

Subject: You Must Endure Persecution Without Defending Yourself:

If you watch the procedure in the courts of our time, where those who are accused of wrong stand before the court and face those who accuse them, you will hear the accused present a substantial defense, especially if the accusation is serious enough to require capital punishment. Such a defense for the accused
would be trying to present enough evidence to show the court that the accused is innocent and should be delivered from the penalty of the law. Hardly ever would you hear of an accused person going before the court with a mind to receive the penalty of the law for an accusation that he or she is innocent of, and would desire not to have a good defense, because of their willingness to accept the penalty of the law that they are totally innocent of breaking.

This was the case with Jesus before Pilate. Jesus had a clean cut case of being proven innocent, which could have been proven with no trouble, and he also had a judge that was willing to exonerate him, yet he opened not his mouth to defend himself. Jesus did not challenge his accusers nor demand a right to be heard, as Paul did before King Agrippa. Not because he had no defense, but because the scriptures, which had to be fulfilled in every phase of Jesus' life, said, "yet he opened not his mouth" during his hearing. Keep in mind that any statement that might have been given in defense of Jesus could have resulted in his release and acquittal, and this would have thwarted the plan of God for others to be saved.

When you are trying to serve God, the more things that the devil tries to work against you will be to your advantage, it you can endure without defending yourself. The more the people believed that Jesus was wrong, the more readily and conveniently the plan of salvation was implemented so that all who would later desire to come to God could be saved. The more a child of God is willing to endure wrong, the more effectively the will of God will be worked in his or her life. To be right according to the standard of the world is not worth much before God. You must be willing to allow the world to accuse you of wrong when you've done right according to God's standard of righteousness.

Subject: Pilate's Way Of Thinking Was Instrumental In Implementing God's Plan:

Christ would have been released by Pilate if Pilate had been a man of courage and not subject to the political pressures and influences of the Jews. Pilate was a perfect choice of character chosen by God to be instrumental in allowing the plan of salvation to be properly implemented. Any stronger character of consideration for Jesus would have perceived the nature of Jesus as being far more pure than the corrupted nature of the Jews, who had accused him, and would have never considered Jesus as being guilty. Of course, Pilate knew that Jesus was innocent, but his low level, corrupted, and political way of thinking caused him to consider the lack of prominence that Jesus had as a citizen at that time. So Pilate concluded, though the Jews were liars and hypocrites falsely accusing this man, what profit would it have been for him to exonerate such a man of low status. Because of this kind of thinking, today we have salvation in Jesus Christ.

Subject: The Confusion Of Pilate And The Jews:

Pilate at one time or another acted more like Christ's attorney than his judge. He frankly admitted on more than one occasion that he found no fault in Jesus. Keep in mind that Pilate was a Roman Governor who did not believe in God. The only charge the Jews had against Christ was that he had blasphemed the name of the Lord (St. John 19:7), and under their law (Leviticus 24:16) by doing so, he was guilty and should die. The Jew's law however stated that such should be stoned to death. However, the Jews were not authorized to execute anyone (St. John 18:31) since they were under the rulership of Caesar at the time. Christ had previously made it known that his execution would be according to Roman law. This revelation was resented by many of His Jews and His disciples. Their hope was that Christ would be the Messiah sent by God to deliver Israel from the Romans.

God's plan is not as men think and is often times in reverse or completely hidden from the minds of men until the time of its manifestation. All that Jesus taught and experienced from his life, ministry, and execution was on time and in line with God's plan, though it was difficult for the people of that time to understand, just as it is difficult for people of this time to understand.

Subject: The Jews Ignored The Accuracy Of Jesus' Ministry Because Of His Low Class:

Those who believed Jesus during his ministry were willing to accept what he said, but others were constantly making charges of blasphemy. Christ had previously demonstrated throughout his ministry that he had power to convert their charges of blasphemy into a good defense; however, he purposely did not use his power to defend himself at his hearing before Pilate. If the Jews had used the teaching in their written law honestly and carefully to evaluate Jesus and his ministry, they would have found that Jesus' defense was his proof that every important incident in his life, from his birth in Bethlehem to his death, burial, and resurrection, were described in vivid detail in their law. The Jews had read every passage of scripture at one time or another and they knew them by heart.

However, they declined to check them against the events in his life because they did not want to accept a man of his lowly state to be their Messiah. The Jews wanted a high-class leader, like many Christians today.



CHAPTER VI SATAN AND HIS WORKS

Subject: Let's Talk About Satan:

Lucifer or Satan was an example of an angel that sinned. Satan was the first son created by God as an angel. God called him the son of the morning. Satan was a created son like Adam. Jesus was the begotten Son like God his Father, having no beginning and no end. Satan was given dominion over God's works on the north side of heaven, and later desired to set-up his kingdom there, but was unsuccessful.

Just as Adam was given dominion over the earth to rule it, Satan was given dominion over the north side of heaven to rule it under God's administration only. As things are done in heaven, so are they done in Earth. You can only know the things of heaven by revelation from God, or by the Holy Spirit helping you to compare the spiritual things of the earth to the spiritual things of heaven. I Corinthians 2:13 reads as follows:

Verse 13 - Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

So then, according to the scriptures, Lucifer was set up by God as the anointed cherub of the throne of God. It was the devil who gave instructions and acted as chief in leading the angels under his authority to rebel against God. If you have a devilish pastor, you don't stand a chance of getting saved, because he will deceive you into rebelling against God just as Satan deceived one-third of the angels in heaven. When Satan rebelled, he was driven out of heaven; and knowing all about God's earthly family, he came down to the earth to make his abode.

Jesus being in heaven observing the rebellion of Satan and his angels, being mindful of his mission that God would later desire for him to carry out, (Known unto God are all of his works before the foundation of the world, Acts 15:18) looked into the future of the world to see Isaac the son of Abraham. Jesus knowing that his mission would be to come to the earth to be a restitution for the sins of the world, requested of his Father while still in heaven, to not let him come to the earth in the form of an angel, seeing that some angels had taken on the nature of Satan to rebel against God. Jesus saw Isaac in God's long-range plan. Isaac would later be faithful to his father, Abraham, after being carried to Mt. Moriah as a sacrifice and would not murmur, complain, nor rebel against his father, but would willingly go with his father to die as a sacrifice.

The scriptures teach that when Jesus came to the earth, that verily he took not on the nature of angels, but he took on the seed of Abraham; and Isaac was the seed of Abraham (Hebrews 2:16). Jesus humbled himself to the spirit and level of the nature of Isaac, but was obedient to God unto death, even the death of the cross.

Subject: Man Will Join Satan In Hell If He Continues In Sin:

Because man rebelled against God, he was doomed, but God established a covenant with man through his Son, whereby the penalty was paid for man's rebellion. God has planned for man to live again. However, there is no hope for fallen angels because they were in God's presence when they sinned. They had been around the throne of God.

God makes no allowance for those who have full knowledge and sin willfully, because there is no excuse and God has prepared a place called hell for the devil and his angels, not for man. However, if man continues in the spirit of Satan, he will go to hell also.

Subject: If God Spared Not The Angels That Sinned:

The angels that sinned were those who followed Satan, and rose up with him because of his promise to give them authority and power to rule against God. You can always find a fool somewhere, even today if you tell him that you will let him rule.

You can take a man who works in the midst of a group of people, and if such a man's heart becomes lifted up and filled with pride, and he feels he is not recognized, as he should be, he can become seditious and rebel against the existing authority, desiring to be a leader himself.

This kind of sedition Satan started in heaven, but it didn't work. When he rebelled against God, God ordered Satan to be cast out of heaven. The Bible teaches that if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, he certainly won't spare man who sins willfully against God after he comes to the knowledge of the truth.

Subject: Satan's Time Is Short:

No matter how evil and how much trouble the devil is causing today, the Bible teaches that he has but a short time. The devil knows that his time is now winding up, so he is disrupting the entire earth. War ended in heaven when Satan was cast out, but it started here on earth.

Today brothers are against brothers, and nations are against nations. The first war that was created by the devil was between two brothers, Cain and Abel. Today there is still no peace on the earth because the spirit of Cain and Abel has spread throughout the earth. Satan's time is short, and he will be cast into the pit and the world will study war no more.

Subject: Nothing The Earth Can Do Will Be Able To Prevent War While Satan Is On Earth:

There will be no peace on earth until God gets Satan out of the earth into the pit, which is in God's plan, because Satan will cause war wherever he is, whether it be in heaven or earth. The world can get the United Nations together and all of the League of Nations that they can put together, but I am prophesying that no matter what they do, as long as the devil is on earth, they will have wars.

We can try to appease the Russians and eat dinner with them, but they are going to sell arms to little renegade countries, like Iraq and Iran as long as there are some profits to be made. The only industrial capability that the Russians understand is producing weapons for warfare. Satan was given power to conquer the earth because this is his hour. The power of darkness belongs to him, and the main substance of the power of darkness is war. When Jesus sets up his new kingdom on earth, those who are saved will experience living in the power of light, which is eternal life, and the substance of the power of light is love.

Subject: The Substance Of Jesus' Temptations:

While Jesus often in his prayers and in his sermons referred to the time he was with the Father before the world existed, he did not have a detailed, positive recollection of being with God prior to his advent in this world. The Bible teaches that the word of God was made flesh; that is, God wrapped a human body around his word, and sent it to the earth. Prior to this advent Jesus was the word of God in heaven.

The only proof Jesus had that he was with God in the beginning were the scriptures written by the prophets foretelling his advent. These were confirmed by the events of His birth and early life as they were told to Him by His mother. Before he could induce others to believe that he was the Son of God, Jesus endured the temptation of the devil. His temptation consisted of an inducement by the devil to get him to doubt that he was with God in the beginning, to doubt that he was the Messiah, having the right to use the powers of heaven to do the works of God in the earth, and to doubt that he was really the Son of God. Everyday for forty days, Jesus struggled with this temptation, dispelling all doubt as to his Deity (order of membership in his Father's family).

Jesus was so deeply involved in his struggle that he was not even aware of his physical need for food until the end of the period. At last, He became certain that He was with the Father in the beginning, that He was chosen of God to be the Messiah, and that His mission was to redeem man from the curse of sin and death, by paying the ransom in the flesh on Calvary. Jesus would then return to God, according to the word in the scriptures, to be a mediator forever.

Subject: Continue With Jesus' Temptations:

While being tempted in the wilderness, as soon as Jesus became aware of his physical need for food, he moved toward civilization to resume life as an average human being, and he searched for food and rest. Satan instantly took advantage of a chance to play on Jesus' weakened physical condition to arouse his doubt further concerning his Deity. Since Satan failed to cause Jesus to doubt that he was the word of God, The devil used the need for food and the need for supernatural power as inducements to lead Jesus into sin. Jesus had convinced himself with no help from God that he was the Son of God.

Now the proposition of the devil was, if you still think you are the Son of God you can dispel every element of doubt by commanding these stones to be bread. If Jesus had uttered the command, he would not have convinced himself that he was the Son of God. He would only have convinced Himself that He still doubted if He was the Son of God, because of the fact that He would have tried out His power at the suggestion of the devil. This would have shown a lack of faith, and would have been a clear indication that He needed evidence or proof. However, Jesus' triumph came when he, being hungry, rejected the devil's proposition to change stones to bread. The question of Jesus' Deity however was uppermost in his mind from that moment throughout his entire ministry.

After failing to get Jesus to doubt, the devil worked on the people whom Jesus dealt with and had taught. The devil succeeded to a great extent as far as the people were concerned even up to this present day. Many Christians don't believe that Jesus came to save them from the practice of sin. However, as God had Peter who confessed that Jesus was the Christ, to be a witness in Jesus' day, God also has a remnant today that is standing on the same testimony that was revealed by God from heaven to Peter.

Subject: Yielding Is Sin:

When you learn the knowledge of the plan of salvation, you will also become aware of the reality of Satan through the temptations that you will be confronted with. Temptations are tests that God allows the devil to bring upon those who are saved. Such tests are composed, arranged, and presented by the devil. You must overcome if you want to be saved.

Yielding to temptations is sin. Prayer should be your main recourse when you are confronted with temptations. When you pray, you will get extra strength and assistance from God when the devil applies pressure through temptations. If you properly endure temptations, it will help to make you perfect. To carelessly yield will set you back to the foundation of repentance. This will necessitate that you start all over again. God will help you if you are sincere but not strong enough to endure the temptation. God will not forsake nor cut you off simply because you lack the knowledge, strength, and experience to deal with your temptations. So, don't give up, just start over again. God is more longsuffering with you than you are with yourself. God honors your good intent, even if you make a sloppy attempt. So keep the mind to do God's will. Though you fall short and go back because you were over-powered by temptations, God's hand will be still there to help you.

Yielding to temptation is sin; try not to do it again. If you continue to yield willfully, simply because it is easier than restraining, then God will not continue to give you grace. You must learn to struggle against temptations. God wants to give you the power to resist temptations rather than grace to start over again after you repent again.

To repent continuously from the same sins over and over again is not a favorable approach to God. It is better to take on the mind not to yield to temptation; you will find that God is more available to give you strength to do so.

As you progress in the knowledge of your sins and the tactics of Satan to tempt you, through the years, you should get to the point where you will become perfect in not yielding to sin. You should then be able to live above your sins, even when you are tempted.

Subject: Temptations Are Serious And Not To Be Taken Lightly:

Temptations are good for saints when they overcome, but they are very damaging for those who do not overcome. Therefore, Satan, being a gambler for your soul, dishes out temptations with the chance that you might not overcome. Temptations are distributed appropriately to work on the weaknesses of the individual who is being tempted. You cannot be effectively tempted to do something for which you have no desire or appetite. You can only be tempted to do that which you have a great desire or taste to do. The act will always be sinful, or else there would be no need for Satan to tempt you. Such temptations would be serious enough that you could not maintain your standing with God if you did it. Temptations are usually enticements that lead to fulfilling the desires of your flesh.

Subject: You Must Be Full Of The Holy Ghost To Endure Temptations:

God allows those whom he chooses to do a spiritual work through to be tempted by Satan. Temptations help to perfect and prepare a person to work for God. You cannot serve God unless you have been partaker of the necessary preparations that God requires that his servants experience. Temptations are the most important part of this preparation.

When Jesus was being prepared by God to do his ministry, he spent forty days in the wilderness being tempted of Satan. Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost successfully endured the temptations of Satan without giving in. You must be full of the Holy Ghost to endure temptations; otherwise, you will surely yield.

The Holy Ghost is your radar signal that warns you when temptations are approaching you. After you have received a signal, the Holy Ghost will then give you directions on how to escape your temptations. Without the Holy Ghost, you don't stand a chance.



CHAPTER VII

KNOWLEDGE AND THE WORD OF GOD

Subject: Your Salvation Must Be Measured According To The Knowledge Of The Word Of God:

The problem with men and women today is that many of them are in churches and have never found the Holy Spirit. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of those who have backslidden have never been born again or filled with the Holy Spirit. Most don't have this much knowledge of salvation. Most Christians today base their knowledge of being saved on a limited amount of religious teaching that can't save a rat.

You are not saved by knowledge, but your salvation must be measured by knowledge; otherwise, you won't know what you have. You will think you are saved because you shouted and cried one Sunday morning in church because the choir sang a very emotional song. I don't think any music can make you more emotional than the military selection that honor's dead soldiers called "Taps", but it certainly can't save you.

Subject: A Fool Would Not Likely Reject The Plan Of Salvation When He Learns It Of A Truth:

When you have tasted the goodness of the kingdom of God truly, and you know the ways of righteousness, you will rather die than to turn back to the ways of sin without a doubt. Once you get heaven in your view, your mind will be made up and your determination will be sure. There are not many fools who will learn the true knowledge of the way to God's kingdom and reject it for a short season of sin in the world. The Bible teaches that a wayfaring man or fool will not pass by this chance to be saved. These subjects on backsliding and falling are primarily for your knowledge, and not likely to happen to those who learn salvation of a truth. God is married to the backslider and is always willing to take them back.

Subject: God Can Communicate With Anybody:

Whatever the word of God tells you is what it means. If there is something about the word of God that you don't understand, it means that it is not telling you anything. When God wants you to know something, he will make it plain to you. God knows your ability to comprehend and he is more than able to communicate effectively with you. Is there anything too hard for God? Is there anybody to dull for God to teach?

Subject: A Prophesy To All! (Genesis 49:1):

In the book of Genesis 49:1 it reads as follows:

Verse 1 - And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days.

The Word of God is a book of prophesy that can inform everybody on what to expect in the latter part of their lives, based upon how they lived during the former days. Jacob was able to tell each of his sons how their last days would end by examining their present lives.

If you listen to the gospel being preached by a true minister of the gospel, he will be able to tell you what to expect in the latter days of your life. The gospel will evaluate your present life to determine your future. If a person dies before the time of fulfillment of their prophesy, it could be fulfilled in their children.

David had Uriah killed so that he could take his wife, after he had committed adultery with her; and his results was that David's sons committed adultery with his daughters. If a person practices adultery, their children will also commit adultery, unless their children repent and are saved.

Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver, and later hanged himself. If you betray a saved person for money, it could result to your suicide. Whatever is written in the scriptures aforetime (prior) is for our learning that we might not fall into the same traps of those before us. In the book of Romans 15:4, it reads as follows:

Verse 4 - For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Too much authority in any walk of life for a young inexperienced person, will result to their fall and failure. This is what happened to Satan; he had a lot of authority with little experience, and fell from his position in heaven. Satan was a beginner, or a novice. In the book of I Timothy 3:6, it reads as follows:

Verse 6 - Not a novice (beginner), lest being lifted up with pride, he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

Too much authority given to a beginner will cause him to be lifted up in pride, and as a result, fall into the same snare that the devil fell in.

If a person tries to set up a trap for a saved person, such as Haman tried to do to Mordecai, then he will be destroyed by his own trap just as Haman was. The sword of the wicked becomes the judgment of the wicked. This process carries such devastating results that after Peter cut off the High Priest servant's ear, Jesus had to put it back on to save Peter from the destruction of his own sword. In St. Matthew, 26:52, it reads as follows:

Verse 52 -	Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword
	into his place: for all they that take the sword shall
	perish with the sword.

During the time of Lot and Abraham, homosexuality was out of the closet, and being practiced openly without shame. As a result, God destroyed the entire city. If we see the same spirit of homosexuality taking place today, you can be sure that God is ready to send destruction again. What God does for one, he does for all if the conditions are the same.

Subject: The Fulfillment Of The Law:

Today, many Christians accept the furtherance of the gospel of Jesus Christ based upon their traditional teaching and their experiences. It is a mistake to accept the furtherance of the gospel based upon what you already know and have experienced. Such an attitude towards the gospel can cause a person to reject many things in the gospel that might be profitable for their salvation.

Accepting the furtherance of the gospel based upon already acquired knowledge can cause a person to be discriminating towards the word of God when it is teaching them something new. When Jesus first introduced the gospel to the Jews, they had previously followed the Law of Moses by picking through the law or following only those parts that were convenient for their personal purposes. Such a spirit left them without a substantial foundation for accepting the completion of the law that Jesus wanted to give them. Therefore, the Jews used their limited knowledge from the Law of Moses to determine whether Jesus' teaching was correct or not. As a result, they found themselves criticizing and rejecting most of what Jesus taught.

The problem with this kind of attitude towards accepting the gospel was that they had not obeyed enough of the Law of Moses to receive the completion of the law through Jesus' teaching. Very few Jews obeyed enough of the law to allow Jesus' teaching to fall in place so that they might have the complete doctrine of salvation. The Bible teaches that Mary the mother of Jesus along with Elisabeth, Zacharias and a few others obeyed all of the Law of Moses, which enabled them to be selected by God to be the parents of John the Baptist and Jesus. In the book of St. Luke 1:5-6, it gives us a description of how these faithful Jews followed the law of Moses in completion.

- Verse 5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia; and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth.
- Verse 6 And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

Notice, it teaches that Elisabeth and Zacharias were obeying all of the teaching that the Law of Moses taught. This was not so with most of the Jews, they had practiced picking through certain parts of the law to follow. Jesus later labeled their religion as being hypocrisy. If a group of Christians today has practiced picking through the gospel of Jesus Christ to follow parts that are convenient for them, then they will also be labeled by God as being hypocrites. Jesus taught the Jews that when they picked through the law to find the parts of the teaching that they want to follow, they would be over-looking the most important things to follow. St Matthews 23:23-24 reads as follows:

- Verse 23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.
- Verse 24 Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

It is necessary to obey all of the gospel as it applies to your life, and not be selective or discriminate as to what you prefer to obey, or else you will overlook the weightier matters.

Subject: Interpreters Of The Scriptures Are False Prophets:

The truth as it is revealed in the Bible must be accepted; it doesn't matter how impossible it seems to accept. If it is not accepted you would then be guilty of rejecting the whole counsel of God, though it may be only one principle that you rejected. You will find that the scriptures reveal that the word of God is of no private interpretation and cannot be broken. My sermons are not an interpretation of the Bible, but the actual teachings of the Bible.

If a biblical scholar teaches that the Bible doesn't mean so and so, he is false and would be giving an unnecessary false interpretation. The Bible interprets itself, sometimes using one scripture to help simplify or clarify another. The Bible means just what it says. The world is filled with different churches and denominations today because people interpret what the Bible says to suit themselves. We have Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Methodist and Catholic churches, but you cannot find any biblical authority on any of them.

CHAPTER VIII

BLESSINGS AND PROSPERITY

Subject: God Blesses You For His Name's Sake When You Obey Him:

God leads you in the path of righteousness so that he can bless you. God cannot bless you when you are unrighteous because it brings a reproach to his name. God blesses you for his name's sake. When you obey God, you are walking in his name. God blesses you when you are walking in his name so that others can see the blessings of God in your life because of the way you are living. God must and will magnify his name. When you do things in God's name, you keep God's attention.

Subject: Delight Yourself In The Lord And He Will Give You The Desires Of Your Heart:

If you delight yourself in the Lord, he will give you the desires of your heart. This means that God will put into your heart what he wants you to desire and he will fulfill your desire. God is a mysterious God who works in mysterious ways, but he reveals himself to those who do his will.

If you would ask God for the power to do his will, he will give you the desires of your heart. There is nothing that God cannot do for you. The word impossible does not apply to God. God is perfect in all of his ways and his ability is unlimited. You cannot discover the limitations of God's might.

Subject: The Blessings Of The Lord:

If you honor God, you will be blessed. God keeps a record of everything that is done in honor of his name, and he keeps a record of everything that is done that dishonors his name. That includes things such as taking prayer out of the schools and government. There are no neutral grounds, which you can live on before God. Everybody who did not contend to keep prayer in schools and government will be charged by God as being guilty of taking prayer out of schools and government. God is very powerful and knowledgeable of everybody's mind and the intent of everybody's heart.

God does not bother with people who dishonor him; he only makes a way to bless those who honor him. God's plan of blessings is set for one person. Everybody who is going to be blessed must be like that one person. That one person is Jesus.

God has established a course for the man who wants to follow Jesus to go on. When that man does the thing that is right before God, the course is fixed for him and the man cannot get out of the channels of blessings. The blessings of the Lord will continuously overtake the man. The Spirit of God will hold such a man on the course and the blessings of God will be all along the way as he travels. There will be so many blessings that the man will not get all of the blessings. However, as he needs them he will be able to get them. Everybody will not be blessed the same; each person will be blessed according to their ability.

Subject: God Wants To Bless You:

Today the earth is presently ruled by the devil. Adam turned it over to the devil when he sinned. Since that time, man has been in total misery under Satan's dominion. It is God's plan to regain rulership of the earth and to deliver man from his miseries, but he will only do it for those who obey him. There is nothing in God's creation that is more precious to him than man is. God's purpose for man is to regain rulership over the earth, that the earth might be blessed.

If after a man is born in sin, and decides to repent of his sins, God will bless him here on earth and in his kingdom. The Bible teaches in Deuteronomy, Chapter 28 the things that God will do for man, if he obeys and keeps his commandments. It teaches that man should observe to do God's commandments. God will set up any person or nation who obeys his commandments. All the blessings of God will come upon that person or nation. Such blessings will be commanded by God to come to the person. The Lord will command the blessing to come to a person's storehouse and everything that they set their hands to do. God will bless the work of their hands. Wherever that person goes, God will give them a possession and bless it.

God will establish an obedient people as a holy people unto himself. Their blessings will overtake them. A holy people are a people who obey God to the letter. If you should make a mistake and find that you've gone the wrong way, and you correct your mistake, God will forgive you and continue to bless you. However, if you sin willfully by disobeying His commandments, failing to do the things that you know are right, or doing things that you know are wrong, God will curse you to your face. You will be cast into a sea of fire and brimstone.

Subject: Those Who Love God Will Meet Often To Invoke His Blessings Upon Them:

When folk get together to go to church, God has observed their lives and hearts throughout their days journey. Those who have iniquity in their hearts, though they may sing and praise God on Sunday morning, God labels them as workers of iniquity. God can listen to everybody at the same time and he knows the heart of everybody who is a worker of iniquity.

Most church sacrifices that are made to God today are not accepted by God. You must have clean hands and a pure heart before God will accept your church works. God has a recording operation going on in heaven, God is able to record every prayer, testimony, song, and sermon preached. When those with clean hands and pure hearts come together in God's name, he records it. Such people who love God will meet often to invoke his blessings upon them. If you honor God, he will honor you. You cannot honor God unless you live above sin.

Subject: If You Are Prosperous You Will Not See Much Need For Jesus:

When a person is prospering and doing well in life, it is hard for them to see God. Many people have to have their spirit broken to see a need for Jesus to come into their lives. David said had it not been for his afflictions, he would have gone astray. You will hardly get Jesus' attention if you are doing well in life. "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth" (St. Matthew 5:3 and 5).

Subject: Jesus Is The Way Into The Kingdom (Mr. Money Man):

On one occasion, a young lawyer came to Jesus and asked him, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus told him to sell all that he had, and give to the poor, and come follow him, because Jesus was on his way to heaven. However, the young man was very rich. If you are pretty well off, you will have a hard time getting into the kingdom of heaven.

Wealth can stand between man and God unless you are under total submission to God, allowing God to control your life and your assets completely.

When God is at complete control of your assets, he will occasionally instruct you to do as Jesus is instructing this young lawyer to do. However, the young lawyer was very rich. He could not see his way clear to do what Jesus had instructed.

If a man or woman has to give up everything to go to heaven, it will be a hard proposition for them, as well as many people in America today. My heart really goes out to the wealthy person who wants to be saved, but I'm afraid there is no way other than that which Jesus instructed the rich lawyer; Jesus is the way.

Subject: Nothing From Nothing Leaves Nothing:

You can't lose anything being a citizen of the kingdom of heaven; you will have nothing but to gain here and hereafter. Nevertheless, you should be more concerned about your gain hereafter, since it will be the greater gain. Never worry about what you are going to get in this life; strive for the eternal prize in God's kingdom and God will give you the things of this life as a bonus. Don't expect anything here in this life other than what God gives you. Whatever God gives you in this life, he will give you peace of mind to go with it, and believe me, that is great gain. If you gain any excess of material blessings in this life, it will be for you to distribute to others. The secret of using the material things of this life is to remember that you brought nothing into this world and you will take nothing out. Nothing from nothing leaves nothing.

Subject: It Is Possible To Be Saved And Rich:

When your material wealth is used to help build up the kingdom of heaven in the minds of men, it will be serving a good purpose. You can then be a rich man or woman in the Lord. Such material wealth will then be multiplied by God for you, along with an occasional test to prove where your faith is, that is whether it is in your money or God. If you are proven to have true faith in God allowing God to control your wealth, it will be multiplied by God without corrupting you. As Jesus told the rich man, "with God all things are possible". It is possible to be saved and rich when God is in control of your wealth and life.

Subject: Nothing Can Stop The Blessings Of God From Coming Upon You When You Obey:

You cannot receive the knowledge that I am teaching without being blessed. I personally obey everything that I teach, and my wife and I are blessed right along with others who are obeying. The word of God just doesn't educate you in the knowledge of God, but when you obey the knowledge, it brings blessings from God into your life. The powers of heaven order the resources on the earth to be made available to you.

I am blessed because God has no respect of persons. He will bless anybody who obeys him, whether they are short, tall, fat, skinny, black, white, or blue. Obedience to God brings the blessings of God upon you, and nothing can stop you from getting them. They will come to you in the midst of all who oppose you. David said that God prepared his table before him in the presence of his enemies. Your enemies cannot stop you from prospering when God sends his blessings upon you. God can use your enemies to bless you. Obey God and you will prosper.

CHAPTER IX

CHILDREN: TRAIN UP A CHILD

Subject: Children Become Frustrated And Troublesome When They Are Not Instructed To Do God's Will:

No matter how intelligent, educated, and advanced man is in this high tech world, man cannot understand nor learn how to deal with a child. When a child becomes a problem, the most intelligent, educated personnel cannot adequately deal with that child. The problem is that a child is born in sin. When a child is born in sin, something must be done to correct the conditions by which it was born, or else nobody will be able to solve the problems of most children, though they may be able to help some for a while.

Every child that is born into the world is born for a purpose. This purpose was established by God before the child's conception. God knows children before they are conceived. When parents fail to discover and to be instrumental in helping to fulfill the purpose for which the child is born, the child becomes a misfit and often times fails to adjust to any satisfying purpose in life.

A child can only be satisfied when it is doing the will of God, otherwise, such children will, on many occasions, be problem children. It is the duty of the parents, especially mothers, to look at their children immediately after they are born and to discover the traits and tendencies of the child. By doing so, God will show the mother the gift for which the child was born to pursue. At such time, the mother should consecrate the child to God, teaching the child how to obey God and to develop the gift for which God sent the child into the world.

Failure to follow these instructions will result in the child following the ways of the ungodly world, ending up on drugs, alcohol or in prison. Children who don't fulfill God's purpose will most likely be dissatisfied in life.

Subject: The Righteousness Of The Parent Should Be Revealed In The Children:

A parent is no more saved than they are able to teach their children to be saved, just as a pastor is no more saved than he is able to teach his flock to be saved. True salvation is like a contagious virus; another receives salvation merely by exposure to salvation in a close affiliate. When you truly have the Spirit of God, and another person hangs around you, who is under subjection of your leadership, he or she will also get the spirit that you have.

When a man wants to incite a riot, and he uses words of rebellion and influence over others, everybody who listens and believes his instructions will receive the same spirit of rebellion that he has, simply by listening and believing his words. When your children are under your influence and authority, if you have the Spirit of God, they will receive the Spirit of God from you, simply by learning your teaching and being exposed to your spirit. We don't often see this happen to many Christian families because most parents have the wrong spirit. Whatever spirit the parents have will be reproduced in their children.

Children are a product of the parents. When parents take on the Spirit of God, God himself will see to it that the children are over-shadowed by the spirit of the parents. It will be necessary for the parents to administer correction, instructions and much longsuffering to their children, and in time the parents will begin to see the Spirit of God coming forth in their children. Children are compelled by the law of nature and God to be like their predecessors, either by influence or natural birthright; however the parents, so are the children.

The reason many adults do not get saved around truly saved leaders is because they don't humble nor subject themselves sincerely to the spirit and leadership of their leaders. It's hard for most adults to think of another adult as being spiritually superior to them. Many church folk are deceived into thinking that they can become saved by learning a lot of knowledge that the preacher teaches. Knowledge simply makes you puffed up, high minded and takes you further from God if you have not humbled yourself to the spirit of the leader. A lot of knowledge of salvation is the worst thing to have if you don't have the Spirit of God. All of the Jews were taught the right knowledge by Jesus, but very few were saved, because they did not have the spirit to humble themselves completely to Jesus' leadership.



CHAPTER X

ARE YOU READY FOR JESUS' RETURN?

Subject: What The Unsaved Should Expect Upon Jesus' Return:

If you are not filled with the Holy Spirit, It means that you have not been born again. According to St. John 3:3, you will not be qualified to go back to heaven with Jesus when he returns for his people. Such people will be categorized as unsaved. The unsaved will not rejoice upon Jesus' return. They will experience fear, torment, and shame before Jesus' presence (Revelation 3:7).

Subject: The Children Of The Resurrection (St. Luke 20:35-36):

In the first resurrection of the last days, the power of the Holy Spirit will attract children approximately seven years old and younger, along with adults who have been born again and have taken on the spirit of little children (St. Matthew 18:2-3). All will be considered as children of the resurrection, and will be united with Jesus upon his appearance to the earth. Everybody will see Jesus, but only the children of the resurrection will be caught up to meet Jesus (St. Luke 1:17).

People of the earth who are old enough to know right from wrong must be born again to get their names back on the book of life, in order to meet Jesus (St. John 3:3). When a person has been born again, such a person can be a follower of Christ as a little child, with the spirit and humility of a child. Such a person, though a full-grown adult, can be a certified child of the first resurrection (Ephesians 5:1-2).

Subject: The Second Resurrection (St. John 5:28-29):

The second resurrection will be for the unsaved (sinners). It will take place a thousand years after the first resurrection, which is for the righteous (saved). If you are unsaved when you die, the second death will be your portion after the second resurrection (Revelation 20:6). Those who are unsaved when they die will be categorized as sinners or wicked. People who live wickedly in this present world live the life of the devil. This means the spirit of the devil lives in them to direct their thoughts, their acts and to dominate their lives, while they live in this present world. Though such people may seem to be enjoying themselves, they are in reality very miserable because the devil does not bring joy. The devil only brings deceitful thrills and fun, which will only last for a short while, afterward, there will be condemnation, woes, and sadness. Because the unsaved person is of the devil, his life, or soul belongs to the devil. "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning (I John 3:8). When the sinner dies, his body returns to the dust from which it was made, but his life or soul goes to the devil, and remains with the devil until the second resurrection. When the sinner rises from the dead, the devil will be there to claim him, according to the word of God. The sinner will then be turned into hell after the judgment along with the devil, his angels, and all other unsaved persons.

The second resurrection of the sinner will not take place until after the saints (saved) have been caught up and are taken with the Lord to heaven. A period of one thousand years will elapse and then will come the second resurrection and the second death when the devil, his angels, and all sinners will be permanently separated from God (Revelation 20:10).

The second death is the death of your soul. Your soul is the immortal or permanent part of your existence. The temporary part of your existence is your flesh and blood body, which can only exist for a limited period of time, that is, seventy or eighty to ninety years for some people. However, the permanent life of your body is your soul, which can be relocated after the death of your body.

If you are not saved after your flesh and blood body dies, your soul will experience the second death, which will be continuous torment throughout eternity. There will be no interruptions to your miseries of the second death. This death will take place in a lake of fire and brimstone, which was prepared initially by God for rebellious angels. The devil, angels who were rebellious, along with false preachers and all of the unsaved will experience the second death. Every unsaved person will be given a new body that will be able to sustain the miseries of the second death throughout eternity (St. Mark 9:43-48).

Afterword

Thus, we come to the close of another volume of Saved from Sin. Today is the day of salvation. Actually, the day that you hear or read the true word of God is the day of salvation. If the sermons contained in this book have spoken to your heart, we encourage you to "seek ye the Lord, while he may be found, call upon him while he is near". An understanding of what is required to be saved from sin and to have eternal salvation has been revealed to you in simplicity and unadulterated form.

As we complete this volume of saved from sin and view national and international events of the past few months, especially the natural disasters both in the United States and abroad, we can surely say it has been devastating. We see many prophesies from God's holy word occurring before our eyes. The signs of Jesus' soon return are in place (St. Matthew 24:5-13), though we cannot say what day or hour he will return, as some have mistakenly predicted (St. Matthew 24:35-37). However, it behooves us all to look about ourselves and run for shelter in the word of God.

