# **SAVED FROM SIN**

# (FROM THE INSPIRED SERMONS OF ALONZO F. KILGORE)



**Volume 17** 

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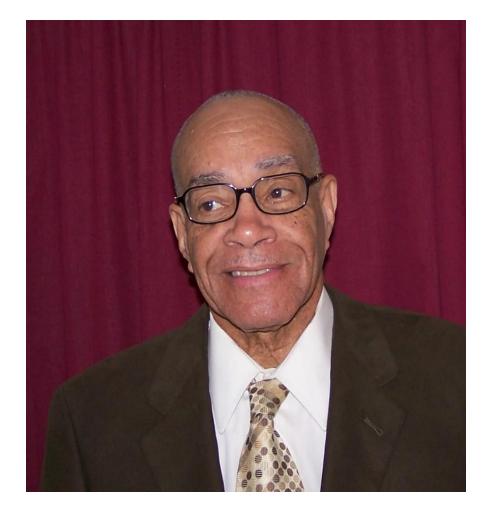
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**ELDER ALONZO F. KILGORE** 

### **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 XVII of Saved from Sin. If you have read prior volumes of Saved from Sin, and studied the messages closely, it is hoped that you are learning the process of salvation and acquiring a desire to follow the teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, so that you can be saved from sin. The sermons in this volume continue to guide you into the processes of salvation.

You can only be taught how to be saved from sin correctly by someone who has experienced it and who is ordained by God to do so. Elder Kilgore meets both of these qualifications. Therefore, through divine inspiration and assistance, he is able first to live the gospel, then teach, and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and guide others into the path of salvation.

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



### INTRODUCTION

### God Has Not Concealed The Knowledge Of His Plan From Man:

God has not kept the knowledge of His plan from man. God through the Holy Scriptures has given us a thorough and complete revelation of His plan for creating this world, and placing man in charge. The scriptures very carefully outline the work of redemption because God knew before He created the world that man would sin.

The plan of God was implemented to bring unsaved men and women to salvation if they would accept the process for redemption that God made available. When God created Adam it was not just for Adam to live forever as a righteous person; but also for those who would be born later after Adam sinned to have a chance to enjoy eternal life.

For those who reject the offer that God has made for the unsaved world, God also included in His plan the final judgment for the unsaved. The climax of God's plan will take place after time ends, and eternity begins. Time will soon end and the full forces of God's plan for the world will go into effect for the saved and the unsaved. The saved will receive life more abundantly and the unsaved will receive the judgment. The finality of God's plan will be according to the scriptures.

The gospel will be preached as a witness throughout the world so that no human being will be able to stand before the judgment seat of Christ, and say that they did not know the doors of salvation were open to them. The end of time will be the end of this world as it is presently existing. It will be the end of seasons and rulerships of governments of the world. It will be the end of crimes, violence, sicknesses and false religious teachings. It will be the end of wealth for some, and poverty for others. All who are not saved will experience the end of their lives in flesh and blood bodies.

When the end of this world comes, the conditions of the earth will change so quickly that all who are unsaved will go into a state of mental shock. The saved people will be quickly taken from the earth and secured by Jesus leaving their unsaved friends and relatives on the earth to experience conditions that would be unbelievable if they were told about such conditions before they happened. All this will happen to the unsaved world because the unsaved would have cultivated a sinful environment declared by God to be beyond redemption as it was in the days of Noah. God would then be grieved that He had ever made man. Listen to Genesis 6:5-6:

- Verse 5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- Verse 6 And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

When the sins of man are beyond redemption, the alternative is for God to destroy man and his environment. Such sinful habits come about when man is overwhelmed with desires to satisfy the appetites of the flesh or sinful cravings. When man seeks to gratify such cravings, rather than to believe all that is written for deliverance in Christ, the finality of man's alternative will be eternal destruction in a sea of fire and brimstone.

### The Bible:

The Bible is the word of God. It is the voice of God, and a light to guide you in this dark and benighted world. Whenever you are trying to go to another city, it will be good to have a map, or directions on how to get there.

The Bible gives directions on how to get to a city whose builder and maker is God. The Bible is a map that can direct you from this life into eternal life. It gives a description of all the things that you must experience as you pass through this life to eternal life. It will help you to know when you are on the right course, or when you are off course from your destiny.

The Bible has a spiritual teacher to help you to understand the instructions that it gives. The teacher is the Holy Spirit. God assigns the Holy Spirit to help you follow the directions in the Bible when you are sincere about reaching your destination. The Bible will very plainly illustrate to you that you don't have a continuing city in this present world.

# The Scriptures Are Very Clear And Exact:

There were many during Jesus' days on earth as well as today who have failed to understand the messages in the scriptures. If at anytime or place that a person is sincere about receiving the messages in the scriptures, God will send a Holy Ghost filled preacher to teach the person. The scriptures are very clear and

precise, but false religious leaders of today, just as the priest and Levites of Jesus' day, have translated the scriptures in an incorrect, misleading, confusing and adulterated language. Most people of today will take a preacher at face value, believing the weaknesses of their interpretation of the scriptures.

The main purpose of the scriptures as was given initially by Moses in the law of Mt. Sinai was to make the people understand that when sin was in their lives, it separated man from God and eventually caused man to destroy himself. Sin is a self-judging and self-destructing process that man can only escape from in Christ. Christ is the only solution that God provided for man to escape sin. If man fails to accept the instructions given in the gospel of Jesus Christ, he will do that which will destroy himself. To be a sinner is to live a life of self-destruction that is not apparent unless it is revealed by means of Jesus' gospel.

The scriptures give instructions to show a person how to do that which is wise, safe and right. This is the process of salvation that Jesus brought to the world that man might have a means of escape from sin. God is love, and for that reason He warns and instructs, telling man what the end of a life of sin will be. When a person receives the instructions given by God, he will see that sin corrupts the mind and destroys the body and soul.

Christ took the listeners of His day back to the Holy Scriptures given of God by the Holy Ghost bringing their attention to men who spoke as prophets of God to tell men the results of sin as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. The law given by God to Moses was the beginning of man's knowledge of what would happen if he continued in sin. Afterward prophets were raised up and inspired of God to cry night and day warning men who disregarded the law that Moses had given. The prophets did not make new laws, but simply continued to remind the disobedient and wayward that their continued disregard for the law of God would surely bring death. In some instances, the messages of the prophets were heeded, and many were saved by the mercy of God that guided them to safety because of their obedience. Yet millions through the ages have hardened their hearts, stiffened their necks, and boldly defied the warnings of the prophets.

In many situations through the centuries, the people's attitudes toward the law and their behavior patterns were inconsistent. Outwardly, they kept the words of the law as frontlets between their eyes, and wrote them in their homes and places of business. They also recited it to their children and in their testimonies, but they failed to keep the significant truths that the word of God contained. Therefore, Jesus took their minds back to all that Moses and the prophets said; Christ called them fools, and slow of heart to believe.

In spite of man's education, pride and conceit through the ages, it is clear that every word of God revealed through Moses and the prophets is faithful and true up to this present day. The word of God is true, and the judgment of God is sure. It will come to pass that God shall bring every work into judgment with every secret thing whether it be good or whether it be evil. Man's belief or disbelief will not alter the force of the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

The word of God teaches us in (II Peter 3:9-13) that the final end of all things will come to those who disobey God. The entire world in which man has sinned and marred the glory of God shall come to an end. The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. But God is going to re-create the earth to be an eternal holy habitation for those who are saved.

# The Star In The East:

The birth of Jesus was a death sentence for Satan. God sent Jesus into the world that He might destroy the works of the devil. After Jesus was sent to the world the devil realized that Jesus had a name that all the forces of evil could not defeat nor excel the power in the name of Jesus. It is by the name of Jesus that people of the earth could be saved from the miseries brought upon them by Satan.

Prior to Jesus being sent to the earth, the devil was tormenting the people of the earth at will. Today when the devil hears the name of Jesus coming from a person with clean hands and a pure heart he trembles. The devil hates to hear the words that magnify the birth of Jesus Christ. Such words against the works of the devil are an announcement for his doom. If we are born again we don't have to worry about the wicked works of the devil, because God is going to push him out of the earth by the power and might of His Son Jesus.

There was a star that was in the east; it was the Star of Bethlehem. This star brought a bright light, and hope to the world that a deliverer was coming to deliver us from the evil works of the devil. The star was a sign from God that the Messiah was on the way, and that the world had a hope that a Savior was being sent from above to deliver us from the miseries that Satan had brought upon the world. When this star was placed in the east, all heaven and earth could proclaim that salvation for the world was in the making. The message by the prophets that Emmanuel was on the way, and God would be with us to deliver us from the forces of evil was being fulfilled.

# Jesus Is The Only Way Into The Kingdom Of Heaven:

It is of no profit for me to preach that you are going to heaven when the way that you are living will keep you out. It is my purpose to show you what it takes to get into the kingdom of heaven. Your qualifications to enter the kingdom of heaven must be established by the way you live. Your own ways can keep you out of the kingdom of heaven if they are not God's ways.

When Adam broke the law that was given by God, those who were born after Adam inherited his ways. After Adam sinned, God established a new way for man to enter the kingdom of heaven in Christ. Jesus is the only way that God has made available for man to enter the kingdom of heaven. If a person tries to enter heaven by some other way other than the way that Jesus has presented, such ways will cause the person to be judged by God as a thief and a robber. So then, it is not your religious ways of worshiping, but your obedience to the way that Jesus taught that will put you in the correct way to get to heaven.

# <u>Spiritual Sight (An Anointing):</u>

God has given us two kinds of sight. We have two different abilities to see. We have physical abilities to see and spiritual abilities. Our spiritual abilities allows us to perceive or understand, where-as our physical sight allow us to see physical objects in the world around us. When the word of God is read with the physical eye, God gives power to the spiritual eye by the Holy Spirit to perceive or to understand what the word is teaching.

Without the Holy Spirit assisting your spiritual eye, you will not be able to understand the word of God. Physical things are seen in the world by your physical eyes; but spiritual things of God are hidden from a natural mind. A natural mind that has not been anointed by the Holy Spirit cannot perceive nor understand knowledge of God's word. Listen to I Corinthians 2:7 and 10:

Verse 7 - But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory.

Only the Spirit of God can reveal the knowledge of God's word.

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

You can only be given Spiritual eyes from the Holy Spirit. Spiritual eyes are a gift from God. Those who do not have the gift of spiritual eyes are in darkness or ignorance of the knowledge of the word of God. Education and intelligence do not give you spiritual eyes; you must receive an anointing. Listen to I John 2:27:

Verse 27 - But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

The anointing is a preparation process that the Holy Spirit gives your mind expanding your ability to understand the word of God. The anointing elevates your mind to a spiritual level of comprehension so that you can apply the spiritual knowledge of your mind to the spiritual conditions of your life. The anointing helps you to compare the spiritual needs of your life to the spiritual knowledge of God to elevate your way of living to be on the same spiritual level with the teachings of the word of God. The anointing does not come from the world, but from God. I Corinthians 2:12-13:

- Verse 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.
- Verse 13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

# The Meek Shall Inherit The Earth:

As a saved child of God in this present world you should not try to exalt yourself to a higher position of authority on your job, in politics, or any social endeavors, such as a religious leader in a church. God will promote and place His

people in the positions that He has ordained for them to hold. You should remain in the position that you are in until the time appointed of the Father to promote you.

Promotions for a saved person come from God. The scriptures teach that a child of God is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the Father, and will eventually be heirs to all that the Father's possesses. Listen to Galatians 4:1-2:

Verse 1 - Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all.

When you are saved, you are a child of God though you may be a full grown adult. Those who have authority over you are like tutors and governors over a child in a wealthy person's estate.

Verse 2 - But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.

God has appointed a time when He is going to give all of those who are saved an inheritance of the new earth, but in the meantime, they are under the authority of rulers of this present world. Listen to Psalm 37:9-11:

- 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.

# A New Paradise:

God created the earth in the beginning for the upright and holy man and woman, and by transgression, they fell. The earth was first created to be a paradise, and to be inhabited by Adam in joy, peace, and happiness. However, if

people today obey God, they can be redeemed from Adam's transgression, and the paradise of God will restored to them.

The gospel of Jesus Christ has been given to the people of the earth to teach them how to rule themselves so that when God gives them the new earth, there will be no government by any dictator, or rulers to govern the people. Everybody will be self-governed. In this present world, the reason that people need law enforcement and laws to govern them is because they cannot govern themselves.

God is going to commission the Holy Spirit to occupy and have full control over those who will be saved when Jesus returns. This is so that it will administer a complete work of holiness and self-discipline in those who will be a part of this new civilization.

# God's Purpose Will Be Fulfilled For His People:

The day will come when God will have fulfilled His purpose for His people. At this time, there will be no more temptations from the devil to entice them to commit sin. Every person will have full control over their actions, and no forces of evil will be able to make them do other than the will of God.

Today, people with the devil's spirit would like to fill saved people with envy, hate, and every evil way. One day real soon, the people of God are going to be completely delivered from the evil of this present world. The world is now under the authority of men who rule it by law, but God shall bring things to pass so that those who are now ruling will not rule anymore. The day is coming when all who did not get saved and failed to accept Jesus Christ will not be living on the earth. Listen to Malachi 4:1:

Verse 1 - For, behold, the day cometh, that 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.

The day is coming when everything in the world shall be burned up, but that will not be the end. When this happens, there will be unsaved people on the earth who rejected Jesus Christ, and the plan of salvation. God is not going to wait for everybody to die when He burns this world. Listen carefully: When Jesus shall descend from heaven with the voice of an archangel, the dead in Christ shall rise

first, and those who are saved and living shall be taken into heaven out of the reach of the destruction, the unsaved shall be left (I Thessalonians 4:16-17).

Those who enjoyed sinful pleasures and the wealth of this world, and failed to accept Jesus Christ will be left. All such people will be burned and made stubble; however, they will live again, but not in the same bodies. The wicked, unsaved spirit that was in their bodies will be given a new body that cannot die, but will be prepared by God to live in a state of misery on the earth for a thousand years.

Those who were saved upon Jesus' return will be given bodies that will live in the kingdom of heaven forever. The spirit of the people upon Jesus' return will determine the kind of bodies that they get, and where they will live. The saved people will be taken back with Jesus, and the unsaved will remain on the earth to be in a world of misery. The Spirit of God will take the saved people to heaven and the spirit of the devil will cause the unsaved to remain on the earth.

After a thousand years have passed, the unsaved will be turned into hell to experience everlasting torment, while those who were saved will be living in heaven with God. Upon Jesus' return, the flesh and blood bodies of the unsaved will be burned. They will be given new bodies that will never die, but will be prepared for everlasting torment in a lake of fire and brimstone.

# What Will Happen During The Thousand Years After Jesus Takes The Saved People To Heaven?

During the thousand years while the saved people are in heaven with God and Christ, nothing will be on the earth but wicked people living in a world of misery. God is going to let the wicked see that without the devil, who will be in a pit, they are more wicked than the devil. The devil will be bound for this thousand years (Revelation 20:7-8).

The bodies of all wicked men and women will be destroyed and they will be given new bodies. Upon the first resurrection of the saved, the same day that the saved are delivered with Jesus, the unsaved will be burned. The fire of God will fall upon the unsaved just as it did in Sodom after God delivered Lot and his family. Listen carefully to St. Luke 17:28-29 and 30:

Verse 28 - Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

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

Verse 30 - Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

# The New-Birth Sets Us Free From The Law:

When we are born again, God has set us free through faith in the teachings of Jesus Christ from the condemnation of the law. We don't need a law to govern us, because we live above what the law forbids. For those who have not been born again, this privilege has not been extended to them. God's plan is to establish righteousness in the new heaven and earth, so that those who live there will be under the rulership of God in their hearts. God's Spirit will dwell in their hearts and rule them by love rather than by laws.

The presence of God is with you if you obey Him and keep His commandments. His goodness will go before you. Today, though you are a servant, you will be lifted to a position of trust. God exalts you when you obey Him. You are a servant waiting for the fullness of time when God's plan for His people will be implemented.

While you live in this present world, you are led by the Spirit of God. However, the day will come when the Spirit will completely renew you in holiness to be a part of God's eternal plan, and to live in an eternal habitation that God has prepared.



# CHAPTER 1 WHERE WILL YOU SPEND ETERNITY?

# **Subject: Are You Prepared For Eternity?**

When you are young, trying to prepare yourself for life, it is necessary that you be given knowledge from the word of God about life. Unless you are given knowledge from God about life when you are young, your perception of life can deceive you. You must understand that just as surely as you have begun to live, that your life in this present world will surely end, but the eternal part of your life will be just beginning.

Eternity just starts for you after your life in the physical body ends. Now you might have some knowledge about life ending in this physical body, because you know about friends and relatives who have passed on. However, knowledge is not much good for you unless you can use it effectively to be for your best benefit. Now you might know that you had nothing to do with being born, but when you came here, and saw this great big world, you began to wonder how to deal with problems and troubles of life. Some problems were not serious, or life threatening, but you had to learn how to solve them.

So as life went on for you, you heard a preacher preach about eternal life at a funeral of a deceased person. So you are concerned about the point in your life when this flesh and blood body will cease to exist, and what will happen to your soul that you learned about, and that there is a scripture in the book of Job 14:14 that says, "If a man die, shall he live again?..." Now listen carefully: The Lord who gave you the life which you now possess has given you the promise that if you repent of your sins, and keep His commandments, that He will give you the Holy Spirit, which causes you to be born again, and though you die, you can live again in the kingdom of heaven forever.

So in answer to the question in the book of Job 14:14, if a man dies, he can live again with God eternally if he chooses to accept God's terms for acquiring eternal life. If a man dies and does not accept God's terms, he will nevertheless live again, but he will live with the damned in a lake of fire and brimstone to be tormented throughout eternity.

The knowledge of eternal life is given by the Holy Spirit so that if a person hears it, and desires to believe what they heard, the Holy Ghost will implant this knowledge into the listener's mind and nothing will have power to remove it. No false religious teaching will be able to replace nor compete against the knowledge of the word of God that the Holy Spirit puts in a person's mind.

So when you learn about God while you are young, you should remember your creator in the days of your youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

# **Subject: More About Eternity:**

The existence of humans living in eternity is not revealed to humans while they are living in this present world, unless they are born again. Only the Holy Spirit can reveal things about life in eternity. Everybody is going to live again after his or her physical body dies. Your existence in a physical, flesh and blood body is a temporary existence to determine where you will spend eternity. Your soul or mind is the part of your existence that will live in eternity. If you have been born again, you will experience a renewing of your mind, or soul, which will prepare you for a new life in eternity with God in heaven.

If you are not born again, only a Holy Ghost filled preacher can teach you about eternity. Just as surely as your life in time has begun, it will surely end, because things that exist in time are temporary. Now you had nothing to do with being born into an existence of time, but you will have everything to do with where you are going to spend eternity. It will be your choice to determine where you will spend eternity.

When your physical body ceases to exist, your mind or soul will live on according to the promise of God. If you are saved, you will receive another body in the first resurrection like the body which Jesus had when He came forth from the grave. Though you will die, you will also live again (Job 14:14). The Lord, who gave you the life that 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 with Him.

Now many have accepted the fact that they are going to die, but they think that there's nothing more to their existence after death. Such believers will wake up in another existence that will be a complete surprise and a new venture of torment and misery. The knowledge of man's existence in eternity given by God through the Holy Ghost was so that man might understand that God never planned that man should die when He created man. There is no meaning for man's existence to God unless he lives again with God in eternity. God so loved man that He gave His only begotten Son so that man might have everlasting life.

# **Subject: The Resurrection:**

Only your faith can give you a witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, it substantiates your belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit causes the life of Christ to be

resurrected in your life. When this happens, you are a true witness to the resurrection of Christ. If Christ is not risen in your life then your faith is vain, and you will be a false witness of Christ. 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.

In order for Christ to be risen in your life, you must also be partaker of Christ's crucifixion. This means your carnal life of sinful practices must be crucified with Christ, and the new life that you live will be Christ living in you. Listen to Galatians 2:20:

Verse 20 - I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

# Subject: Is Your Hope In The Resurrection Of Jesus Christ?

Whenever your hope is in the promises of the word of God, the resurrection of Jesus Christ will keep your hope motivating you to obey the word of God. Your hope will be nothing less than Jesus Christ and His righteousness. To hope for anything less than the promises of God is vanity. It is because Jesus lives that our hope can live. God will give the Holy Spirit to those who have hope in the promises of God. Such people will adore the birth of Jesus, and truly thank God for His resurrection.

When folk don't believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the mystery of godliness will be hidden from them. The plan of salvation is only revealed to those who are willing to accept it. Jesus was so endowed with the love God gave to save the people of the world that He spoke the truth in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. Jesus taught that though God had promised death to those who died in disobedience to Him, that God's love had sent Him to change the program by His dying for those who had been condemned by their sins.

The message which Jesus brought was hope for every person. Satan was the adversary of God and man who brought doubt into the minds of those who saw Jesus die that they would ever see Him again in life. Even the disciples of Jesus

scattered at His crucifixion in doubt of whether or not they would see Him again. Until this present day many of the precious seed of Abraham doubt that Jesus ever rose, but there were also those who did believe and waited for Jesus' resurrection.

The angels said unto Mary and her companion when they were looking for Jesus at the grave site, "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen". The day of the resurrection of Jesus was the brightest day that the world has ever seen. Jesus was a wonderful and great Savior. God had all the experiences of Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection recorded in the Bible for our learning and information that we might rejoice in knowing that we have salvation, and that death is only a sweet dream to those who are born again.

# **Subject: The Saints Will Judge The World:**

The world is a system that has been built up by laws to govern man, and to discipline the actions of men against their fellow man. That system of governing is now coming to an end. God sent the prophet Isaiah to prophesy that an introduction to a new system of governing the actions of man would be sent to the earth by one called Immanuel. This meant that God Himself would come to the earth bringing the government of heaven upon His shoulder (Isaiah 7:14).

God would at such time stay on the earth for 33 years teaching about the government of heaven. The people of the earth would then have first-hand knowledge of the government of heaven to either accept, or reject the knowledge. Isaiah also prophesied that the people of the earth would suffer after rejecting the government of heaven. Listen to Isaiah 24:4:

Verse 4 - The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish.

Those who have been proud, stiff necked and haughty are now coming to naught. Kings and rulers are seeing their weaknesses, and are seeking help from one another, but such help is vain. There is only one source of help, and that is God. The earth is suffering because they have changed the meaning of laws which the government of heaven presented. Listen to Isaiah 24:5:

Verse 5 - The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the

ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.

The word of God as prophesied by the prophet Isaiah foretold of what God promised to do in these last days of this present world. God is also calling together unto Himself those who desire to be saints, and have made a covenant with the saints. Saints are a small amount of born again believers called the remnant that represent God to the world of a truth. They are living examples of representatives of the government of the kingdom of heaven; they live sin-free.

The world is now about to climax its system of government, and God is going to use the saints to judge the world. Listen to I Corinthians 6:2-3:

- Verse 2 Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? 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: Many Will Be Ashamed Upon His Appearance:**

An unsaved person would be ashamed to go to a church assembly where none of the members committed sins. Multitudes of people will be ashamed in the presence of Jesus Christ when He returns. There are many Christians who believe that Jesus is going to change them from sinners to saints after His second appearance. The truth is, the same shame that sinners will have in the congregation of righteous people, they will also have in the presence of Jesus upon His second appearance. Jesus is going to take unsaved people by surprise upon His second appearance. Their unreadiness will cause them to retreat into a state of fear, shame and condemnation. Listen to 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.

# **Subject: Qualifications To Enter The Kingdom Of Heaven:**

You have to acquire the qualifications to live in heaven while you are living on the earth. There will be only love, peace, and joy in the character of those who live in heaven. These qualities must be the substance of your character while you are on the earth in order for you to get into heaven. Hatred, envy, strife, malice and covetousness will not be in those who go to heaven. When a person repents of their sins, God will give the person the Holy Spirit to purge the person from such sins. The Holy Spirit will make a person pure in heart.

# **Subject: Christ Disarmed Death For Born Again Believers:**

The Bible is the word of God, which was written by holy men, but dictated by the Spirit of God. The Bible teaches that God made man out of the dust of the earth and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. Adam was created from the dust of the earth and all humans are the offspring of Adam. God planted Adam to be a seed to the world and all humans are the fruit of Adam just as apples are the fruit of apple trees.

Your physical body came from the seed of Adam, but your soul, mind, or spiritual part of your existence came from God. This was a gift from God. This gift of life caused man to become a living, physical being with the ability to think, feel, and act. The spiritual part of man, which is his soul or mind, controls the physical part, which is the body.

The spiritual part is what God wants to save or regenerate to a higher level of holiness, because Adam demoted man to a low level of carnality to be born a sinner. God has offered a plan in Christ to save the spiritual part of man by giving the soul a new birth. The new-birth in Christ would have power to activate the body into a life of righteousness.

After a man accepts the process of being born again, God will one day see to it that those who obey Him will have another body, and will give it a new life to live in the kingdom of heaven, just as He gave us our present life to live on earth. Make no mistake about the knowledge of your existence; your mind or soul is going to continue to live after the body dies.

Your body is going back to the dust and your breath is going back to God. Your soul can only be saved by your choice to obey God while you are living in this present world. Your soul is the moral center of production that generates

desires and thoughts to do right or wrong. Only God can save your soul, and give it power by the Holy Spirit to do right. The power of the Holy Spirit gives your soul the new-birth of holiness, which will cause your body to perform a life of righteousness.

God has made this plan available for the salvation of man because He has promised man everlasting life if man obeys Him. God did not create man to die; man dies because of disobedience. The death of humans was not an act of God, but an act of self-destruction by man. Christ was sent by God to enter into the territory of death when He was crucified to disarm the power of death for those who were willing to obey His gospel.

Today death has no power against an obedient child of God. When the life of a child of God comes to an end, the power of God transforms death into a peaceful rest in paradise, or the third heaven. If a person has not been born again, then death will cause their souls or minds to enter into a lake of fire and brimstone to be forever tormented.

# **Subject: More About Your Mind Or Soul:**

Now you can lie down on your bed at night to sleep, and your body can be completely inactive, but your mind can be in another city or town talking about business that you have planned. Your mind is your soul that can live, and be involved in other affairs of life without your body. When your body experiences death, your mind will be looking for another place to dwell in.

Your mind or soul is the part of your existence that God gave you. Only God can create a mind or soul. God created your mind or soul to live forever. Nothing can eradicate the existence of your mind or soul. This is the spiritual part of your existence that will live throughout eternity. Your mind or soul carries your senses. It has the sense of feeling, hearing, seeing, and your emotions. This part of your existence is eternal.

If you are not saved, when your body dies, the devil will capture your mind or soul and hold it as a prisoner in a state of misery. All of the souls of unsaved people that have died are being held in captivity by the devil. Such souls will be with the devil until the second resurrection. At such time, the judgment of God will be served upon the unsaved souls along with the devil to receive a sentence of the second death to spend eternity in a lake of fire and brimstone (Revelations 21:8).

# Subject: Everybody Will Be Given A New Body: The Saved And The Unsaved:

God owns everything in His creation and those who control the wealth of the world are like servants in a wealthy family's estate. God is the wealthy person, and those who are saved are like children in the wealthy family's estate. The child will one day be the ruler of the estate. This world is now in the hands of men who rule it by law. However, the servant doesn't abide in the house indefinitely, but the child of the wealthy family does. The day is coming when people who are here now won't be here. 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.

The day is coming when everything in the world shall be burned up, but that will not be the end. The entire creation came from the earth, and when it is burned to ashes, it will return to the earth. Now there will be those who will be living on the earth when God gets ready to burn the earth. God will not wait for everybody to die. Jesus shall descend from heaven with the voice of an archangel, and the dead in Christ shall rise first, and shall be taken to meet Jesus out reach of the destruction (I Thessalonians 4:16). The unsaved or wicked shall be left.

Those who have made the wealth of the world their gods, and made the unsaved people their servants will be left with all sinners wealthy or poor. The day will come when all the unsaved will be 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. The life of the old bodies will be placed in new bodies for the saved and the unsaved.

The spirit that controlled the life of the person's old body will be given a new body according to the spirit in the life of their old body. If they had the spirit of the devil, which was an unsaved spirit that committed sin, they will be given a new body prepared to endure the miseries of everlasting torment. Everybody will live again. Their new bodies will not be able to die, but to suffer. Only the Spirit of God will go to heaven. All those who were saved will be taken out of the destruction and given new bodies to meet Jesus before the fire falls on the earth.

The wicked or unsaved will be turned into hell, but the wicked will have new bodies to enter hell that will never die. Now the devil will be bound in a pit for a thousand years when this takes place (Revelation 20:1-6). God is going to let the wicked see that without the devil they will nevertheless be wicked. God has never failed to keep His word.

# **Subject: What About Hell?**

Though life in this present world can be miserable at times, this is not hell. The miseries of this present world can be just a taste of hell. You can find times of relief from the troubles of this present world, but in hell you won't get a break. Though you will see actions of sin every day in this world, you will also meet some people that will present the spirit of love and kindness. In hell there will be no place of comfort, or relaxation for sinners who will be there. Everybody will be mad and hating one another.

Now the good thing about your stay in this present world is that you can make the choice of where you would like to spend eternity. Your choice will be made by your conduct in this present world. When God sees that you desire to be kind, polite, charitable, faithful, and loving towards your fellow man, He will give you the Holy Spirit to stabilize these qualities in your life. When you get the Holy Spirit, you are qualified to spend eternity with God in heaven. The Holy Spirit will be your escort into the kingdom of heaven after life in this world ends.

On the other hand, if you live hateful and rebellious against that which is right in this life, and do not accept the truth of God's word, God will then give you in hell throughout eternity that which you showed Him you desired while you lived in this world. Your choice of the way you liked to live in this world will also be your choice of how you will live in eternity.

## **CHAPTER 2**

# A NEW LIFE WITH CHRIST FOR THE SAVED

#### Subject: Are You Sure You Are Going To Heaven?

Most people who attend some church think that they are going to heaven. Heaven is the dwelling place of God. No darkness can come in the presence of God. Darkness is a symbol of sin, and is contrary to God. There will be no night in heaven (Revelation 21:25). The beautiful city that is called the New Jerusalem, which will be the metropolis of God's new world, is now being built in heaven. No night will ever be in heaven because the presence of God will light the new city.

The scriptures teach how to get into that new city. You need to be filled with the Holy Spirit, which means you are born again of the Holy Spirit to get into this new city. Under no conditions will a person get into the kingdom of heaven without being filled with the Holy Spirit. You will not be able to get the Holy Spirit upon Jesus' return; neither will you get the Holy Spirit while you are in route to heaven. You must get the Holy Spirit while you are living in this present world.

You must also go through a period of being tested and tried to prove that you have the Holy Spirit. Such test will not be to prove to God that you have the Holy Spirit, but to prove to yourself. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, God will allow you to be tried so that you will know that you have been born again to keep you from being deceived.

The only sure evidence that you have been filled with the Holy Spirit is when you can go through a period of being tried by the devil who will tempt you to commit sin, and if you are able to resist the temptations, it means you are filled with the Holy Ghost. Only the Holy Ghost has power to resist the temptations to commit sin.

## Subject: God's Will Is Being Done Today In Those Who Are Saved:

Jesus is coming back to the earth to get those who are born again. He is going to take the saved people to heaven where everything will be theirs to enjoy. All the saved people will be joined together in one spirit to be unified in holiness forever. The Holy Spirit has started this process while they are living in this present world, and will complete it in the kingdom of heaven.

Those who have received Jesus while they are living in this present world have been kept by the power of the Holy Spirit for the day of the first resurrection

when Jesus will return for them. In the kingdom of heaven and on the new earth, everyone who has obeyed God shall be one with God and Jesus.

God's will has been done in their lives while they lived on the earth, and it will continue to be done in heaven (Matthew 6:10). Jesus prayed to God that His will be done in earth as it is in heaven, and God is going to answer that prayer. The saved people of today are the fulfillment of the answer to Jesus' prayer.

#### **Subject: A New Life For Those Who Are Saved:**

There are many people living during this present time being so involved in pleasures and things of interest that they feel like they are going to be here forever. So few people realize that life in this present world is not permanent. Jesus was sent to the earth to reveal to the world that there is a hope beyond the grave. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are going to be disappointed.

Jesus taught that eternal life is of God, and that there is more to life than the mere pleasures of this world. Life that God offers is continuous joy, peace, and happiness beyond the life in this present world. All the things of this present world will pass away, and God is going to create a new heaven and earth whereas things will be eternal. Those who have become reconciled to God while living in this present world will be recipients of the new life that God is offering in the world to come.

#### **Subject: The New Civilization:**

If you are born again you are a child of God, and an heir of God. Though we may not seem to be important while we live in this world being servants to those who are wealthy, we are nevertheless going to inherit the promises of God. One day according to God's word, we will come into possession of all that God created. The government and rulership that the people of the earth presently possess will be given to the children of God.

God has presently given us the Holy Spirit to teach us how to rule ourselves. The Holy Spirit will help us to conform to be new creatures in Christ, to be upright and holy so that we will be qualified as children of God to inherit the promises. It is the will of God that His children be blessed.

God created the world to be a paradise and to be inhabited by Adam, but by transgression, he fell, but if we obey God's commandments, we can be redeemed in Christ. God is teaching us how to rule ourselves so that when He gives us the new paradise there will be no government by any one person, or group to rule the mass majority. Every person will govern themselves.

While we are living in this present world we are under the restrictions of the law, and we are servants of the law. But God has set us free through faith in the teaching of Jesus so that we can live above what the law forbids. For those who are not born again, they are governed by the law. God's plan is to establish righteousness in the new earth, so that we who are a part of this new civilization will be under the rulership of God who will be living in our hearts.

Today the presence of God is with you if you obey Him and keep His commandments. His goodness will be at your assistance, and later you will be lifted from a position of trust to a position of control and rule.

#### **Subject: The Voice Of Christ:**

The voice of Jesus Christ is going to awaken those who are asleep in Christ. You are asleep in Christ when you die filled with the Holy Spirit. The voice of Christ is going to call all those who are asleep in Christ to get up in the first resurrection. The voice of Christ will also call those who died unsaved to get up in the second resurrection unto damnation.

Those who Jesus calls to get up in the first resurrection will get up to receive eternal life. When the unsaved gets up in the second resurrection, it means that they have done evil while they lived in this present world as sinners. Those who get up in the first resurrection means that they have done good as saints of God while they lived in this present world. 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.

When the time arrives, the angels of the Lord will sound the trumpet and the saved will get up. The saved will awake to see Jesus as He is, because He planned that

the grave should not destroy His people.

Jesus has prolonged His return to keep the door of opportunity open that whosoever will might come to God. Time can be prolonged, but eternity cannot because eternity is indefinite or endless. The soul is precious to God, so God would not leave the souls of humans to be vulnerable to sin without providing a way for man to be liberated.

#### Subject: We Shall Know Him As He Is:

God has to be revealed to us while we are in the natural state. The glory of God is so powerful that no one in the flesh and blood body can look upon Him. When Moses asked God to show Him his glory, the Lord spoke to Moses in Exodus 33:22-23 and said, "And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by: And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen".

When we are given new glorified celestial bodies such as Jesus had after His resurrection, we shall know Him and see Him as He is. After we are ushered into the kingdom of heaven, God is going to take us around the throne and give us our new assigned mansions to live in and feast with us by day and walk with us in the evening. We are going to very soon see Jesus coming in the air to get us, and we shall know Him as He is.



## **CHAPTER 3**

# GOOD NEWS: THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

#### **Subject: The Gospel:**

The gospel of the kingdom of heaven is the best news that the people of the earth have ever received. It is commonly referred to as glad tidings. The gospel gives the people of the earth, who desire to repent of their sins, promises from God to receive salvation. If a person desires to be a beneficiary of God's promises, they must be honest, upright, and pure in their intentions to receive salvation.

If there is any speck of hypocrisy, or false ways that a person desires to retain in their life, then the promises of God will not come to such a person. Only a pure heart and good intentions can attract the Spirit of God, which brings the promises of God to a person. If you have these basic, good qualities in your life, then the Spirit of God will build upon these qualities using the word of God to establish the new-birth in your life.

#### **Subject: God Is Love:**

There are many who believe the Bible is the word of men; and that men wrote the Bible. The Bible is the word of God written by men who were inspired by the Spirit of God to write the Holy Scriptures. They were men to whom God revealed His truth. The Bible teaches that Jesus now sits at the right hand of God, and will be there until every enemy is subdued. Death will be the last enemy that Jesus will conquer. Listen to Hosea 13:14:

Verse 14 - I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

God is saying that He will ransom those who trust Him from the power of the grave. God does not cause death; sin causes death. God is a Savior and giver of life. God administers life, not death. Death comes to those who disobey God. God is love, and His love produces life for those who will receive His love. God loves the world in spite of their sins, and His love caused Him to give His only begotten Son that the world might be saved. If everybody on the earth receives God's love, God will save everybody and give them a mansion in heaven to live forever with joy in the Holy Ghost.

#### **Subject: The Scriptures Are Given For Our Learning:**

The scriptures are given for our learning. God did not give the scriptures for Himself, but for the people of the world. When you desire to know about God, and His dealing with man, find a Holy Ghost filled preacher, and such a preacher can teach the scriptures according to your spiritual level to understanding the scriptures.

Only the Holy Ghost sent preacher can correctly teach the Holy Scriptures. God talks to the world by means of the Holy Spirit using the scriptures. You cannot personally interpret the scriptures when the Holy Ghost is using a preacher to give you a message from God using the scriptures. The spiritual condition of your life will interpret the scriptures for you.

For an example, if you are an adulterer, the scriptures will be presented to you showing you how the life of an adulterer will bring many sorrows, and a damnable ending to your life. All of this knowledge will be given by the Holy Ghost using the scriptures to relate directly to your life of adultery so that you will have an understanding of the scriptures and the consequences of adultery.

#### **Subject: The Letter Killeth But The Spirit Giveth Life:**

You cannot understand the word of God unless it is revealed to you by God's Holy Spirit. You may be able to read the Bible literally, but unless the Holy Spirit gives meaning to what you are reading, your literal reception of the word will leave you spiritually dead to the comprehension of the word. Acquiring a literal interpretation of the word of God is death, but spiritual revelations by the Holy Spirit is life. Listen to II Corinthians 3:5-6:

- Verse 5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God;
- Verse 6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

## Subject: A Spiritual War Requires A Spiritual Weapon To Win:

When you are born into this world, you are born into a war. It is a spiritual war between right and wrong. A spiritual war is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual wickedness. Unless you are born again, you will be fighting for the devil against the righteousness of God.

There are no neutral grounds in this war, neither is there any discharge from the war. If you are not with Christ, you are against Him. Going to church won't put you on the right side to fight, you must have the right spirit to be on the right side, because this is a spiritual war. Listen to Ephesians 6:12 and 17:

Verse 12 - For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

In order to win a spiritual war, you must use the sword of the Spirit, which is knowledge of the word of God.

Verse 17 - And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

## Subject: The New Revised Version Of The Bible Versus The Original King James Version:

God ordained and prepared the men that wrote the Bible. They were moved and inspired by the Holy Ghost to write the Bible. The Holy Ghost transmitted principles of holiness from the mind of God to the minds of Holy Ghost filled men. Holy men did not write the Bible for fame, recognition, prominence or money. They were compelled to write because of the zeal that the Holy Ghost gave them. Nobody can do anything for God unless the Holy Ghost leads them to do it. When the Holy Ghost leads holy men of God to do something, anything that is done contrary is the works of the devil.

In many revised versions of the Bible, there are passages of scriptures that are contrary to what The Original King James Version teaches. In the new revised

version, there are two changes from The Original King James Version which are disturbing. The revised version has deleted the word 'begotten' that makes reference to Jesus being the son of God. It states that God so loved the world that he gave his only Son; they have deleted 'begotten Son' (St. John 3:16). In the book of Isaiah 7:14, the revised version states that the Lord Himself shall give you a sign, behold a 'young woman' shall conceive and bear a son. The Original King James Version states that a 'virgin' shall conceive and bear a son.

A young woman is not necessarily a virgin. This implies that if the young woman was not married and bared a son, the son was born of fornication. However, if a virgin bears a son, then the word virgin annuls the implication of fornication.

#### **Subject: A Road Map To A Continuing City:**

The Bible is the only means by which we can receive information to guide us through this dark, benighted world. If you are going to a place that you have never been, it would be wise to get the correct directions on how to get there. The Bible is like a map that can show you how to get to the kingdom of heaven. The Bible will help you to know when you are nearing the city of God. This present world does not offer a continuing city to give hope for an eternal destiny.

#### **Subject: The Living Word Of God:**

It was the will of God that the people of the earth know Him. Man could only know God through His word, so God made His word flesh that it might dwell among men so that they might see Him and know Him. The purpose of God presenting His word to man was to keep sin out of man. Man cannot have a relationship with God as a sinner, so the word of God who was Jesus was sent to the earth to remove sin from the lives of men and women that they might be reconciled to God. God desired to have an everlasting fellowship with man, so the word was sent for this purpose.

The word of God was not a product of the earth; but of heaven. The word was introduced to the earth by an angel named Gabriel to a Virgin named Mary. The word had more power than the natural ways of the earth, so the word reversed the course of nature and caused a virgin to conceive, and the word that was brought

by Gabriel reproduced itself with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, and at the proper time it brought forth Jesus. Jesus became the living word of God in a human body that had power to remove sin by means of the gospel that it taught. The things Jesus did represented the Father who performed the works.

Jesus spoke the words of His Father and took no credit for Himself. Jesus allowed the human part of Himself to go to the cross and die. This was so that if men and women believed the word of God, though their physical bodies died, their souls would never die, and that they could be later given a new body that would never die like the body that Jesus had after His resurrection. Jesus demonstrated the power in the word of God in His life, death, and resurrection.

#### **Subject: The Word Of God:**

The word of God is a blessing today in the lives of those who obey it, as it was in biblical days. God will manifest the power in the promises that the word of God gives today as a confirmation of His reality in the lives of those who received the word. This manifestation of the reality of God will encourage those who believe the gospel to be faithful and true, and to lean upon God's word. To lean upon the word means to hold it to be so important in your life that you will rely upon it for guidance and strength in this present world, and for hope of deliverance in the life to come.

When you believe the word of God, you will go regularly to the throne of grace in prayer, and confidently make your request known to God. If there is some associate or friend that desires to be saved, you will intercede to the Lord fervently, knowing that He will according to your faith, forgive them of their sins, and convince them that your way is right according to the word of God.

#### **Subject: Only A Humble Mind Can Understand The Bible:**

If you think you are smart, you won't understand the teachings of the scriptures. The Bible is designed by God to confound folk who think that they know a lot. If a person is not born again and filled with the Spirit of God, and they attempt to study the Bible with some previous religious teaching that did not save them, they will get lost in confusion when they study the Bible. Only a humble

mind can read the Bible in proper context. The Bible reads backwards to a conceited mind. The scriptures must be rightly divided in order for a person to acquire an accurate understanding of what God is teaching.

The Holy Spirit, or a Holy Ghost filled preacher is the only means by which a person can be taught the scriptures correctly. Wise men of the world can't understand the word of God with smartness, only humility can understand the scriptures. You must be given the wisdom of God by the Spirit of God to be able to comprehend the knowledge of God. Faith and humility will cause the grace of God to rest upon you.

## Subject: The Word Of God Is Simplified For A Receptive Mind:

You can understand God's word when you have a mind to receive it. Understanding of God's word comes with a receptive mind. The Holy Spirit reveals the word of God to those who have receptive minds. When you have a zeal to know about the Lord, things that would normally seem confusing will be given unto you to know. God's word is simplified for those who have a mind to receive it. The minds of those who don't understand are confused by their conceited way of thinking.

An understanding of God's word is a spiritual blessing. When you receive spiritual blessings it means that you are living in the presence of God. You are a blessed person when your spiritual eyes and ears are opened to receive blessings from God. When you have these spiritual qualities, God can reveal Himself to you to enlighten and warn you of the dangers that lie ahead.

When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, it brings these blessings from God to you. You would then have a spiritual life experiencing the goodness of God. The beauty of salvation would be yours to enjoy while you live in this present world, and a sure promise of eternal life in heaven.

#### **Subject: The Scriptures Can Make You Perfect:**

Everything that is in the Bible was given by inspiration of God so that man might be instructed in righteousness, so that he might be taught how to please God.

Therefore, God gave the Holy Scriptures not by the will of man, but by the will of God. Though man wrote the scriptures, God dictated them by His own Holy Spirit.

The scriptures were given that man might be perfect. There are many who say that nobody can be perfect. If you follow the teachings of the scriptures, the Holy Ghost will help you to obey the scriptures until you reach the level of perfection that the scriptures teach.

God spoke well of Job; the scriptures gave a detailed description of Job's life and character concluding that Job was perfect. Jesus later taught that those who desired to be saved should be perfect even as your Father in heaven is perfect. The scriptures are given as a guide to govern and direct man that he might be thoroughly furnished unto every good work.

# CHAPTER 4 SIN AND REPENTANCE

## Subject: Only The Holy Spirit Can Replace The Sinful Nature:

When humans are born in sin, it is sin that works in them controlling their lives and causing them to be separated from God. Listen to Romans 7:17:

Verse 17 - Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

We cannot remove our sins. Our sins can only be removed when we surrender our lives to Christ. When people desire to have joy and pleasures in life, and are sinners, their sins will be a part of their pleasures. Their sins will cause them to enjoy such things as fornication, adultery, liquor drinking, and illegal drug usage. When sin is in the nature of humans, it causes them to seek for sinful pleasures to satisfy the cravings of the sinful human nature.

Everybody is seeking happiness, but unless the Holy Spirit saves a person from the desires of the sinful nature, they will be deceived by their own sinful desires. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit it burns up the nature of sinful desires and gives you the divine nature of God (St. Matthew 3:11). When you have the nature of God, the Holy Spirit will give you joy. You will then be able to enjoy the fruits of the Holy Spirit that will cause you to rejoice in the Spirit.

Joy from the Holy Spirit is holy joy, which is sin-free. Such joy comes from heaven. The sinful pleasures of the flesh come from the earth, which is contrary to the joy from heaven. Listen to Galatians 5:17:

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.

When you have a sinful nature, you are in the flesh and you cannot rejoice in the Spirit, because the fruits of the Spirit are contrary to sinful desires of the flesh. Listen to Galatians 5:19-23:

- Verse 19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,
- Verse 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath,

strife, seditions, heresies,

Verse 21 - Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: 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.

When you have the Holy Spirit, you can rejoice with fruits of the Spirit, which are as follows:

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

#### **Subject: Man Chooses His Own Fate:**

Man chooses his own fate; God created man with the freedom of will. God instructed man beforehand that if he does certain things what to expect as consequences. When man chooses to ignore or disobey God's instructions, the results will be man's fault, and not God's. God teaches man what sins are. God gave a detailed description of sins in the law that He gave to Moses, and later sent Jesus and His apostles to complete a detailed listing of sins. When man disobeys God's instructions, he allows sin to kill him.

Death does not come from God, neither does sin force death upon man. Man invites death by means of sin, because sin presents itself to man in a way that seems to bring pleasures. So, man allows sin to entice him to pull him away from the life that God offers, and when sin is finished with man, it kills him. Listen to James 1:13-15:

- Verse 13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:
- Verse 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

It is man's own lust that draws him away from his good conduct and entices him to sin.

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

#### **Subject: The Sinner:**

It is absurd for anyone to think that God is a supporter of sin, or those who commit sin. God is against sin, and sin is against God. God will help a sinner who desires to be delivered from the practice of sin. A sinner is a person whose way of living is contrary to the commandments of God. Most every purpose of a sinner is against God. A sinner's life style is disrespect for God, and it brings dishonor, reproach and a disgrace to the gospel that Jesus brought to the world to save us.

A sinner's way of thinking and conducting himself or herself undermines the holiness of God. God will never make any provisions in His plan for the salvation of man to allow a sinner to enter into the kingdom of heaven. Unless a sinner repents or turns from his or her life of sin it will be impossible for a sinner to receive salvation. The word salvation means to be delivered from sin.

#### **Subject: The Righteousness Of The Law:**

Now when you are born as a sinner, you are born under the law of sin and death. This means you are born under condemnation of the law. The law that God gave Moses brought sinners under condemnation. It was not until God sent the righteousness of the law to lift the condemnation of the law against those who would repent. Unless a person receives grace from the righteousness of the law, which was Jesus Christ, the law would have dominion over a man as long as he lives. Listen to Romans 7:1:

Verse 1 - Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?

Christ was the righteousness of the law that was sent to save men from the sentence of death that the law gave. Listen to Romans 8:2-4:

Verse 2 - For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

The law permitted the Jews to make sacrifices for their sins, but it offered no means of deliverance from sin, because the law was weak. So God sent Jesus to condemn sin in the flesh that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in all who received Him.

- Verse 3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.
- Verse 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

#### **Subject: Covetousness:**

Covetousness is a very dangerous sin. It was covetousness that motivated Judas to betray Jesus. Judas was a money lover, who was the treasurer for Jesus' ministry. Judas carried the offerings that was given to Jesus. If you fall in love with money it will acquire control over your life. It is better to spend money than to try to accumulate too much. When you spend money, it won't be using you; you will be using money. Judas loved money so he went out and made a bargain with the chief priest and elders to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Judas was not serious about what Christ had taught the disciples. Christ taught that He would be turned over to the Romans to be crucified.

Judas thought that Jesus would not be really crucified, because he knew that Christ had done nothing detrimental to offend the Roman government, and he didn't think the Jews had any authority to crucify Christ. So Judas didn't take the threat of Jesus' ministry serious, and saw that it was a good opportunity to make some money from the Jews; by betraying Christ. Even after they arrested Jesus; Judas thought that Jesus was able by the power of God to get free from the Romans. Though Judas had set under Jesus' teaching, he did not understand the

purpose of Jesus being crucified; because he did not have a believing heart.

Judas did not see how Jesus could be crucified; but he saw how he could make some extra money by betraying Jesus. Even Peter said that it would never happen to Jesus. The disciples and other followers of Christ saw Jesus as a deliverer for the nation of Israel, waiting for Jesus to organize an army to defeat the Romans. The Jews were looking for a Messiah to deliver them like Joshua, Samson, Gideon and David. They thought that Jesus would be a great warrior to restore the nation of Israel to its former glory.

When Pilate condemned Christ and sentenced Him to be crucified; Judas then realized that what he thought would not happen was now a reality. After seeing that he has entered a bargain to sell the life of a man who had blessed so many people, Judas then repented and went to the chief to return the money, but covetousness had accomplished its purpose, and made Judas hang himself.

#### Subject: The Truth Has Power To Condemn A Life Of Sin:

God ordained that the truth find its way into your mind. If you do not allow the truth to enter your mind because your ways of living are against the truth, your sub-conscious mind will retain the truth, and periodically bring condemnation to your conscious mind to condemn your way of living.

You will find that when you have gone contrary to the truth, your subconscious mind will bring your sins before you, and accuse you making your life of sin very uncomfortable. 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.

#### **Subject: The Purification Process:**

The Bible teaches in I Corinthians 6:9 that no fornicator can have eternal life. If a person is not a fornicator, but has desires to commit fornication, it means that they must be saved from their desires. Acts of sin do not have to be physically

committed for a person to be a sinner. When you are saved from sin, sin must be removed from your nature, or your desires. In order to be in accord with the word of God, your desires must be free from condemnation of the word.

Being saved means that your soul, mind, nature, and desires are purified through the Spirit. The word of God is an incorruptible seed that gives you the birth of a new life that purifies the spiritual aspects of your life. When your soul is pure, your life will also be pure, which means you will not commit acts of sin.

The truth of God's word purifies you making you able to live a life of righteousness. The truth is revealed in the preaching of the true gospel. The truth is pure and it will purify the life of anybody who receives it.

#### **Subject: Spiritual Perception:**

You are blessed when your eyes and ears are opened to God, because He reveals Himself to you to warn you of dangers that are ahead. You have spiritual eyes and ears as well as physical eyes and ears. When you have spiritual vision and hearing, you can perceive the goodness of the Lord. Without spiritual vision and hearing, you would be dead to the knowledge and reality of God. You could hear the preacher preach, but it would have no effect upon you. You could see others rejoicing in the Lord, but you would be unmoved and untouched.

The beauty of salvation would be hid from your natural eyes, and though you may be affiliated with other saved people, you would not be a part of the body of Christ. After your life on earth ends, you would not have an inheritance with the redeemed of the Lord. You would not be able to pray, because the Spirit that makes intercessions for the saints could not reach you. The exhortation to you is to repent with an open mind in hope that God will open your eyes and ears to spiritual things that you may see, perceive, hear, and understand.

#### **Subject: Obedience To God Is Life:**

God is going to abolish death. Death is the adversary of God. God did not create anything to die. God is life, and He created plants, animals and humans to live forever. In God's new heaven and earth, not even a flower will die. Obedience to God's word causes death not to trespass your life. When you obey

God, the power that obedience generates to your life is more powerful than death. If Adam had not disobeyed God's commandment, he would be still living.

Jesus obeyed God down to the death of the cross, and His obedience defeated death. Today if you obey Jesus' gospel, you can live forever. Jesus' obedience to God had so much power that it causes the saved person and the unsaved to live forever. The saved person will live forever with God in heaven, and the unsaved person will live forever in a lake of fire and brimstone, being tormented forever.

#### **Subject: Repent And Believe The Gospel:**

Now as long as you are in your sins you will be spiritually blinded by the gods of this world. You can only follow the word of God by being regenerated or born again. When you are spiritually blind, you can only see what men of the world are doing, and you cannot see what God is doing. Under such conditions you cannot enjoy the blessings that God has in store for you. The blessings and goodness of God are mysterious and hidden from the unsaved, but are revealed and bestowed upon those who repent and believe the gospel.

#### **Subject: The Necessity Of Repentance:**

Repentance is very necessary for your salvation. You are not likely to get saved unless you have a repenting heart. To repent means to be sorry. When you repent, or turn from your sins, you are apologizing to God for having a previous life of sin. God accepts this apology as a godly repentance. Along with your apology, you must regret that you have ever committed sin. In addition, you will be so convicted with self-reproach over your previous life of sin that every desire to repeat any acts of sin that you have knowledge of will be completely removed from your life.

John the Baptist introduced the first process of repentance in his gospel messages. John's gospel presented repentance as being the foundation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. When repentance has not been included with a person's approach to the throne of grace, then the efforts that they are making to come to Christ will not be accepted.

When repentance is not initiated by a sinner, grace will not be available. The Holy Spirit will not be present to assist a person's religious motives when they fail to repent.

## Subject: Baptism Of The Holy Spirit And Water Should Follow Your Repentance:

Nobody can enter the plan of salvation that God offers unless they repent. Repentance means to forsake your sins. Repentance does not mean going to church to confess your sins, and crying to the pastor. It means to stop doing everything that you know is wrong. Repentance means that you should be so sorry for the sins that you have committed that you will turn from them, and put forth an effort to live a righteous life. You should be so sorry for your life of sin, that you will be ashamed of the things that you did in sin, and you will strongly resolve that if God forgives you, and shows mercy by cleansing you from further desires to commit sin that you will never again commit such acts of sin.

God will then consider your repentance as Godly sorrow which means you are sorry that you lived contrary to God's holiness. God being moved by such a repentance will forgive you and blot out your previous record of all the sins that you previously committed. God will then remember your sins no more, and will see you as being a person who has never committed sins before. God will give you the Holy Spirit which will change your nature by taking away your desire to sin. You are then ready to be baptized in water as an open testimony of what God has done for you by giving you a baptism of the Holy Spirit.

#### **Subject: The Gospel Has More Power Than Death:**

Death cannot take your life unless God allows it to claim your life. Death cannot trespass God's presence if God is in your life. In order for Jesus to die on Calvary, God had to forsake Him, and allow death to claim Jesus' life. For a small moment, God forsook Jesus. God does not kill people, their sins allow death to kill them. If people would forsake their sins, death would only claim their bodies when God allows it, and never their souls.

Sin is an open door for death. Obedience to God prevents sin from allowing death to claim your life, unless God allows it. When man made the choice to

disobey God, he brought the sentence of death upon all men. A sinful man who is subject to death can only produce sinful children that will be subject to death. Since we had nothing to do with Adam causing us to be born as sinners, God raised up another man, Jesus Christ, who by the power of God lived free from sin. God empowered Jesus with the gospel to present to the world that if a person believed it, the power of the gospel would save them from their sins, thereby saving them from death also.

The gospel has more power than sin and death. Though a person may experience the first death of the physical body, it will only be a peaceful rest in Christ. The second death, which is eternal death, will not reach the person who is saved.

## Subject: A Life Of Sin Is No Comparison With A New Life In Christ:

When an unsaved person has felt the terrible consequences of sin, and desires that Christ come into their life to deliver them from sin, such a person is penitent. Sin is such a serious condition that a sinner must be completely delivered in order to experience relief from its consequences.

The effects of sin in a person's life brings the person down to such a low level of living that only repentance can give them deliverance and relief. When their repentance is sincere, God immediately is moved to come down and lift the person up to where the person can find forgiveness and peace.

Their previous life of sin will be undermined when they compare it with the presence of God and the fruits of the Holy Spirit. They will under no conditions be foolish enough to consider returning to a life of sin after experiencing the joy and peace that the presence of God has given them. They will then learn to walk in the Spirit, having a continuous fellowship with God for the remaining of their life on earth.

#### **Subject: In Christ We Can Live Again:**

Though our physical bodies may die, we can live again through Christ. If we live after the example of Christ's life though our physical bodies die, God will save our souls (life), and give us another body that will live forever. I am not

preaching theory, but I am giving principles that are supported by the word of God. Listen to I Corinthians 15:21-22:

- Verse 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
- Verse 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Being born in Adam we are born in sin, and it is the nature of a sinner to live contrary to the will of God. Nevertheless, God has arranged that even though we were born in sin, we can be born again in Christ. God has nothing to do with death. Death is God's enemy, and is the last enemy of God and man that will be abolished. When the end of this present world comes, God has planned that there will be a new heaven and a new earth wherein dewelleth righteousness.

When righteousness is put in place by the Spirit of God, sin and death will not be able to enter. The Paradise of God, which started in the Garden of Eden where the tree of life bloomed, shall be restored.

## Subject: Christ Is A Way To Escape The Penalty Of Sin And Death:

God Is love; it is the devil who rewards people with death, but the gift of God is eternal life. Listen to Romans 6:23:

Verse 23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sin is a product of the devil. Sin means to transgress the law of God, to break God's law, or to do what He commands you not to do. Man was created with freedom of will, he can obey or disobey God. God will reason with you and give you an understanding of the consequences of sin, but He will not make you obey; it must be your choice.

Man is a free moral agent, but if man decides to obey God, God has made a way for man to escape the penalty for sin, and that is by believing the gospel of Jesus Christ.



### **CHAPTER 5**

## THE HOLY SPIRIT AND ITS WORKS

#### **Subject: How To Obtain Eternal Life:**

Your physical life of flesh and blood was given to you by your parents, but you can only receive eternal life from God. Unless you acquire a relationship with God while you are living in this present world, it will be difficult to believe that you can acquire eternal life after you leave this life. You must receive the Holy Ghost while you are living in this present world to receive a witness that you will receive eternal life in the next life.

You invite the Holy Ghost into your life by obedience to the commands of God. If you obey God's word and desire His presence, all that you have to do is to humble yourself, and though God dwells in a high and holy place, He is with those who are of a broken and contrite spirit. When you humble yourself, God will come down, manifest Himself, and make Himself known to you.

You cannot learn about the reality of God by going to church. God must reveal Himself to you in a personal way. This will be done by the Holy Spirit, which works as an intercessor between man and God. Now you will not be able to see God with your natural eyes, but God has given humans five senses, and one is the sense of feeling. When you feel a thing, it is just as though you see it. You can't see a pain, but when you feel it, you know you have it.

Now when the Holy Ghost comes down to be with you, you will feel its presence. When the presence of the Holy Ghost moves upon you, you will receive joy unspeakable and you will be filled with praises before God. The Holy Ghost will fall upon you with so much power of joy that you will not have words to express yourself. So if you want eternal life, just let God's will be done in you while you are living on the earth, and God will cause it to be done continuously in the kingdom of heaven.

#### **Subject: A Conversion Of The Sinner To Saint:**

It is the will of God that sinners be freed from the penalty and power of sin; so God sent His only begotten Son to die for sinners. The moment a sinner believes and sees that disobedience to God is unprofitable here, and damnable hereafter, the sinner would become established in righteousness. The sinner would then be born again by baptism of the Holy Spirit, being buried with Christ demonstrating what the Holy Spirit has done in his or her life being baptized in water as an open testimony. The sinner would no longer be a sinner, but a saint by allowing the

Holy Spirit to indwell their life presenting them in the newness of life with power to live above sin.

#### **Subject: The Holy Spirit Will Follow A Sincere Conversion:**

To be converted is to be convinced that the gospel leads to salvation, and to acquire the understanding that the way of sin leads to death. Your conviction must be brought to your understanding to convince you that your previous life of sin was leading you away from God. When this happens, you are converted. You will then repent of every sin that you have knowledge of. When this is done with such sincerity that it gets God's attention, you will then be given the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will then be your teacher, guide, counselor, and source of knowledge for the remaining of your life on earth. The Holy Spirit will be God living in you to lead you through life; and eventually into the kingdom of heaven.

## Subject: The Holy Spirit Will Direct Those Who Desire To Learn The Word Of God:

When you have a mind to receive God's word, it will be revealed to you. When the Ethiopian Eunuch had a mind to receive the word of God, he traveled many miles to the land of Israel where he believed that he would find someone who could explain it to him. The Eunuch did not know that he was being led by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will lead those who have a mind to receive the word of God to the true teaching of the gospel.

God sent Philip to meet the Eunuch, and the Eunuch's mind was so willing to receive the word that as soon as Philip explained it to him, the Eunuch believed and was saved immediately. It was by means of Philip that the Holy Spirit sent the understanding of the word of God to the Eunuch.

The Holy Spirit took on the form of an angel and directed Philip to go where he found the Eunuch as it also led the Eunuch to meet Philip. God will help people today who desire to receive the word of God by giving assistance and directions by the Holy Spirit.

#### **Subject: God's Dealing With Man:**

The scriptures give an account of God's dealing with man, and His plan to restore man back into fellowship with Him. In Psalm 51:5, it gives a description of the condition that every person was born in, to separate them from the fellowship of God. Every human being was born in sin unless God orders their birth for a special purpose, as He did John the Baptist, the prophet Jeremiah, and finally Jesus His Son.

No matter who you are, it is natural for you to sin. It is not natural for you to be righteous unless you are born again of a righteous source. God has arranged for this righteous source to be made available in Christ. The second birth in Christ is not of the flesh, but of the Spirit of God.

The Spirit of God patrols the universe to honor the word of God that was sent to earth in Jesus Christ. Everything in the creation was put in order by the Spirit of God giving power to the word of God. Listen to Genesis 1:1-2:

- Verse 1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
- Verse 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

When you are born a sinner, you are like the earth was; you are not in harmony with the will of God.

A sinner is without spiritual form and void of the righteousness of God, living in darkness or ignorance of the will of God. When God saves a sinner, the same spirit that gave the creation power to respond to His command will also give the sinner the new-birth in Christ. This is so that the sinner will take on the righteousness of God being able to obey God's command.

#### **Subject: The Breath Of God (The Holy Spirit):**

One day when Jesus met His disciples, after having risen from the dead, He looked upon them and seeing their spiritual conditions, 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. If you go to a bar where the people are

drinking liquor and they come around you, their very breath will present the atmosphere of liquor. You will then be in the atmosphere of liquor though you have not tasted any.

So is it also when you experience the presence of the Holy Spirit. Jesus is the word of God. The word of God is the breath of God. When you repent of your sins and hear the word of God, clean yourself up and walk right, and ask God to let the breath of His word and Spirit breathe upon you, something will happen. Such a prayer is a petition, and just as surely as you are sincere, your prayer will be answered. When God pays you a visit, your room will be filled with His presence. Others in the home will know that someone else is there beside you. You will then be able to say that the Lord is in here this morning.

Everybody who has been born again can understand how the Holy Spirit makes an entry into their lives. The language that I am using to explain how the Holy Spirit makes an entry into a person's life is heavenly language. Those who have not been born again may not understand heavenly language.

After you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you can ask God to revive you, when you desire a spiritual refreshing, and He will do it. You cannot receive the Spirit of God without being illuminated just as the moon receives its light from the sun at night. You cannot see the sun at night, but you can see its light from the illumination that it gives the moon at night.

Now when you pray and ask God for a refreshing, remember that you are asking for a spiritual blessing, and you don't have to worry about receiving material blessings, because they will overtake you. Every person who walks in the Spirit of God will have the blessings of God. You must keep God's commandments and do His will, and whatever you need, He will supply.

## Subject: You Can Only Get Power From God After The Holy Ghost Comes Upon You.

You cannot be introduced to God, nor acquire salvation in Jesus Christ by going to colleges, or religious institutions of learning. You cannot learn to be a preacher by being educated like doctors and lawyers. You can only be introduced to God and the plan of salvation by the Spirit of God.

Today church pulpits are filled with high powered preachers; but they must receive power from the Holy Spirit in order for the listeners to be saved. You can only receive power from God to be saved and to lead others to salvation when the Holy Ghost comes upon you. Listen to Acts 1:8

Verse 8 - But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Ju-dae'a, and in Sama'ri-a, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Only the Holy Ghost can give power to be a true witness for Christ.

## Subject: The Holy Ghost Cleanses You From Sin And Afterward It Makes Intercessions For You To God:

It is wonderful to have the privilege to pray. When your life is sin-free, you can pray to God at any time, and He will hear your prayers. God is never too busy to hear the prayers of those who obey Him. Be sure that your heart is pure, your hands are clean, and do the will of God. You can then ask what you will, and He will grant it. Under no conditions will God hear a sinner pray. Listen to St. John 9:31:

Verse 31 - Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God and doeth his will, him he heareth.

I don't use this scripture to contend with Christians who believe God hears the prayers of sinners. I use this knowledge to apply it to my own life, so that I can pray for sinners. It is the Holy Ghost that cleanses you of your sins, and afterward makes intercessions for you to God to present your prayers to God.

#### **Subject: The Holy Spirit:**

Your ability to live a sin-free life depends upon you being filled with the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit can make you able to live a righteous life. There are many church folk who have never heard of the works, and mission of the Holy Spirit. Some have heard mention of the Holy Spirit, but they have no knowledge of its purpose. Then there are others who think the Holy Spirit causes you to speak in unknown tongues, which is incorrect.

The mission and purpose of the Holy Spirit is to give you the new-birth and power to live a sin-free life. The Holy Spirit is God. It is the third part of God that works with the second part of God, which is Jesus. Jesus is the word of God. The Holy Spirit gives a person the ability to live like Jesus' words instructs a person to live, which is a sin-free life.

When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, a part of God is living in you. You are then born of God, and God does not commit sin. You receive the Holy Spirit when you receive the gospel that Jesus teaches. The Holy Spirit is a carrier of the word of God. It carries the word of God into a person's mind who is receptive to the word, and it implants the word of God into the person's mind. This is done like a farmer plants seeds in good ground, and the seeds later bring forth fruit.

When the Holy Spirit plants the word of God into a receptive mind, such a person will bring forth fruit of the Holy Spirit that is listed in Galatians 5:22-23. The fruit of the Spirit will be love, peace, joy, goodness, faith, meekness, patience, longsuffering, and temperance. The fruits of the Holy Spirit will replace the bad qualities of character that a person had prior to being filled with the Holy Spirit. Such things as hatred, envy, strife, malice, emulations, adultery, fornication, homosexual practices, heresies, drunkenness, and idolatry will be replaced by the fruits of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is also a teacher like a tutor that gives a person instructions on an individual basis.

The Holy Spirit is the most intelligent power in human existence, and can teach the most ignorant person how to live a righteous life. It is an intercessor that translates and conveys knowledge from God to the person that it fills. The Holy Spirit will simplify the knowledge of God by relating it to knowledge and experiences of a person's everyday life that they are familiar with. It compares such knowledge to the word of God on a level that the person will understand. The Holy Spirit will bring the knowledge of God's word from heaven in an earthly language that a person can apply to their everyday life.

#### **Subject: How Does The Holy Ghost Work?**

When you have received a filling of the Holy Ghost, you then become the works of the Holy Ghost. A filling of the Holy Ghost means that you have been born again. Make no mistake, the Holy Ghost will not come into a person's life who desires to have control over their own life's purposes and ambitions. The Holy Ghost is very intelligent, and has complete fore knowledge of those who are willing to surrender their lives to its purpose for saving them.

The Holy Ghost makes you a saint and does not allow you to be a continuous sinner. It will sanctify your desires to a righteous life, and completely take away your desires to commit sin. The Holy Ghost will teach you a new way of life that will be completely free and above your previous life of sin.

When you are filled with the Holy Ghost, you will no longer live to suit yourself. You will live according to the teachings of the word of God. You will have a workable knowledge of what the word of God requires for the life of a saint. The Holy Ghost will give you an anointing, preparing your mind to be able to understand what the word of God teaches, and how to apply it to your everyday life's experiences.

#### **Subject: The Works Of The Holy Spirit:**

Being filled with the Holy Spirit means that you have been baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire (St. Matthew 3:11). The fire of the Holy Ghost is holy fire used as a cleansing process to purge a person from all sinful desires that are in the nature of a person.

A person can repent of some sins by their own efforts, but they cannot remove sin from their nature, because sin in the nature is an inborn tendency to commit sin that is a part of the human make-up. Therefore, God included holy fire with the power of the Holy Spirit that will burn up every desire in the nature to commit sin. Such holy fire will purge the human nature allowing the divine nature of God to replace the nature of sin.

You can only be saved when the Holy Spirit does a complete work of regeneration in your life. This is a washing of regeneration and renewed work of the Holy Spirit. Under these conditions, Christ will be living in you by the power of God. There will be two parts of God living in your life, which will be Christ and the Holy Spirit. Under no condition will these two parts of the Trinity work contrary to one another.

If at any time you think that a spirit is leading you to do something contrary to the teachings of the word of God, then such a spirit is not the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does not teach, or do anything in a person's life contrary to what the word of God teaches.

## Subject: How Do I Know That I Am Filled With The Holy Spirit?

When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, there will be no condemnation from the law of God that will be against you. The Holy Spirit is the righteousness of the law of God that makes you free from the law of sin and death. It causes a person's righteous life to be above what the law condemns. The condemnation of the law cannot reach you when you are filled with the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, which allows the righteousness of Christ to be in your life making you able to live so that the law can't reach you. Listen to Romans 8:1-2:

- Verse 1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- Verse 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

#### Subject: The Holy Spirit Is A Gift From God:

If you are serious about being saved, you must be acquainted with the Holy Spirit, because it brings Christ into your life. Just being a member of a church is not enough to be saved. You must repent of your sins, and experience a conversion of your nature, which can only be done by the Holy Spirit.

God sent the gospel to the earth by Jesus Christ, because He wanted the people of the earth to know about the Holy Spirit and to receive it for salvation. The Holy Spirit is a gift from God to all those who repent, or turn from their sins.

#### **Subject: The Holy Spirit Is An Anti-Sin Power:**

You live free from sin by not having a desire to commit sin. This process of being free from sin is the results of the Holy Spirit coming into your life, and giving you holy or sin-free desires to replace your sinful desires.

The Holy Spirit is a carrier of God's holiness. It carries the holy power of God to those who repent of their sins and desire to obey God. The holy power of God is the sin-free nature of God. When you are sin-free, you are born again.

Sin is no formidable competitor to the power of the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit comes into your life, sin has no power to stay in your life. The Holy Spirit installs within your desires an anti-sin power that will make sin repulsive to you. It will help you to be able to identify every sin that the Bible teaches of, and give you the strength, wisdom, and ability to reject such sins.

#### **Subject: The Other Comforter:**

Listen to one of the most important prayer request that Jesus presented to God for the world in St. John 14:16-17:

- Verse 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
- Verse 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

It takes two parts of God to enter a person to be saved. God exists in three parts, which are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. God sent the second part of Himself to the earth, which is the word of God (Jesus) and Jesus prayed that God would send the third part, which is another Comforter, or the Holy Ghost to save those who would receive the second part who is Jesus.

Jesus brought the gospel from heaven to introduce the plan of salvation to the world. When a person receives the gospel, then Jesus prayed that the third part of God would make their salvation complete. The other Comforter, or the Holy Ghost is what gives a person the new birth in Christ. The Holy Ghost is the finality of a person's salvation. It makes the person a completely new creature in Christ.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth that will dwell with a person who receives Jesus, and will be in the person forever. The Holy Ghost never leaves a born again child of God. When you are filled with the Holy Ghost, you are born of God. Though you may not be able to see God, you will feel His presence, and

assistance in your life. God will be a part of all of your movements, purposes and desires. God will be controlling your life by means of new, holy desires that the Holy Spirit will put in your nature. You would have experienced an implantment of God's divine nature, replacing your former carnal nature.

The Holy Spirit will make you holy in every aspect of your new life. You will then become God's workmanship, programmed by God to do good works for the rest of your life on earth. All of these changes took place in your life because Jesus prayed to God to send another Comforter to the earth to make salvation complete in those who believed His gospel.

#### **Subject: Another Comforter:**

Jesus prayed to the Father before He left the earth that God would send another Comforter to the earth that would be the Holy Ghost. St. John 14:16-17:

- Verse 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
- Verse 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

When you receive the Holy Ghost it will come into your life and stay with you for the remaining of your life on earth, and continue to remain with you throughout eternity after you enter the kingdom of heaven. This was a promise of Jesus to His disciples and to all who are saved.

The disciples did not desire for Jesus to leave them after experiencing the love and comfort that Jesus gave them. Jesus brought wonderful peace and joy into their lives. They had seen Jesus bind broken hearts, set at liberty the captive, open the eyes of the blind, cause the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak, and preach the gospel to the poor. Jesus had been a comforter to those who loved Him, but now He was telling them that He had to leave so that another Comforter would come.

The gospel of the kingdom of heaven was the most consoling thing that God

had ever sent to the earth. Today we continue to have glad tidings and good news in the gospel along with the availability of the other Comforter that Jesus promised. The gospel offers us promises from God without respect of persons.

In order to get the benefit of the promises of God, the Holy Ghost that Jesus promises will prepare you by making you pure, holy, upright and honest. When you have these qualities you will be able to further construct a new life in Christ with the assistance of the Comforter.

#### **Subject: The World Cannot Receive The Other Comforter:**

Jesus wanted His apostles to realize and understand by His words that they should not be troubled, and that He would not leave them comfortless. Jesus told them that God had given Him power to fulfill all the promises that God sent Him to preach. Jesus had informed them that though they would die they would live again, and the proof of them receiving eternal life would be in His death and resurrection. He instructed them that they should not be troubled by His crucifixion, because on the third day He shall arise, and ascend to the Father. The time had come for Jesus to climax His visit to the earth, and that God would allow them to go through these experiences so that they would learn that God has something better for them. Therefore, these experiences, which may bring death to some of you, should not become a terror to you.

Now after Jesus goes back to the Father, He is going to petition to God to send another Comforter in His stead, which will be the Spirit of truth that the world will not be able to receive. Those who did not receive Christ in person or His teachings today will not be able to receive the other Comforter when it comes. Listen to St. John 14: 19-20:

- Verse 19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.
- Verse 20 At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

#### **Subject: Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled:**

Now after you have received the Holy Ghost and are living according to the teachings of the word of God, there will be trying times, but you don't have to be troubled. Jesus wanted His apostles to realize and understand by His words that they should not be troubled, because they would not be left comfortless. Today if you are born again, you are not without the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost.

God gave Jesus power and authority to fulfill the promises that were made to those who have received His gospel. Jesus' words promised the disciples of His day as well as those of this present day who are saved that though they die, they shall live again. Along with Jesus being their Savior, He is also the resurrection.

So Jesus is teaching to let not your hearts be troubled. Just as He was resurrected on the third day after His crucifixion, He is also going to resurrect those who have received Him upon His second return to the earth. Until such time those who are living, the Holy Ghost will be with them as the third Comforter, and prepare them to be a part of the first resurrection that Jesus will administer.

#### **Subject: The Spirit Of Truth:**

When God sends the Spirit of truth into your life, a change will take place in your life, and the Spirit of truth will walk with you, and teach you knowledge that will change your nature. The Spirit of truth is the Holy Ghost that will be an answer to the prayer that Jesus prayed for all who would receive Him.

You may ask the question, "How can you discern the Spirit of truth since deceitful religious spirits are so prevalent in the world"? You will know the Spirit of truth when you believe the gospel that Jesus taught. Jesus was sent to save His people from their sins (St. Matthew 1:21). If you believe that you can be saved from the practice of sin, the Spirit of truth will find you. The Spirit of truth finds those who believe in Jesus' teaching.

When you believe the gospel, God will dwell in you by means of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of truth is like the wind that blows. It moves in a mysterious way just as the wind moves the things where it blows, the Spirit of truth will move sin out of your desires. It will make your life sin-free. You won't know from which direction the Spirit of truth comes, but you can tell when it pays you a visit by the changes that take place in your life.

When the Spirit of truth pays you a visit, it will turn your life around. If you were once a liar, you will tell the truth, even when it is to your disadvantage. If

you were a liquor drinker, you will lose your taste for liquor. If you were an adulterer, you will no longer commit adultery. If you were a homosexual, you will go straight. If you once hated somebody, you will love the person. The Spirit has infinite power that can cause you to live righteous.

### Subject: The Holy Spirit Can Help You To Set Your Affections On The Things Of God:

Multitudes of people on the earth are not going to be ready, and will be ashamed upon Jesus' second appearance to the earth. Many people on the earth today are in bondage of sinful pleasures and will be in this sinful state of living when Jesus returns. Listen to St. Matthew 24:44:

Verse 44 - Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

There must be prior preparations of the heart, or mind for a person to have their mind on Jesus' return. The Holy Spirit is the only means by which a person's mind can be ready for this all important event, the return of Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit causes you to lose your attraction for things of the world, and has power to keep your affections on the things of God. The Holy Spirit is an intercessor between man and God that keeps you in fellowship with God. It is a connecting power that causes you to have access to God on a continuous basis.

#### **Subject: The Intercessor For Prayer:**

When you pray, you must pray according to the will of God. Only the Holy Spirit knows the will of God. As you live according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, it will reveal the will of God to you. The Holy Spirit will lead you to acquire the things that God approves of. It will be answering a prayer that you did not ask for, but it made intercessions to God for you to acquire such things that you had no knowledge of.

The Holy Spirit teaches you the will of God, and programs your life to adjust to the will of God. A prayer that will be answered must be composed by the Holy

Spirit before you pray, or when you don't know what to pray for. Prayer is an acceptable prayer when it is in the will of God, and desires only that which God desires. Listen to I John 5:14-15:

- Verse 14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:
- Verse 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

When you live according to the will of God, your prayers will be presented to God according to the way you live, and answered according to what God is willing for you to be blessed with. So then, the way we live must be adjusted to the principles and precepts of the gospel, and then comes blessings from God.

#### **Subject: The Holy Ghost Is The Teacher And Assistant:**

The Holy Ghost is the teacher; it teaches what we must remember about the gospel that Christ gave. The Holy Ghost will remind us of the particular instructions that should be relied upon at the time that we need to be delivered from difficult situations.

Benefits that come from the Holy Spirit depend upon our obedience. When we obey the word of God, we get power along with victory from the Holy Ghost. We will soon learn that obedience means victory. We will escape further conflicts with the things that once enslaved us. As we look back to see what we have escaped, it will make us happy.

Nobody can truly come to God without the Holy Ghost being their teacher to bring instructions, and to remind them of what the word of God has taught. When things get difficult and we feel that they are too hard to bear, the Holy Ghost will bring to our remembrance the former days when we were first illuminated, and our zeal was so extreme that we felt nothing could turn us around, even though great adversities were against us, and the Holy Ghost gave us the strength to persevere. This reminder will renew our strength, and give us confidence that the Holy Ghost is still present to help us.

#### **Subject: The Word And The Spirit:**

The Holy Spirit gives you a spiritual mind that can absorb the word of God like a sponge soaks up water. The word in your mind will then have power to save you from sin. Nothing can save you from sin except the word and the Spirit of God. The word and the Spirit will then work together to keep you holy afterwards, and to teach you how to live in this world and not be a product of the world. You will then have a spiritual mind that is a carrier of the world of God with power to keep your desires sanctified from the sins of the world.

#### **Subject: God Speaks To The Conscience:**

The Bible should be taken very seriously. The prophets that spoke in the Bible were overshadowed by the Holy Ghost. They did not speak presenting thoughts from their own minds, but the Holy Ghost brought them messages from the mind of God. When you acquire an understanding of the scriptures you will then fear God, or respect the teachings of the scriptures. The Holy Ghost is the only source of help for those who want to be saved.

When you are overshadowed or filled with the Holy Ghost, you will have protection from the things that will destroy you, and that is sin. The Holy Ghost is an anti-sin power. The Holy Ghost can lift up a standard against the sins that could destroy you. When a God-sent preacher brings messages to the people, God sends His Spirit ahead of Him and the Spirit of God gets the attention of the listeners, and prepares their minds to hear the word of God. The Spirit alerts their consciences to condemn their sins and prepares them for repentance if they desire to accept the proposition that the Spirit offers.

The Spirit of God not only deals with the ears so that a person hears sound, but it also deals with the conscience. The conscience gets the message from God that the person is going wrong. After the conscience gets the message, the thoughts will accuse the person. It does not matter what part of the world a person is in, or what language they speak, when God speaks to the conscience, the person will get the message. If the person is doing wrong, they will be condemned.

Now the Spirit will condemn the person if they are wrong, and it will also assist the person if they want to correct their wrong and go right. The Spirit is the Comforter that God sent to make intercessions for those who desire to be saved. When a person is not saved, they are alienated from God through ignorance. The

Spirit of God was sent to assist, teach, and show the person how to be reconciled to God. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, and it brings wisdom and understanding to those who are alienated from God.

#### **Subject: The Joy Of The Lord:**

Have you ever experienced receiving joy from the Lord? Joy from the Lord is a blessing that comes to your heart or mind. When you receive joy of heart, it gives you happiness that will never disappoint you. Your happiness with the Lord is everlasting. God doesn't send His Spirit upon you for a moment and later take it away.

Joy that comes from the Spirit of God constantly abides with you, and no test, trial or burden can remove it. You will be happy in the Lord when friends forsake you. You will be happy through sickness or any adversity that comes. When physical conditions make your life unpleasant, the joy of the Lord will be greater. No adversities of life will be greater than the joy of the Lord.

### Subject: A Spiritual Mind Will Qualify You To Receive A Spiritual Body:

It is not the will of God that man should perish. God would not create a man to perish. When these bodies that we presently live in dissolve, God has prepared another body that will be eternal to live in heaven for those who will be saved. You were sown in a natural body which is temporary. In your natural body you are living on a trial status to see if you want the eternal body that God will give you. You were sown in a natural body, but you will be raised in a spiritual body. There is a natural body and a spiritual body (I Corinthians 15:44). The spiritual body is eternal designed to live in heaven, and it will never die.

In order to receive a spiritual body, you must first receive a spiritual mind while you live in this present world. A spiritual mind will qualify you to receive a spiritual body. The Holy Spirit gives you a spiritual mind while you are living in this present world, and it will also give you a spiritual body in the first resurrection whether you are dead or living. If you die with a spiritual mind you will be resurrected with a spiritual body. If you die with a carnal or sinful mind, you will

be resurrected and given a body designed to experience eternal torment in a lake of fire and brimstone

### Subject: When You Are Filled With The Holy Spirit; You Become Like God:

There are two ways that you can be a sinner. You can be a sinner by committing an act contrary to God's commandment, and you can be a sinner by failing to do what God commands. Blessings come when you obey God's commandments, and the judgment of God will come when you disobey. There will be some commandments that God will give that are difficult to do; but when God sees that you have the will to do, He will supply the ability and strength.

The scriptures teach in St. Matthew 5:48 to be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect. The only way that you can do anything like God commands is when God helps you. You can't be like God unless He imparts His likeness in you. God is holy, which means He is sin-free. When a person receives God's command, God will share His holiness with the person by means of filling the person with the Holy Spirit. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit it means that God is living in you. When God lives in you, you become like God.

# CHAPTER 6 THE NEW-BIRTH IN CHRIST

#### **Subject: Deliverance From The Condemned State Of Mind:**

You have two hearts. One is a spiritual heart and the other is a biological heart. The biological heart pumps blood to your physical organs such as your liver, lungs, and kidneys. Your spiritual heart is your mind that pumps thoughts to your body members to produce actions. It is your soul, or the moral production center for your actions. If you have not been given a new mind or heart by the Holy Spirit, then your actions can be sinful. Only a mind that has been born again of the Spirit of God can produce actions that are sin-free.

If your heart or mind is sinful, your body will go wrong. If your mind or heart is righteous, then your body will do right. When you are saved, your heart or mind is right with God. When your mind has not been born again, you are living under condemnation, and it will make you unhappy.

If you desire to be delivered from condemnation, God has arranged in Christ a plan by which you can be delivered. It is the will of God that we can be delivered from the condemned state of mind, and given a clean mind that is sinfree. This process of being delivered is by receiving the word of God that will allow the Spirit of God to give you the new birth. Indication to God that you desire to be lifted from the condemned state of mind, would be when you repent of your sins.

### Subject: You Are Born Again By Hearing And Believing The Word Of God:

By hearing and believing the word of God you are born again receiving the Spirit of God. The word of God initiates the process of the new-birth in Christ, and when it is received, the Holy Spirit completes the process.

The angel Gabriel brought the word to Mary and when she received the word of God by believing the message, the Holy Ghost gave Mary the birth of the child Jesus in her womb. Listen how it happened in St. Luke 1:31 and 34-35:

- Verse 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- Verse 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

Verse 35 - And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

The Spirit of God comes into the lives of those who receive the word of God to give them the new-birth, just as it conceived Jesus in the womb of Mary when she received the word of God. Gabriel brought a message from God to Mary telling her how God was going to bless her because she had lived a holy, virtuous life before God. God does not over-look a person who lives a holy and virtuous life before Him. Such people will find favor with God and receive blessings from God. Mary received the message from Gabriel and everything happened just like Gabriel said it would happen. Listen to St. Luke 1:38:

Verse 38 - And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

#### **Subject: God Saves Us Based Upon Our Respect For Christ:**

You have to be taught the way of righteousness by the Holy Ghost, or a Holy Ghost filled teacher. If you are not taught the way of righteousness by the Holy Ghost, you will never know the way of righteousness. If the Holy Ghost is not leading your pastor to preach the way of righteousness, you will not be born again, because you can only be born again of the word of God which must be presented by the Holy Ghost.

You don't get the new-birth by praying, singing, and shouting in a church. You are born again by hearing and obeying the word of God presented by the Holy Ghost through Christ. You won't get saved by God, because you have a lot of problems and sad conditions of life. You must repent and believe the gospel to be saved. God is a just God and is only moved by your willingness to obey the word of God. When you take on this way of thinking, the Holy Ghost will find you and lead you to the true Holy Ghost filled minister of the gospel.

The quality of mercy that God extends in Christ will be extended to you, and Christ will be your mediator between you and God. Christ was sent to the earth to live in a human body for the purpose of dwelling among men to suffer in the flesh

that He might be truly qualified from this standpoint to intercede to God for us.

When Christ became victorious over the flesh as our mediator, God assured Him that whatever we asked in His name God would grant for Jesus' sake. When we attempt to approach the throne of grace, God looks at our respect and attitude towards Christ that will cause Him to save us because of our respect to Christ.

#### **Subject: The Conversion And Baptism Of The Unsaved:**

When an unsaved person hears the gospel, the unsaved must fall under conviction. Such a conviction must cause the unsaved person to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and that through Jesus' death, redemption from all sin is accomplished. The unsaved can then be saved by grace, and be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

Now baptizing in water does not bring about any miraculous, or practical change in the new convert. It is simply an outward, visible demonstration so that others can be revealed the inward baptism of the Holy Spirit that they could not see. Baptizing in water represents that the old nature of sin has died in the new convert, and has been buried, never to rise again to be a part of the life of the new creature in Christ. Christ is being represented when the convert rises out of the water after being submerged under the water. The Holy Spirit has done, or will do the actual conversion of the new convert's nature to give the new convert the new-birth in Christ.

#### **Subject: Your Conversion:**

After that you have experienced a conversion in Christ to make an adjustment to live a life of righteousness, God will allow you to go through experiences to help you to learn the will and the ways of God. Such an adjustment process will be assisted and directed by the Holy Spirit. These experiences will not cause adversities that you encounter to be a terror to you, but edification and spiritual maturity.

There will be other people in your walk of life, such as friends and relatives that have not received Jesus Christ that will not be able to receive what God is giving you. On many occasions, such associates and relatives will not be able to religiously relate to, nor accept the new life that you have received. Those who

were affiliated with you, and are not saved will remain in their carnal state of mind, not being able to understand your conversion to a spiritual state of mind.

The carnal and the spiritual have no connection, nor line of communication that will enable the carnal to understand, or accept the works of the Holy Spirit in the life of one who has truly been born again.

#### **Subject: The Born Again Person:**

The born again people are consecrated, dedicated, and committed to the service of God. They are sanctified or separated unto the gospel of Jesus Christ. Such people will have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, nor the world of sin. Saved people are regenerated from their prior generation of sin. They are spiritually upgraded to a level of holiness that the unsaved would be very uncomfortable worshiping with.

An unrighteous person would not have a desire to worship in the congregation of born again believers. It will be very uncomfortable for those who are not truly born again to dwell in the congregation of the righteous. A born again person is born of God to be a child of God. This means that God lives in such people.

A sinner will not be able to stay in the presence of God. They would spend very little time around those who are born again and will have excuses for not being a part of their worship services. When Adam and Eve sinned, they avoided the company of God. Prior to their sins, they had fellowship with God on a regular basis. Listen to Genesis 3:8:

Verse 8 - And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

Everything that is preached and taught in the congregation of the righteous is against the secret sins of the unrighteous. Every testimony, every song, and prayers are against the life of a sinner. The life and worship services of the born again saint are conducted strictly by the Holy Spirit, which is an ant-sin Spirit. The Holy Spirit not only conducts the worship services of the saints, but it is the administrator of their entire lives.

The Holy Spirit will not dwell in the worship services of the saints if it is not the controlling force of their private lives. The born again saints are The Church of God, and they are members of the body of Christ. This church is God's holy temple and sin does not abide therein. This is a place of worship for the born again believers who live holy. Those who would desire to be saved must desire to acquire knowledge from the word of God to be a saint. Sinners are welcome to come to the assembly of the saints if they desire to be saved from sin.

The saints of God are firm in their zeal against sin. Sin cannot abide in the house of God. The saints will never compromise with sin, nor those who will justify their salvation as continuous sinners. If a sinner is shown the error of his or her way, and repents, and desires to be born again, the saints will be glad to help them.

#### **Subject: The Purchased Possession:**

To be filled with the Spirit of God is to be one with God. When the Spirit of God that comes from God fills your temple (mind and body), you become a part of God. You are then God's purchased possession, which Christ ransomed from the grave. You are then exempted from the second death, and the death of your physical body will be a peaceful rest in paradise. Your life will be hid with Christ in God, and when Christ who is your new life returns for the first resurrection, you will go back to heaven with Christ to see God.

#### **Subject: A New Creature Of Faith:**

When you are born again, you will be dedicated to the Lord. When you are dedicated to the Lord, you will give your soul, strength, and body to God's will, allowing God to use you for His purpose. When you are dedicated to the Lord, your presence will be a representation of God wherever you go. In all that you endeavor to do, God will also be a part of your achievements.

At this point in your salvation, you will be motivated to live by the promises of God. There will be nothing in this world that will encourage, and inspire you to obey God more than the promises of God's word. You will be a new creature of faith in Christ Jesus.

#### **Subject: Your Soul:**

Your soul is what you want to be saved. Your soul is your spiritual heart, or mind that is the life of your existence. When your soul is separated from your body, your body becomes lifeless. When your soul is separated from God, it means that your soul is not saved. Your soul is saved when God gives you His Spirit. The Spirit of God gives eternal life to your soul.

When you don't have the Spirit of God, you are under condemnation. When God saves your soul, He gives your soul power to reject sinful desires. When you are filled with the Spirit of God, your soul, or mind has been born again. It will then take on the characteristics of holiness. Your soul will then qualify to receive a new body when Jesus returns in the first resurrection.

### Subject: When You Are Born Again You Will Acquire The Nature Of God:

A saint is a person who is born again, and has taken on the nature of God. Such a person is then a holy person. God empowers and commands a saint to be holy as He is holy. The first man was created holy until he disobeyed God. You can only be holy, and maintain your holiness by continuously obeying God.

When Adam became unholy, he lost the nature of God and became alienated from God. The only way that those who were born into the world after Adam sinned could acquire the nature of God is that they had to be born again. The first birth was the result of Adam's transgression. The second birth would be the result of Jesus' obedience to God. This will be the birth of a new soul or mind.

When you become a saint, you will live according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit which gave you the new-birth. Prior to being born again you lived according to the desires of the flesh or sinful nature.

#### **Subject: A Saint:**

A Saint is not a person who sins; a Saint does not disobey God, for sin is disobedience to God. It is not that Saints can't sin, but they have taken on the nature of God, which causes them not to desire to sin. They have an overwhelming

desire to obey God rather than to sin. If you go to church and sin, you can be a Christian, but not a Saint.

God created man in His own image giving man a desire to do what he chooses. When a man or woman makes the choice to obey God, God will give them the Holy Spirit to help them obey, but the choice to obey must be initially man's choice and not God's choice for man. As long as a person desires to keep God's word, the Spirit of God will give the person power to do so.

### Subject: A Saint Is No Longer Under The Influence Of The World:

When you are born again, you are not a Christian but you are a saint. You are a saint when you are free from sin, and your deeds are like Christ. When you are first converted you must stay under the influence of those who are born again and filled with the Holy Spirit, because you are not strong enough to withstand the temptations of the devil. Remember when Jesus was taken to Calvary and all His disciples went back including Peter because they did not have the strength to stand against the devil without Jesus. You must stay under the influence of the strong people who are truly born again until you are filled with the Holy Ghost. Jesus said that while He was with His disciples that none of them were lost, but the son of perdition who was Judas that the scriptures might be fulfilled.

Jesus prayed that God would keep His disciples in His name, and sanctify them through the truth. Jesus' word is the truth and they received His word. When you receive the word of God, the truth of the word will sanctify you, or set you apart from the world. Under these conditions you are no longer of the world, because the Spirit and the word would have separated you from the influence of the world.

#### **Subject: Is Your Life Free From Sin?**

God sits in heaven holding immortality in His hands. God is the giver of life. God can give life in any measure that He desires. God gave to humans a soul which is the permanent part of human existence. God can give eternal life to the soul or eternal damnation to the soul. The soul is the part of life that is looking for a permanent home. If you are saved, God has promised to give your soul a new

body to live in heaven. Heaven is an eternal habitation for God's family.

When you are saved, your life will be free from sin and produce the fruit of the Holy Spirit. It will be fruit unto holiness, and at the end of your life on earth you will be given everlasting life. Jesus is the vine that produces you as fruit unto holiness. If Jesus is the vine and you and I are the branches that produce the fruit of the Spirit, the same life that is in Christ will have to flow unto us. When we are living the life of Christ, then God the Father who is the Husbandman will see to it that we are kept in the proper condition to bear fruit by giving us the Holy Spirit.

#### **Subject: The Redeemed Of The Lord:**

Your mind or soul can only be saved by obeying the word of God. The word of God has power along with the Holy Spirit to give your mind the new-birth. This means that you are born again. You are then renewed in the spirit and nature of your mind or soul.

The Holy Spirit will empower your mind to have the ability to obey and follow the instructions in the word of God. You will then be living in the Spirit of God, and no longer following the desires of your old mind to commit sin. At this point in your salvation, you will be regenerated with extra power to live holy by a renewed mission of the Holy Spirit that was introduced to the earth on the day of Pentecost.

You will then be classified by God as a saint rather than a sinner. You will be among the redeemed of the Lord, which will qualify you to be in the first resurrection. Upon Jesus' return to administer the first resurrection, you will be caught up to meet Jesus with the saints of all the ages, whether you are dead or living. When you were born again, God ransomed you from the power of the grave. You are among the redeemed of the Lord. You are redeemed from the first and second death, if you are living when Jesus returns. However, if you have died and are saved, you are redeemed from the second death (Hosea 13:14).

### Subject: Your Salvation Was Ordained By God If You Are Saved:

Your salvation was pre-ordered by God. You were ordained to be saved, if you are presently born again. When you were born the first time of your parents, the Bible teaches that you were like a child when you were in bondage of sin, and the ways of the world (Galatians 4:1-7).

At an appointed time in your life God sent forth His Son made of a woman, made under the law to redeem them that were born as sinners who were condemned under the law. Jesus was born under the law, but His conception was free from sin, which gave Him power to redeem those who were born as sinners being condemned under the law.

God ordained that such children might be adopted into His family, and because they were ordained to be saved, God sent forth the Spirit of His Son into their hearts, which means they are no more children in bondage of sin, but heirs of God through Christ. Through the birth and holy conception of Christ's birth, those who believe the gospel when they hear it will also receive a new birth to be adopted into the family of God, and are therefore children of God.

Though we presently live in the world being servants or employed by those who have the wealth of the world, they having 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 possessions of it in his or her hand. It belongs to God who is our Father. We are small in the estimation of those who make themselves gods of the world. We can do no more than what they tell us to do. They are like servants in a great house over the children who will one day be heirs of the estate.

This knowledge has been given to us after we have been born again of the Spirit of God so that we can know our position while we live in this present world. Listen to Psalms 37:7-8:

- 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.

### Subject: If You Are Led By The Spirit Of God You Are A Child Of God:

Listen to Romans 8:14:

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

God will not adopt you as His child and not give you the promises that He made to His children. God is His word, and He will keep every promise that He makes to His children. You cannot be led by the Spirit of God unless you are born again, and filled with the Spirit. In order to be led by the Spirit, the Spirit must have complete control and authority over your life. To every true born again 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.

### Subject: When You Are Born Again The Body Of Sin Should Be Dead:

After you are born again of the Spirit of God you will then live by the power of God. The spiritual aspects of your first life will be dead and your new life will be Christ living in you. God will not abide in a person who has not been born again. God does not abide in a sinner. The body that committed sin must die in order for God to live in a person. Listen to Romans 6:4-12:

Verse 4 - Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

When you are born again you are baptized into the death of Christ. As Christ experienced the death of His body on Calvary, we should experience the death of the body that one time committed sin. Though we may live in the same body, the desires to commit sin will die. We will then be crucified with Christ; yet we will live the life of Christ. As we have experienced the likeness of His death, we will also experience the likeness of His resurrection by living a new life in Christ.

- Verse 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:
- Verse 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
- Verse 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.
- Verse 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:
- Verse 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.
- Verse 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
- Verse 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Verse 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

#### Subject: Knowledge Must Be Reinforced By Grace:

Righteousness is of God. You cannot live right for any meaningful period of time unless God helps you. Man was conceived with the nature to be unrighteous. In order for a man to become righteous God must reverse the course of nature in the man.

Nature is more powerful than a man's knowledge. Simply because a man knows right from wrong does not mean that he will have the ability to do right. Man's knowledge must be reinforced by grace from God to be able to activate the righteous knowledge that he knows about.

#### **Subject: Spiritual Purification:**

When you purify your soul or mind, it means your life is pure. Your mind or soul is your life. Your soul or mind is the carrier of your life. When your mind or soul is pure, it will convey pure orders to your body members to perform righteous deeds. 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.

This purifying process can only take place when you are born again of the word of God. Evidence that your mind or soul is not pure is when your life is manifesting sinful deeds. You can repent of some sinful actions, but other sinful actions will come forth unless your soul has been purified by the word of God. A true thorough purification process can only be produced by a source that is pure, and the word of God is that source.

#### **Subject: A New Creature:**

You have to be a saint to get into the Kingdom of heaven. When you are born again, you are a saint. This means that you are born of the word and the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God plants the word of God into your mind as an incorruptible seed, causing you to experience the birth of a new mind. The new mind will be inclusive with a new nature. The word of God along with the Spirit causes the life of God to replace your former life of sin.

The Spirit and the word are the two parts of God's Trinity that gives you a new, righteous life, making you a saint. When you become a saint, you will live by the power of the Holy Spirit, and follow instructions given by the word of God.

Your life will be separated unto the gospel of Christ. You are then saved and sanctified. God will at this time be in your mind for the remaining of your life on earth. Your affections will be set on things above and not on things on the earth.

God will continuously dwell in you to will and to do of His good pleasure. Your life will not belong to you, but to God. You will be God's workmanship created by God to do good works. God will actually be your new mind and life. You will be a total new creature in Christ.

#### **Subject: Are You Concerned About Your Stand With God?**

When you are concerned about how you stand with the Lord, you will be careful of how you conduct yourself before other people. Your conduct will not be influenced by your fear of other people, but by your respect for the presence of God. Your respect for the presence of God will cause you to think righteously, because you will know that God can perceive what is in your mind, although you know other people are not aware of your thoughts.

Along with you being influenced by righteous thoughts, you will also do that which is right in the sight of God. Your mind will carefully reject thoughts that will introduce sinful pleasures, and you will gladly receive thoughts that are pleasing and acceptable in the sight of God.

#### **Subject: Some May Not Like Your Stand Against Sin:**

When you have lost your appetite for sin, though sinful pleasures seem to be enjoyed by everybody else, and yet you do not indulge, you will then know that you have been born again. Though close family members may be getting so much pleasure out of their sins, you will not have the slightest desire to touch any alcoholic beverages, smoke cigarettes, nor party with those whom are involved.

You will not even approve of family members or former associates who are indulging in sinful pleasures. Your disapproval of such sinful pleasures will not be kept a secret from those who are enjoying such. You will openly express disapproval, though it may embarrass and displease others. Though they may try to make you change your attitude against their sin, the Spirit of the Lord will cause you to stand your ground and maintain your protest with stamina.

When you can hold to your disapproval of such sins under pressure, you can be sure that you are filled with the Holy Spirit. Your concluding attitude will be that if they don't like your protest, neither speak to you, or if they put you out, you will nevertheless be unmovable from your stand against sin being steadfast and abounding in the grace of God.



### CHAPTER 7

### SALVATION: GENERAL TOPICS

#### **Subject: Man's Relationship With God:**

The Bible teaches us about God's relationship with man in past times. It teaches that God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. According to the Bible man's life came from God. Though some may not believe this principle; they cannot arrive at any other means by which man received his life. After man's creation, he became a person who could think, feel, and act.

Along with God giving man his soul or mind, God also gave man a conscience. The conscience was given to man to direct his mind into the way of righteousness. If at anytime man's mind decided to direct him in the way of sin, his conscience would send signals to his mind warning him that he is going the wrong way.

It is the will of God that man's relationship with God be a holy relationship so that man could live forever. The only recourse for man having a broken relationship with God is death. God created man so that he cannot be released from his existence. Man has a choice to spend eternity with God or eternity in hell.

The Ten Commandments were given to the Jews. They were laws that God gave to the Jews to establish them as a holy people that the laws might help their consciences to lead them in righteousness. Though the Gentiles were not given the laws of God, God put the laws in their nature so that they could do by nature the things contained in the law. When a person does not know the laws of God that were given to the Jews, something within their conscience will guide them into righteousness if they desire to do right. If they go against the warnings in their conscience, they will be condemned by their conscience (Romans 2:14-15).

#### **Subject: Listen To The Prophet Of God:**

The word of God was given for the purpose that the people of the earth might know the events that are prophesied before they come to pass. It has always been the plan of God to make the people understand what will happen before it happens, therefore prophets were used to warn the people and to make the people know that if they went a certain way, the end of that way would be death.

God does not send prophets or preachers to preach fables and messages of entertainment. A God sent preacher will warn the people that their sins will bring the wrath of God upon them. The preacher's messages from God will give the

people ample time to repent, and to take full advantage of this period of grace that God is offering. The prophet will also give a detailed description of the great calamities that would befall the people if their disobedience continues.

God will always reveal the former things from the beginning before they started, and if the people persist in their disobedience, then it will come to pass. Now many may go along and think that what the prophets have warned them against aren't going to happen; because they will see no indication of such things happening. God does not have to get ready to do things; He is always ready. Listen to Isaiah 48:1 and 3:

- Verse 1 Hear ye this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel, and are come forth out of the waters of Judah, which swear by the name of the Lord, and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth, nor in righteousness.
- Verse 3 I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I shewed them; I did them suddenly, and they came to pass.

#### **Subject: You Are Saved According To The Scriptures:**

To be saved is not going to some church to sing, shout, preach and testify. When you come to Christ, you must be willing to give up self and selfish ambitions, and take on humility and a mind to serve. If these purposes are not a part of your approach to the throne of grace, your testimony will be meaningless without actions to back it up.

You might feel good shouting and singing; but feelings can fool you. You are saved according to knowledge given in the word of God. The devil can give you the best feelings, and you can be far from being saved. You are not saved because you feel good in the church. You are saved when you do right. You are saved when you live above sin. If you see yourself doing good deeds, it is because the good of God is working in you. So give God the glory.

#### **Subject: Enter In At The Strait Gate:**

Those in the world who have not been born again do not know Jesus. Such Christians may have been taught about Jesus, but unless they have experienced a filling of the Holy Spirit, the reality of God is not a part of their way of thinking. You cannot make God become a realistic part of your life based upon the teachings of your church. Only the grace of God can bring the reality of God into your life. You must be elected by God to receive this conversion.

The plan of salvation is implemented by God in the lives of those that God has sought out. This is strictly God's choice. Many are called or invited to a Christian church service, but few are chosen to receive the new-birth in Christ. Such people that are called by God will be ordained to enter into the strait gates to salvation in Jesus Christ. Those who are church affiliated and are not called by God will go to churches that offer a wide gate and eventually to destruction. 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.

#### Subject: God's Revised Plan:

The scriptures teach that we are born in sin and shaped in iniquity (Psalm 51:2). Since we are not responsible for being sinners, we are helpless to do something to correct the condition in which we were born. The only begotten Son of God was found to be the only person who was qualified to correct our condition. God's love for man was so deep, and far reaching that He was willing to sacrifice His only begotten Son to correct the condition.

During Christmas time we celebrate the birth of Jesus in honor of His sacrifice for the sins of the world. Though celebrating Jesus' birthday is wonderful, it is not evidence that the sacrifice Jesus made has had an effect upon the lives of many people to correct the condition by which many were born to be

sinners. Today people do many things to celebrate Christmas, but celebrating Christmas, and being saved from sin don't necessarily have to be the same.

The memory of that sacred night in Bethlehem when Jesus was born is more sacred to those who have been born again after believing, and obeying the gospel that Jesus' birth allowed Him to present to the world. It was love that moved God to send His Son and it was love that moved His Son to come to the earth in the form of a human being, and endure the mission He was sent to perform.

Jesus suffered as a human being in order to endure the pain, humiliation, and agony to be a sacrifice for the sins of the world. Jesus did not take on the nature of angels, which would have kept Him from suffering. However, He wanted to feel the burdens of life, and face the consequences of sin in order to show us how to get victory over sin.

Jesus lived on the earth for thirty-three years under conditions just like those that we face, only He did not let them prevent Him from loving His enemies. He did not allow difficult conditions of life to make Him misjudge, or accuse those who opposed Him with the intent to seek revenge against them. Jesus was not tempted by fame, wealth, nor power to rule others to acquire such benefits, nor to compromise His stand to destroy His purpose to be the Messiah. Notwithstanding, He was the Son of God. Though He suffered like many humans suffer, He did not let his suffering cause Him to displease His Father.

It was God's plan that Jesus take on the nature of man, so that He could be empathetic towards those who would come to Him for help. Though Adam sinned, bringing all humans under condemnation, and subject to death, God revised His plan through Jesus, who provided salvation with His own blood to cleanse humans from the sin of Adam, and redeem the fallen race. Listen to Romans 5:12 and 19:

- 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.
- Verse 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

#### **Subject: God Is Not Willing That Anybody Should Perish:**

Man is so valuable to God that He is not willing that one person perish. It is God's desire that every human being repents of their sins and be saved.

#### Listen to II Peter 3:9:

Verse 9 - The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

God is so full of love for the world that He is going to take every child at the approximate age of 7 years and younger into the kingdom of heaven because such children at that age are not old enough to know right from wrong. The kingdom of heaven will consist of a large population of angels and little children. Listen to St. Matthew 18:3:

Verse 3 - And said, Verily I say unto you. Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

#### Listen to St. Matthew 19:14:

Verse 14 - But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

### Subject: The Power Of The Word Of God Can Be A Blessing Or A Curse (Daniel 6:20):

God suffered the decree to be put into effect that allowed Daniel to be put into the lion's den. God did not do anything to prevent the decree from being approved of by the king, and nothing happened to the enemies of Daniel who had to execute the decree at the time that it was presented. The deliverance of Daniel from being devoured by the lions was more sensational than preventing the decree from being executed. God's way of delivering Daniel established in the hearts of the king and others in Babylon that Daniel had a living God whom Daniel served continually that was able to deliver him from the lions.

God fights in a mysterious way. He delivered Daniel in such a way that everybody involved could see that Daniel's deliverance was the Lord's doing.

Before they took Daniel to the den of the lions, the lions were hungry, but by the time Daniel landed in the den, the lions lost their appetite. While Daniel was there in the midst of the lions they had no desire to bother Daniel. They accepted Daniel's company as a fellow lion. Nothing but the power of God could do this.

When God is for you, He does not need to fight with physical force of weapons of warfare. God can fight with judgment, or by distorting the discretion of your enemies. God can cause your enemies to make bad decisions that will bring about their own destruction. When God opened the Red Sea to allow the children of Israel to cross, He made the Pharaoh's army believe that He had opened the Red Sea for them also, and when they made an unwise decision to cross over, the sea devoured Pharaoh's army.

Whenever Daniel was in the lion's den, God took away the appetite of the lions. However, later when the king ordered the enemies of Daniel to be cast into the lion's den, God released the lion's hunger and they ate the enemies of Daniel just as He released the water at the Red Sea to devour the Pharaoh's army. God can cause the conditions of life to be a blessing to those who are obedient and a curse to their enemies.

## Subject: Christ Is Not A Minister Of Sin (Romans 6:6) (Galatians 2:17):

If you are a sinner, Christ is not a minister for you. When Christ is your minister, your old life of sin will be crucified. Christ's purpose for going to the cross to be crucified was to be a sacrifice for the sins of those who desired to be free from sin. If we are yet sinners, then Christ's sacrifice did not do anything for us, because Christ is not a minister of sin, but a minister of righteousness. When Christ is your minister, your body that at one time committed sin will be destroyed so that you would not serve sin.

If you say that you have Christ in your life, and yet continue in sin, your testimony will be a false witness for Christ, because Christ saves you from sin. You cannot have salvation in Christ and be in sin. Salvation means to be saved from sin and death. You cannot be born again and be a sinner, because when you are born again, you are born of God, which means God lives in you, and God is not a sinner (I John 3:9). You are not saved by your verbal testimony; you have to be saved from something that is harmful.

#### **Subject: Is Your Church Preventing You From Being Saved?**

The Holy Spirit gives you the strength to resist the temptations to commit sin. God will give you the Holy Spirit if you ask for help to resist sin when you are being tempted. Salvation in Jesus Christ has to be activated in your personal life. This activation does not come from your church, but from God.

Being saved from sin is a personal proposition between you and God. A church can entertain you, but only God can save you from sin. You can be around sinners in your church, and if so, you need to separate yourself from sinners in the church. This is because when sinners worship God, they are making a mockery of God. Under these conditions, your church environment would be preventing you from being saved.

### Subject: God Does Not Dwell In Church Buildings: He Dwells In People:

The Holy Spirit does not dwell in a church building, it dwells in the hearts of people. A church building is not holy, only people can be holy. In order to be holy, you have to live a holy life. A church building cannot live a holy life. A church building is not God's house; those who are filled with the Holy Spirit are God's house.

God does not want a church building, He wants human beings to dwell in. God does not call a church building into holiness, but He calls people from uncleanness to holiness. Listen to I Thessalonians 4:7:

Verse 7 - For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

You don't go to a church building to serve God. You serve God by the way you treat your fellow man in every aspect of your life.

#### **Subject: You Know Yourself:**

When you are not living a righteous life, you will know it. This will bring to your attention that you are in need of a Savior. No one will have to tell you this; the way you are living will tell you. Though some of your associates may see you as a nice person, they will not be able to see the real person that you are. Therefore, don't let their flattering words deceive you. You know the truth about yourself. So, seek the Lord while he may be found, and He can save you, and you will know that you are saved.

#### **Subject: The Choice Is Yours:**

Just as you are in this world, is the way that you will be in the world to come. If you are a sinner when you die, God is not going to make you a saint after you die. Whatever you will be in the next life will be your choice and not God's. God will not make you holy in the next life if you desire to be unholy in this life.

God will only allow you to enter the kingdom of heaven when you have the Holy Spirit. You must receive the Holy Spirit while you are in this life. Your sins will separate you from receiving eternal life. God did not create us to die in our sins. When sin was introduced to humans, they took pleasure in sinful practices; that makes it difficult for humans to be saved from sin.

God later established a plan in Christ for humans to never die. However, the plan only goes into effect when humans are willing to accept it. If humans choose to live according to God's plan while in this present world, then God's plan for humans to receive eternal life will go into effect in the next life.

#### **Subject: God Must Reveal Himself To You:**

In order to learn about God, you must have clean hands and a pure heart. There is no need to call upon God during a time of trouble with a sinful life. God will not respond to such people. It is true that God loves you, and is ready to reveal Himself to you, but you must put forth an effort to repent of your sins, live

uprightly, and speak the truth.

God will not come near people who are surrounded by sin, or sinners. You must sanctify yourself when you are trying to reach God. God is holy, and He will only respond to those who are putting forth an effort to be holy. God will not desecrate His holiness just to have fellowship with an unholy person. God is against sin, and as long as a person continues to live a life of sinful practices, they will not be able to reach God.

If you are a sinner, you won't find God in your church; God could care less about a church where sinners assemble. When you put away your sins, God is pleased to meet you and dwell with you. God will then begin to reveal to you the mysteries of His reality. Make no mistake, the reality of God is hidden from those who are sinners. You can only learn about God when He reveals Himself to you.

If you put forth an effort to learn about God without God revealing Himself to you, the devil will deceive you by revealing false religious teachings to you. The truth of God can only be revealed to you by the Spirit of God. This will enable you to worship in Spirit and in truth. When God reveals Himself to you, He will also reveal every false religious teaching that has deceived many church folk who think that they are worshiping the true God.

### Subject: The Mystery Of Godliness Is Revealed To The Saved Person:

God does things in a mysterious way that those who are unsaved cannot learn about. You can only learn the secrets and mysterious ways about God when you obey Him. God gives the Holy Spirit to those who obey Him, and the Spirit leads you into the knowledge of the mysterious ways of God. A person who is not filled with the Holy Spirit doesn't know very much about God.

The wisdom of God is hidden from the unsaved and the people of the world. Listen to I Corinthians 2:7:

Verse 7 - But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

The mysterious wisdom of God is revealed to those who are born again, and are humble in spirit. God confounds those who try to learn about Him that are not saved. Listen to I Corinthians 1:27:

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

If an unsaved person thinks that they know about God, they are confused. The devil himself did not know that by crucifying Jesus he was causing the plan of God to go into effect, so that salvation might come to the world. Listen to I Corinthians 2:8-11:

Verse 8 - Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

The people of the world who are unsaved, and are living to enjoy sinful pleasures of the world have no idea of the joy and happiness that God is preparing for those who are saved.

Verse 9 - But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

All the mysterious plans and ways of God are revealed to those who have the Spirit of God.

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

Man cannot learn the things of God unless they are revealed to him by the Spirit of God. Man can only learn the things of man that are within his own mental capacity to learn.

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

#### **Subject: You Have To Invite God To Your Church:**

When the Lord is not in your private life, neither is He in your church during your worship services. The mercy and grace of God must enter your private life before you can invite Him to your church. God is like a relative that you invite to your home to be your guest, and while He is a guest in your home, you invite Him to church. In order for God to be in your church, you have to invite God to church after He pays you a visit in your private life.

#### **Subject: Yoke Up With Jesus:**

God wants to relieve us of the things that keep us burdened and worried. It is sin that keeps us worried and burdened, and God is going to remove sin from the universe. Though you may be living a sin-free life, sin can continue to burden you because of the conditions of the world. The things that people do in the world that are not right also have an effect upon the saved person. Because sin causes many people to mourn, God sent Jesus into the world to extend to us an invitation to come unto Him.

Jesus said, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and ye shall find rest for your soul". When you come to Jesus, take His offer and learn how to work with Him. Many have previously been trying to live a saved life without Jesus, but if you yoke-up with Jesus He will teach you how to work righteousness into your life, and righteousness will yield the peaceful, pleasant and good fruits of holiness.

#### Subject: You Don't Need To Know Everything:

It is because of so much unhappiness, so much sin in the world, and so much hypocrisy among people who are called Christians that those who are sincere about being saved would truly like to know when Christ is going to return to take the saints to be with Him. Such things about God and His relationship with man will be given to those who are born again to know. However, things that are not given to you to know will be withheld. The things that God does not reveal to you will be for your best interest. Too much knowledge from God can develop conceit in

the mind of a person. There are many who would have trouble maintaining the Spirit of humility when they know a lot.

God is like a father to those who are saved. A good father will never tell his child more than they need to know. When you tell a child too much, they will eventually believe that they know more than their parents. Under these conditions, the child will attempt to become the decision maker in the family. Making decisions without experience can be very troubling and dangerous to a child.

#### **Subject: A Great Cloud Of Witnesses (Hebrews 12:1-3):**

Everybody has a witness against sin in their conscience. When a person believes the word of God it will purify their mind, and their conscience will excuse them. If they fail to believe the word of God, their conscience will accuse them, leaving them in condemnation of their sins. When you believe that the word of God can keep you living right, you will have a great cloud of witnesses to support your belief. Such witnesses were the saints who were saved in times past that will support your testimony. These witnesses along with your conscience will confirm your salvation.

After that you believe that God can save you and keep you saved, you will shun the appearance of evil and God will sanctify you. You can then ask God for the Holy Spirit and He will give it to you. After you get the Holy Spirit there will be power within you that will give you a zeal to lift up a standard of righteousness when the devil comes to tempt you to commit sin. It will then be by the power of God that you will not yield.

#### **Subject: True Salvation And False Imagination:**

You have to watch your religion if it is motivated by your imagination. Your imagination can adulterate the knowledge that the word of God teaches if your imagination is not controlled by the Holy Spirit. The word of God has to be obeyed, not your imagination neither any carnal aspects of your thoughts, because such things are the works of the devil.

The knowledge of true salvation has to be sanctified from all outside sources that are not connected with the knowledge that the word of God teaches. When a

person decides that they want to learn about God, Satan is on stand-by waiting to inject false religious knowledge with the truth of God's word. Only the Holy Spirit can help you to make a distinction between the false and the truth because it is the Spirit of truth.

It is necessary to have a Holy Ghost filled preacher to help you to discern the true from the false. When you are worshipping God of a truth, the truth must be given by the Spirit of truth. St. John 4:22-23:

- Verse 22 *Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.*
- Verse 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

#### **Subject: The Commandments:**

While Jesus was on the earth, Satan the prince and ruler of this world tempted Jesus. God does not rule this world, it is ruled by the fallen angel whose name is Lucifer, or the devil which means adversary. God created the world for man to rule, but when man sinned he came under the power and influence of the devil. Man then fell from grace receiving no assistance from God. Man's disobedience caused him to lose his rulership of the world. Satan started a rebellion in heaven and was caste out of heaven and fell to the earth and deceived the woman causing Adam to transgress the commandment that God gave him; and from the day that Adam sinned, the devil has ruled the world.

The only power that man has against the devil is obedience to God's word. God has programmed His word so that no forces of evil can have power over what it commands when the commandments are obeyed. The nation of Israel was first given these benefits when God gave them the Ten Commandments. The purpose of God's commandments is to keep the devil from deceiving and separating a people from God's protection, blessings and grace. The devil cannot harm a people who obeys God's commandments, so he uses tactics of deceit to get people to disobey the commandments, and disobedience opens the door for the devil to destroy the people.

Though the world is being ruled by Satan, God saves a remnant in different generations called the saints of God. They are in the world, but not of the world.

The saints don't follow after the sinful things that Satan tempts the unsaved to do. The saints follow after things that are acceptable to God which are peace and holiness. The saints live and give living examples of how to live sin-free.

Now the devil thought that he could deceive Jesus by showing Him all the kingdoms of the world. Listen to how Jesus resisted Satan's temptations in St. Matthew 4:10:

Verse 10 - Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

The devil has been very successful in deceiving the world leaders of today making them believe that war will allow them to have rulership of the world. The devil deceived Hitler into believing that he could rule the world, which resulted to Hitler killing himself when he saw that he was a fool. In every generation, the devil finds foolish people who think that they can rule others by means of war. The devil can use such people's religious beliefs to make them believe that they have a God who is leading them to rule the world by means of killing their fellow man.

#### **Subject: God's Church Is Living Stones:**

You want God to be in your life. When God is not in your everyday life, neither is He in your church, or anywhere else with you. The church that God is in will be constructed upon your testimony of how God is in your life. Such a construction of God's church will be a spiritual construction of a life of righteous living rather than a construction of a building made of bricks and lumber. God builds a spiritual house to dwell in. Listen to I Peter 2:4-5:

Verse 4 - To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious.

When God uses you to build His church, His Spirit makes you a living stone.

Verse 5 - Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

When God saves you, your life becomes a heavenly place in Christ Jesus. You then become God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works. A building made of lumbers and bricks cannot do good works like humans can do.

#### **Subject: Your Life Is Your Soul:**

Your soul is your mind, which is your life. Your parents gave you a flesh and blood body, but God gave you your soul, which is your life. Your life is a gift from God in which God gave you to enjoy. When your life is holy, you can enjoy living.

If your life is not holy or righteous, you will enjoy false pleasures of sin and eventually lose your privilege to a life of joy in the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost gives joy and peace to your life.

If a person fails to learn the value of their life and does not get saved, his life will be given a low level of existence to live in misery throughout eternity. If a person experiences death of the physical body and not be saved, their life will continue in a state of existence separated from the joy and peace that God is offering. His life would then be lost even if he enjoyed the wealth of this world while he lived in a flesh and blood body. Listen to St. Matthew 16:26:

Verse 26 - For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

#### **Subject: A True Fellowship With God:**

You can feel the presence of God when you can't hear His voice. A sense of feelings is just as accurate, and real as your sense of hearing and seeing. God makes Himself known through the knowledge of His word, and the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit brings the presence of God to you by means of your sense of feelings.

When God doesn't speak to you, He overshadows you with His Spirit, and you will experience the feeling of joy, love, pleasantness, and goodness. You will

then respond with tears of joy and expressions of thanksgiving and gratitude. You will know that you are in the presence of God, because no evil feelings of adversity will be able to intrude upon your fellowship with God. God at such time will be paying you a visit, giving you spiritual blessings. God rules, and has fellowship with His people through the sense of feelings.

Now if you think that God is having fellowship with you and you do not love your brother or if you have ill feelings toward another person, then your fellowship is false, and is not from God. A true fellowship with God can only be substantial according to the knowledge that God will give you. When the knowledge of God's word can be accurately applied to your way of living, then your fellowship with God is true.

Without true feelings that are confirmed by knowledge of the word of God, there can be no union or grace in the midst of the people who are attempting to worship God. True feelings reflecting the presence of God must be founded upon the knowledge of the word of God. Now understand that this can only be presented to the people when the truth is being preached and the word of God cries against the sins of the people, and they put forth an effort to repent. Acceptance of the truth purifies the lives of the people, setting the stage for the presence of God to establish a true fellowship with them.

#### **Subject: A Reasonable Sacrifice:**

The sacrifice that Christ offered to God for us was a sweet smelling savor to God. God was so pleased with such a sacrifice that He would save any sinner who repented with a sincere heart. Along with Christ's sacrifice, He prayed a prayer of forgiveness to God for those who crucified Him. This prayer was received by God because the sacrifice that Christ made showed the sincerity of the prayer request.

Because of Christ's sacrifice and prayer to God, God will accept all who come to Christ presenting themselves as living sacrifices, not having to die on a cross as Christ died. God accepts a willingness not to commit sin as being a reasonable sacrifice, and He will give salvation to those who come to Christ with this mind (Romans 12:1-2).

#### **Subject: The Ministry Of Reconciliation (II Corinthians 5:17):**

You have to be a new creature in Christ to be reconciled to God. Your life must be completely renewed by the Holy Spirit. All old, sinful, and worldly ways must be passed away. You will then be classified by God as an ambassador for Christ. You will then live in an atmosphere of joy, peace, and happiness. All hate, malice and strife would no longer be a part of your character.

Your new life in Christ will cause you to be an heir of the kingdom of heaven. All these things will be of God who had reconciled us to Himself by His Son, Jesus Christ. We will then be given the ministry of reconciliation to direct others to Christ. A minister of reconciliation for Christ will represent another country, a place where God and His angels dwell. Everything in this country will be holy.

## Subject: There Are Angels Assigned To Those Who Obey God:

God is a reality. If you believe in your heart that God is real, you will experience the presence of God in your life during your time of trouble, or temptations. He will comfort, bless, and give you victory if you believe in Him. When God is with you, His Spirit will overshadow you.

God has countless millions of angels in heaven to carryout God's orders in the earth. They are assigned to watch over, and assist those who obey God. Michael is an angel who gives the orders in heaven like satan at one time gave, until satan was kicked out for being rebellious.

Today Michael supervises the other angels in heaven, and directs their responsibilities for the saints of the earth. Angels are assigned by God to protect you when wicked spirits surround you to tempt, and persecute you. Every saved person has an angel assigned to them as a guardian, ordered to protect you against wicked spirits that you can't see. The prophet of God teaches you about these benefits when you obey God.

#### **Subject: Unconditional Faith:**

You have to learn to trust God to be an acceptable child of God. Having faith in God means to have complete dependency, and confidence in God. This extent of faith can only be acquired when you are filled with the Holy Spirit. Without true faith in God, your religion can be hypocrisy. Your faith has to be the very substance of your spiritual life with God. There should be no other aspects of your life that can replace or compete with your faith in God. You should trust God so much that you would feel that you would have no life at all without faith in God.

When you pray and ask God for your daily provisions, such a prayer request should be absolutely sincere. Our dependence and trust in God should cause us to look to Him for guidance and help at all times, and we should without reservation give God the glory for every good thing that comes to us in life.

When your faith is sincere, your praises, thanks, and glory that you give to God will be accepted by God. When your faith is not true, none of your church services and religious ways will be acknowledged or accepted by God. Without true faith in God, your praises to God will be making a mockery to God.

When you go to God with a prayer request, you must believe with a firm conviction that God is near, He hears your request, and that He has a tender and compassionate understanding of your condition, and that He is able to answer at the time and in the manner requested.

With such an approach to the throne of grace, it will appear that you believe that God is a reality and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Your faith will then please God; for without faith true faith, it is impossible to please God in spite of how holy or sin-free your life might be.

#### **Subject: A Child Of God Lives By Faith:**

If you are a born again child of God, you should be living by faith. If you are not living by faith, you are most likely not a born again child of God. The way of life of a child of God is the walk of faith. There are no acceptable alternatives for living that God will approve of except living by faith.

Living by faith means that many times in your life you cannot see how things that you need in life will be provided. To live by sight on a continuous basis is not acceptable to God. To live by faith in God is to put your trust in God. You will then have the belief and confidence that God will do that which He has

promised to do.

Living by faith is a part of the holiness of a saved person. When you have faith, it means that you are filled with the Holy Spirit, because only the Holy Spirit can bring faith into your life. Faith is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22). When you live by faith, you will follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will be your director through life.

#### **Subject: The Child Of God:**

A child of God will follows God as if he or she is blindfolded, not desiring to see for himself. They will be absolutely dependent upon God leading them. If a child of God could see the way to go through life, he would choose the way that would be easy and inviting, where the devil often sets temptations. A child of God would learn to trust God for guidance and be confident that the way God points out will eventually lead to eternal life. God can see the beginning and the end of the way. A child of God would pray to God asking Him to provide for his daily needs. He will feel with complete confidence that what they ask for will be granted if he is fully obedient to God.

It would only take obedience and simple faith to be a child of God. With trusting and simple faith, a child of God should look to God for deliverance from problems, for salvation, for healing and comfort.

#### Subject: An Acceptable Request To God:

A saved child of God should believe that God is always in hearing distance, and always has an understanding and sympathetic ear. They will believe that on the strength of the promises in God's word, that God would grant a request in His own way and time according to the faith of the individual who is praying. They would know that whatever God can do to relieve them of a problem, He will do it, if they believe. They must first believe before going to God in prayer, then it would be their faith that would lead them to God in prayer. Their prayer must be motivated and directed by their faith. Faith must be the substance that caused their prayers to go forth. The fact that they pray must be evidence of their faith.

They must have a strong and unalterable conviction that the prayer will be answered. There must be in them a feeling of certainty that cannot be deterred by the appearance of the complication of what they are asking for. Their faith should be so firm and unmovable that it would move God to give them the desires of their heart. They should not feel for one moment that God would be burdened by their request, or that it would be too costly for God to grant their request.

Moreover, they should not come to God in mockery with doubts and fears of God not honoring their request. Such an approach to God is without sincerity or reverence, which causes their request not to have a substantial claim. Mockery is to ask God for something without a definite faith to obtain the blessing. They should believe that when they go to God that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him. Prayer without faith is like a false alarm. Though God would immediately recognize the false alarm, He would have no pleasure in a fool.

Whenever a person goes to God for anything, they must consider that He sees their heart and knows the intent of their mind. They must remember that they are God's children and that children should be respectful and obedient to their parents, and remember that they can't hide their heart from God. If their heart is unbecoming, God will see that it is, and withhold whatever consideration He might have in reserve for the child.

## Subject: The Reality Of God Is Revealed To The Faith Of Men:

When you are born again, you will acquire a vision of your future home by faith. Jesus taught that in His Father's house are many mansions. You have to be in the Spirit in order to envision the blessings of God in the kingdom of heaven. When John was on the Isle of Patmos, John was in the Spirit, and the Spirit revealed to John the things that God wanted him to write. John actually heard the voice of God, which spoke to him like that of natural man.

The Holy Spirit reveals the reality of God to you and makes known the things that God desires for you to know. Faith is the intercessor between man and God that the Holy Spirit works with to bring the man the ability to believe the things of God that he can't see with the natural eyes.

In the natural state, we can perceive the things of God by faith, but the time will come when we will see God face to face. By faith we know in part, but then we shall know even as also we are known.

#### **Subject: The Life-Line Between Man And God:**

If you want to see Jesus you have to get rid of all envy, strife, hatred, and malice. Then you can steal away and pray. When God sees your efforts in doing this, He will give you the Holy Spirit. Now you haven't got long to stay here to prepare to meet Jesus: There is an allotted time for the grace of God to be available for the people of the earth.

The devil has attacked the prayer line between man and God, making it unconstitutional to pray in the public schools of America. The devil has twisted the minds of the Supreme Court justices to the extent to make such a decision. Those who have supported such a decision have abused this grace period that God has granted to the earth. Grace is precious time that the people of the earth have been given to repent of their sins and be saved.

Prayers to God will only be accepted during this grace period. At the end of the grace period, the judgment of God will be served to the unsaved. Prayer is a life-line between man and God, and everybody should have the privilege to pray everywhere.

#### **Subject: The Assistance Of The Holy Spirit:**

God honors a benevolent spirit which leads us to pray for one another. There are many who pray to God strictly for themselves. God does not honor selfish prayers. If you are born again, and filled with the Holy Spirit, you do not have to pray for yourself, because the Holy Spirit will pray for you. When you are born of the Spirit of God, the Spirit monitors your life and carefully observes your needs and desires. If your desires are not selfish, the Spirit will present a request to God to give you what you need and desire. So when you pray, you don't have to pray for yourself, but for others.

The Spirit will also teach and lead you into proper prayer presentations to God that are acceptable. Now remember the Spirit of God is your comforter; which means it will assist, counsel, teach and guide you into the proper way to serve God. The Spirit will show you how to adjust your life as a new member in the family of God according to the will of God, and prayer is a very important part of this adjustment process.

#### **Subject: Trouble Comes To Everybody:**

When some folk have trouble, they blame somebody else for their troubles that they themselves are the cause of. We are born into a world of trouble and there is no solution in blaming somebody else for our troubles. Listen to Job 14:1:

Verse 1 - Man that is born of a woman is of a few days and full of trouble.

When we are born, we bring the nature to have trouble into the world with us. Some folk can drink liquor and smoke cigarettes that will make them sick and eventually die. However, the preacher of their funeral will say that the Lord took the deceased, when in reality it was the liquor and cigarettes that took the person.

If you can correct yourself of your trouble that you bring upon yourself, your troubles will be to your advantage. Trouble gives you knowledge and experience that will make you wise. If you obey God's word, He promises to be with you when you have trouble. Pay your tithes and offerings to God along with your obedience, and when you have trouble, He will deliver you. Listen to Psalm 50:14-15:

- Verse 14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows to the most High.
- Verse 15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

If you obey God's word, He will do what His word promises during your time of trouble.

#### **Subject: Blessed Are The Pure In Heart:**

A great day is coming for the pure in heart. Listen to who the word teaches that you are going to see in Matthew 5:8:

Verse 8 - Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

If your heart, or mind has been purified by the Holy Spirit, the day is coming when

you shall see God. On this day you will begin to reap the full benefits of an inheritance that is undefiled that God has promised you. Listen to I Peter 1:3-4:

- Verse 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- Verse 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.

If your heart is pure you must endure your trials because your faith in the promises of God is more precious than gold that will perish. When the Holy Spirit gives you faith, nothing can remove it. Listen to verses 6-7:

- Verse 6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:
- Verse 7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

Every test, temptation, or trials that you experience is for the purpose of making you ready for the day that you will see God.

#### **Subject: You Are Made Perfect Through Suffering:**

If you accept the word of God, it will purge your mind of all bitterness, envy, strife, and any ungodliness, that you might live the life of Christ. If you live like Christ, you will not hold bitterness against anyone. When you are confronted with the opposition of folk, your words will be like Christ's words in St. Luke 23:34, which states as follows:

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

When you pray for others to be forgiven with a sincere heart, though God will forgive others, He will also accredit you with the forgiveness that Christ prayed for on Calvary. God is a wonderful God; when you pray for forgiveness He will hear your prayers. Under these conditions God will accredit your life as being perfect. Suffering will also be a part of your promotion to perfection. Remember, Christ is our example who learned obedience through the things that He suffered. The authenticity of your obedience is proven to be true through your suffering.

#### **Subject: The Love Of God Is More Powerful Than Hatred:**

Love makes you happy, and hate makes you miserable. The love of God has more power than anything that can make you hate. When you have the love of God in your heart, hate cannot come in. Hate is only in the lives of those who want it. Such people may want hate to enforce their desires for revenge, greed, selfishness, and jealousy.

The love of God comes into a person's life by the power of the Holy Spirit when they desire to please God. You must accept God's love to please God. The love of God causes you to be partaker of the character of God. God is love. God's love caused Him to offer salvation to the people of the world that hated God. They hated God to the extent that they crucified His Son. God caused His love to have maximum power by means of their acts of hatred to save them from their hatred.

#### **Subject: Holy Is His Name:**

God's name is "Holy". Listen to St. Luke 1:49:

Verse 49 - For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name.

Now there are many gods in the world, but there is only one holy God. God's name is a description of what He is. To be holy means to be free from sin and unfair worldly ways. It means that God can administer love to the world without partiality or respect to persons. It means the righteousness of God has

more power than any forces of evil in the world. To be holy means that God is perfect, and exact in implementing salvation to those who desire to be saved, and judgment to those who desire not to be saved.

When you learn about God's holiness, you would have acquired a description of His ways. You will learn that God's ways are different from the ways of the world. Listen to Isaiah 55:8-9:

- Verse 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.
- Verse 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

## Subject: The Love Of God Causes You To Love Your Neighbor As Yourself:

Sin is the transgression of God's law. When you have God's Spirit, you don't break His law. This means you won't violate any of the principles that the word of God teaches, starting with what Moses taught to the gospel that Jesus taught. The Spirit of God causes you to love your fellow man. When laws are broken, it is usually done in violation of another person's rights.

When the Spirit of God brings the love of God into your life, you will not violate the rights of your fellow man. When you love God with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength, it will be manifested by the way you treat your fellow man. You can only successfully do this when you are born again. The love of God is manifested in your life when you love your neighbor as yourself.

#### **Subject: The Power And Glory Of God:**

The word of God is knowledge about Jesus that can manifest the reality of Jesus with such power that unless you are born again you cannot understand that which God can do through His word. Jesus was the word of God made flesh, and sent to the earth that we might understand the miraculous works of God. Listen to 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.

The glory of God was manifested in the life of Christ. When the word was made flesh the people could see the glory of God doing works in the midst of them that had never been done before. It was the glory of God working in His only begotten Son. If we believe the works of God, and put forth an effort to repent of our sins, we can become the sons and daughters of God, because the glory of God has power to go to work in our minds as well as it did for the people during Jesus' appearance. The power and glory of God is unlimited and can manifest itself in the lives of people at any location during any period of time.

#### **Subject: If You Love God You Will Keep His Commandments:**

There are many who say that they love the Lord. There is only one means by which God accepts an expression of love from a person, and that is when you keep His commandments. Listen to St. John 14:14-15:

Verse 14 - If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it.

Your love for God must be in line with your obedience to His commandments, otherwise God will not accept your expressions of love.

God exists in three parts. There is God the Father, God the Son who is Jesus, and God the Holy Spirit who is called the Comforter. Each member of the Trinity has a different office, yet they all work together in one Spirit under the influence of the word of God. The word of God who is Jesus is the deliverer of the knowledge of God to the world. The Holy Spirit is the power of God that causes the word of God to give a person the new-birth. The word and the Spirit deploys the grace of God to a person to give the person salvation.

It is very difficult to accomplish anything without some form of communication. The word of God brings messages to the world, and if a person obeys the messages, God will support and fulfill His message by means of actions taken by His Spirit. The word of God brings information and the Spirit activates the information in the lives of those who receives the information by means of

obedience. When you keep God's commandments, He will do what you ask.

#### **Subject: Obedience Has More Power Than Disobedience:**

God saw that it would be fair to arrange a plan so that all the sin and iniquity that was against us, because of another man's sin, would be abolished if we were willing to repent and obey God. God saw that if one man broke the law, and brought the sentence of death upon all men, it would be fair to raise up another man to abolish the sentence of death for those who were not responsible. God ordained that Christ be the one to deliver those who were willing to obey His gospel.

Your obedience is what will allow God's plan to go into effect for your deliverance from sin. It was disobedience that caused us to be under condemnation, so God empowered obedience to have power over the condemnation that disobedience brought upon us. When you take on the mind to obey God, the power of God goes into effect to remove the curse that disobedience brought upon us.

## Subject: Obedience To God Will Lift Some Of The Burdens Of Suffering:

You might wonder why God allows man to suffer. Man suffers because of the first man's disobedience, which caused all men who were born after the first man to be victims of the dying process. Man is born to die, and suffering is the initial part of the dying process. If man accepts Jesus Christ into his life, and obeys the gospel, Jesus will carry some of the burdens brought about by suffering. Obedience to God reverses the suffering process to an extent, but it will not completely remove suffering.

Death is a slow process. It is only sudden by accidents or wars. From the day that man is born into the world he begins to die. When a person is not saved, they will think that they are beginning to live, because of the lustful pleasures and fun that many young people enjoy. The pleasures of a person's youth can be deceiving. Listen to Ecclesiastes 11:9:

Verse 9 - Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the

ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

#### **Subject: A Course For The Righteous:**

God is very powerful. Many people may wonder how God can know all that is going on in earth at the same time. God also keeps a record of everything that is done in the earth. When a person desires to obey God; God will place them on a course in life. The course will be fixed for the person so that the blessings of God will be all along the course. A person who does not desire to obey God will see the course as being foolish, and will not go the way of the righteous person.

A righteous person will follow the counsel of God and prosper. 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.

God sets a standard for those who obey His teaching that as they walk in His statutes and keep His commandments He will provide. God is a God of equity, a just God. God fixes a program for the righteous person so that their obedience will place them on the right path to receive blessings. It is impossible to obey God and not be blessed.

## Subject: You Shall Eat The Good Of The Land If You Are Obedient:

When you delight yourself in the Lord, you will be happy when you live according to the teachings of the gospel. You will be pleased to live righteous. Your heart will then desire good things and God will give you the desires of your heart (Psalm 37:3-4).

God has promised that when you keep your mind on Him, you will be blessed. God will always have power over the things of the earth so that He can bless the righteous person. The devil cannot prevent the servants of the Lord from prospering and enjoying the good things of the land, as long as they are obedient.

#### Subject: The Spirit Of A Child:

God's promise that He will do anything you ask if you keep His commandments is quite assuring to all who trust Him and are identified as His children. I believe He will do anything that I ask, so I keep His commandments and stand ready to exercise my rights as His child whenever a situation occurs that would make it necessary for me to ask. God has been a wonderful Father to me and I am careful to always maintain my integrity as His child.

Everybody has the same privilege if they protect their interest by keeping His commandments. God will prepare blessings for us in the presence of our enemy. He will follow us with goodness and mercy all the days of our life. You must be like a child in spirit when you come to God. You must have the humility, obedience, and dependence upon God as a child would towards its parents.

#### **Subject: Peace Leads You To Holiness:**

The prophet Isaiah prophesied of the way of salvation centuries before John the Baptist came on the scene (Isaiah 35:8). Isaiah referred to it as a highway which would be called a way of holiness. This means it would be an elevated way of life above sinful practices. Failure to acquire this way of life will result to not ever seeing the Lord (Hebrews 12:14).

When you are in the way of holiness you will live in peace with your neighbor. Strife and contentions with your fellow man will not lead you to holiness because such things are contrary to peace. You must follow peace to get to the way of holiness.

#### **Subject: Peace And Love Are Against The Devil:**

You can't get right with God until you get right with one another. Today many are angry with somebody that has done something to displease them. Even church folks are fighting with each other, when one religious faith is against another. It is a bad example for the unsaved to see. Church folk of today are not against the devil, they are against one another. If church folk were against the devil, they would have love and peace.

#### **Subject: How Did Satan Fall?**

The devil was cast out of heaven because his heart was lifted up, causing his actions to be rebellious. The devil's sins started in his heart. When sin is in the heart of a person, God can see it before it becomes active. Satan's heart became lifted up because of his beauty. His beauty developed pride. Listen to Ezekiel 28:17 and 15:

Verse 17 - Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

When God first created Satan, he was a great work of God, but later Satan thought too much of himself, and lost control over his humility. Afterward, sin entered Satan; sin had more power than Satan's wisdom, and his better judgment failed to deliver him from sin, and iniquity was found in Satan.

Verse 15 - Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

It was the magnificence of Satan that allowed sin to enter his heart, and later caused him to be cast out of heaven.

## Subject: How Does Satan Work To Deceive People Of Today?

Satan never comes to deceive people in the form of the devil, such as in pictures we have seen of him with a long red tail, two horns on his head, and a pitch fork in his hand. Satan comes as a friend, with the voice of a friend, in the human form of a friend, with the attention, sympathy, and interest in your personal life as a friend.

Satan's purpose as a friend is to get close to you as the serpent got close to Eve. In the days of Adam and Eve animals spoke. It is not unusual today to hear a parakeet talk. Eve listened to her close associate talk to her. Satan used the serpent to give Eve advice on her personal interest. It told her that the fruit on the forbidden tree would make her wise as gods, and if a woman believes that anything will make her wise, she will want it.

Eve's curiosity was easily aroused, and she desired to find out more about the forbidden fruit, and why God forbade her and Adam to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. This resulted to Eve becoming wise along with old age and death.

#### Subject: God's Back Up Plan:

God put the forbidden tree in the Garden of Eden to test Adam's fidelity. God wanted Adam to live, but He wanted Adam to be deserving of the blessings of God by being absolutely true to God by his own will and choice. Adam made the wrong choice, and became subject to death, and he was driven out of the Garden so that he could not eat of the tree of life, and continue to live as a sinner.

When Adam sinned, there was no program for redemption of sins; this program only came through Christ. It was Satan who was familiar with God's plan for man, because he had been in the secret council with God when God decided to

make man. Satan knew that God loved man, and when Satan was cast out of heaven, he set out to lead man wrong to get back at God for casting him out of heaven.

God did not interfere with Satan's seduction of Adam and Eve because the plan was set for them to live forever by obedience to God. God knowing aforetime that Adam would make the wrong choice prepared a back-up plan for others who would be born after Adam's sin to receive salvation in Christ. In spite of the devil ruling the earth today, God's plan for the redemption of man in Christ will avail for those who desire to be saved.

#### **Subject: Christ Is The Resurrection And The Life:**

Christ did not take on the nature of angels, but on the seed of Abraham who was Isaac. Christ was conceived in a human flesh and blood body like that of the average human. Christ was subject to pains, sadness, and emotions as all humans are. After Christ's death and resurrection, all power was given to Christ, which includes power over Satan's rulership of the world. Listen to St. Matthew 28:18:

Verse 18 - And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, *All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.* 

Christ has power over death, hell and the devil. Christ died as a human that we who are humans might live eternally. When Lazarus, His beloved friend, died, Christ was notified, and went to raise His friend from the dead. The sister of Lazarus was concerned, because Christ was late coming to administer to Lazarus. Martha feared that she would not see her brother again until the day of the resurrection, but Christ said to Martha, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believeth thou this?" (St. John 11:25-26).



# CHAPTER 8 SALVATION: SPECIAL TOPICS

#### Subject: People Are Basically The Same Through The Ages:

The nature and ways of human beings has been the same all through the ages. When you do a lot for children, they become rebellious and stubborn. Doing things to help people must be done in secret and not openly. If people learn that you are going to help them beforehand they will sit down on you. The more God did for the nation of Israel, the worse they became. After God had blessed Israel, He warned Israel of what He would do because of their disobedience, but He would withdraw the rod of punishment as soon as the people would obey Him.

Israel today is suffering because they have forsaken and rejected Jesus Christ as being their Messiah. When Israel returns to God, His love for her is so great that He will restore Israel.

## Subject: There Is No Forgiveness For Blasphemy Of The Holy Ghost:

If the government officials exalt the state above God, such officials will be judged by God. The officials who support laws of the nation that are contrary to the word of God will be brought forth in the judgment of the last days for being in contempt of the court of heaven. The government of heaven that Jesus brought to the earth is above and superior to all governments of the world. A sentence of eternal damnation has been ordained for those who exalt the laws of a nation against the word of God.

Now government officials that openly speak against the law of God and what the word of God teaches will be charged as those who blasphemed the Holy Spirit in which there will be no forgiveness for in this world nor the world to come. Listen carefully to St. Matthew 12:31-32:

Verse 31 - Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

It is the Holy Ghost that brings the knowledge of the word of God to the people of the earth. When a person speaks against what the Holy Ghost has given, such a person will be charged as one who is blaspheming or disrespecting the Holy Ghost in which there will be no forgiveness for.

Verse 32 - And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.

Today it is the Holy Ghost that brings the teachings of Jesus Christ to the world. The Holy Ghost is the guide and director of our salvation. If a nation or leaders of a nation allow the state to make laws above the law of God such a nation will be charged as those who forgot God. In the book of Psalms 9:17 it teaches what the judgment will be for those who support the government of a nation that has forgotten God.

Verse 17 - The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

#### **Subject: Isaiah's Report:**

If you read the prophesy of Isaiah in the book of Isaiah 53:7-9, though the prophesy was given hundreds of years before Christ came to the earth, Isaiah speaks as a witness as though he was present at the trial of Jesus and was reporting on all the facts and evidence that was introduced at the trial. Isaiah introduced his prophesy by asking, "Who shall believe our report?"

The chief priest, the scribes, the Pharisees, the mob, and Pilate were there. Isaiah was asking which of them believed that his prophesy would be fulfilled. In addition, he was giving an accurate account of the decision that they would make to have Jesus crucified hundreds of years before they made their decision.

Though Jesus healed their sick, raised their dead, gave sight to their blind, and cast out demons that possessed their bodies, they didn't believe Isaiah's report that Jesus would be their Messiah sent from God. They said that such a description of the Messiah was not accurate and that Jesus was a blasphemer, because He did many of His good works on the Sabbath day. They said that Jesus should be crucified for such.

Isaiah is further prophesying that Jesus would be brutally, and cruelly treated

for no just reason, and that He had a good defense, and was innocent of any wrong, but this 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. Every detail and unfair treatment that Jesus received at His trial and crucifixion was in keeping with the will of God.

God sent Jesus to be a sacrifice for the sins of the world, and a sacrifice according to the holiness of God could have no faults. It had to be a perfect presentation with no sins. Every quality and aspect of Jesus' conception, life, ministry, and attitude was perfect. Jesus was the perfect Lamb of God, and the only way the scribes, Pharisees, chief priest, and Pilate could have Jesus crucified was that they would have to lie about His life, ministry, and purpose for coming to the earth.

#### **Subject: The Conversion Of Paul:**

When the voice of God spoke to Paul while he was on his way to Damascus to serve warrants on the saints of God, the voice of God asked Paul who was Saul at the time, "Why persecutes thou me"? It is a great mistake to persecute a born again child of God. God will eventually intercede when His children are being persecuted. The persecution of a child of God on earth is received in heaven as a persecution directly against God. You cannot oppose or do harm to a child of God without God feeling the effects of it also. God lives in His people, and is a part of their human make-up. When the saints are persecuted, so is God.

Paul learned the hard way that his hostile activities against the saints was also against the Spirit of Christ, which was stronger than any power a mere man could assemble to confront it. So, Paul became wise when he saw how foolish he was, and he yielded to the voice that got his attention.

Afterward, the Spirit of the devil left him, and he became a vessel that God could use. After the servant of God that Paul was going to imprison for following the teachings of Christ prayed for Paul, Paul's eyes were opened physically and spiritually, and he never saw the world again as a sinner. He only saw Jesus, the risen Lord, and the great gospel work that was waiting to be assigned to him.

#### Subject: Paul's Conversion And Jesus' Trial (Isaiah 53:7):

The apostle Paul was sent before the same crowd that had Jesus crucified to be tried for his faithfulness to the teachings of Jesus' gospel. Those who were trying Paul did not have any substantial charge against Paul that was punishable by death, and what they did have, they couldn't prove (Acts 25:7). Nevertheless, they would have succeeded in charging Paul except for the fact that Paul was born in Tarsus, a city of Cilicia in Rome. This made him a Roman citizen. Paul was previously called Saul of Tarsus, a Roman name.

Festus in presenting Paul's case to King Agrippa, stated that the complaint against Paul was based on the superstition of the Jews concerning Jesus, who was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive (Acts 25:19). After hearing Paul's story and considering that the Jews really had no substantial charge, Festus was ready to release Paul. However, since Paul, a Roman citizen, had appealed to Augustus Caesar, they had no alternative, but to send Paul to Rome, but to retain him in the meantime.

In his defense before King Agrippa, Paul told the whole story of his persecution of the saints who followed Christ, believing he was right at the time. Paul explained how he understood, and was devoted to the Jewish laws, and how the doctrine of Christianity, as he saw it, was blasphemous.

Paul admitted that it was he who held the coats of the mob that stoned Stephen, becoming thereafter zealous in persecuting and destroying this strange religious sect that was following Christ. However, then as he was on his way to Damascus the powers of heaven intervened. Paul was interrupted when he was on his way to Damascus with legal authority to break-up a little group there, and bring them to Jerusalem for trial. The Lord stopped him in the way and revealed to him in a dramatic and sensational demonstration that he was really destroying the works of God by persecuting these saints.

Paul was then converted, and having obtained help from God, he continued unto the day of his trial witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: That is that Christ should suffer, and that He should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles (Acts 26:22-23).

The story of Paul's conversion was not believed by Festus, who said much learning made Paul lose his mind, and provoked fantastic imaginations. However, King Agrippa was affected a little differently; he was almost converted (Acts 26:28). Paul's defense revealed that he actually committed offenses worthy of death before his conversion, which the Jews did not accuse him of, and what he did after his conversion, which they did include in their accusations was actually in

accord with Moses' law and the prophets. What Paul was guilty of in the eyes of his accusers, Christ was also guilty of.

The claim that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God, who came as the Messiah of the Jews, according to the words of the prophets of Israel was what Paul's accusers did not believe even though everything that Christ did was prophesied in their law, and was often referred to by Jesus as proof that He was the Messiah. Christ did not challenge His accusers or demand a right to be heard as Paul did, not because he had no defense as Paul had, but because the scriptures, which had to be fulfilled in every phase of His life said, "Yet he opened not his mouth" (Isaiah 53:7). There was another more profound reason: any statement that Christ may have made in defense of Himself would have resulted in His release and acquittal, and this would have indeed thwarted the plans of God.

Without making any statement at all in His defense, Christ would have been released if Pilate had been a man of courage. Pilate acted more like Christ's attorney than His judge. He frankly admitted, "I find no fault in Him" (St. John 19:6). Pilate was a Roman Governor who did not believe in God. The only charge they had against Christ was that he had blasphemed the name of God, and their law stated by doing so He was guilty and should die (Leviticus 24:16). The Law however, said such a person should be stoned to death, but the Jews were not authorized to execute anyone since they were under the rulership of Caesar (St. John 18:31).

Christ had previously revealed that His execution would be according to the Roman law (St. John 12:32-33). This revelation startled and confused the people who wanted to believe that He was the Messiah, but who understood He should live forever, were under the impression that Christ should never die. They had no knowledge of His death and resurrection. The teachings of Christ concerning Himself and the plan of salvation were all in keeping with the plan of God, but it was difficult for the people to understand at that time.

#### **Subject: The King Who Was Almost Converted:**

Listen to this scripture in the book of Acts 26:28, "Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian". King Agrippa who was a ruler in the days of the Christian trials, tribulations, and persecutions, sat listening to Paul who was once a persecutor of those who followed the teachings of Christ.

After Paul was converted by Christ, he had been imprisoned, and had appealed his case until he was brought before King Agrippa. While Paul expounded upon the truth and supporting the teachings of Christ, Agrippa who was not a Christian being ignorant of the gospel of Christ had a chance to hear a testimony by Paul, and he responded to Paul's testimony by saying "you nearly persuaded me to be a Christian".

The gospel of Jesus Christ has power to persuade and save anybody if they would receive it without reluctance. The scriptures came to us not by the will of men, and have made all men equal regardless of race, or positions of authority, but is not always accepted by men of all classes and positions in the world.

When man holds a position of elevation and high authority in the world, and he is not wise enough to recognize the interest of God in His creation, and is not ruling or governing in accord with the teachings of the scriptures, God has a day in which He will judge all men in righteousness regardless of their positions of authority. He will hold them accountable for their acts of rulership over others that were not according to the scriptures.

## Subject: The King Of Israel That Was Rejected By God (I Samuel 16:1-4):

When Saul after being raised from the position of a mule driver to the king over Israel got to the place that he thought his way was best, and that he did not have to obey orders from God. His actions showed that he was defiant of God's rule. So, God rejected Saul from being king, and prepared to set another man to rule Israel from the sons of Jesse who was David.

God seeks, looks out, and finds whom he desires, and sets him up to rule. If the leader rejects God's commandments in ruling the people, God will reject him as he rejected Saul, and will raise up another to replace the defiant ruler. The things that are written in the scriptures are examples of how God will do things today. It is for this purpose that the events of past times were recorded, and are available today in the scriptures.

We may think that we are doing a lot when we nominate one of our choice to be our president. But, unless our choice is God's choice, the man will be rejected just as Saul was rejected, and God set up David to replace him. The Lord ruleth in the kingdom of men and setteth up over it whom He pleases, directing the leader that His purpose might develop and materialize for the good of the people.

## Subject: A Soldier In The Army Of The Free World's Nations Is Not A Murderer:

God ordained, and requires that soldiers of the free world can literally kill those of other nations that initiate murders and kill innocent people of nations of the free world. Such soldiers will have the word of God supporting their actions against foreign aggressors or terrorists. Listen to Exodus 20:13:

#### Verse 13 - Thou shalt not kill.

This scripture applies to murderers and those who attack innocent people of the free world. God requires that soldiers of the free world avenge such murdering terrorists who unjustly kill innocent people. Listen to Genesis 9:5-6:

- Verse 5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at 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.
- Verse 6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

### Subject: Baptism Is For Those Who Are Sincere To Acquire Salvation:

During Jesus' day the Pharisees and Sadducees consisted of the religious sects who were associated with each other to take counsel against Jesus, and arranged a plan to have Jesus crucified. It was not sinners or non-church folk that planned Jesus' crucifixion. It was church folk who were officers, leaders and administrators in churches that did not want to be subject to the order of heaven that Jesus presented to the world. These church folk refused to be baptized according to the order of heaven, and came to the worship services only to make a mockery of those who were being baptized.

John the Baptist called them a generation of snakes. John said though they were members of the church that they had not yet repented, and have failed to obey God, and they were not prepared for salvation. John further taught that they thought because they were the seed of Abraham, God would have respect for them

in their disobedience. John said God is able to raise up these stones to be worthy of being the seed of Abraham who will be obedient to His word and acceptable in place of the disobedient. John's baptism was not for the purpose of bringing disobedient church folk of that day to Christ to be saved, and neither is baptism for such church folk of today.

#### **Subject: The Purpose Of Marriage:**

It was God who established the institution of marriage. Many today do not realize God's purpose for marriage. God made male and female to be fruitful and multiply and to replenish the earth. Bearing children is the principal purpose of entering into the marriage relationship. When folk get married that are of the same sex, they don't know the purpose for marriage, neither those who get married and use preventive measures for not having children.

Many women today have pretty much taken the matter of child conception into their own hands, ignoring or disregarding the divine purpose of marriage, and misunderstanding the privilege of bearing children.

After God joined male and female in holy matrimony, He ordered them to be fruitful and multiply, and to replenish the earth. God delegated to the male and female the honor of creating the population of the earth. When women destroy the life of a child, they will be working against the plan of God, brining themselves unto condemnation.

## Subject: Marriage Is An Order Of Honor Given To Men And Women:

Though men and women were created in the animal kingdom in a similar order of which animals were created, God did not intend for men and women to mate with animals (Leviticus 18:23-25). Man's order in the creation was similar; but higher than that of animals. Animals are on such a lower order in the creation that God had placed no restrictions on their mating habits. This means that animals did not have to limit their mating to one animal of the opposite sex being restricted by the institution of marriage. Animals had the freedom to mate with as many different animals as they desired being led to mate with another of its kind. This

was the natural instinct for mating habits in animals that were created on a lower social order than humans.

God established the institution of marriage for man to mate on a higher order for the purpose of pro-creation. Man was given this order to mate because man had been created in the image of God, and not in the images of apes, monkeys or baboons. If man desires to claim that he originated from the ancestry of a monkey or ape, then he would be degrading himself to a lessor social order of origin than what God created him in. All animals are produced by mating practices. If man claims that he originated from an ape, then his claim would approve of his desire to mate with an ape. Such a claim would also degrade God who made man after His image. Listen to Genesis 1:27:

Verse 27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Being that man was created in the image of God, God ordained that man should mate with a woman, and not a beast; and that this mating should be done in decency and in order within the unity of marriage. Such an order is honor that God is bestowing upon man that was not given to animals of a lower order.

#### **Subject: The Fruit Of The Womb Is Your Reward:**

God has given many gifts to man that man may be able to master his environment. Man has conquered the air, the sea, and is able to control most living creatures in his environment. There is only one blessing that God has added after creating man and giving him dominion over all that God created, and that blessing is the gift of a child. A child is the most important gift that God has given man, but a child must be properly taught and governed in order for the gift of a child to benefit mankind. A child is the determining factor over what the future of mankind will be. Listen to Psalm 127:3:

Verse 3 - Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

When God wants to reward parents for their obedience, he gives the parents a child. When a woman finds that she has conceived, she and her husband should

immediately begin to prepare to shape their child's moral character while she is carrying the child before it is born. The moral conduct of the on-coming generation is what will play a very important role in the destiny of a nation. This morality must start with children of the on-coming generation. The best time to establish morality in a child is after it is conceived.

A child lives before it is born into the world. The actions, thoughts, and moral conduct of the mother are inoculated into the child. The mother's way of thinking becomes the unborn child's way of thinking. If mother is given to any habits, good or bad, the child will partake of those habits, and will gradually develop into what its mother is after being born. Psalm 58:3 reads as follows:

Verse 3 - The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

When a child is conceived and born under the unrighteous influence of the mother, they will go astray from righteousness after they are born. As soon as such a child gets old enough, they will began to rebel against the parents. As an infant the child will fight if the parents don't let him have his way. Being born of wicked parents the child will began to speak lies as soon as it can utter words. Unless parents are of the truth, the child will be like the parents. When parents forsake the way of righteousness, the next generation of children will be unrighteous.

## Subject: Parents Should Look At Their Children: The Babe Moses:

If the mother of a child obeys God and has the mind to work with her child to discover the purpose for which God gave her the child, God will reveal to her the purpose for which the child was born. The baby Moses when he became a man talked with God in person.

As a baby, God caused Moses' physical appearance to attract the attention of the Pharaoh's daughter because a decree by the Pharaoh had been given to destroy all of the babies that were born during that time. Moses' Mother did not honor the Pharaoh's decree and did everything that she could to save her baby. God saw the efforts and intention of Moses' mother and decided to get in the plan to save, and later use Moses. When a mother shows interest in her child, God will also show interest in the child.

Moses was born for a purpose and the purpose was fulfilled by God in Moses because his parents saw that Moses was a fit child. If parents take time to look at their children, and observe their interest, and actions as they mature to see what the child is inclined towards, they will also see the gift and purpose for which God has given them the child. Every child is born into the world for a God given purpose, but the parents must show interest in the child to discover and develop the purpose. After they find the intuition that God has put in the child, they should begin to watch over and direct the child in the way of its gift. They will find that God's purpose will not be defeated.

A mother who watches the child's traits and movements can tell the purpose for which the child was born. Moses' mother saw that the child was a godly child, so she hid him for three months. When she could no longer hide him, she made an ark for him and put the baby in the ark, and watched to see what would happen. When the daughter of Pharaoh came down to the river to take her morning bath, she saw the ark, and sent her maids to bring it to her, and when she opened it, she saw a beautiful baby crying.

Moses' mother was the person of choice selected to nurse and care for the child. All of God's plans must be worked through a man, by means of the gift that God gives the man. Moses had the gift to be able to adjust to different ethnic groups, and learn their ways to the extent that he would be accepted by different groups. Moses acquired an education in Egypt as he grew up to be a young man among a higher class of people in Egypt. He later learned to lower his social status as a shepherd among the people of Midian, which was a lower social class than the Egyptians. Moses acquired an intellectual background from Egypt and a background of humility from Midian.

After Moses had been a shepherd under the authority of his father-in-law Jethro for forty years, God came down while he was watching the flock one day, and lit up a bush with holy fire. Though the bush was burning, it was not consumed. God was attracting Moses' attention. Moses walked over to the bush, and when he did, a voice spoke and said, "Moses the ground you stand on is holy, put off your shoes". When Moses realized it was the voice of God, he fell on his face, and God sent him on a mission back into Egypt from whence he had come.

Moses' mission was to deliver Israel out of bondage of the Egyptians. The purpose was fulfilled for which God gave the baby Moses to his mother and father. This was because they looked at the baby Moses, and saw that he was a goodly child.

## CHAPTER 9 THE GOD-SENT PREACHER

#### **Subject: The Holy Ghost Sent Preacher:**

During the days prior to Jesus' ministry, God sent a man to introduce Jesus who was John the Baptist. John the Baptist was prepared for his ministry by being filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb. Today if a preacher is not filled with the Holy Ghost before he begins his ministry, it is not likely that God sent such a minister. Ministers who are not filled with the Holy Ghost are ministers of the carnal nature. Such ministers will represent the works of the flesh, allowing a life of sin to be an acceptable part of what they are preaching. Prior to John the Baptist being born, the angel Gabriel told John's father Zacharias that his son would be named John.

Now the word 'Baptist' was not a part of John's name. John was not called the Baptist because he belonged to a Baptist church. The word Baptist was added to John's name because he introduced baptism to the people. John taught a very important part of salvation for the people, which was for the people to repent. To repent means to turn from your sins. John preached to repent because the kingdom of heaven was at hand.

John taught that it was necessary for the people to repent of sins that would require a sacrifice that they could feel the effects of after making such sacrifices. This was referred to by John as fruits fit for repentance (St. Matthew 3:8). John later taught that if their repentance and baptism of water were sincere, then there would be one coming after him who would baptize them with the Holy Ghost and fire (St. Matthew 3:11). John's entire ministry was presented by the Holy Ghost, because John was filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb.

So then, the Holy Ghost is using John to prepare the people for an additional work of the Holy Ghost, which will be given to the people in the ministry of Jesus Christ. John's ministry presented to the people an accurate and definite process to qualify on how to enter the kingdom of heaven. John's ministry and life were completely prepared by the Holy Ghost. When the Holy Ghost has presented a means by which the people can be saved, their salvation will be guaranteed if they follow the instructions given by the Holy Ghost sent preacher.

## Subject: Are People Today Evil Like The People Of Noah's Day? (Genesis 6:5) (St. Luke 17:26-27):

God sends His prophets to warn the saved and the unsaved of what He is going to do. A preacher sent by God is a prophet. Such a preacher's messages will

foretell the people about the future plan of God for the saved and unsaved. The preacher will be Holy Ghost taught, inspired, and motivated to speak for God. The preachers' messages will not come from his own mind, but the Holy Ghost will bring to his mind messages from the mind of God. His basic message to the saved will be to maintain their life of righteousness. His messages to the unsaved will be to turn from a life of wickedness. Listen to Ezekiel 18:24:

Verse 24 - But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.

Now the message to the unsaved that God is sending in Ezekiel 18:21 reads as follows:

Verse 21 - But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

These are the basic messages to the saved and the unsaved that the God sent preacher will send to the people.

Through the ages, God has sent prophets to warn every generation that comes and goes. This is to warn them of what shall happen in the last days of the generation that is living on earth in the last days. When Noah was living on the earth, he was a prophet of God who was sent to warn the people of his generation that this was the last generation, and what would happen to those who continued to live in sin. Noah was perfect in his generation, and God said unto Noah, the end of all flesh is come before me: for the earth is filled with violence through them, and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth (Genesis 6:9-13).

God will always have a prophet on the scene to warn the people of what He is about to do (Genesis 6:5). During Noah's day, the people were evil continuously, more than they had ever been before. Today, when people are more evil than they have been in past times, it is an indication that God is about to destroy the earth again. God will have a prophet on the scene to bring to the attention of the people, by using the scriptures to remind them of the conditions during past times when the people were evil like people are today (St. Luke 17:26).

## Subject: The God-Sent Preacher's Calling Must Be Initiated By The Holy Ghost:

John the Baptist was the first gospel preacher. John was under the direction and leadership of the Holy Ghost. John is the example of a God sent preacher. Any preacher who is not sent to preach after the example, and means by which John was taught and sent is a false preacher. Listen to how John was prepared to be sent by God in St. Luke 1:13-15:

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

Now the God sent preacher is prepared by God before his birth. Such a preacher is born for the purpose of preaching the gospel. There must be some point and time in the God sent preacher's life that the Holy Ghost must enter and began to prepare him to be qualified to preach the gospel. In John's case, the Holy Ghost began to prepare him when he was in his mother's womb.

- 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.

When a preacher is filled with the Holy Ghost, he is not filled with alcoholic beverages. The Holy Ghost and liquor, beer, and wine do not occupy a person's life at the same time. Now the Holy Ghost may have different times of entering the God sent preacher's life, but it will be the major influence, teacher, and director of the God sent preacher.

## Subject: The Preacher Must Warn The People And The Ruler Of The Nation:

Rulers of nations of the world can only get help from God to discipline and control the people of their nation when they rule their nation in righteousness. When rulers fail to rule in righteousness, their subjects will become wicked. The next alternative will be for a God sent religious leader to warn the ruler and the people of the nation that if they don't resort to the righteousness of God, that God will then punish the ruler for their wickedness, and the people for following and supporting the ruler.

The God sent preacher is God's watchman who should be in personal contact with the people of the community of which he is ministering. He should know their relationship with God, and show them the danger of their relationship being unacceptable to God. If the preacher fails to show the people the error of their ways, and become slothful in his ministry, such a preacher will experience the same destruction and punishment that the people and the ruler will experience. Listen to Ezekiel 3:17-19:

- Verse 17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.
- Verse 18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.
- Verse 19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die In his iniquity; but thou has delivered thy soul.



## CHAPTER 10 FALSE RELIGIOUS LEADERS

#### **Subject: Has The Church Lost Its Light?**

The church is supposed to be the light of the world. It is supposed to show the people how to live right. It is the responsibility of the church to lift up a light, and expose sin as being a way contrary to the righteousness of God. The gospel of Jesus Christ should be presented by the church to the people to set up a strong opposition against sin and the devil.

When the gospel is preached properly, sin should be reduced and righteousness should be exalted. If the church is not doing this, it means the church has no light. The church is supposed to be the light of the world. When the church has no light, the people will be stumbling and falling, not knowing what to do about the problems that sin will be causing.

When the church has no light, the people will be living with sins in their lives thinking that it is okay; when in reality sin will be unnoticeably killing them. The world will then be in such a poor spiritual condition, because the church will have no power nor influence to show the world how to be delivered from their problems. Churches today are more concerned about holding up the offering pan than the light of Christ.

## Subject: Jesus Will Teach You The Truth And Help You St. John 1:14:

Jesus was filled with favor for everybody, and He never allowed anybody to be deceived with lies, or false religious teachings. If people of today are being deceived with false religious teachings, then Jesus is not a part of it. Jesus taught the truth and then helped the people with their personal problems. When Jesus comes into your life today, He will teach you the truth, and in addition He will help you with your personal needs and problems.

If you are in a church being taught by a religious leader, and are not being helped with your personal needs and problems, Jesus is not a part of such a church. There are many churches today that might teach you parts of the truth, and leave you in a hole. After Jesus tells you the truth, He extends his hand and says, "come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and you shall find rest for your soul".

#### **Subject: The Enemy Of Your Soul:**

For some to be a preacher is to desire a career that can offer prominence, recognition, popularity, and a lucrative income. A preacher who is not sent by God will use enticing words, music, and a program of attraction in a church to draw people. Jesus warns us in the scriptures of only one person to be aware of, and that is a false prophet or preacher (St. Matthew 7:13-16).

Jesus said they disguise themselves in proper attire, but inward they are ravening wolves. Such false preachers can look gentle, pure, kind, and eloquent in their appearance, but if they are not God sent, they are the enemy of your soul. The enemy of your soul is the worst enemy in human existence, because they prevent you from entering the kingdom of heaven.

The name of their game is deception. They do not teach about sin, because such knowledge will not draw a big following. False preachers use flattering words with eloquent speech to make people believe that they are going to heaven regardless of how they are living as a sinner. These preachers use very few scriptures from the Bible, and those scriptures that they use will never show the listeners the dangerous results of a life of sin. They preach that everybody can go to heaven without meeting any requirements to be a citizen of heaven.

False preachers present themselves as men of God teaching people that they can sin, and be saved. They present themselves as star actors in the theaters who play for the acclaim and applause of people. False preachers will tell you all the good things about heaven, and God's great plan for those who go to church and support the finances of the church, and that they will one day be God's children living in the kingdom of heaven. He will conclude by telling you that you can't help for sinning.

## Subject: A Pastor Sent By God Will Preach The Truth About Salvation In Jesus Christ

The reason so many church folk are living in the miserable conditions of a life of sin is because their pastors do not preach the gospel to them. The word salvation means deliverance from sin and death. When the true gospel is preached, it should show the people a way out of sin to avoid the second death. Salvation offers a safety net for your soul in Jesus Christ. A pastor is supposed to be a

shepherd who cares for the safety of the people as a shepherd protects his sheep from the wolf. The wolf is a symbol of the devil.

If people take in the wrong knowledge of how to escape the devil, the wrong knowledge will cause the people to be vulnerable to the devil. You escape the entrapments of sin through knowledge from the word of God. When a pastor teaches that you can't help from sinning, this knowledge weakens the people to be vulnerable to the effects of sin.

### Subject: You Must Know The Word Of God To Recognize The False Preacher:

Unless you know the word of God and can recognize when God is speaking to you, you can very easily be deceived by a false preacher. False preachers teach contrary to the knowledge of the word of God. The word of God teaches that Jesus came to save you from your sins, but a false preacher will teach that you can't help from sinning after Jesus saves you.

You can recognize the voice of God by the knowledge of the truth. You have to be taught about the true knowledge of God. You are not born with the knowledge of God in your mind. If you are taught incorrect knowledge about God, such knowledge will cause you to reject the true knowledge when you hear it. The purpose of false preachers who teach false knowledge is to get you to reject the true knowledge that could save you.

God has sent prophets through the ages who have been inspired to prove that God is real. When the teachings of a true prophet are received, they will improve the conditions of our life. God will be revealed to you by means of what a God sent preacher teaches. Just as they preach, so will the conditions of your life be. If they preach that love, peace, joy, and happiness will be the results of you repenting of your sin, your life will consist of love, joy, peace and happiness. When you believe the principles of righteousness that God's word teaches, God will manifest Himself to you according to the principles.

#### **Afterword**

As we close another volume of Saved from Sin, it is hoped that you have been further enlightened about God's plan for the salvation of mankind, and that you desire to be saved according to the teachings of the scriptures.

If the sermons in this volume have spoken to your heart, we encourage you to seek the Lord, while he may be found, and call upon him while he is near. God is all-powerful, He is able to save to the uttermost, and He is, "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9) before the grace age ends.

Remember, today is the day of salvation! Tomorrow may be too late!

