

THE ADVOCATE
OF TRUTH



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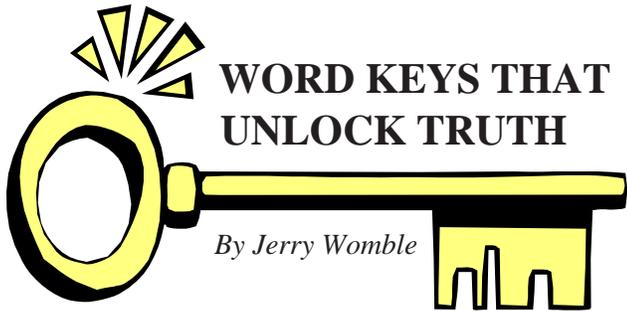
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Ooops! Concerning the ravenous bird of Isaiah 46:11, it was stated in the January 27, 2003 issue of the Advocate that this referred to Jesus. After a deeper study, we believe that this refers to Cyrus, king of Persia, and that God used him to carry out His plan for Israel. God called him His shepherd in Isaiah 44:28, and His anointed in Isaiah 45:1. This is not to say that he was God's spiritual leader, but he was God's tool for a special purpose.



WORD KEYS THAT UNLOCK TRUTH

By Jerry Womble

ANOINT

In the Scriptures, we see anointing as the applying of oil, ointment or that which represents the Holy Spirit.

The first use in the Bible is of Jacob anointing the stone that he slept on when God gave him a vision. As he anointed the stone, he said that this was the "house of God" meaning that he was dedicating that place as a place of God's presence. All anointing in the Bible was to be of this same meaning. The furniture for the tabernacle and the priests were anointed with a special oil that was not to be used for any other purpose, and another oil of special mixture was to be used at a place where God would come down and meet with Moses.

As we go to the New Testament, we see some anointing done by the disciples in Mark 6:13 where they anointed the sick with oil for their healing. This is olive oil and not the special oils of the Old Testament. In James 5:14, we

read the command to continue this practice of applying oil to the sick and praying in Jesus's name for their healing. This anointing is something physical that we do to strengthen our faith while expecting God's healing in our lives. We, as humans on this earth, need some tangible things to help us in the things of faith. God gave us the emblems to take at the Lord's Supper as something tangible to help us with the spiritual. The anointing with oil is another one of those tangible things.

The most special anointing that we find is when God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit in Acts 10:38. Jesus also reminded His disciples that He was "Jesus the Christ" meaning He was the anointed one from God.

We must also have this anointing of the Holy Spirit. We call it the indwelling of the Spirit, and it is necessary to have the Spirit of God in us if we want to be changed into immortal beings at the second coming of Jesus.

It is important for us to realize and it is comforting for us to know that the anointing of the Holy Spirit, will teach us everything that we need to know for our salvation and for the understanding of the Scriptures. See I John 2:27.

There are teachings of prophecy that we long to better understand, and if we need to know them, God will reveal them to us when He is ready. In the mean time, let us anoint the sick with oil and be thankful for that indwelling Spirit that God gave to us.

SIN - A POWERFUL WEAPON OF THE DEVIL

By Bond Tennant

Readers of God's Word know the destructive power of sin. The devil goes about as a roaring lion, seeking who he may devour. The devil is a thief who steals, kills and destroys. He masquerades as an angel of light. He tricks

and deceives. The testimony of the Word about the nature of the enemy is evident in personal experience. Every day we can observe his effectiveness as a divider of homes, a crusher of personal lives, a destroyer of churches.



7

Things You May Or May Not Know About

ISAIAH

by Warren H. Randall Jr.

1. He prophesied about the everlasting kingdoms, the "new Jerusalem" about 760 years before Jesus was born. "The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it" (Isaiah 2:1-2).

2. He pronounced six woes on Israel. It would be a good thing if we paid attention to them as well. "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!" "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!" "Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as it were with a cart rope:" "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:" (Isaiah 5:8,11,18,20-22).

3. In chapter six, Isaiah describes seraphims. "In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly" (Isaiah 6:1-2).

The weapon by which the devil (Satan) does his evil work is sin. Children of God need to understand something of the nature of sin. It is not just making small mistakes, telling little white lies, or evidencing pardonable weaknesses. The Bible teaches that sin is powerful. In the language of Scripture, it is called a snare or a trap. It is deceitful. It ultimately destroys. Sin has plagued the path of many names found in the Scriptures.

It is Adam's eating forbidden fruit.

It is Noah's drinking and getting drunk.

It is Abraham's lying about his wife.

It is Lot's craving the ways of the world.

It is Jacob's cheating his brother.

It is David's committing adultery and murder.

It is the people of Israel worshipping idols.

It is Judah's betraying his Lord.

It is Peter's denying Jesus.

It is Ananias's lying to the Holy Ghost.

It is Simon's trying to buy spiritual power.

Sin is often compared to the dreaded plague of leprosy. This is a fitting comparison because the Bible teaches us much about leprosy. It causes uncleanness. It results in separation. It eats away at its victims and ultimately consumes them. Apart from the miracle-working power of God, leprosy is incurable.

Sin captivates. Displayed in the zoo, an African snake takes no overt action against a small bird placed in its cage. It simply stares at its intended victim, but never moves. Hypnotized by the nonblinking stare, the curious bird ventures closer and closer, until the snake strikes. Sin has a mesmerizing effect.

A species of eagle that lives on the Pacific coast of Canada is sometimes bold enough to attack a seal swimming in the ocean. The large bird plummets out of the sky at great speed and strikes its sharp claws into the seal's flesh, intending by the strength of its powerful wings to pull the animal to shore. Sometimes the seal is too strong. Not being able let go its hold, the eagle is dragged into the deep and drowned. Men and women are often ensnared in sinful pleasures, not ever expecting to be mastered by them. Many can not let go, and they are dragged down to destruction.

Yes, sin is a powerful weapon!

4. The prophet tells us about Lucifer and what he tried to do. "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!" (Isaiah 14:12).

5. Isaiah tells of the heartfelt prayer prayed by Hezekiah and the results. "In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live. Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the Lord. And said, Remember now, O Lord, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. Then came the word of the Lord to Isaiah, saying, Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years" (Isaiah 38:1-5).

6. In chapter 53, we learn about the suffering servant, Jesus. "WHO HATH believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? For he shall grow up

before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:1-5).

7. God instructed him to walk barefoot and naked for three years. "In the year that Tartan came into Ashdod, (when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him,) and fought against Ashdod, and took it; At the same time spake the Lord by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, Go and loose the sack cloth from off thy loins, and put off thy shoe from thy foot. And he did so, walking naked and barefoot. And the Lord said, Like as my servant Isaiah hath walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and wonder upon Egypt and upon Ethiopia" (Isaiah 20:1-3).

A PLEA FOR FISHING

By John Drescher

Is a person a fisherman if year after year he never catches any fish? Now it came to pass that a group existed who called themselves fishermen. And lo, there were many fish in the waters all around. In fact, the whole area was surrounded by streams and lakes filled with fish. And the fish were hungry.

Week after week, month after month, and year after year these men, who called themselves fishermen, met in meetings and talked about their call to fish, the abundance



of fish, and how they might go about fishing. Year after year they carefully defined what fishing meant, defended fishing as an occupation, and declared that fishing is always to be a primary task of fishermen.

BETTER METHODS. Continually they searched for new and better methods of fishing and for new and better definitions of fishing. Further they said, "The fishing industry exists by fishing as fire exists by burning." They loved slogans such as "fishing is the task of every fishermen,"

"Every fisherman is a fisher," and "A fisherman's outpost for every fisherman's club." They sponsored special meetings called "Fishermen's Campaigns" and "The month for Fishermen to Fish." They sponsored costly nationwide and worldwide congresses to discuss fishing and to promote fishing and hear about all the ways of fishing, such as new fishing equipment, fish calls, and whether any new bait was discovered.

These fishermen built large, beautiful buildings called "Fishing Headquarters." The plea was that everyone would be a fisherman and every fisherman should fish. One thing they didn't do, however. They didn't fish. In addition to meeting regularly, they organized a Board to send out fishermen to other places where there were many fish. All the fishermen seemed to agree that what was needed was a Board, which could challenge fishermen to be faithful in fishing. The Board was formed by those who had the vision and courage to speak about fishing, to define fishing and to promote the ideas of fishing in faraway streams and lakes where many of the fish of different colors lived.

Also the Board hired staffs and appointed committees and held many meetings to define fishing, and to decide what new streams should be thought about. But the staff and committee members did not fish.

TRAINING CENTERS. Large, elaborate, and expensive training centers were built whose original and primary purpose was to teach fishermen how to fish. Over the years courses were offered on the needs of fish, the nature of fish, where to find fish, the psychological reactions of fish, and how to approach and feed fish. Those who taught had doctorates in fishology. But the teachers did not fish. They only taught fishing. Year after year, after tedious training, many were graduated and were given fishing licenses. They were sent to do full-time fishing, some to distant waters which were filled with fish.

Some spent much study and travel to learn the history of fishing and to see far away places where the founding fathers did great fishing in the centuries past. They lauded the faithful fishermen of years before who handed down the ideas of fishing.

PRINTING HOUSES. Further, the fishermen built large printing houses to publish fishing guides. Presses were kept busy day and night to produce materials solely devoted to fishing methods equipment, and programs to arrange and to encourage meetings to talk about fishing. A speaker's bureau was also provided to schedule special

speakers on the subject of fishing. Many who felt the call to be fishermen responded. They were commissioned and sent to fish. But like the fishermen back home, they never fished. Like the fisherman they became, they engaged in all kinds of other occupations. They built power plants to pump water for fish and tractors to plough new waterways. They made all kinds of equipment to travel here and there to look at fish hatcheries. Some also said that they wanted to be part of the fishing party, but they felt called to furnishing equipment. Others felt their job was to relate to the fish in a good way so the fish would know the difference between good and bad fishermen. Others felt that simply letting the fish know they were nice land-living neighbors, and how loving and kind they were, was enough.

After one stirring meeting on "The necessity for Fishing," one young fellow left the meeting and went fishing. The next day he reported he had caught two outstanding fish. He was honored for his excellent catch and scheduled to visit all the meetings possible to tell how he did it. So he quit his fishing in order to have time to tell about the experience to other fishermen. He was also placed on the Fishermen's General Board as a person having considerable experience

TALKING ABOUT FISHING. Now it's true that many of the fishermen sacrificed and put up with all kinds of difficulties. Some lived near the water and bore the smell of dead fish every day. They received the ridicule of some who made fun of their fishermen's clubs and the fact that they claimed to be fishermen, yet never fished. They wondered about those who felt it was of little use to attend the weekly meetings to talk about fishing. After all, were they not following the Master who said, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men?" (Mark 1:17)

Imagine how hurt some were when one day a person suggested that those who don't catch fish were really not fishermen, no matter how much they claimed to be! Yet it did sound correct. Is a person a fisherman if year after year he never catches a fish? Is one following if he isn't fishing?

THINK ABOUT IT! Are you fishing?

(John Drescher is a teacher at Eastern Mennonite Seminary in Harrisburg, PA.)

ENDURANCE



By Bibi Shimoon Alicock

The following is a collection of Scriptures which emphasize the need for endurance for the believer.

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him," (James 1:12) "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him. For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and no sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence. Shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your

feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Follow peace with all men, and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord (Hebrews 12:1-14).

"Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked! I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayst be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eye salve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; be zealous therefore and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come into him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne" (Revelation 3:17-21).

"Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; For he is faithful that promised. And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins" (Hebrews 10:22-26).

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living

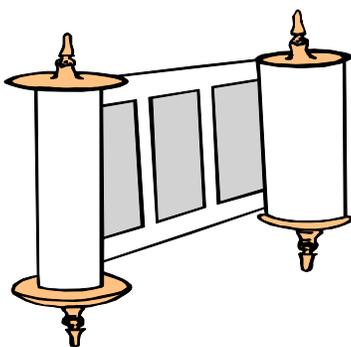
God. But call to remembrance the former days; in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; Partly, whilst ye were made a gazing stock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and enduring substance. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." "Now the just shall live by faith; but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him." "For we know him that hath said, vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, the Lord shall judge his people" (Hebrews 10:31-36;38:30).

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trump shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when

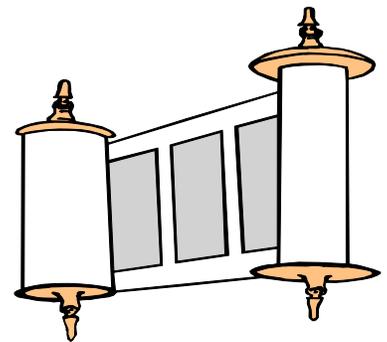
this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written. Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (I Corinthians 15:50-58).

"Heaven and earth shall pass away; but by words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore; for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock crowing, or in the morning. Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." "For he that endured unto the end the same shall be saved." (Mark 13:31-37).

GOD ALMIGHTY - YHWH EL SHADAI



By Carlo Rasmussen (deceased)



"And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM

hath sent me unto you" (Exodus 3:13-14).

The above conversation between God and Moses is the first time in the Bible we find the question about God's name. Bible students from time to time have raised this same question. It is a good question, and there needs to be an answer given from God's Holy Word. As we con-

tinue in our study of this question, we will find exactly what the Word of God says about the name of God.

The "sacred name" doctrine became strong in the late 1940's and early 50's. It was a doctrine which captivated many and brought forth a controversy in the Church of God. The doctrine of sacred names is a direct fulfillment of the words from the Apostle Paul in his letters to Timothy. "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (II Timothy 4:3-4). This false doctrine is what Paul further describes as "...doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings..." (I Timothy 6:4). Today, this teaching has become so out of hand that different groups will claim only they have the correct pronunciation of God's name. A new translation called the 'Sacred Name New Testament' was even published by the promoters of this doctrine in 1950.

Let us begin our study of this doctrine with one of the Bible verses from which this doctrine supposedly comes. In Exodus 3:13-14, as we read above, we have on record the conversation between Moses and the angel who represented the Lord from the burning bush. When Moses asked the name of God, the Lord said "I AM THAT I AM." "I AM THAT I AM" is called the Tetragrammaton. The tetragrammaton means the four letter (without vowel points) in which each letter represents a word written. Y-H-W-H then represents (Y - is I); (H - is AM); (W - is THAT); (H - is AM). Thus we have the name from the Hebrew into our English language. If we were to add any vowels (or other letters) between YHWH there would be no end to the resulting confusion. Far be it for anyone to add or take away from what the Almighty God has spoken.

Let us consider for a moment the greatness implied from this name given to Moses. We can readily understand the representation of the finite one. I AM THAT I AM is everything that ever has been or ever will be. This name says everything within itself. The SELF-EXISTENT one is meant in this name. There are other names which represent certain portions of God's Character such as "I AM your leader (or Banner) - YH Nissi" as found in Exodus 17:15. "I AM your Sanctified - YH Mkaddosh" as found in Leviticus 20:7-8. We read "I AM Peace - YH

Shalom" as found in Judges 6:24. Each of these separate titles (or names) are summed up in YHWH.

Before the time of Moses, the Lord was not known to His people by the name YHWH. We read where "...God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the Lord: And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God ALMIGHTY, but by my name Jehovah (YHWH) WAS I NOT KNOWN TO THEM," (Exodus 6:3). It is interesting to note then that Abraham, Isaac and even Jacob (whose name was later Israel) did not know the Lord by YHWH, but rather "God Almighty". This name means "ALL POWERFUL." The letters in YHWH are not God Almighty, however the two are synonymous in that they both mean the same God.

One of the main pillars used to support that sacred name doctrine is that of the Hebrew language as being a pure origin all language. This is not true by any stretch of the imagination. The Hebrew tongue is just as corrupt, and maybe more so, than any existing language on the earth today. There was a time, many generations before Abraham lived, when the whole world spoke only one language. Today we don't have any knowledge what that one language was. It is an impossibility for that one language to have been Hebrew. We can understand this fact when we read the Bible account in Genesis 11:1-9. Because of the one language, there were no limits to what mankind could accomplish. "And the Lord said, Behold the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do" (Genesis 11:6). As a result, the Lord confounded the language and the people became scattered upon the face of the earth. Due to the confusion of the language, mankind was totally disoriented and each person had to go with those who spoke the same language or tongue. There are some who claim the Hebrew tongue to be that one language from before the tower of Babel. The Bible disproves this idea however because we read where the Lord confounded their speech verse 7; "...let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." Once this was accomplished there could be no one who could recall that one language again, and the Scriptures give no suggestion that it was Hebrew. How foolish for man to think he can overpower what God has done. We must only conclude that the Hebrew tongue is among one of the existing languages since that time.

A thought to remember is that through the centuries there comes some changes into a language. When a people mix in what another people there are changes that occur. Such is the case when Israel was taken captive into Babylon for the 70 years as foretold by God's prophets. Due to this complete domination, Israel did lose some of their distinctive features in their language. The months of the year, except for the month of "Abib" are not of the original Hebrew. Nisan, Tammaz and Adar are names from Babylonian origin. This is only more proof of the gradual corruption which takes place in the world languages.

There is more evidence to show that man's language has become corrupted, and that none is pure or holy in the sight of God. Paul wrote to the Romans: "...for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit make the intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (8:26). From this verse, we understand that the Holy Spirit of God translates our prayers before the Heavenly Throne into a pure language. As we note these "groanings" cannot be uttered by man because we are unable to speak in a pure manner. If we could speak in a pure tongue, there would be no need for the Apostle to have written these words. If the Hebrew language were pure, Paul would have been very emphatic about it and so would have made every Saint aware of it. Such was not the case, and the rest of Scripture makes notation of it, but rather proves against such foolishness. Here again, we have the simplicity of God's Word in contrast to the complications man makes by adding to that Holy Word.

Let us now read Matthew's account of the birth of our Lord. "...the angel of the Lord appeared unto him (Joseph) in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:20-21). This same account may be read in the first chapter of Luke. The name "JESUS" was the name translated from the most original writings by the scholars under the direction of King James. The translators were hired by the King and were under the penalty of death if found mistranslating any text. Each of the scholars checked the other's work to be reassured of accuracy. There were no errors in their translation of the angels words to Joseph.

The name, "JESUS" is the correct name as translated into the English language. The meaning of "JESUS" is "Saviour". This same meaning is presented by the name given unto the Son of God in every language on earth. However, the name will be pronounced differently in the various tongues. Another good example of this fact would be found in people's names. Did you know that in some languages the name of James would be "Jacob"? The two differently spelled and sounding names have the same meaning - "supplanter". This same thought holds true with other of man's names as well.

There is coming a time in the near future when the Lord will once again return a single language to the earth. It will happen at the Lord's Return for He says: "Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the Lord, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy. For then will I turn to the people a PURE LANGUAGE, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent" (Zephaniah 3:8-9). Then, and only then will there be a "pure language" upon the earth because God will make it so. We read more about the return of our Lord where John records; "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire and on his head were many crowns; and HE HAD A NAME WRITTEN, THAT NO MAN KNEW, BUT HE HIMSELF" (Revelation 19:11-12). This is when Jesus comes with his Saints at the Battle of Armageddon, which is the seventh plague of God's Wrath. As we learn from these verses He has a name written that no man knew but He Himself. This would be the true "Sacred Name". There can be NO knowledge of any sacred name today because this very verse disproves such a thought.

What shall we say then? Can we ignore what God has set forth in his Holy Word? We must accept His Word and stand upon it, for it is the only true solid foundation. It is dangerous to attempt to add to the Word of God. By implying the existence of a pure language and a sacred name in this age, we would place ourselves in serious circumstances. In so doing, we are adding to His Word. The doctrine for a sacred name is not of truth. That doctrine is not a part of the Father, a Testimony of

our Lord Jesus Christ. To believe there is a scared name today known only to true believers, would be to deny the words of John when he prophesied of Jesus' return with His saints. This would be a form of denying Christ.

The only name given among men today whereby we must be saved is the Lord Jesus Christ, as spoken in English; Seigneur Jesus Christ as spoken in French; Signor Jesus Christ as in Italian and so on in each language today. Each language has the name given to the only begotten Son of God in whom all mankind must accept to receive eternal life. Attempting to manufacture a name from any of the world's languages would only bring about more confusion, which is Babylon. "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her (Babylon), my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Revelation 18:4).

As we can understand, the doctrine of a "sacred name" known only to God's people at this time is NOT a doctrine of Scripture. It is a doctrine of confusion and the author of confusion is the adversary to God.

Dear Reader, it is necessary to know and understand the simple liberty in the Lord Jesus Christ. There is NO sacred name today for mankind. When Jesus will establish His kingdom for the 1,000 years, even the saints will be given new names. See Revelation 2:17. Today God's people do not know what name they will have in the kingdom. How then can they know the name given to the Son of God which has yet to be revealed? Let us not be deceived by false teachings. "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth

it" (Revelation 2:17).

HISTORICAL NOTE

There is a historical note concerning the sacred name movement which needs to be considered. From this fact, we may better understand the fallacy of this doctrine and the great length that men will go to to promote their false teachings.

In the year 1950, a "Sacred Name Version" of the Holy Scriptures first was printed. The group responsible for this work was The Scripture Research Association, Inc. Their location was in Irvington, New Jersey. Some of those in this group supported the false teaching of a Friday crucifixion. Others supported the Biblical Wednesday crucifixion of our Lord. The common goal of these two factions was to publish a sacred name Bible. Pastor A.B. Trains of Irvington, New Jersey, is one who did extensive work on this project and was of the belief that Jesus was crucified on Friday. So strong were his feelings on the subject, that one of the verses in this new version was altered to reflect the idea of Friday crucifixion. We read from the King James Version in John 19:42; "There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jew's preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand." This verse was changed to read; "Their laid they Yahshua hastily in the new sepulchre which was nigh at hand because the Sabbath was drawing on." As the reader may readily see the Word Sabbath IS NOT found in the King James Version of John 19:42. This change totally obscures the true meaning of this text of Scripture. It is a serious thing to tamper with the Word of God. The Apostle Paul warns us of these things in the last days as we read his two letters to Timothy.

"THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE"



By Daniel Sanchez



"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God: and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:30-31).

Jesus our beloved Savior and redeemer spoke to his

disciples and said: "I am the way, the TRUTH, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

In these verses, our Lord Jesus emphasizes that there are three elements by which we come to the Father. They are: (1) by knowing and following the WAY, (2) by know-

ing and following the TRUTH, (3) then you may receive eternal LIFE through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus said in John 6:38, "For I came down from heaven not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me." The important thought that Jesus wanted us to understand was this commission. He wants to save us from our former way of life on this earth. Jesus, our Saviour, came to sacrifice Himself for us by the Father's guidance and pleasure.

John the Baptist cried out and said: "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world," (John 1:29). And that lamb was our Lord Jesus Christ who shed His blood for the remission of sins. Read Hebrews 9:22.

What is sin? Sin is the transgression of the law. The law consists of all God's commandments. The WAY for salvation is through Christ. He came to restore the love of God that was tarnished when Adam and Eve first transgressed. Jesus Christ came for that WAY of life, and emphasized that He came not to destroy the law, but to fulfill it.

What fulfillment was He talking about? In Matthew 5:17-18, we read, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not come to destroy but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." As long as the heaven we see, and earth on which we stand remains, God's holy Commandments are guaranteed to be in force, and they will not fade away.

Christ, our Lord, fulfilled the prophecy of the Prophet Isaiah 42:21 where we read: "The Lord is well pleased for his righteousness sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honorable." How did the Lord Jesus Christ honor the law? He spoke of this in Luke 10:25-28, "And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love thy Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right; this do, and thou shalt live." These words encompass the Ten Commandments. We must do them to live. It is not our choice, but it is a command for men to come to the Father by obeying Him.

We read, in Acts 3:22-23, "For Moses truly said unto

the fathers A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people." Jesus said in John 15:22, "If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin."

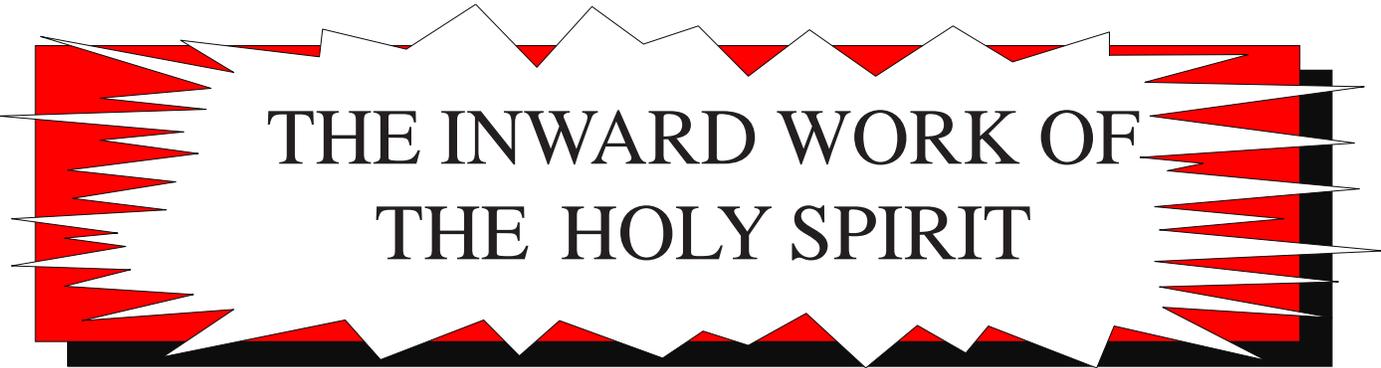
Jesus said in John 8:32, "And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." In other words, to be free from condemnation is to know the TRUTH and follow the truth. David, the patriarch, tells us in Psalm 119:142, "Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth." It is clear as crystal, that the law is the TRUTH.

The opposite of truth is a lie. Those who object to God's law are following a lie. Jesus said in John 8:43, "Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the TRUTH, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

We must take heed to Jesus's call and follow Him. He gave us the WAY, He lived the TRUTH and if we follow this way and truth, we can inherit eternal LIFE through Him. He kept all of God's commandments and we, too, must keep those commandments. If we choose not to keep His commandments, then we will be living a lie.

Paul states: "For I am the least of the Apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God" (Galatians 1:1). This church of God is where the TRUTH can be found. In I Timothy 3:15, we read, "But if I tarry long that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church the living God, the pillar and ground truth.

Jesus said to the young man; if you want to enter into LIFE, keep the commandments. See Matthew 19:16-17. The definition of a saint can be found in Revelation 14:12. "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." He that hath an ear, let him hear the WAY.



THE INWARD WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

There are many scriptures in the New Testament that deal with our subject. The 8th chapter of Romans is a discussion about the Holy Spirit giving much light and guidance to the followers of Christ. The phrase, 'Holy Spirit', or 'Spirit', is mentioned some twenty times in this chapter alone. Let us consider a few of the inward works of the Holy Spirit found in Romans 8.

1. The Holy Spirit is an influence by which one walks, and thinks. Verse 5 through 7 brings this out, "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be."

2. The Holy Spirit enables the thought of "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Verses 9 and 10 allude to this scripture, "But ye are not the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness." The Holy Spirit of God, or as Paul refers to it, the 'Spirit of Christ', has to be in his followers. If it is in them, it fulfills the scripture that reads, "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). It is the Holy Spirit or the power of God that dwells in us. Also read John 2:27.

3. Another work of the Holy Spirit is described in verse 11, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelled in you." The Holy Spirit quickens and gives

life. It gives one the opportunity to serve God, to understand his truth, to be an acceptable sacrifice, and eventually quicken (make alive) those who are faithful, giving them spirit besides.

4. The action of the Holy Spirit upon our minds mortifies (makes dead the deeds of the body.) Verse 13 reads, "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

5. Verse 14 states another work of the Holy Spirit, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." The Holy Spirit leads God's people. This can be thought of as God's providential care over His followers. His Holy Spirit brings about this care by being with his followers along each step of the narrow way. A hymn says, "I'd rather walk in the dark with God, than go alone in the light." God's people are able to say this because it is the Holy Spirit that leads and directs their lives.

6. The Holy Spirit gives assurance of sonship. Verse 15 states, "for ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

7. The Holy Spirit is able to intercede for us with the Father. Verses 26 and 27 read, "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." The Holy Spirit is able to intercede in those cases where we are not able to pray to the Father for what we desire, or to know what we should pray for. As the verse states, "The Holy Spirit intercedes according to the will of God".

These are but seven works of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Contributed



THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

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

The following articles appeared in the Houston Chronicle.

Putting On The Pressure New Anti-Conversion Laws In Hindu-Majority India Threaten Christian Minority

by Laurinda Keys
Associated Press

AHMADABAD, India - The Rt. Rev. Vinodkumar Malaviya, a Protestant bishop in western India, is accustomed to providing food, cattle fodder, clothes and medical care to anyone in need.

But under a new law passed by the Hindu fundamentalist government of India's Gujarat state - which prohibits religious conversions without official permission - he fears his actions may make him a criminal.

The law "looks very simple and harmless, but the implications will not be," Malaviya says.

Gujarat is the latest of six Indian states to approve measures aimed at ending conversions in this majority Hindu nation, where the 56-year-old constitution requires a secular government and guarantees the freedom to practice and propagate religion.

Signed April 9, the law establishes prison sentences of up to four years - along with fines - for converting someone by force, fraud or allurement.

Christians say it also set up such broad definitions of what constitutes "force" and "allurement" that their mission to serve the poor and sick is threatened. For instance, the law says "any gift" or "marital benefit" is an allurement

to convert.

"So from now on you can't help a person?" asked Malaviya, "I don't know how to deal with it."

Sermons may also be affected. The law says that warning someone about "divine displeasure" - telling them that God hates sin - is a threat and therefore an illegal use of force.

Malaviya also objects to the requirement that Gujaratis must get permission from a magistrate before changing religions, "This is a matter of one's personal relationship with God," he says.

Across this nation, the new laws are becoming stricter under the encouragement of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janaa Party that has led India's government since 1998, when a wave of anti-Muslim, anti-Christian violence began sweeping the country.

Some 40 churches were burned in Gujarat in 1998. In 1999, more than 50 Christian prayer halls and churches were burned in Gujarat, Orissa and Bihar states. And Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons were burned to death in their vehicle by a Hindu mob in Orissa.

More than 1,000 people - mostly Muslims - were killed in rioting last year that the Gujarat government is accused of abetting.

Hindu hard-liners contend anti-conversion laws are needed to combat what they say is a Western conspiracy to undermine India's majority Hindu faith and culture. Hinduism recognizes thousands of gods and goddesses in contrast to this monotheism of Christianity and Islam.

The Hindu groups accuse Christian missionaries - most of them Indians - of tempting poor tribal people and low-

caste Hindus to convert by offering jobs and money. Mass reconversion ceremonies - busing people to Hindu temples where they bathe and make offerings - are being organized throughout the country.

A basic difference between the Hindu groups and the Christians is their view of women, children tribals and the "untouchables."

The tribals are believed to be India's native people, and many come from animalistic religious backgrounds. They live in forests, jungles and remote regions, and are ethnically and linguistically different from most Indians.

The new law provides stiffer penalties for converting them because the Hindu fundamentalists believe the lower strata of society are more easily duped.

"The illiterate tribals, how can they understand the theology of Christianity?" says Dr. Pravin Togadiya, a cancer surgeon and general secretary of the Word Hindu Council, which sponsored the new law and the reconversion ceremonies.

"Am I not better able to understand than an illiterate tribal woman, who is not able to understand religion clearly?"

Protected by khaki-dressed guards with automatic rifles, Togadiya spoke two days before he was arrested in neighboring Rajasthan state for passing out sharp spears to his supporters and urging them to defend Hindu culture.

His view that religions less important and harder to fathom for the poor and uneducated has roots in India's Hindu caste system.

Until recently, only the highest caste Brahmans could act as temple priests. "Untouchables", those required to the dirtiest jobs, were barred from Hindu temple until independence leader Mohandas K. Gandhi went on a hunger strike for them in the 1940s.

The caste system allocates jobs and social status at birth, based on the Hindu belief that one's fate is determined by nations in a previous life.

But Christians, who make up 2.4 percent of India's more than 1 billion people, say every human has a spiritual aspect, and a true conversion of the heart and mind cannot be brought about through force or payment.

"Salvation is made available to all through Christ, but there is no force," says Malaviya. "It's the work of the Holy Spirit."

The Christians - who teach that there is only one life

on Earth, as opposed to the Hindu belief in reincarnation - say the Hindu nationalists did not care about the poor until they saw them becoming educated and empowered through Christian schools and development projects.

D.K. Akruwla, the Word Hindu Council's vice president in Gujarat, counters that he is concerned about tribals religious belief because "India is a place where Hindus live. We educated, patriotic citizens are worried that their converted people will lose their roots and their national identity."

"If someone becomes a Christian, he ceases to be Indian", Akruwala says.

Unsurprisingly, India's religious minorities take strong exception to that view, and history backs them up.

Christian tradition holds that Thomas, one of Jesus's 12 Apostles, established India's forest church almost 2,000 years ago, while the first Muslims arrived in A.D. 712. The age of Hinduism, the date of it's appearance in India, is uncertain, but most experts say it is at least 5,000 years old.

Meanwhile, in the southern Gujarat town of Varya, the Rev. Navnit Gamethi, a Pentecostal preacher, prepared for an Easter Sunday service while reluctantly accepting that for time being he'll be performing no baptisms. Hundreds come to the healing services he holds, and some want to become Christians.

"The law says we should apply to the district magistrate, but no one knows when permission will ever come," he says.

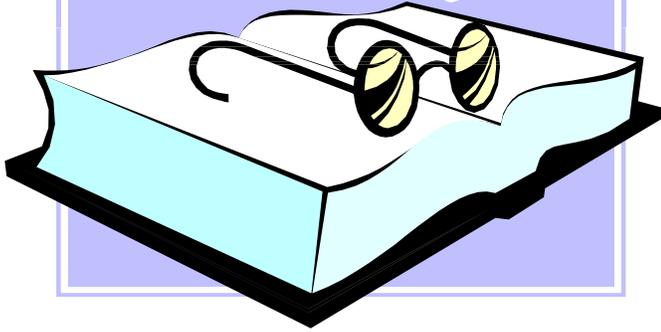
"I fear the magistrate, but I also fear Jesus, who said we should baptize. I will pray to Jesus and ask him to save me out of this predicament. I will not pray before the magistrate, because he will not listen to me."

Comment

The above article tells us of the sad state of religious affairs in India. To the followers of our Lord Jesus Christ, there is no such thing as a caste system! India calls itself a democracy, but, judging from this article, there is no freedom of religion there.

BIBLE

Study



Questions and Answers

Question: How could the kingdom of God be within the Pharisees as Jesus branded them as hypocrites?

Answer: The verse to which you refer is found in Luke 17:21. "Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! For behold, the kingdom of God is within you."

We know that the divine principles of righteousness were not filling and ruling in the hearts and lives of the Pharisees. The Marginal Translation of this text clears up the matter for us. It uses the word "among" instead of "within". Is is also the word used in Wilson's Emphatic Diaglott Translation.

The Pharisees demanded of Jesus that He tell them "when the kingdom of God should come" (verse 20). He explained that the kingdom would not come with outward show, nor with an ostentatious display of military might and power; neither will anyone be able to say it is here or there. Then comes the expression, "The kingdom of God is (among) you."

Wilson's Emphatic Diaglott Translation reads: "God's Royal Majesty", instead of, "The Kingdom of God." Jesus was "God's Royal Majesty", the one whom He had sent into the world to be the king in the messianic Kingdom. While the kingdom was not established at the first advent of Christ, the king came then to begin preparations for it. So He said to the Pharisees-the blind guide of Israel-that the "Royal majesty" in that coming kingdom was even then in their midst. However, they failed to recognized Him.

Question: What can we say to those who believe that

the God of the Old Testament is a God of judgment and wrath while the God of the New Testament is a God of love? I understand that several cults teach this.

Answer: Both the Old and the New Testaments point to one and the same God. This God is a God of both love and judgment.

One the one hand, God did judge people in Old Testament times when the circumstances called for it. This was the case when He sent ten terrible plagues against the Egyptians (Exodus 7-11). However, He is also seen displaying love and grace throughout the Old Testament. Following Adam and Eve's sin, God's promise of a coming Redeemer was an act of love and grace (Genesis 3:15). God's provision of an ark for Noah and his family was an act of love and grace (Genesis 6:9-22). God's sending the prophets to give special Revelation to Israel was an act of love and grace.

In the New Testament, the love of God was continually manifested to the people through the person of Jesus Christ. It is also true that some of the most scathing denunciations from God came from the mouth of Jesus. Read Matthew 23:27-28,33.

So we see that the God of both the Old and New Testaments is a God of love and judgment.

Question: Who is the author of the Epistle of James?

Answer: We believe that it is the personal brother of Jude, Simon, Joses and Jesus (Matthew 13:55). In James 1:9, we find the strongest clue, "Let the brother of low

degree rejoice in that he (Jesus, his brother) is exalted." Read also Jude 1, the other brother's epistle, where James is definitely the brother of Jude.

The author identified himself only as "James a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,..." (James 1:1). This James was not one of the Twelve. James, the brother of John the Apostle, was killed by the sword of King Herod Agrippa I about 44 A.D. (Acts 12:2).

The contents of the letter point sharply to James, head of the church at Jerusalem, as its author. This James was one of the four brothers of Jesus Christ who are listed as James, Joseph, Simon and Judas (Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3). These four, together with the sisters of Jesus, were all younger than Jesus. Joseph did not cause Mary to conceive a child until after she had borne a Son, Jesus (Matthew 1:25). Luke records that Mary gave birth to her firstborn (Greek, protookos) son. Luke, the physician, did not refer to Jesus as an only (Greek, onongenes) son of Mary. Luke would certainly have noted that Jesus was an only child, if it had been true. Luke noted that the son of the widow of Nain was an only son (Luke 7:12) and that the daughter of Jarius was an only daughter (Luke 8:423). Luke, who had much detailed information on the Virgin Mary, never heard of the doctrine of the perpetual virginity of Mary. This unscriptural speculation, that Mary bore no children after Jesus, was invented near the end of the fourth century in order to glorify the rising tide of monasticism.

James, the Lord's brother (Galatians 1:10), together with the other brother of Jesus, spent a few days with Jesus and Mary and Christ's disciples in Capernum (John 2:12). The brother of Jesus urged Him to go to Judaea (John 7:3), although they did not believe in Him (John 7:5). After the resurrection, the brothers of Jesus were among the one hundred twenty persons gathered for prayer before Pentecost (Acts 1:14).

James, the Lord's brother, was one of the witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 15:7). Peter, after he was led out of prison by an angel of the Lord, gave specific instructions to "James and to the brethren" (Acts 12:17). James, president of the Council of Jerusalem, about 50 A.D. (Acts 15:13). The Apostle Paul, on his final visit to Jerusalem, went with Luke and others to see James (Acts 21:18).

Question: What are some dangers in setting dates for the return of Christ?

Answer: We can think of at least eight reasons.

1. In the past, the track record of those who predicted

the date of the coming of Christ has been 100% wrong.

2. Those who date set may end up making harmful decisions for their lives. Selling one's possessions and heading for the mountains, purchasing bomb shelters, stopping education, leaving family and friends. These are destructive actions that can ruin one's life.

3. Those who date set may end up damaging their faith in the Bible (especially prophetic sections) when their expectations fail.

4. If one loses confidence in the prophetic portions of Scripture, biblical prophecy ceases to be a motivation to purity and holiness in daily life. Read Titus 2;12-14.

5. Christians who set dates may damage the faith of new or immature believers when predicted events fail to materialize.

6. Millennial soothsayers tend to be sensationalistic. Sensationalism is unbelieving to a child of God. Christ calls his followers to live soberly and alert as they await His coming (Mark 13:32-37).

7. Christians who get caught up in date setting, can do damage to the cause of Christ. Some enjoy scorning these Christians who have put stock in end-time predictions (especially when specific dates have been attached to specific events). Why give "ammunition" to the enemies of Christ?

8. The timing of end-time events is in God's hands. We have not been given the details. See Acts 1:7. As far as the second coming of Christ is concerned, it is better to live as if Jesus were coming today and yet prepare for the future as if He were not coming for a long time.

Question: Will Satan, the devil, be dead when he is put into the bottomless pit?

Answer: The Scriptures tell us that he will be bound. "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season" (Revelation 20:1-3).

In Isaiah 14:15-16, we read of his power being taken away from him. "Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms."

Why would a dead personality be bound?



In Memory Of Henry E. Smith (1920 - 2003)

Brother Henry Smith was born on November 17, 1920, in Brooklyn Heights, Ohio. He died on June 11, 2003 in Parma Ohio. Brother Henry worked as a mounted deputy in both the Cleveland, Ohio and the Medina Sheriff's Departments.

He was a valued member of the Church of God (7th Day) where he was active for many years. He served as a member of the international Board of Seven for over 30 years.

Brother Henry will be missed greatly by all of us. He was a good example and exhibited the fruits of the Spirit as are found in Galatians 5:22-23. He always had a smile

and a friendly greeting for everyone.

He was a devoted husband to his wife, Betty, and a wonderful father to his children, Bonnie Griffeth, Gail Chorich, and Gary Smith. He was also a loving grandfather to his five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

He loved horses and he raised them on his farm. He worked hard all his life, and toward the end, he suffered an extended illness.

Brother Henry is now waiting for the second coming of Jesus. He believed in the resurrection which will occur when Jesus returns for His saints. We look forward to reuniting with our loved ones at that time.

Let us make our calling and election sure, so that when Jesus returns, we will be a part of that first resurrection. After the seven last plagues, Jesus will set up His kingdom here on this earth, and his saints will live and reign with Him a thousand years. After that, Jesus will turn everything back to the Heavenly Father, and His saints will live forever on the new heaven and new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness. Brother Henry believed these truths and taught them.

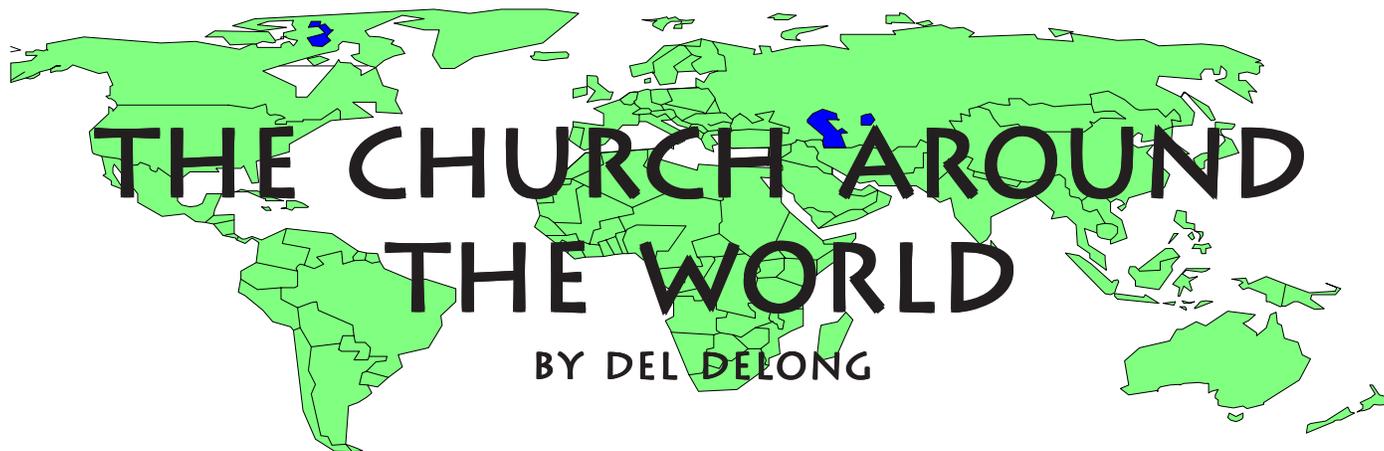
Come Now, Rest In Me

*God saw that you were tired,
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around you,
And whispered, "Come now, rest in Me".*

*With tearful eyes we watched you,
And saw you pass away.
Although we love you dearly,
We could not make you stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.*

-Taken from the Busch Family Chapel



HONDURAS

In October, 2002, Brothers Ricky Herrera, Moises Torres and Manuel Gonzalez made a trip to Honduras. Here they are pictured with some of the brethren at the Tegucigalpa airport in Honduras.



LESSON I

AARON'S ROD IS TURNED INTO A SERPENT

Scripture Reading: Exodus 7:1-14.

Golden Text: Exodus 7:3.

"And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt."

1. What did the Lord speak unto Moses, and what was He doing to cause Moses and Aaron to do? Exodus 7:1-2.
2. What did God cause to happen to King Pharaoh, and would Pharaoh hearken unto Moses and Aaron? Exodus 7:3-4.
3. Why would the Egyptians know that He was the Lord? Exodus 7:5.
4. How old was Moses and Aaron at this time? Exodus 7:7.
5. What did the Lord tell Moses and Aaron to do with the rod, and did they do as the Lord commanded? Exodus 7:9-10.
6. What did the magicians of Egypt do? Exodus 7:11.
7. What was Aaron's rod able to do that the magicians' rod could not do? Exodus 7:12. This shows that God is more powerful than Satan.
8. Was Pharaoh's heart hardened, or did he let the people go? Exodus 7:13-14.

LESSON II

THE RIVER TURNED TO BLOOD

Scripture Reading: Exodus 7:15-25.

Golden Text: Exodus 7:21 (last part)

"...and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt."

1. What did the Lord instruct Moses and Aaron to do, and what were they to take with them? Exodus 7:15.
2. What was Moses to say to Pharaoh and what are they to do with the rod? Exodus 7:16-17.
3. What will happen to the river and the fish that are in it? Exodus 7:18.
4. Read Exodus 7:19 and then tell in your own words what the Lord said unto Moses.
5. Did Moses and Aaron do as the Lord commanded? What happened to all the waters? Exodus 7:20-21.
6. What did the magicians of Egypt do, and was Pharaoh's heart still hardened? Exodus 7:22-23.
7. What did the Egyptians do for water to drink? How long did the river stay in this condition? Exodus 7:24-25.

LESSON III

THE PLAGUE OF FROGS

Scripture Reading: Exodus 8:1-15.

Golden Text: Exodus 8:4.

"And the frogs shall come up both on thee, and upon thy people, and upon all thy servants."

1. 1. What did the Lord instruct Moses to do? Exodus 8:1.
2. What did the Lord say He could do if the king would not let His people go? Exodus 8:2.
3. Describe the plague which would come upon the people

in Exodus 8:3-4. How extensive was this plague to be?

4. What did the Lord instruct Moses to have Aaron do? Did Aaron obey? Exodus 8:5-6.

5. Did the magicians of Egypt also cause frogs to come upon the land of Egypt? Exodus 8:7.

6. Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. What did he say to them? Exodus 8:8.

7. Moses cried unto the Lord to take the frogs out of the houses, villages and fields. Did the Lord do as Moses asked? Exodus 8:12-13.

8. Did Pharaoh again harden his heart, or did he let the people go as he promised? Exodus 8:15.

4. Did the Lord do as he had warned Pharaoh? Exodus 8:24.

5. Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. What did he say to them? Exodus 8:25.

6. How did Moses answer Pharaoh? Exodus 8:26-27.

7. Pharaoh again wanted the Lord to take the plague away from him. Did Moses ask the Lord to do this? Exodus 8:28-30.

8. The Lord did as Moses asked and removed the flies from Pharaoh and his servant. Did Pharaoh let his people go as he promised? Exodus 8:31-32.

LESSON IV

THE PLAGUE OF LICE AND FLIES

Scripture Reading: Exodus 8:16-32.

Golden Text: Exodus 8:24 (first part).

"...and there came a grievous swarm of flies into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servant's houses, and into all the land of Egypt..."

1. What was Aaron told to do with his rod, and what happened to the dust of the land when he obeyed? Exodus 8:16-17.

2. Did the magicians also bring forth lice? Did the magicians realize that God was working through Aaron and Moses when they failed to bring forth lice? Exodus 8:18-19.

3. Pharaoh's heart still was hardened. What wording was Moses to give to Pharaoh if he did not release his people? Exodus 8:20-23.

PLAYING A BIBLE STORY

A chair may be your boat. Or you may have a large box in which to sit. If you make a picture of some fish and lay it on the floor, you may pick up the picture at the end of the play to show the fish caught in the net.

Fishermen four went fishing one night;
 Rowed (1) in their boats with all their might;
 Threw (2) out their nets in the water -swish!
 And drew (3) them up, but found not a fish.
 They threw (2) and pulled, (3) threw (2) and pulled
 (3) some more,
 Till their shoulders (4) and backs and arms were sore.
 When Jesus said, "Throw," they let down (2) the net,
 hoping at least a few fish to get
 This time the net took four men to pull!
 Shining fish piled up till both boats were full! (6)

MOTIONS:

- (1) Row with large sideward strokes.
- (2) Throw out the nets.
- (3) Draw up the nets and look carefully for fish.
- (4) Rub sore shoulders and arms and back.
- (5) Pull the net in with great effort.
- (6) Indicate the full boat with your hands.

JUST IN TIME

Dennis was camping with his aunt and uncle. They had a trailer house parked near a beautiful lake in the mountains. Right now, Aunt Molly was taking a nap, and Uncle Dan had gone for a boat ride with another man.

Dennis wanted to find an especially nice fern for his Mother, who was home in the city. He looked among the vines and flowers beside the shady trail along the creek. He had found a lovely maidenhair fern, and was getting ready to lift it carefully from the ground when he heard a child's shrill cry.

Jumping to his feet, Dennis raced up the path until he found two little girls crying loudly. "What's the matter?" he called "Are you hurt? Did a snake bite you?" Both girls shook their heads and pointed to the creek.

Dennis ran close to the water and looked where they were pointing. There was a little boy in a deep hole! He was splashing and splashing, but his head soon went under the water. Dennis tried to reach him as he came up again, but the child was too far out.

Dennis looked for a long stick, but there was none to be found. He tried to break a branch from a tree, but it was green and would not snap. He felt in his pocket for his knife, but remembered he had left it in the trailer house after peeling an apple that morning. He closed his eyes and prayed, "Dear Jesus, please help me to know what to do."

He seized the green branch again and tugged with all his might. The branch did not break off, but it pulled loose from the limb. He held it out toward the little boy, but the little fellow's head had gone out of sight again.

Oh, how Dennis wished that he had learned to swim and dive. He wasn't sure what to do. He knew that he must get help immediately. There were only a few people camped near the lake, and most of them were out in their boats. Then Dennis thought of the short cut to the lake. He ran as fast as he could and prayed that Jesus would help him get someone's attention, so they could save the boy.

The boats were way out in the water. When Dennis

got to the shore he waved his arms and shouted, "Help! Help!"

Two men saw him, and their boat made the spray fly as it raced toward him. Dennis told them a little boy was drowning in the creek, and one man jumped out of the boat and ran as fast as he could toward the creek. The other man pulled the boat out on the sand and ran, too. The first man was the little boy's father, but Dennis did not know it then.

Dennis' legs were so tired now that he could not run fast. He only trotted along behind. He prayed all the way to the creek. Again, he asked Jesus to please keep the little boy alive until the men could get there.

When Dennis reached the creek, he saw that the boy was out on the ground and the first man was breathing into his mouth. After quite a while, he began to cry. Then Dennis knelt down in the damp leaves and vines and thanked God for His help and mercy.

Everyone in camp thought Dennis was a hero. The little boy's father told him that they had reached his son just in time. Another minute would have been too late. He thanked Dennis and tried to give him some money, But Dennis wouldn't accept it.

Aunt Molly and Uncle Dan both hugged their nephew tightly. They were proud of him.

Dennis was worried about one thing, though. When he got home, he asked Mother about it.

"Mother, was it right to pray while I was running?" he asked. "I didn't have time to kneel down."

"Jesus is always ready to listen when we talk to Him, no matter where we are or what we are doing," answered Mother. "I am glad that you remembered to ask Jesus for help."

"I would never forget Jesus," answered Dennis. "He is the first one I think of when there is trouble. Our Sabbath school teacher helped us hunt all the verses in Psalms that tell us how God helps.

"One verse says, 'God is....a very present help in trouble.' Another one says, 'he is our help and our shield.' then one says, 'our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.' Aren't those good verses?"

"They surely are," Mother said. "I am glad that you have learned about God's love and protection."

**This is a prayer from one of the Psalms.
To discover what it is, take the first letter of each object pictured
and put it in the blank space below the picture.**

**Jesus chose twelve disciples and gave them each the power to heal.
He instructed them to preach the Kingdom of God.
These particular twelve men were also known as apostles.
To find out the meaning of the word "apostles" use this special chart to decode the following.**

THANK YOU PRECIOUS FATHER!

By Carol Buechner

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR BLESSINGS PRECIOUS FATHER ABOVE,
FOR ONCE AGAIN YOU HAVE BROUGHT US TOGETHER IN
LOVE.*

*YOU HAVE WATCHED OVER EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US,
FOR YOU ARE THE GOD IN WHOM WE DO TRUST.*

*AS WE MEET NOW TOGETHER WITH YOUR SPIRIT AS OUR
GUIDE,*

MAY UNITY KEEP OUR HEARTS CHRIST LIKE AND ALIVE.

*LET A SPECIAL REFRESHING FILL US NOW INSIDE,
AS JESUS RENEWS OUR SOULS, HEARTS AND MINDS.*

*AS WE WORSHIP YOU IN A HUMBLE WAY,
MAY REVIVAL BREAK OUT IN A MIGHTY WAVE.*

*INSPIRE US TO CARRY THE MESSAGE OF YOUR SON,
SO MANY MORE PEOPLE TO SALVATION WILL BE WON.*

*THANK YOU PRECIOUS FATHER FOR THE PRIVILEGE YOU
GAVE US TODAY,*

*OF MEETING ONCE AGAIN WITH LOVED ONES FROM FAR
AWAY.*

*AS WE PART ONCE AGAIN TO JOURNEY SEPARATE WAYS,
MAY WE REMEMBER TO UPHOLD EACH OTHER AS WE
CONTINUE TO PRAY.*
