



The Advocate of Truth



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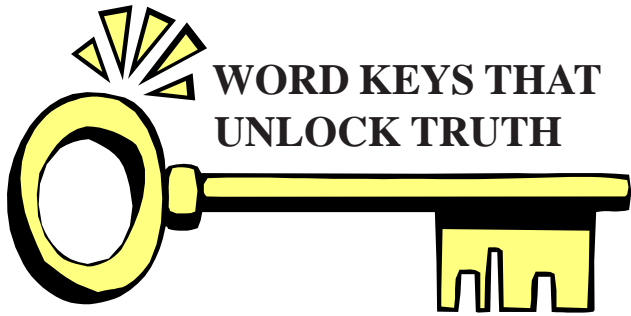
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WORD KEYS THAT UNLOCK TRUTH

HOSANNA

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem before His crucifixion, He was greeted by multitudes laying down their garments and spreading branches from the trees before the animal on which He was riding. Let us consider the whole incident: "And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straight way ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. And if any man say aught unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them. All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them. And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon. And a very great multitude

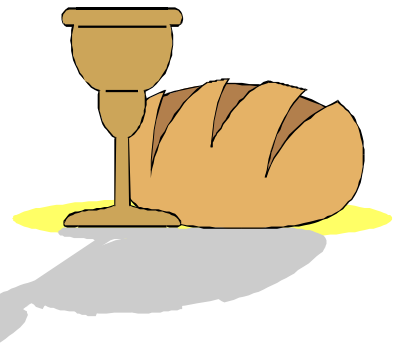
spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strewed them in the way. And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest" (Matthew 21:1-9). Notice that multitudes shouted, "Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest" (vs 9).

Many assume, which your writer once did, that the Hebrew phrase, Hosanna, means to praise the Lord or some other expression of admiration, since it is associated with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. However Hosanna literally means "save, we pray." The crowd's shout of acclaim perhaps could have come from Psalm 118, "Save now, I beseech thee, O Lord: O Lord, I beseech thee, send now prosperity. Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord" (vs 25-26a). Psalm 118 is a hymn of adoration, and the plea "Save, we pray" is made in the assurance that God will indeed act on behalf of His people

The "Hosanna" shouted to Jesus bears out the fact that the crowd expected Him to be the promised king who would restore the Kingdom of Israel. It is a great irony that the crowd would shout "Save, we pray!" To their hoped-for king and later cry "Crucify him!" They were unaware that He came the first time not to be their king but to be their dying Savior.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

BY BOND TENNANT



"When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper. For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken. What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not. For I have

received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do

ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world. Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another. And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation. And the rest will I set in order when I come" (I Corinthians 11:20-34).

The Lord's Supper is called a coming together! It is a mutual consent, a oneness, a fellowship. It is also a time of dedication, of consecration and sharing His suffering. "Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another" (I Corinthians 11:33).

The Lord's Supper is from the Lord! "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread; And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me" (I Corinthians 11:23-25). "And as they were eating Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it: For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins" (Matthew 26:26-28). This is important! He is saying that this service and admonition came from the Lord. It was by divine revelation.

We are commanded to partake of the Lord's Supper! "Take, eat.." (Matthew 26:26). "...Drink ye all of it" (vs. 27). "...this do ye..." (I Corinthians 11:25). We cannot call ourselves His followers and not obey His command. "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46).

The Lord's Supper is a remembrance and a commemoration of our Lord's death. It is a sharing of His suffering and death. "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (I Corinthians 11:26).

The Lord's Supper is to be observed on "the same night which he was betrayed" each year just as we observe our birthday only once a year. Our Lord did not die many times during the year, but only once. Therefore, "as often as" we eat the unleavened bread and drink from the cup containing the fruit of the vine is once a year. Please read again I Corinthians 11:23, 26.

Let us not forget to examine ourselves before partaking of the unleavened bread and fruit of the vine. This is very important! "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep" (I Corinthians 11:27-30).

May God's richest blessings be with us this year as we partake of the Memorial of our Lord's death. May it be a stimulus and encouragement to us to endure until the end.

WHITED SEPULCHRES

In the time of Jesus, white washed tombs marked the place of the dead. They all received a new whitening before days or seasons of feasting and worship. This custom is still practiced today. The people believed that to touch or come in contact with a tomb was to defile oneself. Death was the result of sin, and therefore caused contamination. Therefore, sepulchres were always white-washed so they could be easily seen and avoided.

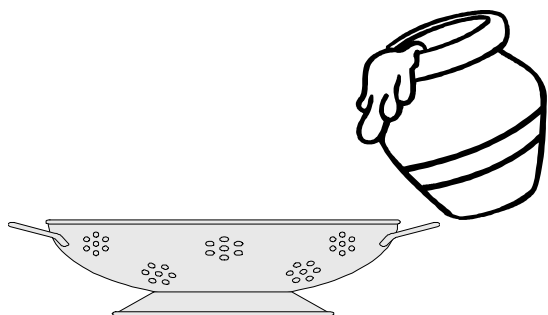
In addressing the scribes and Pharisees, Christ made mention of this practice. Whitewashing a tomb did not change the nature of the grave itself. It still contained dead man's bones. The tomb might be attractive without, but there was no difference within. Christ insisted that religion was not to be an outward decoration just for special occasions. It was to be a life principle, giving readily to all we do.

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!

for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchers, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead man's bones, and

of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within are full of hypocrisy and iniquity" (Matthew 23:25-28).

"Ye hypocrites, well did Easias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me" (Matthew 15:7-8).



Read John 13:4-17.

This service was instituted by our Lord. Most churches say this does not literally mean washing feet, but the doing of good deeds and acts of brotherly kindness. However, God's word declares, "He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded" (John 13:4-5). This picture of humility by our Lord is incomprehensible. The Son of God is taking the servant's place.

Yes, Jesus actually washed His disciple's feet. Since our Lord did this humble service, who could object to washing his brother's feet? Who could possibly say that he is better than his Lord and Saviour? He said, "For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you" (John 13:15). Peter tells us, "or even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (I Peter 2:21). John says, "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk, even as he walked" (I John 2:6).

Jesus emphatically declared, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also OUGHT to wash one another's feet" (John 13:14). This is straight forward language! The Bible says we OUGHT to pay tithes. "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy,

and faith: these OUGHT ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone" (Matthew 23:23). We are told that we OUGHT always to pray. "And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men OUGHT always to pray, and not to faint" (Luke 18:1).

The Apostle Paul said, "We then that are strong OUGHT to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves" (Romans 15:1). The Apostle John said, "Beloved, if God so loved us, we OUGHT also to love one another" (I John 4:11). It is strange that most professed Christians will accept the just mentioned oughts and absolutely refuse to accept the direct command from our Lord, "YE ought to wash one another's feet."

Jesus aid, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his Lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him" (John 13:16). In other words, our Lord is saying, "If I, your Lord and Master, have washed the servant's feet, shouldn't the servant" (His followers) wash one another's feet? Why should we consider it below our dignity? We cannot afford to neglect or reject this injunction about humility!

One of the qualifications of church widows becoming benefactors of the church was,...if she have washed the saint's feet..." (I Timothy 5:10). There are eight qualification listed in verses nine and ten. The before qualification is number six on the list. Since Jesus commanded and practiced it, and the early church practiced it, we have no other alternative but to obey and do it!

FEET WASHING

BY BOND TENNANT

Happiness comes to those who engage in this observance. Jesus said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13:17). This is a wonderful statement! Many people are deprived of much happiness because they know nothing at all about this observance. But those who know it and practice it know a happiness that others do not experience.

Let us not forget that the teaching of this observance is humility. Our Lord humbled Himself and took the servant's place. Likewise, He is asking that we humble our-

selves and be servants to the brethren. Jesus declared, "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased: and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted" (Matthew 23:12).

"Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for GOD RESISTETH THE PROUD, AND GIVETH GRACE TO THE HUMBLE. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time" (I Peter 5:5-6).

OUR LORD'S WALK ON EARTH WAS A REBUKE TO EVERY FORM OF PRIDE

PRIDE OF BIRTH.

"And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7).

PRIDE OF ANCESTRY.

"Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?" (Matthew 13:55).

PRIDE OF PLACE.

"And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see" (John 1:46).

PRIDE OF APPEARANCE.

"For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him": (Isaiah 53:2).

PRIDE OF PRAISE.

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces

from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not" (Isaiah 53:3).

PRIDE OF WEALTH.

"And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head" (Luke 9:58).

PRIDE OF SUPERIORITY.

"For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth" (Luke 22:27).

PRIDE OF LEARNING.

"And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned? (John 7:15).

PRIDE OF STRENGTH.

"For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he lived 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" (II Corinthians 13:4).

POWER OF REPUTATION.

"But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him

the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:7).

PRIDE OF POWER.

"Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth,

these also doeth the Son likewise" (John 5:19).

PRIDE OF SPEECH.

"For I have not spoken of myself: but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak" (John 12:49).

Selected



YOUR ATTITUDE IS A CHOICE

BY SIEGFRIED MAYWALD

Every person makes choices every day. The choice you make determines the outcome and quality of your personal life. You either continue to live in joy and peace or you grumble and complain in misery and frustration. This single choice will affect and direct your actions and ability to both love and care. It will determine if you are successful in business life or if you lead a life of rejection and stress. The choices you make will affect you in regard to what has happened to you in the past and what will happen to you in the present. Many people complain and grumble about circumstances that they find themselves surrounded with instead of taking the initiative to change things for themselves. They quit and leave marriage partners because of certain circumstances. They quit churches and educational opportunities. People quit jobs and business opportunities. Instead of changing their attitude toward things and start afresh, they just wait for circumstances to change, but this is a backward approach. What they forget to realize is the fact that those circumstances will not change unless they change their attitude toward those problems first. You cannot accomplish what you do not pursue. If you just sit and wait, nothing will be accomplished. Therefore, you must try to find solutions to resolve problems, but to do so, you must be able to define and understand the underlying cause. The definition of an attitude can be described in four ways:

1. Your attitude is an inward feeling which is expressed by outward behavior. It is seen by all that surround you without a single word of yours.
2. Your attitude becomes the revelation of your true self. Its root is hidden, but always visible.
3. Your attitude can become a friend or enemy. It either attracts people to you or repels them.
4. Your attitude also determines the quality of your relationship with family, friends, employers and Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Attitudes are formed in your mind and reflect your character. You have the choice to change it. Each morning brings another day and opportunity for the better. Use this opportunity to change your outlook and forget what happened yesterday! You cannot change it. So choose a good attitude the moment you wake up in the morning. Thank God for a new day of life. Think positive, and your problems of the day will be overcome. Do not become emotionally overwhelmed with things you cannot change. Accept life as it is and the fact that you cannot change the choices your children and others make for themselves. If you become emotionally involved, you will become only resentful, bitter, hateful and eventually physically sick as well. Your attitude determines your emotional and physical health. The way you feel inwardly is also outwardly expressed for all to see. If you have failed or have been

criticized, hurt and betrayed, do not let this bother you. The past cannot be changed. So stop worrying about it. Remember only those who do nothing make no mistakes. No matter what you do in life, everything involves risk and resistance, pain and conflicts prepare us for a better understanding and peace. In fact, risk and resistance are necessary to achieve success. They sharpen the mind.

One very well knows and understands the necessity of the following facts:

- a. A ship needs resistance without which it cannot float.
- b. Airplanes need resistance to be able to fly.
- c. Without the pull of gravity, man would not be able to walk. He would float aimlessly.
- d. A bow needs to be stretched to effectively shoot an arrow.

Therefore, you must face and try to overcome adversity. You must overcome the resistance you experience in life to develop your character, strength and mind. It requires work, discipline and restraint on your own behalf. You should not start to grumble and complain, but do all things to the best of your ability without complaining and disputing. "Do all things without murmurings and disputings" (Philippians 2:14).

Be careful of what you read, listen to and watch on TV. Always remember that your mind acts like a computer. What you put in is stored and will eventually come out. Get rid of all your old troubling attitudes and develop a positive outlook in your life. Resistance will strengthen you to be better focused. Overcome opposition and know that you will never be able to please all people no matter what you do or how hard you try. Keep doing and being persistent. Do not give up, you will achieve success. Jesus tells us in Matthew 12:35, "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." Therefore, do not become a grumbler and complainer. Do not walk after your own lusts. See Jude 16. If you complain, you will be on God's judgment list. Avoid blaming others for your own problems. Blame only attacks, wounds and complicates matters. Blame does not resolve anything. The fact is that blame only destroys, separates and brings with it shame and rejection just like when Adam blamed Eve, and Eve in turn the serpent for eating the forbidden fruit. Both felt shame before God, and things became very complicated for them by reason of their dis-

obedience as seen in Genesis 3:10-19.

Your attitude toward others determines their attitude toward you. Treat people as you want to be treated yourself. How do you treat your spouse, your children, friend or neighbor? Do you spend some time with your wife and children besides the job you have to attend to day by day? Do you give them love and compassion? Do you care for their well being? If you want a happy family, you have to invest some time. If you do not give an investment of good treasure of your heart, none can be returned to you either. What is your attitude toward God? Do you accept His Son as your personal Saviour? Do you thank Him for your health, happiness, daily needs and peace He surrounds you with, or do you know God only in a time of distress and need?

Jesus tells us in Matthew 11:28-30, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." This is an invitation to faithfulness and trust. Do you trust Him to lighten your burden? Do you find comfort in His word? Do you take time to go to church to worship God, or are continuous excuses keeping you away? Do you attend church for social contact only? Take time to think about these things, and examine your motives whether you come to worship or just for self-gratification. The key issue is your attitude of gratitude toward God and recognizing what He has done for you. This should help to alleviate and ease your difficulties in life. We read in Philippians 4:6-7, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." The condition is, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

The presence of gratitude is essential to be able to worship God and experience His supernatural power by the way of His Holy Spirit in our lives. We must come to God with an attitude of thanksgiving. He is our eternal Father. We were purchased with a price and therefore indebted to God for all the mercies. He bestows upon us. A good attitude is contagious to people around you. All we have to do is look at the Apostle Paul and his attitude. Paul would have had enough reasons to complain. He

was stoned, beaten and left for dead. He was shipwrecked, criticized, slandered and chased out of town, but he chose not to complain. Instead he encouraged fellow believers with the following written statements:

1. "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:37).

2. "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou are also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses" (I Timothy 6:12). We must trust and believe in God's word.

3. "Thou therefore endure hardship, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (II Timothy 2:3). "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (II Corinthians 4:17). He directs us to think positive. We gain confidence by knowing that God is in control.

4. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). In Isaiah 41:10 we read, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

In conclusion, let us read the words of the Apostle Paul written in Philippians 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Put good and uplifting thoughts like these into your mind, and be thankful for all that God has given to you. Do not wait for circumstances to change you before you make the choice to think positive. Take the initiative, and do not wait! Always remember that God is in control, but you in turn control the things you place into your mind. You have the choice to accept, believe and live according to God's will or not. You are in control of your thoughts and actions. May God guide and bless you to accept His offer of salvation and lead you to a joyful and successful life.

OLD PATHS

I liked the old paths when:

Moms were at home,
Dads were at work,
Brothers did not fight,
And sisters got married before having children!

Crime did not pay;
Hard work did;
And people knew the difference.

Moms could cook;
Dads would work;
Children would behave.

Husbands were loving;
Wives were supportive;
and children were polite.

Women wore the jewelry;
and men wore the pants.
Women looked like ladies;
Men looked like gentlemen;
And children looked decent.

People loved the truth,
And hated a lie,
They came to church to get IN!
Not to get OUT!

Hymns sounded Godly;
Sermons sounded helpful;
Rejoicing sounded normal;
And crying sounded sincere.

Cursing was wicked;
Drinking was evil;
And divorce was unthinkable.

The flag was honored;
America was beautiful;
And God was welcome!

We read the Bible in public;
Prayed in school;
And preached from house to house.

Sex was a personal word;
Homosexual was an unheard of word,
And abortion was an illegal word.

Preachers preached because they had a message;
And Christians rejoiced because they had the VIC-
TORY!

Preachers preached from the Bible;
singers sang from the heart;
And sinners turned to the Lord to be SAVED!

Being a preacher meant you proclaimed the word of
God;

Being a deacon meant you would serve the Lord;
Being a Christian meant you would live for Jesus;

And being a sinner meant someone was praying for
you!

Laws were based on the Bible;
Homes read the Bible;
And churches taught the Bible.

Preachers were more interested in new converts,
Than new clothes and new cars.
God was worshipped;
Christ was exalted.

I still like the old paths best.

-Adapted from the internet

THE BEREAN CALL: BOGUS BELIEFS CHURCH OF THE MIGHTY DOLLAR



With houses of worship in Atlanta, New York City, Australia, Europe, Nigeria, South Africa, and Britain, World Changers Church International is one of the largest and fastest growing churches in the nation. Led by Pastor Creflo A. Dollar, a flamboyant African America preacher. WCCI has some 25,000 members and an annual budget of more than \$70 million.

His message, known as "prosperity gospel," implores followers to enrich themselves in every way, spiritually and financially, through the teachings of his church. Indeed, pastor Dollar, whom critics have dubbed "Pass The Dollar" and "Cashflow Dollar" for his ostentatious displays of wealth, is not shy about his success. He owns two Rolls-Royces and flies the country in a Gulfstream-3 private jet.

Fellow Atlanta ministers, schooled in the humble tradition of Reverend Martin Luther King, have criticized the 43-year-old Dollar for putting money before ministry. WCCI

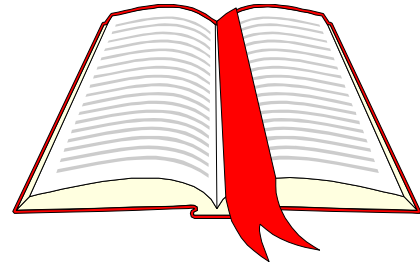
members can tithe on-line by setting up automatic account withdrawals managed by the church.

But Dollar's message is resonating with many evangelicals, especially poor blacks drawn to the idea of pulling themselves out of poverty because the Bible willed it so. A new church in rented space in New York's Madison Square Garden has drawn 5,000 members in the last three months. WWCI is adding between 2,000 and 3,000 members per year. It will soon launch a Spanish-language church led by a Mexican priest, targeted at Atlanta's booming Hispanic immigrant population ("Business Week On-line," Mary 23, 2005).

(TBC: "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (I Timothy 6:120).

The Berean Call
From the internet

THE BEREAN CALL TODAY: WHADAYA EXPECT FROM A MIRACULOUS BOOK?



One of the challenges skeptics present is for extra biblical evidence of biblical events and individuals. By God's grace, there are many examples which could be pointed to. In the Old Testament there are more than 50 persons named whose existence is verified by sources other than the Bible. Some 12 of these individuals have left visual records (statues, busts, wall carvings, etc.) recording their appearance. The New Testament specifically lists 27 people named in other records. Of the six surviving representations, four are Roman Emperors.

Here are a few samples:

Shishak, the Egyptian king who plundered the Temple during the reign of Rehoboam (I Kings 14:25-26).

II Kings 9:1 - 10:36 - Jehu, king of Israel, who took power in a bloody coup; the only surviving likeness of a king of Israel or Judah.

Hazael, king of Aram, enemy of Israel (I Kings 19:15,17; II Kings 8:7-15, 28-29; 9:14-15; 10:32-33; 12:17-18; 13:3,22,24-25; Amos 1:4).

Tiglath-Pileser III, king of Assyria, who invaded Israel (II Kings 18:19,29; 16:7,10; I Chronicles 5:6,26; II Chronicles 28:20).

Sargon II, king of Assyria, who defeated Ashdod and completed the siege of Samaria and took Israelites into captivity (Isaiah 20:1).

Sennacherib, king of Assyria, who attacked Judah but was unable to capture Jerusalem (II Kings 18:13-19:37)).

Tirhakah, king of Egypt, who opposed Sennacherib (II Kings 19:9).

Esarhaddon, king of Assyria, who succeeded his father Sennacherib (II Kings 19:37).

Merodach-baladan, king of Babylon whose messengers Hezekiah showed the royal treasury, much to the indignation of Isaiah (II Kings 20:12-19).

Xerxes I, king of Persia, who made Esther his queen (Esther; Ezra 4:6).

Darius I, king of Persia, who allowed the returning exiles to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem (Ezra 4:24-6:15; Haggai 1:1,15).

Augustus, Roman emperor, 27 B.C. A.D. 14, when Jesus was born (Luke 2:1).

Tiberius, Roman emperor, A.D. 14-37, during Jesus's adulthood and crucifixion (Matthew 22:17,21; Mark 12:14-17; Luke 3:1; 20:22-25; 23:2; John 19:12,15).

Claudius, Roman emperor, A.D. 41-54, who ordered the Jews to leave Rome (Acts 11:28; 17:7; 18:2).

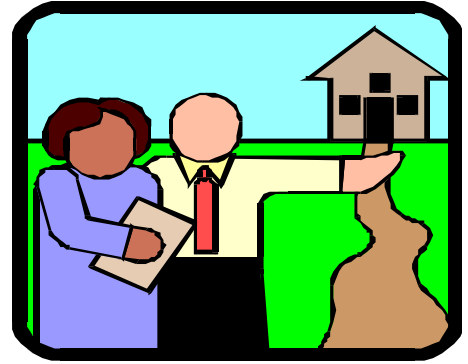
Herod Agrippa I, ruler of Judea, A.D. 37-44, who persecuted the early church (Acts 12:1-23; 23:35).

Aretas IV, king of the Nabateans, 9 B.C. - A.D. 40, whose governor in Damascus attempted to arrest Paul (II Corinthians 11:32).

Nero (referred to as Caesar in the New Testament), Roman emperor, A.D. 54-68, who Paul appealed to (Acts 25:11-12,21; 26:32; 28:19; Philippians 4:22).

The Berean Call
From the internet

THREATS TO FAMILY SURVIVAL



Many of us make life more difficult than it has to be. Many muddle their way through each day. They are unaware of the dangers that threaten our families. However, if they do talk of the dangers, they like to blame some outside force, such as society or TV or perhaps music. Many of the problems, though, are things they can do something about. Let us look at just three ways in which families are threatened. All three of them are avoidable!

1. Leaving out the Lord: "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). From the time the alarm goes off in the morning till the last light is turned off at night, most of us fill our minds with good things such as school, work, luncheons, appointments, shopping, etc. There are many good things one can do to have a busy and full life. Before our heads hit the pillow, have we ever thought, Where is the Lord in all of this? Did we serve him today?

In sincere Christian families, it seems that the Lord is the easiest person to leave out. The Lord does not advertise or send us warning letters like an ignored credit card. He does not call to remind us that we forgot Him. He seems to leave us alone when we leave Him out. But we must not let this pattern continue.

We may need to reacquaint ourselves with the importance of keeping God and His instructions at the center of our lives. Moses wanted parents to be diligent in teaching their children to love God. Moses said in Deuteronomy 6:5, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

First, we must love God before we can help our fami-

lies love God. Time must be found throughout the day to talk with Him and read His word. We should welcome the Lord into our homes in the same way that we would welcome any loved one. Let us list a few ways in which we can make this happen:

(a) Pray regularly. It is well to establish regular times for family prayer. These times could include praying together before meals and at bedtime. It is good to pray together for witnessing opportunities and to give God praise and thanksgiving.

(b) Talk about the Lord. Parents must show the reality of God by continually talking about Him to the children. Parents may recount His goodness and marvel at His care for each of us.

(c) Read the Bible. Not only should the family have a time of worship, but the parents should also find other times to read the Bible in the presence of the children.

(d) Apply biblical principles. Parents can use God's principles to decide what to do when issues arise.

As these and other ideas are incorporated into family life, it becomes harder and harder to leave God out.

2. Hurting each other with our tongue: "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man" (Colossians 4:6). We can't stop communicating even if we try! Every look, every movement of the hand, every change of facial expression and every word is a form of communication. The children and spouses of the family know this best. Let us imagine the following conversation between a husband and wife:

"Are you mad at me?"

"I didn't say anything."

"Well, you are acting like you're mad."

A great many family members have recognized this

type of conversation. Family members know each other very well. Sometimes they don't need words. Instead, they use nonverbal communication.

Since we can't stop communication from happening, let us make sure that it happens the right way. A healthy family is one where good, positive communication outweighs the negative kind. It is a family where interaction is normal. It is a family in which no one feels shut out from the full exchange of ideas. Let us consider some suggestions for developing good family communications:

(a) *Let the children communicate both their ideas and their feelings.*

(b) *Encourage respect in communication. Consider politeness, concern for others, when not to talk and how to listen.*

(c) *Set aside a time for family conversation each day.*

(d) *Don't lecture your children all the time. Give them positive feedback.*

(e) *Avoid harsh and hurtful words like shut up and stupid.*

(f) *Resolve conflicts with calm words.*

3. Taking our spouse for granted? A marriage could be a built-in mutual admiration society. One of man's most basic needs is to feel important and accepted. The marriage is the perfect place for that need to be met.

The wife may see constant reminders through television and other sources that she may not possess the beauty that she desires. That is when she needs constant reminders from her husband that she is beautiful.

The husband needs comfort from his wife who tells him that she loves him unconditionally when he sees others succeeding far beyond his ability to do the same.

Often spouses do so many things for each other that they can often assume they are being taken advantage of.

In closing, let us consider four things that can be done to have a God-honored marriage relationship:

(a) *Maintain the vow of commitment that you made before God on your wedding day.*

(b) *Follow God's standards for your relationship.*

(c) *Make it a point to say something positive and uplifting to your spouse each day.*

(d) *Don't let anything or anyone on earth but your spouse take the top spot in your life.*

Contributed

What About The Trinity?

By Del DeLong

We all know that Jesus is the Son of God, so why do some say that Jesus is God himself or that Jesus is the Father? The other day, I saw a picture depicting Jesus. The caption under it was "this is the Father". When Jesus was baptized, a voice came from heaven saying, "this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased". The Father was speaking of His Son. When Jesus prayed in the garden before His crucifixion, who was he praying to? It certainly was not a prayer to himself, because he said to His Father "not my will but thine be done". We see two wills here. We see two individuals.

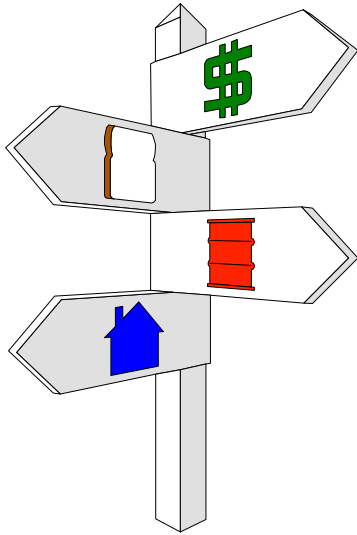
When Jesus ascended to the Father in heaven, where did he sit? See Mark 16:19. "So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the **right hand** of God." God was there, and Jesus came to Him and sat down at His right hand. Once again we see two individuals with right hands. Jesus's hands were nailed scared, God had prepared a place for Him to sit - at His right hand.

Jesus explained His relationship with His Father, and He told us how our relationship with Him and each other should be. Jesus gave us the words that His Father gave to Him. "For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. 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**" (John 17:8-11).

That last clause shows how the Father and the Son are one. They are one in purpose, they believe the same things and their purpose for us is the same - yet they are two individuals. When we pray, we pray to the Father in Jesus's name.

The doctrine of the trinity states that the Father and the Son are the same individual - they are not - they are two with separate wills and separate beings having the same purpose for each of us.

Let us be one in the same way that the Father and the Son are one.



THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

If you have any items of interest that you would like to submit to this segment, please send them to The Church of God Publishing House, PO Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328.

The following article appeared in *The Times-Union* published in Jacksonville, Florida.

Big questions scientists can't yet answer Magazine presents list of 125 quandaries experts have failed to fully fathom.

by Rick Weiss

The Washington Post

There is something refreshing about scientists confessing their ignorance.

Day after day, in research journals and at international meetings, they strut, cluck and boast about the latest enigma they've wrestled to the ground. The entire human genome mapped! The farthest star plotted! The mating habits of dinosaurs inferred from fossilized eggs! Ordinary folks can be excused for muttering "Is there nothing those whitecoated brainiacs don't think they know?"

This week the world's largest general science journal, aptly named *Science*, takes a different and more humble tack, presenting a list of the 125 biggest quandaries that scientists have failed to fathom.

This catalog of bewilderment, part of the journal's 125th anniversary celebration, is the product of a months long survey of more than 100 leading researchers in myriad disciplines who were asked to focus on questions that have a chance of being answered in the next 25 years. Beyond offering a glimpse of the many nagging gaps remaining in the human knowledge base, it reveals the enormity of scientists' ambitions and the great versatility of the scientific method, which has proved so valuable as a way to make sense of the unknown.

"Reading through the questions gives a wonderful sense of all the incredibly intriguing things scientists are looking at these days," said Clin Norman, *Science's* news editor, who ushered the initial list of submissions through 17 versions to get it down to a mere 125.

Here is a sampling of the mysteries scientists themselves most want to solve:

What is the universe made of?

The answer may seem obvious: matter and energy. But physicists who have been studying the details have some disturbing news. If you take every atom in the universe, and all the detectable energy in and around them, it adds up to less than 5 percent of what has to be out there, as determined by how the galaxies are behaving. Scientists have concluded that in addition to ordinary matter, there must also be "dark matter" - mysterious stuff that gets the universe up to about 30 percent full. That leaves 70 percent of the universe consisting of "dark energy," a nice name for something that no one has a clue about.

A related question: Is ours the only universe? Many cosmologists suspect the answer is "no." Ours may be just one of the countless universes in a "multiverse" that is bubbling with big bangs. To settle that question, a related query will have to be answered in the affirmative: Is it even possible to know anything beyond our universe?

How much can the human life span be extended?

Human life spans have stretched amazingly in the past few hundred years. In the 20th century alone, the average U.S. life span grew to 77 years from 49, an increase of more than 50 percent.

The longest any person is known to have lived is 122 years. That was Jeanne Calment, a Frenchwoman who

died in 1997. No one knows why she lived that long (she smoked cigarettes until she was 9, when she quit for her health). Perhaps it was her very sense of humor. Asked on her 100th birthday what kind of future she anticipated, she responded: "A very short one."

In general, scientists reckon that longevity is the result of a unique combination of genetics and life habits, and they suspect that with attention to those things the average human life span can be increased substantially.

Experiments on simpler organisms, such as the millimeter-long soil-dwelling nematode worm, *Caenorhabditis elegans*, indicate that in some species a change in a single gene can double life span - though in that case we're talking about a total of six weeks. Other experiments with human's closer relatives, mice and monkeys, strongly suggest that by cutting out the greater part of our dietary intake we might increase our life span by decades - though we'd spend a lot of those longer lives fantasizing about our next meal.

Should scientists succeed in making centenarians a sizable voting block, watch for new questions about Social Security.

What genetic changes made us uniquely human?

There are those who argue that shoes make the man. But scientists can't help but note that even a chimpanzee in Cole Haans lacks the humanity of a barefoot beggar. What exactly is at the heart of that species difference has been a matter of shifting attentions, as the old delineators - language, tool use, culture, an ability to laugh - have each in their turn been found in one animal or another. Now, in what some might see as a desperate effort to retain our sense of specialness, the hunt for the essence of humanness has turned to the genome.

Comparisons of the hundred genetic code's 3.1 billion DNA letters and those of our nearest relatives, chimpanzees, confirm long-held suspicions that by this measure we differ by only about 1 percent.

A few genes seem to have been crucial to human evolution, such as one that allowed our skulls to accommodate bigger brains and one that seems to have facilitated the development to language. But clearly there is a lot more going on than that.

Are we alone in the universe?

Six billion of us and counting - not to mention the countless other species with whom we share this precious planet - and still we struggle with loneliness. Giant

radiotelescopes point plaintively to the heavens, listening for reassuring evidence of extraterrestrial companionship from someone, anyone, green or otherwise.

Scientists have scanned more than 700 star systems for the subtlest peeps of life, using remote control to listen simultaneously on millions of channels. Assuming the universe is as it appears - filled with galaxies that are filled with suns that are surrounded by planets, no small number of them doubtless like our own - the odds are overwhelming that there is a lot of other life to be there, and that same may be pointing telescopes at us

With bigger and better scanning arrays being built every year, many scientists not usually prone to exaggeration think we could be within a generation of making contact with some version of our biological brethren.

Comment

The questions in the above article are ones to which man will never find the answer. Man asks such questions to satisfy his curiosity.

Deuteronomy 29:29 reads: "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." The answers to those questions may be part of God's secret things. It would be better if some would dwell more on pleasing God than on such questions.

'LIMBO' APPEARS TO BE IN LIMBO

VATICAN CITY - Limbo - the place where the Catholic Church teaches that babies go if they die before being baptized - may have its days numbered.

According to Italian media reports Tuesday, an international theological commission will advise Pope Benedict XVI to eliminate the teaching about limbo from the Catholic catechism.

The Catholic Church teaches that babies who die before they can be baptized go to limbo, whose name comes from the Latin for "border" or "edge," because they deserve neither heaven or hell.

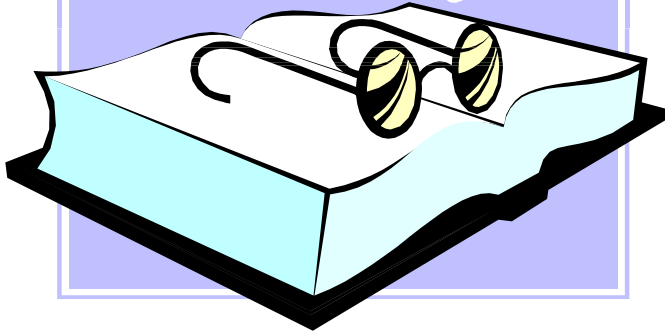
Last October, seven months before he died, Pope John Paul II asked the panel to come up with "a more coherent and enlightened way of describing the fate of such innocents.

The commission, which has been meeting behind closed doors, may make its recommendation soon.

The Houston Chronicle

BIBLE

Study



Questions and Answers

Question: What is the sealing of the Holy Spirit?

Answer: Ephesians 4:30 tells us, "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

The word "sealed" means preserved and attested. In olden times a signet ring, or stamp, was used to seal important documents. This is still done today. We seal a letter to secure secrecy for its contents. To guarantee the fulfillment of what is agreed upon, contracts are sealed or attested.

The Apostle Paul speaks of the believer as being "sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession." Please read Ephesians 1:13-14. Therefore, the footsteps followers of Christ are sealed by the Holy Spirit as a kind of "down payment" to guarantee the ultimate gaining of the full inheritance. We are familiar with this illustration. It is still customary in transaction business to make down payments to secure and attest to agreements until they are fully consummated. We may think of this down payment as referring to "the firstfruits of the Spirit" which is mentioned in Romans 8:23, "And not only they, but ourselves also, which have first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption to wit, the redemption of our body."

In Acts 20:28, Paul speaks of "the church of God" which has been "purchased" by the blood of Christ. "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over

which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." I Peter 1:4-5 records, "To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

Only those who have been sealed by the Holy Spirit, or as Peter explains it, "kept, or secured, "by the power of God", will be born of the Spirit in the resurrection. The keeping power of the Holy Spirit is effective only in the lives of those who exercise faith. The church (those called to of the world system) is not arbitrarily ushered triumphantly into the kingdom. Each member of the church must conform his life to the conditions attached to God's promises if he is to benefit from the sealing power of the Holy Spirit. The Apostle Paul tells us that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit upon His disciples. At Pentecost, it was "shed forth" those assembled in the upper room.

In our flesh dwelleth no good thing. We can never hope to attain that glorious "inheritance" which is "incorruptible, and unfilled, and that fadeth not away" by the merit of our own righteousness.

Because God loves us, He has now made provision to cover our imperfections with Christ's righteousness. Because of this, we are assured that He is not dealing with us according to our imperfections. He is now dealing with us according to the desire of our hearts. This thought should do much to seal or guarantee our hope of a heavenly inheritance. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all

unrighteousness" (I John 1;9).

However, we must not become lax in our endeavors to keep the flesh under control. When we fail to keep the flesh under control, we "grieve" the Holy Spirit. Thus, we go contrary to what its influence should be accomplishing in our lives". 'Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying that it may minister grace to the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:29-32). If we allow the imperfections of the flesh to influence us in any way, we "grieve" the Holy Spirit. By not conforming fully to Gods' will, we resist this sealing progress!

We find another sealing test in Philippians 1:6. "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." The unchangeableness of God is the strength of this seal. The good work of grace was begun in our hearts by God. We were drawn to Christ, through whom we are justified by God. He encourages us to set our affections on things above. God made us heirs of Himself and joint heirs of Christ. God will not change. He wants us to enter in to our inheritance. Like Paul, we too can be confident that the Lord will finish His work of grace in our hearts.

In this, cooperation with our Heavenly Father is also necessary. Even though God is working in us" to will and to do of his good pleasure," we are to work out our own salvation. "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, For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure" (Philippians 2:12-13). God's good pleasure is that we have an inheritance with Jesus in the rulership of His kingdom. Jesus said, "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12:32).

The scaling of God's children begins from the beginning of their walk in the narrow way. Even as "babes in Christ" it is God's pleasure that His children receive the inheritance which He has promised. Through His strength, they may apprehend that for which they have been apprehended by Him. Please read Philippians 3:12. As we

endure patiently the experiences which His wisdom permits to mold us more and more into the image of His son, the assurances of conquering grace and strength become increasingly reassuring. The Apostle Paul brings this thought to us in Romans 5:1-5, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne" (Revelation 3:21). Yes, there are conditions whereby we must be tested and found worthy. "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us" (Romans 5:3-5). A key word in this passage is the meaning of the word "experience". Its real meaning or literal meaning is "test". Paul uses this thought in II Corinthians 2:9, "For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things."

From the beginning of our walk in the narrow way, we have a glorious hope. It is the "hope of the glory of God." When we, through the Lord's help, patiently endure the tests which God permits, this hope becomes one of which we will not be ashamed.

Will we be faithful? Our confidence is increased as we pass every test that God may allow to be seen turn away. We are confident of final victory for we know that He who loves us and helped us in the past will continue to do so. We can expect trials to continue to the end of the way. However we know that God is faithful and will not permit us to be tempted or tried above what we are able to bear. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Corinthians 10:13).

God could do not more to seal or secure our inheritance for us.



India

*The dedication of the church
at Palavancha*





LESSON I

THE FURNISHINGS FOR THE TEMPLE

Scripture Reading: II Chronicles 4:1-22.

Golden Text: II Chronicles 4:19.

"And Solomon made all the vessels that were for the house of God, the golden altar also, and the tables where one the shew bread was set."

NOTE: In our last lesson, we learned how the temple itself was built, and out of what kind of materials it was made. Now we shall see what furnishings will be on the inside of the temple.

1. Out of what material was the altar made? II Chronicles 4:1.
2. Describe the molten sea in II Chronicles 4:2-5.
3. For what purpose was the molten sea built? II Chronicles 4:6.
4. Where were the ten candlesticks and ten tables placed? II Chronicles 4:7-8.
5. What did Hiram make for the temple? II Chronicles 4:11-16.
6. Did Solomon make all the vessels for the house of God? Out of what material did he make the candlesticks, lamps and tongs? II Chronicles 4:18-21.
7. What else was made of pure gold? II Chronicles 4:22.

LESSON II

INDUCTION OF THE ARK INTO THE ORACLE

Scripture Reading: II Chronicles 5:1-14.

Golden Text: II Chronicles 5:4.

"And all the elders of Israel came; and the

Levites took up the ark."

NOTE: We have studied about the actual building of the temple and about the furnishings which are inside. The cost of building this temple is variously estimated to equal from two to five billions of dollars in our money. The temple was built by 30,000 Jews and 153,600 Canaanites. IT took seven and one-half years to build it. The ark of God is now ready to be placed in the temple.

1. What did Solomon bring in the house of the Lord in II Chronicles 5:1?
2. For what purpose did Solomon assemble the elders of Israel? II Chronicles 5:2.
3. During what month was this assembly, and for what purpose did they meet? II Chronicles 5:3-5.
4. What did King Solomon and the congregation of Israel sacrifice to the Lord? II Chronicles 5:6.
5. The priests brought in the ark of the covenant, and where was it placed in the house? Is it there to this day? II Chronicles 5:7-9.
6. What was in the ark? II Chronicles 5:10.
7. How did the priests and the people praise God in II Chronicles 5:11-13?
8. What filled the house of God at his time? II Chronicles 5:14.

LESSON III

GOD APPEARS TO SOLOMON

Scripture Reading: II Chronicles 7:1-22.

Golden Text: II Chronicles 7:12.

"And the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice."

1. When King Solomon's prayer was finished, what happened to the burnt offering, and what filled the house? II Chronicles 7:1.
2. Why could the priests not enter into the house of the Lord? II Chronicles 7:2.
3. What did the children of Israel do when they saw how the fire came down? II Chronicles 7:3.
4. Did the king and all the people offer sacrifices? What did King Solomon offer for a sacrifice? II Chronicles 7:4-5.
5. What did the Levites do in II Chronicles 7:6?
6. How many days did Solomon and all Israel keep the feast, and what did they do on the eighth day? II Chronicles 7:8-9.
7. What promise did the Lord make to Solomon and His people if they would humble themselves and turn from their wicked ways? II Chronicles 7:12-18.
8. If they turned away from God and forsook His commandments to worship other gods, what would be the result? II Chronicles 7:19-22.

LESSON IV

THE GREATNESS OF SOLOMON

Scripture Reading: II Chronicles 8:1-18.

Golden text: II Chronicles 8:10.

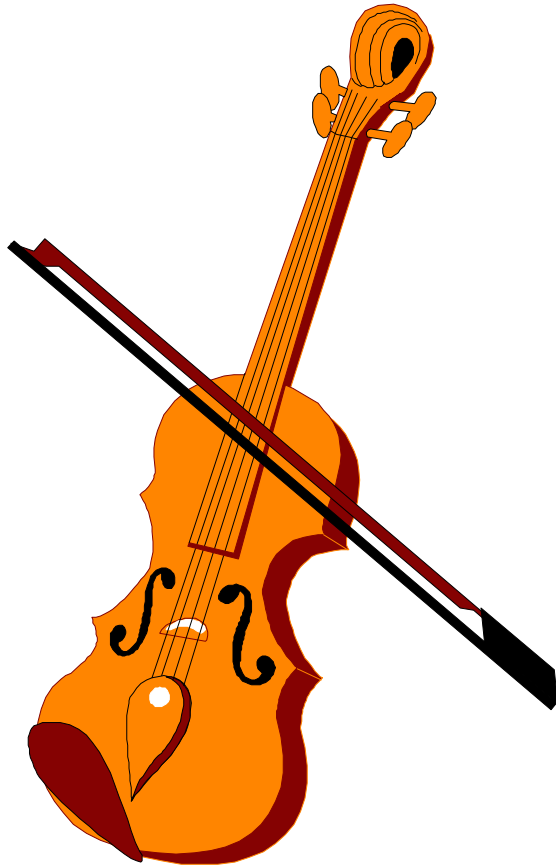
"And these were the chief of king Solomon's officers, even two hundred and fifty, that bare rule over the people."

NOTE: In our last lesson, we learned how the glory of God filled the temple and how the people worshipped and offered burnt offerings. The Lord promised many blessings to the people of Israel if they would keep His commandments. If they did not obey Him, He said He

would cast the house which they had built out of His sight. Now we are going to study about how great Solomon was in his kingdom.

1. Twenty years after Solomon built the house of the Lord, what happened? II Chronicles 8:1-2.
2. Name some of the places that Solomon built. What did he make the people who were left of the Hittites and the Amorites do? I Chronicles 8:4-8.
3. Who were his men of war? How many officers ruled over the people? II Chronicles 8:9-10.
4. Who did Solomon bring up out of the city of David? II Chronicles 8:11.
5. Did Solomon still offer burnt offerings unto the Lord? II Chronicles 8:12-13.
6. Whom did he appoint, and what were their duties? II Chronicles 8:14-15.
7. Was the house of the Lord now perfected? II Chronicles 8:16.
8. What did Hiram send to Solomon in II Chronicles 8:18?

*King Solomon used God's blessing
 In a most unselfish way.
 He built a holy temple
 Where all could worship and pray.
 "Great is thy faithfulness!"
 King Solomon prayed
 God kept His promise,
 For Solomon obeyed.
 "Great is thy faithfulness!"
 I sing to the Lord:
 For He is my Shepherd.
 And He keeps His Word.
 What more could I want
 Than to serve Him each day,
 For He leads me to blessings
 When I follow His way.*



How William Won

Just as the clock struck two, the door opened, and William Radcliff hurried through the hall carrying his violin.

At the age of seven, William had shown such a marked taste for music that his parents had sacrificed to give him lessons on his violin. Now, at the age of twelve, he was earning money to pay for them himself.

A few months before the story opens, a great violinist, Mr. Frederick Van Fossen, had made a wonderful offer to the boys under thirteen. A valuable Stradivarius was to be given to one who, on the first day of January, played the most skillfully and pleasingly for him.

Knowing the old musician's odd ways, William was working hard on an especially difficult piece, hoping that he would be the fortunate boy to win the violin.

William belonged to a Sabbath School class which had for its motto "Win One." He had never tried to do this, for he himself had not yet been won for Jesus. But on this day, as he listened to the earnest words of his teacher, a new light entered his soul, and he resolved that not only would he take Jesus as his Saviour, but that he would try to "Win One" for him.

That afternoon he was to play before Mr. Van Fossen. As he was walking toward the studio, a great conflict was raging in his soul. Knowing the old gentleman to be satisfied, William felt that here was his opportunity to "Win One" for Jesus. But what could he do or say? If he asked Mr. Van Fossen to take Jesus as his Saviour, the old man might become angry and refuse to listen to his playing.

Then suddenly, as he stood in the presence of the noted musician, a great resolve formed in his mind.

Quickly, lest he should become fainthearted, he drew his bow across the strings. Then softly and tenderly he played the strains of an old familiar hymn, - "Jesus, I May Cross Have Taken."

As he finished playing, Mr. Van Fossen arose and led him to the door. "My chance to win the violin is gone, Mother," said William a little later, as he told her the story. "I did not play the piece on which I had practiced, for I wanted to win him for Jesus, and now I have lost everything.

But just as the sun was touching with golden fingers the peaks of the distant hills, and painting the sky with myriads of wonderful colors, a note was delivered to William. The words of the message were, "Come and see me at once- Frederick Van Fossen." Breathlessly, William entered for the second time the beautiful studio of the noted individual. Would he be angry with him?

"My boy," said the old gentleman, Why did you play that hymn for me today?" As William told of his accepting Jesus as his saviour, and explaining his desire to "Win One" for Him, the tears trickled down the man's chest.

"That was my mother's favorite hymn," he said. "When you played it this afternoon, I fancied I heard her voice calling me to take Jesus as my Saviour. My boy, your Captain is my Captain. This day begins a new life for me. Here is the violin. You have not only won it, but you have "Won One" for the Lord Jesus."

-Exchange

**KIDS CORNER
BIBLE ALPHABET QUIZ**

by T.V. LaKahmaiah

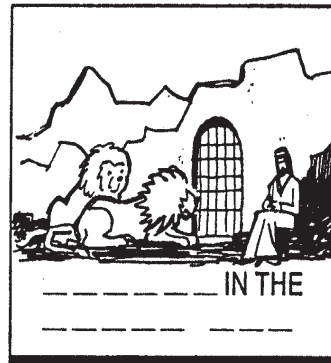
- A - The first person to die _____
- B - Where Daniel was prime minister _____
- C - Famous trees of Lebanon _____
- D - The shepherd king _____
- E - He fell from the third story _____
- F - Where Paul found refuge in a storm _____
- G - The big man killed by a small stone _____
- H - Caused the death of David's son _____
- I - The father of Esau _____
- J - His daughter was restored to life _____
- K - A brook near Jerusalem _____
- L - The priests of Israel _____
- M - The girl who watched at a river _____
- N - The king who dreamed of an image _____
- O - Sister-in-law of Ruth _____
- P - Feast of the Exodus _____
- Q - A guard of four Romans soldiers _____
- R - Jacob's eldest son _____
- S - City destroyed by fire _____
- T - God's tenth _____
- U - A king of Judah _____
- V - The queen before Esther _____
- W - Where Israelites hung their harps _____
- X - A great Persian king _____
- Y - Implement used with oxen _____
- Z - A priest of David's time _____

Answers to Bible Quiz

Abel, Babylon; Cedars; David; Euthchus; Fair Havens; Goliath; Hair Cabsalom's hair was in the branches of a tree when he was being chased); Isaac; Jairus; Kidron; Levites; Miriam; Nebuchadnezzar; Orpah; Passover; Quaternion; Reuben; Sodom; Tithe; Uzziah; Vashti; Wil-lows; Zerzes; Yoke; Zadok.

PICTURE SCRAMBLE

The pictures on our class wall are fine, but they need titles. Can you unscramble the words underneath each picture and put the right title in the picture?

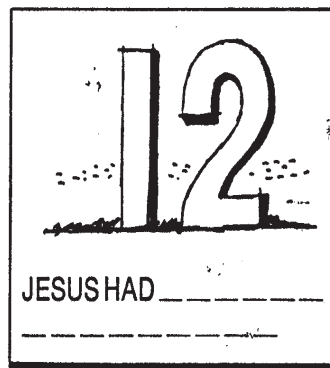


_____ IN THE

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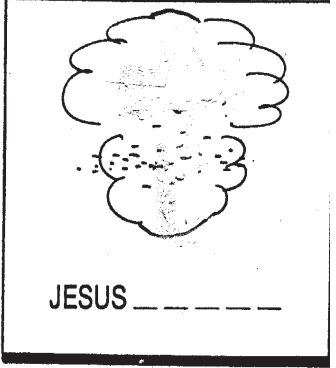


_____ PLAYS
HIS _____



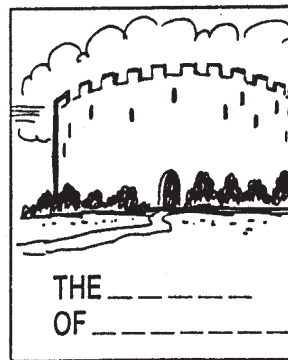
JESUS HAD _____

WEELVT SLIDSCPE



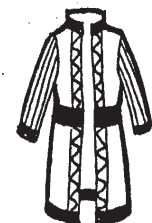
JESUS _____

VESAS



THE _____
OF _____

SLAWL CHIREJO



_____ COAT
OF MANY _____

SHOPJES LOCSOR

Proverbs 2:1-11

My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints. Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path. When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee.