SAVED FROM SIN

(FROM THE INSPIRED SERMONS OF ALONZO F. KILGORE)



Volume 28

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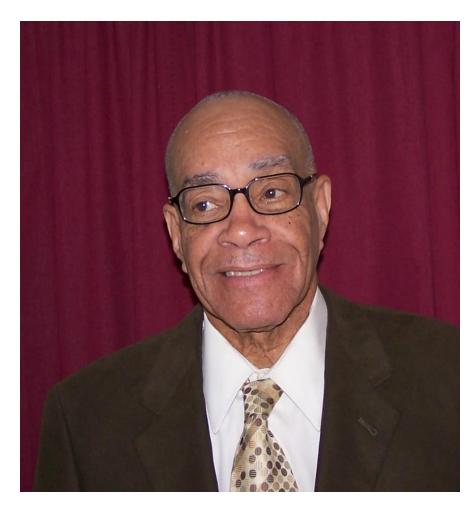
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ELDER ALONZO F. KILGORE

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!"

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

Welcome to Volume 28 of Saved from Sin. In this volume, Elder Kilgore continues to explain and expound upon the processes of salvation and what is necessary to qualify to enter the kingdom of heaven. He gives in depth information about being born again, which is necessary to acquire eternal life.

Just as a person must meet certain qualifications to enter a desired profession, he or she must also meet certain qualifications to be a candidate for the kingdom of heaven. Jesus' return to the earth for the saved could be any day now. The information contained in this and previous volumes of "Saved from Sin" will educate you on the requirements for eternal life.

The principles taught in this and other volumes of his books are based upon The Original King James Version of the Bible. You must receive the correct knowledge and instructions from the word of God as given by a Holy Ghost filled, God sent preacher. Elder Kilgore is such a preacher, and he has experienced the processes of salvation as he explains in his books.

May God bless your mind and understanding as you read this volume.

INTRODUCTION

<u>The Greatest Character That Has Ever Lived:</u>

As a minister of the gospel I am attempting to bring you a picture of the greatest character that has ever lived. Those who are familiar with the teachings of the Bible would know without me mentioning His name. He is Jesus Christ the Son of God. Jesus did more for the world than all other historical characters have done even if their works were combined.

Jesus is the saviour of the world. The reason that the world still exist is because Jesus died that the world might receive grace, which is time granted by God for the world to repent of their sins to escape the destruction that is coming upon a world of sin.

For your learning, the scriptures give a detailed illustration of Jesus' purpose for coming to the world that you might become better acquainted with Him. Jesus allowed His death to be the means by which we could receive eternal life from God. Listen to St. Luke 23:34:

Verse 34 - Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do...

The character of Jesus presented the greatest expression of love to the world that the world has ever known. Jesus took the pain and punishment that we deserved for being born as sinners. Listen to Isaiah 53:5:

Verse 5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Jesus was ordained of God to bring us salvation which is deliverance from the second death in which we could not otherwise be delivered. Jesus was manifested to the world that the power of God might be demonstrated to give us a hope beyond what the world could offer.

Christ having complete knowledge of our abilities to help ourselves died on the cross for us, and while dying He looked to heaven to God, and said, Father forgive them that say all manner of evil against me, for though I came to bring them salvation, and not do them harm, they have chosen to abuse and kill me. If there had been one speck of self in Christ, such an expression of love could not have been made.

But that you and I might see how the perfect man overcame evil with good, and that we might learn how to overcome evil, and not be overcome by evil. God had Jesus presented to the world to be our saviour and example against the greatest opposition, yet evil was not able to overcome Him.

<u>A Calling:</u>

In (Genesis 17:1) it teaches that when Abraham was ninety nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abraham and said unto him, "I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect". God presented Himself to Abraham as the Almighty God, and as God gave the command to Abraham, He gives it to us today.

Before God gives a command to us to do something, He has already decided to help us to carry out the command, if we are willing to obey. Notice during Abraham's day that God did not call other people to give a command; He only called Abraham because He knew that Abraham would accept the command. God does not waste time with those that He knows are not going to accept the command.

God commands those who are going to serve Him to be perfect, and if some people do not believe that they can be perfect, it means that God did not call them. When a person believes that they can be perfect, God accounts it as being righteousness and the person as being a righteous person. It is your belief in God that causes God to help you. The moment that Abraham believed that he could be perfect, God accounted it unto him as righteousness. God makes the same promise to us today if we believe God. Listen to Romans 10:10:

Verse 10 - For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

My Testimony:

If you are willing to obey God, you will put forth an effort though you may not be able to; when God sees you have the will, He will supply the ability and the strength. When I first started out with the Lord many years ago I did not see how a person could live in this world and not commit sin. Later I learned the scripture in St. Matthew 5:48 that said, "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect*". So, I took a chance on accepting this scripture believing that it was possible, and I put forth an effort to obey everything that the word of God instructed. As I went along, I found that extra strength and ability to obey were being given to me. As I observed my life, I found that I wasn't doing anything contrary to what the word of God was teaching.

Living above sin simply means to do right. I don't conceive any plan or program that would require me to do wrong in order to put it over. My concern above everything else is to maintain a spiritual or righteous life. I have allowed the word of God to give me principles to live by that will bring peace with God. If you don't have peace with God you won't have peace with anybody.

I Am Free From Sin:

Instructions are given in the scriptures that those who desire to be saved must live by. If you follow the instructions line upon line, and precept upon precept, God will prove Himself exceedingly able to do more for you than you ever thought to ask. He can give you power when you couldn't last a day against the opposition of the devil.

When I first started with the Lord I did not see how a person could live without committing sin. However, as I went along with the mind trying to obey with very little understanding, the Lord helped me and I received understanding and guidance. I began to see that a power had taken over in my life causing me to lose my desire for sin and worldly pleasures, and was guiding me through life according to the teachings of the word of God. I learned that this power was the Holy Spirit, which has stabilized me in a life that is above sinful practices. Today I am free from sin by the grace of God.

<u>The Map:</u>

The Bible is a map that gives you instructions on how to get from this life to eternal life. It describes all the places and experiences that you must pass through in this life to get eternal life. It will direct you to a city whose builder and maker is God. This map will also inform us on where we are, and how near we are to this city.

In this present world, there is no continuing city, so God has given us this map that reveals how to reach this city in the Promised Land that God has prepared. The map is the word of God, and it is the only source of knowledge concerning the promises of God. Although the Bible was written by men, it is the only book that was revealed, inspired and directed by the Spirit of God.

<u>Knowledge From The Word Of God:</u>

Knowledge from the word of God concerning God's plan for man to receive salvation does not come from a religious seminary, or college. Such knowledge is revealed by the Spirit of God to the preacher that has been prepared by God to be a deliverer of the knowledge. Those who receive the knowledge will be blessed because the knowledge carries grace from God to be favorable to those who receive it.

The word will very plainly teach concerning the destiny of those who receive it, and the destiny of those who fail to receive it. It will teach about two deaths, which are the death of the body and the death of the soul for those who do not receive it to obtain salvation.

It will also teach about two resurrections which will be the first resurrection for those who are saved, and the second resurrection for those who do not get saved. It will also teach about two births and that the second birth will deliver the saved person from the second death allowing the saved person to be in the first resurrection.

The second birth is the birth of the Spirit given by the Holy Spirit that will allow the saved person to have an eternal spiritual life in heaven with God. The word of God will clarify God's plan for giving you the new birth to enable you to be born again by means of you obeying the teachings of the knowledge as the Holy Spirit instructs. This is to make you free from sin, to become a servant of God while you are living in this present world, and to receive eternal life in heaven.

My Text:

My sermons may not be orthodox like you hear many preachers preach, but I never preach anything that is not supported by the word of God. I don't always announce my text because the Bible is my text. The name of the Bible is holy, and holy means to be free from sin. My text is, "Saved from Sin". It is the same in

every sermon that I preach. I never fail to stick to my text when I tell you that God requires that you be saved from sin.

A God sent preacher must speak the words that are based upon what the Bible teaches, otherwise he is not preaching salvation in Jesus Christ. In St. Matthew 1:21, it teaches that Jesus was sent to save us from our sins. God does not desire that anyone perish, so He gives timely warnings of the judgment so that people will change their course and escape the judgment.

The warnings in God's word are like signs that you see as you travel over the highway and approach a construction site. You will first see signs warning you of the site. The signs in God's word will give you instructions on how to escape the destruction that a life of sin will lead you to. Today, God's word warns people and show them signs that indicate very clearly that the dangers God's word speaks of will overtake those who do not take heed to the warnings.

Five hundred and twenty four years before Jesus Christ was born into the world, God gave us the warning of the end. God sent Jesus to prepare for the end 1900 years ago. We are now living in the end of time. The beginning of the last days started when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Now the last days are upon us. In just a little while we will have to give an account of our actions here on earth.

God has a plan which is better than any that man could ever conceive. The plan of God is that He is going to create a new summit above which no germs can enter, and where the flowers will bloom forever. God is going to fix it so that those who are saved after this world has dissolved will never die again. So the word of God is warning the people of the world so that they can prepare to be on the better side of God's plan. If the warnings are disregarded, those who disregard the warnings will not be in the right place to be received by Jesus upon His return. So, why take a chance?

<u>I Stay Ready:</u>

It is a good thing to stay ready to receive Jesus when He comes. I am ready if the Lord should come tonight or any time. I do not let the enticements of this present world deceive me by making me think that I am going to be here forever. If you are not born again the carnal nature can make you believe that you are going to live in this world forever, enjoying sinful pleasures. Though you know many have passed on, it will have no impression on the way you feel about living here forever.

Enticements and pleasures of the world are a very powerful influence on the

way we feel about our present day existence in this world. There are many who die unprepared. It will be a good thing to lift your mind to heaven and spend some time with God while you are living in this present world. Moments spent with God in this present world will help us to be more anxious to stay ready for the day when Jesus will return.

There Is Victory In Christ:

Jesus was a product of heaven, and when He went down into the earth, it could not hold Him. Jesus' flesh did not see corruption. He came forth from the grave with victory that He acquired over death, hell, and the grave. Jesus had the key to death and hell for the purpose of giving us hope that we might not be threatened by death.

For those who believe Jesus' gospel today and obey it, the gospel will give them hope beyond the grave, and Jesus will keep us in perfect peace when we keep our minds on Him. Isaiah 26:2-4 teaches us:

Verse 2 -	Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in.
Verse 3 -	Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, who mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.
Verse 4 -	Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

Peace is what the world desires today. It is the hope of every little government on earth, but if we allow some people of the world to have peace, and others not to have peace there will be wars.

<u>A Godly Repentance:</u>

The foundation of salvation is obedience to God. God has set forth instructions which we must follow to establish us as obedient children of God. The rules that are given by God leading a child of God over a course leading to salvation require that certain ordinances be observed. Whether we see a need for observing the ordinances is irrelevant. Our judgment and opinion concerning obedience to the ordinances is not important. It is God who has given the plan for salvation, and the plan is not based upon our opinion. The course that God has given for salvation is necessary to restore us in His favor, and meet the requirements for regeneration.

The plan has been prepared by God to bring us into God's holiness that we might be delivered from the sentence of death. One of the ordinances that is given is the baptism of water. Baptism was introduced by John the Baptist as an essential ordinance by which we might be inducted into the channels of salvation to become a child of God.

You cannot be properly baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost unless you have first repented and forsaken your sins. Repentance means to turn from every sin that you have knowledge of. Your repentance should be an apology to God that you are so sorry for the sins that you have committed that you never intend to commit them again. This is called godly sorrow.

Godly sorrow worketh repentance to the extent that you are sorry that you lived contrary to the will of God, and you are ashamed of the things you did in sin to the extent that you firmly resolve that if God forgives you and shows you mercy by cleansing you from your unrighteousness that you will never again commit such acts. God being moved by such a repentance will forgive you and clear up your record of sins, then you are ready for baptism.



CHAPTER 1

JESUS' RETURN: ARE YOU READY FOR ETERNITY?

Subject: The Mystery Of Godliness:

The mystery of godliness is beyond human conception. The human mind cannot comprehend the mystery of godliness unless it is revealed by the Spirit of God. All of the plan of godliness was done without the counsel of man. The Bible plainly tells us that if a man is unsaved, and his wife is saved, she can live the life of Christ and cause her husband to be saved.

The Bible further teaches that when both husband and wife are saved, the child that is born of the parents will be born saved or holy from the holy nature of the parents (I Corinthians 7:14). God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son so that the mystery of godliness would be revealed to those who received Jesus. The message that Jesus brought to the world was hope.

Jesus was a wonderful and great Saviour, and whatever God has done through Christ was for our learning and information that we might rejoice in knowing that we have salvation, which is deliverance from the terror of the second death. The death of the physical body is only a dream to a child of God. When the Lord shall descend from heaven with the voice of the archangel and the trump of God, all the saints shall be changed in the twinkling of an eye, and those who died in Christ shall rise and be changed (I Thessalonians 4:16).

When Lazarus was raised from the dead, this was an introduction to the first resurrection. The disciples stood around filled with joy and amazement, because they knew that this was a preview of the first resurrection of which all the saints will be in.

Subject: Jesus Will Return To The Earth:

The scriptures teach that Jesus shall return to the earth again in Revelation

1:7:

Verse 7 - Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

When the Lord returns to the earth, every eye shall see Him. Even those who stood at the foot of the cross who mocked and reviled Him shall see Him when He returns in His glory. They shall wail because of Him.

When Jesus left the earth, He ascended from Mount Olivet; Acts 1:9 reads as follows:

Verse 9 - And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

The disciples were observing the sight as being so marvelous that they were lost from the world with their thoughts and eyes on Jesus' ascension into heaven. So the angels admonished the disciples that the same Jesus that they saw leaving shall come back in like manner as they had seen Him leave. Acts 1:10-11 reads as follows:

- Verse 10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;
- Verse 11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

The angels were sent there to call them back to reality. It is recorded in the scriptures that when He shall return, the world will see Him on one occasion. Jesus is not coming all the way to the earth to receive the saved people in the first resurrection. Those who are saved shall be brought up to meet Jesus in mid-air, and taken to heaven. Jesus' next appearance to the earth will be to execute judgment upon the unsaved, and every eye will see Him. Listen to Jude 1:14-15:

- Verse 14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,
- Verse 15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

All eyes shall see Him when He comes back and He will not come to judge, but to execute judgment. The judgment will take place in heaven and the execution will take place on the earth. Those who pierced Him shall see Him, and they shall wail because of His coming.

Subject: Will You Be Ready When Jesus Returns?

There are many things going on in the world today that God does not approve of because they are not being conducted according to the word of God. Jesus is coming back soon, and He is going to straighten things out. We can't straighten out our family members, nor the confusion that is in our churches. Jesus is going to straighten out all the preachers, deacons, and hypocrites that are a part of the confusion in churches.

Now when Jesus comes in His glory it is going to be a sweet day for those who are ready. You are ready when your life is sin free. If you are not ready, things won't be sweet. Just as sure as we see the sun rise, so shall the Son of man come with a big surprise for the millions who are not ready.

When Jesus comes He will catch some men with bottles of liquor in their hands taking a drink and they won't have time to take it down, because Jesus is coming in a moment in the twinkling of an eye. He is going to catch some men having sex with a woman that is not their spouse. He is going to catch some gamblers on their knees shooting dice, or at a gambling table at the casino. Jesus is also going to catch people telling the biggest lies that have ever been told.

Now if you desire to be ready to meet Jesus, repent and believe the gospel while you still have time. Grace is still available, but upon Jesus' return grace will end. When your repentance is sincere God will give you the Holy Spirit which will help you to be ready when Jesus comes. The Holy Spirit gives you the new birth, and when you are born again God will be living in you controlling your life to keep your interest on the day of Jesus' return.

Subject: What Spirit Will You Have When Jesus Returns?

Those who are saved when Jesus returns will be taken to heaven to celebrate for a thousand years while the unsaved will remain on the earth in a state of misery. Listen to Revelations 20:7-8:

Verse 7 - And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Verse 8 - And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

The thousand year reign will be when the saints of God will be in heaven with God and Jesus. The day will come that nothing will be left on the earth, but unsaved people. Listen to Revelations 20:1, 2, 5, and 6:

- Verse 1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
- Verse 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,
- Verse 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.
- Verse 6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

During the thousand years that the devil is in prison, God is going to let the wicked see that without the devil they are meaner than the devil. The devil will be bound and the wicked won't have any excuse.

Upon Jesus' return the saved people will be secured, and afterward the fire of God shall come down and when the wicked are gathered together and destroyed. The general resurrection for those who were dead in Christ, and those who are living and saved will be secured in heaven. The saved and the unsaved will be given new bodies that will never die.

You must get ready for the body you want. The kind of spirit you have will determine the kind of body you will have. If you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you will be given a body to live forever in heaven. If you have the spirit of the devil, you will be given a body to live in a state of misery forever.

Subject: The End Of All Things:

Jesus gave His disciples a detailed description of the end of the world. He gave them knowledge in detail of God's plan for the end of all things. He first taught them that God would avenge the evil done to every saint, prophet, and those who walked in the statutes of God, and kept God's commandments. He said that when they shall see things begin to come to pass, that they must tell those who believe in Jesus to look up, for their redemption draweth nigh (Luke 21:28). Jesus further taught that all the wonderful structures that they saw standing in the beautiful city will be brought down to the ground; and there will not be one stone left upon the other.

He said that though they would die it would not stop the truth; for the gospel will reach those of the earth through much trouble, suffering and sorrow, and that everybody who loses his life for my sake shall find it again.

Jesus instructed them that they should declare the things that shall precede the end of all things; so that when the people see these things coming to pass, they will make their calling and election sure.

Subject: How To Get Into A Holy City:

There are many people who think that they are going to heaven when they die. You have to qualify to go to heaven. Heaven is the dwelling place of God. No darkness can come in the presence of God. To die as a sinner is to die in darkness. In Revelations 21:25 it teaches that there is no night in the beautiful city called the new Jerusalem, which is to be the capitol of the new world that is presently being built in heaven. There will be no darkness, because the presence of God will light the city.

You have to be taught how to get into this holy city while you are living in this present world. You need the Spirit of God to qualify. The Spirit of God gives you the new-birth, which will qualify you to get into this new holy city. The Spirit of God makes you holy; this is the Holy Spirit. It is the only spirit that will give you access to this city of God. Listen to Romans 6:22, which teaches the qualifications:

Verse 22 - But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

In heaven there sits one who holds immortality in His hands who is the giver of eternal life. If you are born again, your soul according to the promise of God, will be saved. When you are saved, you are a branch of the vine, which is Jesus. This means that you are connected to the means by which you can get eternal life. Listen to St. John 15:1 and 5:

Verse 1 - I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

Verse 5 - I am the vine, ye are the branches ...

You are then holy in all manner of conversation. Listen to I Peter 1:15-16:

Verse 15 -	But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye
	holy in all manner of conversation;

Verse 16 - Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Subject: The Power Of Redemption:

Life is the sweetest and most pleasant gift that God has placed in a human body. Death cannot celebrate God, nor can the grave praise Him. Man brought death upon himself, because God would not give the gift of life and allow death to take life. God did not create man to die, but to live forever. Obedience to God gives eternal life.

God has even provided for the unsaved and disobedient to live forever, but they will live in a state of misery. When Jesus died and rose again, it allowed all of those who believe in Him to live forever with Him. There is unlimited power in Jesus' resurrection that can give eternal life to all who obey His gospel. When you die in Christ, He does not forget you. Christ's death carried the power of redemption for those who are born again.

The greatest joy and hope for those who believe in Jesus is, 'though they die, they shall live again in heaven'. Those who are saved will be separated in the future life, and have heaven without interruption. The unsaved will have hell without interruption. Everybody who dies before Jesus' return will come forth at the command of the voice of Jesus. Listen to St. John 5:28-29:

Verse 28 - Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the

which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

Verse 29 - And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

The new-birth that Christ offers is for the purpose of redeeming your mind from desires to commit sin. When your mind is cleared of sins, wherever your mind is, is where your body goes. When your mind is righteous, your body will do right.

Subject: The Promises Of God:

The word of God is the foundation upon which we build our faith in the promises of God. Every promise that has been recorded in the Bible which has not already been fulfilled, shall be fulfilled. No man has seen God at any time, but Jesus the Son of God who came into the world came according to the promise of God's word that was spoken by the prophet Isaiah. Jesus was crucified, and was resurrected according to the promises of God, as was prophesied by Isaiah.

The scripture teaches that He showed Himself by many infallible proofs that He was the risen saviour for forty days after His resurrection. So if the prophecy of Jesus' birth and resurrection has been fulfilled, our faith will help us to accept the promise of His return to be fulfilled. I rejoice in the fulfillment of His resurrection, because I believe that He will come back to get me whether I am living or dead.

All who die believing in the promises of Christ's return will be resurrected according to the promise. Listen to what the angels told Jesus' apostles who were watching His ascension from Mount Olivet where 500 witnesses stood, and saw Him as He ascended into Heaven and was received by a cloud. The angels asked "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? "This same Jesus which is taken up from you into Heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven".

So today the interest of those who believe that Jesus will return in like manner of the way He left should have their hope on His return. Jesus told His disciples in a private meeting before He left that He was going back to heaven, and that they should not let their hearts be troubled, and that those who believed in God should also believe in Him. He further stated that in His Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, He would have told them, and if He goes to prepare a place for them, that He would come again to receive them unto Himself.

Subject: The Promise Of Jesus:

The hope of those who have been taught about God is built upon the resurrection. If there be no resurrection of the dead, all of our labor is in vain. Therefore, to have hope to live again is the hope of the world. Jesus came to give us hope, which is, if we die, we shall live again. Jesus died that we might have eternal life. Jesus' last words to His apostles before leaving them (St. John 14:1-3) was, "Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me, in my Father's house are many mansions.

In heaven there are many mansions, and there with God are angels who are created spiritual beings that are not subject to death. Angels are created by God without the help of man and are given the life like God's life. God will never die, and neither will angels. When the saved people shall come forth from the grave, they shall also receive a spiritual or celestial body like angels. Jesus is going to return and meet those who are saved in mid-air.

Jesus came to teach men of the earth how to live in peace so that they could be a part of His reception that He is going to present to the world upon His second appearance. This is what He was telling His disciples before His departure. So Jesus told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them, and if He went to prepare a place for them, He would come again to receive them. This promise is to everybody who repents and believes the gospel.

Subject: Of The Times And Seasons God Will Not Reveal:

On one occasion the disciples wanted to know whether or not Jesus would restore the kingdom of Israel at a particular time. Jesus said unto them, it is not for them to know the times or seasons which the Father had put in His own power. Afterward Jesus further taught that they would receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come unto them, and that they shall be witnesses unto Him both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

So, the disciples further asked what shall be the signs of His return and the end of the world. Jesus answered and said unto them, take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many, and ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that ye be not troubled, for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

In addition, God had previously spoken through the prophet Daniel, that at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people, and at that time thy people shall be delivered, everyone that shall be found written in the book; and many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.

Subject: Jesus Is The Word Of God:

Jesus was known in heaven as the word of God. God, by means of His Holy Spirit, caused the word of God to be made flesh to come to the earth in a human body to dwell among the people of the earth so that they could know God. Jesus was full of grace and truth. Those who received the truth, Jesus gave them grace to receive salvation according to the truth.

The people of the earth could behold His glory as of the only begotten Son of God who was filled with love and favor. The people today will see Jesus again because He will return again according to the words of the prophets. Jesus has been to the earth once, and He's coming back again, and those who are born again of His Spirit will be looking for Him.

Subject: The Servant Does Not Abide In The House:

The servant of a wealthy family will not abide in the estate of the wealthy family. The day is coming that the folks who are here now won't be here. The wicked shall be cut off. The born again servant will be promoted to permanent rulership. Listen to Malachi 4:1:

Verse 1 - For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

Now the day is coming when everything in the world shall be burned up, but that will not be the end.

The whole creation came from the earth, and when it is burned to ashes, it will return to the earth. All that does not die and decay, God will burn up. There will be some people living on the earth when the world comes to an end. God is not going to wait for everybody to die. When Jesus shall descend from heaven with the voice of an archangel, the dead in Christ shall rise first, and be taken to heaven with those who are living and saved (I Thessalonians 4:16). The wicked or unsaved shall be left. Those who have made the wealth of the world their god will be left.

When this event takes place, all of the wicked shall be made stubble. The new earth will be created out of the old earth. These pretty new cars that you see were made out of old cars. Now it is not the bodies of flesh and blood that will live again, but the life or soul that is in the bodies. Your mind is your soul. The soul and spirit that is in your flesh and blood body will be put in a new body, a spiritual body that cannot die. Spiritual things last forever.

It is the spirit of a body that causes the body members to do good or evil deeds. There is either the Spirit of God in a person or the spirit of the devil. Nothing is going to heaven but the Spirit of God with Jesus when He returns, and the spirit of the devil is going to hell. Just as saved people are going to receive new bodies to go to heaven, the unsaved are going to be given new bodies to go to hell that will never die. However, the bodies of the wicked will be designed by God to experience everlasting torment and pains of misery in hell.

Listen carefully: The day is coming when every man and woman who have walked in wickedness shall be burned up, and they will be given new bodies which will have the same spirit that was in the old bodies.

Subject: Please Do Not Reject The Mercy Of God:

Man is so valuable to God that He is not willing that one person should perish. God evaluates the intent of man's heart, and if He perceives that man will accept His invitation to be saved, God will save the person. God shares His immortality with those who believe and obey the gospel. Therefore, though we die, we shall live again with God.

The person who dies is not really dead if he or she believed in God. They are merely asleep, waiting to be awakened by the voice of God. He is like a man asleep in bed whose wife plans to awaken him at an appointed time. When the

time arrives, she calls and he gets up. No matter how deep a sleep he may be in, when the voice of his wife sounds in his ears, he wakes up. So will it be with everyone who is asleep in Jesus.

When the angel of the Lord sounds the trumpet, you will hear and get up. Those who were born again and have fallen asleep in Jesus shall awake to see Him as He is, for he has planned that the grave should not destroy His people. They shall see Him face to face. Jesus has prolonged His return and keeps the door of opportunity open that whosoever will might come to God. Time can be prolonged now, but eternity cannot be for eternity is endless. When you finish your life in time, you will enter into eternity. So, please do not reject the mercy of God, so that you can enter eternity on the better side of God's plan for those who are saved.

Subject: This World Is Not Hell:

Because of the miseries and troubles of this present world, a lot of people think that it is like hell. This world is not hell. This is just an introduction to hell. In hell you won't get a break. There are periods of relief from miseries in this world. We meet sin everyday, but when you assemble to worship with saved people, you get a break from the evil spirits of the world.

There will be no churches in hell, neither will there be any place to go to get comfort and relaxation from sinners. Sinners will be everywhere in hell. Everybody in hell will be mad and hating one another. There will be no love in hell, not even between relatives.

Make no mistake, God does not send anybody to hell. This will be the choice that those who go will make. God sent Jesus to offer eternal life in heaven to everybody. When the offer is not accepted, the only other alternative for living in eternity is in hell.

CHAPTER 2

THE BIBLE: GOD'S HOLY WORD

Subject: Do You Know The Word Of God:

Unless you know the word of God, the devil can deceive you. You cannot trust human intelligence to lead you through life. The word of God is the sword of the Spirit, and it can get you through life successfully. When you are equipped with knowledge from the word of God, you are safe from the devices of the devil.

The word of God gives you promises from God, and when you have faith in the promises, the deceitful tricks of the devil will have no place in your life. When other people are experiencing problems because they lack knowledge of the word of God, the thing that will keep you happy and trusting is to believe that God's word is true.

Deceitful confidence in false things of the world will vanish in the time of trouble. Jesus was sent into the world to give us hope that the world did not have to deliver us from trouble. When Jesus is in your life you don't have to worry, nor fear because salvation will be more powerful than troubles of the world.

Subject: God's Word Is Simple And Plain:

God is a wonderful God who makes the plan of salvation so plain that a child can understand it. When you have a mind to receive God's words, His word will be revealed to you. There was an Ethiopian Eunuch during the days of the apostles who was trying to read and understand the word of God. However, he was having a difficult time understanding the word, so he traveled many miles to the land of Israel where he believed he would find someone who could explain it to him. God sent Philip to meet him. The Eunuch's mind was so opened and ready to receive an explanation of the word of God that as soon as Philip explained it, the Eunuch believed and was saved immediately.

It was by means of Philip that God sent the understanding of His word to the Eunuch. However, it was the Holy Spirit in the form of an angel who directed Philip to go to where he found the Eunuch. God will send someone to anybody today if they desire to know what the word of God teaches concerning salvation. All you need is a desire to know more about His plan for man, and the knowledge of God's plan will be given to you. It will be so simple and plain that you will be amazed. God's word is very plain; it is the carnal minds of people that creates confusion.

Subject: The Word Of God:

The word of God is the truth that can establish your knowledge in the plan of salvation and save you. If you follow the directions that the word of God gives, you will acquire an understanding of God's plan for man. If you take in the word of God and follow it exactly like it teaches, it will build you up in righteousness.

The word of God is the power of God to save you from sin, and after it saves you, it will keep you living holy. When you listen to the word of God it will be stamped in your mind, and will be brought to your attention later when you are presented with situations that require guidance.

God ordained that the truth find its way in the minds of those who hear the word of God. If you do not accept what the word of God is teaching after you hear it, and fix your mind to resist it, your subconscious mind will take it in and later condemn you when you disobey the word of God. When you have gone contrary to the truth, your subconscious mind will bring the knowledge of the word to your attention and accuse you. Listen to Romans 2:15:

Verse 15 - Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.

You are only justified before God when you obey what the word of God teaches. When you are justified, you are brought up by the power of God to the standard of righteousness that is acceptable in true holiness. You will then break away from the habits that sin has created, and lose your appetite for sin.

When a sinner has stopped doing wrong, he has taken the only step that he is able to take by his own power. Christ then comes to his rescue and baptizes him with the Holy Spirit that gives him spiritual power to continue to walk away from sin. The power of Satan is then broken. God then blots out all the guilt and blame for everything he has ever done that was wrong. The sinner is no longer classified by God as a sinner, but a saint, and he is given a standing of equality with Christ who knew no sin, and is accepted in the society of heaven as a child of God.

Subject: The Truth:

The truth is the only thing that can make you free from sin. The Holy Spirit comes into your life after you have received the truth. You cannot be born again unless you are taught the truth from the word of God. No matter how humorous

and hard the word of God might sound, or be contrary to the way you live, it is nevertheless the truth. When you hear the word of God being given by a God sent preacher you are hearing the truth. Listen to Jeremiah 22:29:

Verse 29 - O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the Lord.

The word of the Lord is revealed to those whom God desires to use to deliver a message to the people. God does not speak directly to His people, but He speaks through His prophets. God reveals the word to the prophets as He speaks to the minds of the prophets.

We can know the Bible is the word from God because it does not express the mind of a man. What is in the mind of a man will eventually show up in the actions of men, and such things could be criminal acts. However, God sent the prophets to prophesy that He would come to the earth and save the people from their sins as Emmanuel, and those who believed and accepted the truth of God's word are saved as a witness to the truth.

Subject: A Righteous Seed Can Save Us From The Sentence Of Death:

The fruit can be no different from the seed. Adam became a sinner, and we were all born from a seed that produced sinners. To be born as a sinner means to be born under the sentence of death. If Adam became a sinner before he begot Cain, Cain was born a sinner and became a murderer. He murdered his brother.

The scriptures teach that we must be born again from a righteous seed which is the word of God, or else we will fall under the sentence of death. God sent Jesus into the world for the purpose of making a righteous seed available so that we could be born again to escape the sentence of death. A righteous seed is the word of God, which is an incorruptible seed. Listen to I Peter 1:23:

Verse 23 - Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

The Spirit of God conceives the word of God in our minds to give us a righteous birth. The word of God cannot die, therefore it can give eternal life to those who receive it. The word of God cannot fail nor pass away. God planned

that man might be born again, not of flesh, but of the Spirit and the word. Words are spirits. When a person believes the word of God, the Spirit will cause the word to give them salvation.

Jesus was the word of God made flesh to live in a human body, to demonstrate that the word could give power to a human body to live righteously. The world was created by the word of God, God spoke and out of His words came power. The word created the world because the Spirit of God was in the word. When God gave His word to order the creation to be in place, the Spirit of God was behind the word to energize the creation to obey the word. When you hear the word of God and believe it with the intent to obey the word, the Spirit of God will energize the word to give you the new birth.

Subject: God Is What He Is:

God is what He is because of His word. God's word has never failed. If you learn the word of God and obey, it will not fail you. It will do what it promised, but you must search the scriptures to see whether you are in accord with His word. Read the scriptures daily to see whether or not the things that you are doing are in keeping with His word.

Jesus was the word of God made flesh that God sent to the earth in human form just like ordinary people. Read St. John 1:14:

Verse 14 - And the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Jesus would not deceive the people; He came and told the truth about how their lives would end if they continued in sin. Jesus taught that if they received Him, they would not have to fear death, and that the instructions He gave would cause them to be resurrected if they died obeying the instructions.



CHAPTER 3

SIN AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

Subject: The Under-Cover Destroyer:

The human mind takes in the knowledge that it is taught when it believes what it is taught. If the knowledge is wrong the mind will lead the person the wrong way. The reason that people are going in sin is because the pastors do not preach the truth to the people about the dangers of sin.

The mind has to be fed the correct spiritual food or knowledge in order for the people to know the right way to go in life. When people are taught that nobody can live above or free from sin, it causes sin to be an acceptable part of their ways of living. The people would then not regard sin as being a hazardous way of living.

When people are not taught what sins are, they will not be able to identify what is causing their problems in life. Sin will then be an under-cover destroyer of their lives.

Subject: Jesus' Mission To The World:

Sin places you in situations in life that will reproach you. Righteousness will exalt you to favorable situations in life. After you have gone contrary to the way of righteousness you will learn by experience that sin does not reward you, it only deceives you.

God looked down upon the earth and saw that man could not help himself, and He made plans to send someone to help man. So God decided to create His only begotten Son in human form to come to the earth to help man. The Son of God brought a program to the earth to teach man how to be obedient to the righteousness of God, and that in doing so his obedience would cause him to be in favorable situations in life.

Jesus was able to make those that He came in contact with to know that He was sent with power from God that was manifested in the works that He did. Those who received help from Jesus could see that He was demonstrating the words of the prophets concerning His advent.

Jesus taught to the lost world that the Spirit of the Lord was upon Him, and that by the power of the Holy Spirit He could heal the brokenhearted, preach deliverance to the captives, and give sight to the blind, and set at liberty them that are bruised.

Jesus further informed the people what should take place, and what should be the result of Him bringing this world to the knowledge of the truth.

Subject: How Bad Is Sin?

Sin is deceiving, dangerous, and ugly. Oftentimes people can't see how dangerous sin is because some sins are hidden. People don't understand how bad sin is until after it has ruined them. God can see ahead of time the damage that sin can do, therefore, God calls, saves, and gives the Holy Spirit to educate a preacher to preach the gospel to uncover the deceitfulness of sin.

The gospel of Jesus Christ reveals just how bad sin is. Sin has brought upon the human family so much weakness, and so many disorders that this present generation is shown to be weaker than any previous generation. Sin causes each generation that comes on the scene to be more wicked than any previous generation.

In order for some people to be saved, it is therefore essential that God raise up someone to uncover the secret sins. God is fully aware of how sin will destroy us even before we are born. When the secret sins are uncovered by the gospel it is not for the purpose of embarrassing the person, but to deliver the person. After such a person is delivered they can be an example, and inform others on how the gospel has saved them from the awful conditions that sin had brought into their life.

God knows the hearts and minds of everybody before they are born. When He sees the intentions of those who would receive the truth about their sins, and that they are willing to repent of such sins, God will prepare a day when He will save the person.

Subject: The Secret Sin:

If you desire to enter the kingdom of heaven, you cannot have hatred in your heart for anybody. Listen to I John 3:15:

Verse 15 - Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

Hatred must be destroyed in all who want to live in heaven with God, because in heaven there will be only love, joy and peace.

Sin has brought upon the human family so much weakness, and so many disorders that this present generation is shown to be weaker than any previous generation. God saw that it was essential to raise up someone to uncover the secret sin. God was fully aware of our condition even before we were born. The secret sin is revealed not to embarrass those who have committed such, but to inform them that grace is available to deliver them. In revealing the secret sin as well as its consequences to those who are not yet involved, God pulls back the cover to enable us to see the path ahead and avoid a deep pitfall. Hatred can be a secret sin that is not manifested until a situation provokes it.

Subject: What Caused Judas To Betray Jesus?

The thing that caused Judas to betray Jesus was covetousness. Judas was the treasurer of Jesus' ministry. He carried the money or offerings that were given to Jesus. If you get too close to money it can start a love affair with you. Money has power that can cause you to do most anything to get it unless you have a power in you that is greater than the power in money. Only the Holy Spirit is greater than the power in money, and when Judas betrayed Jesus He did not have the Holy Spirit. Money can make you feel more important than what you are.

One day while Jesus was sitting at dinner, a woman whom He had blessed and saved from a harlot's grave bought a box of precious ointment and anointed Jesus with it; it cost a great sum of money. Judas was there when she did this, and said, look at the waste, and that the money should have been given to me instead of wasting it on ointment. It should have been given to the treasurer so that when the poor needed something, I would have something to give them. Jesus said the poor you will have with you always, I am only with you for a few days.

But Judas nevertheless continued to love money, so he went out and made a bargain with the chief priest and elders to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Judas never thought that Jesus would really be crucified. Judas got with the other disciples and listened to the teachings of Jesus, but he did not believe. Some of the apostles also disbelieved Jesus. Jesus told them that He would be crucified, but they just could not see how the Son of God could be crucified. Peter said, be it far from you, master, it will never happen. So often when God sends the people a leader they forget and feel that some things they must hear, and other things they can let go.

Judas thought he would profit by betraying Christ. He betrayed Him with a kiss. When Pilate condemned Christ, Judas then realized that what he thought would not happen, had happened. He was sorry. He thought in his own condemned mind that he had entered into a bargain to sell the life of a man who has blessed so many people. So when Judas saw that Christ was really going to be crucified, he told the chief priest and elders to take the money because it was a

curse to him, but they told Judas that there was no place in their treasury for that kind of money. So Judas took the bag and threw it at their feet, and went out and hanged himself. Judas fell in love with money, but money made a fool out of him.

Subject: What About Fornication?

Fornication has begun to be an acceptable social practice in our society today. God has warned those who desire to be saved against the practice of fornication. Fornication is any sexual relations outside of marriage between male and female. Listen to I Thessalonians 4:3-7:

Verse 3 -	For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:
Verse 4 -	That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;
Verse 5 -	Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:
Verse 6 -	That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.
Verse 7 -	For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

When you are saved, God has not saved you to participate in unclean sexual practices, but unto holiness. Being saved is a calling from God, and the calling has power to deliver you from unclean practices that please the flesh, such as fornication. It is the devil's purpose to build up unclean relations among church folk to entice them to commit fornication and adultery.

If you are attending a church where folk are committing fornication and adultery, you should leave such a church, because the Spirit of God is not in such churches. When the Spirit of God is not in a church, none of the members will be saved. The institution of marriage was ordained by God. God provided no other way for men and women to get together and have sexual relations. Marriage is a holy wedlock that prevents sex from being a sin. Without the holy wedlock, sexual relations are charged as sins before God. Marriage is so important that God Himself conducted the first marriage ceremony between Adam and Eve.

Since the marriage of Adam and Eve, the Spirit of God has joined all other couples who stand together to acknowledge before God that they take each other in holy matrimony; and God concludes the ceremony by saying, what He therefore has joined together, let no man put asunder.

Subject: The Truth Must Be Established In Your Mind:

Jesus Christ spoke the truth and He was hated and crucified because the truth was not accepted by the evil people during His ministry. When a person kills another person because of hatred they are also destroying their own soul. Hatred and murder work two ways. It kills the one who is hated, and it also kills the one who hates.

You cannot prepare to live with God in heaven after you die. If you are unrighteous when you die you will live in hell. You have to be righteous before you die to live with God in heaven. God does not send you to hell, your disobedience sends you to hell contrary to the will of God.

It is the will of God that you go to heaven that is why He sent His only begotten Son to die for your sins. The truth from God must be established in your mind by the Holy Spirit before you can accept it. When you don't have the Holy Spirit, the truth is not in harmony with your way of thinking. When the truth is established in your mind you will know the truth because it will make you free from sin.

CHAPTER 4

YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN: A SPIRITUAL BIRTH

Subject: A Testimony Of Christ Is From Heaven:

I can preach against sin because I was a bigger sinner than anybody. I was born in sin and shaped in iniquity, but one day God saved me and made me a saint. God turned my life around and filled me with the Holy Ghost. I am like Saint Peter and Saint Paul in the Bible; I was once spiritually blind, but now I can see.

God is no respect to persons, if He made Peter and Paul saints, He can do the same thing for us today. Whenever a person believes that Jesus is the Son of God like Peter did, God will give them salvation from heaven. Listen to Peter's testimony in St. Matthew 16:16-17:

Verse 16 -	And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the
	Christ, the Son of the living God.

This testimony came from heaven.

Verse 17 - And Jesus answered and said unto him, *Blessed art* thou, Simon Bär-jō'-nă: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

When you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, God will give you a testimony from heaven.

Subject: What Does It Mean To Be Born Again?

The plan for the new birth was given by God because Adam allowed sin to disrupt God's plan for those who would choose to obey God. The sermon that is taught about the new birth in Christ is the most important sermon that you can hear. There is no other way to come to God except by being born again.

The second birth is entirely spiritual, whereas your first birth was physical. A spiritual birth is a birth that will take you out of the sinful state into a righteous or holy state. It will give you the nature and desires to live righteous whereas your sinful state gave you desires to live sinful.

You are born again of the word and the Spirit of God. Two parts of God give you the new birth. The first part takes place when you hear the word of God and believe it, and the second part takes place when the Holy Spirit causes the word of God to be implanted in your mind.

The new birth is the birth of a new mind, because your mind or soul is the

spiritual part of your existence. When you receive the birth of a new mind, it will have power to change every aspect of your conduct and way of living causing you to live sin free.

When you are born again you will be partaker of the nature of God; therefore becoming eligible to be a child of God. After being born again, you might taste the first death, but you will never taste the second death. If Jesus returns while you are living, you will not experience the first or second death. He that believeth and liveth shall never die (St. John 11:25-26).

Subject: Marvel Not That I Said Unto Thee, Ye Must Be Born Again:

God sent Jesus into the world that He might be a pattern for us to live by. Though we die because of the sin of the first man Adam, if we follow the example that Jesus demonstrated, we could be redeemed from the second death. The plan of God is that each person has the privilege to redeem his or herself from the second death by obedience to God.

There are countless millions of angels in heaven that are still there because they each decided not to follow Satan, and to continue to obey God. These angels will be living in heaven forever, because they made the choice as individuals to obey God. God is offering humans on the earth the same privilege.

Now there are two deaths, the death of the body, which most people will experience, and the death of the soul. In order to escape the death of the soul, which is eternal death that will separate you from God, you must experience a second birth as it is taught in St. John 3:6-7:

Verse 6 -	That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that
	which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Verse 7 - *Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.*

Our first birth was a birth of the flesh, because we were born of parents who were flesh and blood humans. The birth of the flesh that our parents produced us in caused us not to be qualified to live in the kingdom of heaven, because heaven is a spiritual habitation. Angels in heaven are spiritual beings that were created to live forever. So then, in order for humans on the earth to be qualified to live in the kingdom of heaven, they must experience the birth of a new spiritual mind or soul while they are living on the earth. This new mind or soul will qualify humans to receive a new celestial body upon Jesus' return. This new celestial body, which is a spiritual body, will be compatible with the heavenly habitation to live in the kingdom of heaven forever like the angels that are presently living there. Listen to I Corinthians 15:35, 38, 40-44:

Verse 35 -	But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?
Verse 38 -	But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.
Verse 40 -	There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.
Verse 41-	There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.
Verse 42 -	So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:
Verse 43 -	It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

To be born in a flesh and blood body is to be sown in dishonor, but after you are born again of the Spirit of God, you are given a celestial body to be raised in honor and glory. You are sown or born the first time in a natural body, and you are raised in a spiritual body.

Verse 44 - It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

Subject: How Can A Man Be Born When He Is Old?

During this grace period we all have a chance to be brought into closer touch with God. When Jesus taught the people He spoke in parables, because His teachings were foreign to the understanding of the people during that time. So, He presented a story with a moral that simplified the point He wanted them to understand. When Jesus was teaching a ruler of the Jews named Nicodemus, He used the subject about birth. Listen to St. John 3:1-3:

Verse 1 -	There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus,
	a ruler of the Jews:

- Verse 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.
- Verse 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Jesus was speaking to a ruler of the Jews who came to him by night that he might obtain knowledge from Him. Nicodemus tried to flatter Jesus by saying, "we know that thou art a teacher sent from God". Nicodemus came to Jesus to learn what was required to get into the kingdom of heaven though that was not mentioned in his introductory statement.

When Jesus responded by saying, "except a man be born again he cannot enter the kingdom of God", Nicodemus did not understand Jesus' statement, so Nicodemus responded by saying, "how can a man be born when he is old"? Jesus perceived that Nicodemus was very serious, and began to teach Nicodemus about a spiritual birth based upon the knowledge that Nicodemus had about the physical birth of a child.

Jesus taught that the birth of the flesh is not good enough to get you into the kingdom, because a fleshly birth will only lead you to do deeds that are fleshly related, which are sinful; but that it will require a spiritual birth of the Holy Spirit to give you the ability to do spiritual things that are sin-free. Jesus said that which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spiritual. To be spiritual is to be righteous, or holy, but to be fleshly is to be carnal or sinful.

Jesus also taught that it is necessary to be born of the water, which would be the baptism of water that was introduced by John the Baptist following a repentance. John introduced the baptism of water, and Jesus introduced the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire. The baptism of water is a visible testimony of what the Holy Spirit has done. To be born of water by baptism is a testimony of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ that is symbolized by the old person who was a sinner has died, and the new person who has been resurrected is Christ in you.

Subject: A Conversion:

When you are converted, you are convinced that the gospel leads to the way of salvation, and your previous life of sin leads to damnation. When this conviction is brought to your attention, you can then ask God to give you the Holy Spirit. You will then receive light, or an understanding of what the gospel is offering you.

Now there are many who believe that when they first come to Christ and experience a conversion that they are saved. You are saved only after the Holy Spirit honors your conversion as being sincere, and will then fill you giving you the new-birth. Evidence of this conversion being completed by a filling of the Holy Spirit is when you see that your deeds are like Christ's.

Now you must stay close to those who are already born again in order to receive a follow through by the Holy Spirit to give you the new birth. A temporary conversion can give you good emotional feelings that is not the new birth. You must learn that you have the new birth by the correct knowledge from the gospel and not good emotional feelings.

Subject: You Must Be Kept From The Influence Of The World:

It is the influence of those who are born again in your assembly that keeps you when you are converted until you are filled with the Holy Spirit. If there are no born again people in your assembly then you should leave and pray that God will lead you to such born again saints. If God has ordained that you be saved, He has also ordained for other saved believers to help you until you are filled with the Holy Spirit. It was the instructions and prayers of Jesus Christ that kept His disciples until they received the Holy Spirit. Listen to St. John 17:12, 13, 15, 17:

- Verse 12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; (Judas) that the scripture might be fulfilled.
- Verse 13 And now come I to thee...
- Verse 15 *I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.*

Verse 17 - Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Jesus prayed that they be not of the world, but the world could still influence them until they received the Holy Spirit.

So Jesus' prayer was a request to God that after He left, God would send the Holy Spirit so that their light might not be dimmed. In order to receive the Holy Spirit after your conversion, you must be kept from the world and worldly churches.

Subject: You Will Lose Your Attraction For Things In The World:

After you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you will have no use for the world. All that is in the world is the lust of the eye and the pride of life (St. John 2:15). Such things lead you away from God. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit it will give you such power over the things of the world that you will lose your attraction for them.

Such things of the world that at one time gave you pleasure will become distasteful and appalling to you. The Holy Spirit reverses your desires to be contrary to sinful pleasures, and to the righteous and holy things of God.

Being born again is not merely singing, shouting and praising God, but it is a miraculous work of God in a person's life that will cause the person to be a completely new creature in Christ.

Subject: God's Long Range Plan:

After being born again of the Spirit of God, we realize that the possessions of man can only be retained while he lives in this present world. So God gives us instructions in Psalm 37:7-11:

- Verse 7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.
- Verse 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.
- Verse 9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.
- Verse 10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.
- Verse 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

The message from God is that if we be sons, and daughters of God, then we are heirs of God. Though we may be as children are under the authority of those who own the wealth of the world as servants of the wealthy owners, but being sons of God, we are the rightful heirs. We shall one day according to God's word, come into possession of all that God has created. The kingdom that the wicked presently possess will be given to the saints. The government and rulership of the new heaven and earth will be given to the children of God.

God is now teaching us how to rule ourselves, and later He has promised that if we hold out, we shall come into full possession of that which He created in the beginning for the upright and holy man and woman. God is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end of all things. God created the world to be a paradise, and to be inhabited by the first man Adam in joy, peace and happiness, but by transgression he fell from grace, and we were all born into the world not under the grace that God gave Adam and Eve.

Today grace has been re-instituted in Jesus Christ, and if we obey the gospel that Jesus brought, grace will be re-established in our lives and the paradise of God

will be restored for us. The gospel of Jesus Christ is for the purpose of teaching us to rule ourselves while we are living in this present world.

In the new paradise of God, there will be no government by any one person. Every person shall govern themselves. The full work of the Holy Spirit will give life and the spirit of those who will be in the new paradise.

Subject: More About The New Paradise:

While we are under the beggarly elements of the world, being governed by the law, we are servants of the law. However, when we were born again, God set us free through faith in the teachings of Jesus Christ, and we don't need a law to govern us because the grace of God gives us power to live above what the law forbids. Now this is not true for those who have not been born again.

For those of us who are saved, the word of God teaches that the time will come when God will allow us to come into possession of the new paradise. God's plan is to establish righteousness in the new paradise. If a person allows the Holy Spirit to come into their life while they are living in this present world, the righteousness of God will bring unlimited blessings to the person, and they will be under the government and rulership of God in their hearts.

So, while we are under the law, we are no different from a servant of the wealthy. When we learn about the purpose and plan of God, we will understand that we must be true to the teachings of the word of God. The presence of God is with you if you obey Him and keep His commandments. His goodness will go before you in life. Though you are presently a servant, if you will keep the commandments of God, you will be promoted to a position of trust, control and rule.

God exalts you when you obey Him. Though you are a servant, that which you serve is your servant, but you are waiting for the fullness of time. When you allow the Spirit of God to lead you in this present world, you will be a certified child of God in this world and in the new paradise; listen to Romans 8:14:

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

To every true child of God there are two things that God has promised. One is eternal life, and the other is the inheritance of the new earth. The day will come When God will have fulfilled His purpose within us. The devil who is the enemy of man and God, is trying to keep us out of the will of God, and if we don't control ourselves, we will find that he will be ruling us. Therefore, God has commissioned the Holy Spirit to assist and help us against the devices of the devil. When you are born again, the Holy Spirit is in your life to help you.

Subject: The Choice Is Yours:

You can choose where you would like to spend eternity. You can choose to live forever with God or forever with the condemned in hell. The gospel of Jesus Christ presents these alternatives to the world. Eternal life is a gift from God, and eternal damnation is the wages for sins. The requirements for receiving the gift of eternal life is obedience to the commandments of God.

When you acquire the mind to obey God, the Holy Spirit will come into your life and give you the new-birth. The new-birth will certify you to be a candidate for eternal life. From the day that you receive the new-birth, the Holy Spirit will cause you to live in the presence of God, being approved by God to be in the first resurrection.

Subject: The New Birth Is By The Power Of God:

God sent Jesus into the world that you and I might be born again. Our first birth was of the flesh, which caused us to be born with desires to please the sinful nature that the birth of the flesh gave us. Jesus is the only one who can give us a new birth that would be of the Spirit of God. A birth of the Spirit is more powerful than the birth of the flesh, and it can give desires to live free from sin. To be born again is to receive a replacement of your inner man or woman. It is the birth of a new mind that will deliver you from a carnal mind to receive a spiritual mind.

The birth of the flesh will eventually lead you to experience the first and second death. The second death is eternal separation from God. The birth of the Spirit gives you life beyond the grave to live forever in the kingdom of heaven. For as many people on the earth that receive Jesus' gospel, He can give them power to become the sons and daughters of God. Your new birth will not be the will of a man or woman, but the will of God. Your new birth will not be of blood, but of the power of God.

Subject: You Have To Reap What You Sow:

Listen to Romans 8:38-39 that teach about a man who once persecuted the church, and made havoc of those that he found praising God. Many years afterward, he made this statement:

Verse 38 -	For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor
	angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things
	present nor things to come,

Verse 39 - Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Many years after he made this statement, he began to reap from the evil things that he had done during the time in his life that he was sinful and rebellious against God. His stand with God after his conversion did not prevent him from reaping for the things he had sown. So he had to conclude within himself that since the things which he had sown were his own return coming back to him, some thirty, sixty and a hundred fold, that he would nevertheless let nothing separate him from the love of God.

As you go this way, though you may be living a saved life, yesterday will meet you tomorrow. However, if you remain in fellowship and obedience to God, the joy that God gives you will overwhelm the sorrow.

Subject: The Spirit And The Word Of God Have Power To Save:

When the word of God is under the influence of the Holy Spirit, then it has power to save you. It can afterwards keep you holy or sin-free, and open your understanding when it is necessary to teach you how to live in the world without being of the world. God ordained that the truth find its place in the minds of those who are willing to obey the word of God.

While being delivered from sin you must break from the habits that sin created, and lose your appetite for sinful pleasures. When a sinner stops doing wrong, he or she would have taken the only step that they are able to take by their

own power. Christ will then come to his or her rescue and give the person spiritual power to keep on walking away from sin.

After the person has gone a great distance, and is serious to go all the way with Christ, the Lord will take away the appetite to sin, and give the person the Holy Spirit. The power of Satan would then be broken. God will then blot out all the guilt and blame for everything he or she has ever done that was sinful. The person will then be given a state of equality with Christ who knew no sin. The person is accepted in the society of heaven as a child of God.

Subject: The Spiritual Versus The Natural:

God speaks in parables that man might look upon the natural and thereby see the spiritual. Jesus is spiritual life, and when you are born again of His Spirit, you will receive spiritual life. You receive spiritual life from Jesus by means of His words. When you hear and believe the word of God, the Holy Spirit gives power to the word of God to give you the new-birth in Christ. You are then saved from your natural birth, which was sinful and given a righteous birth, which is spiritual.

Christ is holy and when you receive Christ, you become holy. When you are not holy, you don't have Christ. When God is going to save you, He makes a call through the words that Jesus taught. You are then being given an invitation from God that you might come unto Him, and that He might give you salvation. This procedure that God offers for your salvation will save you from sin.

Jesus teaches to, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (St. Matthew 11:28). Prior to receiving the invitation, you were living in sin, but when you yoke up with Jesus He will teach you the way of righteousness, which will make you free from sin.

Subject: Justification:

It is God who justifies those that He saves. Christ extends the invitation for salvation and God forgives you of your sins for Christ's sake, because Christ died for you. You will then have a right to the tree of life. When you are forgiven of your sins you will then be sanctified, and receive power from the Holy Spirit on how to possess your vessel (body) in sanctification and honour.

Your life and body will be separated from lustful, sinful practices that would corrupt you. You will abstain from fornication, adultery, or homosexual practices, liquor drinking, and any sinful habits that you previously practiced as a sinner. Your body, which was initially given to you to be the temple of God with the Spirit of God living in you, would now be holy and acceptable to God.

Subject: The Spiritual Birth:

I am sure that many Christians have heard a preacher repeat the sermon that Jesus taught Nicodemus that you must be born again. It is the most important sermon in the Bible. There is no other way to come to God except by being born again. The second birth is entirely spiritual. This means the spiritual part of your being must experience a new-birth, which is your mind or soul, while your physical body can remain as it is.

This can happen while you are young or old, and you don't have to enter your mother's womb again to experience a spiritual birth. The first birth that conceived us caused us to be a product from the nature of sin, and allowed us to be born into the world with the spirit of the originator of sin who is the devil.

When you experience a spiritual birth, you are born of the word of God. You will then be partaker of the nature of God, which is holy and you are therefore a child of God. You might taste the first death, which will be a rest in paradise where Abraham is the overseer, and all the saints through the ages are presently resting. However, you will never taste the second death, which will permanently separate those who were not born again from God.

Subject: What Spiritual Class Are You In?

When you are in the spiritual class that is saved from sin and you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you should be steadfast and upright. You would be one who takes instructions from the word of God and obeys the instructions. You would help to carry the burdens of those who are not strong in the faith, and carry a spiritual light so that others will see the way to go. You would be walking in the Spirit of God, and have no influence from the works of the flesh.

You would support the finances, and God would depend upon your faithfulness to be on call for any services that are needed to assist others. You

would be strong in the faith. Your services would be primarily to assist the weaker members that are barely surviving spiritually on the milk of the word. You would help them as parents help a new born baby as they slowly gather nourishment that will eventually make them stronger.

Subject: The Truth:

When you are born again, your soul is purified by the Spirit and the word of God. This purification process takes place by obeying the truth. We are born into a world of false principles that are deceiving. When we obey the truth, it gives us another birth, teaching us principles from God that are true.

The truth of God's word teaches that you will receive eternal life when you obey the truth. It is the truth of this promise that will fulfill the promise. The word of God is an incorruptible seed that liveth and abideth forever. When you obey the truth, you will also live and abide forever. Listen to I Peter 1: 22-23:

- Verse 22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.
- Verse 23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

Your spiritual strength would be used to instruct, encourage, and help the weaker brothers and sisters. Your way of conducting yourself would be an example for weaker members to follow. You would then serve as a spiritual guardian. They would depend upon your strength to carry them patiently until they are able to walk alone.

Subject: A True Worshiper Must Worship God In Spirit And In Truth:

It doesn't matter how much you go to church to sing, pray, testify and preach, your salvation can only be acquired by means of repentance. The sincerity of your repentance is what gets God attention. Salvation is found through repentance. Repentance makes it evident that you want God to be in your personal life and not just your church formalities.

After you repent of sins you can then become a worshiper of God, and a follower of the teachings of Jesus Christ, living in full accord and obedient to the word of God. There will be days of adversity or times of testing; and you can then fall on your knees and pray. Your sin-free life will allow you to tell God just what your condition is and you can ask for deliverance.

Your prayer alone will not get God's attention, inclusive with your prayer must be obedience. The victory that God will give you over your temptations will give you strength and encouragement to continue in your obedience. After your life becomes sin free, you will be a worshiper of God in Spirit and in truth, and God will admire you and accept you as a true worshiper.

Subject: The Child Of God:

As a child trust his parents so should a child of God trust God. The word 'trust' has the same meaning as the word 'faith'. You would have the faith or confidence that God will do that which He has promised, or that which you requested Him to do. The walk of a child of God is an absolutely and progressively holy life and depending upon God leading you.

The child of God walks as though he or she is blindfolded with his hand in God's hand. Such a person does not wish to see for him or herself, but desires to feel the pull of the Lord guiding them. If the child could see, he or she would choose the way that appears to be easy and inviting, but not always the best way to go. Knowing that choosing a way requires supernatural vision, which would bring into view the entire route, and not merely the entrance to the route, the child of God will trust God for guidance. He is confident that the way God leads will eventually lead to eternal life since God can see both the entrance and the end of the way.

The child of God will depend trustingly upon God, confident that at the time of need, God will provide. The child of God would pray regularly to God asking Him to provide for his daily needs, trusting that God will provide just as parents provide for their children. The child of God will learn that it takes obedience and simple faith to be a child of God.

Subject: The Children Of God Are Joint-Heirs With Christ:

When you are born again you, become a son or daughter of God. We become heirs of God, and if we are heirs of God, we are joint-heirs with Jesus Christ. Today while we live in this present world, we are like children to those who are not saved who are servants in the estates of wealthy people. Those who have authority over us know not that they are servants and we are heirs.

The earth is the Lord's and it doesn't belong to any man or woman who seems to hold the possession of it in his or her hands. The earth belongs to God who is our Father. We may be small in the estimation of those who make themselves gods of the world, and we can do no more than what they may say to do. They are, at the time of possession of worldly goods, like a servant in a great house over a child. We are putting ourselves in the house as a child, and we cannot do any more than what they say to do. However, after being born of the Spirit of God, we who were once under bondage have learned and know our position. We realize that the possessions of man can only be retained while he lives, but God has said in Psalms, 37th division, verses 7-11:

- Verse 7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.
- Verse 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.
- Verse 9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.
- Verse 10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.

Verse 11 - But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

Subject: Only Christ Can Justify You:

When you are approaching the throne of grace, you must approach God with the mind that if God sent His Son to save me from sin, then I will surrender all to accept Jesus into my life. The moment you give your mind to God, and ask Him to help you not to do the things that your heart doesn't want to do, God will give you a new mind. God will remove the carnal mind that makes you sin, and His Holy Spirit will give you a new, holy mind with power to reject the temptations to commit sin.

You must first believe that God will save you, and because you believe it and confess it, He will save and keep you. After He saves you, He will give you the Holy Spirit that will keep you saved. When God saves you, you are justified, which means you are no longer under condemnation of sin and death. You would have been liberated by the blood of Jesus Christ.

The life that Jesus lived while on the earth condemned everybody who lived in sin. Therefore, God arranged that the death of Jesus would remove the condemnation and justify those who would receive Jesus. Listen to Romans 8:32-33:

Verse 32 -	He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him
	up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely
	give us all things?

Verse 33 - Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

When God justifies you, He puts His Spirit in you to encourage and to keep you. No matter what you have done before you came to God, if God justifies you, your conscience is clear, and condemnation will be removed. Listen to Romans 8:34:

Verse 34 - Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Only Christ can condemn you, and only Christ can remove the condemnation.

Subject: The Author And Finisher Of Our Faith:

Jesus is the author and finisher of our Faith. He is the one who came to save us from sin. Jesus gave instructions on how we could live above sin. After we study what Jesus taught, then when things begin to be difficult, we can ask Jesus for help. Jesus will then send His Spirit upon us, and the devil who is making things hard for us will flee. We can then praise God with sincerity of heart.

Whenever you call on God, the Spirit of God will come upon you and give you victory over every sin and power to overcome. So then, you must look to Jesus who is the author and finisher of your faith. You must consider Him who endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself.

Now as you go along living above sin, sinners are going to contradict you. Those who are not saved and claim to be Christians, but live as sinners are going to dispute your claim of living above sin. Your life will condemn them, and the devil in them will cause them to vigorously oppose you.

Subject: God Is On Stand-By For His Children:

There is nothing in the world that can give you more comfort than the word of God. When you believe, obey and trust the word of God it gives comfort, because it calls your attention to the various problems of life that a child of God actually experiences, and it gives assurances that God will not forsake His servants while they are having these experiences.

So then, the child of God understands that if God will not forsake them, then He will help to deliver, and will be on stand-by during the entire time that the child will be having the experiences.

Subject: The Transformation For Salvation:

When Christ comes into our lives He cleanses us from sin by removing the nature, or inborn desires to commit sin. Christ then gives us the Holy Spirit, which will make repairs to our broken and damaged lives that sin caused.

The Holy Spirit will retain our lives in righteousness until Jesus comes to administer the first resurrection, and at such time Jesus will transform us into new bodies that will not be subject to sin, afflictions, pains, old age and death. This entire operation for the transformation of a life of sin to a life of righteousness is for the salvation of the person that is done through the favor and love of God.

Subject: Are You Getting A Taste Of Heaven In Your Church?

Heaven is a holy society of God, where God the Father is holy, Jesus the Son of God is holy, and God's Spirit which is the Holy Ghost is holy. All the angels in heaven are also holy. Nobody on earth will be able to enter this holy society unless they become holy while they are living on the earth.

To be holy means to be free from sin. You must first have a mind to be Holy and God will give you the Holy Spirit to make you holy. God gets pleasure out of receiving new converts into His holy society that is why He is extending an invitation to the people of the earth during this grace period. To be holy means that the love of God is the controlling power in your life.

In heaven everybody will love each other. No hate, malice, segregation, envy, strife or social levels of separation will be in heaven, it will be complete oneness and commonwealth. Holy Ghost filled, born again believers down here are getting a little taste of heaven.

Subject: There Will Be Witnesses To Your Conversion:

The grace of God has been given to every human being in their consciences teaching them that every time something ungodly comes up in their minds to do that they can choose to deny it. When a person chooses to deny ungodliness and worldly lust the Holy Spirit will help them. Grace is activated in a person's life by the Holy Spirit.

When a person confesses that they believe God can keep them living above sin there will be a great cloud of witnesses to help and watch over the person, Hebrews 12:1-3:

Verse 1 - Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

- Verse 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- Verse 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

After you confess that you believe God can keep you, and stand up before the cloud of witnesses, and you shun the appearance of evil, God will then sanctify you. You can then look to God and ask Him for the Holy Spirit and He will give it to you. The Holy Spirit will give you a zeal to lift up a standard of righteousness when the enemy comes upon you like a flood. You will then have power to resist the devil.

Subject: Saints:

Only Saints will be allowed to enter the kingdom of heaven. If you are presently a sinner you can become a Saint if you repent and believe the gospel. When you are born again, you are a Saint. A Saint is a person who does not sin. Saints obey the word of God to the letter. You can be a Christian, and not be a Saint, because Christians commit sin. You cannot sin and be a Saint because Saints are holy, sanctified, and consecrated to God.

Saints are filled with the Holy Spirit that gave them the new-birth. Saints are equal with God because the Spirit of God lives in them. God allows two parts of His Trinity to live in Saints, His word, which is Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. These two parts of God will live in a Saint forever, starting while they live on earth, and continuing throughout eternity in the kingdom of heaven.

The word of God that is implanted in the minds of Saints is the seed of God that gives the Saints the new-birth causing them to be born of God. Listen to I John 3:9:

Verse 9 - Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. The seed is the word of God (St. Luke 8:11). As long as you keep God's word in your mind, you cannot go wrong.

Subject: The World Is A Great House That God Chooses His Vessels Of Honor From:

The scriptures teach that the world is considered as a great house that was created by God. Those who are saved from the world are considered as vessels of honor that are sanctified for God's use. There are men and women in the world today of every kind of belief and religion, but God does not use every kind of person. God chooses who He has ordained to save and sanctifies them making them fit for the master's use. Listen to II Timothy 2:20-21:

Verse 20 -	But in a great house there are not only vessels of
	gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth;
	and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

A great house is not a church, but the world from which God chooses vessels of honor, and sanctifies such people to be His servants.

Verse 21 - If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

Subject: God Only Recognizes Saints:

God does not recognize any religious denominations, races, nationalities, or secular organizations. To God, we are either righteous or unrighteous; we are either holy or unholy. We are either a saint or a sinner; we are either born again or not born again.

When the first resurrection takes place, there will be people from all nations, kindreds and tongues who will be washed in the precious blood of Jesus, and will be received in that number to enter heaven, and they will be saints of God throughout eternity.

Those who are not saved while living in this present world will not be included in this number. They too will be of all nations, kindreds and tongues, but they will be cast into outer darkness as sinners to spend eternity with the damned in a lake of fire and brimstone.

The name 'saint' means a perfect person in holiness. Saints are people who are sanctified and are set apart from a life of sin. They are filled with the Holy Spirit and are strictly obedient to God. They consider that their bodies are the temple of God. They are born again of the word of God and the Spirit. The Holy Spirit keeps them holy and clean for God to dwell in because God will not dwell in an unclean temple.

Saints do not indulge in lustful appetites of the flesh, such as smoking cigarettes, drinking alcoholic beverages, adultery or fornication. Saints have been cleansed by the word of God which takes away their appetites for sinful pleasures. They are set apart by God for spiritual purposes.

Saints are reinforced by the Holy Spirit so that the tough problems of life will be unable to deter them. The Holy Spirit will give them power and authority to use the powers of heaven to accomplish any undertaking to the glory of God. The Holy Spirit will increase their capacity, clarify their vision, and renew their strength to enable them to stand any test, overcome any temptation, and perform any service that God may call upon them to do. These privileges and missions are only given to saints.

Subject: The Saints Will Judge The World:

The world is concluding its programs, and God is gathering saints together to judge the world. Saints were put in the world by God to judge the world. Listen to I Corinthians 6:2-3:

Verse 2 - Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world?

The world will be judged by the holy life that saints live. Saints do not have to preach or rebuke the unsaved people of the world. They will simply live a holy or righteous life, and God will use their example of living righteous to compare it with the way sinners lived. This will be brought forth in the judgment from the records that are kept.

Verse 2 continued:

and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy

to judge the smallest matters?

Verse 3 - Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?

Subject: There Is A Recording Operation In Heaven:

God has a recording operation going on in heaven. When obedient servants of God get together singing and praising God, He hears and makes a record of it. God can listen to everybody at the same time. God is able to record every prayer, testimony, and sermon preached. When those who love God gather together and praise Him, He records it. Those who love God will meet often to invoke God's blessing upon them. God will do most anything for those who honor Him. Listen to Malachi 3:16:

Verse 16 - Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.

If you prove faithful down here where the wicked are raging, He will fix it one day so that you will be out of reach of the wicked. Eyes have not seen, ears have not heard, neither has it entered the hearts of those what God has in store for those who honor, respect and obey Him.

Subject: God Will Never Forsake You:

God is a faithful companion who will never leave or forsake you. Your joy with the Lord is everlasting; it constantly abides with you and no test, burden, or trouble can prevent it. Though your friends forsake you, God will be with you. When sickness and adversity come, and physical conditions that make life unpleasant, God will still be with you. God is greater than the conditions of life

that may be a threat or unpleasant, and His love will not allow anything to come upon you to harm you.

Subject: Walk With Jesus:

It will be a good thing to learn to walk with Jesus. You are walking with Jesus when you obey His word. The Psalmist teaches that He will make you to lie down in green pastures, and will lead you beside still waters. Though you may walk through the valley of the shadow of death, you will fear no evil, for He will be with you.

When you obey His word, you can lean upon His word. When you believe in His word, though you die, you will live again. God leads His children through life to comfort and eternal security. When you are a child of God, you don't have to worry about anything, you can then labor with the Lord to bring lost souls to the knowledge of the truth. When you have a pure heart, you can work for God. When your hands are clean, and your heart is pure, God is on stand-by to help you.

When the world does not walk in the statutes of God, they are in trouble. When you walk in God's statutes, you can call upon Him in the time of trouble and He will deliver you. After God delivers you, He won't charge you anything; All He wants is for you to praise Him.

When Daniel was delivered from the lion's den, those who were observing could compare the way Daniel was obeying God to what God had done for Him. When you allow your mind to be brought closer to the promises of God, in the darkest hours there will be no fear.

When you hear words spoken by God when He makes you a promise, and you hear songs which will lighten your loaded mind, the Spirit of God will bring your mind closer to God, and give you comfort and relief. God is a friend to whom you can go and tell Him about your problems and you will receive a response when you obey.

You should learn to set aside an hour through the day for prayer. Prayer is conversation with God. God is a friend to whom you can go and tell your problems to, and God will give you a solution. Jesus gives an invitation to those who desire help from God. He teaches to come unto me, all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest, and ye shall find rest for your souls. So, learn to walk with Jesus.

CHAPTER 5

THE WORKS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Subject: You Do Not Have To Go To A Church To Receive Grace From God:

God through Jesus commissioned His apostles to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature; he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. One day I found the Lord and I learned and became a beneficiary of the gospel. I received power from the Holy Spirit to do good, and I ceased from doing evil. Since that day, joy, peace and happiness have been in my life. These benefits can be for the poor person as well as the wealthy person, because God has no respect to persons.

When you don't know what you should know about being saved, God will give you the Holy Spirit to teach you. He also commissions a Holy Ghost filled preacher to help you. You will not necessarily receive this grace from God because you go to a church. God will give you this grace when you give your heart to God; you can do this at home.

Subject: Is Christ A Minister Of Sin?

If while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of Sin? (Galatians 2:17.) If we who are supposed to be followers of Christ continue to commit sin, then we are making Christ a minister of sin. Christ is not a minister of sin, but a minister of righteousness.

A life of sin undermines the ministry of Jesus Christ. You must be holy or free from sin to have a true testimony of Christ being in your life. When Christ is in your life you are sanctified by the power of the Holy Spirit. This sanctification process gives you the new birth. You are then born of God and God is not a sinner, neither does He produce children by His Spirit that are sinners.

The teachings of Jesus Christ have power to deliver you from a life of sin. When you receive Jesus Christ you will be able to see a change in your life that will amaze you. You are not right because you say that you are a Christian; you are right when you do right. When you believe in Christ you are justified by your faith in Him. No matter how much you were living in sin, Christ is able to save you if you come to Him. Listen to Hebrews 7:25:

Verse 25 - Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost

that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

When God saves you, the Holy Spirit gives you strength to resist sin because it is more powerful than sin. You cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit and a life of sin at the same time. The Spirit of God and sin are contrary to one another, and the Spirit of God will remove sin when it comes into your life. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit you become a saint because the Spirit sanctifies you. You cannot be a saint and a sinner at the same time.

When you are born again, Christ is living in you and He makes you holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners (Hebrews 7:26). If you are not separate from the way sinners live, the ministry of Christ has not reached you. You can work beside sinners, and hear them talking about what they are going to do socially, but your mind will not desire the things that they do. The social aspects of your life will be committed to serving God. Jesus did not come to bring peace between those who are saved and those who are not saved, but the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Subject: How To Attract The Holy Spirit:

The world cannot receive the Holy Spirit, but only those who believe in God, and walk uprightly. When Jesus was on the earth, the world did not believe in Jesus, and that is one of the essential steps to qualify for the Holy Spirit. The world cannot live above sin. The Holy Spirit will not come into a person's life who does not believe that he or she can live without committing sin, neither does the Holy Spirit come into a person's life who does believe, but will not put forth any effort to live above sin.

It is necessary to turn from every sin first before you can draw the attention of the Holy Spirit. You cannot practice sin everyday and then get on your knees at night and ask God for forgiveness with a mind to keep on living in sin. The word of God teaches that those who are often reproved, but hardens his heart and stiffens his neck shall be destroyed suddenly and that is without remedy.

Subject: The Purification Process:

When you purify your soul, you purify your life. Your soul is your life. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, holy fire purifies your soul (St. Matthew 3:11). You are then born again. The Holy Spirit gives you the new-birth when you receive the word of God. Listen to I Peter 1:22-23:

Verse 22 -	Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth
	through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren,
	see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently;

Verse 23 - Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

It is the dirty, sinful habits that cause your soul to be dirty. When you hear the truth and believe it, the Holy Spirit purifies your soul.

Subject: A Spiritual Operation:

Being saved is the result of a spiritual operation administered by God. There are no medical procedures that can remove sin from the human nature. If God does not operate on you, and take sin out of your flesh, you will continuously be overpowered by the lust of the flesh to commit sin. God operates with His Spirit. After you receive a filling of the Holy Spirit you will hate every sinful way. Sin will be repulsive to you. You will love God more than anything else in life.

After we accept Christ, God will give us the Holy Spirit that will do a complete work of regeneration in our lives. We will be delivered from the carnal nature that we inherited from our parents and given the divine nature of God. Your calling from God would have administered power of deliverance from your prior life of sin to a new life of righteousness. God would have performed a spiritual operation on you, so that you would be able to continuously walk in the Spirit.

Subject: A Conversion By The Holy Spirit:

God has arranged that we might be born again and be excused from all of our transgressions on one condition, and that is after we have been forgiven that we should go in peace and sin no more. God had Jesus to minister to the people of the earth for three years, because under the existing law of God, all who sinned were condemned. So God's love caused Him to offer a new plan in Christ. Christ introduced in the gospel good news to the people of the earth saying, "*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden*" (St. Matthew 11:28).

Jesus came to teach us about the new plan of God, and when we believe and are baptized of water, the Holy Spirit will give us an additional baptism that gives us the new-birth. God Almighty who rules nature moved out with nothing but His word, made it flesh, and sent it down among us in the person of Jesus Christ. After Jesus completed His mission, He went back to heaven and sent another Comforter, which was the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Spirit would be the Spirit of the word that Jesus preached to help guide us into all truth (St. John 16:13). The Spirit of God brings about what God's word says to you when you believe the word of God. The Spirit of God in you will bear witness that something has happened to you. The Holy Ghost causes something to happen to a person who believes the word of God that will completely turn their lives around. It will turn them from a life of sin to a life of righteousness.

Subject: Your Righteousness Is Established By Your Faith:

Your righteousness is established by your belief that God can make you a righteous person. A righteous way of living is produced from your faith to live right. God will count you as a righteous person because you believe in His power to keep you doing right.

God does not charge you for mistakes that you make if you believe that He can make you perfect. God does not look for a fallacy free life in the person, but a willingness to accept correction. Evidence of your belief in what God commands will be in your efforts to obey God. When you obey God you will not commit any sin that you have knowledge of.

God knows when you don't want to commit sin, so He stands ready to deliver you. God will give you instructions on what to do to escape the temptations. Each escape and victory over your temptations will help you to win another. You will then see that as you go along through the years, your job of living a life above sin will be easier because God would have given you the Holy Spirit to help you.

Subject: There Is Only One Holy God:

There are many gods, but there is only one holy God. The evidence that He is holy is that if you receive His Spirit, it will change your life from a sinful life to a righteous life. You will then live a life that is so pure and godly among others who are unsaved that you will be a light.

It doesn't matter what they say against you, your record will be like Job stated that your witness is in heaven and your record is on high (Job 16:19). You will then be able to live with God as an individual, and there will be no condemnation in your life or conscience.

Subject: The Seed Of Righteousness:

The secret to surviving against the evil works of the devil is to learn how to overcome evil with good. When you desire to be victorious over evil God will give you extra power by the Holy Spirit to forgive those who have done evil against you with a pure heart, and with no desire for revenge against your opposers.

You will not carry in your heart any feelings of resentment for what they have done to you. You must not allow any injuries to your pride or feelings to grow, because that would prevent your ability to forgive and cause you to seek revenge. You must always remember that God who ruleth heaven and earth is the avenger of every evil deed.

Jesus realized this completely, so that all they did to Him could not change His attitude and opinion about the power of God to make Him overcome evil with good. He found extra power within Him when the greatest opposition of evil was against Him, so He acquired victory over evil. Though the devil used men to put forth every effort to destroy that power and to keep it from being effective, He would never resent their acts.

When He was reviled, He reviled not again. When He was threatened, He threatened not again. When He was judged wrongfully, He stood and took the judgment, knowing that there was one above them all who judged righteously, who would not let Him be defeated by the evil judgments of men.

Jesus demonstrated that righteousness is like a good seed that cannot be prevented from coming forth. They tried to bury Jesus thinking that it would be the end of Him, but after three days Jesus came forth by the power of God. Today we who are saved believe in the power of Jesus' resurrection because He has been resurrected in our lives.

Jesus lives in those who are born again by the power that was in His seed of righteousness. Jesus' word is the seed of righteousness that gives the new birth to all who believe in Him.

Subject: A Holy People:

Listen to Isaiah 62:12 that makes reference to those that God will save:

The Spirit of God is speaking through the prophet Isaiah telling the name by which God's people are to be known. God sent Jesus into the world for the purpose of redeeming a people. God spoke through Isaiah declaring that when these people will have been redeemed, they would be called the 'holy people'. It doesn't matter what church people worship in, those who worship God in Spirit and in truth are called a 'holy people' who have been redeemed by the Lord.

When the Spirit of God dwells in such people, the Spirit which is holy will make them holy, just as God is holy. Such people will live so that when others come in contact with them, they will call them holy. Their dealings, presentations, and conversations will be pure and godly so that people will say that they are different, because they will be the redeemed of the Lord.

Subject: If You Are Saved You Are A Saint:

It is absurd for anyone to ever think that God is involved with a person who commits sin. God is against sin and sin is against God. Now God is for the sinner if the sinner is willing to repent. However, God will never be for the ways of the sinner. A sinner is a person who violates all that God stands for. A sinner is the enemy of God's holiness.

When God saves a sinner, He sanctifies the sinner, and makes the sinner a saint. A saint lives above sin, because the saint is given the power of the Holy Spirit that will separate the saint unto the gospel of Jesus Christ following what the

Verse 12 - And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the Lord...

gospel teaches. When a person becomes a saint, they will lose their desires for the ways of a sinner. The power of the Holy Spirit will deliver the person from evil to fight their battles against evil for the person, and set up security against the devices of the devil.

Subject: The Presence Of God:

You invite the Holy Ghost into your life by your obedience to God. If you obey God's word and desire His presence to be with you because you have kept His commandments, all you have to do is to humble yourself, and though He dwells in a high and holy place, He will be with those who are of a broken and contrite spirit.

When you humble yourself, He will come down and make Himself known to you. You will not be able to see Him with the natural eye, but God has given five senses to mortal man, and one of them is the sense of feeling. Your five senses consist of your ability to smell, taste, hear, see and feel. When you feel a thing, brother it is just as accurate as things that you see. You can't see a pain, but when you feel it you know that you have it.

God makes Himself known by means of the third person in His Trinity, which is His Holy Spirit. God exist in three parts, which are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. If you have never experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit, you have really missed a blessing. The Holy Spirit brings joy unspeakable and it fills your mouth with praise. When the Holy Spirit falls upon an individual, he or she will be lost for words to express themselves. So if you want the joy of the kingdom to come just let His will be done in you while on the earth and it shall continue to be done by you when you reach the kingdom of heaven.

One day when Jesus met His apostles after having risen from the dead, He looked upon them and seeing their need, He breathed upon them and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." The very breath of the Son of God brought the atmosphere of the presence of God. Listen to this example: If you are not a drinker of liquor and several people who are intoxicated come around you, their very breath will smell like liquor. You would then be in the atmosphere of liquor though you would not have tasted any. So is it when a person experiences the presence of the Holy Spirit upon them.

Now if you want the Holy Spirit to bring the presence of God into your life, just clean yourself up and turn from everything that you know is wrong, then ask God to let the breath of the Holy Spirit come upon you, and something will happen. Such a prayer is a petition to God, and just as surely as your repentance is sincere, your prayer will be answered. When God visits you, your room will be filled with His presence, and others in the home will know someone else is in the room with you. They won't see anyone else, but you will be able to say that the Lord is in here with me, because you will feel His presence.

Subject: God In Three Parts: The Trinity:

I am going to talk a little more about the Trinity because it is a subject that many are very much concerned about. The Trinity is God in three parts. The three parts are the Father, the Spirit and the Word. They are God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. The scriptures are spiritual, which means that you must have some spiritual assistance to understand the scriptures, because human minds are carnal.

To be carnal means to be not subject to the knowledge of God. Carnality is contrary to the holiness of God. There are natural things in our environment that can be compared with spiritual things, and these things are referred to in the Bible as parables. Jesus used parables of things in the natural environment to compare them with spiritual things of heaven. One of the first requirements for understanding the things of God is to believe the basics of the knowledge of God.

There are some people who only believe in God alone, and they do not accept the immaculate conception of the Son of God or the virgin birth. Still there are others who do not know whether there be any Holy Spirit or not, because God represents law, and law only to them. Now the second member of the Trinity was sent to the earth to bring grace; this was Jesus who was known in heaven as the word of God. The third member of the Trinity was sent to the earth to bring guidance and power to those who believe the second member, and to give them the new-birth. The completion of grace is given through the third member of the Trinity, which is the Holy Ghost.

Now God implemented the plan of salvation to the earth by incarnating Himself in a body called Jesus. God put His word first who was Jesus into the mind of a virgin named Mary, and He changed the course of nature, and threw in reverse the way man would normally come into the world. God's power is unlimited. God allowed the third part of His Trinity, which is the Holy Ghost to conceive the second part into a flesh and blood body, and called the second part Jesus who was to represent grace.

All of this was done so that God could establish a foundation for those who believe the gospel of Jesus to receive the new-birth. All of the substances that were necessary for others to be born again had been put into the Trinity that started its process with Jesus being born of a virgin. The Holy Spirit caused the virgin to conceive the word of God into a flesh and blood body, and the same Holy Spirit will cause those who believe the teachings of the word of God to have Christ to be born in their minds. This will be a spiritual birth that will bring the nature of God and Christ into the life of those who believe the word of God.

Such believers will then be new creatures in Christ. The same Holy Spirit that caused Christ to be born of a virgin 2,000 years ago can cause Christ to be born in spiritual form today in those who believe His word. The virgin Mary received a message from the angel Gabriel who brought the word of God to Mary. When Mary believed the message, the process of the new-birth started and has been continuous up to this present day.

Subject: Saved People Are Similar In Character:

People are born into the world different. It is not until they have been born again of the Spirit of God that they will be similar in character. While being sinners there are many different ways that we can be sinners.

When people become saved, the Holy Spirit will give them the fruit of the Spirit causing them to be alike in character. They will all have a character that will consist of love, joy, peace, faith, goodness, meekness, gentleness, longsuffering, and temperance.

Subject: How To Identify A Child Of God:

The Holy Spirit is given to everyone who believes in the teachings of Jesus Christ. It gives them the same mind and the same spirit. God gives the Holy Spirit to those who are white, black, brown, rich, poor, young or old. When you have God's Spirit you will love one another. The Spirit of God will help you to recognize another person who has the Spirit. Such people will be God's workmanship. God's Spirit will dwell in them, and the fruit of the Spirit will be their character description.

Subject: Are You In The Spirit?

It is more important for those who desire to be saved to be in the Spirit rather than in a church. When John was on the Isle called Patmos, he was not in a church receiving revelations from God, but in the Spirit. Listen to Revelations 1:10:

You don't have to be in a church to hear from God; but you must be in the Spirit. In order to be in the Spirit, the Spirit must be in you. You must be filled with the Holy Spirit in order to be in the Spirit. When you are in the Spirit, you are not fulfilling the lust of the flesh, but you are walking according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Listen to Galatians 5:16-21:

Verse 16 -	This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not
	fulfil the lust of the flesh.

The flesh and the Spirit are at war against one another.

Verse 17 - 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.

The works of the flesh are made known by the word of God so that you can identify them.

Verse 18 - But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

When you are under the law, you are condemned under the law by the works of the flesh.

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 10 - I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet.

Verse 21 - Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

The works of the flesh are contrary to the works of the Spirit, and they will not abide in your life at the same time, because there is no fellowship between the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit. Listen to Galatians 5:22-25:

- 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.

When you are in Christ the works of the flesh are crucified, and you are in the Spirit like John was.

Verse 24 - And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

If you live in the Spirit, you should be able to walk or conduct yourself according to the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Verse 25 - If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Subject: A Moment With The Lord:

I do not let the enticements of this present world deceive me by making me think I am going to be here forever. I've seen many go unprepared, and it was not a pleasant exit. The Holy Spirit will enable us to lift our minds to heaven and to experience the joy that heaven will offer for a short while and still remain physically on the earth. One moment spent with God makes us more anxious to stay ready for the day when we will not have to return.

Subject: The Spirit Of Truth:

Jesus wanted His apostles to understand that by His words they should not be troubled, because if they believed and obeyed His word, the other Comforter, which was the Holy Ghost, would keep them just as His words kept them. Jesus was the word of God, and when they received the word it would never leave them. Though Jesus would leave them physically, the other Comforter would cause the words that Jesus spoke to be with them spiritually. Jesus was teaching that the spiritual presence of His words is just as good as His physical presence.

Today those of us who are saved have experienced salvation by believing the word of God, and the other Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, causes Jesus to be present in our lives. The other Comforter is the manifestation of Jesus spiritually. When God, through the words that Jesus taught, sends into your life the Spirit of truth, a change takes place and there are no more sinful ways in you after you are given the Spirit of truth, which is the Holy Ghost.

You will be able to identify the Spirit of truth in your life by the power that it will use to remove your desires to commit sin. If you believe the word of God, God will dwell in you by the power of His Holy Spirit.

Subject: True Happiness:

It is happiness that everybody is seeking after. People are trying alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs to make themselves happy, but such things give false happiness. Unless the Holy Spirit makes you happy, you don't know what happiness is all about. God doesn't want any false spirits to deceive His people with false happiness.

The Spirit of truth is the Spirit that is able to give you true happiness. It will take out of your life whatever will make you unhappy. When we are filled with God's Spirit we become a part of God. To be filled with God's Spirit is to be one with God. Christ is the head of the church, and when the Spirit of God that comes from God fills the temple (your body) you thereby become a part of God.

Subject: Let Us Strive To Make Others Glad:

There should be no special reason for making people glad, and we should have no special people that we seek to make glad. We should always strive to make the hearts of those with whom we deal glad at all times. Everyone desires to be glad, and that desire sometimes leads people into ways that only bring temporary gladness, but will result to great sorrow later.

When there are periods of time when nothing has been done to make a person glad, it can result to sadness. It is not always necessary to give material gifts, but to share the spirit of good will and good cheer, and to let it radiate when we approach others and deal with them.

When you have the Spirit of God, it will give joy to the hearts of those that you meet. Those who have the Spirit of Christ might be understood as a person of encouragement when they present the attitude, and principles that Christ taught in the presentation of their character to others. When they show love and compassion that Christ's spirit manifests, they will win people over, and make their hearts glad.

We oftentimes in this life have to face conditions that cause disappointments, or bring sorrow. They keep our hearts burdened and make us shed bitter tears. Christ said, in this world we would never be able to avoid these conditions. Therefore, we must be careful not to cause offenses, but must at all times do that which will make people glad.

CHAPTER 6

SALVATION: GENERAL TOPICS

Subject: The Truth Must Have Free Course:

There should be freedom of speech in the pulpit. The thing that makes the truth go forth is the preaching of the true gospel from the Bible. When you hear the truth you cannot sympathize with sin. The truth must be accepted in order for it to purify your soul. It is important that you allow the Holy Spirit to fill your soul, and purify you while you are in this world.

Whatever spirit you possess now, will be the spirit that you will possess in eternity. If you don't have the Holy Spirit, you will never see God. God will only allow you to enter heaven when you have the Holy Spirit. God did not create us to die. We are born to die because of sin, and God had nothing to do with sin. God's initial plan was for man to live forever, so He is going to abolish death.

Subject: The Reality Of God Has To Be Revealed:

There are some who don't believe there is a God. They are called atheists. Such people don't believe in the spiritual aspects of life. They only believe in material things. They don't believe in the soul. They believe that when the physical body dies that is the last of your existence. Their beliefs are contrary to every principle that the Bible teaches. When a person believes that they have no soul, it is because they don't know what a soul is. A soul is the very core of human existence. God created the soul first for man before He created the physical body.

The knowledge of God's reality cannot be made known by human intelligence; such knowledge of God has to be revealed. It is a gift from God. To deny God causes the person to be a fool. Such people are deceived by their own way of thinking. God makes Himself known to those who are willing to believe in Him. When you are willing to accept the truth, God will give the Holy Spirit to be an intercessor between you and God. The Spirit will then teach about the reality of God.

Subject: Where Can You Find God?

The Lord wants us to know that He is not in any particular place, but He is everywhere. You don't have to go to a church to find God, you can find Him in people who are born again. They can be working on your job with you. You can go to a church and hear those who are born again bear witness to having found the Lord, and how He changed their lives.

You can't build a church and put God in it. God dwells in the temples of human bodies, when they are saved. God made His temple, which is your body, with His hands. When you go to a church assembly, He goes with you. If you don't live with God everyday of your life, when you get ready to die, He won't be there to receive your soul.

If you are living when Jesus returns, you will not be able to receive him, if you have not received His Spirit prior to His return. In a moment and in a twinkling of an eye, the trumpet will sound, and the dead in Christ shall get up first and those who are living and are saved will be taken immediately from earth. So, the Lord wants to be with you while you live in this world, so that He will be in you when you are taken out of this world.

Subject: Nobody Is Great But God:

Nobody is great but God. No nation is great unless God is the leader of that nation. No man or woman is indispensable, no matter what position he or she holds in a nation. The Bible is the record of the acts of God and men. It tells what happened to men who followed God's commandments, and what happened to those who failed to follow God's commandments.

God will never destroy a nation or people unless He first warns them. God called the prophet Jonah twice to warn the city of Nineveh that unless they repented that their city would be destroyed in 40 days. Jonah tried to avoid the mission at first; but God allowed Jonah to have problems everywhere he went until he completed the mission that God had given him (Jonah 3:1-10). Finally the people of Nineveh believed the warnings of Jonah, and the people of Nineveh and Jonah acquired peace from God.

Subject: A Great Name:

God gave Jesus a great and powerful name that is revered by the saints and feared by the devil. Through the name of Jesus, salvation came to man and defeat to the devil. There is no other name given under heaven whereby a person can be saved. Those who have confidence in the name are safe and will never be ashamed. The name has unlimited power and when obedience and faith are connected with the name, salvation will be included.

Upon Jesus' return to the earth, those who are honoring the name by the power of the Holy Spirit, He will gather (His people) of all nations, kindreds and tongues, to be in the first resurrection. The name of the Lord is a strong tower, and the righteous run into it when the devil pursues and they are safe.

Subject: A Sure Foundation:

A foundation is a means of support. It can support a building, or it can be a means of support for something a person believes. When you have a secure and sure foundation of principles that you believe, you will have confidence in the foundation.

If you have confidence in anything or anybody other than the Lord, you have no sure or secure foundation to stand on. However, it is not too late if you would seek such a foundation to support your hope.

When you have a sure foundation it does not matter what may happen, everything will turn out alright for you when you put your trust in the Lord. Under these conditions, the scriptures teach in Psalm 4:8 that you will be able to lay down in peace and sleep because the Lord only makes you to dwell in safety.

Subject: Wisdom Comes From Christ:

When you acquire wisdom, you will learn from experience what is good for your survival, and what is not good for your survival. Wisdom is not acquired from education in institutions, and neither does it come as a result of how intelligent you are. Wisdom is a product of experience.

Unless Christ gives you wisdom it does not matter how many degrees you have, you will remain ignorant of the things in life that could destroy you. The beginning of wisdom is to depart from evil, and to cease from practicing sin.

Subject: The Last Calling:

It is wonderful what prayer can do. We have been praying, and many have been blessed by our labor for them to hear and read the gospel. We consider it a duty and pleasure to send the gospel forth that others may be blessed. We are on the job for the Lord day and night endeavoring to expose the works of the devil that people may not be deceived.

We are using the scriptures to show people that it is sin that keeps them burdened and unhappy. Sin is of the devil, and to get sin out of their lives they must learn to resist the temptations of the devil. Sin is presented to those who do not have knowledge in the form of pleasures that they can enjoy.

The power of God is available by the Holy Spirit that can remove the nature of sin for those who repent of their sins. This assistance from the Holy Spirit is made available through prayer. The gospel that we are preaching will bring you a better knowledge of God establishing your faith in the truth; and the truth can make you free from sin. Listen to St. John 8:32:

Verse 32 - And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

The truth is available in the gospel that we are giving; but this is the last gospel. It is the last chance for the sinner to repent and be saved. This gospel was first preached by John the Baptist who cried 'repent'. God's purpose was to bring man back into fellowship with Him.

John proclaimed that the kingdom of heaven was at hand for those who would repent of their sins and receive the gospel. The opportunity to enter the kingdom of heaven that John introduced is still available today. The door of salvation is still opened, and everybody who repents of their sins are invited to enter. This was the message that would reconcile man to God that was later preached by Christ and His apostles.

When Peter preached it on the day of Pentecost, three thousand souls were saved at a single meeting, and in the centuries that followed many thousands have come to accept Christ. Today this is the last chance to be saved because the time for preaching it is rapidly coming to an end.

Those of us who are proclaiming this gospel are making a sincere effort to find the sinner, and lead him or her to Christ, but the devil is busier, and the pressure of sin on people is greater. Iniquity has abounded and children are more delinquent and difficult to manage. Human life is being destroyed by brutality and ruthlessness. Gays are out of the closet today more than in the days of Sodom. The last gospel will accomplish its purpose. It will gather together in one spirit every pure heart. It will call together a nation consisting of people from every tribe, tongue and kindred who are worthy to be received in the presence of God. The Holy Spirit will unite such a nation of people, and remove all sin out of their hearts in the process. The Lord has promised to gather His sheep which had been scattered in a dark and benighted world, and as they hear His voice, they are coming together to prepare for Jesus' return.

Subject: Deliverance From The Condemned State:

We came into this world under condemnation, but God has arranged that we don't have to remain in that state. God has provided a plan of salvation whereby we can be lifted from the condemned state and given a clear mind. This process for salvation is given by means of the word of God. Through the word of God, we can be born again, and receive the Spirit of God. We are then born again of an incorruptible seed that will deliver us from the condemned state. This birth will make us free from sin. When we are free from sin, we are free from condemnation.

Now you don't get this second birth by praying, preaching and singing in a church. Repentance is the means by which deliverance from the condemned state is initiated. When John preached repentance, and many came to him in Jordan to be baptized, Jesus also came to be baptized. John further taught that this is He who will baptize you with the Holy Ghost and fire to deliver you from the condemnation of your sins.

If you are not given the correct instructions to be born again, you will not be delivered from the condemned state. If you are not taught righteousness you will never know righteousness. You are born again by hearing the word of God. God is just and is moved only by obedience to the word, and if you have not been properly taught the word you won't know what to obey.

When we obey we get His favor. If we disobey we get His disfavor. But mercy and grace are available in Christ who is a mediator between God and man to intercede for us when we need the pity of our heavenly Father. Christ was made flesh for the purpose of dwelling among men to suffer in the flesh that He might be truly qualified from this standpoint to intercede for us.

As we suffer, so did He suffer in the flesh that every temptation growing out of the desires of the flesh could be overcome by our obedience to His gospel. As He was victorious over the flesh and became our mediator, God assured Him that whatever we asked in His name, would be granted for Jesus' sake.

Knowing all about our weaknesses, our temptations, and our difficulties and afflictions, and being a loving, understanding and sympathetic Savior, Christ eagerly intercedes when the Father would be unsympathetic and merciless. So we invoke the mercy of the Father when we ask for mercy in Jesus' name.

Subject: Jesus' Purpose For Coming Into The World:

The purpose for Jesus coming into the world is found in Ephesians 1:8-10, and it reads as follows:

- Verse 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;
- Verse 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:
- Verse 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.

God's purpose for sending Christ is for uniting those on the earth who are saved with those in heaven. It is God's desire to have us all on one accord. This is being done by God in answer to the prayer that Jesus prayed, when He said, "Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven". This will happen for those who are saved whose hearts are right with God.

Subject: Don't Let The Harvest Pass:

Jesus came to sow the word of God into our hearts, which is a good seed. The good seed causes those who receive it to be the children of the kingdom of heaven. The devil who is the enemy of God and man sows bad seeds, which cause people to be wicked if they fail to receive the good seed that Jesus sowed. The devil has filled the minds of people with wickedness and evil who receive the bad seed.

There will very soon be a harvest which will be the end of the world, and the angels of God will be reapers for those who have received the good seed. Those who received the bad seed will be separated from those who received the good seed, and will be burned, while those who received the good seed will be taken to heaven.

The word of God teaches parables of how things shall be at the end of the world. When people through the hardness of their hearts let the devil get into them so boldly that it is not possible for them to receive the word of God and be saved, the harvest will pass and there will be no other chance for them to be saved. The word of God is the only given knowledge of the things that shall come to pass at the end of this world.

God tells us the ending in the beginning so that we can be prepared for the end. It is not that God desires for anybody to perish, but that the devil has filled many with evil, and hardened them against the gospel. Therefore, God gives us warnings in plenty of time for us to receive the good seed and be saved. So, let us not sleep while this important period of grace is available with the eternal blessing that God is offering.

Subject: Spiritual Senses Can Connect You To God:

You are a blessed person when your eyes and ears are open unto the Lord, because He can reveal Himself to you, and warn you of dangers that lie ahead. When your spiritual senses are not opened you may be able to hear, and see physical things in the world, but you will not be able to hear and see spiritual things that reveal dangers in life.

Spiritual blindness causes you not to be able to see the goodness of the Lord. You would be physically alive, but spiritually dead. The beauty of salvation would be hid from your eyes, and though you may have some affiliation with a church, you would not be a part of the body of Christ. This would cause you not to have an inheritance with the redeemed of the Lord. Your prayers would not reach God because the Spirit that makes intercession could not reach you.

My exhortation to you is to surrender your life to God and open your heart to receive Jesus Christ, and He will open your eyes and ears to the spiritual things of the Lord that you may see, perceive, hear and understand.

Subject: The Seed:

When God allowed Abraham to be tried. He was looking for a person who would be acceptable soil out of which to bring the "Seed" that would bless the nations of the world. As Isaac manifested the spirit of obedience to his father, in the same manner did Christ manifest obedience to God. God's plan was to send Christ into the world as a human to bless the people of the world with grace, so God had to find an acceptable human family for Christ to enter the world, and the seed of Abraham was God's choice. Understand that God did not force the plan of Jesus' entry into the world by the seed of Abraham. It was Abraham's choice to receive God's plan though Abraham was not aware of it at the time that he was being tried.

When Abraham made the choice to sacrifice his son Isaac, he was also making the choice to allow the plan of God to be implemented by Jesus Christ, which would take place centuries later. The least test of faith that God allows to come upon you can bring great benefits. St. Matthew 1:17 teaches how the plan of God from Abraham to the coming of Christ fell into place.

Verse 17 - So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations.

Fourteen three times makes forty-two generations through which God sought before He found soil for His "Seed", which was Christ. So God said to Abraham in Genesis 22:18 that in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

Today we can see the works of Jesus in our lives that was as a result of Him coming through forty two generations down to the Virgin Mary, of the seed of Abraham, of a pure, holy daughter in Israel, undefiled by man, clean and virtuous.

Now all this was done that God might fulfill His promise which He spake through the prophet Isaiah when He said, a virgin shall conceive (Isaiah 7:14). So as a result of Abraham being willing to sacrifice his son, God did a great miracle to plant His word in the Virgin Mary, and caused her to bring forth the seed that would bless the nations of the world.

Subject: The Forerunner:

Just before the coming of Christ, God arranged in His plan that there should be a forerunner who would get the people together in such a way as to prepare them to receive the Lord. Now listen to St. Luke 1:13-17 that introduces the forerunner who will introduce the Lord.

Verse 13 -	But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zach-a-ri'-as:
	for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall
	bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

- Verse 14 And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth.
- Verse 15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.
- Verse 16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.
- Verse 17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of E-li'-as, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

Six months before the birth of Jesus Christ, John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, stepped into the world. Thirty years later on the banks of the River Jordan while John was baptizing one day, Jesus made a visit to the river and as He walked down to the shore of Jordan, John stopped baptizing and looked up, and said to the people, "behold the lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (St. John 1:29).

Subject: Isaiah's Prophecy:

The end of the world is upon us. The system of government which has been built up to rule the people on earth is coming to an end. Today governments and laws are no longer respected. The prophecies of Isaiah, who was an eagle-eyed prophet of God because of his ability to make long range prophecies that were given to him by God, are at hand. They are being fulfilled in these last days.

Isaiah prophesied 725 years before Christ was born that a virgin would conceive. This sounded very unreasonable to the people during the time that the prophecy was given (Isaiah 7:14). The prophecy came to pass at the fullness of time. The apostles and believers of the word of God saw the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, and they were witnesses to the advents of Jesus' appearance and works. Isaiah prophesied that when Jesus would be born, His name would be Emmanuel, being interpreted, "that God would be with them". So the apostles were witnesses to the prophecy of Isaiah, and today those that are saved are also witnesses to Isaiah's prophecy, because God is living in us and with us.

Subject: The Messianic Hope:

God is always on time for the events that His word prophesies. God's timing is perfect. The birth of Jesus was at the fullness of the time. The fullness of time means that at the moment in which all connecting events matured to produce a single climaxing event.

At this time there were three significant groups of people. There were the Romans who had established an empire and a network of good roads that is referred to today as infrastructure. This made the privilege to travel and communicate easy. There were also the Greeks who gave a common language that made it possible for universal messages. Inclusive also were the Jews that introduced the law of God to the world.

The world had no basic knowledge of right and wrong until the Jews brought knowledge of the Law of Moses. In addition, the Jews had their synagogues in almost every Roman city and in these synagogues the Greek version of the Old Testament was read. This kept the Messianic hope alive, and had developed a widespread expectancy throughout the country that a deliverer was about to appear. The events that were established by God, and His dealing with men and nations are always perfectly timed.

Subject: God's Plan:

The Bible teaches us that we are not responsible for being sinners. Since we are not responsible, we are helpless in doing something to correct our condition. Though God loved us, this created a problem for God who had to find someone to take on the responsibility of correcting the condition. The very Son of God was found to be the only person who was able to take on this responsibility. God's love for man was so deep and far reaching that after seeing that His Son was the only one qualified for the mission, God sent His Son, Jesus to correct the condition.

We have heard the story picturing the birth of Jesus Christ. Millions of people in this country celebrate the birthday of Jesus about Christmas time; this has been done for about 2,000 years. However, the memories of that night and the memories of this event, when the angels of the Lord met the shepherds on the plains of Judea bringing them good tidings of great joy, announcing that in Bethlehem of Judea the Saviour was born, are fresh in our minds today. So we call it Christmas, and today people do many things to celebrate Christmas. However, celebrating Christmas and celebrating the birthday of Jesus are different.

Jesus' birth was a holy birth, which means no sinful, worldly ways were a part of His presentation to the world. Today, people celebrate Christmas by drinking alcoholic beverages and getting drunk. Nevertheless, when we see them decorating Christmas trees and exchanging gifts with the sounds of Christmas carols to magnify the Lord, and greet the season, the memory of that night in Bethlehem seems to be more sacred to all who know that God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son to save us from our sinful birth.

It was love that moved God to send His Son, and it was love that moved His Son to come in the form of a human being to endure the suffering, humiliation, and agony attending the mission that He was sent to perform. Jesus did not take on the nature of angels, which would have kept Him from suffering. He wanted to feel the burdens of life, and face the consequences of sin in order to show us how to acquire victory over sin. For thirty-three years, Jesus lived under conditions just like those which face us, only He did not let them prevent Him from loving His enemies. He did not let them make Him misjudge, accuse, nor seek revenge against those who hated and abused Him. He was not tempted by fame or wealth to compromise His stand for God, or to destroy His usefulness as the Messiah.

Notwithstanding, He was the Son of God. At times He was lonely, at times He was sad and disappointed. There were times when He rebuked and corrected those who would err or who would exercise little faith in God. There was a time when He assaulted and destroyed property, and wept as a baby. Though He did not cater to the whims of the people, there were times when He wanted to know what they thought of Him. When we have to face great ordeals that could mean life or death to us, we become afraid; Jesus' reaction was similar, except that He went to the Father in fervent prayer, and pleaded that the cup be removed or that He might have the courage to drink of such a bitter cup. This was all God's plan. It was God's plan that His Son take on the nature of man.

God desired that Adam live a sinless life in the Garden of Eden like Christ lived. Though Adam did not have the body of an angel, he was as holy, as perfect, and as free of the sinful nature as angels in heaven. God gave Adam a mind that was so pure, that he had no knowledge of an evil nature. There were no evil responses in the appearance of the woman before him in the nude, neither was there any evil reaction on the part of the woman when he appeared nude before her. They had no evil thoughts for realization. They had no improper emotions or aspirations or ambitions. They were completely pure, holy and righteous.

There was actually no spiritual difference between them and angels in heaven, except the angels were spirit beings, and they were physical beings made from the substance of the earth, and angels were celestial, made from the substance of heaven. This was all God's plan, but they did sin and fell from grace. So God prepared His only begotten Son to be just as holy, pure, and righteous as Adam, with all the propensities and emotions to live in this world in the flesh under an even more unwholesome environment than Adam lived in.

The pure mind of the Son of God under more severe stress than Adam was nevertheless able to keep itself clean, and holy by obeying God, even down to the death of the cross. According to the scriptures, He was in all points tempted as we are. It was not God's plan that Adam should sin, but when he did sin, then God revised His plan and provided for the advent of Jesus who would not only live above sin, but who would with His own blood cleanse the sin of Adam, and redeem the fallen race.

Subject: Continue With The Plan Of God:

When Adam and Eve had a visit from God in the Garden of Eden, God was as much at home in the garden as their guest as He was on His throne in heaven as their God. He was as much Adam's father then as he is Christ's father now. With the pure minds and holy bodies that God had given Adam and Eve, they could have lived in the flesh holy forever if they had maintained their obedience to God. This was all God's plan.

The sin of Adam is the cause of death, because sin destroys life. Sin separates man from God. God remains a distance out of sight from the sinner, but He lingers in the shadows in forbearance hopeful that man will repent and turn away from sin. While in sin, man commits acts that are against his health and welfare. Gradually despair comes, and then if God doesn't reach him, he dies. For the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

Adam was the seed of all men who came into the world, and since Adam was condemned because of his sin, all who came out of his loins were likewise condemned. The scriptures teach that since Adam's disobedience corrupted his blood and consequently all other men, then by the obedience of one, which is God's Son Jesus, shall those same corrupted human beings be made righteous, and saved from the sin of Adam. The process through which this great undertaking would come to pass would be through His death and resurrection.

Since Jesus did not deserve to die, He could have very easily laid down His life for His friends who did deserve to die. Since that is exactly what He did, His death was as extraordinary as His resurrection. Since Jesus died for His friends, He paid the penalty that God required for sin.

After Jesus paid the penalty, God is satisfied to restore life to those who were under the penalty, provided they accept and recognize Christ as their Saviour. However, this acceptance and recognition must come during their lifetime when the offer is made. The acceptance must also be evidenced by their repentance (turning from sin), and by their using the life that Christ lived as an example to live by. This is all in the plan of God.

Subject: The Strait Gate:

Obedience to God is a highway that leads from earth to glory. If you enter into the kingdom of heaven you must enter by the way that is called strait. This is the only gate by which you can enter the kingdom of God. There are twelve gates, but every gate is a strait gate. Listen to St. Matthew 7:13-14:

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.

In order to enter the strait gate you must be holy in all manner of conduct and ways of living as God is holy. I Peter 1:15:

Verse 15 -	But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy
	in all manner of conversation.

The highway to the strait gate is a holy highway that will lead to a holy city, and only those who are holy will be able to enter. Listen to Isaiah 35:8:

Verse 8 - And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

Listen to the description of character of the people that will be able to enter in Isaiah 62:11-12:

- Verse 11 Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.
- Verse 12 And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the Lord: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.

Subject: There Is No End To Man's Existence:

In many of my sermons I am attempting to remind my listeners that there is something about every person that never dies, and it is their souls. Your soul is your mind or spiritual heart that God has given to you that will live forever after your physical body dies. The end of your life in your physical body is not the end of your existence.

Eternity starts for you after your physical body dies. God sent Jesus to save your soul, not your physical body. Your soul or mind will be given a new body after you enter into eternity. If your mind has received the new-birth while you are living in this present world, God will give you a new body to live in heaven forever.

If you are not born again while living in this present world, your mind will be given a body to be tormented in hell forever after your present body dies. The Lord who gave you the life which you now possess has given you the promise that if you walk in His statutes, and keep His commandments, He promises that though you die, you shall live again. God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish because he dies, but that he might have everlasting life. Your initial approach to the throne of grace should be with a believing heart. A believing heart would cause your repentance to be sincere. When you are sincere about being saved, God will accept your repentance, and give you the new-birth.

This knowledge is given by God through the Holy Spirit so that man might understand that God never planned that man should die when He created Him. God created man for His glory. What glory could God get out of man when he is dead?

Subject: The Redemption From Death:

God has promised man everlasting life. Man dies because of disobedience to God. The gift of God is eternal life through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who died for our sins to redeem us from eternal death. Adam brought death upon man because of sin. God didn't cause death, but God promises those who repent of their sins that He will redeem them from death.

After Adam brought death, God sent the prophet Hosea to tell man that He would ransom them from the power of the grave and that He would redeem them from death (Hosea 13:14). God created man with the freedom of his will. He gave man his body, his breath, and his soul (mind), and told man what to do. God did not want man to know evil, because he wouldn't enjoy living in evil.

Subject: Grace Is Still Available To Save You:

God gave the law through a mediator, and then He brought into the world another man who fulfilled the law who was Jesus Christ. The law came by Moses, which was difficult for the human nature to adjust to, because it was against the nature of humans. So God sent grace and truth by Jesus Christ, and when a person receives the truth, grace would be given to help the person obey the truth.

When the law was violated it brought death to the violators. Listen to Romans 5:12:

Verse 12 - Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world,

and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

Adam broke the first law that God gave which brought the sentence of death upon all men. So the Lord ordained that if one man had broken the law, and brought the sentence of death upon all men, He would raise up a man who would deliver all men from sin and death.

God's love, knowing the weakness and ignorance of the people, sent knowledge and grace in the gospel of Jesus Christ. Grace only goes to work with obedience to the word of God. We are among the last generations of the earth. Just a few more years and this world will close her chapter. But a greater and glorious day is coming for those who are saved.

The word of God admonishes us not to allow bitterness, guile, envy, or deceit to come into our hearts, because God is calling us unto perfection. The devil wants to fill the hearts of people with thoughts that are so far from God, but obedience to the word of God will keep such thoughts from being activated. If the Lord is preeminent in your mind, you will be happy with Jesus alone.

Subject: A Permanent Relief From Sin And Diseases:

Sin is the result of man's fall in Adam. Sin caused man to be born separated from the grace of God. One of sin's many by-products is diseases of the physical body. At the cross both the penalty and the by-product of sin were atoned by Christ. Christ brought relief for the consequence by the sacrifice of His holy body that paid the price for sin. Nevertheless, sin and its penalty are still very much with us, being very severe for those who have not received Jesus Christ.

Sin presents diseases that often afflict those who are born again, and the Lord does not always choose to remove such afflictions, though He does provide grace to bear it. So then, believers long for a permanent relief of such afflictions, inclusive with a new life in the kingdom of heaven.

Subject: The Choice Is Yours:

God did not create us to die. Death interrupted the life cycle of humans because of sin. God is going to abolish death, because it is contrary to God's plan. Death is so contrary to God's plan that He is going to allow the saved and the unsaved to live again.

The saved will live with God, and the unsaved will live with the damned. The choice that God is offering will be available for everybody during this period of grace that Jesus brought to the world.

Subject: Remember Your Creator While You Are Young:

It will be good to remember your creator while you are young. A young person will have more time and energy to dedicate to the work of the Lord. The more you serve God will cause more blessings to come upon you. When you are young, God will teach you how to prepare your life for the kingdom of heaven.

Subject: God Will Give You What You Want:

You cannot go to heaven unless you acquire the Holy Spirit while you are living in this present world. Just as you are in this world, so will you be in the world to come. Whatever spirit you possess when Jesus returns will be the spirit that you will possess throughout eternity. If you are hateful and rebellious against that which is right in this life, and do not accept the truth, then God will give you throughout eternity what you wanted while you lived in this world.

When God saves you, your relationship with God will be established by you feeling the presence of God in your life. God will make known to you His presence by means of the Holy Spirit, because you can't see God with the natural eye. You can feel the presence of God when you hear His voice. God usually speaks with a whisper.

When He doesn't speak, He overshadows you with His Spirit, and you will know that it is God because of the feeling of joy that you will feel. There will be no other experiences that will give you such joy as the Spirit of God will give you. God rules people through the sense of feeling. Now your conduct must be according to the teachings of the word of God to be a true witness that the Spirit of God is in your presence.

When you feel good and shout in church and don't love your brothers or sisters of the faith, your good feelings will be coming from the devil. The devil is an imitator of God, but he will give you false feelings that won't last, and the false joy will be no comparison to the joy of the Lord.

Subject: The Fear Of The Lord Is Wisdom:

The Bible should be read regularly and taken very seriously. Everything that is written in the Bible was spoken by the prophets whom the Holy Ghost overshadowed and caused to speak is being fulfilled during this present time. The scriptures tell us plainly that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. You don't have any understanding until you begin to fear God, not that He will destroy you, but fear lest you destroy yourself by means of your disobedience.

Today the people of the earth need help from the deceit of an invisible enemy. The only source of help from such an enemy is the Holy Spirit or the Holy Ghost. When you are overshadowed with the Holy Spirit, you will have protection from the things that will destroy you and that is sin and the devil. The Holy Ghost has power to lift up a standard of protection against the things that will destroy you. The Holy Ghost works for you by means of instructions that it gives in the word of God. The world will be judged according to the word of God.

The Holy Spirit helps you to understand the word so that you will be corrected of your sins during your life time rather than to be condemned in the judgment. Where there is no knowledge of violating the law of God, there will be no condemnation. This is why little children 7 years and younger will not be judged, because they are not old enough to understand right from wrong. Upon Jesus' return, little children will be received as little saints to be taken to heaven with those who are older and born again.

Subject: Your Life Can Be A Perfect Work Of God:

God did not put anything in the Bible that a person who is willing to humble his or herself and obey would not understand. The high-minded and conceited people will get lost in confusion trying to understand the word of God. It is the will of God that we know the truth and that is why the scriptures were given.

The truth reveals the rewards for obeying God, and the consequences of disobedience. God's word reveals both good and evil of the person who does one or the other. If a person desires to turn from the evil no matter how grievous they may be, God can remove the evil, and make the person's life sin-free.

He can wash a person's sinful nature in living water, and make the person holy by giving the person the new-birth. The person will then be able to see a perfect work of God in their own life.

Subject: The Price For Being Right:

It has always been the plan of God to make man understand, therefore, the prophets were used by God to warn and make the people know that if they went a certain way, the end of that way would be death. Every person thinks that they are right in their own eyes. Unless the person has the Spirit of God, he will try to establish himself as being right when he knows he is wrong.

It cost something to be right. It will cost you your selfishness, and that can be very difficult to let go. The end of man's way is death. God always commands you to not go your way, but His way. The end of God's way is life everlasting. God sent prophets to make the people understand. God did not give the prophets His Spirit by measure, but by the fullness of His power whenever He wanted to deliver a message.

On many occasions, the prophets would not understand themselves, and would speak things that would cause them to wonder how it could be possible, because they often spoke in a time of peace, and told of great calamities and dangers that would befall the people for their disobedience.

Subject: The Conscience:

God has given every person a conscience, and the moment that you do something that is not right, your conscience gets the message from God that you are going wrong. When your conscience gets the message, your thoughts will accuse you. When your thoughts accuse you, your conscience condemns you, and it is condemning you with a message directly from God.

It does not matter what language you speak, or what standard of right and wrong that you have been taught, God can very plainly speak to you by means of your conscience. There is only one means of help for man to deliver him from condemnation, whether it come from his conscience or the word of God, and that is the Holy Spirit. You must be filled with the Holy Spirit which gives you the newbirth in Christ.

God has ordained that you can live according to His word with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, and the promise is that when you die, you shall live again with God. If you fail to accept God's offer to be saved, there will be a judgment that is going to take place, and you have got to give an account of the deeds that are done in your body. God seeing the need that man requires to meet the requirements to be saved has commissioned the Holy Spirit to be available to administer grace.

Subject: You Can Acquire Salvation By Using Your Senses:

The gospel of the kingdom of heaven is commonly known as 'glad tidings', and 'good news'. The gospel consists of the promises of God without respect to persons for those who repent, and believe the gospel. God has given each human being five senses, such as the sense of hearing, tasting, feeling, seeing and smelling.

All such senses give us the ability to identify what is good for us or what is not good. When you have these qualities, whatever you learn pertaining to salvation, you will be able to build upon using your senses. These senses will help you to learn that you must be honest and upright in order for God to give you the Holy Spirit to assist your efforts.

Subject: The Stupidity Of The People Caused Them To Miss The Kingdom:

Though Jesus came working great miracles in the midst of the people that no other man in their midst had done to bless their souls and heal their bodies, 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.

Hatred and jealousy in the hearts of people can make them very stupid, and cause their dull discretion to make them miss entering the kingdom of heaven, even when God Himself comes down to give them an invitation to enter. Such stupidity caused the Jews to give credit for all the good that Christ did to the devil, saying that it was by the power of the devil that Jesus blessed and healed. The Jews gave more honor to Barabbas, an insurgent and notorious robber.

Nevertheless, there were many among the common folks who had faith in Jesus and deep reverence. They heard Him gladly, and followed Him from the market place to the synagogue. They believed He was from God, because whatever blessing He had for them was free. This was not the case with the sorcerers, diviners and wizards. They charged the people for their services, and the people who had been to them knew that the work Christ did for them was pure and not tainted with evil like that which was done by the sorcerers, wizards and diviners.

Christ said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (St. Matthew 11:28). Christ invited them to come without money

and without price, and the only requirement exacted to them was that they should go in peace and sin no more.

Subject: The Crucifixion Of Jesus Was The Will Of God:

After Jesus had prayed to the Father in the garden of Gethsemane, He concluded that His crucifixion was God's will. Jesus said, "not my will Father, but thine will be done". When He said this, God's Spirit overshadowed Him. He then arose in power and went to the gate, passing His disciples and saying, "sleep on boys".

When Jesus met the mob, the first person to greet Him was Judas. Jesus asked, "whence cometh thou, friend". After this He asked the mob whom they sought, and told them that He was Jesus. They fell back in amazement. Then He submitted Himself to the mob and went with them.

Subject: He Had A Good Defense But He Did Not Use It:

Isaiah prophesied of the trial and crucifixion of Jesus hundreds of years before it took place as if he was present at the trial that Jesus was given. Listen to Isaiah's prophecy in Isaiah 53:7-8:

- Verse 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.
- Verse 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Though Isaiah lived hundreds of years before Christ came, he speaks as a faithful witness as though he was present at the trial of Jesus, just as a news reporter would cover a high profile trial today. Now the substance of the report that Isaiah is giving is that Jesus was brutally and cruelly treated for no just reason,

and that He had a good defense, was innocent of any wrong, and that the experience was ordained of God.

Today we believe Isaiah's report, because the events that came to pass centuries later were in every detail agreeable with the report. If you watch procedures in the courts of today where individuals are accused of crimes, you will hear the lawyers of the accused present a substantial defense, especially if the accusations are serious enough to require capital punishment.

Christ did not challenge His accusers, or demand a right to be heard as others would have done. This was not because He had no defense, but because Christ was very familiar with Isaiah's report, and He knew that the scriptures had to be fulfilled in every phase of His life. Understand that Christ was the word of God, and everything that was spoken from the creation and through the prophets was actually Christ speaking before he came to the earth in a human body.

So, the devil would have loved for Christ to speak, and to defend Himself at His trial so that His defense would have been contrary to what was prophesied through the prophet Isaiah. Such a defense by Christ would have annulled the belief in the minds of His followers that He was the Messiah according to Isaiah's report.

Subject: The Exaggerated Messiah Of The Jews:

After Pilate examined Jesus, he knew that Jesus had done nothing detrimental against the rulership of the Roman Empire that would establish Him as a dangerous element and justify His execution. Therefore, Pilate felt that Jesus should have been released. However, 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 His release on the grounds that Christ had offended grievously by breaking a sacred law, which constituted blasphemy.

Now the Jews were expecting a Messiah, but they thought He would be a great military leader who would come as a king in great splendor. They expected their Messiah 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.

They expected their Messiah to have regal dignity, and royal blood, and to be exalted in the eyes of the world. Therefore, when Jesus came out of Nazareth and of a humble birth, the son of a carpenter, they knew He just didn't have the qualifications to be their Messiah, so they considered Jesus' claim as being the Son of God as blasphemous. They resented Jesus for speaking boldly to the people with authority that exceeded the authority of the priests and leaders of the Jews. Jesus often chided those who were the teachers of the Jews because of their hypocrisy and misunderstanding of the laws of Moses. He tried to show them the error of their ways and help them to see the light, and when they would reject His overtures, and attempt to turn the hearts of the people away from Him, He would reprove them stoutly and tell them His Father would not own them as the seed of Abraham unless they would return to God.

Jesus spoke boldly to the people in their synagogues in the presence of the priests and rulers of the synagogues, condemning them for their corruption, sin, and disobedience to God. The rulers of the Jews became angry with Jesus and took counsel against Him. They rejected Him 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 Messiah 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 under the Romans. That was the way the ruling class considered the Lord.

Subject: Israel Rejected Their Blessings Because They Were Blind:

Jesus was the product of heaven in the earth, and when He went down to the grave, it could not hold Him. His flesh did not see corruption. He came forth from the grave shouting the victory, which He had gained over it. He came forth declaring that He had the key of death and hell for the purpose of lifting our minds and giving us hope that we might not grieve as others, but that we might have hope. The hope of every nation on the earth is that they have peace. Listen to Isaiah 26:2-4:

Verse 2 -	Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which
	keepeth the truth may enter in.

- Verse 3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.
- Verse 4 Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

Peace will only be given to the person whose mind is stayed on Him. It was the unthankful spirit of the people to whom God sent Christ to bless that destroyed the blessings for them. Jerusalem rejected Jesus when He would have brought peace and comfort to a people who had looked forward to the coming of their Messiah. When Jesus came to them, they rose up and fought against Him with blind eyes until God took the blessing.

In order to have peace of mind you must receive it from a source that has been tried and proven. Jesus was tried and proven to be the Messiah, according to the scriptures. In perfect peace God will keep those whose minds are stayed on Him. Unless the nations of the world look up and say, 'Jesus lives', their hope will vanish.

Subject: The Restoration Of Israel:

The word of God is given for the purpose that the people might know what will come to pass. It has always been the plan of God to make man understand what is going to happen that will have an effect upon his well-being. Therefore, the prophets who are used by God are sent during different generations to warn and make the people know that if they went a certain way, the end of that way would be death. There is a way that seemeth right to a man, but if it isn't God's way, it will be the way of death.

Man wants to be right. Only the Spirit of God can lead to the way of safety. God always revealed the former things from the beginning before they get started, and then after he had declared them through the mouth of His prophet, He leaves you the choice to do as you will. When God spoke to Israel, He said, I'm going to make the earth empty and scatter abroad the inhabitants. These words were spoken by the prophet Isaiah many years ago, and today inhabitants of the earth are in derision being scattered everywhere.

Israel was God's people; God loved Israel. He chose Israel to be His people. Israel means a soldier of God. Jacob was to establish His law and rule to make the world become acquainted with God, but Israel became rebellious and a stubborn people. Human beings are the same all through the ages. The more you do for them the worse they get, but God is merciful and will withdraw the punishment as soon as people obey Him.

Israel is suffering today because they have forsaken God. When Israel returns to God, and accepts Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God, His love for Israel will cause Him to forgive and to restore Israel as His people.

Subject: Jesus Died For You:

Regardless of who you are, Jesus died for you. There might be some who do not believe it, but Jesus died for unbelievers also. If you listen to the gospel preached by the Holy Ghost filled preacher, it will convince you that Jesus died for you, and that He has no respect to persons. When you meet another person you should accept the possibility that the person you meet could live eternally in heaven with you, because Jesus died for both of you.

Out of one blood God made all the people of the earth. One day soon, He is going to bring together in one family to live eternally all those who believe that Jesus died for them and have obeyed Jesus' gospel, because Jesus died for them.

Subject: The Power Of Jesus' Resurrection:

The resurrection was the climax of Christ's advent to the world to administer salvation. If there had been no resurrection, there would be no salvation for us today. The resurrection carries unlimited power to save those who believe in it. Listen to I Corinthians 15:14:

Verse 14 - And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.

When Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb where Jesus was buried, the angel of the Lord had descended from heaven and came to roll back the stone from the door and sat upon it. The angel invited the women to view the empty tomb, and to tell the disciples that the Lord had risen from the dead (St. Matthew 28:5-7). As they went to tell the good news, Jesus met them, and they embraced His feet and worshiped Him. Jesus told them to tell the disciples that He would meet them in Galilee. Peter and John later raced to the tomb and found it empty.

Later, Matthew reported that the soldiers who had been guarding the tomb took bribes and reported to the authorities that Jesus' disciples had stolen His body while they slept. The New Testament further gives record of two disciples traveling about 75 miles from Jerusalem who communed with Jesus on the way and saw Him as He appeared in their midst with the eleven disciples as Jesus appeared through closed doors.

They could see and touch the nail prints on His body. The Lord also showed Himself to more than five hundred people. These witnesses concluded that the one who appeared to them was the same one who had communed with them in life, and had been put to death, and buried. The renewed faith of these believers who saw Him after His resurrection empowered them to overcome any thought that their imagination might use to deceive them. Although they were fearful at times, these disciples were now preaching that the tomb was empty, and that they had seen the risen Lord.

Today a confirmation of the resurrection of Jesus Christ has been established in the lives of those who are born again, and are living according to the gospel that Jesus taught. The truth of Jesus' resurrection is that the body that Jesus was resurrected in was no longer physical, but spiritual. The spiritual power of Jesus' resurrection has power to save anybody who believes in Him.

Subject: Spiritual Blood:

The blood that Jesus shed on Calvary was spiritual blood that was commissioned by God to have power to remove sin from the lives of those who believe His gospel. Spiritual blood is empowered by the Holy Spirit to enter into a person's body, remove the nature of sin, and implant the nature of God in the person's life. When spiritual blood is in a person's life, their mind will acquire new desires to live free from sin.

Spiritual blood has an effect upon the body and mind of a person, and everything that you do physically will be inspired and controlled by the spiritual blood. The blood of your earthly parents would have given you physical life, but the blood of Jesus would be giving you a spiritual life of righteousness.

The blood of Jesus will be running through your veins just as the blood of your parents is running through your veins. The blood of Jesus will be purging and purifying your mind like your physical blood that runs through your veins strengthens your body.

Humans have a spiritual body and a physical body. The spiritual inspires the physical to sin if you are not saved. Humans do not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God, and unless they learn how to obey the word of God, they will be at risk of not living out half of their days.

They could be tempted by the devil to do something that is not in accord with social ethics, and could suddenly be stopped. However, if they believe and obey the word of God, they could live their four score, and go through life happy. They would not be just existing; they would be living life more abundantly.

Subject: Life More Abundantly:

Everybody who is breathing is not living. When the Bible makes reference to life, it is life more abundantly that starts in this world and will continue in heaven. Breathing is not necessarily living according to the life that Christ offers. Life more abundantly is having joy, peace and happiness in the Spirit of God.

If you want to live this quality of life, you must believe the word of God. Life in Christ causes you to rise above the things that depress most people. Everyday that you live this life, Christ will bring you along and your faith will increase. As your faith increases, your strength will increase.

Subject: The Righteousness Of Faith:

You cannot establish yourself in righteousness. Such an establishment would be self-righteousness. God's grace has to establish you in His righteousness. Only the righteousness of God can give you salvation. Many church folk have interpreted God's word to suit themselves, and they have established themselves in righteousness. Listen to Romans 10:2-4:

Verse 2 -	For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God,
	but not according to knowledge.

- Verse 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.
- Verse 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

The righteousness of faith speaks like this to those who submit to it in Romans 10:9-10:

Verse 9 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Verse 10 - For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Subject: Be Careful Of What You Reject:

God is love, and God is life. God's love is action love that has power to take care of our desires and needs. You must know God to receive benefits from His love. There are many ways that you can get to know God, because God has representatives on earth in every generation. They are referred to as ambassadors for Christ.

God lives in His people by means of His Holy Spirit. When you meet a person who is filled with the Holy Ghost, you have met God. When Jesus was sent to the earth as a humble person from the city of Nazareth, many of the Jews did not recognize Jesus as being God. So many of the Jews rejected God. Listen to Psalm 118:22:

Verse 22 - The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

In building the temple of Jerusalem, the stones were cut in the mountain according to the actual size needed in the construction of the temple. Every piece and every stone was numbered and sent up to Jerusalem so that the builders only had to fit them all in place. This was done so that no hammers or chisels could be heard in Jerusalem, because Jerusalem was a holy city.

As the men proceeded to cut the stones they noticed among the stones one that was odd and peculiar in shape and size that seemed to be a misfit. Therefore, they discarded it and it was thrown on the rubbish pile. You have to be careful when you judge something by appearance without knowledge of its value.

Finally, as the building neared completion and the stones were fitted into place it was discovered that this peculiar stone which had been rejected was needed to fit in an important opening at the top of the building. As they searched for the odd stone, someone remembered that an oddly shaped stone had been thrown on the rubbish pile.

Then the cry was made, "the stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner." God gave this example of His appearance to the earth to David who wrote the book of Psalms so that those who had a mind to accept the truth of God's appearance in the person of Jesus Christ would not be discriminate and reject God because He came from a low social class of Jews from the city of Nazareth.

God works in a mysterious way. He had this to be done for a specific purpose, which was revealed centuries later to those who had faith in His word as it was given by the prophets, and fulfilled in Jesus Christ who was God as the second member of His Trinity.

Subject: God Commissioned Obedience To Have More Power Than Disobedience:

In the beginning of man's existence, God only gave one law, and that was for man not to eat the fruit of the forbidden tree. The sentence of death came when Adam broke the law. All humans came into the world under the sentence of death after Adam broke the law.

In Romans 5:12 it teaches, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned". So, God arranged that if one man broke the law, and brought sin and death upon all men, He would raise up another man that would deliver all men from sin and death. So then, disobedience brought sin and death, and God commissioned the obedience of one man to have more power than disobedience. That one man was Jesus Christ.

Subject: Obedience Causes You To Enter Into The Holiness Of God:

There is only one way to be right and that is to obey the word of God. Obedience to the word of God leads you to receive the new-birth from God. When you live according to the word of God, you enter the holiness of God. You then become a part of God, and God will be with you in everything that you do, and everywhere you go. He will be your God, and you will be His child. God's Spirit will be your counselor, strength, provider, and guide for the remainder of your life on earth. God's Spirit will give you a new existence in the kingdom of heaven forever.

Subject: I Don't Take Chances With Sin:

I am so concerned about how I stand with the Lord that I am careful of how I conduct myself before people that I have to deal with so that I may not be misunderstood or be misjudged. I put forth an effort to think on the right things all the time. I allow my thoughts to lead me to do right in the sight of God. I reject everything from my mind that I know is wrong when I perceive that it is trying to enter.

When my wife is not with me, I don't allow a woman to ride in an automobile with me or to be in a room alone with me. I stay away from private associations with other women. If a man is perceived to be gay, I will stay away from him also just as I would another woman.

I never visit homes of church members where women are unless someone else goes with me. I am not afraid that I might sin, or that the woman would do something wrong, but I am not taking chances.

Subject: The Name Of Jesus:

The word of God is a strong tower, and when men trust in it, they are safe. Your safety is constructed upon a foundation known as faith. When you have faith in the word of God you have everything you will need. Faith is confidence and confidence is strength; not human strength; but divine strength from God.

When God gives you strength, your faith will unite you with God like two rocks that are cemented together. When you don't have confidence in God anything can separate you from the grace that God is offering you.

God has given one name where-as we can have confidence, and He has established that name by putting power behind it, and that is the name of Jesus. You cannot reject the name of Jesus and find another alternative for life that will give you safety.

Jesus was established by His character, and the power of God was manifested to the world in the character of Jesus. His character was in His deeds, and it had power to solve any problem that a person brought to Jesus for help. The power in the deeds that Jesus did manifested God. Listen to Philippians 2:10-11:

Verse 10 - That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things things under the earth; Verse 11 - And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

God got behind the name of Jesus so that by His name praise, honor and adoration would be brought to the name. When you believe the gospel, the power of God is given through the name of Jesus to save you from your sins.

Subject: Trouble:

God promised to be with those who obey His word. The word of God teaches us to pay our vows and in the day of trouble, call on Him and He will deliver us (Psalm 50:14-15). Trouble gives you strength, knowledge and understanding. During the time of trouble, just ask God to give you help, and He will respond to your record of obedience. Trouble educates you with wisdom resulting from the experiences that you have during your trouble.

Subject: The Highway To God Is Called Holiness:

A highway will lead you to God. Not an interstate highway, but an elevated way of living that is above sin. It is called the way of holiness. Listen to Isaiah 35:8:

Verse 8 - And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those; the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

The way of holiness is the way to God. If you are living a life of sin, you are not on this highway.

Sin is a low way of living that will not put you on the highway to God. The highway is a way of peace and holiness, and if you don't get on this highway, you will never see God. Listen to Hebrews 12:14:

Verse 14 - Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

A "way" is the road that you travel on to get somewhere. Where you go depends on the road you take. When you travel the road of holiness, it will be a road of peace and righteousness. The way you live is a description of the road that you are on.

Subject: The Name Holy Means To Be Sin-Free:

If you want to be saved, you must come to God with an open mind to receive an understanding from the word of God by the assistance of the Holy Spirit. In the beginning God created heaven and the earth. He created heaven for His throne. He also created angels to inherit heaven, and they were called Holy angels. Angels were appointed positions in heaven, and this resulted to them being known as stars, because they were outstanding in their abilities to do their duties in heaven.

God's plan for the earth was to have a human family on earth to be in the same name that the angels in heaven were given, which was to be Holy. Now this was God's plan to unite the family of heaven with the family of the earth. Listen to Isaiah 62:12:

Verse 12- And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the Lord: and thou shall be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.

The name holy means to be sin-free. It is a sacred and consecrated name given to those who are born again of the Holy Spirit.

Subject: Your Worship Services Must Be Sanctified:

If you desire to go back with Jesus in the first resurrection, you must discontinue your fellowship with sinners that you are worshiping with. You can do business and work with sinners, but a spiritual fellowship with sinners in a church is not acceptable to God. The Bible teaches to come out from among such worshipers, and to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness.

Such a separation from the unsaved will take place permanently and completely in the first resurrection. So while you are waiting on Jesus' return, your worship services must be clean in a sin-free setting.

Subject: Enemies Of The Cross Of Christ:

Many people want to do right to be saved, but they have been fooled by seeing so many church folk and preachers who contend against what the word of God teaches, by telling them that they cannot live without committing sin. Anyone who teaches this is an enemy of God.

There were churches on the earth during the time of Noah, and God destroyed the old world because of their sins. It is better to separate from those in churches or your social life that don't believe you can be saved from sin.

Abraham had to separate from his kindred because they were worshipers of idols. Your joy must be in the Lord and not with those who enjoy worldly pleasures. Abraham knew his parents did not worship God and that they worshiped idols. He did not understand how God could be divided up into so many different things. When folk go to church and don't live above sin, they are not worshiping God, they are worshiping their church building, because it would have become their idol.

Subject: The Spirit Of Humility:

You can only follow Christ through humility. Jesus said to His disciples, if I your Lord and Master have washed your feet, then you should be humble enough to wash one another's feet. He then told Peter that if you follow me, you must follow the path that I travel.

When Peter went to Jerusalem to be crucified, Jesus' words followed him. Peter said I am not worthy to be crucified like my Saviour. He said to those who were crucifying him not to put his head up, but to put his feet up and his head down. Peter requested this to honor the words of Jesus that taught him about a humble spirit.

Though the enemy was crucifying Peter, the Spirit of God lifted up a standard of humility. The same Spirit that gave Jesus power to face the mob in the garden of Gethsemane gave Peter the spirit of humility.

Subject: The Spirit Of A Child:

If you can acquire the humility, simplicity, genuineness, loyalty, and be free of hypocrisy as a little child, you can enter the kingdom of heaven. The character of the citizens of the kingdom of heaven will be the spirit of little children. Though many citizens of heaven will be full grown adults, they would have been converted to the spirit of little children.

Subject: The Way Of The Cross:

If you expect to be accepted by God at the end of your life in this present world, you must humble yourself. Jesus is our example, because He obeyed God even down to the death of the cross, which was the lowest form of death that a person could receive. Because Jesus was willing to accept such a death, God raised Him above every living creature in heaven, earth, and under the earth.

If anybody expects to get into the kingdom of heaven, they must follow Christ's footsteps. To be in the Spirit with Christ, you have to get into the way that Jesus taught, and that is by the way of the cross. You don't have to go to Calvary to die like Jesus died, but there will be a test of suffering as you go along the way of righteousness that God will accredit as being your cross.

You may have to endure the meanness and hatefulness of those who mistreat you and do evil to you without a cause. The devil is raging everywhere. If you have any hate in your heart, God won't hear you pray. You must approach God by the way of the cross. The way of the cross leads home.

Subject: Spend A Little Time With Jesus:

Prayer is a mighty weapon which can give you victory in a test and confidence in the word of God. Although God has promised to fight our battles, He will strengthen our hand for whatever opposition we meet from the enemy, if we have clean hands and a sin-free life. One way to keep your life clean and acceptable to God is through prayer. We should spend time talking to God. You won't often profit much spending a lot of time talking to other people.

If you take a little time and pray, you will find that you will accomplish more. You should have a little secret place where you can get out of the way of folks and have a secret, quiet talk with Jesus. When you spend some time with Jesus, you will find that He is good company. The scriptures teach that we should pray without ceasing. Prayer does not always have to be presented in words, but by giving a sigh or a change of breathing rhythm. A simple moan or groan can be a prayer. God responds to prayer by the needs of the person, and the connection the Holy Spirit establishes between their mind and God.

Subject: Your Approach To The Throne Of Grace Must Be By Faith:

We should trust God just like a child trust its parents. Children don't worry about how they are going to get the things that they need. Children can sleep without a care in the world. They sleep better than adults. Our attitude towards God with reference to our faith and trust should be just like a child toward mother.

When we ask God for something in prayer, we should believe that we are going to get it. Our dependence upon God should not waiver. After we put in a request to God for something, we should look forward to praising God for granting our request. We should praise and thank God before we get what we ask for. When we ask we should be trusting God, and believing confidently that He is going to provide.

When you pray, you should sincerely believe that you are talking to God as a child talks to its parents. You should believe that God is interested in you. When God is interested in you He won't turn His back on you when you call upon Him in prayer. Obedience to God's word and faith gets His attention; and He will send your blessing if your faith does not waiver.

With this approach to God you will believe that He is a reality according to what His word teaches, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. With this mind you will have faith that pleases God; without such faith it is impossible to please God. As you approach the throne of grace it must be faith that leads you there; this means that your faith must be what moves you to go to God.

Subject: Prayer:

Prayer is a mighty force when it is done properly. It is important to understand the meaning of prayer. Prayer is a petition. A person begins to pray from childhood, as a little infant in the mother's arms. Prayer is an expression of a desire. The baby knows that the mother has something he or she wants which is the mother's breast. The baby cannot talk, but it makes signs to let the mother know that it is there, and if the mother doesn't pay attention to the baby it will cry.

The baby's cry is a prayer, and as soon as the mother answers the prayer the baby falls asleep because the prayer would have been answered. Prayer is a petition or request expressed not only in words, but by signs also. We don't always know proper words to use to make our request to God but as a mother understands her child, so does God understand His child.

Sometimes a groan can be an expression of a desire and God hearing the groan accepts it as a prayer. When the Holy Spirit is leading you to groan, and when your ways please the Lord, He will answer your prayer. You don't have to know good English to pray. Your heavenly Father knows and understands your needs.

The story of Elijah upon Mt. Caramel gave the world a lesson of how ready God is to answer prayer. Anytime God shut heaven up in answer to prayer, He will surely do things less momentous. Elijah was a man of passion like the average person who was subject to fear and pity. God did no more for him, however, than He would do for us if we are faithful and true.

God doesn't want His people to have fear and torment. He wants you to know that you can reach Him in prayer. To be able to pray, you must first obey God, and to obey God is to live for somebody other than yourself. God does not answer prayers of a selfish person.

The story of how God sent His chariot and took Elijah, soul and body, and his mantle fell on Elisha gave the world a lesson. When the chariot came down for Elijah, he was just about a hundred yards ahead of Elisha, who was trailing behind. So Elisha picked up Elijah's mantle, and when Elisha came to the Jordan River on his return trip, he took the mantle of Elijah and struck the water as Elijah had done. The waters rolled back for him just as they did for Elijah.

So all the things that Elijah had done, Elisha was able to do. So God depends on no one man. Listen to St. John 14:13 that makes reference to everybody who obeys God.

Verse 13 - And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Subject: Prayer Is A Life Line Between Man And God:

It is prayer that reconciles man to God. To cut out prayer from the midst of children blights the minds of children. When children are taught to pray, it causes

the presence of the Holy Spirit to help cultivate their minds as they mature to be teenagers and young adults.

When the minds of children are spiritually dull they will have a poor sense of what is right and what is wrong. When children are taught to honor God, God will honor them. Prayer is the life line between God and man, and everyone should have the privilege to pray anywhere as long as it is honoring God.

Subject: Perfection Is Correction:

The devil comes around and looks you over when you claim to be a representative of God. He listens to your talk and knows a good bit about you. If you have once lived in sin, he is the one who supervised your actions. When the devil hears you talk, he weighs your words. In the book of Job 1:16 you will find the Lord speaking of a man whom God knew was living a righteous life. So God asked Satan a question in Job 1:7-8:

- Verse 7 And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.
- Verse 8 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

This is the endorsement that the Lord gave Job. A perfect and upright man; one who hates evil. In order to live right you must hate evil, not evil people, but acts of evil. There is a difference between sin and the sinner. God said Job was perfect. If you are a child of God, you are not above making mistakes, but when a man takes a bottle of liquor and drinks it, it is not a mistake.

Subject: A Call To Perfection:

If you keep your hands clean and a pure heart, there will be a greater day in store for you as you allow the Holy Spirit to guide you through life. You would be included in the generation that God is calling to perfection. You don't have power within yourself to be perfect, but perfection will be a gift given to you by God. God will purge all sin out of a person who is willing to receive His calling.

Perfection comes with grace. It is a gift from God. When you receive the calling, God will be prominent in your mind, and you will be able to walk in the Spirit with the joy of the Lord. The word of God will purge your mind of all guile, deceit, bitterness, envy, and strife that you might live the life of Christ while you are in this present world.

Subject: Perfection Is A Calling From God:

If you are not striving to live a perfect life in righteousness you are not worthy of a call from God to be saved. Listen to St. Matthew 5:48:

Verse 48 - Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

You must experience a calling from God to be saved, and God calls you to a standard of perfection. It is possible to be perfect if God has called you, because God will support His calling by helping you to be perfect.

Now you can't be perfect in the eyes of the people, because they believe that nobody can be perfect. There is a standard given for perfection found in Philippians 2:5, and it teaches to let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus. You must have the mind that Christ has to be perfect.

Subject: Why Do People Suffer?

You may wonder why the human family is suffering so much throughout the world. Suffering is caused by the people of the earth having a disconnect with God. It is necessary to learn the will of God, and obey His commandments in order to be relieved of suffering.

Life has been so fixed by God that comfort and survival can only be acquired by obedience to His word. Failure to obey God allows the conditions of life to lead to death experiencing the miseries of life as you approach death. It is not your church attendance that will give you relief from suffering, but your obedience to God.

When you obey God He places you on a program to be blessed rather than to continuously allow you to suffer. Obedience to God's word directs you into a path of righteousness, and blessings are all along the way. Listen to Psalm 1:1-3:

- Verse 1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
- Verse 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.
- Verse 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Subject: Honor God And You Will Be Blessed:

You are honoring God when you are obeying His commandments. When you honor God you are blessed. God keeps a record of everything that is done and said in His name. He is a powerful God who knows everything that is done in earth by everybody at the same time. There are no limits to God's ability, knowledge and power.

The Lord has a plan for the person who obeys His commandments. When most of the people on the earth don't want to obey God, He does not bother with them. God's eyes are upon those who are faithful. God prepares a course for those who obey Him, and when they do the things that He commands, the course is fixed and the person who obeys can't get out of the channel of blessings. Blessings are all along the way that God has prepared for the person who does right. As the person stays on the course whatever he or she needs, God will provide. Such people will be blessed according to their ability to manage.

Life has been prepared by God for the righteous person and the wicked person. As the wicked person starts off in life according to his sins he will reap. If

the wicked person is good in some things he will reap, but eventually his sins will discontinue his blessings. God sets a standard saying to all men that as you walk in my statutes and obey and keep my commandments, I will provide. God is a God of equity, a just God. He has so fixed the program for life that as you get on the right path, you will receive the blessings. If you get on the wrong path, you will miss the blessings.



CHAPTER 7

GOD SENT PREACHERS VS FALSE PREACHERS

GOD SENT PREACHERS

Subject: The Confirmation Of Prophecies:

A confirmation of the prophecies given by the God sent prophet will be when the prophecies come to pass. Prophetic words of God's servant have been confirmed in pass times by the events of the prophecies. When a prophecy is given during this present time in the same spirit of prophecies in past times, it shall also come to pass.

The confirmation of the prophecies being fulfilled will be based upon the events of this present time being the same as the events of past times. Time has no effect upon the warnings given from God. What God warned the people of in past times is a warning for this present time, if what the people are doing today is the same as what they did in past times.

If homosexuals in Sodom were destroyed because of their sins, then the event of Sodom in past times is a warning to homosexuals during this present time. In the eyes of God, sin does not get any better because political views have changed through the centuries. God is the same today as He was in the days of Sodom.

Subject: The Holy Spirit Should Be The Influence In The Church:

The Holy Spirit is the only means by which a church can be an effective influence about the teachings of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit causes righteousness to be the main center of interest in the church. When the Holy Spirit is not the main influence in a church, then the church would have no light for the members to be led to righteousness. Under these conditions, the standard of morality would be reduced to such a low level that nobody in the church would be saved. The members would then be over taken by the pleasures of the flesh causing their church attendance to be in vain.

When the Holy Spirit is not received by the church, the people will only experience a temporary conversion, and still remain under the influence of the world, not receiving the new birth. A conversion is meaningless unless the members seek a filling of the Holy Spirit.

Subject: Is Your Church Sanctified?

The Holy Spirit causes you to be sanctified through the truth which purifies your life of sins, and sets you apart from association and affiliation of sinners. This sanctification process by the Holy Spirit will cause you to leave a church where sinners worship. The Holy Spirit separates you unto the gospel of Jesus Christ.

When you wash dishes you don't put the clean dishes back with those dishes that have not been washed; you separate the clean from the unclean. This is the same way that God sanctifies you after He saves you. God does not use a person to be his servant unless they are spiritually cleaned by the sanctification process.

Jesus prayed that you and I might be sanctified. If the church is not sanctified, then God is not using the church to save new members. Though new members may join a church that is not sanctified, they will not be saved in such a church.

You must be sanctified to serve God. Everything that God ever used, He sanctified it first. God does not use anything that He does not sanctify. As you study the word of God you will learn that God only accepts clean things that are pure. When you are born again you will be pure in heart as well as from unclean sinful things of the world. You will then not want to use anything that is unclean because the Spirit of God will be in you.

FALSE PREACHERS:

Subject: Beware Of The False Prophets:

Hell is not hot enough for a man or preacher who deceives people in matters concerning their souls. When you lose money or property, it can be a temporary lost, and can be replaced; but when you lose your soul it is an eternal lost that cannot be restored to you. It is only by means of a preacher that God will save your soul. False preachers have disrupted the line of communication between the people and the God sent preacher. There are more false preachers ministering to people than God sent preachers.

Men in responsible government positions are never led by God to consult, or seek advice from a false preacher, or prophet. Such leaders desire divine guidance in order to obtain wisdom in leading the people, but their judgment leads them to one who is recognized as being true. The Bible teaches to beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. It is ignorance of what the word of God teaches that allows people to be deceived by false preachers.

God sent two means by which people could follow the truth, and one is the true preacher and the other is the scriptures. The scriptures must be used to determine whether or not a preacher is true, but most people don't know the scriptures. Those who desire to follow God must follow according to His word.

You can easily be deceived by words of a false preacher when you don't know the scriptures. The word of God will help you to recognize the voice of the false prophet. Make no mistake, the false prophet is popular, prominent, educated, and much respected by those that he is leading. They are respected and honored by those who are ignorant of the knowledge of the word of God.

False prophets do not know God, and are not in touch with God, and those who are ignorant are deceived by a false representation of God. The true prophets or preachers have been inspired by God to prove that God is real, just, holy, merciful, and when the people are true in their hearts, God will lead them to the true prophet who will lead them to God, according to the truth.

When Jesus came to the world, He made the people to know that there is one man of whom you have to beware; and to this present day most people are surprised to know that the man is their pastor. If your pastor is not God sent he is the most dangerous person in your life, because he is the enemy of your soul (St. Matthew 7:15-20, Jeremiah 23:21-22).

Subject: Beware Of Ignorant Preachers:

There are many professing Christians who believe that you cannot live in this world without committing sin. I don't hold such Christian believers responsible for such beliefs, because it means that they have been taught by ignorant teachers. You cannot hear from God without a preacher, and how can they preach unless they are sent? (Romans 10:14-15.)

God will always make it possible for those who seek after righteousness to find the truth. There is a definite and uncompromising answer which is, you can live without committing sin if you give your life to Christ. The word of God teaches that it is not only possible but necessary if we are saved, or born again. He that is born of God doth not commit sin (I John 3:9). Jesus came to save us from sin. He died to take sin away from those who believe on Him (St. Matthew 1:21).

When you are born of God, Christ abides in you, and you in Him. Christ will not abide in sinners, nor would He allow a sinner to partake of His nature. When you are born of God you cannot sin, because the word of God which condemns sin and teaches you how to overcome sin remains firmly in your mind. It will warn you when sin is about to overtake you, and give you directions as to how you might resist the devil or escape the entrapment.

Subject: The Preacher Is Responsible For Warning The People:

"... He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God" (II Samuel 23:1-3). When heads of state get to the place that they leave God out of their programs for leading their nations, the people of their nations will become wicked like the leaders are. It is then the duty of the preachers to warn them of the danger of falling away from God.

The preacher is God's watchman who is responsible for watching the people. The preacher should have contact with the people on a regular basis to evaluate the spiritual condition of the people. He should know their relationship with God, and the moment there is a change in attitude and conduct of the people, the preacher should be fully informed because of his contact with the people.

If pastors fail to admonish the people and they become slothful, gluttonous, and more concerned about their own personal comfort rather than the spiritual condition of the people, they would be responsible for those who fall away from God in ignorance to be destroyed, and God would require the blood of the people at the hands of the preacher.

When preachers have failed to maintain a standard of righteousness in their preaching and conduct, the people will lose confidence in them. Since this condition exists, God is grieved because of the evil that is being practiced by the inhabitants, and He is getting ready to make the earth empty. Listen to Isaiah 24:1:

Verse 1 - Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

Subject: A Preacher Without The Spirit Of God Cannot Be Depended Upon:

The Spirit of God that is in a God sent preacher will cause him to be concerned about the souls of the listeners. Preachers who do not have the Spirit of God in them are not concerned about what condition the souls of his listeners are in. Such preachers will allow the listeners to continue to live in sin, making them believe that they can be saved and be in sin at the same time. They cause people to believe that the holiness of God cannot be imparted into the lives of those who are born in sin.

A preacher without the Spirit of God cannot be depended upon to give the listeners the truth about salvation in Jesus Christ. The scriptures give the truth about God's plan for the salvation of man, and it plainly teaches that the wages of sin is death. When your life is not free from sin, you have no life from God. You simply have a temporary life in a physical body that will eventually go to hell. When you come to Jesus, he will not leave your soul in sin without providing a way for you to be liberated.

Subject: Is Your Church Like A Circus?

A lot of churches today conduct services like circuses with clowns and magicians. Such churches are set up by the devil. The devil can fool you if you don't know the truth about what is being presented to you. The devil plays tricks

on your eyes. If you go to a circus and watch the side shows, you can see how the devil fools people. The devil does the same thing in churches.

The devil can make you think that you saw a rabbit come out of a hat. When the devil is working in a church, He can make you think that you are filled with the Holy Spirit by speaking in unknown tongues. The devil can also make you think that evil spirits can leave you when a preacher hits you and knocks you out. Such things have no relation to being filled with the Holy Ghost. John the Baptist gave the procedure for being filled with the Holy Ghost, and it was to repent and believe the gospel. Salvation in Jesus Christ is a replacement of the carnal or sinful nature with the righteous, divine nature of God, which gives you the nature to live a sin free-life.

Subject: The Light In The World Should Be The Church:

When the church is not allowing the light of Christ to shine in the world, we will continuously have trouble in the world. The church should be a body of believers in the teaching of Jesus Christ. When you believe something, and live by the principles of your belief, it will be seen in your life. Because the church has departed so far from the teachings of Jesus, people of the world have not been able to know the Lord and understand what salvation in Jesus Christ is offering.

When you are saved from sin, you are saved from troubles. Your troubles will be minimal. The world can only know God by means of the church. The church has become blinded by the gods of the world, and cannot reflect God to the world. This causes the world to have no knowledge of God. When you don't have knowledge of God, neither will you fear God. The beginning of knowledge is the fear of God. When the world has no knowledge, they will despise wisdom and hate understanding. The world will then follow foolishness that will carry many people to destruction.

Subject: Have You Heard Your Pastor Preach About Fornication?

It is unusual that we very seldom hear the word fornication mentioned in sermons that are preached in churches today. Hardly ever is fornication a topic of discussion in Sunday school lessons or Bible studies, yet it is the leading cause of social problems in our country.

Fornication is sexual relations among those who are not married. It is the reason that so many children are being born out of wedlock ending up in foster care, becoming delinquent, resulting to being imprisoned.

There are a lot of taxes being used to fund prisons, but very little is being used to prevent the reason why young people go to prison. God will only help those who are taught about fornication, and desire not to commit fornication. You cannot understand the will of God without hearing the word of God.

The devil cannot deceive people by tempting them to commit fornication when they hear the word of God teaching about the damage that fornication can do. God's word is not hard to be understood when it relates to situations in your life that will have an effect upon your way of living. Listen to I Thessalonians 4:3-4 to see if you recall this scripture being used in a sermon that you have heard.

Verse 3 -	For this is the will of God, even your sanctification,
	that ye should abstain from fornication.

Verse 4- That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour.

Sanctification means to be separate from sinful practices that will defile your body, such as liquor drinking, using tobacco products, illegal drugs, and the practice of fornication. In I Corinthians 7:1-2 you will find further knowledge on how to avoid fornication.

Verse 1 -	Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto
	me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.

Verse 2 - Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband,

When you commit fornication, God will judge you as a whoremonger in spite of your church affiliation. Listen to Hebrews 13:4:

Verse 4 - Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Subject: Has The Church Failed To Lift Up The Fallen?

When the church is under the influence of the world, it will become a show like you see in the theater. The church will then take on the spirit of entertainment rather than a ministry of salvation to the people. When this happens, the church would have lost its power to save a sinner.

The true spirit of salvation is to deliver the unsaved from sin, and to lift them up to the life of Christ. If the church does not have the spirit to lift the fallen from a life of sin, then they would have failed to show the love of God.



CHAPTER 8

SALVATION: SPECIAL TOPICS

Subject: The Knowledge Of God Is Made Available Through Prophets:

God is not glorified by a person that is dead. When you are saved, you don't really die, you simply enter a peaceful rest in the third heaven or paradise where Abraham and all the saints are resting. Death cannot praise God, because death is the enemy of God. God has made this knowledge available to man by means of prophets and apostles. God gave His Spirit to them, not by measure, but by the fullness of His power whenever He wanted to deliver a message.

Often-times the prophets would not understand themselves, and would speak things that when they had spoken would cause them to wonder how it could be possible. That is because they always spoke in the time of peace, and told of great calamities, and troubles that would befall the people because of their disobedience.

God always revealed the former things from the beginning, that is to say, before they started, and after He declared them through the mouth of His prophets he said, I showed them to you, and then it happened and it came to pass.

Subject: What Is Your Purpose?

God assigns a career mission and purpose for everybody before they are born; and gives them the gift to accomplish the purpose. God gives each person the intelligence, wisdom, understanding and opportunity to develop and exercise the gift to the glory of God, and for the benefit of mankind whether the person is saved or not saved.

If the person continues in his or her field and works according to their purpose and gift, the person will be successful in life. If you work in the field that God ordained that your gift should be used in, you will succeed, but if you get out of your field just because you see somebody else doing something that you would like to do, you will not have God's support, and you could be a failure.

You could be like a preacher who wants to preach because of the recognition that he sees other preachers receiving. Such a preacher is a false preacher, and God will not support such preachers.

Subject: God's Love For Israel Will Restore Israel:

Israel was God's people; God loved Israel. He chose Israel to be the nation to receive His law. Israel means a soldier of God. Jacob was to establish His law, and rule to make the world know God by means of the law. Eventually Israel became a rebellious and stubborn people, because they had received so many blessings and favors from God.

Today children who parents do a lot for can become spoiled. Israel was spoiled, but God would nevertheless warn Israel of her disobedience, and what the consequences would be. God ordained prophets to warn Israel such as what Jeremiah said in Jeremiah 16:1-4 as follows:

Verse 1 -	The word of the Lord came also unto me, saying,
Verse 2 -	Thou shalt not take thee a wife, neither shalt thou have sons or daughters in this place.
Verse 3 -	For thus saith the Lord concerning the sons and concerning the daughters that are born in this place, and concerning their mothers that bare them, and concerning their fathers that begat them in this land;
Verse 4 -	They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth: and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcases shall be meat for the fowls of heaven, and

This was a warning given from God by the prophet before it happened. God always relates these things to the people by the prophet what He intends to do before He does them. However, God is merciful, and will withdraw the rod of punishment as soon as they repent and obey Him.

for the beasts of the earth.

Israel today is suffering because they have forsaken God, and did not accept Jesus as being their Messiah, but when Israel returns to God, His love for Israel is so great that He will restore Israel.

Subject: Continue In Righteousness:

When a nation that has been established by God fails to continue to follow the righteousness of God, God will let the heathens come in to chasten the leaders of the nation. When those who profess to be representatives of God fail to represent God in the Spirit of truth, then God will allow the heathen to chasten them. When the godly nation accepts the chastisement, God will have mercy on them and turn the heathens away.

Subject: The President Will Be Set-up By God:

Those who want to be saved should not join in with any political candidates who try to lift themselves above another person. If they do, they will find that it is appointed unto man to die, and after death, the judgment. It is God who sets up executive heads of the country. The person that God is going to set-up will not be defeated by those who use political slanders against them.

Subject: The Choice Will Be Made By God:

Many people will be going to the polls to cast their votes for the person that they want to be president this November, but we must understand that God rules in the minds of the people. When God is controlling the minds of the people they will not realize it. They will think that they are making the decisions.

God has immeasurable power that can control the minds of all the people on the earth. When the people of a nation are obedient to God, He will choose the ruler or president who will be for the best interest of the people. The thing that determines who will be the president that is best for the people will be the conduct of the people who are pleasing to God. When the people of a nation become rebellious and disobedient to the word of God; then God will move on the minds of the people to elect a president that will not be for their best interest.

God does not necessarily give the rulership of a nation to a good man, but when an evil man gets it, it is because God desires for the people to suffer for their wicked ways. Unless the people of a nation are wise enough to recognize the interest of God in His creation, God has a day in which He will judge all men in righteousness, and hold them responsible for their misconduct.

Everything that is written in the Bible was given by inspiration of God so that man might be instructed in righteousness, so that man may be taught how to do the thing that God is pleased with. All scripture is given that the man who wants to be of God might be perfect. Some may say nobody can be perfect. Perfection doesn't come from the human nature; it comes from God. When you surrender your life to God; God will live in you. People are not the judge of one another, God is the judge.

If you follow the statutes of God you can be perfect. God knows your heart, and if you obey God with a sincere heart, He will supply the strength necessary to be perfect. God spoke well of Job who was a great man of the east. God told the devil that Job was perfect. Jesus later taught in His first sermon on the mount to *"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect"* (St. Matthew 5:48). The scriptures were given as a guide to govern and to direct man that he might be throughly furnished unto every good work.

Subject: Continue With God's Choice:

A person does not have to come from a wealthy reputable prominent family for God to select the person to be the leader of a nation. The first man God set up to rule over Israel was an unknown and insignificant person named Saul. Saul was from one of the humblest families of the tribe of Benjamin and it was one of the smallest tribes in Israel.

On a day the man of God was making sacrifices, Saul had been looking for his father's lost asses. So Saul went to the man of God to seek counsel about where his lost asses were. Samuel the prophet had already been instructed by God to anoint Saul to be king over Israel.

It is God who sets up rulers, and who takes them down if they are ruling contrary to God's purpose. As time went on, the Spirit of God departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him, because Saul had gotten to the place that he thought his way was best, and that God did not have to be obeyed to the letter. So God rejected Saul and prepared to set up another man to rule Israel who would be David. So out of the sons of Jesse, God had planned to raise up another man to rule over Israel. No matter what the people of our nation think concerning their choice for president, unless our choice is also God's choice, the man or woman will be rejected.

Subject: The Word Of God Gives The Same Warning Today:

The word of God has the same meaning today as it had centuries ago. Listen to II Samuel 23:1-3:

- Verse 1 Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said,
- Verse 2 The spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue.
- Verse 3 The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

It is dangerous for leaders of nations trying to operate the affairs of the world without recognizing God. When kings and rulers of nations get to the place that they will leave God out of their program for rulership, Isaiah 24:17 teaches that fear, the pit, and the snare will be upon them.

God intended for rulers of nations to rule in righteousness, recognizing the fact that it is God who sets up and takes down kings and rulers. When rulers of nations fail to rule in righteousness, their subjects become wicked like they are. It is then the duty of the God sent preacher to warn them of the dangers of falling away from God. When the preacher fails to warn them, then God is going to start house cleaning and punish the rulers for their wickedness, and the people for following them to support their wickedness.

If the preacher can keep the people and the leaders faithful in their church attendance and obeying God, the conditions which Isaiah spoke of would never come upon the people. However, when the preacher ceases to admonish the people, to watch over them, and becomes indifferent or slothful in his ministry, the preacher would be responsible for the inhabitants of the nation to be destroyed.

Subject: Childbearing:

After God joined a male and female in holy matrimony, He ordered them to be fruitful and multiply, and to replenish the earth with people. In this order God delegated the honor of creating the rest of the people of this world to the male and female. God therefore helped to arrange things so that by this means, and this means only, could people come into existence. So when a woman or man destroys a child, they would have violated God's plan and thereby fall into condemnation as transgressors of God's law.

It was by means of the blood of Jesus Christ that gave us eternal life. If by any means blood is shed by destroying the life of a person, such a person will be charged as a murderer according to Genesis 9:5:

Verse 5 - And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.

Since women were commanded by God to bear children, it should be a pleasure for them to do so. This command functioning in its orderly channel causes the woman to desire to have special love for a child that is different from affections for pets and animals. This is natural affection that will cause the woman to administer natural love. So then, when a woman realizes that she has become a mother, instead of preventing and dreading the privilege to bear a child, she will appreciate the honor.

Subject: God Knows Every Child Before They Are Born:

Before a child is born or formed in its mother's womb God knows the child, and has made available the benefits of the plan of salvation. In some cases the child is destined by God to be great; and in other cases the child will be insignificant. Nevertheless the soul of the child is precious to God, and is a child that Jesus died for to be saved.

God is very much concerned that the child find salvation early in life. If the mother does anything to prevent this child from coming into existence, she will be working against the plan of God, and will have to give an account to God in the judgment. Before a child is born, every child is named by God, and not by the

mother or father as many may think; but God puts the name in the mind of the parents before it is announced.

God gave Adam the privilege of naming every beast by putting the names in the mind of Adam. A child's name is written in heaven first before it is given to the parents to name the child. Listen to Jeremiah 1:5:

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

What God does for one child as the scriptures teach, He does for every child. Every child that is born, God puts the child's name in the book of life. Every child is born saved until they reach the approximate age of seven years being mentally mature enough to know right from wrong. At such age the child's name is taken out of the book of life unless the child repents and receives the new birth in Christ.

Subject: What About Evolution?

Science claims that all life sprang from what is referred to as protozoa. Science is good for knowledge concerning modern medicine and inventions that make life more survivable, but you have to watch science when it conflicts with the knowledge of God's word.

Adam was the son of God. Man was created in the image and likeness of God. Man did not develop through evolution from a lower species of animals such as an ape or monkey, as science proclaims. Man was created by God from the dust of the earth. After God formed man from the earth, He breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul, being more intelligent than all other species of the animals.

When Christ was born into the world, He was the only begotten Son of God, which means He was a part of God, while all other humans were a part of the earth. When God saves a person, He adopts the person from their origin of the earth, and the Spirit of God adopts such people into the family of God, and we through Christ became adopted sons and daughters by the power of the Holy Spirit. Listen to Ephesians 1:4-5; God did not adopt any animals into His holy family.

Verse 4 - According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Verse 5 - Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.

Subject: All Blood Is The Same (Acts 17:26):

All that God wants to see in us is a good heart. God will give salvation to those who have good hearts. God could care less about what ethnic origin a person came from; He is only interested in the heart or mind. Men are foolish to consider the question of color of the skin when the Bible plainly tells us that out of one blood God made all nations to dwell upon the face of the earth, and set the bounds of their habitation (Acts 17:26).

Because races are physically, socially and religiously separate does not mean that blood is different. Races may differ, skin colors may differ and languages may differ, but if a person is dying and needs the blood of another person to save them, the blood of any race can save the person if it is their blood type such as, <u>A</u> positive, <u>B</u> positive, or <u>O</u>, which is universal.

Physical differences give a distinction that makes it possible to identify people, but they do not represent differences in blood. The word of God confirms the fact that all blood is the same for all races of people.

<u>AFTERWORD</u>

We hope that you have enjoyed reading Volume 28 of Saved from Sin. In addition, the hope is that you have been enlightened and educated regarding God's plan of salvation, and the requirements for being saved from sin and acquiring eternal life. Remember, "Today is the day of salvation", that is, the day to be delivered from a life of sinful practices. Jesus is able to give you the ability and power to do so, if that is your desire.

Jesus keeps the door of opportunity open that whosoever will might come to God and be saved from sin. However, there is an allotted time for the grace of God to be available. No one knows the day nor the hour when Jesus will return to the earth for those who have been saved from sin. Why take a chance? **"Today is the day of salvation"!**

