

# 10 EARMARKS of the BODY of CHRIST



## Study Guide

by

J. B. Budd

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## INTRODUCTION

I give double honor to Bro. Clyde Patton for being my Pastor, mentor, spiritual Father and friend these many years. I have not received anything of myself, but my knowledge comes from Bro. Patton and the Ministry of the Body of Christ. As Paul said in *I Corinthians 4:7*, *...and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?* Therefore, I feel very humble that the Lord would permit me to share a little of what I have received so much of with you.

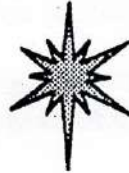
My prayer is that this workbook will make us more aware that, though we are many members, we must become one in Jesus Christ. To be chosen to be in the Body of Christ is the most wonderful thing that can ever happen to a person on this earth!

Bro. Patton's gift and bravery to pioneer his way into the future gave men like myself a chance to grow and develop in the ministry. Therefore, I owe not only the contents of this book, but all that I am and all that I have, to Bro. Patton's willingness to give, and then give some more.

**This workbook has been written with  
the King James Version of the Bible.**

**To get the most benefit from this workbook,  
first work through a chapter,  
filling in the blanks,  
then read through the entire chapter.**

# JESUS, THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH



## CHAPTER I

*Colossians 1:15-18*, Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist. (vs.18) And He (Jesus) is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_....

THE BODY OF CHRIST has no earthly headquarters! All denominations have headquarters in a physical, tangible city that make decisions for their particular organization. They have become political arenas for ministers and priests alike jockeying for higher positions within the organizations.

## JESUS IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH

*Ephesians 1:22,23*, And (God) hath put all things under His (Jesus') feet, and gave Him (Jesus) to be the \_\_\_\_\_ over all things to the church, which is His (Jesus') \_\_\_\_\_ the fulness of Him that filleth all in all.

GOD DID NOT give the church over to a man, or an organization, but to JESUS! Therefore, there is to be no physical head - elected or assumed - over the BODY OF CHRIST. Jesus is the federal head of the Church. He is the head of every man, *1 Corinthians. 11:3*.

*Ephesians 4:15,16*, But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the \_\_\_\_\_, even Christ: From whom the whole \_\_\_\_\_ fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the \_\_\_\_\_ (of Christ) unto the edifying of itself in love.

*VERSE 14 TELLS us not to be children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive. Denominations would have us believe that all we have to do is join their organizations, pay our tithes, and heaven will be our home. Jesus, however, is compelling us to come up higher, love God with all our heart, quit the sinning business, and love our brother as ourselves.*

Since denominations are not concerned with spiritual growth, maturity, or perfection, saints remain babes in Christ.

*I Corinthians 3:1-2, And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto \_\_\_\_\_, even as unto \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ. I have fed you with \_\_\_\_\_, and not with \_\_\_\_\_: for hither-to ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.*



## HOW DOES A CARNAL MAN BUILD?

*I Corinthians 3:3,4, For ye are yet \_\_\_\_\_: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions (each in their denomination), are ye not carnal, and walk as \_\_\_\_\_? For while one saith, I am of Paul (a Pharisee); and another, I am of Apollos (a sadducee); are ye not carnal? (The names have changed but people are just as zealous today as in Paul's day for their denominational names.)*

### THE TOWER OF BABEL

#### The first religious edifice

NIMROD, through his own ingenuity, tried to build a church in Babel that would reach into the heavens naming it the Tower of Babel. This massive operation required the support of the civil government with Nimrod as the hierarch. Today is the same. Many religious men, like Nimrod, have built mammoth names unto themselves, towers supposedly reaching into the sky to save the lost. Like the Tower of Babel, however, these towers also will end in confusion and division.

**And the people said one to another:**

*Genesis 11:4, Go to, let \_\_\_\_\_ build \_\_\_\_\_ a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make \_\_\_\_\_ a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.*



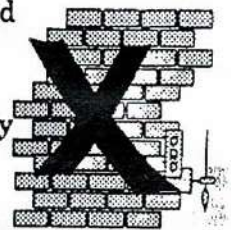
**LIKE THE BABELITES**, the Holiness people at the turn of this century felt it necessary to organize for their protection and unity. Instead of unity, however, this always eventuates in confusion.

*VERSE 9*, Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there \_\_\_\_\_ the language ( doctrine) of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD \_\_\_\_\_ them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

### THE MARK

**NIMROD WAS THE** founder of false religion. In his day there was but one language (doctrine). He used *brick for stone, and slime for mortar (Genesis 11:3)*. The foundation for true religion, however, must be Christ, built with Lively Stones, not brick. Love must hold it together instead of slime.

Brick are rectangular, uniform (in size and color) blocks of clay burned in a kiln. Each plant stamps, or MARKS, the brick.



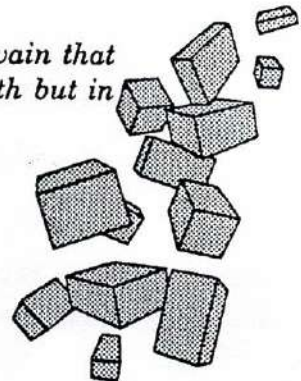
### BABEL (LATER CALLED MYSTERY BABYLON) IS MARKED

*Revelation 13:16*, And he (the Beast, Mystery Babylon) causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a \_\_\_\_\_ in their right hand, or in their foreheads (this is the brick molds)

*Exodus 20:25*, And if thou wilt make me (God) an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast \_\_\_\_\_ it.

**NIMROD POLLUTED** the Tower of Babel with brick. Man desires to build everything precise. They operate their church services to please themselves rather than pleasing God. Building a church of human endeavors without God's blessings can only result in total destruction.

David said *Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain (Psalms 127:1)*.



**HOW SERIOUS IS IT TO TAKE THIS MARK?**

*Revelation 19:20*, And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he \_\_\_\_\_ them that had received the MARK of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a \_\_\_\_\_ burning with brimstone.

**MAN IS STILL REJECTING CHRIST**

*Luke 20:17*, And He (Jesus) beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders \_\_\_\_\_, the same is become the \_\_\_\_\_ of the corner?

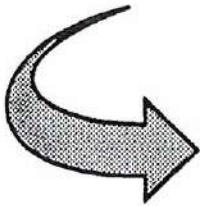
**MAN IS REJECTING Christ** as the head of the corner when he has a physical, tangible head in the earth!

**THOSE WHO REJECT CHRIST AS THEIR HEAD - WHAT SHALL THEIR END BE?**

*Luke 20:18*, Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be \_\_\_\_\_; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will \_\_\_\_\_ him to \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>NAMES OF BLASPHEMY</b>
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*Revelation 17:3*, So he carried me away in the spirit unto the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of \_\_\_\_\_, having seven heads and ten horns.



FOR A CHILD of God to go by any other name than Jesus is blasphemy. How is this done? By joining a church and taking on and going by their name. Jesus said, *Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.* He continues, *Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God,* (St. John 3:5,6). So a Spiritual birth is all that is needed to enter the Kingdom of God. Being on a church roll does not add you to the Kingdom.

**CAN A PERSON BE ETERNALLY SAVED OUTSIDE OF THE NAME OF JESUS?**

**NO!**

*Philippians 2:10*, That at the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

Acts 4:12, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other \_\_\_\_\_ under heaven given among men, whereby we \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_.

**THE FOUNDATION OF the Body of Christ is CHRIST. Any other foundation will only result in stubble, confusion, and division. Peace and unity and oneness are synonyms for the Church of Jesus Christ.**

## HOW DOES A SPIRITUAL MAN BUILD?

Matthew 18:20, For where **TWO** or **THREE** are gathered together \_\_\_\_\_ my name, there am I in the \_\_\_\_\_ of them.

Matthew 7:14, Because \_\_\_\_\_ is the gate, and \_\_\_\_\_ is the way, which leadeth unto \_\_\_\_\_, and **FEW** there be that \_\_\_\_\_ it.

THE SPIRITUAL MAN will search for a people who have no physical, tangible head in the earth. Christ is their head. This is a virgin church, a Spirit led church striving in the narrow way to become perfect even as Christ is perfect. Each church, not trying to be autonomous, is a part of a group of churches with ministers striving to hold together by their love for one another.

### THE FOUNDATION

I Corinthians 3:10-13, According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take \_\_\_\_\_ how he buildeth thereupon.

For other \_\_\_\_\_ can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the \_\_\_\_\_ shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

**THERE HAVE BEEN** many minor changes made over the years in the church, such as dress. With robes and sandals antiquated (old fashioned), we dress different today than they did in Bible days. The doctrine (or foundation) of Christ, however, remains the same to every generation.

Jesus said to Peter, *Upon this rock I will build MY CHURCH*. Some feel that Jesus was referring to Peter - that Peter was the Rock that the Church (the Body of Christ) was to be founded on. Peter, however, back-slid soon after this and went back to cursing like he did in the old-days. And again, in *Galatians 2:11*, Paul withstood Peter to his face before them all, because *He was to be blamed*. (Peter had refused to eat with the Gentiles.) So Peter can not be that foundation - Jesus is the ROCK upon which the Church is to be built!

### SAINTS ARE CALLED LIVELY STONES

First we are called to be saints:

*I Corinthians 1:2*, Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be \_\_\_\_\_, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.

Then we are called lively stones:

*I Peter 2:5*, Ye also, as \_\_\_\_\_ stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, \_\_\_\_\_ to God by Jesus Christ.

### JESUS IS CALLED THE CHIEF CORNER STONE

*I Peter 2:6, 7*, Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a \_\_\_\_\_ corner stone, elect, precious: and he that \_\_\_\_\_ on Him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe He is \_\_\_\_\_: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner.



IN THESE SCRIPTURES Peter is comparing the church to a building. Every builder before beginning construction must choose a corner. Measuring from that particular corner, he begins laying the foundation of the building. The building of the Church is also measured by one corner, the Chief Corner. The Church must measure up, *unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ, Ephesians 4:13*. Anything less than this will result in total disaster, and confusion.

Verse 8, And a \_\_\_\_\_ of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

PETER CALLS JESUS *The Chief Corner Stone* and the stone which the builders (Preachers) disallowed, Yet the same is made the Head of the Church. Jesus was, and is, as Peter described, a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence. Nevertheless, He has become the Head of the Church.

**GOD'S PEOPLE ARE ALSO TO BE MARKED**

*Psalm 37:37*, \_\_\_\_\_ the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.

JUST AS CAIN and Lamech were marked for their evil deeds,  
God's people are to be marked for their good deeds..

God created stones - each with its own unique markings. We are to be lively stones MARKED by having Jesus in our forehead. Apostle Paul said, *Now ye are the Body of Christ, and members in particular, (I Corinthians 12:27).*

*DANIEL 2:44-45*, And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people but it shall break in pieces and \_\_\_\_\_ all these kingdoms, and it shall \_\_\_\_\_ for ever. For as much as thou sawest that the \_\_\_\_\_ was cut out of the mountain without (man's) hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold....

THIS STONE WAS carved out without the hands of men. And in *Daniel 2:35*, this stone grew until it became a great mountain, until it filled the whole earth. This is a picture of the church. Beginning with only one-hundred and twenty people on the day of Pentecost, the Body of Jesus Christ will fill the whole world. Thus fulfilling the scripture:

*Jeremiah 31:34*, And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord : for they shall \_\_\_\_\_ know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord....

Then Christ's servants shall be sealed!



*II Corinthians 1:22*, Who hath also \_\_\_\_\_ us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

*Revelation 7:3*, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have \_\_\_\_\_ the servants of our God in their foreheads.

TO SEAL VEGETABLES first you put them in jars, close the lid tight, and put them in boiling water for a period of time to secure the contents against contamination.

A seal is also a mark, as of genuineness or authenticity.

## JESUS IS THE HEAD OF EVERY MAN

*I Corinthians 11:3*, ...The head of every man is \_\_\_\_\_; and the head of the woman is the \_\_\_\_\_; and the head of Christ is \_\_\_\_\_.



HERE IS AN ALLEGORY: A husband is to love his wife as a part of his own body; a wife is to obey her husband in all things. The two have become one flesh, one body. Therefore both are to leave father and mother behind and cleave to each other. Christ loved the church so much that He died for it. The Church, like a wife, must become fully submissive to Christ. She must become holy and clean without having a single spot or wrinkle or any other blemish to become the Bride of Christ. This mystery reveals the way we are to relate to Christ.

*Ephesians 5:32*, This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

THERE ARE MANY scriptures comparing a man and his wife with Christ and the Church. Christ is the head of the man, that is, the Ministry, not an organization. The Ministry, as long as they are under Christ, are the under-shepherds over the church.

*Ephesians 5:23*, For the husband is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wife, even as Christ is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the church: and He is the saviour of the body.

## CHRIST IS OUR MEASURING STICK

*II Corinthians 10:12*, For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they \_\_\_\_\_ themselves by themselves, and \_\_\_\_\_ themselves among themselves, are not \_\_\_\_\_.

JESUS IS THE Chief Cornerstone and everything that's built must be measured by him. The Builders (preachers) rejected this measuring stick, resulting in an imperfect building (church). The people, therefore, remain as children, immature, and tossed about with every wind of doctrine.



*Ephesians 4:13*, Till we all come in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the faith (doctrine), and of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Son of God, unto a \_\_\_\_\_ man, unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

## GOD IS MAKING CHOICE

*1 Peter 2:9*, But ye are a \_\_\_\_\_ generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath \_\_\_\_\_ you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

*1 Corinthians 1:27*, And God hath \_\_\_\_\_ the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.

IF WE HAVE found the Body of Christ, we are blessed because it was God who first chose us.

## OBEYING FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

*Luke 6:48, 49*, He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a \_\_\_\_\_; and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could \_\_\_\_\_ shake it: for it was \_\_\_\_\_ upon a rock (which is Jesus, the Head of the Church).

But he that heareth, and \_\_\_\_\_, is like a man that \_\_\_\_\_ a foundation built an house upon the \_\_\_\_\_ (Babel, or Mystery Babylon); against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell (*Daniel 2:34-36*, which smote the image - Babylon, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floor; and the wind carried it away); and the \_\_\_\_\_ of that house was great.



ORGANIZING THE CHURCH, putting a preacher in charge, is like putting a rudder on the Ark. God gave Noah specific instructions to build the Ark. And it didn't include a rudder. For Noah (man) could have then controlled the Ark. You see, God wanted to control the big ship (the Church). God wanted complete command to guide Noah and his family where He, God, wanted them to go. And because God wants us only to look up toward Him, He told Noah to place the window in the top of the Ark. And why was the door in the side? As the Soldiers pierced Jesus' side, blood (His Spirit) and water (baptism) came out. Therefore the only way we can get in Christ is by being born again by His Spirit and being baptized in water. This is the beginning of the qualifications to be in the Bride of Christ.

Again, the Lord opened Adam's side, took one of his ribs, and made a woman. She became his bride and help meet, to help rule the world. This is a picture of Christ and His Bride ruling and reigning over the earth for the next thousand years.

**THE BRIDE WILL RULE WITH CHRIST**

*Revelation 5:10*, And hast made us (the bride) unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign (rule) on the earth.

Also see *Revelation 3:21, 20:6*.

GOD PUT JESUS to sleep on the cross and out of His side He brought forth a woman - the Church. Now this woman (the Church), being bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh (*Genesis 2:21-24*), is to leave her father and mother (the world), and cleave unto Christ. Belonging to Christ, then, she shall go by no other name but the name of Jesus. Any other name would be blasphemy!

**WE MUST BE CALLED BY THE NAME OF JESUS!**

*Philippians 2:9,10*, Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name:

That at the name of \_\_\_\_\_ every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth.

*Romans 10:13*, For whosoever shall call upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord shall be saved. (also *Acts 2:21*).

*Acts 4:12*, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other \_\_\_\_\_ under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.



**FACT IS**, we can be saved only through repentance, baptism in water, and Holy Ghost baptism with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. We are not saved by joining a church membership.

As God gave plans to Noah to build the Ark, God also gave specific plans to His disciples to build His Church. God is a very particular God.

**HOW DOES A PERSON JOIN THE CHURCH**



*Acts 2:41,&47*, Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were \_\_\_\_\_ unto them about three thousand souls.

.....And the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ to the church daily such as should be saved.

**YOU ARE NOT** voted in. Man cannot put you in. Neither can you join it. God adds to the church as it pleases him.



*I Corinthians 12:27-28*, Now ye are the Body of Christ, and \_\_\_\_\_ in particular.

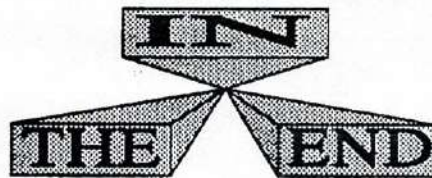
And \_\_\_\_\_ hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Even preachers have to be called of God.

*Hebrews 5:4*, And no man taketh this honour unto \_\_\_\_\_, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.

IF A MINISTER carries a license, he has been ordained by man, not God! His authority to preach is from man, not God. However, when God calls a man to the ministry, this is authority enough. A license is not needed. When a minister receives a license, his 'head' becomes those who issue the license. And, since they are your authority, they also can control what and how you preach. What you are saying to God when you take a license, then, is His authority is not enough.

Aaron was called of God to the ministry. Peter, James, and John were called of God to the ministry. And like Noah, every minister's authority must come from Jesus. Why? Because JESUS is the Head of the Church, His BODY.



*Revelation 7:9*, After this I beheld, and, lo, a **GREAT MULTITUDE**, which no man could \_\_\_\_\_, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ robes, and palms in their hands.

**THUS THE IRON**, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold: these nations shall become but chaff the wind will blow away. **Then the nations will belong to Christ.**



Honour all men (that are in Christ).  
Love the brotherhood (God's ministers).  
Fear God.  
Honour the king (Jesus).  
I Peter 2:17.

# CHARITY

## THE DIVINE LOVE OF GOD



### CHAPTER II

TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF ACQUIRING CHARITY IN YOUR LIFE, YOU MUST FIRST:

Add to your FAITH \_\_\_\_\_; and to VIRTUE \_\_\_\_\_; and to KNOWLEDGE \_\_\_\_\_; and to TEMPERANCE \_\_\_\_\_; and to PATIENCE, \_\_\_\_\_; and to GODLINESS \_\_\_\_\_ and to BROTHERLY KINDNESS \_\_\_\_\_.

*II Peter 1:5-8.*

**CHARITY IS NOT inherent within us. Charity must be learned!**

*Colossians 3:14*, And above all things \_\_\_\_\_ CHARITY, which is the bond of perfectness.

A GERMAN PROVERB says *Charity gives itself rich; covetousness hoards itself poor.*

**I CORINTHIANS 13**

**CHARITY SUFFERS LONG**

*II Timothy 3:12*, Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall \_\_\_\_\_ persecution.

*I Peter 2:20*, For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but

if, when ye do \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

*I Peter 3:14*, But and if ye \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled.

*I Peter 4:1&2*, Forasmuch then as Christ hath \_\_\_\_\_ for us in the flesh, \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath \_\_\_\_\_ in the flesh hath \_\_\_\_\_ from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

SUFFERING IS NOT a popular message. Politicians and preachers alike would never run for office nor would they win with a message like this. A wise man once said, *Forgiveness is rarely perfect except in the breasts of those who have suffered.*

### AND IS KIND

*Luke 6:35&36*, But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for He is \_\_\_\_\_ unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye therefore \_\_\_\_\_, as your Father is also merciful.

*Ephesians 4:32*, And be ye \_\_\_\_\_ one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

*Colossians 3:12*, Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, \_\_\_\_\_, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering.

THIS IS TOTALLY against our nature - poles apart from the norm. So much so that many preachers either do not want to, or they are afraid to address this subject. After all, it could cause the preachers themselves to come under condemnation. To discern the true BODY OF CHRIST look for KINDNESS being exercised in the ministry as well in the people. An English poet, William Wordsworth, wrote, *The best portion of a good man's life is his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love.* Kindness is a language the dumb can speak and the deaf can hear and understand. This is being Christ-like. This is letting your light shine.

THIS IS THE BODY OF CHRIST.

### CHARITY ENVIETH NOT



TO ENVY IS to have a strong dislike of someone who has something you desire. (Not the same as jealousy, which means you are afraid that someone is trying to take something you have.)

*Psalms 73:3,17,18,24, (verse 3)* I was \_\_\_\_\_ at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

*Romans 13:13,14, (verse 13)* Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and \_\_\_\_\_.

*Galatians 5:26,* Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, \_\_\_\_\_ one another.

*James 3:13-16, (verse 16)* For where \_\_\_\_\_ and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

*1 Peter 2:1-3,* Wherefore laying aside all \_\_\_\_\_, and all \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is \_\_\_\_\_.

**CALEB COLTON**, a 19th century preacher, said about envy, *The benevolent have the advantage of the envious, even in this present life; for the envious man is tormented not only by all the ill that befalls himself, but by all the good that happens to another; whereas the benevolent man is the better prepared to bear his own calamities unruffled, from the complacency and serenity he has secured from contemplating the prosperity of all around him.*

## CHARITY VAUNTETH NOT ITSELF



**TO VAUNT IS** to boast - to express pride in oneself or one's own accomplishments.

*Romans 3:23-28, (verse 26,27)* To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Where is \_\_\_\_\_ then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.

*Ephesians 2:8&9,* For by GRACE are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works lest any man should \_\_\_\_\_.

*James 3:2-6, (verse 5)* Even so the tongue is a little member, and \_\_\_\_\_ great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

IT HAS BEEN said, *Where boasting ends, there dignity begins.* Dignity is an enigma to those who have corrupted themselves like Cain, or ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, or stood with Korah in his insurrection against Moses. These all perished because of their gainsaying. Jude said, *These are spots in your feasts*

*of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots, (Jude 1:12).*

Lord Bacon told Sir Edward Coke when he was boasting, *The less you speak of your greatness, the more shall I think of it.*

## IS NOT PUFFED UP



TO BE PUFFED up is to be inflated, proud or haughty.

*I Corinthians 4:6-7*, And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men \_\_\_\_\_ that which is written, that no one of you be \_\_\_\_\_ for one against another. For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not \_\_\_\_\_? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou \_\_\_\_\_, as if thou hadst \_\_\_\_\_ received it?

*I Corinthians 8:1-2*, Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge \_\_\_\_\_ but charity edifieth (or builds up). And if any man think that he \_\_\_\_\_ any thing, he knoweth \_\_\_\_\_ yet as he ought to know.

*I Peter 5:5-6*, ...For God resisteth the \_\_\_\_\_, and giveth grace to the humble. \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may \_\_\_\_\_ you in due time.

DID NOT THE BIBLE say, *Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall, (Proverbs 16:18)?* Nothing sets a person so much out of the devil's reach as humility. Sir Thomas More proclaimed, *To be humble to superiors, is duty; to equals, is courtesy; to inferiors, is nobleness; and to all, safety; it being a virtue that, for all its lowliness, commandeth those it stoops to.* Humbleness is a virtue requiring a superb dignity granted by God's grace. This is what the BODY OF CHRIST is all about.

## DO NOT BEHAVE ITSELF UNSEEMLY



UNSEEMLY MEANS NOT conforming with accepted standards of propriety or good taste; indecent, unbecoming, or ungodly.

*I Corinthians 14:40*, Let all things be done \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_.

*Romans 1:27*, And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is \_\_\_\_\_, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

**FREEDOM FROM THE degradation of fleshly sins is accomplished only in the power of God's Word! *The Bible is a window in this prison of hope, through which we look into eternity.* Dwight.**

### SEEKETH NOT HER OWN

*Romans 15:1-2*, We then that are \_\_\_\_\_ ought to bear the infirmities of the \_\_\_\_\_, and not to please \_\_\_\_\_. Let every one of us please his \_\_\_\_\_ for his good to edification.

*I Corinthians 10:24,33*, Let no man \_\_\_\_\_ his own, but every man another's wealth. Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking \_\_\_\_\_ profit, but the profit of many, that they may be \_\_\_\_\_.

*Philippians 2:4*, Look not every man on his \_\_\_\_\_ things, but every man also on the things of \_\_\_\_\_.

PAUL DID NOT mean for us to desire to procure another man's wealth, but rather we are to make sure our brother has what he needs. In H. W. Beecher's book he wrote, *In this world it is not what we take up, but what we give up, that makes us rich.* This is an EARMARK of the BODY OF CHRIST. A sign to tell the world that Christ lives within.

### IS NOT EASILY PROVOKED



#### PROVOKE MEANS:

- (1) to excite to angry annoyance
- (2) to disturb and upset, nervous
- (3) to aid or promote the activity or development of
- (4) to lead one into doing or feeling or to produce by so leading a person
- (5) to be the cause or source of something immaterial.



*Romans 12:19-21*, Dearly beloved, \_\_\_\_\_ not yourselves, but rather give place unto (God's) wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will \_\_\_\_\_, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of \_\_\_\_\_ on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with \_\_\_\_\_.

*James 1:19*, Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to \_\_\_\_\_.

*Galatians 5:26*, Let us not be desirous of vain glory, \_\_\_\_\_ one another, envying one another.

THERE IS NOTHING more in a man than the burning heat of anger that makes him more like the beast. It is true, the Bible does say to be *angry and sin not*, meaning that you should direct your anger at sin only, not at the person.

## THINKETH NO EVIL

*Romans 8:6*, For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually \_\_\_\_\_ is life and peace.

*Philippians 4:8*, Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are \_\_\_\_\_, whatsoever things are \_\_\_\_\_, whatsoever things are \_\_\_\_\_, whatsoever things are \_\_\_\_\_, whatsoever things are of \_\_\_\_\_ report; if there be any \_\_\_\_\_, and if there be any \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ on these things.

*Ephesians 5:15-20, (vs. 16)* Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. (*Verse 19*) Speaking to \_\_\_\_\_ in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. Giving thanks \_\_\_\_\_ for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

EVIL IS NOT against God only, but against all of man-kind. Many have puzzled themselves about the origin of evil. I am content, however, to say there is evil, but there is a way to escape it.



## REJOICETH NOT IN INIQUITY, BUT REJOICETH IN THE TRUTH

*Romans 16:17-18*, Now I beseech you, brethren, \_\_\_\_\_ them which cause divisions and offences \_\_\_\_\_ to the doctrine which ye have learned; and \_\_\_\_\_ them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches \_\_\_\_\_ the hearts of the simple (minded).

*II Timothy 2:19-21, (vs. 19)* ...Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. ...(*verse 21*). If a man therefore purge \_\_\_\_\_ from these, he shall be a \_\_\_\_\_ unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every \_\_\_\_\_ work.



A STRONG EXAMPLE of someone who rejoiced in iniquity in the Old Testament is Balaam, the prophet, in Numbers chapters 22-25 & 31. Balaam wanted God's people to fail so he put a stumbling block in front of them so he would receive a reward.

Shakespeare put it like this, *Violent delights have violent ends*. And so goes the story of Balaam.

*Joshua 13:22*, Balaam also the son of Beor the soothsayer, did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them.

### LET US REJOICE IN THE TRUTH!

*II John 1:4*, I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in \_\_\_\_\_, as we have received a commandment from the Father.

*III John 1:3*, For I \_\_\_\_\_ greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the \_\_\_\_\_ that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth.

*I Corinthians 13:10*, But when that which is \_\_\_\_\_ is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

IF YOU STAY under the Word of God you will grow into the perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

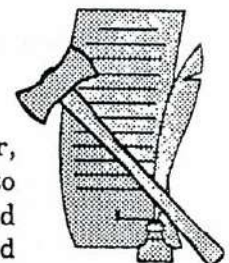
What is the end of this?



*ITimothy 1:5*, Now the end of the commandment is \_\_\_\_\_ out of a \_\_\_\_\_ heart, and of a \_\_\_\_\_ conscience, and of \_\_\_\_\_ unfeigned (free from hypocrisy or pretense, sincere).

## FABLES

IN FINDING THE Kingdom of God, one must be vigilant and sober, avoiding fables (*I Timothy 1:4*). It seems to be somewhat easier to believe in fables than truth. Like George Washington, the axe, and the cherry tree. This fable was told so long that it became documented into our text books.



Bro. Patton tells a story about a young couple who recently married. She asked her husband to pick up a ham at the store on his way home.

She was precise in her requirements to make sure he had the hock cut off because she was going to bake the ham. Being the forgetful fellow that he was, the hock was still on the ham when he returned home. His wife, piqued, requested he take it back and have the hock cut off.

"Why," the husband demanded.

"As long as I can remember, my mother always asked the butcher to cut off the hock," the wife coolly replied.

"But why?" he persisted!

Provoked, the young wife finally called her mother. Her mother replied, "Honey, my pot was too small for the ham, so we had to cut the hock off to make it fit."

### PERSISTENCE IN THE TRUTH

We, like the young husband, also must be persistent in asking questions. "Why?" and, "Where did this come from? Is it in the Bible, or is it something that grandpa and grandma believed?" Tryon Edwards once wrote, *Facts are God's arguments; we should be careful never to misunderstand or pervert them.*

As we find in:

*1 Timothy 1:7*, Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding \_\_\_\_\_ what they say, \_\_\_\_\_ whereof they affirm (swear).

### HOLD FAST TO SOUND DOCTRINE

*1 Corinthians 13:13*, And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these \_\_\_\_\_; but the greatest of these is \_\_\_\_\_.

WHY?

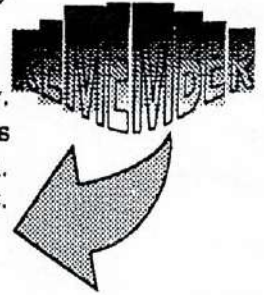
*Colossians 3:14*, And \_\_\_\_\_ all these things put on \_\_\_\_\_, which is the \_\_\_\_\_ of perfectness.

**BOND MEANS:** guarantee, surety, security, besides, sticking to, or adherence to. In other words, charity is the guarantee to perfection. Or, charity sticks us to perfection.

Whatever else we may have received from God, it's charity that brings it together and holds it together. A regulator on a pressurized bottle keeps the bottle from exploding. So charity is to the body. It keeps us from getting too high - thinking too much of ourselves. And getting too low - that we lose the hope of our eternal reward.

Charity, when put on, generates the feeling that we can do all things. And at the same time charity keeps us humble enough and lowly enough to remember that without Christ, we can do nothing.

If charity was just love, as most people think, it would be hypocrisy. Paul said, *Put on charity*. Love is from the heart, but charity goes beyond the heart, beyond feeling, and beyond our mental conception. Charity is Christ like. Charity is the manifestation of Christ. Therefore, though you may have everything else, and have not charity, it's worth nothing.

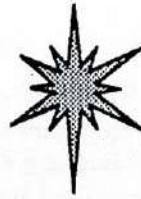


# CHARITY

Though I speak with the tongues  
 of men and of angels,  
 and have not charity,  
 I am become as sounding brass,  
 or a tinkling cymbal.  
 And though I have the gift of prophecy  
 and understand all mysteries,  
 and all knowledge;  
 and though I have all faith,  
 so that I could remove mountains,  
 and have not charity,  
 I am nothing.  
 And though I bestow all my goods  
 to feed the poor,  
 and though I give my body to be burned,  
 and have not charity,  
 it profiteth me nothing.



# A SPIRIT LED PEOPLE



## CHAPTER III

TO BE SPIRIT LED, we must first practice godliness. Godliness is a personal attitude, or a devotion toward God that results in actions pleasing to God. To please God, we must take the time to walk with Him and develop a relationship with Him. William Law wrote, *Devotion signifies a life given, or devoted to God. He therefore is the devout (godly) man, who lives no longer to his own will, or the way and spirit of the world, but to the sole will of God, who considers God in everything, who serves God in everything, who makes all the parts of his common life, parts of piety (godliness), by doing everything in the name of God, and under such rules as are conformable to His Glory.*

### OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLES



#### ENOCH

*Genesis 5:22*, And Enoch \_\_\_\_\_ with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:

*Verse 24*, And Enoch \_\_\_\_\_ with God: and he was not; for God took him.

*Hebrew 11:5*, By \_\_\_\_\_ Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he \_\_\_\_\_ God.

**ENOCH WALKED WITH God and pleased God; therefore it is obvious that his life was centered in God.**

 NOAH

*Genesis 6:8,9*, But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. ...Noah was a \_\_\_\_\_ man and \_\_\_\_\_ in his generations, and Noah \_\_\_\_\_ with God.

NOAH FOLLOWED THE leading of the Spirit first in building the ark to a specified plan prescribed by God. Next, at God's command, he gathered his family and all the animals into the ark.

*Genesis 7:16*, And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had \_\_\_\_\_ him (Noah): and the Lord shut him in.

NOAH DID NOT leave the ark until God bid him to.

*Genesis 8:15-17*, And God \_\_\_\_\_ unto Noah, saying, Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee...

*Hebrews 11:7*, By \_\_\_\_\_ Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became \_\_\_\_\_ of the righteousness which is by faith.

 ABRAHAM

*Genesis 12:1*, Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will \_\_\_\_\_ thee.

GOD MADE CERTAIN promises to Abraham that could only be fulfilled **IF** he would be led by His Spirit.

*Genesis 12:2*, And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and \_\_\_\_\_ shalt be a blessing.

AND 

*Genesis 12:3*, I (God) will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth be blessed.

ABRAHAM READILY obeyed. 

*Verse 4*, So Abram departed, as the Lord had \_\_\_\_\_ unto him....

**BECAUSE OF ABRAHAM'S willingness to be led by the Spirit, he was praised hundreds of years later as being a FRIEND of God.**

*Isaiah 41:8*, But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I (God) have chosen, the seed of Abraham

*James 2:23*, And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham \_\_\_\_\_ God, and it was \_\_\_\_\_ unto him for righteousness: And he was called the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

**ABRAHAM WAS NOT only blessed and called the Friend of God, but God also revealed to him the future of his seed.**

*Genesis 15:13-16*, verse \_\_\_\_\_, ...Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years.

**ABRAHAM OBEYED. His love for God and willingness to be led - whenever and wherever - obligated God.**

*Genesis 18:17,18*, And the Lord said, Shall I \_\_\_\_\_ from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? FOR I \_\_\_\_\_ HIM, that he will \_\_\_\_\_ his children and his household after him, and they shall \_\_\_\_\_ the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him.

**BECAUSE OF ABRAHAM'S faithfulness and devotion to God, he had power to bargain with the Lord.**


*Genesis 18:22-32*, verse \_\_\_\_\_, And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? Per adventure (suppose) there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

**SOMETIMES, HOWEVER, the Lord leads His people to do things that are not only hard, but hard to be understood that He might prove (make clear beyond a reasonable doubt) our love for Him.**

*Genesis 22:2*, And He (God) said, Take now thy son, thine only son \_\_\_\_\_, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and \_\_\_\_\_ him there for a \_\_\_\_\_ offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

**ABRAHAM'S LOVE FOR GOD proved true.**

*Genesis 22:10*, And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the \_\_\_\_\_ to slay his son.

 **GOD WANTS TO know that His people will not falter.**

*Genesis 22:12*, And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I (God) \_\_\_\_\_ that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

BECAUSE OF ABRAHAM'S willingness to be led by God's Spirit, God has given the ultimate blessing to the world.

*Genesis 22:18*, And in thy seed (JESUS) shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; BECAUSE THOU HAST \_\_\_\_\_ MY VOICE.

*Hebrews 11:8*, By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, \_\_\_\_\_; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

**TO BE LED BY THE SPIRIT IS TO "OBEY" THE VOICE OF THE LORD!**

**TAKE NOTE:** God's voice will never contradict His Word, nor go against His order. If we let the Spirit lead us, it will make us ONE with those who have the rule over us in the Lord.

*Hebrews 13:17*, \_\_\_\_\_ them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they \_\_\_\_\_ for your souls, as they that must give \_\_\_\_\_, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.



**MOSES**

*Exodus 3:10*, (The Lord said) Come now therefore, and I will \_\_\_\_\_ thee unto Pharaoh that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

**ONE MAY NOT** always be willing to heed the voice of God. Nor does God speaking to one make him feel adequate to carry out what God is asking of him.

*Exodus 3:11*, And Moses said unto God, \_\_\_\_\_ am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?





PHARAOH, ON THE other hand, refused the leading of the Lord.

*Exodus 5:2*, And Pharaoh said, Who is the Lord, that I should \_\_\_\_\_ His voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither I will let Israel go.

IF WE, LIKE Pharaoh, harden our hearts to the voice of God, our end result will be the same as his.

*Exodus 14:28*, And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as \_\_\_\_\_ of them.

MOSES, LIKE ABRAHAM, is called A FRIEND OF GOD.

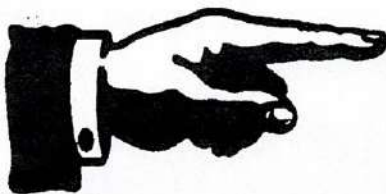
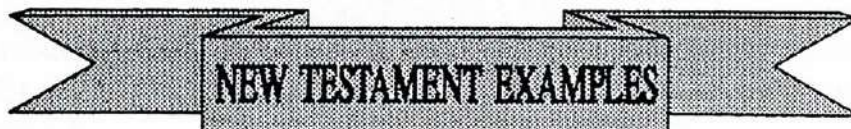
*Exodus 33:11*, And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his \_\_\_\_\_.

GOD LEADS HIS people in a variety of ways. King David was led into battle with a sound in the tops of the mulberry trees (*II Samuel 5:23-24*). The children of Israel, on the other hand, were led by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Their end because of unfaithfulness and lack of devotion to God, however, was death.

*Numbers 14:29-35, (vs. 29)* (The Lord said) Your carcasses shall \_\_\_\_\_ in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me.

*(Vs. 35)* (I the Lord have said) I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be \_\_\_\_\_, and there they shall \_\_\_\_\_.

A MULTIPLICITY OF additional examples, both of them who obeyed and of them who disobeyed, can be found in the Old Testament.



**JESUS**

**EVEN JESUS, the Son of God, followed the leading of the Spirit.**

*Matthew 4:1*, Then was Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ up of the \_\_\_\_\_ into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

**WE MUST KNOW His voice in order to follow Him.**

*John 10:14*, I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am \_\_\_\_\_ of mine.

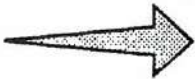


## JESUS' DISCIPLES

EVEN THOUGH THREATENED and beaten by men, Peter and the other Apostles declared:



*Acts 5:29*, We ought to \_\_\_\_\_ God rather than men!



THE LEADING OF THE SPIRIT must be foremost in our walk with God.

*Acts 8:26-27*, And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. And he arose and \_\_\_\_\_...

AGABUS, a prophet from Judaea, took Paul's belt and tied his hands and feet. He said, *So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this belt, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.* Paul, unwilling to be detoured from his mission, relentlessly replied that he was not only willing to be bound, but also to die if necessary. *Acts 21:11-14.*

ANANIAS was led by the Spirit to go and pray for one called Saul of Tarsus. He did so against his will. (The church at that time was in great fear of Paul.) *Acts 9.*

CORNELIUS, a Gentile, was led by the Spirit to send for Peter, a Jew, to come to tell them all things what they should do. Although skeptical, Cornelius obeyed. With trepidation, fearing the Jews, Peter went against his will. *Acts 10.*

PAUL, being led by the Spirit to Macedonia, left 'immediately.' *Acts 16:9,10.*

WHAT KIND OF book would the book of Acts be if these men had not been willing to be led by the Spirit, even against their own will?



## SUBSEQUENT TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

JOHN WYCLIF, WILLIAM TYNDALE (who was strangled and then his body burned at the stake), MILES COVERDALE, and many others were led by the Spirit to translate the Bible into a language the common people could read.

MARTIN LUTHER, led by the Spirit on October 31, 1517, tacked to the door of the Schlosskirche (castle church) in Wittenberg 95 academic theses *On the Power of Indulgences*, hoping that some scholar would debate with him about the relation of indulgences to penance, but instead of a debate, this brought about the beginning of the Great Reformation of the Church.

JOHN AND CHARLES WESLEY, were led by the Spirit to separate themselves from the Church of England. They and their followers were called *The Holy Club* because of their very strict and orderly lives.

THERE WERE many more who gave their lives for the Gospel's sake, dedicating themselves totally to our Lord.

AT THE TURN of this century, God made another great move. People once again got serious with God and began asking the same question that was asked Peter on the day of Pentecost. *Men and brethren, what shall we do?* And just like the day of Pentecost, people began speaking in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

THIS NEW movement began to grow. At first they only asked, "Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed?" But after a few years, they began separating over doctrine and asked, "What do you believe since you received." They looked back, then, to their Mother Church for answers and decided they needed to organize like all the other Christian Churches and they began to separate.

In 1914, BRO. WILLIAM SOWDERS, a young Pentecostal preacher, was invited to the meeting where this decision of organizing the Pentecostal church took place. The night before he was to leave for this meeting, God gave Bro. Sowders a dream warning him against going to that meeting. Bro. Sowders was LED BY THE SPIRIT to gather all of God's people together, no matter what they believed, *With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, Ephesians 4:2,3.*

**HOW SHOULD A CHURCH SERVICE BE CONDUCTED?**

IN MOST CHURCHES today the saints may not express themselves or the Spirit they feel in their church services. Preachers are the whole show. This cannot be the Body of Christ! For the Apostle Paul asked,

*1 Corinthians 14:26* How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, \_\_\_\_\_ ONE of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

WHEN WE COME together, everyone, including the preacher, is to be led by the Spirit. God gives to each saint a gift to exhort, to edify, and to minister to each other the fullness of God.



**IS IT TRUE, ONLY SOME PEOPLE RECEIVE GIFTS?**

*1 Peter 4:10*, As \_\_\_\_\_ man hath received the gift, even so minister the same \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

JESUS SAID in the parable of the talents that in the Kingdom of Heaven every servant receives a talent according to his abilities, (*Matthew 25:14-28*). Therefore, every one in the Kingdom of God receives at least one talent - THIS TALENT IS THE HOLY GHOST. THAT'S ONE!

*Matthew 25:29*, For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken \_\_\_\_\_ even that which he hath.

BROTHER CLYDE PATTON has told this story many times. One night Brother Coruthers, a Pentecostal preacher from the early part of this century, was praying about the church. The Lord spoke to him and said, "My people are not the saved people." Bro. Coruthers said, "Yes, Lord, I understand there is a deeper walk with you." The Lord continued, "My people are not the Holy Ghost people." Brother Coruthers became puzzled and asked the Lord for permission to go to the other room so he could write this down. The Lord permitted it, then He continued, "My people are the SPIRIT LED PEOPLE!"

Brother Sowders would say, "WATCH THE SPIRIT!" These men of God have emphatically emphasized the importance of preachers taking their hands off a church service; for unless they do, God will not be able to work.

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Type: The Ark did not have a rudder. Which meant man was not to do the steering, God wants to be the navigator. After all, it's His boat (or Church)!

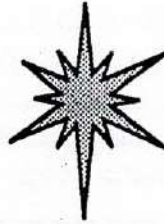
*Galatians 5:25*, If we live in the \_\_\_\_\_, let us also walk in the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Now let us reverence God  
and be good stewards  
of this gift.**

**After all, as Jerry Bridges said in his book,  
The Practice of Godliness,  
*The measure of our obedience is an exact mea-  
sure of our reverence  
for Him.***



# BAPTISMS - THREE KINDS



## CHAPTER IV

**QUESTION: HOW MANY BAPTISMS ARE THERE?**

**ANSWER: "THREE."**

**QUESTION: WHAT ARE THEY?**

*Matthew 3:11*, I indeed baptize you with \_\_\_\_\_ unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the \_\_\_\_\_, and with \_\_\_\_\_.

### NO.1 WATER BAPTISM:

**QUESTION: WHAT FORMULA IS TO BE USED WHEN BAPTIZING?**

*Colossians 3:17*, Whatsoever you \_\_\_\_\_ in word or \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ all \_\_\_\_\_ the name of the LORD JESUS, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him.

NO WHERE IN the Bible does it tell us what the minister is to say when Baptizing a person in water - only what to do! Doing and saying are different. For you can say and not do just as you can do and not say.

**QUESTION: SO WHICH IS BETTER?**

**ANSWER:** It is much better to be in His NAME. If you are in His Name then you don't have to say it - just do it.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS:

*Matthew 21:28-32*, (Jesus asked) But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I \_\_\_\_\_ sir: and went \_\_\_\_\_. Whether of them twain did the will of his father?

ONLY THE MEN and women who refused to take on any other name but the name of Jesus can possibly do what they claim. One cannot carry credentials from one organization and baptize in another.

BROTHER CLYDE PATTON said that many years ago he asked an old timer how he preached the Godhead, "Oneness, or Trinity?"  
 "Both," replied the old timer.  
 "Well then," asked Bro. Patton, "How do you baptize?"  
 "BOTH WAYS!" said the old timer.  
 "Now you've got me confused," said Bro. Patton.  
 "Well," the old timer replied, "one day we were baptizing in the river. There were a lot of people and so I thought I would try something different since there is so much controversy on what is to be said. So first I said, 'I baptize you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. And they came up speaking in other tongues. Next I said, 'I baptize you in the name of Jesus.' They also came up speaking in other tongues. So the best I can tell - it makes no difference what you say. — that is, to God."

**QUESTION: WHAT IS THE FAMILY NAME?**

**ANSWER: JESUS!**

*Ephesians 3:14,15*, For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the \_\_\_\_\_ family in heaven and earth is NAMED. (JESUS)

**QUESTION: CAN A PERSON SAY IT AND NOT BE DOING IT?**

**ANSWER: YES!**



*Matthew 23:3*, All therefore whatsoever they (the Scribes sitting in Moses' seat) bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works for they \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.



**LIKE THE SCRIBES**, men in organizations claim to be in Christ. You cannot be in both. We serve a jealous God. God said, *For I the LORD thy God am a jealous God.... Exodus 20:5.*

A true earmark of the Body Of Christ is - the Church will belong to nothing but Christ. No system, government or religion shall possess it. It's free!

If you are working for Montgomery Wards, come Friday don't expect a pay-check from Sears. And if you are working in the Pharisee church and have taken on their name, come Friday (death) don't expect a paycheck (life) from Jesus. It is impossible to die in Christ and at the same time die in any other church or body.

**QUESTION: WAS PETER SAYING SOMETHING DIFFERENT THAN JESUS WHEN HE SAID --?**

*Acts 2:38*, Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ for the remission of sins, and ye shall \_\_\_\_\_ the gift of the Holy Ghost.

**Jesus, on the other hand, said:**

*Matthew 28:19*, Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them \_\_\_\_\_ the name of the \_\_\_\_\_, and of the \_\_\_\_\_, and of the \_\_\_\_\_.

NOW WE KNOW that the family name is Jesus. Therefore, baptizing in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost is the same as baptizing in the NAME of Jesus. Again, since the words Father and Son and Holy Ghost are titles and not names, Jesus and Peter were making the same point.

**QUESTION: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF WATER BAPTISM?**

*I Peter 3:20-21*, Which sometime were disobedient, when once the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a-preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by \_\_\_\_\_.

The like figure whereunto even \_\_\_\_\_ doth also now save us (not the putting away of the fifth of the flesh, but (It is) the answer of a good \_\_\_\_\_ toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:



**WATER BAPTISM IS** an open declaration - physically and spiritually - that one is passing from this world to God. An open, vivid, tangible commitment brings good feelings toward God and a conscience void of offence.

*Acts 24:16*, And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a \_\_\_\_\_ void of offence toward \_\_\_\_\_, and toward \_\_\_\_\_.

## NO2 HOLY GHOST BAPTISM

**QUESTION: IS IT NECESSARY TO SPEAK IN TONGUES?**

**ANSWER: YES!** 

*Acts 2:3,4*, And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

*Acts 10:45,46*, And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Ghost.

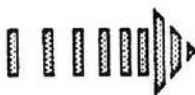
For they \_\_\_\_\_ them \_\_\_\_\_ with tongues, and magnify God.

**BY HEARING THEM** speak with tongues, they could not doubt that the gentiles had received the Holy Ghost.

*Acts 19:6,7*, When Paul laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they \_\_\_\_\_ with tongues and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve.

**Again, they HEARD them SPEAK.**

*I Corinthians 14:2*, For he that speaketh in an \_\_\_\_\_ tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto \_\_\_\_\_: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the \_\_\_\_\_ he speaketh \_\_\_\_\_.



**EVERY PLACE THEY** received the Holy Ghost in the Bible, speaking in tongues was, and still is, the evidence. This is the witness to the unbelieving.

*I Corinthians 14:4*, He that speaketh in an \_\_\_\_\_ tongue edifieth himself...

*I Corinthians 14:18*, I (Paul) thank my God, I speak with \_\_\_\_\_ more than ye all...

**QUESTION: IS IT AGAINST THE BIBLE TO FORBID TO SPEAK IN TONGUES?**

**ANSWER: YES!**

*I Corinthians 14:39*, Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ with tongues.

**QUESTION: WHAT OTHER ADVANTAGE IS THERE FOR SPEAKING IN TONGUES?**

**ANSWER: THE SPIRIT KNOWS** more what we need than we do.

*Romans 8:26*, Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know \_\_\_\_\_ what we should pray for as we ought: but the \_\_\_\_\_ itself maketh intercession for us with \_\_\_\_\_ which cannot be uttered.

## NO.3 FIRE BAPTISM

**QUESTION: WHAT IS THE FIRE FOR?**

**ANSWER: IT IS A TEST** to see whether or not we are the right material: sheep or goats, wheat or chaff.

*I Corinthians 3:12,13*, Now if any man \_\_\_\_\_ upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

\_\_\_\_\_ man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it (to see whether or not it keeps its value, and what was really accomplished), because it shall be revealed by \_\_\_\_\_; and the \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_ every man's work of what \_\_\_\_\_ it is.

*Matthew 3:11,12*, I (John the Baptist) indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear (carry): He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with \_\_\_\_\_;

Whose fan (BIBLE) is in his hand (Ministry), and he will thoroughly \_\_\_\_\_ his floor, and gather His wheat (sheep) into the garner; but He will \_\_\_\_\_ up the chaff (goats) with unquenchable \_\_\_\_\_.

FIRE IS THE process God uses to separate the good from the bad. It is a cleaning element. A purification. Fire is what God used on Sodom and Gomorrah. However, after the process of purification there was nothing left. All was chaff!

**PARABLE OF THE SHEEP AND GOATS:**

*Matthew 25:32-46*

And before Him (*God*) shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_:

And He shall set the sheep on his \_\_\_\_\_ hand, but the goats on the \_\_\_\_\_.

Then shall the King say unto them on His \_\_\_\_\_ hand, Come, ye \_\_\_\_\_ of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

THE KING TURNED to them on His right hand and said (paraphrasing), "I was hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, sick, and in prison. You brought me into your household and took care of me."

They, on His right hand, asked, "Lord, when did we do these things?"

The King answered, "When you did it to the least in the Kingdom, you did it unto me."

Then the King turned to those on His left hand and said, "When I was hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, sick, and in prison, you did nothing for me."

They, on His left hand, asked, "Lord, when did we not do these things?"

And the King answered, "When you did not do it to the least in the Kingdom, you did not do it to me. The King continued:

(Vs. 41) Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting \_\_\_\_\_, prepared for the devil and his angels (*like Sodom and Gomorrah*): (Vs. 46) And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

**QUESTION: WILL THE FIRE INCREASE OUR WORTH IN THE SIGHT OF GOD?**

*1 Peter 1:6,7*, Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith being much \_\_\_\_\_ precious than of \_\_\_\_\_ that perisheth, though it be tried with \_\_\_\_\_, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

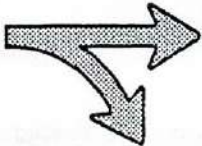
**QUESTION: WHAT IS OUR REWARD?**

*Revelation 2:10*, ....Be thou faithful unto \_\_\_\_\_, and I will give thee a crown of life.

If you will go through the fire and die to your own will, an angelic body will be your reward.

**TYPE: The purpose of the fire is our purification.***Esther 2:12 - Esther, Type of Bride*

Now when every maid's turn was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that she had been twelve months, according to the manner of the women, (for so were the days of their \_\_\_\_\_ accomplished, to wit, six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet odors, and with other things for the purifying of the women;)



ESTHER IS A type of the Bride of Christ. Myrrh is a picture of the Fire we must go through to die out to own will. The sweet odors are a type of the sweet Spirit of God that strengthens us in the fire.

*Daniel 3 - Three Hebrew Children*

NEBUCHADNEZZAR gave a command that all the people in the Kingdom were to bow down to an image of gold. The three Hebrew children, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, refused because in the Law of Moses God said, *Thou shalt have no other gods before me*. Because of their disobedience to the king, however, they were cast into a burning fiery furnace. Their answer to the king was:

*Daniel 3:17,18*, If it be so, our God whom we serve is \_\_\_\_\_ to deliver us from the \_\_\_\_\_ furnace, and He will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will \_\_\_\_\_ serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

THE THREE MEN were not loosed from their bonds until AFTER they were cast into the fire. When the king looked into the furnace the Bible says:

(*Vs. 25*) He (the king) answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the \_\_\_\_\_ and they have no \_\_\_\_\_; and the form of the fourth is \_\_\_\_\_ the Son of God.

WE, LIKE THE three Hebrew Children, must go through the fire before we are delivered from this world of sin and death.

**Malachi 3&4 - A Refiner's Fire**

(Chap.3 Vs. 2) But who may abide the day of His (Christ's) coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's \_\_\_\_\_, and like fullers' \_\_\_\_\_:

Fire purifies, takes away all impurities or noxious (harmful) matter.

*Ephesians 5:27, That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle (heat is needed to get wrinkles out of a garment), or any such thing: but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

(Vs. 3) And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi and purge them as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in \_\_\_\_\_.

ALL WORKS BUILT upon wood, hay, and stubble will be burned up. We must be made of gold, silver and precious stones to with stand the heat.

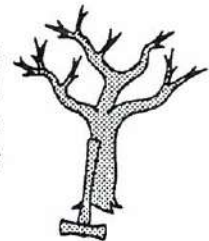
*I Corinthians 3:12,13, Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest...*

*Malachi 4:1, For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be \_\_\_\_\_: and the day that cometh shall \_\_\_\_\_ them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.*

**John 15 - The Vine and the Branches**

(Vs. 1,2) I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth fruit, he \_\_\_\_\_ it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

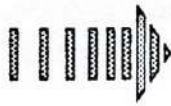
TO PURGE A vine the vine dresser prunes, or removes dead or living parts from a plant so as to increase fruit. Jesus is the vine and God the garner. Jesus said, *Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.*



On the other hand, Jesus continued in verse 6, and 7:

If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the \_\_\_\_\_, and they are \_\_\_\_\_.

If ye abide in me, and my \_\_\_\_\_ abide in you, ye shall \_\_\_\_\_ what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.



EVEN JESUS HAD to experience a purification process.

*Hebrew 5:8,9*, Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He \_\_\_\_\_; and being \_\_\_\_\_ perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

**QUESTION: ARE TRIALS COMMON TO ALL IN THE BODY OF CHRIST?**

*1 Peter 4:12,13*, Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery \_\_\_\_\_ which is to try you, as though some \_\_\_\_\_ thing happened unto you:

But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding \_\_\_\_\_.

Most of our trials are brought about by our brothers and sisters in the Lord. Someone steps on our toes and we are quick to let everyone know that we have been done wrong. We become real cry babies. However, **the birth stone of the Body of Christ is the GRIND STONE.**

In the Old Testament they had two circular stones in which to grind any edible grain into flour. The lower one had a stout stick standing at its center, and the upper one had a hole at its center so that it could rotate around the stick, and a handle eight or ten inches from the center to turn it. Generally it was worked by two women, facing each other, and each grasping the handle to turn the mill. One woman fed the grain in at the center of the upper stone and the other would guide and brush the products into a little pile. Because men depended upon flour for the staff of life and because they generally ground it only as needed, it was forbidden to take a mill in pledge.

*Deuteronomy 24:6*, No man shall take the nether or the upper millstone to pledge: for he taketh a man's life to pledge.

We are called wheat in the Word of God. Therefore we are to be placed between the two millstones in order to be ground into flour, that we might be made into that **ONE LOAF**, i.e., **ONE BODY - THE BODY OF CHRIST.**

**AS A MUSICIAN** stringeth his strings without intent to break a one of them, he prepares to make sweet melody and better concord. So God, through afflictions and adversities, prepares His own for the sweeter life. *Prosperity tries the fortunate, adversity the great,* (author

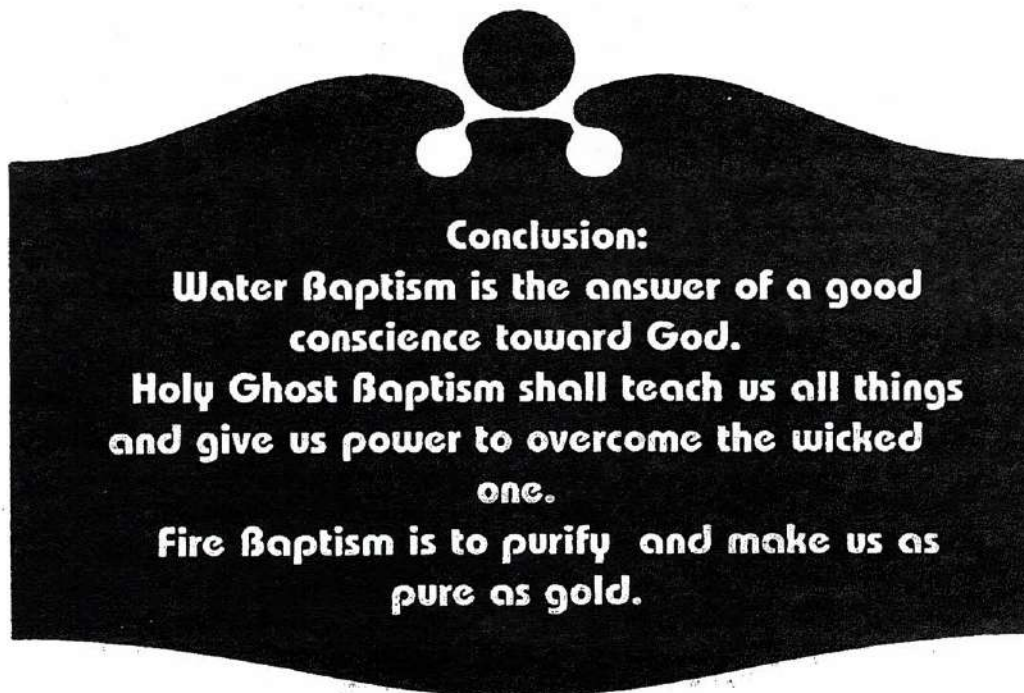
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**QUESTION: WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO REFUSE TO BE TRANSFORMED?**

*Psalms 2:9*, Thou shalt \_\_\_\_\_ them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in \_\_\_\_\_ like a potter's vessel.

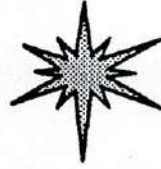
**AND:**

*Psalms 9:17*, The \_\_\_\_\_ shall be turned into \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ the nations that forget God.





# FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY



## CHAPTER V

THERE IS A massive religious world with as many ideas: about the Bible, about God, and about the various organizational matters. Nevertheless, there are some comparable beliefs among these diversified ideas. All organizations believe in having a ministry in the church. The excepted norm, however, is there are no apostles today, and mostly, no prophets. Pastors, yes, teachers, yes, evangelists, yes - most religious circles accept these three.

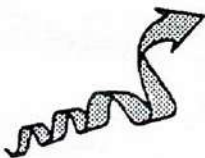
The latter-day church, however, will have a FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY.

### OLD TESTAMENT TYPES

*Exodus 17:8-16 (vs. 12)*, But Moses' hands were \_\_\_\_\_; and they took a \_\_\_\_\_, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur \_\_\_\_\_ up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were \_\_\_\_\_ until the going down of the sun.

This is a type of the people of God holding up their Minister in prayer, standing behind him, and supporting him willingly. When the people let down in their support and prayers, Satan, like Amalek, prevails. However, if the people of God hold up their Minister's hands, God will discomfit the enemy. The people of God can then be the conquerors.

Also, the stone they put under Moses to support him in type is the same stone that the builders rejected - Jesus Christ.



*Acts 4:11*, This is the \_\_\_\_\_ which was set at nought of you builders (preachers), which is become the head (Jesus) of the corner (His Body).

**GOD'S MINISTRY IS LIKENED UNTO LAMPS:**



*Exodus 25:31-37, (vs. 37)* ...And thou shalt make the \_\_\_\_\_ lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it.

THE SEVEN LAMPS in the Holy Place represent the five-fold ministry (Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Teachers, and Pastors) working with God the Father and Jesus Christ, His Son. This SEVEN-FOLD LIGHT is the same as the seven pillars in *Proverbs 9:1. Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars:*

*Zechariah 4:2,3*, I have looked, and behold a \_\_\_\_\_ all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his \_\_\_\_\_ lamps thereon, and \_\_\_\_\_ pipes to the SEVEN lamps, which are upon the top thereof: And \_\_\_\_\_ olive trees (the Old and New Testament) by it, one on the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof.

THIS IS A picture of the ministry taking the olives (the scriptures) off the olive tree (the Bible) and squeezing them (making known the understanding). This understanding (or light) is what gave Zerubbabel the fortitude to stand and accomplish the re-building of the Temple (the Church) (*Ezra 4 & 5*).

*Psalms 119:105*, Thy Word is a \_\_\_\_\_ unto my feet, and a \_\_\_\_\_ unto my path.

**ARE THESE SCRIPTURES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT REALLY TYPES?**

**YES !**

*HEBREW 10:1*, For the law having a \_\_\_\_\_ (type) of good things to come, and not the very \_\_\_\_\_ of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

IT IS A lack of understanding to believe that the Bible says what it means, though it means what it says - but with understanding. The Apostle Paul again reiterates:

*LET NO MAN therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holiday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days: Which are a SHADOW (type) of things to come; but the body is of Christ, Colossians 2:16-17.*

In the 9th chapter of Hebrews, Paul is explaining the type of the tabernacle, the natural or literal side of it with the spiritual.

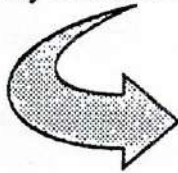
*(Vs. 9) Such was a figure (type) for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect.*

Paul was referring to the meats, drinks, various washings, and carnal ordinances - these cannot make a person perfect.

**This is spiritual - written to spiritual men.**

*I Corinthians 2:14-16, But the \_\_\_\_\_ man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he \_\_\_\_\_ them, because they are \_\_\_\_\_ discerned.*

*Isaiah 30:26, Moreover the light of the \_\_\_\_\_ shall be as the light of the \_\_\_\_\_, and the light of the sun shall be \_\_\_\_\_, as the light of seven days. in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of His people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.*



THE MOON IS a type of the Old Testament, the sun is the Son of God, or the New Testament. Seven in the Bible means complete or perfect; thus the sevenfold light is the perfect light, and the seven days is the end (or the completeness) of the day of the Gentiles. This is the day in which God's Ministry will take the Word of God back to Israel, God's chosen people, healing their wound and drawing them back into the fold of God.

*John 12:35,36, Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the \_\_\_\_\_ with you. Walk while ye have the \_\_\_\_\_, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in \_\_\_\_\_ knoweth not whither he goeth.*

While ye have \_\_\_\_\_, believe in the light (Jesus), that ye may be the children of \_\_\_\_\_.....

**The Jews chose darkness, rejecting Christ.**



# PARABLES

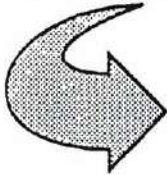
## TEN VIRGINS

*Matthew 25:1-12*

JESUS LIKENED the Church to ten virgins that took their lamps (the Bible), and went forth to meet the bridegroom. Five were wise, and five were foolish. The five wise, had oil (or understanding) in their lamps. Oil was squeezed from olives for the seven candlesticks in *Zechariah 4*. This is the oil Joel speaks about in:

*Joel 2:23,24*, Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord your God: for He hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the \_\_\_\_\_ rain, and the \_\_\_\_\_ rain in the first month.

And the floors shall be full of \_\_\_\_\_, and the vats shall overflow with wine and \_\_\_\_\_.



THE WISE VIRGINS, understanding this, prepared in advance to meet the bridegroom. By filling their vessels with oil (the seven-fold light), their pathway became illuminated.

The five foolish remained the children of the night, or darkness.

*Isaiah 59:10*, We grope for the wall like the \_\_\_\_\_, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noon day as in the \_\_\_\_\_: we are in desolate places as dead men (foolish virgins).

### A WOE

*Isaiah 5:20-24*

God gave a woe to them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness. These are false ministers that haven't any oil (LIGHT). They were being warned not to be wise in their own eyes.

(Vs. 23,24) Which \_\_\_\_\_ the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him! Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust.

### Why?

Because they have cast away the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord of hosts, and \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy One of Israel.

## GOD'S MINISTRY IS LIKENED UNTO CANDLESTICKS:



*Revelation 2:5*, Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy \_\_\_\_\_ (Ministers) out of his place, except thou \_\_\_\_\_.

*II Chronicles 13:10*, But as for us, the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ our God, and we have \_\_\_\_\_ forsaken him; and the \_\_\_\_\_, which minister unto the Lord, are the sons of Aaron, and the Levites wait upon their business: And they burn unto the Lord every morning and every evening burnt sacrifices and sweet incense: the shewbread also set they in order upon the pure table; and the \_\_\_\_\_ of gold with the \_\_\_\_\_ thereof, to burn every evening: for we keep the charge of the Lord our God; but ye have forsaken Him.

WHEN WE REFUSE to follow the ministry we forsake not only the minister, but God; it is through His ministry that God ministers to His people.

## THE GOOD SHEPHERD VERSUS THE WOLF

THE MINISTRY IS to protect, care for, and perfect God's sheep. God-called ministers are not hirelings. Jesus said:

*John 10:11,12*, I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd \_\_\_\_\_ his life for the sheep. But he that is an \_\_\_\_\_, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are \_\_\_\_\_, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and \_\_\_\_\_: and the wolf catcheth them, and \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep.

PAUL, WITH this same thought, said:

*Acts 20:29*, ...That after my departing shall grievous \_\_\_\_\_ enter in among you, not \_\_\_\_\_ the flock..

## GOD'S MINISTRY IS LIKENED UNTO THE HAND OF GOD:



*I Kings 18:41-44 (vs. 44)*, And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, \_\_\_\_\_ a man's \_\_\_\_\_. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not.

THE MAN'S HAND is a picture of the latter-rain ministry arising out of a sea of people. It is to have an abundance of rain - representing a mighty out-pouring of the Spirit. The Spirit is a type of rain because water is essential to produce fruit. With rivers of living water flowing out of our bellies we can produce much fruit.

Jesus called himself the true vine, God the husbandman, we are the branches. And every branch that doesn't bring forth fruit will be burned with unquenchable fire. Every branch that bears fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit, (*John 15:1-2*). This is why we need the rain. This is the reason we need the HAND - **CHRIST'S MINISTRY!**

*James 5:7*, Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman (God, see *John 15:1-2*) \_\_\_\_\_ for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter \_\_\_\_\_.

**DID NOT JESUS say, *Ye shall know them by their fruit (Matthew 7:16)?* The explanation of this type can be found in the book of *James*.**

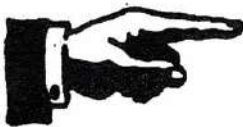
*James 5:17-18*, Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not \_\_\_\_\_; and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave \_\_\_\_\_, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

FROM THE PEN of Amos comes forth further prophecy of this time period.

*Amos 8:11,12*, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord:

And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to \_\_\_\_\_ the word of the Lord, and shall \_\_\_\_\_ find it.

THE REASON THEY won't find it is because the Hand (God's Ministry) must be restored to the Body. What do the hands do for the body? They wash, dress, and feed the Body - both naturally and spiritually.



### The offices of the Ministry are:

Apostle - Feeling. nerves - He's the Planter

Prophet - Seeing. eyes - He waters the people

Teacher - Hearing. ears - He's the Bishop

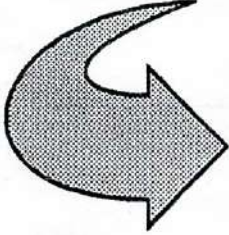
Pastor - Taster of what comes into the Body. the mouth - He's the Protector

Evangelist - Smelling. nose - He's the exhorter

*Daniel 5:5*, In the same hour came forth \_\_\_\_\_ of a man's \_\_\_\_\_, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the \_\_\_\_\_ that wrote.

GOD USES HIS ministry to write His Word in our hearts.

*I Samuel 17:40*, And (David) took his staff in his hand, and chose him \_\_\_\_\_ out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine (Goliath, the giant).



STONES, when found in a brook, become smooth with continuous, running water knocking them together. David picked up five smooth stones. This is a type of the five gifts of the Ministry. And though David only needed one (the Apostle), the other four were there to support him.

We must stay in the brook (the Church), with the protection of the water (the Spirit), to keep us from catching on fire. Eventually, we will have all our rough edges made smooth so we can fit together in the stone Daniel wrote about in *Daniel 2*.

*Daniel 2:34,35*, Thou sawest till that \_\_\_\_\_ was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his \_\_\_\_\_ that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, \_\_\_\_\_ to pieces together, and became like the \_\_\_\_\_ of the summer threshingfloors; and the \_\_\_\_\_ carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great \_\_\_\_\_, and filled the whole earth.

AS DAVID used a stone to kill Goliath, so God will use His Ministry to terminate Babylon. It will take a perfect five-finger Hand to accomplish this. The Hand is an extension of Christ, the same as a stone is but a small piece of the Rock, Christ Jesus.

## THE ROCK CHRIST JESUS VERSUS LIVELY STONES, HIS PEOPLE:



*I Corinthians 10:4*, And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ that followed them: and that Rock was \_\_\_\_\_.

*I Peter 2:5*, Ye also, as lively \_\_\_\_\_, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a \_\_\_\_\_ Corner Stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on Him shall not be \_\_\_\_\_.

## THE PURPOSE OF A FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY:



*Ephesians 4:11*, And he gave some, (1) \_\_\_\_\_; and some, (2) \_\_\_\_\_; and some, (3) \_\_\_\_\_; and some, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and (5) \_\_\_\_\_;

(vs. 12) For the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of the SAINTS, for the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the MINISTRY, for the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the BODY of CHRIST:

(Vs. 13) Till we all come in the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of the FAITH, and of the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Son of God, unto a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ man, unto the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of the stature of the fulness of Christ (The seven-fold light).

*Acts 8:30*, ....And (Philip) said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

And he (the eunuch) said, How can I, \_\_\_\_\_ some \_\_\_\_\_ should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

FOOLISHLY, PEOPLE'S minds are at work making independent, home-grown, self-taught religion. They're singing, "Me and Jesus, we got are own thing going." Even the Ethiopian eunuch knew better than that. It was the apostle Paul who said:

*Romans 10:14,15*, How then shall they call on him in whom they have not \_\_\_\_\_? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not \_\_\_\_\_? and how shall they hear without a \_\_\_\_\_?

And how shall they \_\_\_\_\_, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

*Hebrews 13:17*, \_\_\_\_\_ them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they \_\_\_\_\_ for your \_\_\_\_\_, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.





### Watchmen

Your Minister is a watchman. If he doesn't warn you of your wickedness with its pending danger, he's like a light house failing to warn a ship of imminent danger.

*Ezekiel 33:6*, But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not \_\_\_\_\_; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his \_\_\_\_\_ will I require at the \_\_\_\_\_ hand.

WHY?

*Isaiah 56:10*, His \_\_\_\_\_ are blind: They are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark (to warn); sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber (foolish virgins).

These are hirelings, loving the high seats and praises of men.

*Ezekiel 33:9*, (continues) Nevertheless, if thou \_\_\_\_\_ the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall \_\_\_\_\_ in his iniquity; but thou hast \_\_\_\_\_ thy soul.

### The Hands Provide Care for the Body

THE FIVE-FOLD Ministry parallels the Hand of God because your hands provide for your body. They wash and feed the body with loving care.

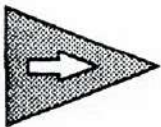
Jesus said in *John 3:12*, *If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?*

### Each Part of the Body, However, is Indispensable.

*I Corinthians 12:14,15*, For the body is not \_\_\_\_\_ member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore \_\_\_\_\_ of the body?

(*Vs. 25,26*) That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same \_\_\_\_\_ one for another.



And whether \_\_\_\_\_ member suffer, \_\_\_\_\_ the members suffer with it; or \_\_\_\_\_ member be honoured, \_\_\_\_\_ the members rejoice with it.



**REMEMBER**, you by yourself, without your brothers and sisters, are very vulnerable. We are no match for the wiles of deception.

*Proverbs 11:14*, Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the \_\_\_\_\_ of counsellors there is safety.

We are also admonished not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, as some do (*Hebrews 10:25*) because we are to be one.

 **HOW THEN CAN WE BE SAFE** 

*I Peter 5:6,7*, \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves therefore under the mighty \_\_\_\_\_ (Ministry) of God, that He may \_\_\_\_\_ you in due time:

\_\_\_\_\_ all your care upon Him; for He \_\_\_\_\_ for you.

*Proverbs 18:10*, The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is \_\_\_\_\_.

*Proverbs 29:25*, The \_\_\_\_\_ of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord shall be \_\_\_\_\_.

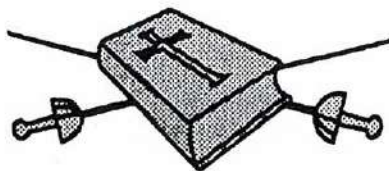
*Romans 13: 1,2*, Let every \_\_\_\_\_ be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

All powers, or authority, ordained of God are for our good, whether they be civil powers or spiritual powers (the ministry).

Whosoever there \_\_\_\_\_ the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves \_\_\_\_\_.

**If we resist the counsel of the Ministry we CANNOT be saved.**

(*Vs. 4*) For he is the minister of God to thee for \_\_\_\_\_. But if thou do that which is evil, be \_\_\_\_\_; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.



## GOD'S PEOPLE WILL BE GATHERED TOGETHER!



*Matthew 23:37*, Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have \_\_\_\_\_ thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would \_\_\_\_\_!

JESUS IS STILL entreating His people today to come together as one people under Him.

*Matthew 24:28*, For wheresoever the \_\_\_\_\_ is, there will the \_\_\_\_\_ be gathered together.



THE carcass represents Jesus' body that died on the cross for us.

*St. John 6:54*, Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

The eagles represent God's people who won't eat anything old, i.e., canned sermons or antiquated traditions of men. Their appetite is for daily manna - the fresh Word of God - given by the Ministry under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost.

The majority of Pentecostal preachers agree there is an exigency for God's people to come together. We have all read the scripture in St. John:

*Verse 17:20-22*, Neither pray I for these \_\_\_\_\_, but for \_\_\_\_\_ also which shall believe on me through their word;

That they all may be \_\_\_\_\_; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they \_\_\_\_\_ may be \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

And the glory which thou gavest me I have given \_\_\_\_\_; that they may be \_\_\_\_\_, even as we are \_\_\_\_\_:

(Vs. 23) ...And that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved \_\_\_\_\_, as thou hast loved me.

**If God does not answer His only begotten Son's prayer, what would make any of us believe our puny little prayers could possibly penetrate heaven?**

## GOD'S JUDGMENT UPON THE EARTH

AFTER A GREAT ingathering and before the last plague (the Battle of Armageddon of *Revelation 16*) is poured out upon the earth, the Church will be taken away. Some may ask, "Well, where is it going to be taken?" It doesn't matter where it is taken as long as the church is out of here before the blood bath takes place when the judgment of God is poured out on this world.

Televisions, radios, and newspapers are filled with one cataclysm after another. Earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, and great fires are taking precedence over crime and violence. The recent hurricane in Florida left thousands desolate. And before we heard the end of that catastrophe, the news was deluged with the great fires in the North West leaving some fifty thousand more people homeless. Besides these natural disasters, there is the AIDS Virus taking its death toll on the population. This is the beginning of the judgement of God coming on this world.

**Let us take heed:**

*II Chronicles 7:14*, If my people, which are called by my name, shall \_\_\_\_\_ themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their \_\_\_\_\_ ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their \_\_\_\_\_.

*Isaiah 26:9*, With my soul have I desired them in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy \_\_\_\_\_ are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn \_\_\_\_\_.

It's time for the preachers to preach! For when the people are having to do without, they become less materialistic and more introspective, searching for something for their souls.

*Psalms 50:5*, Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by \_\_\_\_\_.

*Verse 14 & 15*, Offer unto God thanksgiving; and \_\_\_\_\_ thy vows unto the most High: And \_\_\_\_\_ upon me in the day of \_\_\_\_\_: I will deliver thee, and \_\_\_\_\_ shalt glorify me.

## A REVOLUTION IN HEAVEN



BRO. PATTON, in a recent message said, "Bro. Dees, a UPC preacher, once said in a fellowship meeting, 'Look, if the church goes up like we are now on Friday night, a revolution will break out on the Main Street of Glory before Monday morning.' And I said, 'Amen.'"

"I've had the Holy Ghost myself," Brother Patton continued, "for fifty-six years and I understand the Holy Ghost people. I know they don't get along with each other. You can't get them to gather together for they'd rather stay apart because they can have their own way. They can remain a big duck in a little pond or a little duck in a big pond. Having to submit to others, however, does not appeal to them."

Bro. Raymond T. Richie, one of the old time preachers in the early part of this century, asked Bro. Patton what was his message for the people of Houston. Bro. Patton said, "We're preaching that God is going to gather His church together here on this earth before He takes it to heaven."

Bro. Richie replied, "That is a good message, but they'll throw you in the Bayou for preaching that here. I know it sounds good, but I also know it won't work. I tried it for years and you can't get God's people to come together."

## THE TO UNDERSTANDING GOD

*Ecclesiastes 10:15*, The labour of the foolish wearith every one of them, because he knoweth \_\_\_\_\_ how to go to the city.

To know how to go to the city - heaven - we must find the key to understanding God.

## The : GOD WORKS IN TIMES AND SEASONS

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*:

To \_\_\_\_\_ there is a season, and a time to every \_\_\_\_\_ under the heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to \_\_\_\_\_, and a time to \_\_\_\_\_ up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to \_\_\_\_\_ stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

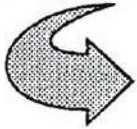
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep \_\_\_\_\_, and a time to \_\_\_\_\_;

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

**It is hard to get God to work out of season. You can dig through the ice in January to plant corn, but don't expect to eat it in March.**

GOD PROMISED many things in the Bible and we can claim them all, but if it is not in God's season we are asking amiss.

*James 4:3*, Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask \_\_\_\_\_, that ye may consume it upon your \_\_\_\_\_



**MANY DESIRE** to do wonders and miracles like they did in the early church without giving thought to what happened to the Apostles and saints who performed these deeds - Paul gives us a small glimpse.

*II Corinthians 11:23-30*,

Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in \_\_\_\_\_ above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.

Of the Jew five times received I forty stripes save one.

Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among \_\_\_\_\_ brethren;

In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the \_\_\_\_\_ of all the churches.

**Television Evangelists today want all the glory when a miracle occurs. But Paul tells us to glory in our infirmities.**

Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?

If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine \_\_\_\_\_.

### THE WHEAT AND THE TARES

There is a season to sow and a season to gather.

*Matthew 13:24-30,*

The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed \_\_\_\_\_ among the \_\_\_\_\_, and went his way.

But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the \_\_\_\_\_ also.

So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from \_\_\_\_\_ then hath it tares?

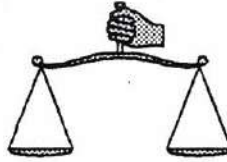
He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the \_\_\_\_\_ with them.

Let \_\_\_\_\_ grow together until the harvest: and in the \_\_\_\_\_ of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the \_\_\_\_\_, and bind them in bundles to \_\_\_\_\_ them: but \_\_\_\_\_ the wheat into my barn.

**The wheat are the chosen people of God who responded to the call of God in righteousness. The tares are those who answered the call of God but remained in unrighteousness.**

## JUDGEMENT IN SEASON



The Apostle Paul said:

*I Corinthians 4:5*, Therefore judge nothing before the \_\_\_\_\_, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the \_\_\_\_\_ things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts.

THE PHARISEES couldn't understand why Jesus' Apostles were not fasting. Jesus responded that the time would come, after the Bridegroom was taken from them, they too would fast. Today is much the same, people still don't understand the time and seasons of God's works. This statement, however, makes people mad.

There's anger and jealousy in the world. The early church suffered because of that anger and jealousy. They were whipped, jailed and eventually killed for the Gospel's sake.

This is the reason we haven't had any more success - it is not the season yet.

The Church will be restored. First, however, we will learn to love all of God's people - the oneness, the trinitarians and the twoness. We must get rid of every root of bitterness.

**Many churches are built into one man. The true Church, though, is to be built into a ministry, a five-fold ministry - Apostles, Prophets, Pastors, Teachers, and Evangelists!**



# HOLY, SANCTIFIED BODY



## CHAPTER VI

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IF WE ARE to understand and recognize The Body of Christ, we must first see God's nature. Out of His nature springs the deeds God performs, what God likes, and what God dislikes.

When Jesus came He did not only reveal God's righteousness, God's Holiness, and God's power, but He also revealed God's nature. This is God's identity, the embodiment of God that gives understanding to God's peculiarity in His people. For Jesus came in the brightness of God's glory and in the express image of God's person. And by the power of God's Word, He purges our sins. *For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, (see Hebrews 1:1-4, & Colossians 2:9).* So Jesus was the embodiment of God. Yes, God's righteousness and Holiness and power. So it is with the Church. The Church is to be in the image of Christ as Christ is in the image of His Father.

The world is trying to see the Body of Christ through a filter. (The filter being their own inadequate understanding of what God likes and dislikes). This filter befogs a person's vision like pure sunlight shining through a dirty glass. The Problem here is that the obscurity brought about by the filter is our own product. Unfortunately, our nature and God's nature are running in opposite directions.

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*Isaiah 55:8&9*, For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_, saith the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways \_\_\_\_\_ than your ways, and my \_\_\_\_\_ than your thoughts.

WE ARE *by nature the children of wrath...*(see *Ephesians 2:3*). Unfortunately, this is the legacy to all mankind. Therefore, we must seek the ways of God with all diligence if we desire to see the Body of Christ.

*Matthew 6:33*, But seek ye first the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, and His \_\_\_\_\_; and all these things shall be added unto you.



**SEEK MEANS** to search, hunt, probe for, examine, investigate and dig. Yes, dig until we're on solid ground. *His Righteousness* means acting on principle.

The secrets of the Body of Christ are not golden gifts given to lazy pets and luxurious darlings. God imposes certain tasks or commandments upon His people when presenting such opportunities to us to share with Christ and His divine nature.

*II Peter 1:4*, Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious \_\_\_\_\_: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine \_\_\_\_\_, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through \_\_\_\_\_.

### HOLINESS IS THE BEAUTY OF THE BODY

*I Chronicles 16:29*, Give unto the Lord the glory \_\_\_\_\_ unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of \_\_\_\_\_.

*II Chronicles 20:21*, ....He appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of \_\_\_\_\_, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his \_\_\_\_\_ endureth for ever.

IN PREPARING for temple worship, Hezekiah commanded to prepare chambers in the house of the Lord. They brought in their tithes and offerings and :

*II Chronicles 31:11-21, (vs. 18)* And to the genealogy of all their little ones, their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, through all the congregation: for in their set office they \_\_\_\_\_ themselves in \_\_\_\_\_.

*Obadiah 1:17*, But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be \_\_\_\_\_; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.

*Zechariah 14:20,21*, In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, **HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD**; and the pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yea, every pot in Jerusalem, and in Judah shall be \_\_\_\_\_ unto the Lord of hosts:

*I Corinthians 1:2*, Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus, called to be \_\_\_\_\_, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.

**SANCTIFY** means (1) to set apart as holy; consecrate. (2) to make free from sin; purify. A holiness standard of dress, therefore, must be a standard of dress different from the world to set one apart.

*I Timothy 2:8-10*, I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up \_\_\_\_\_ hands, without wrath and doubting.

In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in \_\_\_\_\_ apparel, with shamefacedness (modesty of character) and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;

But (which becometh women professing \_\_\_\_\_) with good \_\_\_\_\_.

*I Corinthians 6:11*, And such were some of you: but ye are \_\_\_\_\_, but ye are sanctified, but ye are \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

IN DEALING with our nature, Jesus said:

*Matthew 5:20*, ...That \_\_\_\_\_ your righteousness shall EXCEED the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case \_\_\_\_\_ into the kingdom of heaven.

And

*Matthew 18:3*, .... \_\_\_\_\_ ye be converted, AND become as little children, ye shall not \_\_\_\_\_ into the kingdom of heaven.

If Jesus had just left out the 'AND,' conversion would be enough. But a converted experience is not enough. The 'AND' is a conjunction meaning there is more work to be done after conversion.

JESUS PRAYED IN JOHN:



*John 17:16-19*, (Vs. 17) Sanctify them through Thy \_\_\_\_\_: Thy word is truth.

(Vs. 19) And for \_\_\_\_\_ sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also might be sanctified through the \_\_\_\_\_.

**How important is TRUTH? With it we are sanctified and without it we are not. Contrary to general opinion, it does make a difference in what you believe, in how you dress, and how you are baptized. It is also very important which church you attend.**

*II Timothy 2:20*, But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to \_\_\_\_\_, and some to dishonour,

If a man therefore \_\_\_\_\_ himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, \_\_\_\_\_, and meet (useful) for the master's use, and prepared unto every \_\_\_\_\_ work.

*IF A MAN therefore purge himself*, shows that there is more to being eternally saved than just confessing Jesus is the Son of God. *From these*, meaning those things that dishonour the body.

## WHAT DOES HOLINESS DO FOR US?



TO RESIST TEMPTATION is to be holy, i.e., to be morally blameless. It is to be separated from sin and consecrated to God. To pursue Holiness and face temptation takes effort and diligence and is a lifelong task. As we begin to conform to the will of God in one area, He will reveal to us our needs in another area. Thus, we begin to mature in Him.

## THE PURSUIT OF HOLINESS

THERE ARE THREE basic problems, however, that come against us in our pursuit of Holiness:



- (1) Our attitude toward sin and temptation may be more self-centered than God-centered. We become more concerned about our own "victory" over sin than about our sins grieving the heart of God. God wants us to walk in obedience - not victory.
- (2) We may have misunderstood *living by faith* to mean that no effort at Holiness is required on our part. (*Faith without works is dead.*)
- (3) Because of the lack of Holiness and sanctification, we may not take some sins and temptations seriously. We may have mentally classified sin into that which is unacceptable with that which may be tolerated a bit. (It is the little foxes that spoil the vine in the *Song of Solomon.*)

Are we willing to call sin "sin," not because it is little or big, but because God's law forbids it? God has not called us to be like those around us, but to be like Himself.

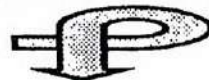
## HATE EVERY FALSE WAY

*Hebrews 12:14*, Follow peace with all men, and \_\_\_\_\_, without which \_\_\_\_\_ shall see the Lord.

WE ARE TO: *Hate every false way, (Psalms 119: 104).*

We may trifle with our sins, but God hates them. He never overlooks sin, NO MATTER HOW SMALL!

## GOD COMMANDS US TO BE HOLY



*Leviticus 19:2*, Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be \_\_\_\_\_: for I the LORD your God am \_\_\_\_\_.

HOLINESS is not an option! Paul in *Ephesians 1:4* tells us that the whole purpose of our salvation is that we may be holy and blameless in His sight. In *Titus 2* he continues to inform us that the grace of God teaches us to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives TODAY.

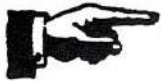
## WE ARE TO BE SANCTIFIED



*Hebrews 10:14-17*, For by one offering He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified

(*Vs.16,17*) ....I will put my laws into their \_\_\_\_\_, and in their \_\_\_\_\_ will I write them;

And their sins and iniquities will I \_\_\_\_\_ no more.



**Holy means to be spiritually perfect or pure;  
untainted by evil or sin; sinless.**

*Luke 1:74&75*, That He would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ before him, all the days of our life.

*Romans 6:19-22, (vs.22)* But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God ye have your fruit unto \_\_\_\_\_, and the end everlasting life.

### TO CLEAN UP OUR LIVES IS THE BEGINNING OF HOLINESS



*II Corinthians 7:1*, Having therefore these \_\_\_\_\_, dearly beloved, let us \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting \_\_\_\_\_ in the fear of God.

*Ephesians 4:24*, And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and \_\_\_\_\_.

*I Thessalonians 3:13*, To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in \_\_\_\_\_ before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

*I Thessalonians 4:7*, For God hath \_\_\_\_\_ called us unto uncleanness, but unto \_\_\_\_\_.

### IS HOLINESS JUST IN THE WAY YOU DRESS?



*Titus 2:3*, The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh \_\_\_\_\_, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things.

**LIVING A HOLY** life is the only safe evidence that we are in Christ and that Christ is in us. Therefore, let us grieve over the sin in our lives rather than justifying it. Without Holiness, we are ineffective in our service to God.

If we are firmly grounded in the security of Christ, our motives will be pure. In striving to follow Christ in all areas of our lives, we will guard our bodies so sin and temptation does not reign within. The responsibility of resisting sin is ours. God does not do that for us. **The potential for resisting sin is God-provided, but the responsibility for resisting sin is ours!**

Resisting temptation produces a very overwhelming, but not an undefeatable, battle if we ask God daily to search our heart for sin that we cannot, or will not, see.

Standards are also where we go, the things we do, and what we say. Job said that he wouldn't suffer his mouth to sin (*Job 31:30*). And James said, *If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man (James 3:2)*.

There are places that a Christian shouldn't go. It may not even be because it's a sin, but a stigma created in certain places and with certain games makes it a sin. Like shooting pool. There is nothing wrong or sinful about a pool-table. But because of all the evil encompassing pool halls, a stigma was born. Someone said, "It doesn't make any difference." Then why don't you ever hear of the Hells Angel's hanging out at the PING-PONG HALL?

Evil lurks in certain places and games, not necessarily because it is sin, but because of how it has been used.

But the Apostle Paul said:

*II Thessalonians 3:6*, Now we \_\_\_\_\_ you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the **TRADITION** which he received of \_\_\_\_\_.

AGAIN:

*II Thessalonians 2: 15*, Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the \_\_\_\_\_ which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

## LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*Matthew 5:14-16*, Ye are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.

Neither do men light a candle, and put it \_\_\_\_\_ a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto \_\_\_\_\_ that are in the house.

Let your \_\_\_\_\_ so shine before men, that they may see your \_\_\_\_\_ works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

WHEN WE LIVED in Carlsbad, New Mexico, there was a high hill we would drive up on at night and look out over the city. It was the most beautiful sight! We, like the city of Carlsbad at night, are to light up the area surrounding us that we could influence others to Christ.

What we do, where we go, and what we wear influences others, whether we want to believe it or not. People expect more out of Holy Ghost people than they do of other Christians. And it offends them when we do not live up to their expectations of how a real Christian should live. We must be a light in a dark world!

**FOR**

*Romans 8:19*, For the earnest expectation of the creature \_\_\_\_\_ for the manifestation of the sons of God.

**OFFEND NOT IN WORD OR DEED**



*James 3:2*, For in many things we offend all. If any man offend \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, the same is a \_\_\_\_\_ man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

Paul said:

*I Corinthians 8:7-13, (vs. 13)* Wherefore, if meat (a deed) make my brother to \_\_\_\_\_, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my \_\_\_\_\_ to offend.

I'm talking about being Holy, Sanctified, and set apart from this WORLD. Being set apart, however, means self-denial and self-denial is not a life Americans feel comfortable with. We feel if someone says "No!" that we are being denied of something good. We are bound to be missing out on life. After all, everyone is doing it!

It is not self-denial, however, that makes life anxious or uncomfortable, but the lack of it.

William Law, in his book, *A Serious Call to Holy Living*, tries to make us aware of the joys of having a sound, solid mind. Lower cravings have spoiled our taste for good things. We have been programmed to feel that depriving ourselves of seemingly innocent pleasures will make us feel downcast, bored, and gloomy. Actually, the opposite is true. So he said:



*Imagine a person free from pride, envy, greed, lust, and other passions. Would not that person find real satisfaction? But take away one virtue from his life, replacing it with one vice, and by that degree his happiness will be reduced. All trouble and uneasiness comes from lacking something or other. Therefore, anything that increases our desires and supposed needs correspondingly increases our dissatisfaction.*

If Christian virtues are to be ours, they must be ours daily. Christians must live in the world, but must not be partakers of the world. We must not conform to their fads or indulge in their pleasures. If we do, how then can we say we are in the straight and narrow way?

We must live above and contrary to the world. Our lives must be a daily course of humility, self-denial, and heavenly meditation with affection. If not, we are not in the straight and narrow way, nor are we living the CHRISTIAN LIFE.

**OUR PRAYER SHOULD BE:**

*Psalms 139:23-24*, \_\_\_\_\_ me, O God, and \_\_\_\_\_ my heart:  
\_\_\_\_\_ me and know my thoughts;

And see if there be any \_\_\_\_\_ way in me, and \_\_\_\_\_ me in the way everlasting.

AS WE PRAY for God to search our hearts, let us continually expose ourselves to the searching of His Word. Watch for the struggle between our desires and our reasons.



We abuse grace by thinking that we can continue to sin and receive forgiveness by claiming *I John 1:9*. We abuse grace when we dwell on God's compassion and mercy while forgetting His Holiness and hatred of sin. We must keep our hearts with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life (*Proverbs 4:23*).

**PASTORS, WARN THE WICKED***Ezekiel 3:17-19*

Son of man, I have made thee a \_\_\_\_\_ unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them \_\_\_\_\_ from me.

In the Body of Christ, God's ministers are called to be WATCHMEN. And they are responsible for the care of the sheep, and must give an account to God for them.

When I say unto the \_\_\_\_\_, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not \_\_\_\_\_, nor speakest to \_\_\_\_\_ the wicked from his wicked way, to \_\_\_\_\_ his life; the same wicked man shall \_\_\_\_\_ in his iniquity; but \_\_\_\_\_ blood will I require at \_\_\_\_\_ hand.

Yet if thou \_\_\_\_\_ the wicked, and he turn \_\_\_\_\_ from his wickedness, nor from his wicked \_\_\_\_\_, he shall \_\_\_\_\_ in his iniquity; but \_\_\_\_\_ hast delivered thy soul.

**PASTORS, WARN THE RIGHTEOUS**

*Hebrews 13:17*, Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they \_\_\_\_\_ for your souls, as they that must give \_\_\_\_\_, that they may do it with \_\_\_\_\_, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

THE MINISTRY is commanded not only to warn the wicked, but the righteous.

*Ezekiel 3:20-21*

*Again*, When a righteous man doth \_\_\_\_\_ from his righteousness, and \_\_\_\_\_ iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast \_\_\_\_\_ given him warning, he shall \_\_\_\_\_ in his sin, and his \_\_\_\_\_ which he hath done shall not be \_\_\_\_\_; but his blood will I require at \_\_\_\_\_ hand.

Nevertheless if the Ministry warns the righteous man, and he quits sinning because he was warned, that person shall LIVE! (Vs.21)

**FALSE WATCHMEN - WOLVES**

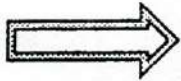
*Song of Solomon 5:7*, The \_\_\_\_\_ (false preachers) that went about the city found me (church), they smote me (church), they wounded me (church); the keepers of the walls took away my \_\_\_\_\_ (purity) from me.

THE CHURCH went into a bewildered condition. Because of false preachers leading the people astray, the Church fell away from that holy, righteous place the Apostles had brought them to.

Paul warned the people before he left of what would take place.

*Acts 20:29,30*, For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous \_\_\_\_\_ enter in among you, not sparing the flock (church).

Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking \_\_\_\_\_ things (dubious men justifying sin), to draw \_\_\_\_\_ disciples after them.



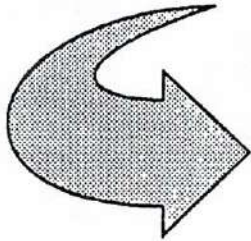
JUDE CALLED these men BEASTS.

*Jude 10*, But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they \_\_\_\_\_ themselves (by insisting on remaining in the flesh).

CHRISTIANS have been contaminated by false teaching. Preachers refusing to cry out against sin has resulted in spots and blemishes in the saints garments.

*II Peter 2:13,14*, And shall receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. \_\_\_\_\_ they are and \_\_\_\_\_, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;

Having \_\_\_\_\_ full of adultery, and that cannot cease from \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children.



PAUL CALLED these men who refused to warn the people false prophets and false teachers. These men have gone after the way of Balaam for reward. In other words, the more people in the church means more money for the preacher. Therefore, in unrighteousness they hold the truth. These are crowd pleasers that have taken the veil away from the church. Read *II Peter 2*.

It is true, many people have been hurt by men. Preachers have gone bad, or some were never any good to start with. Therefore, many people now refuse to follow any man. I have heard some say, "I'm not following a man, I'm following God. Man can fail but God will never fail." This is true. Man can fail. It is God, however, who decided that men would be the under-shepherds preaching His Gospel to His people. It was God who moved on the Holy Men of old to even write the Bible, His Word.

## WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE WORLD WITHOUT A MAN OF GOD?

*Ezekiel 22:30,31*, And I sought for a \_\_\_\_\_ among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should \_\_\_\_\_ destroy it: but I found \_\_\_\_\_. Therefore have I \_\_\_\_\_ out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the \_\_\_\_\_ of my wrath: their own \_\_\_\_\_ have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord God.

God has men today who are not afraid to lift up their voice and cry out, warning the wicked of his wickedness. Nor are they he afraid to warn the righteous that he might remain righteous. These men are willing to deliver their souls for the gospel, for righteousness, and for holiness. Holy men of God, let us rise to the occasion!

### THIS IS NOT TOO MUCH TO ASK OF A MAN OF GOD!

*Philippians 4:13*, I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENETH ME!

A man once asked me, "Do you know the difference between a big shot and a little shot?"

I answered, "No."

"Well," he said, "The difference is a big shot was just a little shot that just kept shooting."

This is how we are going to make it: just one step at a time, here a little and there a little. There is a Chinese proverb that says, *A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.*

***I beseech you therefore, brethren,  
by the mercies of God,  
that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice,  
holy, acceptable unto God,  
which is your reasonable service.  
Romans 12:1***

# PERFECTION

## CHAPTER VII



### PATHWAY TO PERFECTION

*John 3:7*, Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be \_\_\_\_\_.

MAN IS BORN once of natural flesh to enter the world. To enter the spiritual world he must be born again, and that by receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Thus we are but children needing a teacher to educate us by which we may grow up in Christ.

*Ephesians 4:11-14*, And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

For the \_\_\_\_\_ of the saints, for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ministry, for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the body of Christ;

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a \_\_\_\_\_ man unto the measure of the stature of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ:

That we henceforth be no more \_\_\_\_\_ tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.



**WE ARE NOT** to remain children, except in malice (*I Corinthians 14:20*), but we are to grow up in Christ and finally become mature adults in Him. When children play they get their feelings hurt easily. If one won't let the other play with his little red wagon, he'll jump up and shout, "I'm going home, I'm not going to play with you any more!"

Is this not what some Christians do? Their brother or sister in the church says something to hurt their feelings and they may not be back in church for a month. They say, "No one in this church loves me, so I'll just stay home. That'll show them!"

An adult in Christ, on the other hand, is to be mature, complete - which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection. When someone hurts his feelings, he is to forgive that person seven times seventy, or four-hundred and ninety times, IN ONE DAY! (- even if that person does not ask for forgiveness. Remember, some offend others and don't even know it. Are we to let that person stand between us and God? If we do, that means he, or she, is closer to God than we are.)



## A NEW CREATURE IN CHRIST

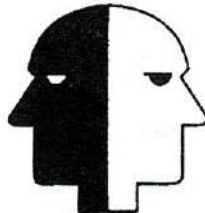


*II Corinthians 5:14-17 (vs. 17)*, Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a \_\_\_\_\_ creature: old things are passed away; behold, \_\_\_\_\_ things are become \_\_\_\_\_.

JESUS IS THE FATHER of the new creation, being also called the SECOND ADAM (*I Corinthians 15:45*), and a \_\_\_\_\_. Once a man has reached perfection and is completely born again of the Word of God, he may not appear outwardly different for he is just a babe in Christ. Perfection is a PROGRESSIVE PROCESS.

*Romans 6, (vs. 4)* Therefore we are \_\_\_\_\_ with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in \_\_\_\_\_ of life.

**THE OLD MAN is the carnal mind, the new man is the spiritual mind:**



*Romans 8, (vs: 7,8)* Because the \_\_\_\_\_ mind is enmity against God: for it is not \_\_\_\_\_ to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

So then they that are in the \_\_\_\_\_ (the carnal mind) cannot please God.

## THE FIRST KEY:



### WE MUST BECOME AS LITTLE CHILDREN

JESUS GAVE A beautiful KEY to understanding perfection when he explained that to become Mature or Perfect, a person must FIRST become AS a little child.

*Matthew 18:3*, Verily I say unto you, Except you be converted (or changed) and become as little \_\_\_\_\_, you shall not \_\_\_\_\_ into the kingdom of heaven.

BECOMING AS little children involves becoming HUMBLE. Not to get humbleness confused with meekness; meekness is an outward manifestation that is so often misread as being humble. While meekness is an outward manifestation, humbleness is an inward state of being. Meekness is taking a lower seat at one's own choice with a good spirit; humbleness, on the other hand, is exhibiting a good spirit while being told to take the lower seat.

(Vs. 4) Whosoever therefore shall \_\_\_\_\_ himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.

*IF THOU wouldst find much favor and peace with God and man, be very low in thine own eyes. Forgive thyself little and others much.*  
-Leighton.

When Samuel, the prophet, first anointed Saul to be king of Israel, Saul humbly replied:

*I Samuel 9:21*, ...Am not I a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speakest thou so to me?

BUT AFTER he became king, he became exalted in his own eyes:

*I Samuel 15:17*, (And Samuel said) When thou (Saul) wast \_\_\_\_\_ in thine own sight, was thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee king over Israel?

OBEYING THE perfect will of the Father will cut -away natural pride and make a person SMALL in his own eyes, and able to fit into the plan of God.

THIS IS what Isaiah meant in:

*Isaiah 28:20*, For the \_\_\_\_\_ is shorter than a man can stretch himself on it; and the \_\_\_\_\_ narrower than that he can wrap himself in it.

THE BED IS a picture of the CHURCH, and the covering is the WORD OF GOD. We must become as little children, and then we can fit under the covering of God and find REST (or PERFECTION) in the bed.

Leaven (sin) puffs up the flesh so the flesh can no longer fit beneath the covers, or even in the bed. For flesh is carnal and the church is Spiritual; the two will not mix. LOW is the way. It takes a straight and narrow pathway for one to fit into and become viable, living parts of the Church of Jesus Christ. We can secure perfection only by mortifying our flesh and becoming as little children.



Everything physical about us is like clothing. It is to be used; but with the using it will wear out. Our permanent (spiritual) part needs purity, our temporary part inclines toward pleasure. This is the internal war!

We are to consider our bodies as residences, keep them pure and clean. Considering your flesh as servants, give them enough food, rest, and clothing to do their duties. If you give your bodies more attention than this or your soul less, you are imprudent. Preferring adornment for the body over perfecting our soul is as foolish as preferring good clothes to good health. In short, cultivate your soul more than your body. Grow up, don't stay a little child!

## THE SECOND KEY:



### WE MUST LEARN TO WALK IN THE SPIRIT

**To walk in the Spirit we must walk by faith.**

*II Corinthians 5:7*, For we \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_, not by sight:

**To walk in the Spirit we must learn obedience**

*Hebrews 5:8,9*, Though He were a Son, yet learned He \_\_\_\_\_ by the things which He suffered;



And being made \_\_\_\_\_, He became the \_\_\_\_\_ of eternal salvation unto all them that \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

**To walk in the Spirit is to be spiritually minded.**

*Romans 8:6*, For to be carnally minded is \_\_\_\_\_; but to be spiritually minded is \_\_\_\_\_ and peace.

**To walk in the Spirit is to keep God's Word.**

*I John 2:5,6*, But whoso \_\_\_\_\_ His Word, in him verily is the love of God \_\_\_\_\_: hereby know we that we are in Him.

He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to \_\_\_\_\_, even as He walked.

THERE IS A moral excellence attainable by all who have the will to strive for it; but it is never granted to man except as the reward of labor.

**"LOVE NOT SLEEP, LEST THOU  
COME TO POVERTY."**



**To walk in the Spirit, we must produce  
the fruit of the Spirit.**

JESUS SAID if a tree is good it will bring forth good fruit, but if the tree is corrupt, it will produce evil fruit, (*Matthew 7:17*). The Body of Christ is to be known by its fruit. Jesus said, *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another (John 13:35)*.

*Galatians 5:22-23*, But the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Meekness, temperance: against such there is \_\_\_\_\_ law.

(*Vs. 25*) If we \_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit, let us also \_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit.

**To walk in the Spirit, we must mortify, or kill, the deeds of the body.**

*Colossians 3:5*, \_\_\_\_\_ therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

**To walk in the Spirit we must put off the old man and put on Christ.**

*Romans 6:6*, Knowing this, that our \_\_\_\_\_ man is crucified with him, that the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should \_\_\_\_\_ serve sin.

*Romans 13:14*, But \_\_\_\_\_ ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make \_\_\_\_\_ provision for the \_\_\_\_\_, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

*Colossians 3:12,13*, Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, \_\_\_\_\_, longsuffering;

Forbearing one another, and \_\_\_\_\_ one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do \_\_\_\_\_.

**Walking in the Spirit is an humble way.**

*Ephesians 4:1-3*, I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye \_\_\_\_\_ worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

With all \_\_\_\_\_ and meekness, with longsuffering, \_\_\_\_\_ one another in love;

\_\_\_\_\_ to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

**Walking in the Spirit is walking in love.**

*Ephesians 5:2*, And \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

**Walking in the Spirit is a self-sacrificial way.**

*Romans 12:1*, I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God that ye present your \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your \_\_\_\_\_ service.

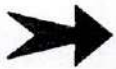
**THE THIRD KEY:**



**QUIT THE SINNING BUSINESS!**

*1 John 3:1-14, (vs. 9)* Whosoever is born of God doth not \_\_\_\_\_, for his seed remaineth (or abides) in him; and he \_\_\_\_\_ sin (i.e., if he wants eternal life), because he is \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

THERE IS A big difference in Christ being in me and me being in Christ. When I received the Holy Ghost, Christ's Spirit entered me and forgave all my sins. The very next time I sinned I became a sinner. Before I came to Christ I was just an ungodly person, not a sinner. Paul said, *For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law; and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law; For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Romans 2:12,14.*



Now a person can be in an organization and have Christ in him. To get Christ in you, Peter said, *Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, Acts 2:38.* However, as long as you are in an organization, you cannot be in Christ although Christ is in you. And as you cannot live in an organization and be in Christ, neither can you die in an organization and die in Christ at the same time.

When I found a Ministry teaching that I must quit the sinning business, I knew I had found the Body of Christ. Organizations do not teach this, therefore, they cannot be the Body.

As long as we are still sinning, however, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who propitiates, or pleads our cause, to His Father, and our God, that we might regain favour in His sight. *John 1:9* says, *He is faithful and just to forgive.* Yet when we finally enter completely in Christ, we will sin no more. Righteousness will no longer have to be imputed, or just credited to our account, but it will be an intrinsic, ingrained part of us. We will be righteous through and through!

*Romans 6:16*, Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of \_\_\_\_\_ unto death, or of \_\_\_\_\_ unto righteousness?

MOST PEOPLE think we have to sin a little every day because we are earthly creatures. It is like serving God part-time. A part-time Christian may as well be a no-time Christian. *Revelations 3:16* says, *So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue you out of my mouth.* A person who believes in part-time Christianity may as well believe in part-time intelligence. Our belief in Christianity perfects, raises us up to God, and exalts our best side. Who would wish to be free of it?

(Vs. 22-23), But now being made \_\_\_\_\_ from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

For the wages of sin is \_\_\_\_\_ but the gift of God is eternal \_\_\_\_\_ through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*I John 5:18*, We know that whosoever is born of God \_\_\_\_\_ not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth \_\_\_\_\_ (from sin), and that wicked one toucheth him not.

C.S. LEWIS in his book, *Mere Christianity* says, *If you want to get warm you must stand near the fire: if you want to be wet you must get into the water. If you want joy, power, peace, eternal life, you must get close to, or even into, the thing that has them. So it is with PERFECTION. If you want it, get in the Body of Christ!*

### THE MEAT OF THE WORD OF GOD



AFTER WE RECEIVE the Holy Ghost, after we become humble, after we learn to walk in the Spirit, after we quit sinning, we will no longer need just the milk, but we will need - and want - the MEAT of the Word of God.

*Hebrews 5:14*, But strong \_\_\_\_\_ belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by \_\_\_\_\_ have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

*Hebrew 6:1*, Therefore \_\_\_\_\_ the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us \_\_\_\_\_ unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God.

*IF I AM a field that contains nothing but grass-seed, I cannot produce wheat. Cutting the grass may keep it short: but I shall still produce grass and no wheat. If I want to produce wheat, the change must go deeper than the surface. I must be ploughed up and re-sown, C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity.*

## THE FOURTH AND FOREMOST KEY:



### WE MUST LEARN TO PUT ON CHARITY

CHARITY IS MORE than just a natural, inherent, run of the mill love. It is an agape love, a God-like love extraneous to man except through the power of the Holy Ghost.

*Matthew 22:37-39*, Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord thy God with all thy \_\_\_\_\_, and with all thy \_\_\_\_\_, and with all thy \_\_\_\_\_.

This is the first and \_\_\_\_\_ commandment.

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy \_\_\_\_\_ as thyself.

*Colossians 3:14*, And above all these things PUT ON \_\_\_\_\_, which is the bond of perfectness.

*Matthew 5:43-48, (vs. 44)*, But I say unto you, love your \_\_\_\_\_, bless them that \_\_\_\_\_ you, do good to them that \_\_\_\_\_ you, and \_\_\_\_\_ for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

*Romans 13:10*, \_\_\_\_\_ worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the law.

*I Corinthians 13:13*, And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the \_\_\_\_\_ of these is \_\_\_\_\_.

*I Corinthians 13:1,2*, Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not \_\_\_\_\_, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not \_\_\_\_\_, I am \_\_\_\_\_.

IT TAKES MATURITY to love. Love must take on the verb form thus becoming action before it can be a demonstration of affection cultivated by patience and longsuffering. This is precisely what children cannot give. Children only know how to receive; they must be taught how to give.

## PUTTING THE KEYS INTO PRACTICE:



### PUTTING AWAY CHILDISH THINGS

By not speaking evil or sowing discord in the Body of Christ.

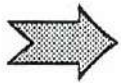
*Proverbs 10:12*, Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love \_\_\_\_\_ all sins.

*Proverbs 11:13*, A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a \_\_\_\_\_ spirit  
\_\_\_\_\_ the matter.

*Ecclesiastes 5:6*, Suffer not thy \_\_\_\_\_ to cause thy flesh to sin.

*James 3:1-10, (vs.2&8)*, ...if any man offend not in \_\_\_\_\_, the same is a \_\_\_\_\_  
man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

But the \_\_\_\_\_ can no \_\_\_\_\_ tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.



SINCE NO MAN can tame the tongue, we must rely on the power of God, using the KEYS of knowledge and understanding to overcome, for Jesus said ...

*Matthew 15:11*, Not that which goeth \_\_\_\_\_ the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh \_\_\_\_\_ of the mouth, \_\_\_\_\_ defileth a man.

And....

*Matthew 12:34,36*, O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things, for out of the abundance of the \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ speaketh.

But I say unto you, That every idle \_\_\_\_\_ that men shall \_\_\_\_\_, they shall give \_\_\_\_\_ thereof in the day of judgment.

Therefore....

*Proverbs 4:23,24*, Keep thy \_\_\_\_\_ with all diligence; for out of it are the \_\_\_\_\_ of life.

Put away from thee a froward (obstinately self-willed in refusing to concur, conform, or submit) \_\_\_\_\_, and perverse (nefarious or vicious) \_\_\_\_\_ put far from thee.

Why?



*Proverbs 6:16-19*, These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

A \_\_\_\_\_ look, a \_\_\_\_\_ tongue, and hands that shed \_\_\_\_\_ blood,

An \_\_\_\_\_ that deviseth wicked imaginations, \_\_\_\_\_ that be swift in running to mischief,

A \_\_\_\_\_ witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth \_\_\_\_\_ among brethren.

**GOD AND THE CHURCH MUST BE FIRST IN OUR LIVES!**

*Matthew 6:19-21*, Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon \_\_\_\_\_, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

But lay up for yourselves treasures in \_\_\_\_\_, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

For where your \_\_\_\_\_ is, there will your \_\_\_\_\_ be also.

*Matthew 19:21*, Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be \_\_\_\_\_, go and \_\_\_\_\_ that thou hast, and \_\_\_\_\_ to the poor, and thou shalt have \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven: and come and \_\_\_\_\_ me.

*Mark 8:34,35*, ...(Jesus said) Whosoever will \_\_\_\_\_ after Me, let him \_\_\_\_\_ himself, and take up his cross, and \_\_\_\_\_ Me.

For whosoever will save his life shall \_\_\_\_\_ it; but whosoever shall lose his life for My sake and the gospel's, the same shall \_\_\_\_\_ it.

**HOLINESS IS A MUST!**

*I Thessalonians 5:22,23*, \_\_\_\_\_ from all \_\_\_\_\_ of evil.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly (completely given over to God's will); and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and \_\_\_\_\_ be preserved \_\_\_\_\_ unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*II Corinthians 7:1*; Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves from all \_\_\_\_\_ of the flesh and spirit, perfecting \_\_\_\_\_ in the fear of God.

**BE A LOVER OF GOOD MEN!**

*Titus 1:7,8*, For a bishop (or if I want to be an overcomer) must be \_\_\_\_\_, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

But a lover of \_\_\_\_\_, a lover of \_\_\_\_\_ men, sober, just, Holy, temperate.

*III John 1:11*, Beloved, follow not that (person or thing) which is \_\_\_\_\_, but that which is \_\_\_\_\_. He that doeth \_\_\_\_\_ is of God; but he that doeth \_\_\_\_\_ hath not seen God.

*Romans 12:9*, Let love be without dissimulation (hiding under false appearances, deceitful). Abhor that which is \_\_\_\_\_; cleave to that which is \_\_\_\_\_.

**THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SUFFER FOR GOOD!**

*Matthew 5:11*, Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and \_\_\_\_\_ you, and shall say all manner \_\_\_\_\_ against you \_\_\_\_\_, for my sake.

*IPeter 3:8-18, (vs. 17)*, For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye \_\_\_\_\_ for well-doing, \_\_\_\_\_ for evil-doing.

*II Timothy 3:12*, Yea, and all that will live \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus shall \_\_\_\_\_ persecution.

*IPeter 4:1*, Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath \_\_\_\_\_ in the flesh hath \_\_\_\_\_ from sin.



OUR BROTHERS and sisters whom we love often instigate our real suffering. Their blatant words, malicious deeds, non caring and indifferent attitudes to our misfortunes cause the most hurt. This is the ultimate test in showing a Christ-like Spirit. It is easier to forgive our enemies than it is to forgive our friends. Why? Because we expect more from our brothers and sisters than we do from our enemies.

## PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD To overcome the carnal mind, the flesh.

TO ENTER IN we must pass through the flaming sword, having on God's armour.

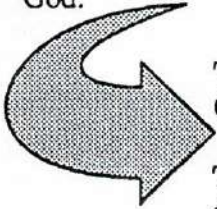
*Ephesians 6:11-18, (vs. 11)* Put on the whole \_\_\_\_\_ of God, that ye may be able to \_\_\_\_\_ against the wiles of the devil.

(Vs. 14-17), Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with \_\_\_\_\_, and having on the breastplate of \_\_\_\_\_;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of \_\_\_\_\_;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the \_\_\_\_\_, which is the Word of God.



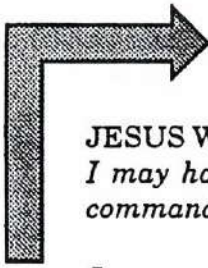
THE ARMOUR of God does not provide a covering for the BACK. God has no pleasure in those who run from the fight.

TYPE: *I Kings 7:25, It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east: and the sea was set above upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward.*

The oxen are a type of the Ministry of God!

*II Timothy 2:3,12*, Thou therefore \_\_\_\_\_ hardness, as a good \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ.

If we suffer, we shall also \_\_\_\_\_ with Him: if we \_\_\_\_\_ Him, He also will deny us.



## ATTAINING ETERNAL LIFE

**JESUS WAS ASKED** this question, *What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life, (Matthew 19:16-21)*. He replied, *Keep the commandments*. Wait! There is more disturbing news.

Jesus continued, *If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.*

In other words, the rich young man was to lay aside everything in his life that wasn't **TOTALLY** in God's will. To be perfect and **HOLY** is to be **WHOLLY** given over to God so that our *WHOLE spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless, (I Thessalonians 5:23)*. This is perfection. This is the Body of Christ. This is God's will.

**NOTE:** Study the entire third chapter of Colossians. Perfection is weaved throughout the whole chapter.

## SUMMARY

### WE MUST STRIVE TO ENTER IN

*Luke 13:24*, (Jesus said) \_\_\_\_\_ to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

*I Corinthians 9:25-27*, And every man that \_\_\_\_\_ for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

I therefore so \_\_\_\_\_, not as uncertainly; so \_\_\_\_\_ I, not as one that beateth the air:

But I keep \_\_\_\_\_ my body, and bring it into \_\_\_\_\_: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a \_\_\_\_\_.

*Philippians 1:27*, Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in \_\_\_\_\_ spirit, with \_\_\_\_\_ mind \_\_\_\_\_ for the faith of the gospel.

## MY YOKE IS EASY AND MY BURDEN IS LIGHT

BECOMING PERFECT is a BATTLE, but it was not meant to be a struggle. Jesus will help us make it!

*Matthew 11:28-30*, (Jesus said) Come unto me, all ye that \_\_\_\_\_ and are heavy laden, and I will give you \_\_\_\_\_.

Take my \_\_\_\_\_ upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find \_\_\_\_\_ unto your souls.

For my yoke is \_\_\_\_\_, and my \_\_\_\_\_ is light.

*FOR MY YOKE is easy*, - yoke is the same word used when Paul said in *II Corinthians 6:14*, *be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers*. The word means, enslavement, servitude, bondage. This is the type found in *Genesis 3:16*, *...and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee*. Just as a woman marries (or is yoked to) a man because she loves him, so will the Bride marry Christ - not out of restraint - but because she's in love. Love makes the yoke easy and the burden light.

*Proverbs 13:15*, Good understanding giveth favour; but the way of the transgressors is \_\_\_\_\_.

*II Corinthians 4:17*, For our \_\_\_\_\_ affliction, which is but for a \_\_\_\_\_, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

**IT WILL BE WORTH IT ALL** 

*Revelation 19:7*, Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath \_\_\_\_\_ Herself ready.

HOW DIFFICULT is it for an egg to turn itself into a bird? To be sure, it would be even more difficult for an egg to learn to fly while it's still an egg. We are like the egg, we must first go through the process of becoming a bird (Christian), before we can soar with the eagles (Christ). This is coming to maturity. This is PERFECTION.

# WHAT IS OUR REWARD?

*Revelation 2:7,11,17,26; 3:5,12,21*

To him that **overcometh** will I give to \_\_\_\_\_ of the tree of \_\_\_\_\_, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

He that **overcometh** shall not be hurt of the \_\_\_\_\_ death.

To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the \_\_\_\_\_ manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a \_\_\_\_\_ name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

He that **overcometh**, and keepeth my \_\_\_\_\_ unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall \_\_\_\_\_ them with a rod of iron.

He that **overcometh**, the same shall be \_\_\_\_\_ in white raiment; and I will \_\_\_\_\_ blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before His angels.

Him that **overcometh** will I make a \_\_\_\_\_ in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will \_\_\_\_\_ upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my \_\_\_\_\_ name.

To him that **overcometh** will I grant to \_\_\_\_\_ with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne.

*Revelation 21:7*

He that **overcometh** shall \_\_\_\_\_ all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son.

PERFECTION IS NOT AN OPTION. It is a commandment! *Be therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect, (Matthew 5:48).* Juan Carlos Ortiz, in the book, *Call to Discipleship*, illustrates this point:

*Suppose you say to me, "Brother, would you like to have a piece of cake?"*

*"Oh, no thank you," I reply.*

*Then, POW! POW!*

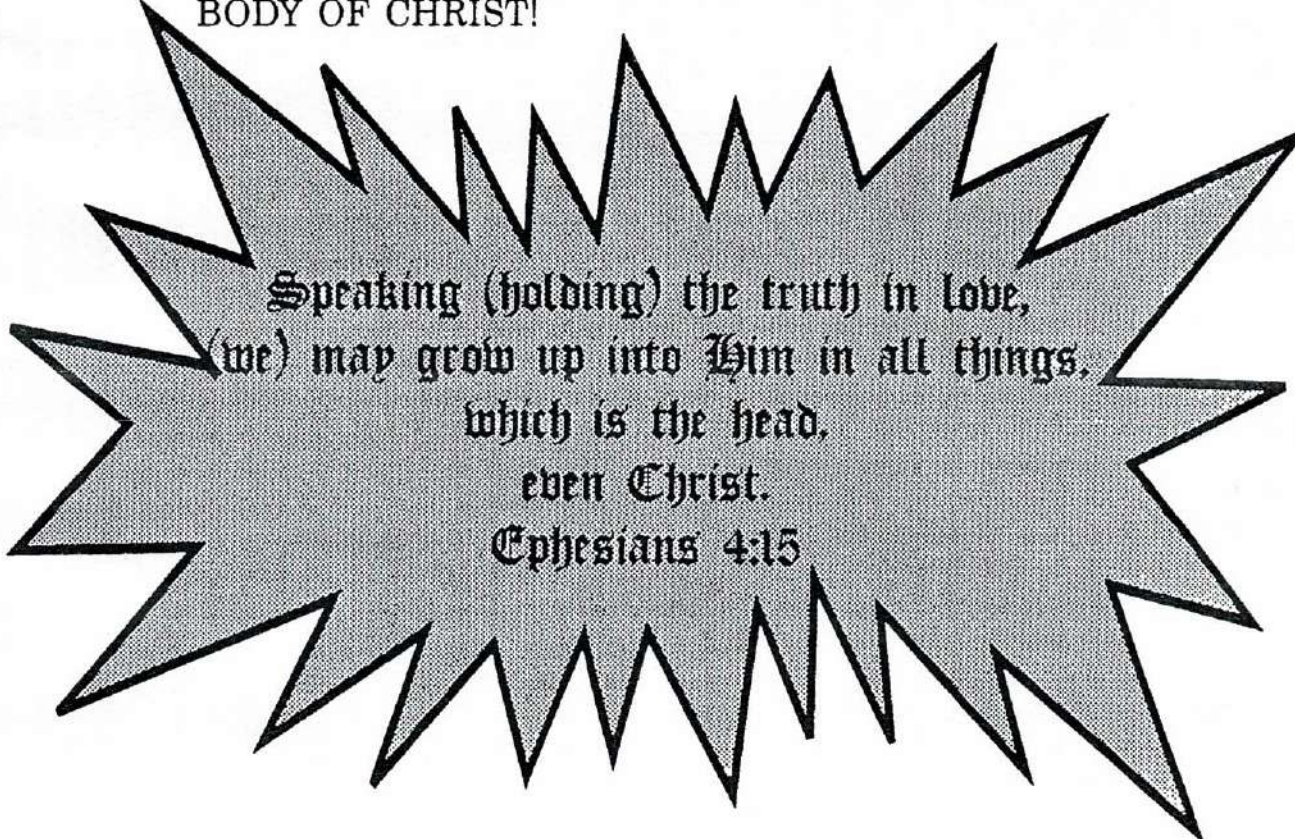
*"Why are you whipping me?" I ask.*

*"You didn't take the cake."*

*"But you just invited me to take the cake, you didn't command me. If you had commanded me then you would have a reason for being angry, but you only invited me."*

Perfection, like salvation, however, is not an invitation; it is a command. If we are to please God, we must forthwith rise to the level of perfection, an overcoming life. This is obeying His commandments.

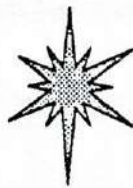
This teaching is FOUND RESIDENT ONLY IN THE  
BODY OF CHRIST!



Speaking (holding) the truth in love,  
(we) may grow up into Him in all things,  
which is the head,  
even Christ.  
Ephesians 4:15



# THE THRESHINGFLOOR - OPEN PULPIT



## CHAPTER VIII

THRESHING WAS the process of separating grain from the straw. Sheaves of grain were spread on the floor and trampled by OXEN that usually drew crude wooden sleds with notched rims (*Deut. 25:4; Isa. 28:27; I Cor. 9:9*). A shovel and fan were used in winnowing the grain (*Isa. 30:24*). Since robbers would visit the floor at threshing time, the laborers slept there (*Ruth 3:4-7*). Threshingfloors were often on hills where the night winds could more easily blow away the chaff.

### ORNAN'S THRESHINGFLOOR

SATAN STOOD UP against Israel, and provoked King David to number Israel. This displeased God and He smote Israel because of this severe sin David had committed. Gad, David's seer (or prophet) came to David with the Word of the Lord, giving David a choice of three punishments because of this grave sin: (1) three years of famine, (2) three months to be destroyed before the enemy, or (3) three days of the sword of the Lord and pestilence in the land.

David said, *I am in a strait: let me fall now into the Hand of the Lord; for very great are thy mercies: but let me not fall into the hand of man, I Chronicles 21:13.*

Seventy thousand men fell that day and the Lord repented of the evil, saying to the angel, *It is enough (vs. 15)* ...And the angel of the Lord stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. Then the angel told David to build an altar.

*I Chronicles 21:18-24*, Then the angel of the Lord commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and set up an altar unto the Lord in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Ornan the Jebusite. And David went up at the saying of Gad, which he spake in the name of the Lord.

And Ornan turned back, and saw the \_\_\_\_\_; and his four sons with him hid themselves. Now Ornan was threshing \_\_\_\_\_.

And as David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David, and went out of the \_\_\_\_\_, and bowed himself to David with his face to the ground.

Then David said to Ornan, Grant me the place of this threshingfloor, that I may build an \_\_\_\_\_ therein unto the Lord: thou shalt grant it me for the \_\_\_\_\_ price: that the plague may be stayed from the people.

And Ornan said unto David, Take it to thee, and let my lord the king do that which is good in his eyes: lo, I \_\_\_\_\_ thee the oxen also for burnt offerings, and the threshing instruments of wood, and the wheat for the meat offering; I \_\_\_\_\_ it all.

And King David said to Ornan, Nay; but I will verily \_\_\_\_\_ it for the \_\_\_\_\_ price: for I will not \_\_\_\_\_ that which is thine for the Lord, nor offer burnt offerings \_\_\_\_\_.

DAVID PURCHASED Ornan's threshingfloor that day for six hundred shekels of gold by weight, (*I Chronicles 21:25*) with the thought in mind that he would build God a house to live in. And he began preparing abundantly.

However, King David had shed too much blood. Therefore, God promised David that Solomon, his son, would build it in his place.

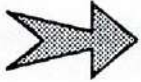
True to God's promise, Solomon built God a house on Ornan's threshingfloor.

*II Chronicles 3:1*, Then Solomon began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the Lord appeared unto David his father, the place that David had prepared in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Ornan the Jebusite.

## SPIRITUAL THRESHINGFLOOR

THE OXEN THAT trampled the wheat on the threshingfloor were bulls castrated so they could not reproduce themselves. This typifies the Ministry of God who are not to reproduce themselves. They are to care for God's flock, not their own. The Church does not belong to the Man of God, but to God.





The threshingfloor is the Church. Threshing are discussions of the Word of God and its meaning. Its vogue came about when discriminatory teachings began to circulate within the church. Jesus Christ, ascending back to the Father, left us with a plethora of dilemmas needing answers. Answers that only men of God striving to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace can settle.

Without controversy, this can only take place in the Body of Christ, the Spiritual Threshingfloor. In fact, as King Solomon built the natural Temple on Ornan's threshingfloor, the Spiritual Church must be built on a Spiritual Threshingfloor.

## JESUS SPOKE SUBJECT TO QUESTION

*Mark 12:18,19*, Then came unto Him the Sadducees, which say there is no resurrection; and they \_\_\_\_\_ Him, saying,

Master, Moses wrote unto us, If a man's brother die, and leave his wife behind him, and leave no children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother....

(Vs. 28) And one of the scribes came, and having heard them \_\_\_\_\_ together, and \_\_\_\_\_ that He had \_\_\_\_\_ them well, \_\_\_\_\_ Him, Which is the first commandment of all?



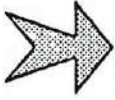
Jesus always taught subject to question. The Apostles taught subject to question. The Apostles even questioned each other. So shouldn't we in the 1990's, follow the leading of Jesus and the Apostles, not being afraid of being questioned?

## THE APOSTLES DISCUSSED THE WORD OF GOD - A THRESHINGFLOOR

*Acts 15:6,7*, And the apostles and elders came together for to \_\_\_\_\_ of this matter.

And when there had been much \_\_\_\_\_, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, ....

(Vs.19), Wherefore my (James) \_\_\_\_\_ is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:



AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION, the Ministers came to an agreement. It takes men of God (oxen) treading out the Word of God (corn or wheat) for us to endeavour to *keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace and till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, (Ephesians 4:3&13).*

*Galatians 2:14*, But when I (Paul) saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them \_\_\_\_\_, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

TO HAVE THE audacity to question a minister in the church world today would no doubt be suicidal, leading to excommunication, i.e., to be dis-fellowshipped. Being a part of the system means to stay with the program - not causing any waves. Questions, though nervously feared, have their way of unveiling facades. A common saying is, *Error is never so nervous as when truth stands to its feet*, or when being questioned!

Was not Noah commanded to build the ark according to a particular pattern? And Moses, was he not admonished to steady his hand and build the tabernacle according to the plan given to him on the mount? Absolutely! Certainly then, we are also admonished again and again, being forewarned in the New Testament, that if anyone comes preaching any other doctrine he will be accursed.

*II John 10*, "If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, \_\_\_\_\_ him \_\_\_\_\_ into your house, neither \_\_\_\_\_ him God speed."

THEREFORE, Jesus established the threshingfloor in the Body of Christ in the early church. This is the doctrine of Christ. *He that hath an ear let him hear.*

## I CORINTHIANS 14

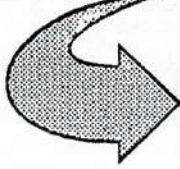
**PAUL EXPLAINS** to us how to have church when all the churches come together:

1. (Vs.1) Follow after \_\_\_\_\_, and desire spiritual gifts.
2. (Vs. 2) He that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh \_\_\_\_\_ unto men, but \_\_\_\_\_ God;

(Vs. 27) (Therefore) if any man speak in an unknown tongue (except in the worship part of the service), let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret.

3. (Vs. 29&30) Let the prophets (ministers during a discussion) speak two or three, and let the other (ministers) \_\_\_\_\_. If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the \_\_\_\_\_ hold his peace.

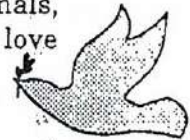
(Vs. 32) The spirits of the prophets (ministers) are \_\_\_\_\_ to the prophets.



**THE BODY OF CHRIST**, therefore, must have an **OPEN PULPIT**. On the other hand, a church run by man will never have two or three ministers on their feet at one time. Nor can that church be a Spirit led church.

An open pulpit just means that the local pastor encourages a visiting minister to get up and bless the people, never asking for proof that he is of a particular denomination. (However, a visiting minister, if he is going to teach, is always subject to question by the Pastor of the church.)

The true church is not to be of a beast-like nature. Beasts, or animals, love only their kind - the monkeys love the monkeys, the lions love the lions, etc. The true church is to love all of God's people.



4. (Vs. 34) Let your women (any one in the church that is not a minister) keep silence in the churches (during a discussion): for it is not permitted unto them to \_\_\_\_\_; but they are commanded to be under \_\_\_\_\_, as also saith the law.

(Vs. 35) And if they will learn anything (if they have any questions concerning what is being discussed) let them \_\_\_\_\_ their husbands (their pastor) at home: for it is a shame for women (laymen and women of the church) to speak in the church (concerning doctrine).

## THE SCRIPTURES MUST BE INTERPRETED

THESE SCRIPTURES must be interpreted, but can they be understood? Can a summit of the scriptures be reached without a threshingfloor or a multitude of counselors? Surely the early church would have found a better way if there had been one.

*Proverbs 11:14*, Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is \_\_\_\_\_.

*1 Thessalonians 5:21*, (Paul said) Prove (which means to test or verify the correctness of) \_\_\_\_\_; hold fast that which is \_\_\_\_\_.

## This can only be accomplished on the threshingfloor.

*Proverbs 14:4*, Where no oxen are, the crib is \_\_\_\_\_: but much increase is by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ox.

**GOD'S MINISTERS** are the oxen; the crib is the church. Productivity of the Word of God is through the strength of His Ministers. In fact, without them there is no Church. God's Ministers are the work horses that plow and make ready all those who will hear.

### How shall they hear without a preacher?

*Romans 10:14,15*, How then shall they \_\_\_\_\_ on Him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they \_\_\_\_\_ in Him of whom they have not \_\_\_\_\_? and how shall they \_\_\_\_\_ without a preacher?

And how shall they preach, except they be \_\_\_\_\_?

**His profound answer follows:**

as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of \_\_\_\_\_, and bring glad tidings of \_\_\_\_\_ things!

# HOW IMPORTANT IS DOCTRINE?

*II John 1:9-11*, Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ, hath not God. He that \_\_\_\_\_ in the doctrine of Christ, he hath \_\_\_\_\_ the Father and the Son.

If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him \_\_\_\_\_ into your house, neither \_\_\_\_\_ him God speed:

For he that biddeth him God speed is \_\_\_\_\_ of his evil deeds.

**WITHOUT THE** Word of God, there is no way to become pure, clean, wholesome. Growth and maturity are only accomplished by and through His Word. We were filled with sin in the dregs of humanity. Yet while we were unclean and dirt ridden, Jesus found us. Therefore he said:

*John 15:3*, Now ye are \_\_\_\_\_ through the word which I have spoken unto you.

## His Word purifies:

*Malachi 3:2*, But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's \_\_\_\_\_, and like fullers' \_\_\_\_\_.

*John 17:17*, (Jesus prayed to the Father) \_\_\_\_\_ them through Thy truth: Thy Word is \_\_\_\_\_.

*Ephesians 5:26,27*, That he might sanctify and \_\_\_\_\_ it with the washing of water by the word.

That he might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_, or any such thing; but that it should be \_\_\_\_\_ and without \_\_\_\_\_.

*1 Peter 1:22*, Seeing ye have \_\_\_\_\_ your souls in \_\_\_\_\_ the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a \_\_\_\_\_ heart fervently:



THE CHARISMATIC movement started strong. It looked as though sweeping the continent would be of little trouble. Then they began to lose momentum. They just ran out of gas. Their theme was, "No doctrine. All we want is the Spirit."

It is true, the Spirit is, and always will be, an essential part of salvation. However, it isn't the only part!

## We must also eat Jesus' flesh **(THE WORD)**.

*John 6:51*, I am the \_\_\_\_\_ bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall \_\_\_\_\_ for ever: and the bread that I will give is my \_\_\_\_\_ (word of God), which I will give for the life of the world.

*John 6:53*, Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the \_\_\_\_\_ (the Word) of the Son of man, and drink His \_\_\_\_\_ (the Spirit), ye have no \_\_\_\_\_ in you.

Many have failed to search the scriptures.

*John 5:39*, \_\_\_\_\_ the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.



**The Berean's had more wisdom than many have today.**

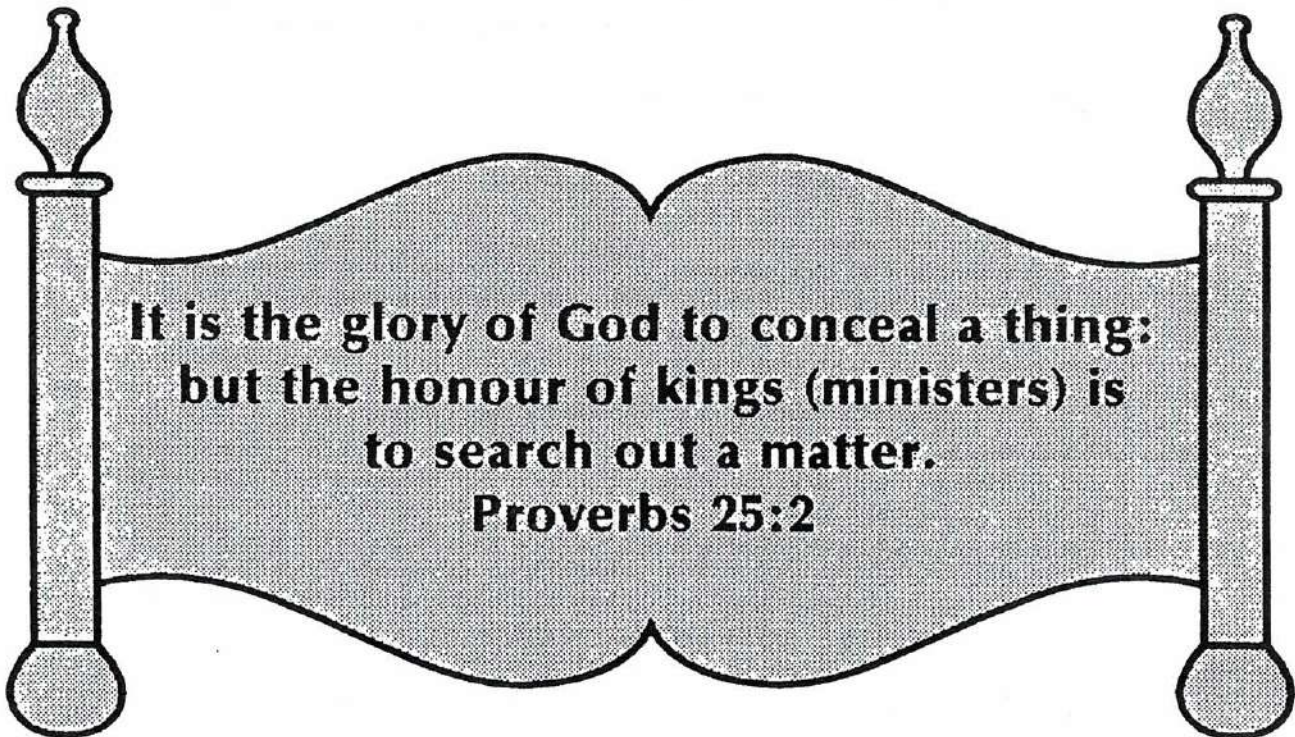
*Acts 17:11*, These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all \_\_\_\_\_ of mind, and \_\_\_\_\_ the scriptures \_\_\_\_\_, whether those things were so.

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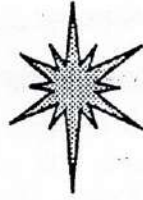
IT IS NO wonder then, why we do, and want to, discuss the scriptures. The Word keeps us even when we don't want to be kept. We don't always feel like running the aisles, or shouting hallelujah when we are away from our bothers and sisters and temptations are running rampant. During these trials there is no glitter of praise and no fuel for shouting. There is only God's indelible Word stamped on the minds of them that love Him. We do right - not because we feel like it - but because it's the right thing to do. For even our hope and comfort is in the Word.

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*Romans 15:4*, For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our \_\_\_\_\_, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have \_\_\_\_\_.



# VIRGIN CHURCH



## CHAPTER IX

For I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to \_\_\_\_\_ husband, that I may present you as a chaste \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ, (*II Corinthians 11:2*).

**DEFINITION:** like or suggesting a virgin because untouched by man, unmarked, pure, clean, (Webster's New World Dictionary).

An organization is a body of people brought under control by man-made laws, rules, principles, and by-laws.

A VIRGIN Church, on the other hand, is an organism - a living thing with its own structure and function. Each part, in its proper place, performs its own job. The human body is a perfect picture of an organism. The Body of Christ is an ORGANISM - NOT AN ORGANIZATION.

## ONE BODY VERSUS MANY BODIES

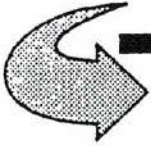
**ONE BODY, ONE CHURCH, A VIRGIN CHURCH:**

**There is unity in the Body of Christ!**

*I Corinthians 12:12,13*, For as the body is \_\_\_\_\_, and hath many members, and all the members of that \_\_\_\_\_ body, being many, are \_\_\_\_\_: so also is Christ.

For by \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit are we all baptized into \_\_\_\_\_ body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit.

(Vs. 14) For the Body is not \_\_\_\_\_ member, but \_\_\_\_\_ (members).



PAUL LIKENED the Body of Christ to the human body with feet, hands, eyes, ears, etc. It takes our body working in harmony to perform the necessary daily tasks. If we stump our toe, the whole body rushes to its defense. When there is schism in the body, it malfunctions, most of us go to bed until the body is whole again.

We do not get our feelings hurt if we cut our hand. We grab it and kiss it, we may even do a little dance around the room, sympathizing with it. Paul said we should have the same care one for another in the Body of Christ. If one member suffers, all should suffer; or if one member is honoured, all the members should rejoice with him because we are members in particular in this great Body of Christ.

*Ephesians 4:4*, There is \_\_\_\_\_ body, and \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit, even as ye are called in \_\_\_\_\_ hope of your calling.

*Ephesians 4:16*, From whom the \_\_\_\_\_ body fitly \_\_\_\_\_ together and \_\_\_\_\_ by that which \_\_\_\_\_ joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in \_\_\_\_\_.

*Ephesians 1:22,23*, And hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the \_\_\_\_\_ over all things to the Church,

Which is \_\_\_\_\_, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all.

*Colossians 3:15,16*, And let the \_\_\_\_\_ of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in \_\_\_\_\_; and be ye thankful.

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one \_\_\_\_\_ in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with \_\_\_\_\_ in your hearts to the Lord.

*I Corinthians 10:17*, For we being many are \_\_\_\_\_ bread, and \_\_\_\_\_ body; for we are all partakers of that \_\_\_\_\_ bread.

**That one bread is Jesus.**



*Song of Solomon 6:9*, My dove, my undefiled is but \_\_\_\_\_; she is the \_\_\_\_\_ one of her mother, she is the choice one of her that bare her...

SOLOMON IS writing about the Church of Jesus Christ. She is the only one of her mother, the Church that was born on the day of Pentecost.

## ORGANIZED RELIGION HAS MANY BODIES:

**There is no unity in organized religion**

*Song of Solomon 6:8,9*, There are threescore \_\_\_\_\_, and fourscore \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ without number.



THERE ARE MANY virgin (or free) churches, but only one virgin church will pattern herself after her mother, the Church which began on the day of Pentecost. There is only one Virgin Church that has a vision of gathering all of God's people together in One Body, without organizing.

*Isaiah 4:1*, And in that day seven \_\_\_\_\_ (more than one) shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own \_\_\_\_\_ (doctrine), and wear our own \_\_\_\_\_ (name of organization): only let \_\_\_\_\_ be called by \_\_\_\_\_ name, to take away our reproach.

IT IS A reproach to be in the Name of Jesus. When people ask, "What faith are you?" it is hard to give an answer, and even harder for them to understand when you do answer, "I just belong to Jesus." It is much easier to answer, "I belong to the 'XYZ' Church."

*Revelation 17:5*, And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF \_\_\_\_\_ (plural) AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH

ALTHOUGH IT is a reproach not to belong to an organization, it is an abomination to God for His people to be called by any name other than the Name of Jesus. Do we want to please God or man?

## ONE NAME VERSUS MANY NAMES

**IN THE NAME OF JESUS:**

*Colossians 3:17*, And whatsoever ye \_\_\_\_\_ in word or deed, \_\_\_\_\_ all in \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him.

*Ephesians 3:14,15*, For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Of whom the whole \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven and earth is \_\_\_\_\_.

*James 2:7*, Do not they blaspheme that worthy \_\_\_\_\_ by the which ye are \_\_\_\_\_?

*Acts 4:29-31*, And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all  
\_\_\_\_\_ they may speak thy word,

By stretching forth thine hand to heal: and that signs and wonders may be done \_\_\_\_\_ the name of thy  
holy child \_\_\_\_\_.

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were  
all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they \_\_\_\_\_ the Word of God with  
\_\_\_\_\_.

THIS PRAYER was prayed after Peter and John healed a man who had been lame from birth. The priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, laid hold on them and threatened them and commanded them not to teach the people in the name of Jesus anymore. And because they feared the people, they let them go.

## ORGANIZATIONS HAVE MANY NAMES:

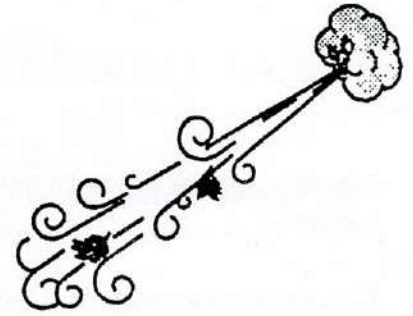
*Revelation 17:3*, So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon  
a scarlet coloured beast, full of \_\_\_\_\_ of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

## ONE DOCTRINE VERSUS MANY DOCTRINES

### ONE DOCTRINE:

*Ephesians 4:13,14,15*, Till we all come in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the faith, and of the knowledge  
of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of the stature of the  
fulness of Christ:

That we hence forth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of \_\_\_\_\_, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to \_\_\_\_\_;



But speaking the \_\_\_\_\_ in love, may \_\_\_\_\_ up into Him in \_\_\_\_\_ things, which is the \_\_\_\_\_, even Christ.

*Romans 6:17*, But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have \_\_\_\_\_ from the heart that form of \_\_\_\_\_ which was delivered you.

*Romans 16:17,18*, Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ which ye have learned; and \_\_\_\_\_ them.

For they that are such serve \_\_\_\_\_ our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches \_\_\_\_\_ the hearts of the simple.

*1 Timothy 1:3*, As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other \_\_\_\_\_,

(*Vs. 6,7*.) From which some having swerved have \_\_\_\_\_ aside unto vain jangling;

\_\_\_\_\_ to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they \_\_\_\_\_, nor whereof they affirm.

*1 John 9*, Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ, hath \_\_\_\_\_ God. He that abideth in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, he hath both the Father and the Son.

THE TRUE BODY of Christ has only one doctrine, and that is the doctrine the Apostles preached and wrote about - the doctrine of Jesus Christ.

*Galations 1:7,8*, Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel of Christ.

But though we, or an \_\_\_\_\_ from heaven, preach any \_\_\_\_\_ gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be \_\_\_\_\_.

## MANY DOCTRINES:

*Matthew 15:8,9*, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips but their \_\_\_\_\_ is far from me.

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for \_\_\_\_\_ the commandments of men.

*Matthew 16:6*, Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and \_\_\_\_\_ of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

JESUS' DISCIPLES thought Jesus was reprimanding them because they had brought nothing to eat with them. Jesus reminded them of how He had fed the five thousand, and the four thousand people.

(Vs. 12) Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

*Colossians 2:21,22*, (Touch not; taste not; handle not;

Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and \_\_\_\_\_ of men?

*1 Timothy 4:1,2*, Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and \_\_\_\_\_ of devils;

Speaking \_\_\_\_\_ in hypocrisy; having their conscience \_\_\_\_\_ with a hot iron;

*Hebrew 13:9*, Be not carried about with divers and strange \_\_\_\_\_. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with \_\_\_\_\_; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

## JOINING AN ORGANIZATION VERSUS BEING BORN INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST

### JOINING A CHURCH:

*Isaiah 8:11,12*, For the Lord spake thus to me with a strong hand, and \_\_\_\_\_ me that I should not walk in the \_\_\_\_\_ of this people, saying,

Say ye not, A confederacy (a league or alliance formed for some common purpose), to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; \_\_\_\_\_ fear ye their fear, nor be afraid.

*Isaiah 5:8*, Woe unto them that \_\_\_\_\_ house to house, that \_\_\_\_\_ field to field, till there be \_\_\_\_\_ place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!

**MAN'S WAY** of adding members to their organization is to vote a person in and write their name on a membership roll (writing their name in the earth).

*Jeremiah 17:13*, O Lord, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the \_\_\_\_\_, because they have \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord, the fountain of living waters.

*Revelation 13:8*, And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are \_\_\_\_\_ written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.



IF YOUR NAME is written in the earth, it can not be written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

## BEING BORN INTO THE CHURCH

*Acts 2:47*, ...And the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ to the church daily such as should be saved.

*John 3:5-7*, Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and of the \_\_\_\_\_, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.

That which is \_\_\_\_\_ of the flesh is flesh; and that which is \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit is spirit.

Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be \_\_\_\_\_ again.

# WHY?



*I Corinthians 15:50*, Now this I say, brethren, that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

Flesh and blood cannot understand that which is spiritual, therefore, we must be born again if we are to overcome.

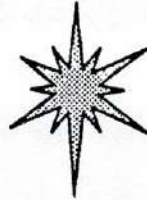
*Revelation 3:5*, He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will \_\_\_\_\_ blot out his name out of the Book of Life, but I will \_\_\_\_\_ his name before my Father, and before his angels.

*Revelation 21:27*, And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that \_\_\_\_\_, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lamb's Book of Life.

WHEN WE ARE born again, God writes our name in His Book of Life. And just as He writes our name in His Book, He can erase it, or blot it out, if we write our name in the earth! We CANNOT be in BOTH.

Neither is there salvation in any other:  
for there is no other name under heaven  
given among men,  
whereby we must be saved.  
Acts 4:12

# A COMMON PEOPLE



## CHAPTER X

### OUR PRAYER SHOULD BE:

*Proverbs 30:7-9*

Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die:

Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_;  
feed me with food convenient for me:

Lest I be full, and \_\_\_\_\_ thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal,  
and \_\_\_\_\_ the name of my God in \_\_\_\_\_.

*WEALTH, after all, is a relative thing, since he that has little, and  
wants less, is richer than he that has much, and wants more. --  
Colton.*

### LAY UP TREASURE IN HEAVEN

*Matthew 19:21-26,*

Jesus said unto him (the rich young man), If thou wilt be \_\_\_\_\_, go and sell that  
thou hast, and \_\_\_\_\_ to the poor, and thou shalt have \_\_\_\_\_ in  
heaven: and come and \_\_\_\_\_ me.

But when the young man heard that saying, he went away \_\_\_\_\_: for he  
had great \_\_\_\_\_.

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a \_\_\_\_\_ man shall  
\_\_\_\_\_ enter into the kingdom of heaven.

And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man  
to \_\_\_\_\_ into the kingdom of God.

When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, \_\_\_\_\_ then can be saved?

But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are \_\_\_\_\_.

*IF THOU art rich thou art poor; for, like an ass, whose back with ingots bows, thou bearest thy heavy riches but a journey, and death unloads thee. --Shakespeare*

## THE COMMON PEOPLE HEARD HIM GLADLY

*Mark 12:37*

(Jesus said) David therefore himself calleth Him Lord; and whence is He then his Son? And the \_\_\_\_\_ heard Him gladly.



*THE WORLD has yet to see what God will do with and for and through and in and by the man who is fully and wholly consecrated to Him. These are the words which marked the beginning of a new era in the life of Mr. D.L. Moody.*

*"He said 'a man,'" thought Moody; "he did not say a great man, nor a learned man, nor a rich man, nor a wise man, nor an eloquent man, nor a 'smart' man, but simply 'a man.' I am a man, and it lies with the man himself whether he will or will not make that entire and full consecration. I will try my utmost to be that man." -- from The Life of D.L. Moody.*

## NOT MANY MIGHTY, NOT MANY NOBLE!

*I Corinthians 1:26-31*

For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many \_\_\_\_\_ men after the flesh, not many \_\_\_\_\_, not many \_\_\_\_\_, are called:

But God hath chosen the \_\_\_\_\_ things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the \_\_\_\_\_ things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

And the \_\_\_\_\_ things of the world, and things which are \_\_\_\_\_, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are \_\_\_\_\_, to bring to nought things that \_\_\_\_\_:



That no \_\_\_\_\_ should glory in his presence.

But of Him are \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us \_\_\_\_\_, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

That, according as it is written, He that \_\_\_\_\_, let him glory in the \_\_\_\_\_.



**THERE WILL** be poor people come into the church who will dedicate themselves to God, listen to the ministry, and prosper. There also will be rich people come into the Kingdom who will remain rich only in the things of God. **Only the common people heard Jesus gladly.**

Moses told the people of Israel in *Deuteronomy 7:7,8*, *The Lord did not set His love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the Lord loved you...*

**HOWEVER**

God expects three actions from us:

- (1) Availability
- (2) Dependability
- (3) Responsibility

God then blesses us with:

- (1) Capability
- (2) Durability
- (3) Adaptability

*Matthew 11:5*, The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the \_\_\_\_\_ have the \_\_\_\_\_ to them.

WHILE JOHN the Baptist was in prison, he heard of the wonderful works and miracles performed by Jesus. It is interesting to note, however, that one of the criterions John looked for in Jesus being the Christ was that the gospel was preached to the poor. And this was the message Jesus sent to reassure John that He was indeed the Christ.

**JESUS PREACHING** 

*Luke 4:18*, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at \_\_\_\_\_ them that are bruised.

This was a prophecy right out of the book of *Isaiah - (61:1)*.

Jesus preached in the open where all, rich or poor, could hear Him, but it was the common people who responded to Him. It is true that we cannot come to Jesus unless the Spirit of His Father first draws us, but then it is up to us how we respond.

## CHRIST - OUR EXAMPLE

Martin Luther wrote, *In His life, Christ is an example, showing us how to live; in His death, He is a sacrifice, satisfying for our sins; in His resurrection, a conqueror; in His ascension, a King; in His intercession, a High Priest.*

Jesus said,

*Luke 6:22-26*, Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall \_\_\_\_\_ you from \_\_\_\_\_ company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake.

Rejoice ye in \_\_\_\_\_ day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your \_\_\_\_\_ is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

But woe unto you that are \_\_\_\_\_! for ye have \_\_\_\_\_ your consolation.

Woe unto you that are \_\_\_\_\_! for ye shall \_\_\_\_\_. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep.

Woe unto you, when all men shall speak \_\_\_\_\_ of you! for so did their fathers to the \_\_\_\_\_ prophets.



Jesus is saying, *Woe unto you who are rich in your own spirit, but blessed are the poor in spirit: for their's is the kingdom of heaven. Woe unto you who are full, not desiring the true Word of God, but blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Woe unto you who laugh and scorn the people of God for you will mourn in the day of judgement, but blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for their's is the kingdom of heaven. (See Matthew 5)*



### IT'S SUPPER TIME

*Luke 14:16-24*



Jesus gave a parable: A man prepared a meal fit for a king and invited many to dine with him. When no one showed up for the meal, he sent his servant out to find out why. One man said, "I bought some land". Another said, "I've bought some oxen." Still another said, "I have married a wife." The servant returned and explained all these excuses to his master. The master said,

(Vs. 21-24) So that servant came, and showed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out \_\_\_\_\_ into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_.

And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is \_\_\_\_\_.

And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the \_\_\_\_\_ and hedges, and \_\_\_\_\_ them to come in, that my house may be \_\_\_\_\_.

For I say unto you, That \_\_\_\_\_ of those men which were bidden shall \_\_\_\_\_ of my supper.

**The Spirit of the Father has first drawn us to be in His Body - THE BODY OF CHRIST! We have been given a choice. Are we going to let the cares of this life - houses, land, family, etc. - keep us from answering this call?**



**Worldly wealth is the devil's  
bait;  
and those whose minds feed  
upon riches,  
recede in general from real  
happiness,  
in proportion as their stores  
increase;  
as the moon, when she is full-  
est of light,  
is farthest from the sun.  
--Burton.**



