# **SAVED FROM SIN**

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



# Volume 16

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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

In Volume 16 of Saved from Sin, Elder Kilgore continues to teach the process of salvation as he has experienced it by the power and guidance of God's Holy Spirit. If you have been reading Elder Kilgore's books on a continuous basis, it could be that the Holy Spirit is inspiring you to continue to read this literature. If God's Holy Spirit is dealing with you, it is for your salvation, so that you will have the opportunity for deliverance from the coming destruction.

Jesus' return could be any day. Although no one knows the day nor the hour, all of the signs of His return, as recorded in the Holy Scriptures (Original King James version) are in place. The information presented in this series of books is for the saving of your soul, and so that you will not be taken by surprise at Jesus' return. May God bless your understanding, and guide you through Volume 16 of "Saved from Sin".



# **INTRODUCTION**

## Where Are You Going When You Leave Here?

Now just because you are in this world having a good time does not mean that you are in this world to stay. Having fun can fool you. It can distract your attention from what is really coming down the road. You can be having such a good time that you will think that there is nothing else to life. You can be living just to have fun until an unexpected day of a new event surprises you.

It will be a wise thing to wear this life of fun as a loose garment, because you are going to leave here one day. When the expression of wearing a loose garment is used in regard to life in this world, it means you must not have so many involvements and responsibilities that it will keep your mind from the thing that is more important than the things of this world. There is nothing that you can be doing in this life that will delay your departure when that time comes.

There is an appointed time when we will have to leave this world, and the fun that we are having will not have power to retain our presence in this world. It doesn't matter what you are doing, or how big and important you are, when the time comes you have got to go. Now since you can't get out of going when the times comes, you do have a chance to make advance arrangements in Christ as to where you are going when you leave here.

Now the question may arise in your mind concerning "Where can we go when we leave here? Where you go will depend on the arrangements that you make. If you repent and believe the gospel of Jesus Christ, God will seal you with the Holy Spirit, which will be like a ticket stamped for you to go to a city whose builder and maker is God. The reality of this city will be revealed to you by the Spirit of God when you are filled with the Spirit.

### <u>The Invitation:</u>

Thirty-seven years ago, God sent me an invitation to go to heaven to live in a holy society. I have accepted the invitation and God has placed my name on His guest list, which is the Book of Life. The Holy Spirit has spiritually reconditioned, and educated me on how to be a citizen that is qualified to live in this new holy society. The Holy Spirit has certified me to be in this new holy society. If you are not holy, you cannot live in this new society. You must have the Spirit and nature of the holy citizens to be able to live in this holy society. Only the Holy Spirit can equip and qualify you to live in this new society.

When you acquire the mind to live in this society, God will send you an invitation, and the Holy Spirit will take you through a preparation process to be ready. The Holy Spirit was commissioned by God to make ready a people prepared to live in this society. Though God extends the invitation for the people of the earth to live in this holy society, most people have ignored and are not interested in what God is offering.

# Don't Let The Good Life Of Today Fool You:

If you are doing pretty good socially and economically, you may feel like you are going to be in this world indefinitely. You could be having such a good time that it seems like it won't end. The truth concerning human existence is oftentimes not evident by existing conditions of life. A good life can conceal the truth about life.

About 150 years ago, there were people living in this world having a good time also, but they are not here today. During Noah's day, the people were enjoying life also until one day when everything changed. Listen to what happened to interrupt the pleasant days of their lives in St. Luke 17:26-27:

Verse 26 -	And as it was in the days of $N\bar{o}'-\bar{e}$ , so shall it be also in
	the days of the Son of man.

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

I would not put a lot of confidence in how pleasant things might be today because it could not be evidence of how things might be tomorrow.

# Today You Can Become A Citizen Of The Kingdom Of Heaven:

In order to become a citizen of the kingdom of heaven while you are on the earth you must live by the teachings of Jesus Christ. This means you will live a normal life like everybody else on earth, only you will obey God in all that you do. Under these conditions, you will have the benefits and blessings of the kingdom of heaven as well as the earth.

It is because Christ died that we will have a right to the kingdom of heaven. Christ's death gave a sinner an opportunity to put away his sins and become an heir to the kingdom of heaven. The invitation is now being extended to the sinner. The sinner can be converted from his sinful ways to righteous ways and receive benefits from the constitution of heaven.

# **Obedience To God Is More Powerful Than Disobedience:**

Adam was the first man that God created. God planted Adam as a seed in the world, and all humans are the fruit of Adam, just as apples are fruit from an apple tree. After forming Adam from the dust of the earth, God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. Today all humans live physically by the breath that God gave to the human race from Adam.

Just as humans acquired physical bodies from the seed of Adam, they also acquired the breath for their physical bodies from the breath that God breathed into Adam's nostrils. All human life sources were passed down from the life source that God gave Adam. After Adam sinned, the curse of death that Adam received was also passed down to humans.

God in His mercy saw that though humans had to suffer the penalty for the sin of Adam, they were not responsible for the penalty. Therefore, God arranged another Adam to be sent into the world to redeem those from the penalty of sin that the first Adam passed down to humans. The second Adam was Jesus Christ who came to the earth with redeeming power that was greater than the power that brought death to the human race.

The sentence of death that God pronounced on the first Adam, because of his disobedience, was reversed when Jesus obeyed God down to the death of the cross. The death of the cross as a result of Jesus' obedience to God carried more power than the death of Adam resulting from disobedience.

# Jesus Is Looking For A Mind To Be Born In:

Jesus brought the best and most important benefits to the world, and the world did not want Jesus. Jesus has never been wanted by the majority of the people in the world, but God so loved the world that He did not give us what we wanted, but He gave us what we needed.

A sacrifice is an inconvenience and a hardship. It is a price to pay that will cause you to experience difficulties. Jesus is the expressed image of God, and a Son given to be a sacrifice for the world that did not want Him. God's love for the world moved Him to consider our needs, and not allow our ungrateful attitudes to prevent Him from giving us what we needed. We needed a sacrifice for our sins that our souls might be spared from damnation; so God gave a part of Himself to save our souls.

There are a good many people on the earth who think that they do not need Jesus. They think that Jesus is okay for poor folk; therefore, no room for Jesus is in government nor the lives of those who are content with the wealth of the world. There is no room for Jesus in the hearts of people who are doing pretty good. Many people of the world have set their minds at counsel against the true teachings of the gospel, and they don't believe that Jesus was sent to the earth to save the people from their sins. Such people have rejected the love of God, and they think that living free-from sin is foolish.

The same attitude of rejection to Jesus today was evident when Jesus was sent to the earth. There was no room in the Inn when Jesus' parents arrived in Bethlehem to be taxed. A stable was the only available accommodations for Jesus to be born in. Today Jesus is looking for a place to be born in the minds of people, and very few people are offering Jesus a place in their minds to give them the new birth. The people of today do not want the birth of a new mind to live a righteous life, they prefer a life of sinful pleasures.

### <u>Are The Symptoms Of Sin Still In Your Life?</u>

A person who desires to be saved should not come to God looking for salvation in a church because of family traditions. To receive salvation in Jesus Christ, a person should come to God with an open mind to receive an understanding from the word of God of what is required to be saved. The understanding that they desire to receive should not be based upon their prior religious teaching that has failed to give them salvation. Any sensible person would not go to a doctor to ask for medicine that is the same as the medicine that they have taken that did not cure their sickness. When they have the same symptoms using the same medicine, they would not ask the doctor to give them the same medicine.

It is the symptoms that revealed the effectiveness of the medicine. When a religious teaching allows the person to have a continuous life of sin, it is the symptoms of sin that reveal the effectiveness of their religious teaching. When sin is still in a person's life, their religious teaching has failed them.

### <u>Humility Versus Intellect (St. John 3:1):</u>

Nicodemus became a student of Jesus Christ though he was a ruler of the Jews (a Pharisee). Nicodemus humbled himself, and along with his intelligence and educational knowledge of the Jewish law, he also had common sense enough to perceive that one greater than he was had more to offer than all of the teachers of the Jewish sects. Therefore, Nicodemus allowed humility to have preference over his intellect, and educational background. He submitted himself to the only one who had knowledge to direct him into the kingdom of heaven.

Nicodemus' question of ignorance concerning being born again was an expression of the sincerity of his desire to learn how to get into the kingdom of heaven (St. John 3:4). There are many well-educated, and intelligent religious personnel who would take a chance by putting more confidence in their intelligence and educational background than to humble themselves to the truth about how to acquire salvation in Jesus Christ. They would prefer putting more confidence in their intellectual conceit than the knowledge of the truth and to follow a spirit that will take them to hell.

# <u>Are You Born Again?</u>

If you are born again, one day real soon you are going to see Jesus coming in the sky. The Spirit of God will be upon you giving you overwhelming joy. You will not be afraid; you will be rejoicing. The glory of God will be so powerful and wonderful that it will ignite you with joy. Your body will then experience a change from your flesh and blood body to a heavenly celestial body experiencing a glorious force of power that will draw you up to meet Jesus. You will then be ushered into the kingdom of heaven by Jesus to meet God, and you shall see God as He is. You will then be escorted around the throne of heaven and enjoy a new mansion that has been prepared for you. The glory of God will be giving you such peace, joy, and happiness that words in our vocabulary cannot presently express.

# The Offer:

Eternal life is what you want. It would be a complete waste of time to live in this present world for a few years and not get eternal life when you leave. God has allowed the people of the earth to live in this present world on a trial status to see if they really want eternal life. God does not make plans for our funerals, because it was not in God's plan that we should die. God wants to give us life more abundantly.

Wealth, fame, prominence, and success in this present world are not worth you losing eternal life to acquire such. When you are born again, the power of God will ransom you from the power of the grave. Death was the price we owed for being born in sin. Jesus paid the price for us, but we must accept His offer. When we accept Jesus' offer, we will be ransomed from the power of the grave and redeemed from death. When the offer that Jesus is making to us is accepted, He will give us the new-birth.

### The Last Chapter:

The world is now getting ready to close its chapter, but a better day is in store for those who are saved by the blood of Jesus Christ. Salvation in Jesus Christ means that the Holy Spirit has purged your heart and given you a new life of righteousness. God is presently calling those who are willing to obey to perfection. Such people will not be merely Christians. They will have no guile, deceit, nor hypocrisy in their lives. Now don't think that you are going to heaven because you go to church. Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. The preparations to enter heaven must be done while you are living in this present world, and only the Holy Spirit can prepare you.



# CHAPTER I

# **JESUS' RETURN IS NEAR**

# Subject: Do You Have Heaven On Your Mind?

I have an invitation to go to heaven and to live in the holy society of God where there will be countless millions of holy angels. Every living being in heaven will be holy. I am proving that I want to live in this holy society by the way I live in this present world. My life is an expression of my sincerity towards receiving the invitation to live in heaven. I have a mind to be holy everyday of my life, and God helps me by means of His Holy Spirit that He gave me to teach and assist me in my efforts to be holy. To be holy means not to commit sin.

Today the invitation to live in heaven is extended to everybody. It is surprising to know that not many people are thinking about going to heaven. They have allowed the limited pleasures of this world to keep heaven completely out of their minds.

# Subject: Are Your Bags Packed?

The pleasures and enticements of the world can deceive you, and make you think that you will be here forever. You can be so involved in the pleasures of this life that such involvements will make you believe that they will never end.

Pleasures of life can take your mind from the reality of your existence. When you are born again, the Holy Spirit will help you to be aware of the fact that you will have to leave here. The Spirit of God will keep you ready to leave in a moment's notice; you will keep your bags packed.

# Subject: You Must Be Filled With The Holy Ghost To Be Ready:

Unless you are filled with the Holy Spirit you will be ashamed to face Jesus when He returns. The presence of Jesus will expose and degrade any carnal aspects of human existence. Your life must be purified by the Spirit of God before you can receive the Son of God. Everybody will stand before the judgment seat of Christ to give an account of the deeds that they have done. Such deeds that are acceptable must be done before Christ returns. So watch and pray that you will enter not into temptations.

You must have the Holy Ghost when you are waiting for Jesus. The Holy Ghost is a teacher that teaches us how to remember the things that Christ taught in the gospel. The benefits that come from the Holy Ghost will depend upon your obedience. Obedience causes the Holy Ghost to give you power along with victory to be acceptable to God when Jesus appears. Nobody can come to God without the Holy Ghost being their teacher to make them acceptable to God.

# Subject: Is Your Name In The Book Of Life?

There are two books kept in heaven: one contains the names of the born again people, and the other contains the names of those who are not saved. The unsaved are considered as the wicked, and the born again people are considered as the righteous, or saints of God.

The book of life has the names of the saved, and God revealed through Daniel the prophet that they will be delivered when the world comes to an end, and that evidence of this happening will be prior to a time of trouble that the world has never experienced.

# Subject: God's Plan Was Left By Jesus To All Who Are Saved:

The spirit of the kingdom of heaven must abide in a people on earth before they can go to heaven. Those who assemble to worship God on earth must be on one accord first before heaven will receive them. After the resurrection of Jesus Christ, He assembled His followers together to dine with them and to talk with them. He promised them that He would go to prepare a place for them, and would return and receive them unto Himself, and that where He was they would be also.

After giving assurance, He ascended into heaven and they watched Him until He disappeared. His Spirit still abides in the hearts of those who follow Him to purify them until they are on one accord with God. When Jesus returns again, He will return in the clouds, and heaven and earth will be united in a New Jerusalem where the will of God will be done in earth as it is in heaven.

# Subject: The New Kingdom Will Be A Self-Governing Kingdom:

The kingdoms of this world shall be given to the saints of God. Jesus is going to reign over the kingdoms of the world forever, and the saved people who are saints will reign with Him. Of this new rulership, where righteousness will indwell, there will be no end. God is now teaching born again, saved people how to rule themselves. After which, He has promised that if we endure the persecutions and trials of this life, we shall come into full possession of that which He created in the beginning for the upright and holy man and woman.

God created the world to be a paradise to be inhabited by Adam for him to enjoy peace and happiness. By transgression Adam fell from grace. Adam represents mankind; Adam lives in all humans. If the people of the earth accept the grace of God by obeying God, we can be redeemed and restored to grace. A blessed place in God's creation is no problem for God to provide.

The problem occurs when people are not able to govern themselves. God is presently teaching us how to govern ourselves so that there won't be any governments set up by some to rule over others. In God's new kingdom, there will be no rulership by one person. When people learn to govern themselves, they won't need anybody to govern them. This self-governing process will be initiated first in this present world by those who are born again. If born again believers endure while living in this present world, they will inherit the kingdom of God in heaven and in the earth.

# Subject: Righteousness Will Indwell The Hearts Of Those In The New Heaven And Earth:

God's purpose for the future civilization of saved people is to establish a habitation for righteousness that they may be ruled by the righteousness of God in their hearts. Listen to II Peter 3:12-13:

Verse 12 - Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Verse 13 - Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

The presence of God is with you, if you will obey Him and keep His commandments. His goodness will prepare a blessed life for you while you are in this present world, and a continuous blessed life throughout eternity in the new kingdom. God promotes and exalts your spiritual status when you are faithful and obedient. In the new kingdom you will be promoted from a position of trust and faithfulness in this present world to a position of control and rule in the new kingdom. You will be able to set up your own agenda of rulership in the new kingdom without interfering with others in the kingdom. You will be self-ruled to live and to enjoy the privileges of the new kingdom along with others.

To every 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. The day will come when God will fulfill His promises to us. In the new kingdom every person will have full control of themselves, and nobody will be able to make them do other than the will of God.

This is the purpose for which God has saved you. Though you may now work in the service for others, you are also in like manner as a child would be who was born into a wealthy family. The child would be no different from the servants of the family. One day the child will become an adult to be ruler of the estate. This world is presently in the authority of men who rule it by law, but God shall bring to pass that those who are now in authority will no longer be here. The wicked shall be cut off (Malachi 4:1). 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.

# **Subject: The Hope Of The Resurrection:**

There are many people who believe that humans came into existence through evolution. It is not reasonable that we came into existence for us to exist no more. God offers us eternal life; He did not bring us into existence to die. Adam caused us to die by allowing sin to disrupt the human life cycle. After Adam sinned, God set in motion the resurrection of the dead.

The entire foundation of the Christian faith is based upon the resurrection of the dead. There is no promise to mankind that is more substantial than the hope of the resurrection. When you have faith in the promise of the resurrection, nothing has power to annul that hope.

# **Subject: Wait On The Harvest:**

You must have a mind with good intentions to receive the word of God; otherwise, an enemy will come along, and interfere with you keeping the word of God, thereby preventing you from being saved. Listen to St. Matthew 13:19:

Verse 19 - When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

You must have a mind that is hungering and thirsting after righteousness or an enemy, who is the devil, will prevent you from receiving the word of God. The word of God is like a seed that a farmer sows. The seed must be sowed on good ground in order for it to bring forth fruit; otherwise, the birds of the air will come along and eat the seeds.

Your mind must be like good ground to receive and keep the word of God. When you hear the word of God, you must pay earnest attention to what it is saying or the devil will fill your mind with meaningless information to distract your attention from the word of God.

The purpose of the word of God is to bring fruit unto righteousness, which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit, but if you are not giving careful attention to the word of God, you will be like a person who is asleep while an enemy is planting trash in his mind. Listen to St. Matthew 13:24-25:

- Verse 24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, *The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field;*
- Verse 25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

The good seed is the word of God that was given to the people of the earth to learn the righteousness of God so that they might be saved. However, Satan came along and filled the earth with unrighteousness, which was like tare, or bad seeds to interfere with the good seeds. Today we have good people in the world as well as evil people. However, God will not, at this time, separate the good from the evil, because the good people get their strength from persecutions of the evil people. Listen to verses 27-30:

# Verse 27 - So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good see in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

The question is, why are there so many evil people in the world?

Verse 28 -	He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The
	servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go
	and gather them up?

- Verse 29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.
- Verse 30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

So God will allow the unsaved to be in the world with the saved until the day of harvest when He will separate the righteous from the wicked

# Subject: If You Are Saved You Are Ripe For The Harvest:

Jesus sought very carefully to give the people on the earth an understanding of heavenly things by using earthly examples or parables. God is going to send Jesus with angels from heaven to harvest that which is saved from the earth. Listen to Revelation 14:15:

Verse 15 - And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

Those who are born again are going to be gathered with Jesus like wheat is gathered by a farmer into the garner. The day is coming when the world is going to be on fire, and everything that is not saved will be on fire. The fire will not eradicate the existence of the unsaved; the unsaved will be changed and prepared for the judgment of God. The death that the unsaved will experience by fire will be only for a moment. It is the penalty and punishment that the unsaved receives after the judgment that will give them everlasting torment.

Christ, whom God sent into the world to teach the people of the earth about the harvest, will one day soon give a realistic demonstration of what He previously taught about the harvest. Christ is going to sickle the world. Those who are born again will be saved and caught up to meet the Lord. They will be the precious fruit of the earth that the husbandman was waiting for, and they will be considered as being ripe for the harvest. Listen to James 5:7:

Verse 7 - Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

The latter rain will be another out-pouring of the Holy Spirit to give the people of the earth another chance to be saved. This out-pouring will administer the last roundup for those who will be saved.

# **CHAPTER 2**

# WHERE WILL YOU STAND IN THE JUDGMENT?

# **Subject: The Judgment:**

Judgment day will be the conclusion of the unsaved man's existence in God's creation. The death of the physical body will be the conclusion of man's physical existence, and the judgment of God for the unsaved will be the conclusion of man's spiritual existence. The judgment of God for the unsaved will take place in two parts. God will judge the physical actions of the unsaved that were acts of sins, and He will also judge the secret sins of the unsaved person's heart. Listen to Romans 2:15-16:

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;

Verse 16 - In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

Those who are saved will be excused from the condemnation of the judgment, because their sins will be blotted out of the book of the condemned, and their names will be placed in the Book of Life. Listen to Colossians 2:13-14:

Verse 13 -	And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircum-
	cision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with
	him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Verse 14 - Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross.

The record of the sins for those who are born again are nailed to Jesus' cross on Calvary. Calvary justifies the saved people causing their sins not to be imputed to them in the judgment.

After you are born again, you will be able to judge yourself with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and not be condemned with the world. The Holy Spirit will help you to correct your life from unrighteousness to righteousness. Listen to I Corinthians 11:31-32:

Verse 31 - For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

Verse 32 -	But when we are judged, we are chastened of the
	Lord, that we should not be condemned with the
	world.

To be chastened of the Lord is to be corrected. God's chastening is an expression of His love for those who are born again. Listen to Hebrews 12:6-7:

Verse 6 -	For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and
	scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Verse 7 - If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

# Subject: The Judgment Seat Of Christ:

God works by appointments that He sets up for things that He wants done. Listen to Hebrews 9:27:

Verse 27 - And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.

When God makes an appointment with you, you are going to keep that appointment. Death is sure and the judgment can be for good or bad. You will be judged according to the deeds that were done while you lived in this body. Listen to II Corinthians 5:10:

Verse 10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

The judgment seat of Christ is the teachings of His gospel that were left to the world. If you are saved you can judge yourself by correcting your life according to the gospel (I Corinthians 11:31-32). If you fail to get saved you will be judged by the gospel unto condemnation, even the secret sins in your heart will be judged by the gospel. Listen to Romans 2:14-16:

Verse 14 -	For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do
	by nature the things contained in the law, these,
	having not the law, are a law unto themselves.

- 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.
- Verse 16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

# **Subject: More About The Judgment:**

Listen to II Corinthians 5:10:

Verse 10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Those who died unsaved will be in the second resurrection to be judged with those who are unsaved and still living. They will come forth at the voice of Jesus. Listen to St. John 5:28-29:

Verse 28 -	Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,
Verse 29 -	And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

The books will be opened in the judgment, which will be the Book of Life and the books of the condemned. The judgment will be conducted according to the deeds that were recorded in the books of the condemned for the unsaved. Listen to Revelations 20:12: Verse 12 - And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

When you are born again, your name is taken out of the books of the condemned, and it is placed in the Book of Life. If you are not born again, your name will remain in the books of the condemned causing you to be cast into a lake of fire. Listen to Revelations 20:15:

# Subject: Hell Will Be Continuous Torment For The Unsaved:

When God gets ready to destroy the earth there will be people living on the earth prior to the destruction. Such people will be those who failed to repent of their sins. Those who are saved will be evacuated prior to the fire falling upon the earth. The Lord will at this time descend from heaven with the voice of an archangel and those who died saved will rise first to meet the Lord in midair. They will be taken out of reach of the destruction, and those who are alive and saved will be taken up after those who were asleep in Christ to meet the Lord (I Thessalonians 4:16). The unsaved, wicked, or sinners shall be left and they will be burned to stubble. 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.

Nobody is going to heaven but Jesus. Those who are saved will have Jesus in their lives. Those who don't have Jesus will have the spirit of the devil, and their souls will be given new bodies designed by God to endure torment in hell with the devil. The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all those nations that failed to repent (Psalm 9:17). The unsaved will be given bodies that will last

Verse 15 - And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

forever experiencing torment of hell fire and a worm that will never die. Listen to St. Mark 9:43-44:

- Verse 43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:
- Verse 44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

God always gives us examples of things that are difficult to believe to help us. If you find it difficult to believe that fire can burn forever without any source of fuel to keep it burning, put on your sunglasses and look up at the sun to see if any source of fuel is causing it to burn continuously.
# CHAPTER 3

# **THE HOLY SCRIPTURES**

## Subject: If You Maintain Your Stand In Righteousness One Day You Will See God:

Instructions are in the Bible for a saved person to live by. If the instructions are followed line upon line and precept upon precept, God will prove Himself exceeding able to do more for you than you ever thought to ask. God can give you strength when you couldn't last a day under ordinary human conditions. You will be able to go on indefinitely. All you have to do is to obey God by following the principles of righteousness that His word teaches you. You must remember that when you are born again, you are a child of God, you are called by His name and sanctified by His Spirit. If you maintain your stand in righteousness, one day you will see God.

#### **Subject: Walk In The Spirit:**

If you don't have an in-depth knowledge of what the original King James Version of the Bible teaches, you don't stand a chance against the deceitful devices of the devil. The devil is putting evil, deceitful tricks over on the people of the world today because most people are ignorant of his devices. Listen to II Corinthians 2:11:

Verse 11 - Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

You have to search the scriptures on a regular basis to learn the devices of the devil. The primary device of the devil is to play upon the ignorance of people. The word of God is the sword of the Spirit, and when it is properly applied to a person's way of living, the devices of the devil are no match for it. If you don't have knowledge of the word of God, you will find yourself losing the battle against Satan. You must be shod with the preparation of the gospel (Ephesians 6:15), which means you must know the word of God.

It is not enough to listen to one scripture that your pastor gives before he preaches; you must have the word of God in your heart to the extent that it will control your life. When the word of God controls and directs your movements and purposes in life, the devil will have to get out of your way.

When you are equipped with knowledge of the word of God and filled with the Holy Ghost, you are then able to live in the Spirit. When you live in the Spirit, you are surrounded by the presence of the Holy Spirit, which gives you guidance, counsel, and wisdom from God. Under these conditions, the devil will have nothing in you, and your movements in life will be on a course of safety.

#### Subject: The Seed Can Save You:

The word of God is a seed. It is not like a seed that farmers plant, but an incorruptible seed that can be implanted in a person's mind. Such a seed can produce a new mind in a person if they hear what the seed is saying, by listening to the message with an indiscriminate and honest mind.

The knowledge that the seed brings does not have to be interpreted, but accepted with an honest mind. When the seed is presented to a listener without being adulterated with foreign knowledge, it can give salvation or the new-birth to the listener.

#### Subject: Only The Holy Ghost Can Teach The Scriptures:

The Holy Scriptures are given by inspiration of God and are profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instructions in righteousness, so that the man of God may be perfect, and thoroughly furnished unto all good works (II Timothy 3:15-17). The scriptures teach you plainly what you need to know to be saved. The scriptures are of no private interpretation. They give instruction to teach you how to be perfect. The Holy Ghost is the interpreter of the scriptures because it wrote the scriptures.

Only a holy man who is filled with the Holy Ghost can teach the scriptures. Listen to II Peter 1:20-21:

- Verse 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.
- Verse 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

The prophecies of the scriptures came by the Holy Ghost speaking through the holy men of God whom God had overshadowed with His Spirit before they spoke. These men were not doing the talking, but the Holy Ghost was speaking through them.

As you read and search the scriptures, you must be filled with the Holy Ghost to get an understanding, because it is the Holy Ghost that teaches you the scriptures. A natural man cannot acquire an accurate teaching of the scriptures, because the knowledge of the scriptures is not revealed to a natural or carnal mind.

#### Subject: The Word Of God:

You can learn about your life from the word of God. God reveals to man things concerning his life's beginning and end through the word of God. The Spirit of God is a great teacher that educates you with wisdom from the word of God. If you take in the knowledge that the word of God teaches, you will be blessed. The word will first educate you about your first birth in the flesh and blood body, and afterward teach how you can acquire the second birth to live a righteous life.

#### Subject: The Word Of God Can Live In You:

Jesus lived in heaven before He came to the earth. He was known in heaven as the word of God. It was Jesus who spoke everything into existence. Jesus was a part of God the Father. God Almighty, who rules nature and controls the universe, moved out in the beginning of the creation with nothing but His word. He used it to create all things, and later took His word and made it flesh and sent it among the people of the earth in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus' mission was to be crucified for the sins of the world.

After three days, the power of God's Spirit resurrected Jesus. Afterward Jesus went back to heaven to administer to those who desired to be saved from heaven. Before Jesus left the earth, He said that He would send another Comforter, which would be the Holy Ghost. It would be the Spirit and power of the words that Jesus taught while He was on the earth.

Today when you believe the words that Jesus taught, the Holy Ghost will cause something to happen to you. The Holy Ghost, which is the third part of the Trinity of God, will bring Jesus into your life and give you power to live in this present world according to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

# Subject: Revelations From God Versus Interpretations From The Devil:

There are two ways that the Bible is being presented to people. One way is an interpretation of the Bible, and the other way is the actual teaching of the Bible. An interpretation of the Bible is an erroneous presentation of the Bible that will deceive and lead people to hell. An interpretation is a personal opinion of what the Bible means and is under the influence of Satan. An actual teaching of the Bible is presented by the Holy Ghost, using a man that the Holy Ghost taught.

The actual teaching of the Bible is not an interpretation, but revelations from the Holy Ghost. A revelation is knowledge that is given by God, and it is not an opinionated interpretation, but manifested, mysterious information from God. Revelations mean it has been given unto a God sent man to know the mysteries of God's plan for man to be saved.

If God has not sent a so called preacher, it means that the Bible will be nothing but parables or stories like in a storybook to such a man. Listen to St. Matthew 13:10-11 and 13-14:

Verse 10 -	And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why
	speakest thou unto them in parables?

- Verse 11 He answered and said unto them, *Because it is* given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.
- Verse 13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.
- Verse 14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive.

#### Subject: The Rod And Staff:

When you believe and trust in God, you can receive comfort from the word of God. The word of God gives true assurances that God will not forsake His servant while the person is having difficult experiences. A servant's faith and trust will help the servant to understand that God will help and deliver the servant. The word of God is the Rod and Staff spoken of by David upon which a child of God can lean upon when he or she needs support.

#### Subject: The Word Of God Gives You Safety:

Whatever the word of God says to you the Spirit of God will cause it to happen. The Spirit of God brings messages from God to you. The messages will warn you if you are going wrong, and direct you in the right way. The word is the power of God unto salvation if you accept its guidance. Unless you learn to obey the word of God, you will put your life in danger.

The word of God directs you on a course of safety throughout the time that God has allotted you to live on earth. Many bad things that happen to people are because of the way they do things in life. The word of God will lead you to do things that are safe.

Nothing can harm you if you be a follower of that which is good. The word of God is good for you. When you obey the word of God, God will be continuously in your presence by means of His Spirit. When you live in the presence of the Holy Spirit, you will have the greatest power in all existence at your assistance.

# CHAPTER 4

# SIN AND DEATH

#### Subject: He That Committeth Sin Is Of The Devil:

If you are seeking after righteousness, God will provide the knowledge for you. You must first believe that Jesus came to save you from your sins. You must believe that you can live in this present world without committing sin. If you desire to be saved, you must believe that Jesus can save you. Jesus will only save you according to what His word teaches. You must be born of God to be saved.

When you are born of God, Christ abides in you and you in Him. Christ will not abide in sinners, neither will He allow a sinner to partake of His nature. When you are born of God, the Bible teaches that you cannot sin, because the word of God, which condemns sin and teaches you how to overcome sin will remain firmly in your mind to warn you when sin is about to overtake you. It will give you directions on how you might resist the temptation to commit sin. Listen to I John 3:4-10:

Verse 4 -	Whosoever committeth sin transgressseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
Verse 5 -	And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.
Verse 6 -	Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.
Verse 7 -	Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.
Verse 8 -	He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.
Verse 9 -	Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.
Verse 10 -	In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosever doeth not

children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

#### **Subject: More About Sin:**

Jesus came to the earth to save us from sin. His death had power to take away sins from those who believe Him. When you are born again, you are born of God. This means that God abides in you, and you in Him. God will not abide in a sinner. God makes a sinner holy, so that the sinner will become a saint. When you are born of God you cannot sin, because sin will no longer be in your nature. Sin will be like a dead battery with no more power to activate itself. The word of God, which condemns sin and teaches you how to overcome sin will remain firmly in your mind taking the desire to commit sin out of your mind and warning you when the devil tempts you to sin. The Holy Spirit will cause the word of God to give you directions as to how you might resist the devil's temptations.

Jesus was sent to take away sin and not allow those that He saves to continue in sin. If you are not saved from sin; what are you save from? Listen to I John 3:5-6:

Verse 5 -	And ye know that he was manifested to take away
	our sins; and in him is no sin.

Verse 6 - Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

#### **Subject: A Sinner Cannot Love God:**

When you are saved, you are born of God. When you are born of God, Christ, God, and the Holy Spirit abide in you. Listen to St. John 14:23:

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

Christ will not abide in a sinner. A sinner does not love Jesus. Evidence that you love Jesus is when you keep His word. God accepts no other expression or testimony of love except for obedience to His word. Listen to St. John 14:15 and 24:

Verse 15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

#### Verse 24 - *He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.*

To be a sinner means that you are disobeying the word of God. You can only be a sinner by being in transgression or violation of the word of God. When you are born of God, the word of God teaches that you cannot sin (I John 3:9), because the word of God has more power than sin, and it prevents sin from coming into your life.

The word is the seed of God that is planted in your mind by the Holy Spirit, which produces fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-24) that is more powerful than the works of the flesh, which sin produces (Galatians 5:19-21). The word of God, which condemns sin also teaches you with power and authority from God how to overcome sin. When you began to live free from sin, you will be living with power in your life that is greater than the power of sin and death. You are then living under the grace of God.

Sin which previously had you living being condemned under the law of sin and death will no longer condemn you. The grace of God sets you at liberty to live above what the law forbids. Listen to Romans 8:2-3:

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

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.

The Spirit of life in Christ Jesus is more powerful than sin in the flesh, and can make you free from sin. The Spirit of life in Christ condemns sin in the flesh to the extent that it will no longer be active in your life. Afterwards, you will be able to live in the Spirit, and no longer follow the desires of sin in the flesh. Listen to Romans 8:4:

Verse 4 - That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

### **Subject: Idolatry:**

You don't have to worship some statue made of stone, gold or bronze to worship an idol. An idol can be anything, or anybody that you have more love or interest for than God. The nation of Israel during the time that Elijah was the prophet, and Ahab was king over Israel, the people were so much under the influence of Jezebel, who was Ahab's wife that she was able to influence the people to drift away from serving God to serve an idol called Baal. Baal was of no benefit to the people of Israel, but Jezebel's influence over the people was so persuasive that the people could not see how vain and foolish it was to worship a dumb, lifeless idol.

It is foolish to worship something or somebody who cannot save your soul. The people of Israel became so enthusiastic in their worship of this idol that they had completely forgotten the true and holy God who had brought them into the Promised Land and blessed them. So God sent Elijah to them to warn them that the judgments of God would fall upon them if they did not immediately turn from idolatry.

When Elijah presented the ultimatum to the people, they had nothing to answer. Listen to I Kings 18:21:

Verse 21 - And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Bā'-ăl, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

When people are caught up in stupidity, they will have no sensible response when it is brought to their attention. Anything that challenges or competes with your honor, respect, and love for God should be despised and rejected. Listen to St. Matthew 6:24:

Verse 24 -	No man can serve two masters: for either he will
	hate the one, and love the other; or else he will
	hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot
	serve God and măm'-mon.

It is the devil who will present an idol to those who are worshiping God. When it is identified as a temptation to commit idolatry, it is okay to despise, hate, reject, and undermine what the devil is presenting.

#### **Subject: The Love Of Money:**

It was covetousness that motivated Judas to betray Jesus. Judas liked to handle money; he was the treasurer of Jesus' ministry. Judas carried the contributions that were given to Jesus. If you get too close to money, it will make you fall in love with it. Money has power that only the Spirit of God can control. When you don't have the Holy Spirit and you have plenty of money, your money will be your God.

Money can make you feel important, powerful, and superior to all who have less than you have. Money can make a fool out of you if you fool with it. Money can motivate some wealthy people to keep poorer people poor. It would be no pleasure for a wealthy person to be wealthy if everybody was wealthy. Commonwealth among the people would take away prominence and importance from the wealthy person. In the kingdom of heaven there will be commonwealth. A covetous, wealthy person in this present world would not want to go to heaven, because it would cause the person to lose their prominence.

Judas loved money; that is why he will not be in the kingdom of heaven. You have to love God to get into the kingdom of heaven. You cannot love God and money. You can use money, but you can't love it and be saved. Judas made a bargain with the chief priest, and elders to betray Jesus. It takes a fool to leave God for money. Judas did not believe that Jesus would be crucified when he betrayed Him. Judas sat under the teachings of Jesus, and listened, but he did not believe Jesus.

Today there are many church folk who will sit under the teachings of the gospel and not believe it. Jesus told his disciples that He would be crucified, but they could not see how the Son of God could be crucified. Peter even said it would never happen.

When Pilate condemned Jesus, Judas then realized that what he thought would not happen, had happened. Judas then became condemned and he thought within himself that he had entered into a bargain to sell the life of a man who had blessed so many people. When Judas saw that Jesus was really going to be crucified, he told the chief priest and elders to take the money because it had been a curse to him. However, they told him that there was no place in their treasury for that kind of money. So Judas took the bag of money and threw it at their feet and went out and hanged himself. Money never dies, but it can kill you if you fall in love with it.

#### **Subject: The Money Carrier:**

If you are not born again you will think that you know most everything. Everybody wants to be smart. It is good to be smart when it comes to balancing your checking account, but when it comes to the knowledge of salvation it is good to be humble.

Judas Iscariot thought that he would profit by betraying Christ, and he ended up being the biggest fool that has ever been born. It is better to be born again than to be born a fool. When Pilate condemned Christ, Judas then realized that what he thought would not happen had happened. Jesus taught His disciples that He would be crucified and Judas did not believe Him. There are church folk of today who believe some of the teachings of the scriptures, but fail to believe all the scriptures. The scriptures cannot be broken.

When Judas saw that Jesus was really going to be crucified, he told the chief priest and elders to take the money back because it had been a curse to him. It was not so much that the money was a curse, it was Judas' own conceit that had cursed him. Judas thought that he was smarter than Christ. Nobody fooled Judas, his way of thinking fooled him.

Judas was the treasurer for Jesus' ministry. When folk handle money they think they are smart because others have to come to them for money when they need it. It is the way a person thinks that deceives them.

#### Subject: Hate And Murder Are The Same:

You have to be careful when you hate somebody. Hate is impartial. When you hate a person, you are carrying hate in your heart. Hate is more powerful than your intelligence. Hate exercises its power by means of deceit. Now you can hate one person for a reason, but hate will not be satisfied, and will cause you to be hateful to another person for no reason. This is because hate does not leave you to go to the person that you hate, it establishes a control center in your life to disperse its ill feelings to others.

When you hate a person, hate belongs to you, and not necessarily the person that you hate. God classifies a person that hates other people as a murderer, because murder develops from hate. Listen to I John 3:15:

Verse 15 - Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and

ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

It does not matter how much you go to church, if you have hate in your heart, you will not go to heaven.

# Subject: God Will Help You With Your Repentance If Your Efforts To Repent Are Sincere:

If you desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit, you must repent of your sins, and separate from sinful activities and pleasures of the world. The world cannot receive the Holy Spirit, because the Spirit of God is not compatible with the ways of the world. You cannot enjoy pleasures of the world and be born again at the same time. You must reject one to receive the other. You must believe the gospel of Jesus Christ to receive the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus was sent to the earth, the world did not believe in Jesus, and that was one of the essential qualifications for receiving the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will not come into the life of a person who does not believe that he or she can live free from sin. To receive the Holy Spirit, a person must give up every sinful pleasure that they can and God will help them to repent of sins that are too difficult to release.

#### Subject: The Invitation To Be Saved Is Open To The Sinner:

Everything that a person gains in this world will perish, and if they anchor their hope in the things of this world they will perish along with their possessions. However, if a person uses their possessions of this world to build up hope for some lost soul, their possessions will serve a good purpose, and God will increase their possessions without corrupting them.

When Christ preached the kingdom of heaven, He established in the hearts of those who received Him that if they live in harmony and peace with each other here, they may establish a right to be a citizen of the kingdom of heaven hereafter. However, if we live in envy and hate, despitefully using one another, seeking to destroy each other, we are not worthy to be heirs in the kingdom of heaven. Christ's death brings a benefit to the sinner, giving the sinner the opportunity to put away his sins and to become an heir to the kingdom of heaven. This opportunity is presently open to the sinner. No matter how low a sinner is in a life of sinful practices, he can repent and Christ will make him a saint.

#### **Subject: Death Was Man's Choice:**

In addition to Jesus being sent into the world by God to redeem us from the curse of the broken law that was brought upon us by Adam, Jesus was also sent to make it possible for us to enjoy peace and happiness in the Holy Spirit.

God did not create man to suffer pain, sickness, sorrow, and finally death. The only reason that man is dying today is because God cannot lie. God gave Adam instructions in the beginning saying if you eat of the forbidden fruit, you will die. God does not warn man of things that are not true. Man is dying today because Adam brought upon man the sentence of death. The command of God is not given to bring us death, but it is given that we might live.

Obedience to God's command gives us life. To disobey God is to commit sin, and death follows sin (Romans 5:12). Sin is evil and is presented to man by temptations that come from the devil. Evil is destructive and brings death. Righteousness brings life. The plan of God was not set in motion to force man to obey God. Man was given the freedom of his will to choose to obey God, or to disobey.

All of the angels in heaven are there by choice. They chose not to follow Satan in his rebellion against God. The angels that chose to follow Satan will be with Satan to experience the second death in a lake of fire and brimstone.

#### **Subject: Death Is God's Enemy:**

Death is God's enemy. God does not cause people to die. Sin causes people to die, and God has nothing to do with sin. Death is contrary to God, and it is against His plan for man. God is a giver of life and death takes life. It is the will of God that man be redeemed from death. The only way that you can be saved from death is that you have to be saved from sin.

If you die as a sinner, the first and second death will be your reward. The first death is death of your physical body, and the second death is the death of your soul or mind, which is your spiritual body. The first death of your physical body will be just for a moment, but the death of your soul will be eternal or a continuous dying process of torment in a lake of fire.

Jesus was sent to save us from the second death by giving us a second birth. The second birth will be the birth of a new mind or soul that will entitle you to a new body to live in heaven. Death was not created by God. Death came from sin just as germs come from filth. The devil did not create death either, because he will experience the second death. God created happiness, and death is the enemy of happiness. When death comes on the scene, happiness leaves. So God is going to remove death so that happiness will avail.

Jesus allowed Himself to experience the death of the cross so that He could defeat death. Everybody who accepts Jesus into their lives have defeated death. Just as death did not keep Jesus in the grave, neither will it keep those in the grave who died in Christ. Those who died in Christ are in Paradise, which is a place of rest for the saved. When Jesus administers the first resurrection, they will hear His voice and come forth from the graves to meet Him. The hope of saved people is the resurrection. The resurrection means victory over death.

# Subject: Death Has No Terror Over A Spirit Filled Child Of God:

If you have the Spirit of God when you get ready to die, the threat of death will have no terror to you. You will not fear the worst enemy of man and that is death. God's Spirit that will be in charge of your life is more powerful than anything in all existence. You will be able to go through the shadows of death without fear and intimidation of death, allowing the Spirit of God to be your escort, and to have its way as your soul separates from your body to enter paradise.

# CHAPTER 5

# THE HOLY GHOST

#### **Subject: The Power Of God Unto Salvation:**

The Holy Ghost that is presently moving upon the earth is as real as the sun that you see in the sky. The Holy Ghost is the third person in the Trinity of God; it is the third part of God. Jesus is the second part of God, and He administers the word of God, which gives us the knowledge of God. The Holy Ghost administers power and guidance to lead us through life according to the knowledge that Jesus taught.

The knowledge that Christ gives is grace from God, and the Holy Ghost activates this knowledge into our lives when we believe the knowledge. The Holy Ghost gives us power to live according to the knowledge. When you believe the word of God, something happens to you. You will be able to see your life make a turnabout from sin to righteousness by a power that is working in you. This turnabout will not be by your own efforts, but by the grace of God that will be upon you, being administered by the Holy Ghost.

This will be a miraculous work of God giving you the new-birth. The only part that you would have played in this miraculous work of God would be your belief in the word of God. Believing the word causes the power of the Holy Ghost to find you and to administer the new-birth to you. Nothing else but your belief in the word of God can cause the Holy Ghost to find you. You would then be experiencing the power of God unto salvation.

#### **Subject: A New Citizenship:**

If you acquire the conduct and behavior of the citizens of the kingdom of heaven, you will also acquire the right to be a citizen of the kingdom of heaven. You can apply for a citizenship in heaven simply by repenting of your sin. If your repentance is sincere, your application to be a citizen of heaven will be approved. This approval of your application to be a citizen of heaven will be confirmed by heaven giving you a passport to get in upon your arrival. The passport will be the Holy Spirit.

Only the Holy Spirit can get you into the kingdom of heaven. The Holy Spirit makes the kingdom of heaven such a strong reality while you are living in this world that you will be motivated to believe of its existence.

#### Subject: There Is Only One Source Of Help For Man:

Everything that was spoken by those men whom the Holy Ghost overshadowed and caused to speak is being fulfilled during this present time. The scriptures teach plainly that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. You will not acquire any understanding about God until you begin to fear God, not that God will destroy you, but that without you living according to the wisdom of God your ways will lead you to destruction.

God's word warns us and tells us what the results will be of that which we do which is contrary to His instructions. There is actually one source of help for man that God has made available in these last days, and that source is the Holy Ghost. When you are overshadowed with the Holy Ghost, you have protection from the things that will destroy you, and that is sin.

The Holy Ghost is an anti-sin power that can defeat sin under any conditions. The Holy Ghost is the only source of power and assistance that can lift up the standard against the things that will destroy us. The Holy Ghost will only be in an assembly that God has established. When the Holy Ghost is at work, it will direct, guide, and give strength to those who are willing to obey God.

When you are baptized with the Holy Ghost, it means you are filled with the Holy Ghost, and have been born again of the Spirit of God. The Holy Ghost will then implant the word of God in your mind as a new source of information center to give orders to your body members to obey God. The Holy Ghost will also implant the nature of God in you, which is holy, replacing your old nature, which was carnal.

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

Just before Jesus went to Calvary, He prayed to God concerning His disciples. Today that same prayer is for everybody who is born again. Jesus wanted His disciples as well as those who are saved today to be kept together as one in His Father's name. Jesus referred to His Father as "Holy Father" teaching us the kind of Father that God is. Jesus' prayer was a petition to God to keep those who had been given to Him in His Father's name. If you are saved today it means that you have been given to Jesus in His Father's name to be one as He and His Father are one (St. John 17:11).

God sent Jesus into the world for the purpose of redeeming a people. When these people are redeemed they are called a holy people. It doesn't matter what temple people are worshipping in today, those who are worshipping God in Spirit and truth are called a Holy people. They are called by God's name if they are God's people. God is a Holy God and everything that is a part of His family in heaven and in the earth are called by His name which is Holy.

Names are very important. The word of God teaches that you will know His people because they won't sin, and whosoever is born of God does not sin. To be Holy means to be sin-free. You can only become a member of God's family when you are born of God's Spirit, and His Spirit is the Holy Spirit.

#### **Subject: Are You Holy?**

The way of holiness is a highway, not an interstate highway, but an elevated way of life. A way that is above a life of sin. Listen to Isaiah 35:8:

Verse 8 - And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; ...

Holiness is above sin. When you are a sinner, you are not in the way of holiness no matter what your religious teaching is. You can be very religious and not holy. If you are not holy, you will never see God. When you are not holy, you are not saved. Listen to Hebrews 12:14:

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

The words <u>no man</u> includes the preacher, deacons, sisters on the choir and members of the congregation. If such people are not holy, their church services will mean nothing to God. God requires holiness to be saved. When you are born again, you are born of the Holy Spirit. When you receive a filling of the Holy Spirit, your life will be holy. Only the Holy Spirit can make your life holy.

You are not a member of God's church until you become holy. A 'way' is the road you will travel on when you are trying to reach a destination. If you have the mind to follow a way of peace, it will lead you to holiness. You cannot find holiness by not having peace to lead you to holiness. Holiness is contrary to war, contentions, strife, confusion, and mistreating each other. You must humble yourself before God, repent of your sins, and the Holy Spirit will lead you to holiness.

### Subject: Is The Holy Spirit In Your Church Assembly?

An Evangelist who teaches the truth concerning salvation in Jesus Christ should also have a follow-up program to inform the people of the importance of being filled with the Holy Ghost. All religious teachings and revivals are vain when there is no follow-up program to inform the people about the importance of the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Ghost is the actual complete work of salvation. Its functions are the most important part of obtaining salvation. Without being filled with the Holy Ghost all other religious qualities and knowledge are worthless. Receiving the Holy Ghost is not speaking in unknown tongues, but a complete work of grace that gives you the new-birth in Christ. When you are filled with the Holy Ghost you are born of God, receiving the nature and holiness of God.

Evidence of the new-birth will be seen in the fruit of the Spirit, which are love, joy, peace, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, longsuffering, and humility (Galatians 5:22). When there is no fruit being produced in your life by the Holy Ghost, it means that you do not have the Holy Ghost. When John the Baptist introduced the gospel of Jesus Christ, he came reproving a world of sin, but he didn't fail to tell the people who repented and were baptized that, "there cometh one after me who shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and fire".

The Holy Ghost is not foolishness that makes you speak in unknown tongues, or wallow on the floor in a shameful, uncivilized exhibition. The Holy Ghost does not appeal to the emotions of the crowd in an assembly. It is not given to a preacher to show off in some false healing program. Those who receive the Holy Ghost are humble, sensible, and will develop a good, holy character based upon the teachings of Jesus Christ. Their lives will be motivated and directed by the Spirit so that all they say and do will be about Jesus to the glory of God.

When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you will not exempt any religious ways that will exalt yourself. Whatever the Spirit does through you will be done to the glory of Jesus. Unless the people in the church are filled with the Holy Ghost, then God will not be present, and nobody in the assembly will be saved.

## Subject: The Holy Ghost Will Lead You To The True Teaching Of Salvation:

Prior to Jesus leaving the earth, He told His disciples that He would send them the promise of the Father, which was the Holy Ghost. This was so that they would have something to guide them into the truth. Unless church folk of today have the Holy Ghost to guide them into the true teachings of salvation, they will be deceived by false religious teachings.

You cannot find the true teaching of salvation by your own efforts and knowledge. The truth must be given to you by God. You must have the intent of heart to believe that truth and the Holy Ghost will find you. You cannot find the true teaching of salvation; the Holy Ghost must find you, and lead you to the true teaching. Listen to St. John 16:13:

Verse 13 - Howbeit when he, the spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth. For he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak, and he will show you things to come.

#### Subject: The Works Of The Holy Ghost:

It is your belief in the teachings of the word of God that will cause the Holy Ghost to find you. The Holy Ghost can discern when a person believes the gospel and their belief will cause the Holy Ghost to give the person the new-birth. The Holy Ghost will spearhead salvation into a person's life when their intent of heart will be to believe the gospel. When you are filled with the Holy Ghost, it administers guidance that will lead you into the kingdom of heaven.

The Holy Ghost establishes the reality of God and His kingdom in a person's life, and gives them motivation to desire to go to heaven. The Holy Ghost will cause a person to lose all of their attraction for the things of this world, and direct their interest and attention to the kingdom of heaven.

You cannot understand the plan of God, nor motivate yourself to go to heaven, this must be done by the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost is an intercessor between man and God that will give man a line of communication with God so that he can understand the plan of God. All knowledge and assistance that comes to man from God must come by the Holy Ghost by means of a Holy Ghost filled preacher.

#### **Subject: The Holy Spirit Sanctifies Your Desires:**

When you are saved you are in the world, but not of the world. This means you are not a spiritual product of the world. You would not support, nor participate in things that are related to the evil of the world. The devil is the ruler of this present world, but God rules His people who are in the world.

The world is a system built up by the practices of people who live in the world. The world primarily consist of three things which are the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life. The love that many people think they have today is only lust. Lust is an urge to satisfy sinful cravings. Such desires will please the flesh, and are not related to the love of God.

The love of God sanctifies your desires, or confines your desires to be within the bounds of the will of God. Your desires will then be holy and acceptable to God. The will of God is that you should abstain from fornication, adultery or any lustful, sinful pleasures that please the flesh. This can only be done when the Holy Spirit sanctifies your desires. Listen to I Thessalonians 4:3-4:

Verse	3 -		this is the tye should					anctification,	
<b>X</b> 7	4	<b>T</b> 1		C	1	1 1 1	1		

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

Sanctification gives you the ability to withstand against the enemy of your soul who is Satan.

#### **Subject: The Holy Ghost Activates Grace:**

There are very few people who understand the scriptures; this is because the scriptures are spiritual and most people are carnal. A Holy Ghost filled spiritual leader can help carnal minded people to understand the scriptures by comparing the spiritual knowledge in the scriptures with natural things in the environment.

Spiritual knowledge is brought by the Holy Ghost from heaven, and given to the God sent preacher to teach the people of the earth. There is no other way that the people of the earth can learn knowledge from heaven except it be given by the Holy Ghost to a Holy Ghost filled preacher to give to the people. Most people of the earth don't know that there is a Holy Spirit moving upon the earth to administer grace to those who are willing to receive the teachings of Jesus Christ. The Holy Ghost filled preacher's job is to make the people aware of this knowledge. The Holy Ghost is available to give guidance that the people may obtain salvation. God allowed the Holy Ghost to cause a virgin to conceive and bring forth a child and called His name Jesus, for He was sent to represent grace. Grace is activated in the lives of those who receive Jesus' teachings by the same Holy Spirit that conceived Jesus in the womb of a virgin.

Humans of the earth are born in sin, and shaped in iniquity, and grace has power to deliver humans from this conception. When we are not satisfied with our sinful conception, the Holy Ghost will find us and give us the new-birth in Christ, and the grace of God will excuse us from all of our sinful transgressions on one condition, and that is if we are willing to go in peace and sin no more.

#### Subject: The Holy Spirit Brings Peace From God:

God sent Christ into the world about 2,000 years ago to bring peace. The peace that Christ offered to the world was not forced upon the nations of the earth, they must willingly accept it. Nations all over the world will be celebrating Christ's birthday soon, yet many nations are at war. Listen to St. John 14:25-27:

Verse 25 -	These things have I spoken unto yo	ou, being yet present
	with you.	

- Verse 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.
- Verse 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

The peace from God is not like the peace that the world gives. The world can have peace today and war tomorrow. The peace of God can keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Such peace is the fruit of the Holy Spirit, and is so powerful that those who receive it can have peace in the midst of confusion. If you let your request for peace be made known to God through prayer, the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your heart and mind through Christ Jesus regardless of what is going on in the world.

The reason that people do not have peace is because they seek the world for peace. The world has no peace. Peace comes from above to the hearts of those who obey God. The Holy Spirit is a carrier of peace from heaven to the earth giving it to those who are born again. The Holy Spirit brings peace in a package deal. Listen to Galatians 5:22-23:

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

When you repent of your sins, the Holy Spirit gives you the new-birth. The new-birth offers a package with the fruits of the Holy Spirit, and peace is inclusive. The Holy Spirit is the most powerful force in all existence, and nothing can withstand or prevent its works. The Holy Spirit can find a repenting sinner no matter what the conditions are around such a person. It is able to penetrate all forces of evil, and give the repenting sinner peace.

#### **Subject: The Promises Of Jesus:**

You can only gain knowledge by experience. Everything that you have learned is the result of what somebody else has experienced or what you have experienced. Jesus wanted His disciples to understand His gospel so He taught them in relation to the things that they had experienced, or were already familiar with.

Jesus promised His disciples that after He left, He would send them another Comforter, which would further build upon the knowledge that He had taught them. This other Comforter would be the Holy Ghost. God had given Jesus the power to fulfill all the promises that He was sent to teach the disciples. Jesus taught that the only way that the disciples could further understand His gospel was that He would have to climax His visit. This would happen by Jesus being crucified.

Jesus did not want His death to be a terror to His disciples, so He told them that on the third day He would be resurrected. So He taught the disciples that He

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

would petition His Father to send another Comforter, which would be the Spirit of truth that only those who believed His gospel could receive.

Those who had not received Jesus would not be able to receive the other Comforter. Therefore, Jesus admonished the disciples to let not their hearts be troubled, and that He would see them again after His resurrection, and they would have joy and confidence as a result of His appearance after the resurrection. 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: The Holy Spirit Has More Power Than The Carnal Mind:

You have to keep God in your mind to obey Him. The Holy Spirit is the only means by which you can keep God in your mind. If you don't have the assistance of the Holy Spirit to help keep God in your mind, you will be overpowered by the carnal mind to satisfy the flesh. The Holy Spirit will overpower the carnal mind and cause it to be ineffective to make you commit sin.

You cannot worship God if you don't have the Holy Spirit. Though you may go to church, you will be worshiping your church. If you don't have a personal relationship with God, your church can be your idol. It is better to sit at home and study your Bible than to go to church and worship an idol.

# Subject: Only Jesus' Teaching Is A True Witness To The Spirit Of Truth:

We are born into the world with a bad spirit that deceives us. This bad spirit prevents us from being good when we want to be good. Our hearts or minds have been deceived by this bad spirit, and only the Holy Spirit can deliver us from the deceit of this bad spirit. When God through Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit, it replaces this bad spirit and gives us a new birth. The new-birth gives us new power to deliver us from the deceitful power of the bad spirit.

The bad spirit will no longer walk, talk, and deceive us. However, the Holy Spirit, which is the Spirit of truth will show us the things that are true and give us power to eliminate the things that are false and deceitful from our minds. We will know that the Spirit of truth has been given to us because it will be compatible with, or in accordance to the teachings of the Jesus Christ. Only Jesus' teaching can be a true witness to the Spirit of truth.

#### Subject: Only The Spirit Of God Can Help You Tell The Truth:

It is hard for a person to tell the truth without the Spirit of God. When a person is not filled with the Spirit of God, they are vulnerable to the spirit of a lie. The Spirit of a lie can make a person imagine in their mind a lie, and tell it as though it was the truth. It is a common thing for a person who doesn't have the Holy Spirit to desire to be praised for the things that they say, and a lie is often times convenient for the purpose. They will on many occasions feel that a lie will bring credit to their statement, so a lie will be uttered to accomplish their purpose.

When you are not filled with the Holy Spirit, perverseness can control the use of your words and be the motivating influence in the things that you say. Without the assistance of God's Spirit, the mind can imagine evil, and eventually accept it as being the truth. When folk come under the influence of perverseness, their judgment can be turned backward and good discretion will be far from them. Listen to Isaiah 59:14:

Verse 14 - And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.

#### **Subject:** The Truth Is A Product Of Righteousness:

You cannot speak the truth unless God helps you. In the natural state of mind, false words are popular. False words are oftentimes used to conceal the truth. God has to open a door for the truth to go forth. Lies are preeminent to be

perverse from righteousness. The truth is a reflection of the righteousness of God. When you are separated from God, you are also separated from the truth. The truth cannot be taken for granted, it must be presented by righteousness. Out of a righteous mouth comes the truth. The Spirit of God produces righteousness, and it is hard for a person to tell the truth without the Spirit of God.

When you don't have the Spirit of God a lie appears to bring credit to your words. When you are unsaved a lie will reserve itself in your mind to influence your words to be impressive. A lie is not based upon facts, but is a product of the imagination. You can have information on part of a situation and imagine the rest. In order for the truth to be a continuous part of a person's conversation they must be renewed in the spirit of their mind by the Holy Ghost. The Spirit of God will help you to speak the things that you know, and testify to what you see.

# Subject: The Holy Ghost Gives You An Appetite For Righteousness:

It is absurd for anyone to think for a moment that God is on the side of or in support of sin. Sin is against all that God stands for, and God is against sin. God is nevertheless for the sinner when the sinner has intentions of repenting. A sinner is a person who lives contrary to what the word of God forbids. A sinner's ways are against God's ways.

There are some who believe that sinners are those who don't go to church or work in the church. A pastor of a church can be a sinner if he has not been born again. Working in a church does not mean that you are saved. You are only saved when you are living above sin. You can only live above sin when you are born again of the Spirit of God. The Holy Ghost is the power of God that saves you from sin. The Holy Ghost changes your biological make-up. It gives you the nature to desire to live a holy life, and it destroys your desires to commit sin upon its entry into your life.

The Holy Ghost has more power than your nature to commit sin. For as many as receive the teachings of Jesus Christ, He gives them power to become the children of God. That power is the Holy Ghost. You cannot live righteous but so long unless you have the power of the Holy Ghost to help you. The Holy Ghost gives you an appetite for righteousness that is greater than your previous appetite for sinful pleasures.

## Subject: The Spirit Of God Will Keep Your Mind On Jesus' Return:

For those who are not born again, Jesus' return will be a big surprise. It is the responsibility of the Christian churches to teach their members how to be ready to meet Jesus when He returns. Only the Spirit of God can prepare you to meet Jesus. If you are not filled with the Holy Spirit your mind will not be ready to receive Jesus upon His return. When you are born again, you are born of the Spirit of God, and the Spirit of God will give you a new mind that will be looking and waiting for Jesus.

When you are born again, you are renewed in the Spirit of your mind. This means your mind will not be under the influence of things in the world, but it will be under the influence of God. When your mind is under the influence of the world, it will cause you to enjoy sinful pleasures of the world. When this happens, Jesus could come while you are drinking liquor, telling a lie, or committing adultery. When you mind is under the influence of the Spirit of God, you will have a righteous life, doing that which is pleasing to God. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, your mind will be watching, waiting, and looking for Jesus to appear.

#### **Subject: Walk In The Spirit:**

To walk in the Spirit means that you are being directed through life by the leadership of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God will then be your counselor, and guide through life. Now to be able to walk in the Spirit means you must be born of the Spirit. The Spirit must have given you a new, holy mind and by means of your new mind it will give you directions on how to live.

The Spirit would have adopted you into the family of God making you a certified child of God. Your name will be written in the book of life in heaven. Evidence that this adoption process has taken place is that you will be led by the Spirit of God everyday of your life. You are then walking in the Spirit.

#### **Subject: You Have A Spiritual And Physical Life:**

No matter how hard you try, you will not be able to get sin out of your life. You must surrender your life to God. Only the Holy Spirit can remove sin from your life. The Holy Spirit can operate on you as a doctor does surgery on your physical body. The Holy Spirit does a spiritual operation on your mind and nature.

When the Holy Spirit overshadows you, it administers power that is greater than the power that makes you sin. Your very breath was initially given to you by the Spirit of God, but it was for the purpose of giving you physical life. God commissioned a new work by the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost to give you a spiritual, or righteous life so that you can live free from sin. So then all of your life was given by the Holy Spirit, which includes your physical life, and your spiritual life.

When you are filled with the Holy Spirit you are born again. This means you are born of God. You received your first birth from your mother, but your second birth is of God. When you are filled with the Spirit, you become a part of God. This means that you are one with God. God has then become your life. At this time, no powers on earth will have access to your life unless God permits it. You are now living in the Spirit. All of your purposes, movements, and ambitions in life will be spiritually motivated. Nothing or nobody will be able to defeat, prevent, or annul your purposes, because God will be with you. The Spirit of God comes from God, and it has power greater than all the forces of evil that are on the earth.

#### **Subject: A Great Cloud Of Witnesses:**

The grace of God has appeared to all men and women in their consciences, teaching them that when something ungodly is presented to their minds to do, that they should deny it in their consciences. The grace of God brings this to all people giving them a chance to be saved (Titus 2:11-14).

When you believe the word of God, it will purify your mind and cleanse your desires. The Bible has the record of a great cloud of witnesses to help, and encourage you when you are trying to obey God (Hebrews 12:1-3). You will also have witnesses in your present life who will testify that a change has taken place in your life.

Now after you confess that you believe God can save and keep you and you stand before others who will witness that a change has taken place in your life

because they will see you shun the appearance of evil, God will give you the Holy Spirit as a witness from heaven, and sanctify you.

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

It is a wonderful thing to have God's Spirit within you. When God commissioned the Holy Spirit to come to the earth on the day of Pentecost it was a wonderful gift to the people of the earth. When you are filled with the Spirit of God, it means that God Himself is living in you. When God is living in you, the devil and all of his forces of evil cannot enter your life.

When you are filled with God's Spirit, your life will be sealed with the righteousness of God until the day of total redemption of your body and soul. Listen to Ephesians 1:13-14:

- Verse 13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.
- Verse 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

### **Subject: The Saint:**

Most religious folk are against the true teaching of salvation simply because they are totally ignorant of the true meaning of salvation. Ignorance causes people to reject things that they think are not necessary. Many think that it is not necessary to live free from sin to be saved. The reason that many reject the teachings of salvation is because they see very few people living according to the true gospel. Most church folk are familiar with other hypocrite church folk who live in pretense of being saved.

To be holy is to live a sin-free life at all times. Every aspect of a saved person's conduct should be holy. Sin will not be a part of a born again believer's

life style. When such people are saved, they will live a life style that will consist of the fruit of the Holy Spirit on a continuous basis. Their character will consist of love, peace, joy, longsuffering, humility, temperance, meekness, goodness and patience. They will be easily entreated, honest and reliable. They will not consider committing adultery, fornication or drinking alcoholic beverages, cigarette smoking and the use of tobacco products.

Gambling and illegal drugs will not be a part of their life style. They will never use profanity nor tell lies. They will be sanctified or set apart from any social aspects of life that lean toward the above habits and social activities. They will never go to a church and worship with others who practice such sinful ways.

# CHAPTER 6

# THE NEW BIRTH IN CHRIST

#### **Subject: A Description Of The New-Birth:**

Christ was revealed in a flesh and blood body to take away our sins. When you are born again, you are born of the Spirit of God, and your mind becomes united with the mind of Christ. The Spirit of God causes the word of God to plant a seed of righteousness in your mind, which causes Christ, who is the word of God to be born in your mind. You are then born again of the Spirit of God, and the two minds will become united and mutual. This will cause an interdependence and comingling of the two minds. This cannot be possible if one mind is sinful and the other is holy. The two minds would then be at variance against one another.

When you have the mind of Christ, whatever is the will of Christ becomes your will. This means the will of God is being done in your life. Listen to Philippians 2:5-6:

Verse 5 -	Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ
	Jesus.

Verse 6 - Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

When you are born of God, the power of God is yours. The Holy Spirit will be continuously at your assistance. The power of God will come upon you the moment the devil presents a temptation to sin, and this power will cause you to reject the sin.

When you are born of God, He will occupy your life by means of His Spirit. You will then become the temple of God, and God will live in you. When God lives in you, sin and the devil will have no place in our life. You will be strictly God's property. You will also have the assistance of the angels of the Lord who will be continuously in your presence. The Holy Spirit will indwell within your mind and nature while the angels of the Lord will encamp around about you for the entire time that you live on the earth as a child of God.

#### Subject: You Must Surrender Your Life To God:

When you are born again, God uses you to His glory. God will then take complete control over your life. All that you have to do is to completely surrender your life to God. When you have clean hands and a pure heart, God will attend to the rest of your life's operations. When God does this by working in you to will and to do of His good pleasure, nobody can harm nor hinder you when you are a follower of that which is good.

#### Subject: The New Birth Gives You Power To Live Above Sin:

When you are born again of the Spirit of God, you will live above sinful practices. Humans of the earth are shaped in iniquity from their mother's womb, and as the result of such a conception, they are estranged from God. God sent Jesus into the world for the purpose of instructing man on how to be saved from his sinful conception. If we reject the proposal that Jesus presents to the world, God will then charge us for being sinners. Understand that God does not charge us for being sinners, because we were born in sin, but He charges us when we choose to continue to be sinners.

The offer to be saved from sin is in every human being's conscience after they reach a mature age to understand right from wrong. God sent Jesus to bring to man the knowledge of the new way involving the new-birth of righteousness, which can lift a person's mind above sinful desires. This will cause the person to live a continuous life above sin.

# Subject: If You Are Born Again Your Record Of Sin Is Cleared (I John 3:4):

When you sin, you break the law of God, because sin is the transgression of the law. You cannot be a violator of God's law and be accepted into His holy family. All violations have to be lifted from your record of transgressions before God will save you.

When you are born of the Spirit of God, He blots out all of your previous violations of sin so that you can be accepted into His family. What good would it be for God to blot out your transgressions when you are continuously putting new transgressions on your record (Colossians 2:13-14).

# Subject: You Will Receive Power To Live Above Sin When You Are Filled With The Holy Ghost (Acts:1:8):

Human beings cannot live and not sin unless God helps them. If you have a sin-free life, it is because God is helping you to live sin-free. It is God who gives you power to live above sin. He gives you the power of the Holy Spirit to help you to resist sin. When you believe that you can live without committing sin, the power of God comes upon you and it will prevent the temptations to commit sin from overtaking you. When you are born of God, the power of God is yours for the remainder of your life on earth (Acts 1:8). You may be one who speaks in unknown tongues and sings on the choir, but if you commit sin, you do not have the Holy Spirit.

#### Subject: Are You Ready To Receive Jesus?

You should stay ready if the Lord should come so that you can go back with Him. It is not wise to let the enticements of the world prevent you from being ready when Jesus comes. Your mind should be lifted to heaven by things being in continuous fellowship with God on a daily basis. You can only maintain this fellowship with God when you have been born again.

You may have heard a preacher preach a sermon teaching that you must be born again. It is the most important sermon in the Bible. There is no other way to come to God except by being born again. The second birth that Jesus was making reference to Nicodemus about is entirely spiritual. Spiritual things have to do with morals or right and wrong. When you were born the first time your spiritual condition led you to do wrong because it was under the power of your physical desires. Your physical make-up was that of a sinful nature.

When you are born again, Jesus gives power to your desires to be greater than the power that was in your physical body. The power that Jesus gives is in the Holy Spirit that gives you a righteous, spiritual life that has more power than your first birth gave your physical life to commit sin.
#### Subject: When You Are Born Again You Are A Living Epistle:

The word Christian means a follower of Christ. To follow Christ means to live according to the principles of righteousness that He taught. When you do this, you are walking in His footsteps. In order to do this, you must have the mind that Christ has. You must have the mind to be perfect as Christ has. When you get this mind, you will become equal with God, and that will clear you from all condemnation, because God will not condemn Himself if He is living in you.

The teaching of Jesus Christ is not just to be given to you on Sunday when you go to church, but it is for the purpose of giving you a new life for your everyday life's conditions. The gospel does not merely dress your life up for Sunday, but for every day. When you are born again, you will carry the church that Christ built everywhere you go. You will be a living or walking epistle. You will be a mobile church, and those who see you will see Christ living in you. They will be able to see the scriptures in living form. If they desire to read the Bible, they will be able to read it in your life.

#### Subject: The Natural Birth And The Spiritual Birth:

During this grace period that God is granting to the people of the earth, everybody should take advantage of the opportunity to be brought in closer touch with God. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the means by which we can be brought into closer touch with God. The gospel has been presented to the world with morals that have been simplified to an earthly level of understanding relating to things of the earth that the average person is familiar with.

Being born and being buried are the most common things known by all people. Life and death are the examples that Jesus used to teach about salvation. Jesus taught concerning two types of birth, which were the spiritual birth, and the natural birth of the flesh. The spiritual birth would be a birth of the Spirit of God, and the natural, fleshly birth would be a birth of human parents presenting a child to the world.

Jesus taught that the natural birth would lead to a natural death, but a spiritual birth would lead a person to acquire eternal life. The natural birth presents a person to the world as a sinner, and the wages of sin is eternal death, but the spiritual birth would present the person to the world as a righteous or holy person.

Jesus further taught that a spiritual birth would be a gift from God to the person who repents of his or her sins. The spiritual birth is from heaven, which is given to the person by the Holy Spirit to make the person a candidate to live in heaven. Jesus concluded His lesson on the two types of births by stating that unless a person is born again of the Spirit of God, which gives a spiritual birth, the person will not be able to enter the kingdom of heaven.

#### **Subject: A Spiritual Blessing:**

It will please God that we live eternally, and not that we die. God made a great sacrifice for us to live again after we die. If you are born again, God has predestinated you to live again. Your salvation did not happen by chance. God pre-planned that you would be an adopted child of His family before the foundation of the world. Listen to Ephesians 1:3-5:

Verse 3 -	Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:
Verse 4 -	According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:
Verse 5 -	Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.

To be born again is a spiritual blessing that is more valuable than any material or monetary gift that you are given. A spiritual blessing is a blessing that will enable you to enjoy eternal life in heaven.

#### Subject: Eternal Life Is What You Want:

You may not be aware of it at this present time, but eternal life is what you want more than anything that you think you want in this present world. God is

offering the people of the earth eternal life in His kingdom. You are only promised 70 or 80 years in this present world, and most people don't get that much.

Eternal life is a gift from God that can be obtained by obeying His word, which was presented to the world by Jesus Christ. Now you can't wait until you die to get eternal life, you must get it while you are living in this present world. If you get the mind to obey God, the Holy Spirit will find you, and give you the newbirth in Christ.

The Holy Spirit will bring the gospel that Jesus preached into your mind, and convert your life from a carnal state to a righteous state. You may not understand this experience right now, but when you receive this conversion process, your mind will be awakened unto righteousness. When you humble yourself to the teachings of Christ, the Holy Spirit will come down and be with you for the remainder of your life on earth.

When the Holy Spirit falls upon you, you will be lost for words to express yourself. It will be a totally new experience, unlike anything that you have previously learned about religion. You will have to be taught a new vocabulary to testify about the changes that have taken place in your life. You will find that all of your prior religious teachings and experiences will be nothing like your new conversion in Christ. So if you want the joy for the kingdom to come, just let God's will be done in you while you are on the earth, and it will also be done for you in the kingdom of heaven.

Now if you want this process for salvation to start working in your life, repent of everything that you know is wrong, and turn from any unclean habits and ways of living, then ask God for the Holy Spirit and something will happen to you. Just as surely as your repentance is sincere, it means that your request will be sincere and the Spirit of God will pay you a visit.

## Subject: The Lord Will Give You A Visit If You Are Born Again:

The gift of God is eternal life. Humans receive their physical lives from their parents, but eternal life can only be received from God. Jesus brought the gospel that teaches us how to obtain eternal life, and the Holy Spirit was sent by God to convert us to a life of righteousness so that we can live according to the knowledge that Jesus brought. If you obey God and keep His commandments, the Holy Spirit will indwell within you and keep you living righteous. The Holy Spirit will start this process while you are living in this present world, and continue to give you life throughout eternity. Today if you have been born again, you are living in the presence of the Holy Spirit. It will give you joy unspeakable and you will be filled with the praises of God. So, if you want eternal life in the kingdom of heaven, just let God's will be done in you while you are on the earth, and it will also be done by you when you go to heaven.

If you repent of your sin and clean your life up, you can then ask God to let the breath of the Holy Spirit breathe on you, and something will happen. Such a request will be a petition that God will honor. God will give you a visit by means of the Holy Spirit; the Holy Spirit is God. When God gives you a visit, your room will be filled with His presence. Others who are nearby will know that someone is in the room with you, and you will have to tell them that the Lord has paid you a visit.

#### Subject: You Are Born Again Of The Will Of God:

God gave His only begotten Son to ransom you from the grave and redeem you from death. When you are born in sin, death will have the final claim on your soul. God sent Jesus to redeem us from the claim that death had over us so that we might not be dead forever. To die in Christ is simply a peaceful rest in paradise. To die without Christ is eternal death in hell forever. This means that when we are saved, God through Christ has given us a life beyond the grave. Listen to St. John 1:12-13:

- Verse 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- Verse 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

It is only the will of God that can cause you to be born again. Others can tell you about being born again, but only the will of God can give you the new-birth. When God gives you the new-birth, He sends His Spirit to you to destroy the works of the devil in your mind and to establish His righteousness in your life. Under these conditions you would have been born again of the will of God.

#### **Subject: A Replacement For The Carnal Nature:**

If the word of God gets into your mind, it can reverse the course of nature in your life. Spiritual things are more powerful than physical things. The word has spiritual power that can overwhelm the physical functions of human beings. The word of God can change the course of nature and throw in reverse the natural tendencies of a person if they believe the word of God.

When a person receives the word of God with an honest and good mind, the Spirit of God will cause the word to completely change the inborn human make-up of the person. It will take away their desires to get pleasures out of sin and cause sin to be repulsive to the person. The person will then live receiving joy from the Holy Spirit to replace the pleasures that they previously received from the sinful desires.

#### **Subject: A Holy Conception:**

God has arranged and planned that though man was born in sin, he might be born again. A sinful conception is something that a man cannot change, nor escape the penalty of by his own efforts. There are no scientific inventions nor medical solutions for being born in sin. Only God has the solution, which was presented to the world in Christ.

The scriptures teach that when a man is born again, he is born not of the flesh, but of the Spirit of God. Sinful desires are a spiritual problem that can only be solved with a spiritual solution. The solution for being born in sin is to have the sinful nature replaced by a holy or sin-free nature. This does not require a surgical operation, but a spiritual transformation.

The sinful nature must be changed by a renewed work of the Holy Spirit to a holy nature that the Holy Spirit will implant in the person's mind when they hear and receive the word of God. The word of God is a seed of righteousness that can give a new, righteous life to the person who believes the word. The Holy Spirit will then use the word to regenerate a new life source in the person that will be holy or sin-free. This process will have no effect on the person's physical makeup. It will only effect their spiritual life, which means their conduct and behavior will be according to the teachings of Jesus Christ, which will be sin-free.

#### **Subject: The Name For A Saved Person Is Holy:**

When you have been born again, you will not use some denominational, secular church name to identify you as being saved. You will then be in the name of the Lord, and His name is Holy. You will stay in the name Holy because the name Holy has power to keep you in the family of God. You are identified as being a member of a family by the name of the family.

The spiritual name Holy is given to you based upon the way that you live. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit you will live a life free from sin, and when you are free from sin, you are holy.

#### **Subject: A Living Sacrifice:**

The people of God have been sacrificing since the days of Cain and Abel. The greatest sacrifice that has ever been made was when God gave His only begotten Son. Today when we are born again, we are to present ourselves before God as living sacrifices. Your life is not acceptable to God unless it is a holy sacrifice.

To be a sacrifice means the life of the one who is being sacrificed must be completely given for a godly requirement. Such a sacrifice will no longer live for its own purpose or pleasures of life that it previously enjoyed. The sacrifice will be presented to God with no reservations for its former life. It will be presented in complete denial of self for the will of God.

When you are saved, you are bought with a price by means of a sacrifice to be a living sacrifice. All of your strength, time, interest, labor and a tenth of your wages belong to God, because the life that you previously lived before you became saved you lived enjoying the conveniences of your life.

God requires that your former pleasures and conveniences of life be placed on the altar, just as Jesus was allowed to hang on the cross for our sins. The altar would be for a ministry that has helped to bring you to the knowledge of your salvation. Your sacrifices will be your contributions, support, and 10 per cent of your wages to help support the ministry.

### **Subject: The Adoption Process Is For The Living:**

When a preacher preaches your funeral saying that you are a child of God when you are dead, he is making a mistake if you were not a child of God while you were living. You become a child of God when you are adopted into the family of God by the Spirit of God. This adoption process can only take place while you are living. What parent adopts a dead child? You must be led through life by the Spirit of God to be a child of God. A dead person cannot follow the Spirit of God. Listen to Romans 8:14-15:

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

When you are adopted into the family of God, you are led by the Spirit of God for the remainder of your life on earth.

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

God is not a God of the dead, but of the living. You don't actually die when you are saved, you enter a peaceful rest in Paradise when your life on earth ends. The gospel is not given to you to die, but for you to live eternally. Jesus defeated death on Calvary, and all who are saved are not subject to death. The grave cannot praise God, nor can death celebrate Him.

#### **Subject: If You Are Born Again You Have An Inheritance:**

If you are born again today, everybody who has authority over you is a servant to you. When you are saved, you are presently an heir of God, and the earth will one day come into your possession (Psalm 37:11; St. Matthew 5:5).

You are presently like a child being born into a wealthy family and the servants of the wealthy family have more authority than you have.

You must take orders, and be obedient to the servants of your family until the time that will be appointed unto you by your father to come into possession of the wealth of the family. In Galatians 4:1, the reference is being made to a saved person living in this present world. When God saves you, you become an heir of God. The word of God doesn't play games, it means what it is saying. Listen to Verses 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;
	loiu or all,

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

When you are born again, you are born into the wealthy family of God who owns everything in the creation. You are like a child who was born into a wealthy, earthly family (St. Matthew 5:10). The day that you are born again, you acquire an inheritance of a place in God's kingdom and the new earth that God is going to renovate (St. Luke 12:32).

The new-birth in Christ is an adoption process that officially gives a child of God the rights of ownership to God's kingdom and the new earth. Listen to Galatians 4:3-5:

Verse 3 -	Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world:
Verse 4 -	But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,
Verse 5 -	To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

### Subject: A Saved Person's Life Was Pre-ordered By God:

In the beginning, God created heaven and the earth. He created heaven for His throne, and the earth was created for His earthly family. The angels were created to inhabit heaven. They were created holy. Angels were created to be in the image of God, and were appointed to positions in heaven. This resulted to angels being known as 'stars'. Stars is the word that is used to describe one who is outstanding in their field.

Jesus was the begotten Son of God who was the greatest star that ever lived. After the heaven and earth were created, the angels that had been created to be part of the family of God in heaven were assigned to look over the works of God on the earth also. Today if you are saved, God has assigned angels to watch over you. A holy people on the earth that have been sought out to be redeemed of the Lord are under the protection of angels.

When you live a holy life on earth, you have holy angels from heaven protecting you. God blesses a saved person by giving them heavenly assistance so that the enemy of God will not overcome the saved people on the earth. When you are saved, your life is a heavenly place in Christ Jesus though you are living on the earth. A saved person who is assisted by the Holy Spirit is also assisted by holy angels.

God planned that those of us who are saved should be holy and without blame, so that we might be members of the heavenly family before Him in love, though we are living on the earth. God has predestinated us unto the adoption of children that we might be brought into the family of God by Jesus Christ to himself according to the good pleasure of His will. All this was planned by God before the foundation of the world. If you are saved today, you were not saved by accident or coincidentally, you are God's workmanship created by God unto good works by divine ordination.

#### **Subject: Praise The Lord:**

God demands praise from those who are true. If you are filled with the Holy Ghost, it will cause you to praise God. Praise is comely for the born again person (Psalm 66:1). When you love somebody you are always saying nice things about the person. You should learn to praise God first, and also other people. Everything that God creates praises Him. The sun, moon, stars, rivers, mountains, and valleys praise God. All eternity will be filled with nothing but praises for God.

Now you must learn about God to properly praise Him. You must know the scriptures to learn about the power of God; otherwise, you will be ignorant of what to praise God for. If you don't know the scriptures, you could be going to church praising the devil.

The Holy Scriptures are able to make you wise so that you can tell the works of God from the works of the devil. Remember the Pharaoh in Egypt. He thought that the sorcerers and magicians could do the same thing that Moses did until he lost his first-born son, and his army was destroyed in the Red Sea. The Pharaoh was giving praises to the works of the devil, and he didn't know it until it was too late. The scriptures will make you wise unto salvation.

## CHAPTER 7

## SALVATION: GENERAL TOPICS

#### Subject: There Is Still Hope For The World In Christ:

The earth was the mother of the first man, but a virgin who was pure, holy, clean, virtuous and undefiled by a man was the mother of Jesus Christ. All this was done that God might fulfill His promise which He spake through the prophet Isaiah when He said <u>"a virgin shall conceive</u>." When a Holy God speaks by the mouth of His prophet to foretell of a Holy event, such words carry the power to make the event come to pass. As the prophecy of the event was planted in the mouth of the prophet Isaiah, his word was also planted in the mind of the virgin Mary, and caused her to bring forth the seed that would bless the nations of the earth.

Prior to the coming of the Lord, God arranged in His plan that there should be a forerunner who would prepare the people to receive the Lord (St. Luke 1:13, 15 and 17). This forerunner was also prophesied as being the voice of one crying in the wilderness, saying make straight the way of the Lord. Six months before the birth of Jesus Christ, John the Baptist who was the forerunner of Christ stepped into the world. Thirty years later on the banks of Jordan while John was baptizing, Jesus made a visit to the river. As Jesus walked down to the shore of Jordan, John stopped baptizing, looked up and said to the people, "Behold the lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (St John 1:29). Today the world has a hope, but only in Christ.

#### **Subject: Obedience:**

There is only one way that you can escape the troubles of your personal life, and that is by obeying God. Disobedience to God causes you to be separate from the assistance and blessings of God. Disobedience brings the curse of sin upon man, and obedience brings the blessings of God. Your obedience to God will cause you to learn the will of God so that you can adjust your life accordingly. The will of God is not the will of man.

## Subject: Obedience To God Has More Power Than Disobedience:

Disobedience to God's command can do a lot of damage to mankind. It was by one man's disobedience that sin entered into the world and is causing all of the trouble that is in the world. One man's disobedience has brought death to all the people of the earth. Had it not been for Adam's disobedience, nobody would be dying.

The most important thing that a person can do today is to learn the will of God and obey God. Everybody dies because of Adam's disobedience, but anybody can live forever if they obey God. God grants the privilege for each person to obtain eternal life as individuals if they obey His command. It is not going to some church that will give you eternal life, but your obedience to God's word. God does not recognize the name of church denominations, but He recognizes those who obey Him.

Obedience to God is more powerful than disobedience. What disobedience lost, obedience gained. 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: A Heavenly Place In Christ Jesus:**

The first man (Adam) alienated us from the commonwealth of heaven, which caused us to be born into the world not knowing God. It was by God's mercy that was extended to us through Christ that brought us into a covenant or an agreement with God. Some people may break their part of the agreement, but God will never do it, because He is rich in mercy. God loved us even when we were living contrary to His will.

When we surrender our lives to Christ, He will quicken us, and make us alive in righteousness. None of this will be done by our works of righteousness, but by grace. God throughout the world by His Holy Spirit has given everyone who believed in the teachings of Jesus Christ, the same mind and spirit that Christ has. God gives it to the white, black, Hispanic, Asian, rich, or poor. When we have God's Spirit, we will love one another regardless of the ethnic or social origin of the person.

The Spirit of God will cause us to see faithfulness, honesty, love and a pure heart in the other person who is Spirit filled. When you see a person who is Spirit filled, you will not see them as being ordinary. You will be able to see that they are unusual; nobody who has God's Spirit is ordinary. When you meet such a person, you will immediately begin to talk about the things of God, and your meeting together will be a heavenly place in Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit in both people will actually be doing the talking. It will simply be using your voices to bear witness of Christ in both people.

#### Subject: Salvation Is A Favor From God To Man:

God does not owe us anything. Everything that God does for us is by favor. The entire plan and operation for the salvation of man is grace being extended. There is nothing in the plan of salvation for God; it is all for the purpose of saving man from his sins. There may be some that feel they are doing God a favor because they work in a church. Such people can become so important in their own eyes that they cannot see nor appreciate the grace of God which brings salvation.

The plan of salvation is free to all, and has been made so simple that all can understand and accept it. God made the plan of salvation for man's benefit; and man must accept it as it has been presented. Man cannot change nor adulterate the plan, because it was designed by God to accommodate the spiritual needs of a sinner bringing the sinner up to a standard of holiness to be saved.

## Subject: The Gospel From The Kingdom Of Heaven Has Power To Save You From Sin:

The world imitates the things of God. The gospel initially came from the kingdom of heaven. Today there is also a gospel from the kingdom of the world. The gospel from the kingdom of the world is false, and has no power to save. The gospel from the kingdom of the world has been adulterated. It is mixed with fables

and enticing words of man's wisdom that carries no substance of saving power from God.

The Holy Spirit does not deploy the gospel of the kingdoms of the world. The gospel of the kingdoms of this world is deceiving and designed by Satan to attract, impress, and entertain its listeners. Unless a person is filled with the Holy Spirit they will not be able to discern the gospel of the kingdoms of this world from the gospel of the kingdom heaven.

#### **Subject: The Power Of His Resurrection:**

God sent Jesus to the earth to live in the midst of ordinary people for 33 years. Jesus learned the conditions of the people's lives that sin had brought upon them. He learned the ways and dispositions of the people and proceeded to give them solutions for their problems. Jesus helped them to understand that God had a plan for those who were willing to repent of their sins and obey the gospel.

Jesus taught that under the initial law that God gave Moses, those who sinned were dead and damned, but He was offering an updated plan from God that the people could be delivered from the penalty of the first plan brought by Moses. Jesus said that they could come unto Him, all who labored and were heavy laden by the difficult conditions that sin had brought upon them, and that they could receive forgiveness and relief for their souls.

Jesus pleaded with them to let Him instruct them on how to lay aside every weight, and the sins that so easily beset them, robbing them of their peace and damning their souls. Jesus said let me teach you; Jesus was sent to teach us. Jesus gathered together a little cabinet of twelve disciples, and commissioned them to go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature, and if we believed and were baptized, we could be saved. Jesus would build up confidence in us for what He was teaching by demonstrating that the power in His teaching would work for us based upon His crucifixion and resurrection.

# Subject: For When I Am Weak Then Am I Strong (II Corinthians 12:10):

The plan of salvation has to be revealed to you. It is not complicated or sophisticated knowledge, but the simplicity of the knowledge is hidden from those who are prudent, or think that they are smart, and it is revealed to the humble person. You learn the mystery of God's plan of salvation by being willing to obey His word.

When you learn to fear, respect, and love God you will acquire favor from God, and He will reveal the mysteries of His plan to you. God's plan is great and powerful and the devil himself could not perceive that the crucifixion of Jesus Christ would bring salvation to the world; otherwise, he never would have crucified Jesus. Listen to I Corinthians 2:7-8:

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:

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 princes of this world are the devil and his angels who crucified Christ, being ignorant of the plan of God, which was incorporated in the crucifixion. The crucifixion appeared to have been the weakest moments of Jesus' ministry on earth, but when He was weak, God's strength was made perfect in His weakness. Today all who are saved can glory in Jesus' infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon us. When we are weak, then He's strong. Listen to II Corinthians 13:4:

Verse 4 - For though He was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you.

Listen to II Corinthians 12:10:

Verse 10 - Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

### Subject: The Free Gift:

Jesus brought the invitation for eternal life to the world. It was through Jesus' gospel that we learned that we have access to the free gift of eternal life. Romans 5:18-19 teaches that by the offense of one man, judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one, the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

The word "Adam" means man. Jesus was the second Adam that delivered all men from the curse of the first Adam. Regardless of how good we are, the first Adam brought the sentence of death upon us. Jesus gives us the opportunity to be born again of the Spirit of God to deliver us from the curse that the spirit of Adam brought upon us.

#### **Subject: Jesus' Name Represented His Purpose:**

Everybody is given a name at birth. Some are given names that become very famous, and are later established as historical names. Of all the names that have been established as famous, none of such names can save anybody from their sins. Listen to Acts 4:12:

Verse 12 - Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

The name of Jesus is the only name by which a person can be saved. If you have confidence in the name of Jesus, it can save your soul. When you believe in a person's name, you must have faith in what the person represented. Jesus was the Son of God who represented a means by which men could be saved from sin. If a person does not believe in Jesus' purpose for being sent to the world, it means that His name means nothing to them. To believe in a person's name you must believe in their purpose also.

# Subject: Your Salvation Must Be According To The Scriptures:

When you are listening to a preacher, you should follow what he is preaching with your Bible. If he is not preaching using scriptures from the Bible, then what he is preaching will not lead you to salvation. Only the principles taught in the Original King James Version of the Bible will lead you to salvation. All other translated versions of the Bible have been adulterated.

All of the prophets and apostles who spoke were holy men who were moved by the Holy Ghost to compose the Bible. The Holy Ghost dictated to such men the principles of righteousness that God wanted to give to the world. The word of the Lord came unto the prophets and apostles by the Holy Spirit. The knowledge did not come from their minds, but it came to their minds from the Holy Ghost.

Today if a person is going to be saved, the new-birth must come to their minds by the Holy Ghost according to the knowledge that the Holy Ghost gave to the prophets and apostles.

#### **Subject: Salvation Is A Two Part Process:**

There are many today who have heard the word of God by the way side. This means they heard the gospel preached and did not understand it, afterwards, the devil came along and took what they heard out of their minds. Listen to St. Matthew 13:19:

Verse 19 - When anyone heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

The word of God is like a seed that is planted in the ground. In order for a seed to bring forth fruit, the soil must be compatible for the nourishment of the seed. If the soil is not suitable for the seed to germinate and bring forth fruit, then the seed would have fallen by the way side. When the word of God is preached, it is looking for a mind that is suitable for it to bring forth fruit. The mind of such a person must be desiring to receive the word of God as much as God desires for the person to be saved.

To receive the word of God is a two part process. The mind of the person must desire to be saved as much as God wants the person to be saved. God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son. The mind that receives the word of God from God's Son must be willing to love God with all of its heart, mind, soul, and strength. The love that comes from the receiver of the word of God must be reciprocal with the love that is giving the word of God.

## Subject: Your Soul Or Mind Can Exist Separate From Your Body:

Now God gave you your soul, and if it is saved, it must be your choice. God gives instructions on how your soul can be saved, and if you obey the instructions, your soul can be saved. When your soul (mind) is saved, God will give you a new life, and arrange for your soul to live in a new body.

Now remember, you were created in three parts, which were your body, breath or spirit, and your soul. Your breath or spirit was loaned to you by God, but your soul is permanently yours, and your body will go back to the dust. Your mind or soul is the eternal part of your existence that cannot be eradicated. It will live on in one of two places, which will be either heaven or hell.

Your soul or mind can be alive when your body is asleep or dead. When you are asleep, your soul or mind can go to another location in a dream. At such time your body and soul will be in two separate locations. Your soul or mind can exist completely separate or independent from your body. So will it be when you go into eternity. Your body will not go into eternity, but your mind will.

#### **Subject: Your Eternal Existence:**

There is something about you that will never die. Your soul is a part of your existence that will never die. Your soul is your mind, or spiritual heart. Your physical heart supplies blood for your body, but your soul or spiritual heart gives you eternal life. If your soul is saved, you will receive eternal life in heaven with God. If your soul is not saved, you will receive eternal life in hell with the devil.

You are not conscious of this knowledge while you are living in this present world, because being born as a sinner means that you were born under the spirit of deceit. It is only after you have been born again that the knowledge of your eternal existence is revealed to you. The end of your physical life will come because it has been sustained by blood, but your spiritual life will be continuous. This means that you will continue to have a mind that can think and have emotional feelings throughout eternity. Your senses of hearing, feeling, and communicating will be continuous.

Now the death of your physical body is guaranteed by the word of God. However, when this mortal body ceases to exist, your soul or mind will live on according to the promise of God, and receive another body in the resurrection like the body which Jesus had after His resurrection. You will only receive this new body if you are saved before you die. The question was asked in the book of Job 14:14: "If a man die shall he live again?" The Lord who gave you the life which you now possess has given you the promise that if you walk in His statutes and keep His commandments, though you die, you shall live again.

Now there are many people today who think that all there is to life is to be born, eat, drink, and die, and that this will be the end of their existence. The truth is that God never planned for man to die when He created man. Why would He create man to die? Death was man's choice and not God's. So the question remains that if a man dies shall he live again? Our bodies that were created from the dust of the earth will return to the dust as the word of God teaches, but our breath or the spirit of life of our physical bodies will return to God who gave it.

### **Subject: A Lost Fellowship:**

The scriptures give knowledge about God's dealing with man, and His plan to restore man back into fellowship with Him. When you are in fellowship with God, you don't have to worry about anything. God provides for those who are in fellowship with Him.

When Adam was in fellowship with God, everything that he needed was made available to him in the Garden of Eden. You cannot be in fellowship with God and in sin. When Adam sinned, he lost his fellowship with God, he was put out of the Garden of Eden, and he no longer had access to the blessings that God provided in the Garden of Eden.

Today men have to work to earn a living because of the sins of Adam. The citizens of the kingdom of heaven do not work as people of the earth; they enjoy blessings that God has provided in heaven.

#### **Subject: A Two Part Prophesy:**

In the fullness of time, the prophecy of Isaiah came to pass concerning Jesus' birth. We were not here when Jesus was born neither was the prophet Isaiah, but Isaiah carried the power of God's word in his prophecy. The power in God's word used Isaiah's voice to present an introduction of the greatest event that has ever happened to the world.

Isaiah prophesied that a virgin would conceive a child. Most people during Isaiah's time thought that such a prophecy was ridiculous, and many think the same thing today. The fulfillment of the prophecy actually takes place in two parts. The first part of the fulfillment took place when Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, and the second part can take place during this present day. It can be fulfilled in our lives when we experience the new-birth in Christ.

The first part of the fulfillment took place in Mary's womb, and the second part has taken place in the minds of all who believe Isaiah's prophecy. We were born under the sentence of death, and the prophecy of Isaiah saved us. Once Isaiah's prophecy was presented there was nothing that could stop the prophecy from saving everybody who believed it. The prophecy carried the power of God to give salvation to all who believed it.

Along with the prophecy of Isaiah, God included a program for redemption of our sins that would be revealed after the birth of Jesus. Listen to St. Matthew 1:21:

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

The prophecy was God's word and promise to the world, which was a promise by an incorruptible seed, which means the promise could never become ineffective. Things that are produced from an incorruptible source can never be discontinued. Such things will last forever. Those who believed the promise of God's word can be born again of an incorruptible seed, because the proposition comes from an incorruptible promise. Listen to I Peter 1:23:

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

#### **Subject: A Sin-Free Conception:**

Jesus came through forty-two generations down to the Virgin Mary from the seed of Abraham to be born of a pure and holy daughter in Israel. She was undefiled by man, clean and virtuous. Now all this was done that God might fulfill His promise, which He spake through the prophet Isaiah when he said, "A virgin shall conceive" (Isaiah 7:14).

God brought the first son, Adam from the earth. The earth was Adam's mother, but God's second Son came from heaven to receive a conception from a far more pure source than the earth. Jesus' conception was from a heavenly power, which was the Holy Ghost and He was conceived in a pure, holy source, which was the womb of a virgin. Under the conditions of Jesus' conception, nothing earthly could defile His conception. This allowed Jesus' conception to be sin-free, and able to produce a sin-free life in all who believed His gospel.

Today if a person does not believe that they can receive a sin-free life in Jesus Christ, then they have not been born again of the Holy Ghost that conceived Jesus in the womb of a virgin. It is no greater miracle for God to plant His word, Jesus, in a virgin and cause her to bring forth a sin-free Son that would bless the nations of the world, than it was for God to reproduce those who believe the teachings of Jesus Christ to be sin-free also.

## Subject: Israel Could Not Identify What They Needed To Be Delivered From:

When Rome had rulership over Israel, Pilate was the governor of Rome that was assigned to be the administrator over Israel. At this time, Jesus was accused of being disrespectful to the Jewish law, because of His claim to be the Son of God. So Jesus was sent before Pilate to have a hearing to see if the charges that the Jews were bringing against Jesus would be worthy of punishment.

After Pilate examined Jesus, he concluded that Jesus had done nothing detrimental against the rulership of the Roman Empire that would establish Jesus as a dangerous threat and justify His execution. Therefore, Pilate felt that Jesus should have been released. However, the Jews, who had to rely entirely upon the police powers of the Romans to execute punishment against offenders of their religious laws, objected to Jesus' release on the grounds that Christ had offended grievously by breaking a sacred rule in the Law of Moses, which constituted blasphemy.

Jesus' claim along with being the Son of God was also that He was the Messiah that the Jews were looking for. The Jews were looking for a Messiah with great military power to regiment the resources of Israel to deliver Israel from the Roman Empire. The Jews had a difficult time trying to identify the works of God, because they had failed to search the scriptures. God did not send a military leader to deliver Israel. He sent a lamb to be a sacrifice for the sins of the Jews to deliver Israel from the bondage of sin, rather than the bondage of Rome. Listen to Galatians 5:1:

Verse 1 - Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

The Messiah was sent to deliver the Jews from sin, and to be a permanent sacrifice for their sins that they would sin no more.

#### Subject: Grace And The Law:

Violation of the law of God is what will send you to hell. God gave the law to Moses who was a mediator between man and God. God later sent another man into the world who fulfilled or completed the law; that man was Jesus. No matter what you have been taught in your religious teaching, if you in any way break the law of God, you will by condemnation of the law be sent to hell.

The law came by Moses and was strict and exact, God seeing the difficulties that the people had in trying to obey the law, sent Jesus who brought grace and truth. Now grace and truth did not annul or do away with the law, but it gave assistance for the people to live above what the law forbids. If at any time a person does not receive grace in Jesus Christ to live above the condemnation of the law, the law would nevertheless condemn such a person.

Only grace can save you from the law. Grace means that you have been born again, receiving a new life with the nature to live above sinful practices. The law only condemns sin, and grace lifts your life above sin. When the law was first broken by Adam, the punishment that the law gave was death. This punishment was continuous up to this present generation.

The first law that God gave was given directly to Adam. The Lord instructed Adam that of every tree in the garden he could eat of, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, he should not eat, and that the day he ate of that tree, he would die. The law does not play church with you, it brings eternal death if you break it. Listen to Romans 5:12:

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

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

The breaking of the law allowed death to enter the life cycle of man. However, God in His mercy ordained that if one man had broken the law, and brought the sentence of death upon all men, that He would raise up another man who would by His obedience to God deliver all men from sin and death. This benefit will only go into effect for those who are willing to obey the fulfillment of the law that Jesus brought. The good part of the law is that it offers alternatives. If you obey the law, it promises everlasting life. If you fail to obey the law, it offers everlasting torment in hell.

## Subject: When You Are Holy The Law Of God Cannot Condemn You:

You may not know the law that God gave Moses, but it is so exacting that it leaves no allowances for ignorance. The law teaches that if you lust after a woman in your mind who is not your wife, and desire to have sex with her, you are guilty of adultery. Moses introduced that portion of the law that forbade committing adultery by making physical, sexual contact with a woman or man that is not your spouse. However, Jesus completed the law that forbids adultery by teaching that you will be under condemnation of the law if you desire to commit adultery in your mind.

When God sent grace to the earth in Jesus Christ, His grace did not change the law, neither the things that were forbidden under the law. God does not change when He speaks; He must sustain His statements. But, when God planned salvation for man, it was for the purpose of saving man from the condemnation of the law. So, God incarnated Himself in a human body called Jesus.

God's purpose was to send grace to the earth by Jesus Christ to upgrade the human nature that was condemned under the law to a divine nature that would give humans the power to live above what was forbidden under the law. Under these conditions, the law would not be changed or altered to allow sin to be in humans, but humans who received Jesus Christ would have power to live out of reach of the condemnation of the law.

#### **Subject: There Are No Laws In Heaven:**

The kingdom of heaven is ruled by love. Everything in heaven loves God. Everybody on earth that is saved loves God also. When you love God, you will also love your enemies as well as your friends. There are no laws on earth against love. Love is above all laws of the earth. There are no laws in heaven because heaven is completely ruled by love.

Where there is love, no laws can enter. Laws have no place in a society of love because love dominates all aspects of a society when it is implemented by the Holy Spirit. When you live in a society of love it means that God is living in you. God will be a part of every segment of your life.

When the love of God is controlling your life, you will willingly live to please God. Your conduct and actions will be motivated by the presence of God. You will not fear God's authority, but be in harmony with His holiness. Your articulation with God's holiness will be by the power of His Spirit. It will be an everlasting covenant of love between you and God.

#### **Subject: Walk With The Lord:**

When the world doesn't live according to the statutes of God, the world is in trouble. When you live according to the statutes of God, it means you have clean hands and a pure heart, and God who rules heaven and earth is on stand-by to deliver you in a time of trouble. When you obey the word of God it lifts your mind, and blesses you not to worry. When God makes a promise to you, He keeps His promise, and gives you a song to sing that will relax your mind.

Your mind will then be brought closer to God's promises and during the darkest hour, there will be no fear. Those of us who are saved look for a new heaven and a new earth according to God's promises. We believe in His promises and obey Him.

#### Subject: Holy Is God's Name:

You have to be careful of what church denominational names you use. You can only be saved in one name. When you are saved, you become one with God. Listen to St. John 17:11:

Verse 11 - And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

God's name is Holy. Jesus wanted His disciples kept together as one in His Father's name, and He called His Father, "Holy Father". In the book of Isaiah 62:12, it reads as follows:

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

To be redeemed means that you are saved from sin. When you are redeemed you are holy, which means you are sin-free. It doesn't matter what building you are worshiping in, if you are worshiping God in Spirit and in truth, you will be called by His name, and His name is Holy.

#### **Subject: Give God The Glory:**

When you have peace in your family, church, and in your personal life, the glory should go to God. God is glorified in the lives of those who live in peace. Conditions of life that bring hatred, variance, strife, and contention come from the devil. If the devil has established these conditions in your life, it means that God is not in your life.

The devil produces the works of the flesh and God produces the fruits of the Spirit. The works of the flesh are adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, and revellings (Galatians 5:19-21).

The fruit of the Spirit that God produces is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance (Galatians 5:22-23). Anytime the works of the flesh are among a people of any social or religious group, it means the devil is the leader of such a group, whether it be a church group or a social club. When the Spirit of God is in a group of people, the fruits of the Spirit will be manifested.

### Subject: Our Old Life Of Sin Should Be Crucified With Christ:

In order for you to know whether or not you are saved, you have to be able to identify two different lives that you have lived in your body. You have to be able to identify a life of sin and a life of righteousness. If you can see where you are living a second life of righteousness being different from your first life of sin, it means that you have experienced a second birth.

The second life of righteousness must not be in fellowship with your first life of sin. It must be a complete replacement of your first life of sin. Your first life of sin should be dead, and Christ should be your second life of righteousness. Your first life of sin should not be a temporary death, but permanent. Listen to Colossians 3:3:

## Verse 3 - For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

When Christ is your life, it is secured to be permanent, and when Christ returns, you will also appear with Him in glory. If you still have your old life of sin, you will be ashamed upon Christ's appearance, because you will have no life with Christ to live with Him in glory. The crucifixion of Christ gave us the privilege to have our old life of sin destroyed. Christ died that our old life of sin might also die. When we accepted Jesus Christ, the Holy Ghost used holy fire to consume and crucify our old life of sin (St. Matthew 3:11). 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.

Christ's death gave us the benefits of destroying our old life of sin, and His resurrection gave us the benefits of receiving a new life of righteousness. Listen to Romans 6:3-8:

Verse 3 -	Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized
	into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

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.

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 hence- forth 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.

## **Subject: Proper Word Usage Is Very Important:**

The way you communicate with your fellow man is very important. It can determine whether or not you live or die if your words are offensive and provocative. Your words can also determine whether or not you get assistance and acquire success in your endeavors. When a person learns not to offend another person using words, God considers such a person as being perfect. It is God who sets the standard for perfection. Listen to James 3:2:

Verse 2 - For in many things we offend all, If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able to bridle the whole body.

The Bible teaches that careful thought should be given before you speak. Listen to James 1:19 and 26:

Verse 19 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

When your words are not carefully chosen and used, your religion is not worth much.

Verse 26 - If any man among you seem to be religious, and

bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

The most destructive thing in the world is not a nuclear bomb, but words. Words are more powerful than bombs. Bombs have to receive orders by means of words in order to do damage. Words can stir up envy, strife and bitterness that will cause wars between people or nations. A wise person or leader of a nation will seek not to offend in words. Even when such a person is angry they will be careful not to be so quick to use words that will give relief to their bitter anger.

The word of God is the only means of communication that can have a good effect upon those who are exchanging words. Most everybody will accept words of communication when such words are presenting the blessings of God. To hear "God bless you" is always accepted, and such a greeting will open the mind of a listener to receive other words of consideration.

#### **Subject: Your Stand With Christ Will Be Firm:**

When you have lost your appetite for sin, though sinful pleasures look so tempting and they seem to be enjoyed by everybody else, even by those very close and dear to you, you will then know that you are filled with the Holy Spirit to live above sin.

In spite of the resentment or pressure that you get from those who are not saved, the Spirit of God will cause you to lift up a standard of righteousness that will be above the average conduct of the unsaved person. Your attitude will be that if your friends and relatives don't like your conversion, and new behavior pattern that the Spirit of God has given you, you will nevertheless maintain your stand.

#### Subject: Do You Trust God?

To have faith in God is to put your trust in Him. You should have the belief or confidence that God will do that which He promised to do, or that which you desire Him to do. In order for your faith to activate God's promises, you should be living a holy life, absolutely dependent upon God. Your dependency upon God is evidence of our faith. You cannot have reserved alternatives in the event that God won't come through for you when you need something.

God can perceive when your faith is not substantial and that you have backup plans in the event that He doesn't honor your request. Your faith in God should be to the extent that if God doesn't help you, there will be no help. God will not honor your faith when there is competition for you to get help otherwise. When you doubt that God will give you the necessary things of this life, this means that your hope for eternal life is also doubtful. God's guidance in this life will also give you confidence that the way God blesses and leads you will eventually lead to eternal life.

When you pray to God for certain blessings, you should have complete confidence that your request will be granted if you are obedient to God. It only takes obedience and simple faith to be a child of God. My obedience to God causes me to believe that God is in hearing distance when I pray, and is understanding and sympathetic to my request. I pray with faith to believe that on the strength of the power that is in His word, that He will grant my request in His own way and time according to the faith that I have.

I know that God will do what He promised if I believe. Under these conditions, when my faith is substantial, and I have a conclusive and unalterable conviction, my prayer will be answered.

#### Subject: You Must Lean Upon The Word Of God:

You must learn to depend upon the counsel that the word of God gives. This means to hold the word to be so important in your life that you will rely upon it for guidance and strength in this present physical life, and for hope of deliverance in the life to come.

When you have confidence in the word of God, you will go regularly to the throne of grace in prayer and confidently make your request known to God. You will intercede with the Lord fervently, knowing that He will, according to your faith, deliver and bless you.

#### **Subject: You Must Endure Contradictions:**

Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith. He is the one who came to save us from sin, and taught us to continue to live without committing sin. We must read the scriptures and meditate on what Jesus taught and put it into daily practice. When things look hard for us to do, we can ask Jesus to help us. Jesus will then send His Spirit upon us to help us, and the devil that is bringing the hardships on us will flee. When the Spirit of God is present, the devil has to leave. Then when you begin to praise God with sincerity of heart, because you know that God has delivered you and blessed you, though the devil came around to upset and disturb you, he will not be able to stay.

When you are born again and call on God for help, the Spirit of God will come upon you and give you victory over every sin and temptation to commit sin. You must then learn to continue to look to Jesus who is the author and finisher of your faith. You must be reminded by reading the scriptures to consider Jesus who endured such contradictions of sinners against Him.

Always remember when you show people that you are living above sin, they will contradict you. Those who claim to be Christians and live sinful lives are going to argue with you despite your claim that you are living a holy life, because your life will condemn them, and the devil who is in them will cause them to vigorously oppose you.

## Subject: The Gates Of Hell Cannot Prevail Against Faith And The Grace Of God:

Sin will deceive you, and it will cause you to believe that God will hear and answer your prayers even when you are practicing sinful ways. God promises that He will save us from sin if we believe that the power of God can help us to live above sin. The grace of God is given in the promises of God. Grace only goes to work and justifies us by our faith in God's promises. When grace is received by us, we are justified and our faith is counted as righteousness.

The moment that we say from our hearts that we believe we can live above sin, and are willing to start to do so, God justifies us. At such time, the Holy Spirit will make an entry into our lives, and will seal our faith. Under these conditions, we would have been born again. It would have been through our faith and God's grace that we would have been made new creatures in Christ, and that the gates of hell will not be able to prevail against.

#### Subject: Faith In The Name Of Jesus Gives You Victory:

Those of us who are saved are creatures of faith. The reality of God is given to the faith of men. Every true child of God will have a test to prove his or her faith. When you have faith in God, you will also have faith in those who are serving God. If you look for the good in people, God will show you who is true. If you ask for something in faith in the name of Jesus, He will do it, because Jesus is looking for somebody who has faith in His name to demonstrate His power through.

## Subject: Faith From God Comes To The Faith Of The Obedient Person:

The substances of your faith are the things that you hope for based upon the promises of God. True faith can produce material or financial blessings. Faith is not just a spiritual mind, it is substantiated by the promises and blessings of God. If you believe that God is going to do something for you, it will be done if your obedience supports your faith.

Faith from God is given to the faith of those who obey God. Faith from God is the fulfillment of the faith of a person who obeys God. Faith from God is blessings from God to those who believe in God's word. Faith comes from heaven to the faith of men when men are under grace.

#### Subject: A Hope That Faded Not Away:

Jesus was a product of heaven, and when He went down to the grave, it could not hold Him. His flesh did not see corruption. He came forth from the grave declaring victory, which He acquired over death, hell, and the grave. If we believe in Jesus' victory over death, it can lift our minds above the threat of death, giving us hope that will be more powerful than the intimidation of death.

It will be unprofitable for the people of the earth to put their hope in anything but the hope that Christ offers. When we accept the hope that Christ offers, the Holy Spirit will keep our minds in perfect peace. Listen to Isaiah 26:2-4:

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

## Subject: You Have To Trust Somebody:

Human beings have to believe in and trust somebody even if it's a witchdoctor or fortune teller. To believe in any religious teaching other than the gospel of Jesus Christ is no different from believing in a fortune teller. A person who does not believe in Jesus Christ is guaranteed to be deceived by some false religious belief. The only means of escape from the power of Satan's deception is in Jesus Christ. Any aspects of the world that are not connected with the teachings of Jesus Christ are connected with that which is false.

Without Jesus Christ in our lives we are vulnerable to the counterfeit aspects of life. The only state of existence that can make you safe is in Jesus Christ. Any other state of existence is a sham. The devil is a con-artist that deceives people with false things making them think that they are safe. Remember the investors on Wall Street a few years ago. They would have been better off to have paid their tithes and offerings to God.

God can make prosperity come out of what appears to be nothing like He did for Elijah with the widow woman during the three year famine that the earth was experiencing. When you pay your tithes and offerings to God, pay it to a minister that is teaching the truth about God, and you will get a lucrative return like the widow woman got from Elijah's ministry.

God is only a part of a true teaching of His word. When you support the truth, God will bless you whether you are saved or not. God's blessings fall on the just as well as the unjust (St. Matthew 5:45).

## Subject: Only The Holy Spirit Can Pray Acceptable Prayers To God:

Your prayers must be inspired by the Holy Spirit in order for you to get an answer. The Holy Spirit must be the composer of your prayers. If you are not filled with the Holy Spirit, then your prayers are not reaching God. When the Holy Spirit dictates your prayers, they must honor God and petition blessings for somebody other than yourself.

Man in his natural state cannot utter an acceptable prayer to God. The Holy Spirit puts man in a spiritual state so that he can communicate with God. God is spirit and they that worship God must worship Him in Spirit and in truth. Whenever a person worships or prays to God, they must do it with the assistance of the Holy Spirit.

Only the Spirit of God can honor God. Human religious ways are not acceptable to God. Only the holiness and righteousness of God in a person can honor God. The Holy Spirit brings God into a person's life so that the person's fellowship and connection to God are accepted. The Holy Spirit dictates all prayers that reach the throne of God.

#### Subject: Ask In Jesus' Name:

God cannot be reached by feelings of infirmities. He is not sympathetic to religious hypocrisy and willful disobedience. God is only moved by obedience. When we obey, we get His favor. Only Christ can intercede for us to get God's favor. Christ is a mediator between God and man to intercede for us when we need the pity of our heavenly Father.

In order to get God's favor in Christ, everything that we do must be in line with the teachings Jesus' gospel. Christ was made flesh for the purpose of dwelling among men to suffer in the flesh that He might be truly qualified from this standpoint to intercede for us. As we suffer, so did He suffer every temptation coming from the flesh.

As Christ became our mediator, God assured Him that whatever we ask in Jesus' name, God would grant for Jesus' sake. Knowing about our weaknesses, temptations and difficulties, and being a loving, understanding, and sympathetic Savior, Christ eagerly intercedes when the Father would be unsympathetic and merciless. Therefore, we invoke the mercy of the Father when we ask for what we need in Jesus' name.

### Subject: You Have To Be Sanctified To Be Saved:

Now you cannot be saved unless you are sanctified. To be sanctified means to have a life that is separate from sin and the social, religious ways and practices of sinners. You are not sanctified if you attend church with folk who practice sin. When you are sanctified your religious life should be just as sin-free as your social life. Listen to I Thessalonians 4:3-4:

Verse 3 -	For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:
Verse 4 -	That every one of you should know how to possess

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

#### Subject: The Lamb Of God:

The Lamb of God was a necessary sacrifice for the sins of those who would be saved. A sacrifice for sin is a part of God's holiness. It is a part of God's means of acceptance of those who will enter into His holy family. An acceptable sacrifice neutralizes sin, and allows those who will be saved to be purified before God.

A sacrifice must be a holy, pure, and righteous sacrifice. There were no acceptable means of sacrifices on the earth for the sins of the people when God decided to present His plan of salvation for the people of the earth. The only acceptable sacrifice for the sins of the people of God who would be saved was the second part of God Himself, who was His Son Jesus.

The sacrifices and offerings that were made by the people of God prior to Jesus being a sacrifice were limited, and they left the people with a conscience of sin. This meant that such sacrifices had to be made continuously. Listen to Hebrews 9:9:

Verse 9 - Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience.

The sacrifice that Christ made was a greater and more perfect sacrifice that could remove sin once and for all, leaving those who were partakers with a conscience free of condemnation. Today those who are saved by the blood of Jesus are not condemned by the sins that they committed prior to being saved. Listen to Hebrews 9:11-14:

- Verse 11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;
- Verse 12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.
- Verse 13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:
- Verse 14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

#### Subject: Why Do We Have To Be Tried?

God told Abraham after he obeyed and offered his son Isaac to be a sacrifice that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed (Genesis 22:17-18). When you obey God, there are no limitations to the blessings that God can give you, and your children. If we are saved today, it is through Abraham and his seed that the promises of God reached us.

The seed of Abraham brought Christ to the world to be our deliverer. By allowing Abraham to be tried, God was seeking a worthy means by which we could all be saved, and to bless the nations of the world. Isaac manifested the Spirit of obedience to his father, Abraham, and in the same manner, Christ was to manifest His obedience to God.
God suffers us to be tried because He will not take away from us our free will to obey Him or to disobey Him. When we have a mind to obey, a test will prove that our mind to obey is true.

### Subject: Where Is The Lamb For The Burnt Offering?

Let me remind you of the story of Abraham when he was commanded by God to take his only son, Isaac, and offer him as a burnt offering. Remember how Abraham in obedience to God, set out with his son Isaac that God promised to give him and went to Mt. Moriah to make a sacrifice.

As they drew near the place of sacrifice, Isaac asked his father Abraham, "Where is the lamb for a burnt offering"? Abraham said, "My son, God will provide a sacrifice" (Genesis 22:7). Little did Abraham know at the time when Isaac asked where the lamb for the sacrifice was, and when Abraham answered, saying that God would provide a lamb that he was not just speaking of a sacrifice for their sins, but Abraham was responding to Isaac's question for the sins of the world.

Abraham and Isaac were a symbol of what God was going to do for the world by providing His only begotten Son as a lamb for the sins of the world. Abraham and Isaac's obedience to God was an example of how those of us up to this present day can be beneficiaries of the lamb that God has provided for our sins, who was Jesus.

Abraham was willing to obey God if it meant that he had to kill his only son as a sacrifice that God promised him, and Isaac was willing to die without being rebellious and rejecting Abraham's decision to kill him. Abraham was a symbol of God making a sacrifice of Jesus to the world, and Isaac was a symbol of Jesus' willingness to die as a sacrifice.

### **Subject: Sacrifices And Offerings:**

An altar was a place where the people of God would bring their sacrifices before God as an offering of faithfulness. Sacrificial offerings were an indication that the people accepted God as a reality. Such offerings were given as respect for God's holiness. All through the ages the people of God made sacrifices and offerings from the best possessions that they had. Such sacrifices were usually a lamb of the first year that was a healthy male.

The spirit of making sacrifices to God was a spirit that God would later honor with His own sacrifice at a place called Calvary. Calvary would be God's altar that those who previously made sacrifices would reap full benefits of the ultimate sacrifice made by God which would be His only begotten Son. A willingness to make sacrifices meant that a child of God had complete confidence in God that He would bless them to make up the difference after their sacrifice.

A sacrifice to God is the trying of a person's faith in God that would later bring blessings from God. The purpose of God trying Abraham by requiring him to place his son Isaac on the altar was so that the nations of the world would be blessed. Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son caused God to consider that through Abraham the world would be worthy of a sacrifice that God would make that salvation in Jesus Christ might come to the world.

### **Subject: The Death Of The Cross:**

God will only recognize and exalt a humble person. God only exalts humility. Jesus is the example, because He obeyed God even down to the death of the cross. God raised Him above every living creature in heaven, on the earth and under the earth. There is nobody that can be exalted above Jesus, because He obeyed the plan of God which was to die as a result of His obedience to the lowest form of death that was available at that time.

People of today want their death to be glamorized and glorified, being conducted in a big church where they will receive their final recognition. Jesus' death was just the opposite. Jesus didn't have a preacher at the cross saying nice things about His glorious life and works for mankind, yet He did the best mission for mankind that could have been done.

Preachers of today will say glorious remarks about people who died that have done hardly anything for anybody. Listen to what was said about Jesus at His death in St. Matthew 27:41-42-43:

- Verse 41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,
- Verse 42 He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from

the cross, and we will believe him.

Verse 43 - He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.

#### **Subject: The Cross Was An Emblem Of Suffering:**

The way of the cross will lead you home to see God. If you are willing to suffer you won't have to worry about those who are against you, because their sins will destroy them. Sin is a bad seed that produces deceitful and dangerous results. Those who are sinners cannot see the dangerous results that their sins will bring. When you suffer to obey God it will produce good results for you. Jesus was our example, and He is presently living in the kingdom of heaven. The cross that Jesus bore was an emblem of suffering.

## **Subject: Hard Testing Proves Your Faith In God:**

If you are not saved, the devil can persecute and work on you without restraint. You must be born again to get help from God when the devil is working on you. God is a shield and buckler for the saved person, but God will allow the devil to try a saved person to prove that God's power is stronger in you than Satan's pressure upon you.

A born again child of God will never yield to the temptations of the devil in the time of hard testing. His faith in God will give him victory.

# Subject: The Trying Of Your Faith Is A Confirmation Of Your Salvation:

There are many church folk who don't know what a test is all about. They have heard about being tried, but they have never experienced the trying of their faith. When your faith in God is the result of the Holy Spirit, God will allow the

devil to try your faith. Many church folk think that singing, shouting, preaching, and testifying is evidence that they are saved. Now some church folk who know about being tried don't want to be tried. They prefer blessings from God and having a good time in church services. These type worshipers prefer entertainment in church assemblies rather than to have a confirmation given by a test to prove that they are saved.

Only the trying of your faith can verify that you are saved. The trying of your faith is more precious than anything else in life. God does not try your faith; He establishes your faith by giving you the Holy Spirit and He sets the conditions by which the devil can try you. Listen to Job 1:12:

When Satan is trying your faith in God, he cannot go beyond the bounds that God allows him to try you.

### **Subject: There Is Victory In Christ:**

Jesus was the perfect example of humility. Jesus obeyed God even down to the death of the cross. The death of the cross was the lowest and most degrading form of death that was given by the Roman Empire at that time. It was the punishment for thieves and robbers (Philippians 2:8-9). Because of Jesus' humility and obedience God raised Him up above every living creature in heaven, the earth, and under the earth, and if a person desires to go to heaven, they must follow Jesus' footsteps.

It is only by the way of the cross that you can get to heaven. Now we don't have to go to Calvary to follow Jesus' example, but we will have trials and tests to prove that our obedience to God is after the spirit that Jesus demonstrated on Calvary. The cross that Jesus carried to Calvary and died on was an emblem of suffering, and we can't qualify to go to heaven unless we suffer.

If you have the Spirit of God, it will help you to go through your personal tests and trials. This is acceptable to God. You can only acquire victory for salvation by going the way that Christ went. The purpose of your suffering is so that you will acquire victory over sin and death.

Verse 12 - And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord.

### **Subject: Stand Your Test:**

After you are filled with the Holy Spirit and began to praise God with sincerity of heart for his goodness and blessings, the devil will pay you a visit with temptations for cheap pleasures. However, the Spirit of God will show you how worthless such temptations are. Whenever you call on God, the Spirit of God will come upon you and give you victory over every temptation and opposition of the devil. You must then look to Jesus who is the author and finisher of your faith.

You must consider Jesus who endured such contradictions of sinners against Him. When you begin to live above sin, sinners are going to contradict you just as the devil used them to contradict Jesus. Those who claim to be Christians, and are sinners are going to contend with you and dispute your claim that you are living a holy life. Your life will condemn them, and the devil who is using them will cause them to vigorously oppose you. If you stand your test, God will prove Himself exceedingly able to do more for you than you can imagine.

### **Subject: Christ Acquired Victory Over Evil With Good:**

I am attempting in my literature to give you a picture of the greatest character that ever lived. This character is not a world leader whose name appears among those in history books. This character is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Savior of the World. It is my purpose to portray the truth of Jesus Christ so that others might become better acquainted with Him.

In St. Luke 23:34, Jesus prayed a prayer to God to forgive those who were crucifying Him. In the book of Isaiah 53:5, it teaches that Jesus would be crucified for the sins of those who were crucifying Him. Jesus' crucifixion was a demonstration of the strongest example of love that the world has ever known. Jesus made it very plain in His gospel that no man would take His life, but that He would lay it down, and that He would pick it up again.

Christ had knowledge of the severity of sin and the effect that it had on mankind while dying on the cross for those who were lost in sin. He looked away from His persecutors to heaven to God, His Father and said, Father forgive them that mock me, forgive them that say and do all manner of evil against me. They chose to abuse me and to kill me, though I came to bring them salvation and not do them harm.

If there had been one speck of desire to take vengeance upon Christ's

persecutors, such a prayer would not have reached God. However, that we might see how the perfect man overcame evil with good, and thereby learn how we might overcome evil, and not be overcome by evil, God had Christ presented to the world in this manner with opposition, yet evil was not able to overcome Him.

### Subject: God Will Abase The Proud Person:

Be careful that you don't walk in pride before God. You don't want to be a proud member of a church to be seen and identified as somebody big and important. When you try to worship God in pride, He will abase you. If you want to be exalted, God will only exalt your humility. Listen to Daniel 4:37:

Verse 37 - Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

The first sin that was ever committed against God was committed in heaven by an angel named Lucifer who had become lifted up in pride, and attempted to exalt his throne above the throne of God (Isaiah 14:12-15). To be proud and highminded is a sin of iniquity that does not have to take place in the form of physical actions against God. Such a sin is a sin in the heart of a person that God can perceive, and He will judge the person as if the person committed a sin of physical actions.

### Subject: There Is No Power Except The Power Of God:

To have authority is a dangerous thing for some human beings. You have to be careful of authority. Authority was a dangerous thing for some of the angels that became lifted up in pride. God has recorded such events in His word to give us some idea and warning of how dangerous authority can be unless it is controlled by humility, which is one of the fruit of the Spirit. Remember how humble Jesus was when He willingly accepted the death of a malefactor (thief and robber).

The devil was initially made the sub-ruler of heaven, and because of his position of authority he began to feel that he deserved to have a kingdom for

himself to rule on the north side of heaven. When God spoke to satan concerning his ambition, satan rebelled against God and attempted to establish his own kingdom in heaven. Satan had one third of the angels in heaven supporting his rebellious attitude. Satan failed to understand the power of God, and that any form of disobedience and rebellion against God would automatically bring him down.

Satan was a novice who had not had a lot of experience with God. Satan's rebellion caused him to be cast out of heaven and to be placed on a course to eventually spend eternity in a lake of fire and brimstone. Having power and authority can be deceitful unless it is administered by the Holy Spirit. The power of God is the only actual power that exists. All other forms and levels of power must be under the administration of the power of God; otherwise, such powers will be powers of deceit that will be abased.

### Subject: Who Can Be Perfect?

The scriptures mean just what they say. The scriptures cannot be broken. If something that is written in the scriptures is against you entering the kingdom of heaven, you will not be able to enter. You cannot interpret the scriptures to approve of your carnality. The scriptures teach in St. Matthew 5:48 as follows:

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

If you don't believe that you can be perfect, the scriptures will declare you to be an unbeliever. Listen to what the scriptures teach concerning those who are unbelievers in Revelation 21:8:

Verse 8 - But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

If you don't believe that you can be perfect, then the scriptures will declare you to be an unbeliever, and all unbelievers will have their part in a lake of fire and brimstone. If you are striving for perfection, God will add grace to give you credit for being perfect. Grace will make up the difference for what you were not able to acquire perfection in. Grace will only be added to your efforts and belief that you can be perfect.

You must measure perfection with God and not with what most churches are teaching. Most churches teach the weakness of the flesh, or that sinful desires are acceptable to God. Only the scriptures teach what is acceptable to God, and the scriptures teach to be perfect as God is perfect. Now you can't argue your way into the kingdom of heaven, you must qualify to get in according to the scriptures. You can only be saved according to the scriptures.

If Christ's crucifixion had to be authenticated according to the scriptures so will your salvation. Listen to I Corinthians 15:2-4:

Verse 2 -	By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory
	what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed
	in vain.

- Verse 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;
- Verse 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.

### **Subject: Divine Power:**

It takes divine power to obey God. When God gives us a command to obey Him, He must help us to obey the command. In order to be acceptable to God, God must occupy us by the Holy Spirit. Only God in us is acceptable to God. God commanded Abraham in Genesis 17:1 to walk before Him and be perfect. The perfect part of Abraham's life would have been God in him.

When a person makes up in his or her mind to obey God, God comes into the person to help them to obey. If a person does not believe that they can be perfect, it is because they don't have God in their life. They are correct to believe that they can't be perfect without God helping them to be perfect.

When God commanded Abraham to be perfect, that same command is to everybody if they are going to be saved. The scriptures are not obsolete. Your part of being perfect is to believe that you can be perfect; it is God's part to perfect your life. When you believe that you can be perfect, God accounts your belief as righteousness. Your perfect conduct and actions will be produced by God working in you to will and to do of His good pleasure. Listen to Philippians 2:12-13:

- Verse 12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
- Verse 13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

### Subject: The Power Of God Can Correct Your Faults:

God knows the intent of your heart more so than you know it. God will not charge you for any mistakes that you make. God knows that whenever He shows you that you have done something wrong, you will correct it, and that you will not intentionally do the same thing again.

When you have no intentions of doing the same wrong things again, God will give you credit for being perfect because of your good intentions. Once you become aware of what is wrong, God will then let you see His power assisting you by removing your desires from the things that have been brought to your attention that are wrong.

God will let you see your mistakes so that you will also see His power to correct you. You will then very plainly be able to see your prior weaknesses. You will also be able to see where the power of God has brought you up to a level of perfection over your weaknesses.

#### **Subject:** God Has More Power Than The Devil:

Human abilities cannot reach any level of perfection without God helping. Many people reject the principles of perfection because they think it must be acquired by human abilities. God accounts you as being perfect because of your belief that it can be acquired by you when God does the work in you. Evidence that you believe is when you set your heart to obey God, and the power of God will accompany your belief giving you victory over your sins.

Now keep in mind that it was the devil that caused you to commit sin. If the devil can cause you to commit sin, surely God who is more powerful than the devil can cause you not to commit sin.

#### Subject: You Cannot Serve God And Mammon:

You cannot serve God and your wealth. Money is cold and merciless. It causes those who serve it to steal, cheat, lie, murder, and extort to acquire it. If you serve money, it will control your life with ungodly ways to keep it after you get it. The God of heaven is just the opposite of the god of wealth. The God of heaven is full of mercy, love and holiness. When you love money you are alienated from the God of heaven.

Though you may go to church on Sunday, the God of heaven will not be real to you. The God of heaven will not accept your devotion if you are also devoted to money. Folk who serve money use the name of Jesus for personal advantage. There are many who will do business in Jesus' name, but care very little about the teaching of the gospel.

### **Subject: What Is Love?**

The only way that your love for God can be confirmed is by your obedience to God's word. You have to learn to love God. Love for God is more than talk. When you love a person, they are at the top of your agenda of the things that you are interested in. You will think on such people at every opportunity to serve them. Love for God works the same way. When you love God, you will serve God. When you love God, the least thing that you do for other people is accepted by God as being done for Him. Such services to other people will be precious in the sight of God.

Love is greater than qualities of feelings and emotions. Love is a divine virtue that is unlimited, and can accomplish more than any other efforts of human endeavors. When the love of God is present, all other qualities of emotions and expressions of feelings are subordinated to a lower level of function. Love is superior to all, and above all. It was love that will allow those who were at one time sinners to live in the kingdom of God as saints.

No wealth, influence, military forces, and powers in the world could give sinners this opportunity. This could only be done because God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (St. John 3:16).

### Subject: The Power Of Love:

God first established the law for the nation of Israel so the people could see how far they were from following the righteousness of God. The law showed the people if they were following God or their own hearts. Unless people of today have knowledge from God to show them if they are following God or their own desires and ambitions, they will be deceived.

If church folk of today are following a religious teaching that gives them flattery and honors their personal desires and ambitions, then such religious teachings are not from God. The knowledge of the word of God does not honor the ambitions of the people, but it gives knowledge on how to be delivered from the bondage of sin, and how to obtain salvation.

Many people are held in bondage of sin by their personal desires and ambitions. When God saw that the law was not helping the people, He sent grace to the world. Grace introduced the love of God which was more powerful than the law. The love of God gave people the power to live above the law. When a person has received the love of God, it means that they have been born again of the Spirit of God. When love is the controlling power in a person's life, the law will have no effect on the person.

The law becomes outdated when the love of God is controlling the person's life. When a person loves God, they will honor His purposes, even when it means they have to sacrifice their own purposes. You cannot love a person and dishonor the person. When you are under the influence of love, you will gladly accept the guidance of that influence in order to retain that influence. You will then become wise enough to learn the benefits that love brings into your life.

You will learn that love provides for your material and financial needs along with peace and joy. You will learn that all such benefits are a product of the love that was extended to you by the grace of God. Your good discretion will then cause you not to do anything that will interfere with the love that God has given you.

#### **Subject: God's Love Is Not Partial:**

When God saw that we had to be punished for something that we were not responsible for, He worked out a plan for us so that the punishment could be avoided. God ordained that if one man had broken the law that caused all men to suffer, He would raise up another man who would deliver all men from sin.

All of the suffering that was against us for sin because of the disobedience of one man can be abolished by the obedience of another man. That man is Christ. Knowing our weakness and that we had no example, God's love prepared an example in Christ that we could be saved by. If we follow Christ as our example, and obey His gospel, we can receive the same favor and love from God that Christ has received. God's love is not partial and His favor will abound toward those who obey Him.

### **Subject: Christ Is Our Example:**

You cannot be a follower of Christ unless you use Him as an example. You must follow the way He lived. Christ's life and ministry demonstrated love for the people He encountered. Christ did not exclude thieves and robbers from His prayers before He was crucified. Christ's prayers included everybody even His worst enemy who was Judas Iscariot. In order to follow Christ you must walk in His footsteps. Christ lived what He preached. Christ was not a Sunday morning preacher. He lived and preached the gospel everyday of His life on earth.

### Subject: Let Us Love One Another: Love Is Of God:

One of the main purposes of churches should be to get people to love one another. There is no need to build all these beautiful temples and cathedrals for worship services in our nation when we are not encouraging the members to love one another. Churches can be the results of what people construct, but love is of God. Listen to I John 4:7:

Verse 7 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God;

and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

When folk are not born again it is because they don't know God, yet they can be very busy in church programs.

Verse 8 - He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

We can see that love is not in action based upon the social conditions of our country today. There is no need to build more churches and hate one another.

## Subject: Don't Desire To Seek Revenge Against Your Enemy:

The secret in acquiring spiritual victory over the devil and the forces of evil is to have a forgiving, pure heart without any reservations to seek revenge against those who do evil to you. You must not carry in your heart any resentment for what your opposers have done to you. You must not allow any injury to your pride or feelings to grow because that would defeat your ability to forgive, and cause yu to seek revenge.

You must remember that God who ruleth heaven and earth is the avenger of every evil deed. No one can do anything against you if God be for you. Jesus realized that what they did to Him could not change His opinion about the power of God to make Him overcome evil with good. Jesus found extra power within Him that gave Him victory over evil.

Though Jesus' opposers put forth every effort to destroy and to keep that power from being effective at the climaxing moments of His crucifixion, He never resented their acts with hatred, or a desire for revenge. When He was reviled, He reviled not again. When He was threatened, He threatened not again. When He was judged wrongfully, He took the judgment, knowing that there was one above them all who judged righteously, and He would not let Him be defeated by evil judgments of men.

#### Subject: You Can't Bury Righteousness:

Righteousness is like a good seed planted in rich soil. It will come forth at the proper time. It will bud, bloom and bring forth fruit. Somebody will smell the fragrance and respond to it. It is a mistake to think that righteousness can be buried and ignored.

They tried it on Jesus and after three days, He came forth. Though they took Him and crucified Him, and buried Him, He arose. We know this because He has given us power to be resurrected from a life of sin to a life of righteousness.

### **Subject: The Peace Of God:**

When God sent Jesus into the world to teach men righteousness, angels ushered Him in, and announced His presence to shepherds saying, "Peace on earth, good will toward men" (St. Luke 2:14). Peace is what Jesus came to bring. Every person who hears the gospel of Jesus Christ, and receives it will also receive peace from God.

Peace is the substance of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Today if you have been born again, you also have peace. It is the Holy Spirit that gives the new-birth in Christ, and peace is one of the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

### **Subject: God Has A Recording Operation In Heaven:**

When you love God, you will keep His commandments. God's commandments are not grievous; sin is grievous. Love for God is respect for God. You can then go to a church assembly where other people are honoring and love God, and your prayers and praises to God will be received in heaven. Failure to obey God's commandments will cause your praises and prayers not to be received by God.

When you obey God, He keeps a record of every church service that you attend, and every prayer and testimony that you present to God. Praises, prayers, and testimonies, along with musical hymns and songs of praises are recorded in heaven for the obedient person. Listen to Malachi 3:16:

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

When those who obey God get together singing and praising God, He hears and listens. God has a recording operation going on in heaven. God is able to record every prayer and testimony that is presented. The Bible teaches that when those who love God gather together and praise Him, He records it. Those who love God will meet often to invoke the blessings of God upon them.

### **Subject: God Prepares A Course For The Obedient Person:**

You can only give honor to God when you obey His word. When you honor God, He places you on a program to be blessed. This means the material and financial blessings that come to you in life will be ordered from heaven. Though you will be receiving earthly blessings, heaven will be giving the command to such personnel to give you the blessings.

God is a very powerful God, and He works out a plan for those who honor and obey Him. God's plan is only for those who obey Him. Such people will be placed on a course by God, and when they follow the course, the course is so fixed that blessings from God will be all along the way. For those who fail to obey God, their prosperity will be hit and miss. They will seem to prosper for a while in some things, but eventually they will encounter failures.

God allows His sun to shine on the just as well as the unjust, but the unjust will have more cloudy days. God sets a standard for all who are willing to walk in His statutes and obey His commandments so that they will prosper. The power for their prosperity is in the commandments that they obey. The program of God is fixed for the obedient person. If you get on the course, you will receive blessings.

### Subject: Honor God And He Will Bless You:

God is a very powerful God who knows everything that is done in the earth at the same time. God's plan is for the person that has a mind to obey Him. God does not bother with everybody who goes to church on Sunday. God sets a course for the person to be on when they have a mind to do right; and blessings are all along the way as the person stays on the course.

God sets a standard for the person who obeys Him, teaching that as the person walks in His statutes and keeps His commandments He will provide for the person. God is a God of equity, a just God. The program to be blessed by God is fixed; if you get on the right path, you will be blessed.

When we do things to praise and honor God, He hears when we live right. He can listen to everybody at the same time. God can hear every prayer and testimony of everybody who obeys Him. If folk fail to obey, then God will not hear their prayers nor acknowledge their church services.

When folk who love and obey God get together to praise Him, He records it. Those who love God will meet often to honor God. You cannot love God and be a sinner. You must keep God's commandments to love Him, and He will accept the honor that you give Him. When you honor God living a sin-free life, you will meet often to invoke the blessings of God upon you. God will do most anything for those who honor Him. You cannot honor God unless you obey Him.

### Subject: Your Gift Will Make Room For You:

When you think a person is big and famous, you will always be talking about him or her. You can know who you admire the most by who you talk about the most. I talk about Jesus more than anybody, because that's who I admire the most.

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. If you magnify Jesus with a true heart, the things that you need will overtake you. God blesses you according to your ability to manage. God gives you the ability to manage the blessings. The world is yours if you have the ability to manage. It is your gift that makes room for you. When you have the gift to do certain things, people will look for you and put you in a position of management over the things that you have the gift to do.

If you are an honest person with the ability to manage money and do business, every business, company and organization is looking for you. They will find out about you based upon your good record of honesty. If you are dishonest nobody wants you but the sheriff.

# CHAPTER 8

# SALVATION: SPECIAL TOPICS

## Subject: The Appearance Of The Messiah Was Perfectly Timed:

God's timing is perfect. You don't have to worry about God being too late to help you when you are in a tough situation. The birth of Jesus was right on time to save everybody who was, and is willing to repent of their sins. As the time approached for the advent of the appearance of the Messiah, there were apparent circumstances being prepared to happen for Jesus' arrival.

The contributions of three nations made significant preparations unconsciously for the appearance of the Messiah. These were the Greeks, the Romans, and the Jews. The world at such time did not have an updated knowledge of the coming of the Messiah and His purpose. So the Jews contributed the knowledge, the Greeks contributed a more universal means of communication, and the Romans contributed a network of roads to the synagogues where the knowledge was being taught concerning the coming of the Messiah.

The Romans removed all such things that would prevent access to the Jewish Synagogues. The Greeks gave a common, universal language that made it possible for universal messages. The Jews had synagogues in almost every Roman city, and in these synagogues the Greek version of the Old Testament was read daily. This kept the Messianic hope alive. The preparations that were made developed a widespread expectancy throughout the country that a deliverer was about to appear (St. Luke 3:15).

At this time, a new religious style was in the process of being developed, that was introduced by the latter-day prophets. Such prophets gave coming attractions of a religious teaching that would be referred to later as the gospel. The prophets prophesied of a voice crying in the wilderness saying, "make straight the way of the Lord". This voice was identified later as being that of John the Baptist. The appearance of the Messiah, His movements, and dealings with the nations of the world were timed perfectly.

### **Subject: The Lenten Season:**

Lent is the forty-day period before our Lord and Savior was crucified. Lent represents the forty days of fasting that Jesus went through in the wilderness while being tempted of the devil after He was baptized. The scriptures teach that He was led of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted (St. Matthew 4:3-4).

Everybody who will be saved, will also be tempted of the devil to do that which is contrary to the teachings of Christ. In Exodus 12:13, it teaches how the symbols of His crucifixion would be a shadow of the coming event that would be fulfilled at a place called Calvary.

Verse 13 - And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

The blood that Jesus shed on Calvary was symbolized hundreds of years earlier in Egypt when God commanded Moses to kill a lamb and take the blood of the lamb and pour it into a basin, and put it on the doorposts of each home of the Israelites. Therefore, when the destroying angel would pass, he would see the blood and would pass over that home, because the blood was an indication that one of God's children was in that home. The blood that was taken from the lamb was a symbol of Jesus' blood being shed on the cross at Calvary. The lamb represented Jesus.

Destruction is coming again, but this time to the entire unsaved world. The blood of the lamb in Egypt carried a symbol of power that would save those who repented of their sins, and believed Jesus' gospel. When this is done with sincerity of heart, then the blood that Jesus shed on Calvary has power to cleanse a repenting sinner from his or her sins. Just as the death angel passed over the children of Israel in Egypt, when He saw the blood on the doorpost of their homes, the destruction that God is going to send in the last days will pass over all who have been washed in the blood of Jesus. Listen to I Corinthians 5:7:

Verse 7 - Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Leaven was a symbol of sin, when a person repents or turns from their sins, they are purging out the old leaven and the sacrifice that Christ made will cleanse them of all sins.

## Subject: The Apostle Of Jesus Christ That Was Born Out Of Due Time:

Paul who was an apostle of Jesus Christ was on his way to Damascus to persecute the little group of Saints who were assembled to worship Christ when a light from heaven fell upon him, and blinded him, and the whole world was shut off from his vision. Paul became blind by his efforts to persecute the people of God. Any efforts to oppose the people of God is self-destruction. However, Paul could still hear. He heard a voice from heaven saying, "*Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?*" Though Paul was blind physically, he at last could see himself spiritually. He could see that his spiritual condition was that of a pitiful, pathetic sinner, misguided by his false, outdated confidence in the law, deceived by his conception of God and righteousness.

An ineffective religious teaching will fail you when you need it most. When the Lord spoke to Paul and said, "It is hard for you to kick against the pricks", Paul could see how stupid he had been to think that he could be right as a result of his knowledge of the law without the righteousness of Christ. He could see how foolish he had been to try to stamp out the holiness of God. He had learned that the Spirit of Christ was not destroyed at Golgotha, nor could it be destroyed by his violence against the holy people who were filled with the Spirit.

Paul learned that his hostile activities were not in fact against the people whom he seized and persecuted, but rather against the Spirit of Christ which inspired them, and which was stronger than any power a mere man could assemble to confront it. Therefore, Paul yielded! Then the spirit of the devil left him and he became a vessel that the Lord could use.

After the servant of the Lord prayed for Paul, Paul's eyes were opened, and he never saw the world again as he previously saw it before he was blind. Paul only saw Jesus, the risen Savior, and the great gospel work that was waiting to be assigned to him.

# Subject: Elected Officials Will Support The Good Of The People:

The scriptures teach in Romans 13<sup>th</sup> chapter that presidents, governors and elected officials are ministers of the Lord. They are ministers of the law, whereas God sent preachers are ministers of grace. Such elected officials are divinely directed as well as ministers of the gospel. Listen to Romans 13:1-4:

- Verse 1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.
- Verse 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall shall receive to themselves damnation.

Heads of state and elected officials are not a terror to good works, but of evil. If the people are doing that which is good, then God will see to it that the elected officials will support them.

- Verse 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same.
- Verse 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

If the people do that which is evil, they should be afraid, because the enforcers of the law will not bear the sword in vain. They are ministers of God for the good of the people when the people are good. It is God who sets up rulers and it is God who takes them down. Listen to Daniel 4:17:

Verse 17 - This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

God will give to the people the man that they elected. However, after he has been given authority and power by the people, if he uses this authority and power to his own glory and for the benefit of a favored few, although God raised him up at the request of the people, he will be rejected of the Lord, and no longer have the guidance of God. Through the God sent minister or prophet of God, he is to be condemned before the people.

On the other hand, when a leader seeks the good of all people over which he has rulership, then he should be commended to the people, and prayed for day and night that God will give him judgment and guidance that God might be glorified through his leadership.

### Subject: Be Not High-Minded But Fear:

The peace of many small nations of the Mideast hangs in the balance, because of evil leaders of such nations. When leaders of nations have no regard for God, the hope of the nations of the world will perish. Today the world is in sad condition because of wicked leaders and false, erroneous religious teachings.

Jerusalem was established by God to be an example and to lead the world to God. It was the cruel, unthankful spirit of the people of Israel, whom God sent Christ to bless, that destroyed their chances to be blessed, and to lead the other nations of the world to God. Jerusalem rejected Jesus when He would have gathered them together as a hen gathereth her brood, and when He would have brought peace, and comfort to a people who had looked forward to it in the coming of their Messiah.

Jesus was the Messiah of the Jews sent to be a blessing and it was because of their spiritually blinded eyes that they fought against Christ until God took the blessing from Israel, and sent it to the Gentiles. Today if a person wants salvation in Jesus Christ, they can't get it in Israel; they have to get it in America. America is a Gentile nation that God sent the Holy Spirit to establish, and to make salvation in Jesus Christ available to anybody who calls upon the name of the Lord.

America has to be careful because people of the world repeat themselves in different generation. America must be humble and submissive to the teachings of the word of God, or else they will be blinded by the god of this world who is the devil. It was the rejection of Israel that has caused the reconciling of the Gentiles (America). Listen to Romans 11:15:

Verse 15 - For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?

God received the Gentiles to provoke jealousy among the Jews that they might come back to God. So, America must not be high-minded, but fear God. It was because of unbelief that the Jews were broken off. Listen to Romans 11:20:

Verse 20 - Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear.

If the Jews turn from their unbelief and acknowledge that Christ is their Messiah, they shall be received again by God. God is able to save the Jews again. Listen to Romans 11:23:

Verse 23 - And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again.

As a Christian nation we must be careful not to be ignorant of the mysteries of God, unless we should be wise in our own conceit, that the blindness in part happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in.

When God has finished saving the Gentiles, His love will cause Him to turn again to Israel. Listen to Romans 11:26-28, 30-32:

Verse 26 -	And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written,
	There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and
	shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

- Verse 27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.
- Verse 28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes.

It is by the mercy that was extended to the Gentiles that the Jews will acquire mercy. In times past the Gentiles did not believe in God, and it was through the unbelief of the Jews that the Gentiles obtained mercy.

Verse 30 -	For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief:
Verse 31 -	Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy.

Verse 32 - For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

# Subject: The Lord Does Not Change His Way Of Doing Things:

We as a nation in America must not fail to recognize the fact that though we are a great nation, God is greater than all. No matter how great we are in our own eyes, we have to die. Immortality is not in what we accomplish, or some legacies that we have established. Immortality is only acquired by obedience to the word of God.

The Bible is a record of the acts of God and men. The Bible tells what happened to men who obeyed God's commandments, and those who disobeyed. The Bible records the way that God did things in the past to show us what He will do in the present and future. God does not change His ways. Every nation in past times that got too big to hear God was brought down, including Israel.

# CHAPTER 9

# THE GOD-SENT PREACHER

## Subject: He Made Himself Of No Reputation But Took On The Form Of A Servant:

When Jesus was on the earth, He did not try to make a reputation for Himself. If preachers today are trying to make a reputation for themselves they don't have the spirit that Christ had. Christ took upon Himself the form of a servant. Christ desired to help and to assist people (Philippians 2:5-6).

In the kingdom of heaven everybody who will be living there will have the Spirit that Christ has, otherwise they won't get into the kingdom of heaven. We must acquire the spirit of a servant while we are living in this present world to prove that we would like to live in heaven as a servant.

### Subject: The Words Of The Lord:

When God sent preachers bring messages to the people, whether it is a written message or verbal message, such preachers are not speaking from their own minds. Their minds have been anointed by the Spirit of God, and it is the Spirit of God that composes and delivers the messages. The Spirit of God only uses the voice of the God sent preacher. A God sent preacher is a holy person who not only preaches righteousness, but he also lives a righteous life. Such a preacher's words in the messages are the words of God. Listen to Jeremiah 2:1-2:

- Verse 1 Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying,
- Verse 2 Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the Lord ...

God does not change His way of sending a message to the people. God's ways are the same today as they were years ago. The word of the Lord is not a product of the mind of a man. The Bible reveals <u>not</u> the mind of a man, but the mind of God. When a man speaks from his own mind he will say things that are more likely to be believed and accepted by the mass majority of the people because his mind is motivated by a desire for fame, prominence, recognition and acceptance from the people. Such a man desires overwhelming support from the people. Listen to what a prophet of God spoke in Isaiah 7:14:

Verse 14 - Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

This prophet was so rejected by the people for what he prophesied that they eventually put him to death. When Isaiah prophesied that a virgin would conceive, any sensible person should know that these words did not come from the mind of a man. No man had ever taught or had given such a message to the people before. When the word of the Lord came to Isaiah, no matter how contrary those words were to his personal belief, and to the belief of the people that he spoke to, Isaiah nevertheless spoke the words of the Lord.

### Subject: Is There A Light In The Church?

People have to be led to God by a spiritual light. The God sent minister is called and prepared by God to lead the people to the light. Prior to completing His ministry, Jesus instructed His disciples to be the light of the world, and that they should put the light on a candlestick so that it might be a light to all who desired to be saved. You cannot be saved when you can't see the way to go to obtain salvation.

It is the duty of churches to be a light. When there is division, confusion, and contention in the churches, the people will not be able to see the light. Churches should be ministering love, joy, peace, and the knowledge of salvation in order for the light to be visible. When there is no light to guide people, and give them hope for a peaceful and quiet fellowship in churches, this means the church is not functioning as the light of the world as was intended by Christ.

People need light today more than ever before because the world will soon come to an end. They cannot find their way without clear directions to salvation. Christ relies on the church to represent God, and to bring salvation to the sinner. The church should not be of the world when it is of God. There should be no worldly programs and entertainment in the church to attract large crowds. The church should put emphasis on repentance and how to be born again.

The church should exempt a light of righteousness so brightly that it will reveal the evil of the world. When the church presents entertainment and programs of excitement that do not relate to salvation in Jesus Christ, then the world would have entered the church to keep the light for salvation out.

### **Subject: The Church That Christ Built:**

When Jesus announced that He would build His church upon the testimony of Peter, He said that the gates of hell would not prevail against His church (St. Matthew 16:18). When people go to a church assembly and practice sin it means the qualifications for the people to go to hell are in their church. Under these conditions, the gates of hell have prevailed against their church.

Hell means torment and sin, and confusion belongs to those who worship under such conditions. A good many places that folk call churches are very inappropriate to be in the spirit of the church that Christ built. It is very important that those who want to be saved have knowledge of what church is right. With the correct knowledge of what church is right for worship services, you will then have knowledge of what church the gates of hell have prevailed against.

If any church is right, it is the church that the gates of hell have not prevailed against. Jesus instructed the Samaritan woman that the proper way to worship God is in Spirit and in truth. If people are worshiping in the wrong spirit, they are not worshiping in the truth. The church that Christ built is a place where you will find the truth, and the truth will make the worshipers free from sin. So the true worshipers who are worshiping in the church that Christ built will be living and worshiping sin-free.

# **CHAPTER 10**

# **FALSE RELIGIOUS LEADERS**

### **Subject: Run For Your Life:**

As you go through life following the teachings of Jesus Christ, you will occasionally meet other Christians. When you testify that you have been saved from sin, they might question your testimony. Most Christians of today don't believe that it is possible to live without committing sin. They will speak for people that they don't know and say that nobody can live and not sin.

You must be wise and understand that they are victims of ignorant religious teachers. In most cases they have not tried to live without sinning because they have been taught that it can't be done. Their way of thinking has been defeated by their religious teachers before their efforts to live free from sin have been defeated.

Their religious leaders are like coaches that tell the players on their teams that they can't beat an opposing team before the game starts, because the opposing teams has a better record of winning. Such religious leaders teach that you can't live and not sin because the devil has more players on his team that are sinners.

In order to defeat sin you must fight the good fight of faith. That is you must first believe that you can win. You must play the game to win and not to lose. When folk believe preachers who teach that they have to sin, they are playing the game of life to lose it. Listen to I Corinthians 9:24-26:

- Verse 24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.
- Verse 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.
- Verse 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air.

### **Subject: What Is The Spiritual Description Of Your Church?**

In the church that Christ built, the Spirit of God is the only spirit that exists. Every evil spirit imaginable can be found in many churches today. If the same corrupt practices that you find in politics, social clubs, and the work place are found in your church, it means that your church is no better than the spirit of the world. When politics, greed, entertainment, and commercializing are in the church, the church is worldly. The church cannot be spiritually clean when the operations of the church are worldly.

If members of the church are committing fornication and adultery, then the church is no different than a whore house. It is the deeds, conduct, and actions of the people that assemble in a given place that determine what spirit is in the place. Gamblers go to a gambling casino and liquor drinkers go to a bar. So if those who practice such habits go to a church building, then the church building is no different from the bar or the casino. It is the way people live that gives a spiritual description of where they assemble. You are no better a person where you worship than you are in your social and private life.

True salvation should start in your private life, and you can go to a church assembly and testify of how Jesus personally changed your private life from a life of sin to a life of righteousness. The Samaritan woman attempted to tell Jesus where she worshiped, but Jesus immediately began to tell her about her private life of adultery (St. John 4:25-26).

### **Subject: Watch For The Pulpit Enemies Of God:**

God knows when you don't want to sin, so after that you start out to live above sin, and you are presented with temptations, God will be there to help you to resist the temptations. Your indication that you don't want to commit sin will be when you utter a word of prayer asking God to help you. God, who is on stand-by, will have His Holy Spirit in your presence ready to assist you. The Holy Spirit will then make a way for you to escape the temptation.

Each victory over your temptations will help you to win another. You will find as you acquire more experience in living above sin that it will become easier to live free from sin than it was living as a sinner. The reason that many people do not live free from sin is because they have been deceived by hearing preachers teaching contrary to God's word. They tell people that they cannot live above sin. Any preacher who is teaching this is an enemy of God.

### Subject: Christ's Ministry For The People Was Free:

If a minister or preacher preaches to get the people to give money, and promises them that God will bless them for such, this is a false prophet working for the devil. There were many during Jesus' ministry who heard Him gladly, and accepted every word that He preached. They believed that Jesus was from God, because whatever blessings He had for them were free.

However, that wasn't the case with the false religious leaders. They charged the people for their services, and the people could clearly see that the work that Christ did for them was pure and not tainted with evil for filthy lucre. Christ taught the people to "come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest". Christ invited them to come without money, and the only requirement exacted of them was that they should go in peace and sin no more.

### **Subject: How Shall They Preach If They Were Not Sent?**

There are many religious people in our nation who can give you an unlimited conversation concerning what the Bible teaches. However, there is only one important question about salvation and that question is, "Do you believe that you can live in this present world without committing sin?" There are many who believe that nobody can live without sinning. Such people have been taught this principle by ignorant religious teachers. Listen to Romans 10:14-15:

- Verse 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?
- 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!

A preacher who doesn't teach that you can be saved from the practice of sin was not sent by God.

## Subject: An Incorrect Sermon At A Funeral Service Will Not Get The Deceased Into Heaven:

Not everybody goes to heaven when they die, if they have not been born again. We often hear preachers preach funerals saying that the deceased went to heaven. We cannot go to heaven unless we have been made ready to go by the Spirit of God. In order to go to heaven, you must become a righteous person while you are living on the earth. When you become a righteous person, God keeps a record in heaven on the righteous life that He gave you while you were living on the earth. An unrighteous person cannot inherit the kingdom of God. Listen to I Corinthians 6:9-10:

Verse 9 -	Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the
	kingdom of God?

A preacher who preaches that everybody goes to heaven when they die is deceiving the listeners to be ignorant of the requirements that one must meet in order to go to heaven. Verse 9 continued:

Be not deceived, neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

Verse 10 - Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

The word of God gives information on who is going to heaven to prevent the listeners from being deceived by false preachers. The Bible teaches that many false preachers, or prophets will be among the people to deceive them. They will teach misleading and damnable heresies, denying the teachings of the word of God. Listen to II Peter 2:1:

Verse 1 - But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

# Subject: Beware Of Religious Leaders Who Wrestle With The Scriptures (I John 2:27-28):

Whenever a religious leader tries to give you an interpretation of the word of God he or she is a false leader. There are no private interpretations of the word of God. The understanding of the word comes by the Holy Ghost that gives you an anointing so that you can understand the word of God. Listen to II Peter 1:20-21:

Verse 20 -	Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is
	of any private interpretation.

Verse 21 - For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Ghost is an intercessor between man and God, and it will improvise for any lack of understanding that a person has when receiving the word of God. The Holy Ghost gives you an anointing which improves upon your ability to comprehend knowledge from God (Romans 8:28).

A person who attempts to interpret the word of God is wrestling with scriptures, and they will be doing so to their own destruction. Listen to II Peter 3:16-17:

- Verse 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.
- Verse 17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

## Subject: It Will Be Damnable For A Religious Leader To Add Or Take Away Anything From The Scriptures:

It is of no profit to change, reject, or ignore any parts of the plan of salvation that was given by God in the scriptures. Those who believe that Jesus died and rose again know that He died for them. Jesus didn't die for any sins that He committed. When you follow the teachings of the gospel, you are doing it for your salvation; it was set-up and presented to us for our salvation. If any parts of the teachings of Jesus Christ are ignored, it will be to our lost and not Jesus'.

The counsel of heaven has been instituted into the plan of salvation by God according to what God saw was necessary for us to be saved. If any religious leader adds or takes away from the plan, God will take His name out of the book of life. Revelation 22:18-19:

- Verse 18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.
- Verse 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

### **Subject: Who Crucified Christ?**

The most dangerous people that were on the scene when Jesus ministered were church folk. It was church folk that had Christ crucified. The chief priest took the lead, and the scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees were influential in getting Pilate, who was the governor of Rome, to crucify Jesus.

Jesus was not crucified by ordinary citizens, but by religious people of His day. Hypocrite church folk block up the kingdom of heaven, and will cause the ignorant and unlearned people not to be saved. Such church folk are responsible for the present day unfortunate spiritual conditions of men's hearts. They are the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are set up in churches of today by Satan to

prevent people from getting saved. Their mission is to confuse, mislead, and distract other ignorant church folk from the true knowledge of salvation.

The purpose of the books that I write is to educate people on the true knowledge of salvation. When people know the truth, it will set them free from false religious teachings and those who are a part of such.

# **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 man, and that you desire to be saved according to the teachings of the Scriptures.

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). May God bless and guide you in your efforts to apply this information to your daily living so that you will be ready when the Lord returns for His people. Please do not delay, "Today is the day of salvation".

