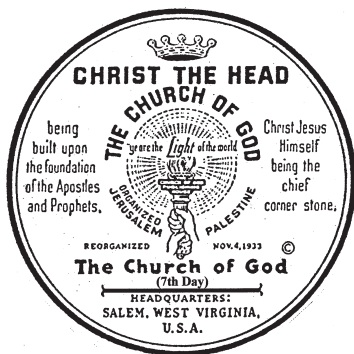




*The Advocate of Truth*





The Advocate of Truth is the official organ of The Church of God (7th Day) with headquarters at Salem, West Virginia.

It is published once a month on the fourth Monday of each month by The Church of God Publishing House, PO Box 328, Salem, West Virginia 26426. The magazine is mailed under the periodicals rate at the Post Office in Salem, West Virginia.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Your subscription is free. It is paid for by people who are concerned about the truth.

Your contributions are sincerely appreciated. You may request this periodical by sending your mailing address to this address.

#### POSTMASTER:

Please send address changes to:

**THE CHURCH OF GOD  
PUBLISHING HOUSE  
P.O. Box 328  
Salem, WV 26426-0328**

**Telephone: 304-782-1411  
Fax: 304-782-2248**

**E-Mail: [cogsevdav@aol.com](mailto:cogsevdav@aol.com)**

**Web site: [www.churchofgod-7thday.org](http://www.churchofgod-7thday.org)**

**Gary Mills ..... Managing Editor  
Ludina Mills.....Children's Page Editor  
David DeLong .....Editorial Staff  
Christy Howell .....Editorial Staff**

**Volume LXXIV                      Number 4  
September, 2025  
The Advocate of Truth  
USPS 542-940**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>PAGE</b>
<i>The Purloined Lamb .....</i>	<i>3-4</i>
<i>The Character Of God, Part I; Does God Love All People? The Apostolic Church .....</i>	<i>5-8</i>
<i>Church Around The World .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Questions And Answers .....</i>	<i>10-11</i>
<i>The Children's Pages .....</i>	<i>12-15</i>



*"And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations" (Revelation 22:1-2).*

*This month, as the season of Autumn approaches, and we enjoy the colorful leaves, may we be reminded of these verses from Revelation concerning our home, with the Lord, in the New Jerusalem.*



## ***THE PURLOINED LAMB***

*By David Royer*



*One day, the prophet Nathan delivered this tragic story to King David: "A rich man and a poor man lived in the same town. The rich man owned a lot of sheep and cattle, but the poor man had only one little lamb he had bought and raised. The lamb became a pet for him and his children. He even let it eat from his plate, drink from his cup, and sleep on his lap. The lamb was like one of his children.*

*On one occasion, a visitor arrived to see the rich man. However, the rich man didn't want to kill any of his own sheep or cattle and serve it to his visitor. So, he stole (PURLOINED) the poor man's little lamb and served it instead". (Story Source: II Samuel 12:1-4)*

*Upon hearing this story, King David became very angry and said that the rich man who committed this act deserved to die and, at the least, should restore the ewe lamb fourfold because the man did this thing and because he had no pity. (Paraphrased from II Samuel 12:5-6)*

*Nathan then announces judgment on King David: "And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man...." (Verse 7). "Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife {Bathsheba} to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife." (Verses 9-10)*

**OBJECT LESSON:** *Greedy and covetous people may turn to evil deeds to hide their sins. They justify their actions to themselves, and the voice of conscience is quickly silenced. However, the Word of God is not silenced. God's holy Scriptures clearly state that those who sin shall be punished.*

*"And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die." (II Samuel 12:13)*



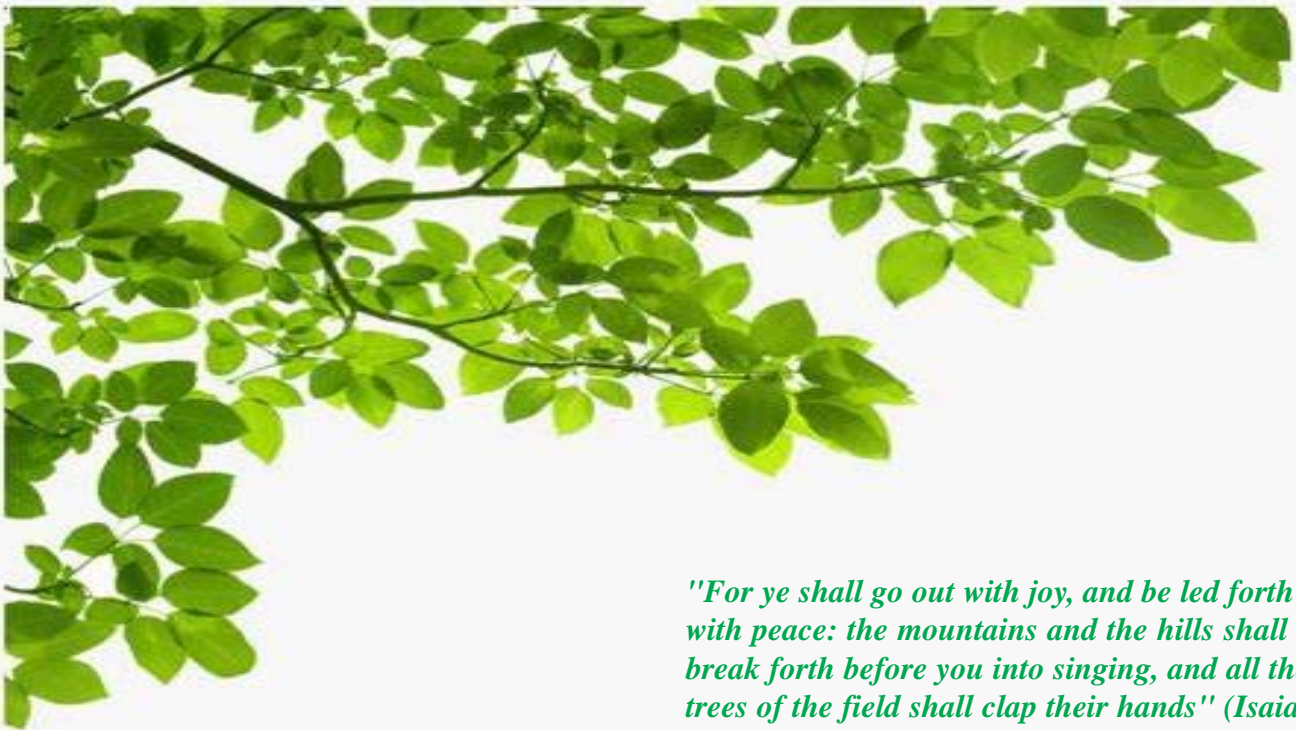
*King David confesses his sin to Nathan (God's emissary), and throughout the Book of Psalms, we see his sadness, remorse, repentance, and asking God for forgiveness of sins and indiscretions. For example:*

*"(To the chief Musician on Neginoth upon Sheminith, A Psalm of David.) O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure. Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed. My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long? Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake. For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks? I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears." (Psalm 6:1-6)*

*Even though his poor choice with Bathsheba led to much heartache for many years to come, David never stopped worshiping and praising God. "(A Psalm of David.) Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;" (Psalm 103:1-4)*

*In closing, do not be deceived into thinking that God will accept or overlook our sins. God is holy and righteous; therefore, sin cannot exist with Him. Whatever our faults may be and the greatness of our sins, do not be afraid to ask God for forgiveness and, like David, turn away from our sins.*

*Come humbly to God through Jesus. Embrace the richness of His grace, redemption, and forgiveness for us. "To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;" (Ephesians 1: 6-7)*



*"For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands" (Isaiah 55:12).*



# The Character Of God, Part I

By David DeLong

Many people refuse to serve God because they believe that He is cruel, merciless, and tyrannical. In other words, they believe that His character is similar to Satan's. They think that He will delight in burning souls throughout eternity. Even Jonathan Edwards, who was a Puritan minister, preached a sermon entitled, "Sinners in the hands of an Angry God" where he preached that a sinner is like a spider, hanging upon a spider web thread, just over the fires of hell, and at any moment he could break forth from that spider web and fall into the torments of hell, burning forever. If I remember correctly, a man from his congregation committed suicide after hearing Edwards preach that sermon because the thought was so terrifying to him and he couldn't live with that sermon in his memory. Other people have reacted in repulsion to God, thinking that He is the way Jonathan Edwards described Him.

However, God cannot tolerate sin. And because of that we are to fear Him with a very profound respect, and we should even fear hurting Him by sinning against Him. Jesus said in Matthew 10:28: "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." This is referring to the lake of fire where the unrepentant will be totally burned up, soul and body.

But to the repentant ones, God displays His character the very same as the character that Jesus displayed when He was here on earth. Jesus said in John 14:8-9, concerning Philip: "Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?"

We see, then, that the Father's character is exactly the same as Jesus' character. So, what was Jesus like? Jesus said 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." Therefore, since Jesus is meek and lowly, the Father also displays this character trait as well. He is only harsh and judgmental to those who persist in living a life of sin. But to His people, He is exactly as Jesus is: loving, kind, meek, forgiving, helpful, merciful.

Some Gnostic "Christians" of New Testament times actually believed that there were two different Gods portrayed in the Bible: one in the Old Testament (referred to as Yahweh) and one in the New Testament (referred to as the Father). What they didn't fully realize is that the Father in the Old Testament and the Father in the New Testament are the same God. Why, then, does the Father in the Old Testament appear to be more wrathful than He does in the New Testament? He wasn't more wrathful, but the Israelites in the Old Testament were fully under the law of Moses, with usually no intercessor, and they came directly under the death penalty for their sins unless they offered an animal sacrifice to temporarily provide forgiveness for those sins. Under the New Testament, the Father is just as wrathful against sins committed, but that wrath was taken by our Intercessor, the Lord Jesus, when He paid for our sins by dying upon the cross.

Remember when Uzza was struck dead when he touched the ark of God when the oxen which were pulling the ark on a cart stumbled, and Uzza thought the ark was going to fall off the cart? (see I Chronicles 13:9-10). Then, remember when Ananias and Sapphira were struck dead for their lie which they told against God in the New Testament? (see Acts 5:1-11). God is just as wrathful against the sin of disobedience as He always has been. But the difference today is that we are no longer under the law of Moses, and we have an Intercessor to plead our case to the Father for us.

God, the Father, and the Lord Jesus, both have exactly the same character, and they show that same character today. (Part 2 of this article is under the heading, "Does God Love all People?")



# Does God Love all People?

The Bible tells us that in a general way God does love all people on earth. The well-known verse of John 3:16 comes to mind: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." But for that love to be individualized, or personalized, there must be an action on our part. That action is to love God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength, and to prove that love by being in obedience to all of God's commandments.

Many people today believe and teach that one can live any type of lifestyle whatsoever, and God will never, under any circumstance, change His love for that individual. But the Bible does not teach this! In the book of Proverbs, chapter 8, we are taught about wisdom. By a careful reading of this chapter we can readily see that wisdom is being personified as the Lord, Himself. In fact, Colossians 2:2-3 informs us: "That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgment of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Going back to Proverbs 8, verse 17, which is wisdom personified as the Lord, Himself, we read: "I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me." The Scriptures clearly teach that the Lord loves those who love Him. On the other hand, Psalm 5:5-6 tells us: "The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity. Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man." Some proclaim that God hates the sin but loves the sinner. Again, in a general way that is true. But in a specific way, as expressed in Psalm 5:5-6 we see that it is not just the sin that God hates but the "workers of iniquity" and that He will "abhor the bloody and deceitful man." This is not the only passage that teaches this. Psalm 11:5 reads: "The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth."

As a matter of fact, it would appear that the more we love the Lord, and the closer we come to Him, He will come closer to us and love us more. James 4:8 tells us: "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you..." When the disciple John was expressed by the Scriptures as "one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved", it doesn't mean that Jesus did not love the other disciples. It apparently means that Jesus had a special relationship with John who expressed great love for the Saviour.

John 15:10 reads concerning Jesus: "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." It stands to reason, then, that the closer we keep the Lord's commandments, the more love He will display to us.

It is true that God loved us first before we loved Him. I John 4:19 teaches us: "We love him, because he first loved us." But God, who knows the future, saw that one day we would turn to Him and love Him. And equally well, He knows those who will never turn to Him and love Him. So the Lord bases His decisions upon what is now, and what will be in the future. Therefore, He knows who He loves and who He hates, despises, and abhors. Our calling is to come as close to Him as we possibly can, thus assuring His love for us.

God wants all people to be saved. First Timothy 2:3-4 informs us: "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." But He also knows that not everybody will be saved. Therefore, He acts toward each individual according to the knowledge that He has of them.

Some saints have the notion that God loves them when they are being obedient, and He hates them when they are not. But this is not true. As long as we repent of our sins and disobediences, God's love for us will never change, or stop. Romans 8:1 assures us: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."



# The Apostolic Church

(As taken from "A History Of The True Church" by A.N. Dugger and C.O. Dodd, pp. 30-36)

A history of the true Church of God could not be written without taking into consideration the lives and work of the outstanding leaders of the Gospel Age, that is, the apostles Paul, Peter and John; for by, or under their direction, most of the New Testament Scriptures were written, and the fortunes of the church advanced during the first century, and fashioned for future centuries.

## The Apostle Paul

The Apostle Paul, who after his conversion, secluded himself in the desert of Arabia, not mingling with the church for three years (Gal. 1:17-19), became the intellectual giant of apostolic days, and his writings embrace much of the early history of the church down to 66 A.D.

When the three years were expired and Paul (or Saul) had gone up to Jerusalem, he returned to the church at Antioch, his name still being Saul (Acts 12:25). His office in the church was prophet or teacher (Acts 13:1). His ordination and preparation for the apostolship was performed in the usual way, by the laying on of hands, and prayer, after which service he was called Paul, and the title of "Apostle" applied to him (Acts 13:1-9, also 14:14). Although having been miraculously called by Jesus on the Damascus Road, his preparation covered a similar period of three years as the other apostles, and his ordination was in keeping with the New Testament practice. The thirteenth chapter of Acts, as above, gives us the brief narrative of his being received into the apostleship, which evidently was to fill the vacancy made by the death of James, the apostle, recorded in chapter 12:1,2.

In his later years, the Apostle Paul spent more time in preparing the churches for the great future apostasy than in pushing the work farther on. He foresaw that this apostasy would arise in the West. Therefore, he spent years laboring to anchor the Gentile churches of Europe to the churches of Judea. The Jewish Christians had back of them 1500 years of training. Throughout the centuries God had so molded the Jewish mind that it grasped the idea of

sin; of an invisible Godhead; of man's serious condition; of the need of a divine Redeemer. But throughout these same centuries the Gentile world had sunk deeper and deeper in frivolity, heathenism, and debauchery. It is worthy of note that the Apostle Paul wrote practically all of his epistles to the Gentile churches--to Corinth, to Rome, to Philippi, etc. He wrote almost no letters to the Jewish Christians. Therefore, the great burden of his closing days was to anchor the Gentile churches of Europe to the Christian churches of Judea. In fact, it was to secure this end that he lost his life. --*Wilkinson, Our Authorized Bible vindicated, pages 13,14.*

This is how the Apostle Paul used the Christian churches of God in the land of Judea as an example, a pattern, by which Gentile churches were to be builded. He said to the Thessalonians: "For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judea are in Christ Jesus for ye also have suffered the things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews" (I Thess. 2:14).

Nowhere in all the writings of the Apostle Paul can we find where he taught Christians to follow the Gentile churches, either the church at Rome, at Corinth, in Galatia, at Thessalonica, or in any other place. Why? Without doubt it was because they were not suitable patterns, while those churches in Judea, filled with Jewish Christians, were organized, governed, and patterned after the will of the Master, and were doctrinally and organically correct.

"St. Paul did his best to maintain his friendship and alliance with the Jerusalem church. To put himself right with them, he traveled up to Jerusalem, when fresh fields and splendid prospects were opening up for him in the West. For this purpose he submitted to several days restraint and attendance in the temple, and the results vindicated his determination."--Stokes, *The Acts of the Apostles*, Vol. 11, pg. 439.



### **Simon Peter, the Apostle**

"Peter was the son of a certain Jona or John, and was according to John 1:44, a native of Bethsaida, though later he became a citizen of Capernaum, where he had a house, and with his brother Andrew was engaged in the fishing business in partnership with Zebedee and his two sons, James and John. He was married. Though not wealthy, Simon was a man of some property, not a poor, grossly ignorant laborer....In childhood he was probably taught, as many other Jewish children were, to read the Hebrew Scriptures, although in the rabbinical sense he was not learned (Acts 4:13).

"Among those who flocked to hear John the Baptist were Peter and his brother Andrew--an indication of their interest in the religious hopes of the times. John's words made such an impression that the brothers attached themselves to him as (at least temporary) disciples. Soon after, Andrew met Jesus and at once sought his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus, who even then foreshadowed his future career by saying that he should be called Cephas, from the Aram. After continuing with Jesus for a while, they seem to have returned to their accustomed occupation. To what extent Peter was with Jesus during the period covered by John, chapters two to four is uncertain. When Jesus opened His public ministry in Galilee He summoned the brothers to a more permanent discipleship (Mark 1:16-20). For this summons their previous acquaintance with Jesus had prepared them, and it was with enthusiastic self-sacrifice that they left all and followed Him. As yet, however, Peter was only one of many whom Jesus attracted to Himself during the early months of His work in Galilee. This was a testing-time for Simon. He was a whole-hearted, though often blundering, disciple. While he had much to learn, he was willing to be taught, and finally he showed such appreciation of Jesus' person and teaching that he was chosen by Jesus to be one of twelve, selected from the larger body of 'disciples', who were to be 'apostles', i.e., intimately associated with Him to learn of Him and (ultimately) to be sent out by Him to declare His message and carry on His work (Mark 3:14).

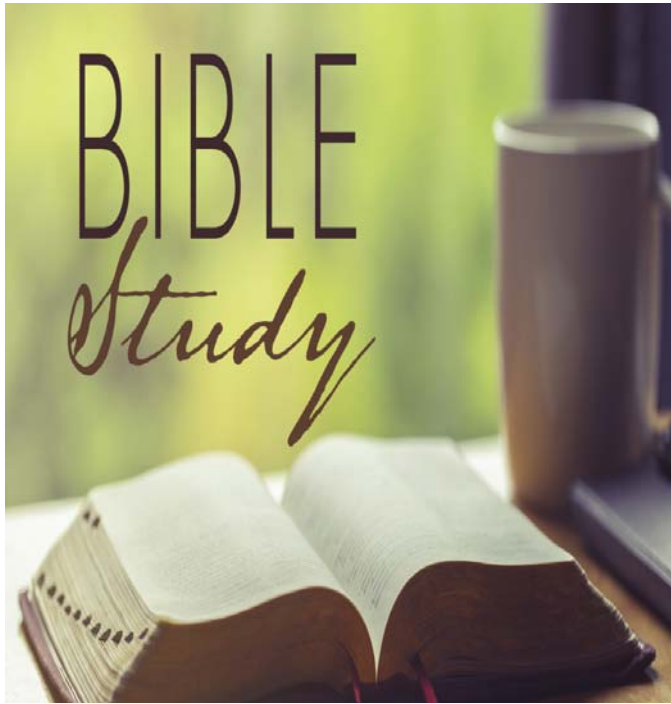
"With the brothers James and John, Peter made a group of three with whom Jesus was most intimate and who alone were associated with Him on such occasions as the Transfiguration and the Prayer in the Garden of

Gethsemane...The twelve remained steadfast even after Jesus' popularity began to wane, and it was Peter who voiced their conviction later in response to Jesus' searching question that He was indeed the Messiah (Mark 8:29; Matt. 16:16a; Luke 9:20; cf. John 6:68).

"When Jesus was arrested, Peter drew his short sword and struck off the ear of one Malchus. Though with the others he fled when Jesus was arrested (Mark 14:50), he followed the party into the city and through the influence of the 'unnamed' disciple gained admission into the palace where Jesus' trial was proceeding. Here, when taunted by a servant-maid, with an oath he denied that he knew Jesus. Overcome by shame, he went outside and wept. He witnessed Jesus' sufferings on the cross. These scenes were so indelibly stamped on his mind that years after the impression was still vivid. The despair that settled over his soul when he saw his beloved Master die was not lighted by any strong hope of a resurrection. But when the women early Sunday morning brought the news of an open and empty tomb, Peter and the other disciple ran to investigate. They found the tomb empty and wondered, with an incipient faith, at the orderly appearance of the grave-clothes, and then returned to their company. Later in the day Jesus appeared to Peter, the first of the Twelve to whom He showed Himself after the Passion. To Peter this was as a new birth, filled with the living hope. He was present at most of the post-resurrection interviews between Jesus and His disciples, and to him in particular, probably because of his denial, Jesus very tenderly and suggestively reinstated the Apostolic commission, intimating at the same time the self-denial and suffering involved in his future career.

"Peter now took a leading part in the direction of the little band of disciples that was the nucleus of the Christian Church....Up to the time of the persecution that followed the martyrdom of Stephen the new movement was confined almost exclusively to Jerusalem, and it was Peter who had the chief share in the guidance of affairs. His associate was John. These two figure prominently in the accounts of the first conflicts with the Jerusalem authorities....After the martyrdom of Stephen the Christian movement took on larger proportions, spreading throughout Palestine and into the neighboring countries. To a certain extent it was supervised by the Apostles."





## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**QUESTION:** How do we know if a person speaks according to God's Word?

ANSWER: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20).

**QUESTION:** Why are we told to search the Scriptures?

ANSWER: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39).

**QUESTION:** From what source did the prophecies of the Bible come to us?

ANSWER: "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (II Peter 1:21).

**QUESTION:** How did the Lord speak through David?

ANSWER: "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his

word was in my tongue" (II Samuel 23:2).

**QUESTION:** By what comparison is it indicated that some portions of God's Word are more difficult to understand than others?

ANSWER: "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat" (Hebrews 5:12).

**QUESTION:** In what way is this comparison further explained?

ANSWER: "For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (verses 13-14).

**QUESTION:** What writings are specifically mentioned as containing some things difficult to understand?

ANSWER: "And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction" (II Peter 3:15-16).

NOTE: Some Scriptures are too plain to be misunderstood while the meaning of others cannot so readily be discerned. To obtain a comprehensive knowledge of any Bible truth scripture must be compared with scripture, and there should be "careful research and prayerful reflection." But all such study will be richly rewarded.

**QUESTION:** What did Christ say concerning the book of Daniel?

ANSWER: "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand

**QUESTION: How do we know if a person speaks according to God's Word?**

ANSWER: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20).

**QUESTION: Why are we told to search the Scriptures?**

ANSWER: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39).

**QUESTION: From what source did the prophecies of the Bible come to us?**

ANSWER: "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (II Peter 1:21).

**QUESTION: How did the Lord speak through David?**

ANSWER: "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue" (II Samuel 23:2).

**QUESTION: By what comparison is it indicated that some portions of God's Word are more difficult to understand than others?**

ANSWER: "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat" (Hebrews 5:12).

**QUESTION: In what way is this comparison further explained?**

ANSWER: "For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (verses 13-14).

**QUESTION: What writings are specifically mentioned as containing some things difficult to understand?**

ANSWER: "And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction" (II Peter 3:15-16).

NOTE: Some Scriptures are too plain to be misunderstood while the meaning of others cannot so readily be discerned. To obtain a comprehensive knowledge of any Bible truth scripture must be compared with scripture, and there should be "careful research and prayerful reflection." But all such study will be richly rewarded.

**QUESTION: What did Christ say concerning the book of Daniel?**

ANSWER: "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)" (Matthew 24:15).

**QUESTION: What other book of the Bible is especially commended for our study?**

ANSWER: "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy (the book Revelation), and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand" (Revelation 1:3).

**QUESTION: What is one purpose for which the Holy Spirit was sent?**

ANSWER: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26).

**QUESTION: For what spiritual enlightenment should everyone pray?**



ANSWER: "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law" (Psalm 119:18).

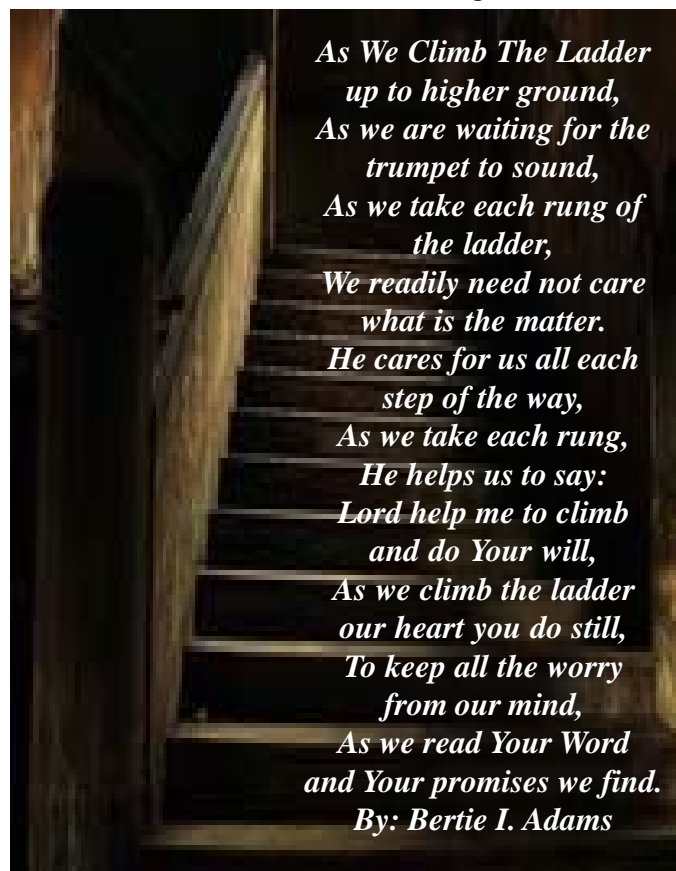
**QUESTION: Upon what conditions is an understanding of divine things promised?**

ANSWER: "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" (Proverbs 2:3-5).

**QUESTION: What is promised him who wills to do God's will?**

ANSWER: "If any man will (literally, "desires" or "wills") do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself" (John 7:17).

NOTE: It is proper to repeat again and again the eternal truth that if any man will search the Word of God for light, with a heart fully submitted to do the will of God as it is revealed to him, that man will receive light.



## LESSON I

### JACOB MEETS RACHEL

**Scripture Reading: Genesis 29:1-20.**

**Golden Text: Genesis 29:18.**

**"And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter."**

1. As Jacob continues on his journey, where does he arrive? Genesis 29:1-2.
2. While at the well, what did he ask of the men present, and what was their reply? Genesis 29:3-6.
3. Who arrived next at the well? Genesis 29:9.
4. What did Jacob do when he saw Rachel? Genesis 29:10-11.
5. What did Rachel's father, Laban, do when he heard of Jacob's presence? Genesis 29:12-14.
6. What did Laban offer Jacob? Genesis 29:15.
7. What was Jacob's request, and did he agree? Genesis 29:18-20.

## LESSON II

### JACOB RETURNS TO SEE ESAU

**Scripture Reading: Genesis 32:1-8; 33:1-20.**

**Golden Text: Genesis 33:4.**

**"And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept."**

NOTE: Laban wasn't honest with Jacob and tricked him by giving him the oldest daughter, Leah. Jacob continued to work hard and has much wealth. He decides it is time to return home to make peace with his brother, Esau.

1. Where does Jacob send his messengers, and what are they to do and say? Genesis 32:3-5.

2. What did the messengers report back to Jacob? Genesis 32:6.

3. How did Jacob feel, and what did he then do? Genesis 32:7-8.

4. When Jacob first approached Esau, what does he do and why? Genesis 33:1-3.

5. When Esau sees Jacob, what does he do? Genesis 33:4.

6. After Esau meets Jacob's family, what do the two men discuss? Genesis 33:8-15.

7. Where did Esau return, and where did Jacob go? Genesis 33:16-20.

8. What name did God give to Jacob, and what did God promise him? Genesis 32:28; 35:10-12.

NOTE: This was a continuation of god's promise to Abraham as Jacob was Abraham's grandson. See Matthew 1:2.

### LESSON III

#### JOSEPH THE DREAMER

**Scripture Reading: Genesis 37:1-11.**

**Golden Text: Genesis 37:3.**

**"Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours."**

1. Who were Jacob's twelve sons? I Chronicles 2:1-2.

2. Why did Joseph's father love him the most? Genesis 37:3 (first part).

3. What did he make for him? Genesis 37:3 (last part).

4. Why did his brothers hate him? Genesis 37:4.

5. What was the dream that made his brothers hate him even more? Genesis 37:5-7.

NOTE: The word "obeisance" means to bow down and pay respect to someone.

6. What else did Joseph dream in another dream? Genesis 37:9.

7. What did Joseph's father think the dream meant? Genesis 37:10.

### LESSON IV

#### JOSEPH BEING SOLD

**Scripture Reading: Genesis 37:12-28.**

**Golden Text: Genesis 37:19.**

**"And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh."**

1. Where did Jacob send Joseph? Genesis 37:13-14.

2. Where did Joseph find his brothers? Genesis 37:17.

3. What did his brothers plan to do to him when they saw him coming? Genesis 37:18-20.

4. Who objected to this plan? Genesis 37:21.

5. When Joseph came, what did they do to him? Genesis 37:23-24.

6. What did they decide to do with Joseph when the Ishmeelites came by? Genesis 37:26-27.

7. How many pieces of silver did they get for Joseph? Genesis 37:28.





*"SIMONS IN THE BIBLE"*

1. Is there any Simon mentioned in the Old Testament?
2. Which Simon was one of the first apostles?
3. Which Simon became host to Peter at the time he received the call from Cornelius?
4. Which Simon had a dreaded disease?
5. Which Simon carried Jesus' cross?
6. Which Simon was a sorcerer?
7. Which other Simon was one of the Twelve?
8. At which Simon's house did the woman who was a sinner anoint Jesus' feet?
9. Which Simon was related to the treasurer of the apostles?
10. Who was "Simon Bar-jona"?

*A WORD PUZZLE*

*In each of the following sentences, there is a misspelled word. Can you find it? If you do, underline it.*

1. The boy's mother gave hymn ten cents to put in the collection.
2. I have bin to Sabbath School every week.
3. Vacation time is here because skule is out.
4. We shud love our enemies.
5. We should keep our minds filled with cleen thoughts.
6. If we smile, we bring sushine to others.
7. The wind blue Jane's hat away, but brother caught it.
8. Mary took flours to her sick friend.
9. Jane will bee ten years old tomorrow.

*10. How can you sea out of the window? You are so small.*

*A BIBLE ORCHESTRA*

*Suppose you were making up an orchestra and could use only the musical instruments mentioned in the Bible. How many could you find? How do you think they would sound together? Look up thee references and make a list.*

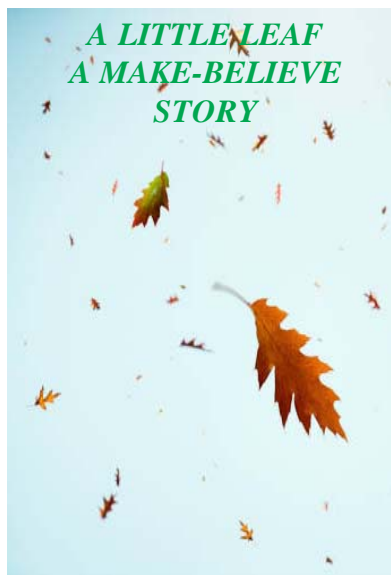
1. Job 21:12
2. Amos 5:23
3. Hosea 5:8
4. Daniel 3:5
5. I Samuel 16:23
6. Nehemiah 12:27
7. Exodus 28:33
8. Isaiah 18:3
9. Revelation 18:22
10. Judges 11:34
11. I Samuel 18:6
12. Psalm 75:4



*Answers : "Simon"*

*1. No. The Old Testament name was Simeon. 2. Simon Peter (Matthew 4:18). 3. Simon the Tanner (at Joppa) (Acts 10:5-6, 17-23). 4. Simon the Leper (Matthew 26:6). 5. Simon the Syrenian (Matthew 27:32). 6. Simon Magus, or Simon of Samaria (Acts 8:9) 7. Simon Zelotes (Mark 3:18). 8. Simon the Pharisee (Luke 7:36,40). 9. Simon, father of Judas Iscariot (John 6:71). 10. Peter (Matthew 16:17).*

# A LITTLE LEAF A MAKE-BELIEVE STORY



One day in Fall when the Autumn Wind was blowing the leaves high in the air, he came to a little leaf who would not budge.

"Come, come, Little Miss Leaf," he sang, "all the others are gone, and you must go, too."

"No, no!" cried Little Miss leaf. "I want to stay right here on the tree. I have lived here all my life, and here I will

All day long she had watched her brothers and sisters dropping away from their sturdy home, one by one, and she made up her mind that she would not move. She loved her home on the tree, and she was unhappy at the thought of being any place else. So, she hung tight to the bough and refused to follow the other leaves.

At first, the wind was gentle. He came with no more than a little puff. "Come," he whispered softly. Little Miss Leaf shook her hand. "No, no" she said.

So, the wind tried harder and sang a little song to her. But no matter what he said, he could not persuade her to fall from the tree.

At last, he grew very angry. Puffing to his cheeks like a big balloon, he blew a strong cold blast upon the bough. Poor Little Miss leaf could hold on no longer.

Down, down, down she fell - turning, twisting, flying through the air so fast she could hardly catch her breath! "Oh, dear, oh, dark!" wailed Little Miss leaf. "Wherever am I going?"

Just then she landed softy on something cool and smooth, and a gentle voice said, "Good-day, Little Miss Leaf. Don't be afraid."

"Who are you?" asked Little Miss Leaf. "And where am I?" she said still so out of breath she could hardly talk. "I am the river," came the answer. "And you are floating along on my surface."

"Is it safe?" Little Miss Leaf was still quite worried. "Indeed, it is," replied the river. "I will carry you with me

until we reach the ocean. I don't suppose you saw much of the world from the shelter of the tree."

"No-no," admitted Little Miss Leaf.

"Well, you shall see it now," promised the river, "and I will explain as we glide along."

His voice was so king and gentle that Little Miss Leaf settled back comfortably to enjoy the ride.

The way wound through field and town, sometimes bending one way or the other, sometimes going straight ahead; and always the river pointed out the places of interest.

"There is the schoolhouse to the right," he said as they passed through a country village.

"So that's the school," thought Little Miss Leaf. She had often heard the children talk about it as they rested in the shade of her tree.

"And there is the church a little farther ahead," the river went on.

"I used to hear the bells every Sabbath morning," said Little Miss Leaf, "and from my bough I could see it against the sky. I always thought I would like to see the church!" They flowed past the village and out through the fields once more. She closed her eyes, and when she opened them, something dark hung over their heads.

"What is it?" cried Little Miss leaf. "Where are we now?" "Don't be alarmed," laughter the River. "We are under a large bridge. We will soon be out."

"But what is all the noise?" asked Little Miss Leaf.

"It is made by trucks and cars and busses carrying the people across from one of my banks to the other.

They came to a railroad bridge and saw a train snorting along with feathery smoke coming out of its engine and a whistle shrieking a warning to everybody in its way.

"What is that ugly monster?" Little Miss Leaf shivered as they passed under it.

So, the river told her all about trains.

They went on slowly through the countryside until they came to the next bend, where the River turned toward the sea.

"I must leave you here," he said. "You wouldn't like the great ocean waves." And very gently he lifted Little Miss Leaf up and set her down on a mossy bank.

"Thank you, thank you for a most exciting ride," called Little Miss Leaf.



Church of God 7th Day

September 2025

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

*Sabbath Memory Verses*

31

1

2

3

4

Contact us to receive our book "Instructor of Truth Volume I"

PO Box 328 Salem, WV 26426

Phone: 304-782-1411 email:cogsevday@aol.com

5

6

"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" (Galatians 5:17).

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;" (John 14:16).

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

Check out our website: [churchofgod-7thday.org](http://churchofgod-7thday.org)

"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:" (I Thessalonians 4:16).

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

"The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" (Psalms 118:6).

28

29

30

Give thanks to the Lord,  
for he is good; his love  
endures forever.



*The Advocate of Truth*  
*PO Box 328*  
*Salem WV 26426-0328*  
*Address Service Requested*  
*Return Postage Guaranteed*

*Periodicals*  
*Postage Paid At*  
*Salem WV 26426-0328*

