



The Advocate of Truth



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Web site: www.churchofgod-7thday.org

Del DeLong

Bond Tennant.....Editorial Staff

Gary Mills Managing Editor

Ludina Mills.....Children's Page Editor

Fred Hardman Printer

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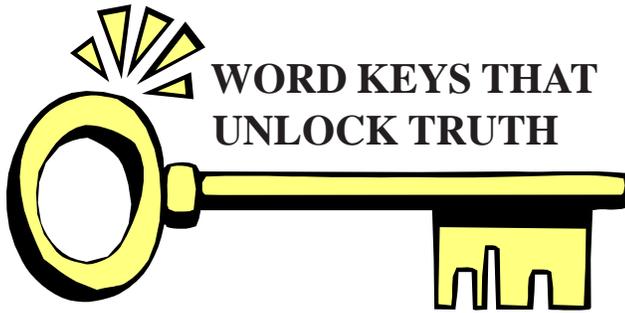
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**WE WISH ALL OF OUR MOTHERS A
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY.**



WORD KEYS THAT UNLOCK TRUTH

CHASTEN

Webster's New World Dictionary defines chasten as to punish in order to correct or make better. Chasten also is defined as to make purer in style or to refine. The chastening of the Lord is not a curse. It is truly a blessing from God. "Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O Lord,..." (Psalm 94:12).

Chastening is proof that we are the sons of God. "Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the Lord thy God chasteneth thee" (Deuteronomy 8:5). In Proverbs 3:11-12, we read, "My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth." Many worldly children complain when they are chastened (corrected) by their earthly fathers. This must not be so with children of God! Hebrews 12:7 tells children of God to endure chastening from God, "If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?" Continuing on, we read in verse eight, "But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons."

Chastening is proof of the Father's love. "And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you

as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth" (Hebrews 12:5-6). "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore and repent" (Revelation 3:19).

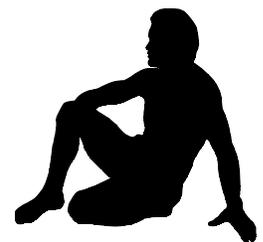
Why is it necessary for children of God to be chastened by their Father? The chastening of the Lord frees them from condemnation with the world, "For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world" (I Corinthians 11:31-32). Chastening makes children of God partakers of His holiness. "Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness" (Hebrews 12:9-10). Chastening yields the peaceable fruits of righteousness. "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" (Hebrews 12:11). The attitude with which children of God accept the chastening of the Lord is important. They must recognize that it is for their development.

In chastening His children, God does not deal with them harshly - but gently with love of a Father. "Behold happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty: For he maketh sore, and bindeth up: he woundeth, and his hands make whole" (Job 5:17-18).

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

By Bond Tennant

"And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and de-



parted, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when

he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise" (Luke 10:30-37).

This lawyer, being "...willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbor?" (verse 29) Jesus gave him an answer by illustration. When He had finished, the lawyer knew who his neighbor was. This was a beautiful reflection of the mercy of God in Christ Jesus coming into contact with a destitute sinner.

This "certain man" experienced three-fold misery. He was stripped of his raiment. He was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, a distance of about eighteen miles. He fell among thieves and was stripped. There are many thieves in this world. All who fall to the clutches of sin and iniquity are sure to be stripped of their dignity. The devil, Satan, is still "...seeking whom he may devour" (I Peter 5:8).

This "certain man" was wounded. He probably sustained his wounds trying to withstand the robbers. The morally wounded and disabled in the battle of life are found lying everywhere along the highways and byways of life. They are found in the city slums, stripped of their reputations, and having their hopes and prospects shattered.

This "certain man" was "half-dead." All he could do was wait and pray, waiting for someone with compassion and a loving heart. To be half hearted about anything is to be half-dead to the matter. With regard to the things eternal, how many are half-dead and unconscious of it? "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:16).

Let us not condemn this poor outcast, for what would we be if the Lord Jesus, our Good Samaritan, had not found us? We were poor sinners. "Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are

called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world" (Ephesians 2:11-12).

In the priest, the Levite, and the Samaritan, we see three different attitudes toward the helpless and unfortunate. The priest passed by on the other side. Perhaps he was on his way home from the Temple services. In the discharge of his ceremonial duties, he is very punctilious; however a needy, dying man by the wayside is unworthy of his notice. He would be "...weighed in the balances, and ...found wanting" (Daniel 5:27). It was a sacred duty of a man of his profession.

There is interested curiosity. "And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side" (Luke 10:32). This kind is inquisitive but not compassionate. They want to know, but they do not want to help. The Levite also would be "weighed in the balances, and ... found wanting." The priest and the Levite were men that should be concerned about the helpless and the hurting. However, they had their duties that were more important in their own estimation.

There is practical sympathy. This is what the Samaritan had. The "...Samaritan...came where he was and .. had compassion on him" (vv. 33-35). The Jews would have no dealings with the Samaritans, but the Samaritan had mercy on the half-dead Jew. This is the point of this parable. A despised one compassionately shows mercy, saving the one that was at enmity with him. This manifests the love of God in Christ Jesus which stoops to show mercy with a self-sacrifice that slays the enmity. "And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby" (Ephesians 2:16).

The good Samaritan bears the features of the despised Jesus. "...He...came where he was..." (Luke 10:33). Jesus Christ comes to us right where we are. In our sinful condition, we could do nothing for ourselves. "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). Christ came to "...seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

"...He had compassion on him" (Luke 10:33). His heart was moved toward him. The salvation of Christ was heart-work. "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" (Galatians 2:20).

"...He bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine..." (Luke 10:34). Although we are full of wounds, Christ can bind up and heal. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18).

He "...set him on his own beast..." (Luke 10:34). Those whom the Lord lifts up are also set in His own place. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (I John 3:2).

He "...brought him to an inn..." (Luke 10:34). Those who are saved of the Lord find shelter and new friend-

ships.

He "...took care of him" (V. 34). We can be sure that God through Jesus will take care of us. "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you" (I Peter 5:7).

He left a promise concerning him. "And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee" (Luke 10:35). Jesus has left enough for our needs during His absence.

"For 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).

"He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked" (I John 2:6).

"..., Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40).

WHY THE DEATH OF CHRIST IS IMPORTANT



1. It is by the death of Christ that we are cleansed and freed from all sin. *"For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins"* (Matthew 26:28). *"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed"* (I Peter 2:24).

2. It is by the death of Christ that we are accepted and reconciled to God and have peace with God. *"To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption though his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace"* (Ephesians 1:6-7). *"And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by*

him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven" (Colossians 1:20).

3. It is by the death of Christ that we are justified. *"Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him"* (Romans 5:9).

4. It is by the death of Christ that we are redeemed. *"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins"* (Colossians 1:14). *"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time"* (I Timothy 2:5-6).

5. It is by the death of Christ that we are delivered from death. *"But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel"* (II Timothy 1:10). *"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man"* (Hebrews 2:9).

6. It is by the death of Christ that we are delivered from condemnation. *"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us"* (Romans 8:34).

7. It is by the death of Christ that we are delivered from the curse of the law. *"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree"* (Galatians 3:13). *"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons"* (Galatians 4:4-5).

8. It is by the death of Christ that we are delivered from the judgment and wrath to come. *"And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come"* (I Thessalonians 1:10). *"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him"* (I Thessalonians 5:9-10).

9. It is by the death of Christ that we are delivered from this present evil world. *"Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father"* (Galatians 1:4).

10. It is by the death of Christ that we are given all things. *"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely*

give us all things?" (Romans 8:32).

11. It is by the death of Christ that those without strength are saved. *"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly"* (Romans 5:6).

12. It is by the death of Christ that sinners are saved. *"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:8).

13. It is by the death of Christ that the enemies of God are saved. *"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life"* (Romans 5:10).

14. It is by the death of Christ that the unjust are saved. *"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us unto God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit"* (I Peter 3:18).

15. It is by the death of Christ that the great love of God is revealed to us. *"And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour"* (Ephesians 5:2).

16. It is by the death of Christ that we are freed from a self-centered life to live for him. *"And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again"* (II Corinthians 5:15). *"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"* (Galatians 2:20).

17. It is by the death of Christ that we are taught to love and sacrifice our lives for others. *"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren"* (I John 3:16).

18. It is by the death of Christ that our conscience is

genuinely cleared so that we can serve God and bear fruit. *"Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works"* (Titus 2:14). *"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?"* (Hebrews 9:14).

19. It is by the death of Christ that we know the power of God. *"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God"* (I Corinthians 1:18).

20. It is by the death of Christ that we are enabled to purge our old sins. *"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us"* (I Corinthians 5:7).

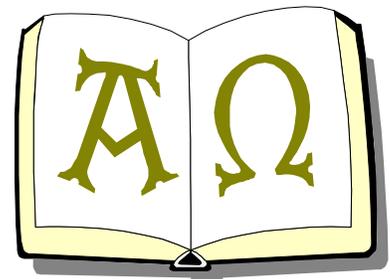
21. It is by the death of Christ that He gained the right to be exalted as the Lord of the dead and living. *"For to this end, Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living"* (Romans 14:9). *"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God"* (Hebrews 12:2).

22. It is by the death of Christ that the Church of God was purchased. *"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with this own blood"* (Acts 20:28). *"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it"* (Ephesians 5:25).

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN JESUS RETURNS?



By Carol Buechner



The Bible explains the return of Jesus in first Thessalonians, chapter four. "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope" (verse 13). It is important to stop here and clarify the meaning of the word asleep. This is explained in John 11:11-14: "These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is DEAD." It is plain that the passage in Thessalonians is

referring to the dead just as Lazarus was dead, not just sleeping.

Returning to the passage in Thessalonians, chapter four, "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (verses 15-18). This is stated in I

Corinthians 15:51-52: "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

When the Lord comes back to the earth, He descends from heaven with a shout, accompanied by the voice of the archangel and the trump of God. Those faithful ones throughout the ages who have died are then raised from the dead and will join those faithful ones who are still living at the time, and all are taken up into the clouds to meet Jesus. Jesus will always be with those faithful ones, and they have much to look forward to as saints of God. Did you notice how quickly this happens? It can't be much faster than the twinkling of an eye. Think of the ones left standing witnessing this great event taking place but not being able to participate. Also notice that the saints did not come down from heaven. Many people believe that a person goes to heaven immediately when he dies, but this goes against what is spoken of in Thessalonians. If a person is in heaven how can he arise from the grave at the coming of Jesus?

Jesus spoke of this return in John 14:2-3: "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." This is what Jesus has promised for all the saints through all the ages. Not only did Jesus speak of this, but it was promised as He ascended into the heavens following His own earthly resurrection. "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:9-11).

Revelation has something to say about those saints that will be fortunate enough to be a part of the first resurrection. "...Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them" (14:13). "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power,

but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years" (20:6).

Jesus spoke repeatedly of this event which He termed "the last day." "And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day...No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day...Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life...Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:39-40,44,47,54). In John chapter six, Jesus spoke several times about eternal life and raising the dead on "the last day". That would be when Jesus returns to the earth to gather all of His faithful saints from all ages as was explained in first Thessalonians four. It all happens at one time on one day not on an individual basis. In Hebrews chapter eleven, many of the faithful of old times are spoken of and their great faith. Does it say that Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Joshua are in heaven? "And these all, having obtained a good report through faith RECEIVED NOT THE PROMISE: God having provided some better thing for us, that THEY WITHOUT US SHOULD NOT BE MADE PERFECT" (verses 39-40). It plainly states that they have not gone to heaven but are waiting in their graves for Jesus to come and will be raised when Jesus returns along with all other faithful saints of the past. Everyone receives the reward at the same time, on "that day."

As you have seen in previous scriptures, the saints have been taken to reign with Christ for one thousand years (Revelation 20:6) and have been granted eternal life. Where will this reign take place? "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:2). "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" (Revelation 22:14; 21:4). When Jesus comes to retrieve all saints, dead and alive, He is bringing the New Jerusa-

lem with Him as a habitation for all the saints. Open your Bible to read the description of it in Revelation chapter twenty-one, and you will see what a wonderful place it will be.

Is this resurrection for everyone? Consider the following scriptures to see what the answer is. "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared FOR THEM THAT LOVE HIM" (I Corinthians 2:9). "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them all that LOVE HIS APPEARING." (II Timothy 4:8) "But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the

hope FIRM UNTO THE END" (Hebrews 3:6). "And, Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, TO GIVE EVERY MAN ACCORDING AS HIS WORK SHALL BE" (Revelation 22:12). This great time of resurrection of the dead and joining with the living to meet with Jesus is for those who love him, are living a righteous life by keeping his commandments and all that is written in His Word. Those who are living in sin will be left looking up in regret. If there is anything in your life now that you know is not right, now is the time to take care of it because Jesus could come at any time. When that shout is made by Jesus, it will be too late. The change will happen in the "twinkling of an eye," and there will be no time for excuses to be made. Jesus and His saints will be gone.

REVERENCE AT ALL TIMES



By Bibi Shimon Allicock



This is a collection of Bible verses which show us how we should conduct ourselves before the Lord.

"For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods" (Psalm 96:4). Therefore, we must show deep respect unto Him at all times. He is no respecter of persons, and He will be gracious and show mercy to whom He wishes. Read Acts 10:34 and Exodus 33:19. If we do whatsoever we have to do in sincerity and truth, He will definitely be there for us. "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine" (Exodus 19:5).

"Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away. For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away, unless they cause some to fall. For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence. But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is as darkness; they

know not at what they stumble" (Proverbs 4:14-19).

"What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry. The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken. Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate. The Lord redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate" (Psalms 34:12-22).

When we are in church, we behave the best. When

we are with our friends or some place else, we forget how to behave. Many times we think that we can do what our hearts desire, but we must realize that God acknowledges our every movement, and we will be rewarded accordingly.

We give reverence to our earthly parents when we are being chastened, how much better it is to give reverence to God. "For our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:29). "In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind." "With him is wisdom and strength, He hath counsel and understanding. Behold, he breaketh down, and it cannot be built again: he shutteth up a man, and there can be no opening. Behold, he withholdeth the waters, and they dry up; also he sendeth them out, and they overturn the earth. With him is strength and wisdom: the deceived and the deceiver are his. He leadeth counselors away spoiled, and maketh the judges fools. He looseth the bond of kings, and girdeth their loins with a girdle. He leadeth princes away spoiled, and overthroweth the mighty. He removeth away the speech of the trusty, and taketh away the understanding of the aged. He poureth contempt upon princes, and weakeneth the strength of the mighty. He discovereth deep things out of darkness, and bringeth out to the light the shadow of death. He increaseth the nations, and destroyeth them: he enlargeth the nations, and straiteneth them again. He taketh away the heart of the chief of the people of the earth, and causeth them to wander in a wilderness where there is no way. They grope in the dark without light, and he maketh them to stagger like a drunken man" (Job 12:10, 13-25).

"Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God" (I Corinthians 4:5). "Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness" (Hebrews 12:9-10). "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear" (verse 28).

"Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of

fools: for they consider not that they do evil. Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few. For a dream cometh through the multitude of business; and a fool's voice is known by multitude of words. When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay. Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands? For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities; but fear thou God" (Ecclesiastes 5:1-7).

"A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the Lord of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name? Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the Lord is contemptible. And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor, will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the Lord of hosts. And now, I pray you, beseech God that he will be gracious unto us: this hath been by your means; will he regard your persons? saith the Lord of hosts. Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for nought? neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the Lord of hosts, neither will I accept an offering at your hand. For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye have profaned it, in that ye say, The table of the Lord is polluted; and the fruit thereof, even his meat, is contemptible. Ye said also, behold, what a weariness is it! And ye have snuffed at it, saith the Lord of hosts; and ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering: should I accept this of your hand? Saith the Lord. But cursed be the deceiver, which hath in his flock a male, and voweth, and sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing: for I am a great King, saith the Lord of hosts, and my

name is dreadful among the heathen" (Malachi 1:6-14).

"And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the Lord of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart. Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it. And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the Lord of hosts. My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name. The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity. For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the Lord of hosts. Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as you have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law. Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers? Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the Lord which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god. The Lord will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the Lord of hosts. And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand. Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did he not make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment,

saith the Lord of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously. Ye have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Everyone that doeth evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?" (Malachi 2:1-17)

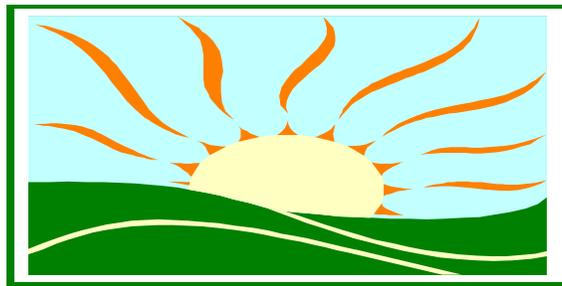
"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts. For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightful land, saith the Lord of hosts. Your words have been stout against me, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee? Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before

the Lord of hosts? And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered. 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. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not" (Malachi 3:1-18).

"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. But unto you that fear my name shall the Son of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts" (Malachi 4:1-3).

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

TOMORROW?



"And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" (Luke 12:16-20).

"Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." (James 4:13-14).

What about tomorrow? Most people give little thought about tomorrow. Most live as though tomorrow will always come, as though life never ends. People are al-

ways making plans for retirement, plans for vacation, plans to send the kids through college. Most people even plan and make provision for their families when life for them comes to an end. But many fail to make plans for their life after death.

One of America's most loved leaders was planning for the future. He had everything to live for and thought tomorrow would be just another day in the life of a president. However one day, John F. Kennedy and the Governor of Texas were riding in a parade in Dallas when the young president, John F. Kennedy, was shot and killed. Tomorrow never came for John F. Kennedy! This happened in 1963. The rich man in Luke's Gospel failed in three ways. Many today are making the same mistakes that he made.

The rich man presumed on the future. "And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for

many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry" (Luke 12:17-19). Yes, he presumed on the future! He thought tomorrow was going to come no matter what.

No doubt he had plenty. He was rich and didn't want for anything. He had a fine house, a large farm, and many servants working for him. His crop was so great he had to tear down his barns and build bigger ones. Everything seemed to be going right. Nothing could go wrong. He had his future all planned out. He presumed tomorrow was going to come. That is the way it is today. When things are going the way we want them to and no difficulties are coming our way, we presume on the future, thinking tomorrow always comes.

Luke 15 tells of another who presumed on the future. The young man took all his fortune and left home. As long as he had his wealth and health, everything was fine. But soon his wealth was gone and so were his friends. Then he was placed in a position where he lost or was losing his health. Let us remember that we can't presume on the future because we don't know what tomorrow holds!

The Book of Daniel tells of a king who thought he had his future all laid out. Then one night Belshazzar threw a party and called for the holy vessels to be brought to him from the Temple. And he defiled them. He presumed on the future. He thought tomorrow would come, but then he saw the handwriting on the wall. That night his life was taken from him.

Death shows no partiality. It doesn't care whether you are a king or a beggar. It doesn't matter whether you stand high on the social ladder and have lots of friends and lots of money or whether you don't have anything. When death comes your way, you will go.

The rich man presumed he had a long life ahead of him. But the Lord called him a fool. It wasn't because he had much goods laid up, and it wasn't because he built bigger barns to hold these goods. It is all right to plan for the future when you plan right. But this man forgot God. God doesn't take second place for anyone. God must come first in all things. The problem with this man was that he said, "Soul...take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." Everything was fine, except he left out God. The Lord told him, "...this night thy soul shall be required of thee..." (v. 20).

We plan for the future by saving money and buying stocks. We plan by paying into the social security program. We plan by making sure we have plenty of insur-

ance so our family will be taken care of. But many neglect to plan for their eternal security until it is too late.

Acts 5 tells of a couple who had their future planned. They thought they had many years ahead of them, but they failed to plan for tomorrow, and they died. What Ananias and Sapphira did wrong was that they lied to God and the Holy Spirit!

What about tomorrow? If you knew you were going to die tomorrow and you had an opportunity to become assured of eternal life today, what would you do? Accept Christ today and obey His commandments while you still have the time to be assured of eternal life!

Contributed

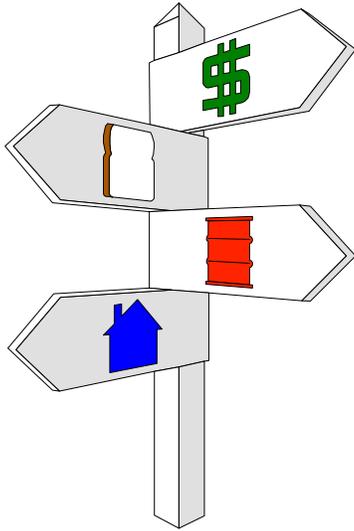
TBC Today - Whadaya Expect From A Miraculous Book?

"Two Philistine temples have been uncovered by archaeologists...Both temples share a unique design - the roof was supported by two central pillars!

"The pillars were made of wood and rested on stone support bases. With the pillars being about six feet apart, a strong man could dislodge them from their stone bases and bring the entire roof crashing down. The archaeological findings match the Biblical story perfectly...

"The Bible writer knew his facts. He knew that Philistine temples were supported by two pillars and that this was how Samson pulled the temple down. The report is that of an eyewitness, again demonstrating that indeed the Bible is the world's most accurate textbook" (Wood, "Samson and the temple for Dagon," "Bible and Spade." 1974, pp. 53-54).

The Berean Call
- from the internet



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.

POLL: OVER HALF SAY IT'S OK TO LIE TO AVOID HURT FEELINGS

They think white lies are an acceptable, even crucial, part of life

**by Jocelyn Noveck
Associated Press**

It can be hard to get people to face the truth sometimes. Especially about lying.

You don't want your kids to eat too much, so you say all the cookies are gone. You don't feel like going out, so you tell your date something important came up. You're overloaded with errands, so you call in sick.

Lies, all of them - but we don't really like calling them that. In a new Associated Press-Ipsos poll, over half of respondents said lying was never justified. Yet in the same poll, up to two-thirds said it as OK to lie in certain situations, like protecting someone's feelings.

Apparently white lies are an acceptable, even necessary, part of many lives - even though there is wide dislike of lying.

Rebecca Campbell knew exactly what she

was doing when she recently told her 4-year-old son that there were no more cartoons on television. And she didn't like it.

"One day, he'll probably figure it out," she says. "There are cartoons on all the time!"

She knew that telling him the truth would have been better, though more time-consuming, as discipline often is.

"It's the easy trap of a life," she says carefully. "It's easier that telling the truth."

Nearly two-thirds of Americans agree.

In the AP-Ipsos poll, 65 percent of those questioned said it was sometimes OK to lie to avoid hurting someone's feelings, even though 52 percent said lying overall, was never justified.

Among these 52 percent, if he'd been alive and reachable, would have been the 18th century German philosopher Immanuel Kant, who believed all lying was bad -0- every single lie, even one that could save someone's life.

But most moral philosophers would disagree, assures noted ethics columnist Randy Cohen.

"Not only is lying justified, it is sometimes a moral duty," says Cohen. An obvious ex-

ample is when you're lying to protect someone from serious harm.

Of course, there are inherent problems with any study that asks people to be honest about, well, being dishonest.

RESULTS

In the poll of 1,000 adults taken June 23-27: *Four in 10 people said it was OK sometimes to exaggerate a story to make it more interesting;

*About a third said it was OK to lie about your age;

*A third also said it was OK to sometimes lie about being sick to take a day off work.

COMMENT

All children of God would confirm that telling a lie, even a little white lie, to avoid hurting a friend's feelings is wrong. But it is one of the easiest things to do because people sometimes do not know what else to do.

Let us be on our guard to catch ourselves before we tell a lie.

AGAIN, IRAN'S LEADER CALLS FOR ISRAEL'S END

**In a march with a million others,
he renews criticism of the West**

**by Ali Akbar Dareini
ASSOCIATED PRESS**

TEHRAN, IRAN - Iran's ultraconservative president - spurning international outrage over his recent remarks about Israel - joined more than a million demonstrators who

flooded the streets of the capital and other major cities Friday to back his call for the destruction of the Jewish state.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad stood fast behind his assertion that Israel should be wiped off the map and repeated the call during a nationwide protest Friday, the Muslim day of prayer.

But in an apparent attempt to blunt international outrage over Ahmadinejad's comments, the Iranian Embassy in Moscow issued a statement saying the Iranian leader did not want to "engage in a conflict."

Marching alongside the protesters, the 47-year-old former mayor and onetime Republican Guard commander renewed his criticism of the West.

"They become upset when they hear any voice of truth seeking. They think they are the absolute rulers of the world," he said during the al-Quads - or Jerusalem - Day protest.

His fellow marchers carried placards reading "Death to Israel, death to America."

It is not uncommon for an Iranian president to join marches in the capital. Ahmadinejad was accompanied by five bodyguards, but otherwise security is not out of the ordinary for such an event.

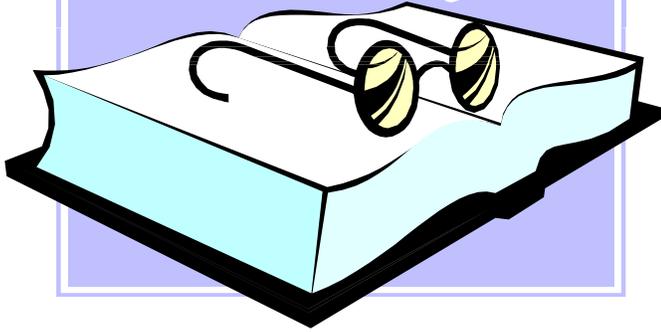
Despite Ahmadinejad's harsh attacks on the West, former President Hashemi Rafsanjani tried to dial back the rhetoric, suggesting that Israelis and Palestinians hold a referendum to decide the future of Israeli-Palestinians' relations.

COMMENT

There is just no end, nor will there ever be in this age, to the Arab call for the destruction of Israel.

BIBLE

Study



Questions and Answers

Question: Will you please explain the first part of Ephesians 4:26?

Answer: This question is often asked. Let us write out this short clause, "Be ye angry, and sin not."

This sentence comes in the middle of a chapter that includes many teachings on character and conduct. It should be noted that it recognizes "anger" as a natural expression but also recognizes that the expression of anger needs to be controlled and directed.

Several ministers were given this text to study and prepare thoughts on it. It received a variety of responses. Most answers had to do with "anger" rather than "sin". Typical answers were: "Do not let anger destroy your faith." "Use only responses that are not angry." "Use appropriate anger." "Practice restraint." "Do not carry grudges." One minister said, "This would be good to practice in marriages." Some felt that this verse meant that we should seek forgiveness or that we need forgiveness. All were good answers. Let us go a little further with this text.

Part of our makeup by creation is to have anger. Those who say that "anger" has not been a problem for them might do well to reevaluate themselves. It is possible that they are blocking out or denying the presence of anger. When such emotions are denied or repressed, they still exist and will result in feelings of guilt, headaches, or other

physical symptoms. To those who admit they have anger to be a problem, it is the first step in conquering anger. Not to be angry in the presence of evil, cruelty, injustice, and the practice of sins is, in itself, very wrong and a sin. It is a sign of weakness and not of strength.

Recognize the fact that God the Father in heaven has been angry. Jesus was angry when he threw out the money changers from the temple because they had desecrated His Father's House. Prophets and saints in the Bible were often angry. Leaders of reform have been angry. There are times when anger produces good results. There are times when anger can be very harmful, destructive and definitely evil. Anger that is running wild and is vindictive and malicious is dangerous. This is malicious sin. Never let anger become a "...sin which doth so easily beset us..." (Hebrews 12:1).

Get anger out of your system before another day approaches. Let us ask the Lord to help us to be angry, but not to sin. Let us understand our anger. Let us control our anger. Let us work off our anger. But let us never harm another person with our anger. Let us find ways in which our anger can be used creatively.

Question: Since the Kingdom of God will function here on the earth, what did Jesus mean when He told Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world" in John 18:36?

Answer: When Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world," He spoke of the origin and makeup of the Kingdom. His Kingdom will not be sponsored by the governments of the world, nor will its influence become operative through the use of worldly methods. Jesus himself explained, "...If my kingdom were of his world then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence" (John 18:36).

As a rule, worldly governments and nations are established by force of arms. It is in this sense that Jesus said that His Kingdom would not be of this world. It was in keeping with this statement that Jesus did not permit His servants to fight for him in order to prevent his arrest and death. Peter indicated his willingness to do this, but Jesus instructed him to put his sword away; that if He wished He could ask His Father, and He would send twelve legions of angels to protect Him.

On the other hand, Jesus' Kingdom authority and power will operate here on the earth, and for the purpose of putting down all rebellion against the divine will and the righteous laws of the Creator. It will be when this mission is complete that the prayers, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven," will be fully answered.

During that Kingdom reign, all enemies of God and man will be destroyed. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. Jesus' footstep followers will reign with Him in that Kingdom. These will have come from the earth, but their training for their high positions is not in the use of guns and other implements of war, but in the development of love, a love that leads to sacrifice, even as was true in the case of Jesus.

Question: Can you explain why Joshua's spies went to a harlot's house? Why did they not go to some "morally good" house? Could it be that "harlot" had a different meaning in Bible times?

Answer: There has been no change in the meaning of the word "harlot." Perhaps Rahab was the only person in Jericho who was willing to receive the spies. In our day, many "morally good" homes deny the Lord Jesus.

When our Lord was here on earth, His enemies complained that He received sinners and ate with them. "But

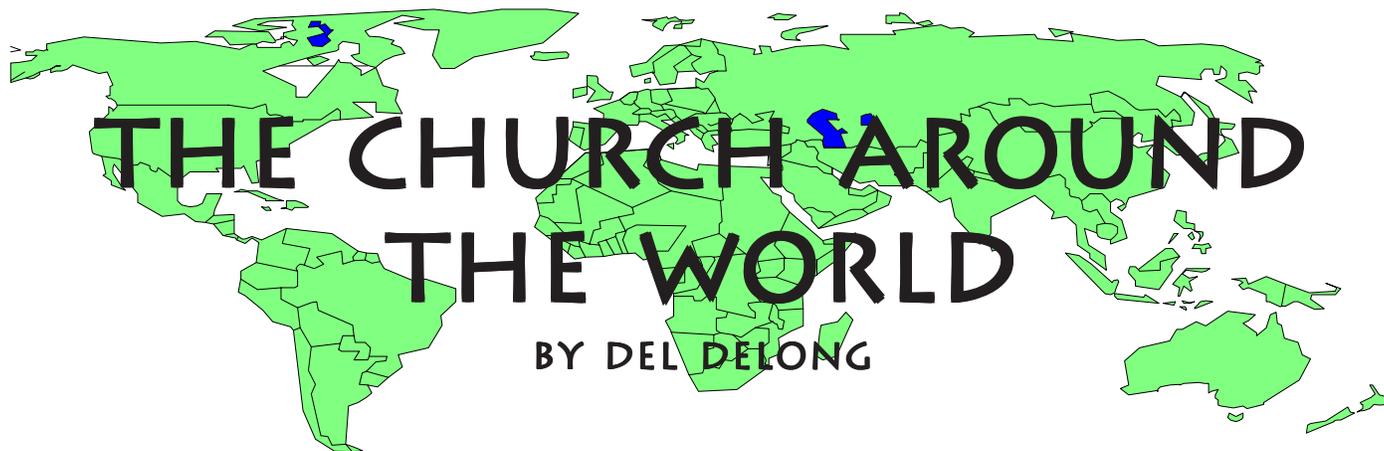
their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners? And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:30-32). In Matthew 21:31-32, He told them, "..., Verily I say unto you, that the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him." The vital difference between Rahab and the "morally good" people in Jericho was that while she and they were all sinners, she was a believing sinner and they were unbelieving sinners.

Consider how far the grace of God went in the case of Rahab. She has a place among those of faith listed Hebrews. "By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace" (Hebrews 11:31).

Question: I am curious as to how the Prophet Elijah was able to find twelve barrels of water for drenching his sacrifice on Mount Carmel after three and a half years of drought. Do you have any ideas?

Answer: "Let us read of the incident recorded in I Kings 18:33-35: "And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood. And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time. And the water ran around about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water."

It has been pointed out that there are springs on Carmel which in modern times are never dry. Of course, these might have dried up after so long a time without rain. However, scarcely fifteen miles away from the scene on Carmel there is the Mediterranean sea. Its salt water is not good to drink, but it would do very well in quenching any fire but the fire of God. To transport fifteen barrels of water for fifteen miles would present no difficulty. We can rest assured that the water was there because the Word of God records the fact.



San Antonio, Texas

*The Church of God (7th Day) Youth Retreat
will be held on June 24th - June 26th for boys,
June 26th - June 28th for girls, and
June 29th - July 1st for young adults.*

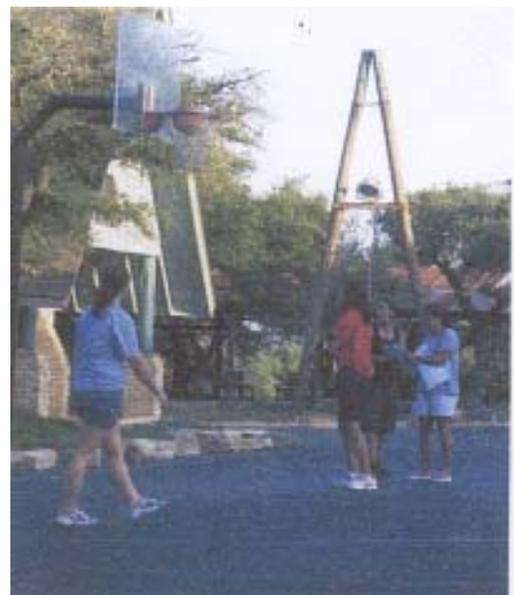
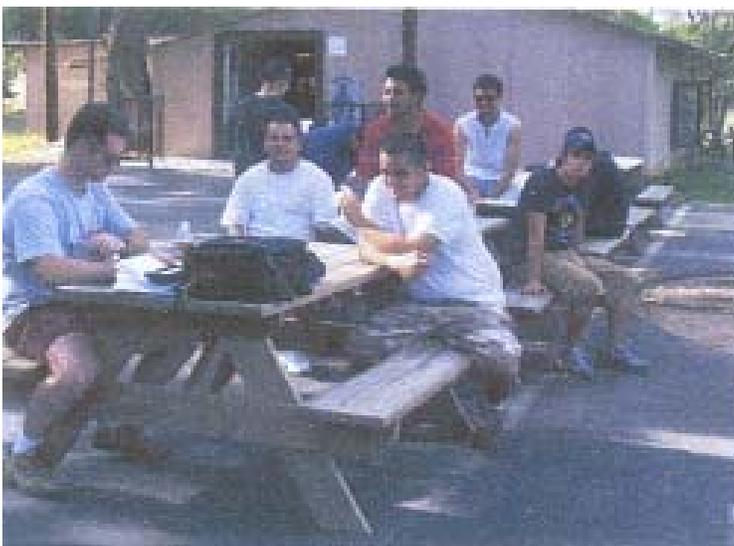


Thank you for planning to join us for a fellowship of praise and worship at our annual youth retreat!!

Activities are swimming/hiking, tournaments, obstacle courses, campfire, sack races, kick ball, and much, much more.

Not only are we determined to make this spiritually uplifting, but also fun. There are group discussions, praise and worship time, and real life testimonies. Guest speakers will discuss this year's theme, "Dare To Be A Daniel" which will be concluded by the San Antonio ministers Tim Buechner and Mario Cantu.

The Church of God (7th Day) in San Antonio is blessed to conduct another youth retreat. Through the power of prayer and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, this event has grown from a simple idea to a reality. That reality has blossomed to almost 10 years of successful spiritual fellowship.



LESSON I

DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN (PART 1)

Scripture Reading: Daniel 6:1-15.

Golden Text: Daniel 6:11.

"Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God."

NOTE: We have been studying about Daniel, and in our last lesson, we learned how he helped interpret the strange handwriting that appeared on the wall. He became an important leader under the new king, Darius. We will now find out more about the life of Daniel.

1. What were Daniel's duties while working for King Darius? Daniel 6:1-3.
2. Who wanted to find fault with Daniel, and could they find anything he did wrong? Daniel 6:4.
3. What did the Presidents and Princes decide to find against Daniel? Daniel 6:5.
4. What did the Presidents and Princes suggest that King Darius do? Daniel 6:6-8.
5. Did King Darius agree to sign this new decree? Daniel 6:9.
6. What did Daniel do when he heard of the new law? Daniel 6:10.
7. What did the Presidents and Princes do when they saw Daniel praying? Daniel 6:11-13.
8. When the king heard what Daniel had done, what did he feel? Daniel 6:14-15.

LESSON II

DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN (PART II)

Scripture Reading: Daniel 6:16-28.

Golden Text: Daniel 6:19.

"Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions."

NOTE: In our last lesson we studied about how the leaders under King Darius were envious of Daniel and wanted to find fault with him. These leaders persuaded King Darius to sign a decree that stated if anyone bowed down to a God instead of the King, they would be put in the den of lions. Daniel continued to pray to God, and we will now study to find out what happens to Daniel.

1. When Daniel is thrown into the lion's den, what does the King say to him? Daniel 6:16.
2. What does he do to the entrance of the den? Daniel 6:17.
3. Explain what the king does all that night and the next morning? Daniel 6:18-20.
4. How did God protect Daniel from the hungry lions? Daniel 6:21-22.
5. What did the king order to be done with Daniel, and was Daniel harmed in anyway? Daniel 6:23.
6. What did King Darius do with Daniel's accusers? Daniel 6:24.
7. What did King Darius proclaim through the land? Daniel 6:25-27.
8. Did Daniel prosper after this time? Daniel 6:28.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!

LESSON III

JOB (PART 1)

Scripture Reading: Job 1.

Golden Text: Job 1:22.

"In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly."

NOTE: We will learn about a man named Job and his relationship with God. We can learn much from his example.

- 1. For what is Job noted? James 5:11.
- 2. What did the Lord say about the goodness of Job? Job 1:8.
- 3. Why did Satan believe that Job feared God? Job 1:9-11.
- 4. Throughout all of his trials, did Job turn against God? Job 1:22.
- 5. What was Job's bodily affliction? Job 2:7.
- 6. Who were Job's three friends? Job 2:11.
- 7. Had Job feared that some awful thing would befall him? Job 3:25-26.

LESSON IV

JOB (PART II)

Scripture Reading: Job 42.

Golden Text: Job 19:25.

"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth."

NOTE: In our last lesson, we learned about Job, who was very faithful to God. Satan believed that if Job was made to suffer, he wouldn't praise God. So the Lord let

Satan have power over Job to do as he pleased to test Job's faith. We will now finish the story to see if Job turns from God.

- 1. What did Job say about trusting the Lord? Job 13:15-16.
- 2. What was Job's great question on eternal life? Job 14:14.
- 3. Did he believe in Jesus as his Saviour and believe that in the end he would see God? Job 19:25-26.
- 4. What does the Bible say about Job's last days? Job 42:12.
- 5. How many children did Job have at last? Job 42:13.
- 6. What were his daughters' names? Job 42:14.
- 7. How long did Job live after his great experience? Job 42:16.

NOTE: This story of Job shows us that we can endure much and still praise the Lord. He will give us many blessings and the chance for eternal life if we are always true to Him.

MY MOM

Each of us can think of many things that make our moms special to us. In the space below, write some of the reasons your mom is special to you. She will enjoy reading what you have to say on this Mother's Day and for many years to come.

MOM IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...

NICER TO HELP THAN TO TELL

by Fern Row Casebeer

Grandma had come to stay with Lonnie and Lee while Daddy and Mother were away for the evening. Lonnie and Lee helped Grandma get supper. Lonnie put the plates on the table. Lee put a knife and fork and spoon by each plate. Grandma dished up food onto the plates. Then they sat down to the table and bowed their heads. Lonnie asked Jesus to bless the food. After they had eaten, Lonnie and Lee helped Grandma wash and dry the dishes.

"Will you play a game with me?" Lonnie asked when the dishes were put away.

"Yes," said Grandma. "You get your marble game, and I will play with you." For a while Lonnie laughed and had a good time playing the game with Grandma. His marbles were ahead of Grandma's most of the time. Then Grandma caught up, and it looked as if she would win the game.

Lonnie was not so happy now. He wiggled around in his chair. He made ugly faces. Finally he slid off his chair and crawled under the table. He screeched and howled and made ugly noises.

"I think it will be better to put the game away now," said Grandma. She gathered up the marbles and put them into the box. And Lonnie went off into a corner to pout.

Now Lee picked up his blocks from the floor where he had been playing with them. He put them on the little table where the marbles had been. Lee was having a good time playing with blocks. But out of the corner of his eye, Lonnie was watching Lee. Lonnie lay down on the floor and began to roll around. Finally he rolled under the table where Lee's blocks were. Then Lonnie's feet suddenly went up into the air. The end of the table went up with Lonnie's feet. And away went Lee's blocks all over the floor.

"Lonnie!" said Grandma sternly. "You must pick up Lee's blocks and put them back on the table." Slowly Lonnie gathered up the blocks and placed them on the table.

"Now, Lonnie, you may go to your room for a while and think things over," said Grandma.

In a little while Lonnie came back from his room. He snuggled up close to Grandma and whispered in her ear.

"Grandma, you won't tell Mommy how naughty I was,

will you?" he asked.

"No," said Grandma, "we won't need to tell Mommy about it."

"I won't be naughty any more," Lonnie promised. And he kept his promise.

A few days later Lonnie and Lee were spending the evening with Grandma. Lee did not want to eat his supper. He only wanted to eat cookies.

"But you must eat your bread and butter and vegetables and drink your milk before you have cookies," said Grandma.

"I do not want bread and vegetables and milk. I want cookies," was all Lee could say. And he acted very naughty.

"Grandma, you had better tell Mommy how naughty Lee is," said Lonnie. Grandma looked at Lonnie with a twinkle in her eye.

"I know a little boy, who, a few days ago, asked Grandma not to tell Mommy how naughty he had been. Do you know that little boy?" Grandma asked, smiling at Lonnie.

Lonnie smiled a faint little smile and nodded his head. Yes. He squirmed in his chair. He tipped his head first to one side and then to the other. He was thinking hard. Soon he looked up at Grandma seriously.

"Grandma," he said, "If you tell Mommy about Lee, you would have to tell about me, too, wouldn't you?" "That is right," said Grandma. "If I tell on Lee, I must tell on you." Lonnie squirmed and thought some more. Then he looked at Grandma and smiled.

"Grandma, I guess you better not tell Mommy about Lee," he said. Then he began to help Lee. He told Lee how good the vegetables were. He coaxed Lee to eat his supper.

"Grandma will give you cookies after you eat your bread and butter, vegetables, and drink your milk," he told Lee.

Lee began to eat. Soon the food on his place was all done. He was ready for his cookies. Then Lonnie and Lee were both happy as they ate their cookies together.

"I am glad I helped Lee to be good," said Lonnie.

"It is nicer to help others to be good than it is to tell on them, isn't it?" asked Grandma.

"Uh-huh," Lonnie nodded as he took another bite of cookie.

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

The focus of this quiz is the rich source of illustrations found in Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount," his "manifesto," as one scholar calls it. Can you supply the missing words below? Can you also match the items on the left to those on the right?

1. _____ of the world.
2. _____ set on a hill.
3. _____ and rust consume.
4. _____ of the air.
5. _____ in your eye.
6. give _____ what is holy.
7. asks for _____ for _____.
8. beware of false _____.
9. Wise man built his house on _____.

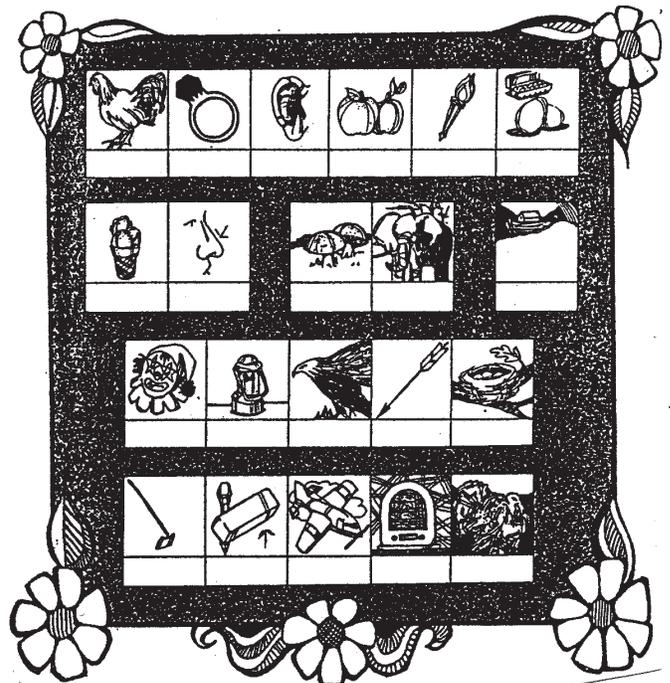
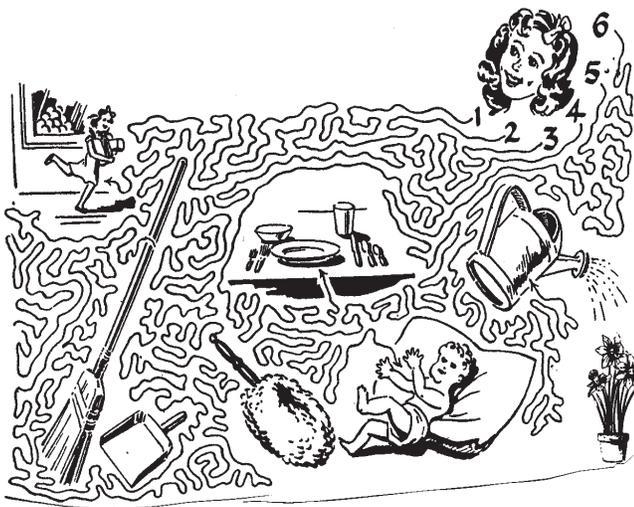
- a. know them by their _____.
- b. _____ in your brother's eye.
- c. give him a _____ or a _____.
- d. foolish man built his house on _____.
- e. _____ under a bushel.
- f. _____ of the field.
- g. _____ of the earth.
- h. _____ break in and steal.
- i. throw _____ before swine.



PICTURE PUZZLE

To do this picture puzzle take the first letter of each object pictured and put it in the blank space below the picture. You will discover a prayer from the book of Psalms.

Mary loves to help mother.
What did she do each day.



Jesus wants us to be HELPFUL each day.

ARE YOU READY?

By Carol Buechner

Are you ready for the day that is to come,
When Jesus descends from the heavens above?
He will come down for His faithful saints,
With a shout that will certainly be heard.

In a twinkling of an eye the dead shall arise,
From graves those in Christ will come alive.
They'll join those still living for Christ,
For a joyous time that will go on for eternity.

Up into the air all saints will ascend,
To join with the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.
New bodies they all will have been given -
For they'll have no more pain, nor tear, nor sorrows.

This host of saints of all times,
Will rise upward to their reward.
They see it sparkling in all its glory,
The New Jerusalem with its river of life.

What a celebration that will be,
A time to sing and praise the Lord.
Can you imagine what it will be like,
To participate in such a heavenly event?

Are you ready for that day to come,
Or are you hiding some sin that you know is wrong?
It might be too late if you don't confess and change now,
Because when Jesus comes your fate immediately will be sealed.