

SHILOH

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 Box 238 Bratt, Fl
Pastor Mircheal Jones
369-6460

SENTINEL

January 3, 1984 Vol II Num 1 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

JOB- A MAN WHO MADE A MARK

Let's begin the New Year by looking at a man who made a Mark for God and see if we can't do the same thing.

Look first at Job's CIRCUMSTANCES. 1) He did not have the Bible to guide him (Job is the earliest book of the Bible). 2) He did not have the Promises of Abraham to sustain him. 3) He suffered more troubles than most people ever hear of much less suffer. (So stop blaming your circumstances for your problems!).

Then there was Job's CHARACTER. Job 1:1 *There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.*

Job was 1) Perfect. The word means Mature. He was not sinless (all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. Rom 3:23) but he had used his spiritual senses until he was able to tell the difference between right and wrong (See Heb 5:14). Are you growing in the Lord? Or are you still a carnal Baby Christian following men instead of God (I Cor 3:3-4). He was 2) Upright (Honest). He was a person you could trust (He knew what was right and he did what was right!). He 3) Feared God. The word fear here means respect. If you respect God you will want to avoid offending Him and you will desire to learn of Him (See Prov 8:13 and 1:7). And lastly, He 4) Eschewed (avoided) Evil. He did not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful (Ps 1:1) but he avoided even the appearance of evil.

Reputation is what People Think you are. Character is what you are! What kind of person are you when noone is looking???

And finally, Job made a mark because of his CONSISTANCY (Job 1:5). (Consistency means keeping the goal in sight- You don't make a crooked row because you don't have a goal in mind or because you looked back. (See Luke 9:57-62) Every "row" is the same because your constant goal is to be Christlike.) Job was consistent in his dealings with 1) His Family. He treated them all alike and tried to show them the right way. (Do you treat your family as nice as you treat those you work with?). He was also consistent in his dealings with 2) God. His Character and Consistency were such until God testified of them (Job 1:8).

A double minded man is unstable in all his ways (James 1:8) and God is looking for people who will establish themselves on the Rock and having done all stand steadfast. Can God count on You??

What kind of mark did Job make? What was Job's CONTRIBUTION? He had a large family but they died without affecting the world (Job 1:18-19). He was the wealthiest man in the East (Job 1:2) but he is not remembered for that. His Contribution is that he showed the world how to have patience in trial by maintaining Faith in God. (Jam 5:11). And if you're going to make a Mark for God like Job you must learn to Glory in infirmities (II Cor 12:9) and steadfastly maintain your Faith in God's Love and Wisdom. It won't be easy but remember it's the diamond and not the marshmallow that makes a mark!!

I Pet 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 more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

The contract has been signed for the building of the soon as the material arrives the work will be done. (Unless something unforeseen happens it should be done within the next 2 months). It's going to cost us \$4000 but the Padded Pews will greatly add to the Beauty and comfort of the Church.

Remember that Sunday, Jan. 15 at 6:30pm we will be showing the film "Sand Castles". This is a film about 2 families that face the problems of today. The difference is the foundation each is building upon. The message of the film is greatly needed today to bring hope and stability to families. Plan to be here and invite a neighbor.

A Special Thanks to Mrs Mavis McCarter for her gift to this newsletter ministry. The Lord has graciously supplied our needs last year and I look forward to another year of expanding our outreach. Because of the following report this newsletter is going into many new homes this week. If you are receiving it for the first time and would like to continue to do so simply drop me a line and let me know. We try to offer information, inspiration, and every so often a free study booklet. Join our family.

A VERY VERY SPECIAL THANKS to the people and the Churches of Florida. Several weeks ago I sent out an appeal to the Churches of Florida to try to raise \$2350 in order to provide transportation home for Dennis Owen due to the illness of his mother. The Churches have responded with a total offering of \$3771.85!! (Praise the Lord!!). Now the Lord has provided and Dennis and family are due to arrive in Tampa on Thursday, Jan. 12 with enough funds to provide transportation and also some to apply to his deficit account.

The Foreign Mission Department has arranged for Dennis to begin his furlough early so he will not be returning to Spain for awhile. He is scheduled to be in a Missionary Revival here at Shiloh March 11-14 and we're looking forward to his coming. This will be a time to learn of his mission work, renew Faith Promise Pledges, and, hopefully, see many people won to the Lord.

Here is a list of the contributions to this special Fund- (I am still receiving funds so if your gift is not on the list I'll try to include it in the final report.)

Bethany FWB Church, Eaton Park	\$ 159.45
First FWB Church, Haines City	100.00
Young Adult Class, Marvin Chapel FWB Church	87.00
Mt Olive FWB Church, Highland City	100.00
Central Florida Quarterly Meeting	210.00
Calvary FWB Church, Haines City	200.00
Friendship FWB Church, Jacksonville	50.00
Beulah FWB Church, Pensacola	136.10
Piney Grove FWB Church, Chipley	900.30
First FWB Church, Winter Haven	735.00
Shiloh FWB Church	1094.00
	<u>\$3771.85</u>

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SENTINEL

January 10, 1984 Vo; 11 Num 2

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Reflections

I remember taking on fuel at a tiny island off New Guinea and as we left a rain cloud came up that was just like a shower. It was so small until it would only cover half of our ship. The Captain piloted us into the shower so that we could wash first one half and then the other half of the ship with fresh water.

I remember crossing the equator with seas so blue until they defied description and just as we crossed the line a school of dolphins began to jump and play. A movie director would have given a lot of money to have staged a scene that looked nearly as perfect as that one.

I remember approaching the island of Pago Pago and standing in darkness that was so thick until you could almost feel it and suddenly the sun came up as if you had turned on a light. There was no dawn- one moment you were in darkness and the next the sun was up.

I remember standing in the clear cool air atop Mt Victoria overlooking Hong Kong and feeling the pure joy of a cone of real ice cream. Six months in the stench and destruction of Viet Nam and now I could look at flowers and eat ice cream and breathe.

I remember a sunset off the coast of Viet Nam that contained more shades of color than I thought there were. I remember every shade of Blue you can name in the waters as you approach Hawaii. And I remember that I've never seen a green as pretty as the green of the Pine Trees of Crow Corner, S.C. when I was finally able to return home.

I've seen many things in my life- some have left scar tissue on my soul; and some still make me want to shout for joy as if they were just happening. But I've never seen or felt anything as great as Christian Love. When Christians bow and wash one another's feet and hug one another's neck in Love that forgives and forgets the problems of the past it's more beautiful than any sunset could ever be.

I celebrate being ordained into the Gospel Ministry 20 years today and as I look back over God's Blessings during those years I find that I'd rather be a Pastor than President. What reward could be greater than seeing that look of absolute Joy on the face of a sinner who has just responded to the good news of the Gospel and has been transformed from a Sinner to a Saint. I reflect back over the years and the works of nature I've seen make me want to stand in wonder but the works of God make me want to bow in Worship..

I remember my dad and mom kneeling at a home made altar in a tobacco pack house when I first began preaching.
(Continued on back)

("Reflections" Continued)

I remember a young man coming to Church with a "Chip on his shoulder" and leaving with Christ in his heart.

I remember people I have prayed for and visited, and visited and prayed for, that finally came to Christ and all the work and discouragement were forgotten in the joy of the moment.

I remember buildings being built, debts being paid, projects being completed, but most of all I remember the People. I've pastored 5 churches in 3 states and somehow the Lord has always given me good churches with good people. The people have always accepted me, forgiven my mistakes, and returned the Love I have for them back to me.

If the Lord tarries, I hope I have 40 more years of Service for Him (That would make me 76) but if He calls me today I can say it was worth every sacrifice to be God's Servant these 20 years. I don't know why He called me but I'm so glad He did.

Rev. Mircheal Jones Ps 16:11

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We have been having great services lately (Our attendance for Communion Sunday Night was the largest Sunday night attendance we've had in a long time and the spirit of communion was simply marvelous) and I look for another great day Sunday. Sunday Night we will be showing the film "Sand Castles" and I hope we can have a Church full. We're praying and trusting that God will use this film to stir hearts and help families. It deals with 2 families that are facing the problems of today- the difference is in the family's foundation. Families need to view this film and examine their own home.

A Special Thanks to Brother Otis Agerton for his gift to our tape ministry. I was completing the financial records of last years gifts and expenses of our booklet and tape ministry for our Treasure the other day and it amazed me to see how the Lord provided needed funds last year. Time after time the day I would have to spend money would be the same day the money would come in!!

This ministry now has a number of study booklets on various Books of the Bible that are available free of Charge to anyone who writes requesting them. If you are interested in studying the Bible we want to help. (I'm surprised sometimes at the number of Christians who have no desire to study God's word.)

I need to add the First FWB Church of Chipley to last weeks list of contributors to the Dennis Owen Travel Fund. Their gift of \$156.07 brings our total to \$3927.92 (Praise the Lord!). They had mailed their gift earlier but the Post Office held it up and I didn't receive it until after I had mailed the last newsletter. (Some information that may help you in writing to us. Our Official mailing address is Century, Fl. But we live so far from Century until they have little to do with us and if anyone came thru Century asking for us people there probably wouldn't know us. WE have therefore received permission to use Bratt, Fl (Our Community name) in our address as long as we use the Century Zip Code. There is no Post Office in Bratt (Yet) so if the zip is wrong the people in the main Post offices don't know where to send the mail)

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SENTINEL

January 16, 1984 Vol II Num 3

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

RECOGNIZING A DISCIPLE

Jn 13:35

There are many Religions in the world today, and all of them claim to be right. But, of course, we believe that Christianity is the only True Religion. Yet, even within Christianity, there are many different denominations and beliefs. There are also many who claim to be Christians and are not (Matt 7:21-23).

How can we know what is right? How can we recognize a Disciple of Christ???

I. THINGS IT'S NOT Matt 23:- (Of course, you realize that a right relationship with God will affect every one of these areas. The thing is that we cannot use these qualifications as the only test)

- A) It's not in the clothes he wears 23:5 (Modesty is required)
- B) It's not in his position in the Church 23:6-12 (Honor to have)
- C) It's not in his long Prayers 23:14 (Needful, but in secret)
- D) It's not in his "converts" 23:15 (If like Him!)
- E) It's not in the payment of tithes 23:23 (Should but don't leave other undone)
- F) Or even in the outwardly clean life he lives 23:25 (God is looking at the heart)

II. HOW TO RECOGNIZE A DISCIPLE

A) The Way the World Knows Jn 13:35 *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*
HOW CAN WE SHOW THE WORLD OUR LOVE??

B) The Way we Know I Jn 3:14 *WE know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethern. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.*
HOW CAN WE SHOW LOVE TO OTHER CHRISTIANS???

C) The Way God Knows I Jn 4:20 *If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?*
WE LOVE GOD AND SHOW IT BY LOVING THEM THAT CHRIST DIED FOR.

Love is not Mush. It is not sentiment.

1. It CARES for someone because it cares and not just because of any benefit that can be obtained from that person. Rom 5:8
2. It CHASTENS that person if the need arises in order to help them be what they should be. Heb 12:6
3. It's CHARACTER is unmistakable I Cor 13:-

LOVE IS: Friendly- It invites and shows concern

Forgiving- Doesn't hold a grudge

Faithful- Can be depended on in all circumstances

DO YOU SHOW THE WORLD YOU ARE A DISCIPLE BY YOUR LOVE???????



Let me again say a tremendous
THANK YOU to the Florida Churches for
their support of the Dennis Owen Travel
Fund. We received \$200 from the First
FWB Church of Tampa and \$20 from the
First FWB Church of Melbourne last
week bringing our total to \$4147.92!!
Truely we Praise the Lord for the
generous gifts of the people of Florida
to this worthy cause.

(I really feel that the Churches of Florida have gone beyond the
call of duty the past 3 months and deserve some Praise. In November
we gave over \$4000 to one of our Home Missionaries and now we have
given over \$4000 to one of our Foreign Missionaries. Thank You
Florida Free Will Baptist, I appreciate your concern for the work
of Christ.)

WE have been offering free study notes to anyone requesting them
(and still do!) but now we're also going to begin offering some free
sermon tapes. The first tape we're going to offer has 2 messages on
it: 1) "The Cycle of Sin" deals with the highs and lows that many
Christians face as they ride the "Ferris Wheel" of sin. They have
mountains of Victory followed by valleys of defeat and this message
will tell you how you can live the even road life that John the
Baptist said Jesus came to proclaim (Luke 3:4-6).
2) "The Tree of LIfe" tells about God's formula for a complete and
joyful life. The writer of Proverbs gives 4 things that produce the
"Tree of LIfe" for a person and this message ties them together to
help you see what you need for an abundant life.

The Tapes are yours (as long as the supply lasts) simply by
writing and requesting them:

Rev. Mike Jones
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A special word of Praise for Mrs. Ruby Amerson. She invited a
large number of people to attend the showing of the film "Sand
Castles" Sunday Night and I can't say how much I appreciate her
effort. We're looking to increase our attendance by at least 50
this year and it's work like hers that will get the job done.

(We did have an uninvited guest Sunday and I hope he never comes
back! A polecat got into a fight with a stray dog on the front
porch of the Church at 9:00am Sunday morning and it made both
Sunday Services very "fragrant"!

I hope our visitors don't think we always smell that way!!!)

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Jan 31, 1984 Vol II Num 4

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

We congratulate Cecil and Mable McElhaney on the birth of their new granddaughter Hannah Erin Cook. Mother, Vickie, and daughter are staying with the grandparents for a few days so the baby can be spoiled from the very beginning. (Besides, we know that if we can get someone to drink Bratt water for a couple of weeks then we have them for life!!).

Our Elderly Testimony Tape Service turned out very well Sunday night. As I visited some of the Elderly and Shut-ins of the Church recently I taped their testimony and any counsel they wanted to share with the Church. I then compiled all these tapes and used them as part of our Sunday Evening Service. Everyone seemed to enjoy it very well and it helped people to realize how much other people in the Church and community watch your life. (Thank you Senior Saints for your time and Testimony.).

I also appreciate Brother Bernie Bell coming and sharing his testimony of how he's dealing with living with cancer. It's an encouragement to everyone to see how God can sustain you in even the most difficult times.

We have had good response to our offer of the free tapes on "The Tree of Life" and "The Cycle of Sin". We still have copies available to anyone who would like to receive it. I also still have available the written notes on Galatians, I Thessalonians, and Philippians for anyone who would like to receive them.

A Special Thank You to Rev Clyde Bruley for his gift to this ministry. Recent gifts have allowed me to buy folders for the written notes and as time allows, I'm trying to put together sets of notes so they will be available quickly when needed. I hope that by doing this I will be able to mail notes the day after I receive requests or I'll be able to give them to anyone who stops by requesting them.

Money continues to come in on the Dennis Owen Travel Account. WE acknowledge with grateful Thanks a \$100 gift from the First FWB Church of Miami. This brings the total to \$4247.92. Truly God has blessed and we Praise Him.

As you have noticed, the "Shiloh Sentinel" contains some notes from our study of Proverbs. I normally give these out during Church services but I thought I would try mailing them one time so people could study them at home. Let me know what you think of the idea.

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PROVERBS: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY FOR PILGRIMS

Proverb- A brief saying in the stead of many words
(Pro= for Verba= words)

The purpose of Proverbs is not to explain a matter but to express a Principle. It is done in such a way as to make it easier to remember than to forget.

The Book is divided into 3 parts: (Each part begins with "The Proverbs of Solomon". NOTE: there is some question about chapters 30 and 31. We will deal with that when we come to those chapters in our study.)

Chapter 1-9 Wisdom shows us the contrast between good and evil

Chapter 10-24 The ways of the Wise and Foolish are contrasted.

Chapter 25-31 Practical guidelines for Home, Social, and Business life are given.

THERE ARE 5 BASIC TYPES OF PROVERBS:

1. Completive "And" *Commit thy works unto the Lord
(Prov 16:3) AND thy thoughts shall be established*
2. Compative "Than" *Better is a little with righteousness
(Prov 16:8) THAN great revenues without right*
3. Constrastive "But" *A merry heart doeth good like a medicine
(Prov 17:22) BUT a broken spirit drieth the bones*
4. Character Study- The Fool, The Wise, The Simple, etc.
5. Constructive- Principles to Build and Guide your life
*Prov 18:13 He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.
Prov 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.*

SOLOMON GIVES 6 REASONS FOR WRITING PROVERBS IN PROV. 1:1-6:

TO KNOW wisdom and instruction; TO PRECEIVE the words of understanding;
TO RECEIVE the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgement, and equity;

TO GIVE subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

A wise man will hear, and will INCREAS LEARNING; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels;

TO UNDERSTAND a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

There are 31 chapters in Proverbs. One for each day of the month. Begin each day by using a chapter to guide you and inspire you.

When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: Prov 2:10-11

PROVERBS: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY FOR PILGRIMS

GUIDELINES FOR A GOOD WIFE

1. Discretion is necessary 11:22 As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion
2. A Wife's Character can help make or break her husband 12:4 A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones
3. She shouldn't be a "Nag" 27:15 A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike (See also 25:24, 19:13, and especially 21:19 which explained why men leave home when their wife starts to quarrel or nag!)
4. Marriages should be "made in Heaven" 19:14 House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the Lord. (Marriage should also be "like Heaven" 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.)

AN EXAMPLE OF THE PERFECT WOMAN Prov 31:10-31

- vs 10 SHE IS NOT THE USUAL- Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.
- vs 11 HER HUSBAND DOESN'T HAVE TO BUY HER LOVE- The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil
- vs 12 HER HUSBAND CAN TRUST HER- She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.
- vs 13 SHE IS A WILLING WORKER- She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands
- vs 14 SHE IS A "SHOPPER"- She is like the merchants ships; she bringeth her food from afar.
- vs 15 SHE IS NOT LAZY- She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens
- vs 16 SHE HAS BUSINESS SENSE- She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard
- vs 17 SHE KEEPS HERSELF IN SHAPE- She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms
- vs 18 SHE LOOKS TO THE FUTURE- She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night.
- vs 19 SHE DOES THINGS FOR HERSELF- She layeth her hands to the spindle and her hands hold the distaff
- vs 20 SHE LOVES OTHERS- She stretcheth out her hand to the poor, yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.
- vs 21 SHE PLANS AHEAD- She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet
- vs 22 SHE DRESSES WELL- She maketh herself coverings of tapestry, her clothing is silk and purple
- vs 23 BEHIND EVERY GOOD MAN IS A GOOD WOMAN- Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.
- vs 24 SHE HELPS WITH THE BUDGET- She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchants
- vs 25 HER EYES ARE ON HEAVEN AND NOT THE WORLD'S FASHION- Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come
- vs 26 SHE IS NOT A GOSSIP- She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness
- vs 27 SHE IS A GOOD HOUSEKEEPER- She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness
- vs 28 HER FAMILY PRAISE HER- Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her
- vs 29 HER FAMILY THINK SHE IS THE BEST- Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all

(Continued on back)

PROVERBS: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY FOR PILGRIMS

(The Perfect Woman- continued)

vs 30 SHE IS A GOD FEARING WOMAN- Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, shall be praised

vs 31 HER WORKS AND LIFE SHOW SHE'S SPECIAL- Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gate.

PRESSURES IN RAISING CHILDREN

I. PARENT PRESSURE 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it

A) TRAIN UP A CHILD: The parent's responsibility to instruct the Child clearly about right and wrong is stated throughout Proverbs- and the Bible. To Train means to develop a hunger. Do you have a training program for your Children????

B) IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO

1. HE ought to know the difference between the Way of the Wicked and the Way of the Wise.

2. In the way he should go: "In keeping with his individual gift". A child is supposed to be developed according to the character and personality God has given him: God does not make Robots. Parents should realize that and not try to make all their children the same. If your child is taught to recognize and accept his personality and gift then he can live a productive life all of his life.

C) WHEN HE IS OLD HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT

1. The Prodigal son did in fact return to the Father (But we don't want to train our children to Backslide!!!)

2. If a child is taught to be what they're supposed to be, they'll never be really happy being anything else. They may try other things but it won't work.

II. PEER PRESSURE- GOD makes you an individual but society tries to make you one of the herd (This does not negate your responsibility to others. The hand needs the body but the body is not all hand!)

A) You take the characteristics of those around you 27:19 As in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man. You talk like those around you, eat similar foods, wear similar clothes, etc. Be careful who you take as a role model! Who are your Heroes??? (The Christian tries to conform to Christ- II Cor 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.)

B) Chose your companions with care

1. They are to make you Sharp! 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

2. Some will Shame your family 28:7 Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son; but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father.

3. Some will be a Snare to you. 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.

4. Bad companions are a form of Suicide 29:24 Whoso is partner with a thief hateth his own soul: he heareth cursing, and bewrayeth it not. Matt 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate; and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

PROVERBS: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY FOR PILGRIMS

IMMORALITY

The "Man of 1000 Wives" (I Kings 11:3) gives his advice about sexual relationships. Solomon had seen the tragic results of lust in the life of his dad, David (II Sam 11), and in his own life. Now he gives advice on what Lust will cost you and on how to prevent it.

I. THE PATH OF IMMORALITY

Immorality:

A) Means you flout the Law of God. 2:17 *Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God.* Adultery and Fornication are condemned from the beginning of the Bible until the end. You cannot commit Immorality and look God in the face.

B) Steals your honor, your wealth, and your health. 5:9-11 *Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger. And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed,*

C) Leads to bitter remorse Prov 5:12-14 tells how a man caught in Immorality mourns the fact that he didn't listen to instructions, nor obey his teachers, and now the public looks down on him.

D) Eventually leads to death and hell. 2:18 *For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead* (See also 5:3-5)

1. BY TRAPPING YOU 2:19 *None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.*

5:22-23 *His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of sins. He shall die without instructions; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.*

2. BY REMOVING YOUR CONSCIENCE 5:6 *Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are movable; that thou canst not know them.* (See Rom 1:- where Immorality leads to Homosexuality and a seared conscience.)

II. THE PREVENTION OF IMMORALITY

A) A Loving Marriage Prov 5:15-20
I Corinth 7:2-3 *Nevertheless to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.*

B) Avoid the fire so you won't get burned Prov 6:27-29 *Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in to his neighbor's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent.*

PROVERBS 7:6-27 GIVES US AN EXAMPLE OF IMMORALITY

A man void of understanding seeks the house of the harlot but he does so in the dark because his conscience still tells him it's wrong. vs 7-9

THE CHARACTER OF THE HARLOT:

- vs 10 1. Her clothing tells what she is (If it's on display someone will try to buy it!!)
- vs 10 2. She has a cunning heart (Ever notice how smart people can be in order to sin??)
- vs 11-13 3. She is unwilling to stay home, she flaunts herself in public
- vs 14-15 4. Her conscience being seared she believes she's right even when she's doing wrong. (How much Adultery has been done in the name of Love that was in reality Lust???)
Prov 30:20 Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness
- vs 16-21 5. She captures her victims with prettiness, perfumes, pleas, and promises that no one will ever know. (Compare this to how Satan got Eve to sin in Gen. 3)
- vs 22-23 6. Her victims fail to realize they're being led "to the slaughter".

SOME GUIDELINES

- 1. Sex is NEVER right outside of the Marriage Relationship.
- 2. Flee Fornication. ...he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 1 Cor 6:18
- 3. Avoid pornography and other situations (Books, Music, TV, etc.) that would promote "mine adultery" (Matt 5:27-28). (Be careful how YOU dress!)

PROVERB: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY FOR PILGRIMS

THE WAY OF THE WICKED

Prov 4:14-15 Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death (Prov 14:12). This is the Way of the Wicked. It appears to be the right way but when you examine the end of the road you find Death and Hell. Here are some facts about this Road.

I. IT ENTICES YOU

- A) TO Robbery 1:10-19 (Because Self becomes Number 1)
- B) To Adultery 2:12-19 6:24-29 7:6-27 (Lust of the Flesh)
- C) To Slavery 5:22 (TO Drink, Drugs, Pleasures, etc)
- D) To Rebellion and Sin
 - 1. By Leaving the Path of Light to walk in the dark 2:13
 - 2. By Loving the Ways of the Wicked 2:14
 - 3. By Living a devious and crooked Life 2:15

(Satan tries to get people to keep the "Chaff" and disregard the grain. He may tempt them to Rebel against the Authority and Affection of the Family, like the Prodigal Son, and accept the False Fellowship of the "Riotous Livers". Or he may tempt them to discard the manna of the Word (Church attendance and Bible Study) for the "onions of Egypt" (The lust of the Flesh). However he does it it all begins with leaving the right, loving the wrong, and, eventually, living a crooked Life.

Every person comes to the fork in the road called the Way of the Wicked every so often and your decision determines your destiny. The really sad thing is that so many people walk down this Broad Road that leads to destruction (Matt 7:13) simply because many others are going that way and they want to be part of the crowd.

Don't let Sin entice you to Rebel against Authority, to submit to Peer Pressure, or to believe the lies about the good times to be found on the Way of the Wicked.)

II. IT ENGRAINS YOU

Prov 4:16-17 For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away, unless they cause some to fall. For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.

You eat, sleep, and breathe wickedness. It becomes such a part of you until you cannot do without it. (Most people in sin want to break free (unless God has seared their consciences) of sin but they don't have the ability to do so. Like a cancer it eats at them from the inside- they know it's killing them but they can't get rid of it.

This is the reason Jesus said a person must be "Born Again" (Jn 3). The person cannot change as long as he is on the Way of the Wicked; He must get in the straight and narrow way by Faith in the Shed Blood of Christ. Then the Word of God can pierce him "like a two edged sword into the joints and marrow" (Heb 4:12) and deal with the engrained sin.

4 THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN YOU ARE CONFRONTED WITH THE WAY OF WICKED

1. We cannot avoid decisions- You are constantly forced to make decisions about what you will do, where you will go, etc. and these decisions determine your destiny. Constantly you are asked to "chose ye this day whom you will serve" (Josh 24:15). When you must make this choice about Wickedness, "Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away." Prov 27:12 *A prudent man forseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished*
2. Sin always appeals to the flesh- Sin looks attractive, tempts the flesh, and does not tell you that her doors leads to death!
3. It often takes awhile for judgment to fall- Ecc 8:17 *Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.* Don't mistake the temporary for the permanent. Deny yourself now and enjoy Life forever, or yield to the Lust of the Flesh now and face Death.
4. God calls and urges you to forsake the Way of the Wicked but he *that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.* (Prov 29:1). Heb 3:12-13 *Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*

PROVERBS: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY FOR PILGRIMS

BUSINESS MATTERS

I. GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESS DEALINGS

A) Honest Measurements are required Prov 11:1 *A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight*

1. The use of different weights and measurements between buying and selling is an abomination to the Lord. Prov 20:10, 23

2. Use a good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over in your dealings. For with the same measure that ye mete it shall be measured to you again. Luke 6:38

B) Develop your business first before you try to live off the Profits. Prov 24:27 *Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house.* (He who seeks to start off as an executive had better be the Boss's son! Jones 15:4). The dictionary is the only place you will find SUCCESS before WORK.

C) Keep a Watchful eye on your Business Prov 27:23-24 *Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds. For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown endure to every generation?* When you neglect your business the "weeds begin to grow and the roof begins to rot" (See Prov 24:30-34). There is no business that will run itself long before it jumps off the tracks.

II. GUIDELINES FOR DEBT (Surety)

A) Stay away from Debt Prov 22:7 *The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.*

Prov 17:18 *A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friends.*

Rom 13:8 *Owe no man anything, but to love one another.*

B) Especially stay away from signing someone else's note. 6:1-5

1. You may get hurt Prov 11:15

2. You may "lose your shirt" 22:26-27

3. If you must sign get good collateral 20:16 27:13

C) If you owe someone, be sure to pay them when due.

Prov 3:27 *Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hands to do it.*

Lev 19:13 *Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbor, neither rob him: the wages of him that is hired shall not abide with thee all night until the morning.*

Deut 24:14-15 *Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethern, or of thy strangers that are in thy land within thy gates: at his day thou shalt give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; lest he cry against thee unto the Lord; and it be sin unto thee.*

James 5:4 *Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud crieth; and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.*

It is wrong to use other people's money to make a profit if that money should have been paid to the person. Because you have POWER to keep it back does not give you the RIGHT to do so.

BUSINESS MATTERS

III. GUIDELINES FOR WORK- The man who is waiting for something to turn up would do well to start with his own shirt-sleeves.

A) Proverty and Laziness go hand in hand. Prov 10:4 *He becometh poor that dealith with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.* You should learn from the ant (6:6-11)

1. Able to work without someone telling them everything to do vs 7
2. Works when it is time to work vs 8
3. Realizes that a little Laziness grows into a lot of Laziness until you lose everything as if it were stolen 9-11

B) God will not let a good man starve to death Prov 10:3 *The Lord will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish: but he casteth away the substance of the wicked.*

1. You are not supposed to help those who can work and won't II Thess 3:10-12
2. Christian Faith means helping those who need it Ja. 2:14-16
God gives the birds their food, but he doesn't throw it into their nests!

C) There are 2 types of people listed:

1. The Diligent
 - a. Produces a Profit Prov 10:4
 - b. Advances to a leadership role 12:24 22:29
 - c. Doesn't wast anything 12:27
 - d. Has a sense of Satisfaction 13:4
 - e. Uses his brain as well as his brawn 21:5
 - f. Keeps an eye on his responsibilities 27:23
2. The Sluggard/ Slothful
 - a. Is Lazy 6:9-11
 - b. Is a pain to his employer- like smoke in the eye or vinegar that sets his teeth on edge 10:26
 - c. Wants 13:4
 - d. But isn't willing to work for 20:4
 - e. Is always ready with an excuse 26:13-16
 - 1) We might run into trouble vs 13
 - 2) I can't make up my mind vs 14
 - 3) It's not worth the effort vs 15
 - 4) Stubborn once he makes the excuse vs 16 (And generally spends more effort making and defending his excuse than he would in doing the work!)
 - f. Faces a difficult way (15:19), a wasteful way (18:9), and a bad end (21:25).

A stranger came to three workmen, all employed on the same job. He asked each worker what he was doing. Growled the first man, "I'm breaking rocks." Said the Second, "I'm earning a living." But the third man replied with a smile, "I'm building a cathedral."

Sir Christopher Wren.

SHILOH SENTINEL

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
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February 8, 1984 Vol II Num 5 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PROVERBS: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY FOR PILGRIMS

MISTAKES PILGRIMS MAKE

1. Assuming you're right because it looks right to you. 16:2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weigheth the spirits. 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

2. Refusing to acknowledge your mistake 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

3. Claiming to be something you're not 25:14 Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and winds without rain. 30:12 There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.

4. Dwelling too much on your accomplishments 25:27 It is not good to eat much honey: so for men to search their own glory is not glory. 27:2 Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips. 26:12 Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? There is more hope of a fool than of him.

5. Giving Bad for Good 17:13 Whoso rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house.

6. Giving Bad for Bad 20:22 Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the Lord, and he shall save thee.

Rom 12:19-21 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, 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 fire on his head. BE not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good

7. Rejoicing at another's misfortune 17:5 Whoso mocketh the poor reproacheth his maker; and he that is glad at calamities shall not be unpunished.

24:17-18 Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: lest the Lord see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.

We had a very good Mid Year Meeting of the West Florida Association last Friday and Saturday. The Niceville Church was very gracious in their hospitality and we were encouraged to learn of their growth and future plans to build a new Education/Fellowship building. We accomplished a number of important items during the session:

1. Agreed to donate the A.C./Heating unit of the old New Home Church to Camp Mt. Pleasant along with \$1000 to help get it installed. (Maybe the cooks can be "cool" this year!)
2. Decided to try to take care of our business on Friday night before the Fellowship Service in order to do away with the Saturday session. It is hoped this will increase our participation and also save so much travel time.
3. The Executive Committee is to be on the look out for a copy machine for the Conference to replace the Spirit duplicator now in use.
4. The Conference will help pay for up to 5 of the Young People of the Niceville Church to attend Youth Camp this year.
5. The Morning Offering was given to the Building Fund of the Niceville Church. (\$146.66).

The next session will be Friday Night September 7 at Shiloh. Rev. Lindbergh Bass will be the Speaker.

I hope to be able to rework my notes on the Book of Revelation in the next few months thanks to a gift from Rev. Floyd Coleman and the help of Brother John McCall. The Revelation notes have been among the most popular but many of them were printed on a Spirit Duplicator and are of poor quality. I hope to be able to retype them, rework anything that's needed, and put them into a booklet form. If you would like a copy of the notes then let me know and I will get them to you as soon as they're completed.

A special word of commendation for Brother David Gibson and his faithfulness in witnessing for the Lord. Just before I arrived he led a 75 year old man to the Lord and recently he was able to lead a Lady over 80 to the Lord. He's aware of his opportunities and makes use of them- Do You????? (By the way, the 75 year old man has been instrumental in leading 2 other people over 70 to the Lord!! That makes the Blessing a Double Blessing.).

The fields are white unto harvest but the laborers are few. Will you do YOUR part???

Remember that C.T.S. continues our look at "Cults" by examining What Makes a Cult a Cult this Sunday Night at 5:30pm. Make C.T.S. a part of your Worship Week for the Lord.

\$ETTER

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\$EVENING

February 16, 1984 Vol II Num 6

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

"CULTS??? OR CHRIST???"

In our study of Cults during CTS we have often come to the question of "Why do people go into Cults instead of accepting Christ and becoming a part of the Church?". We have talked about the failings of the Cults and tried to show the people their error but I believe that honesty demands that we also look at the failure of the Church. Many people who join Cults were at one time part of a Church- and in many cases quite active in the Church. Why did they leave the way of Truth for the way of Error?

The answers are varied and complex but I want to look at one aspect of the problem today. I believe that the heart of the problem is the problem of the heart. Many people have adopted a Creed without being converted. They do not have Peace of heart but they keep trying to convince themselves that they should. Many become tired of the acting happy when they're not and the empty feeling they continually have. Some give up and leave the Church and some convert to a Cult.

The problem does not lie with the Lord but with the person's wrong use of the 3 Basic parts of Christianity:

1. SALVATION OR THE SAVIOUR

--Today men accept truths ABOUT Christ without accepting HIM.

--God does not call us to accept a Creed but to accept Christ.

--Man's problem is that he wants to "use" God to save him and then live his life on his own instead of allowing Christ to be his life.

Many people who say they've tried to live for the Lord and it didn't work are actually saying they've tried to live up to what they thought Christianity should be and it failed to change their heart. Nicodemus came to the same place in his life (Jn 3) before He met Christ and found he had to be Born Again. How about YOU? Have you adopted a Salvation formula to tell people when they ask? Or have you trusted Christ to be your Saviour??

NOTE- This Sunday I will deal with "Making Christ Real" and tell how you can go from the outer circle of cold heartedness to the inner circle of leaning on Jesus' breast in Blessed Fellowship.

2. CHURCH OR THE CROWD

--Most times when I ask people if they're saved they tell me what Church they're a member of! The Church is the Body of Christ. Do you have Christ??

--Most people join a church because of family, friends, or fellowship ties. They do not know what the Church believes (and generally don't care a great deal!!).

--It is the respectable thing to do and everyone thinks you're good if you join the Church.

What would you think of a Pastor who went to a Church just for Financial benefits or Favorable circumstances? And yet "Christians" do it all the time! They don't seek the Church God wants them to attend- and they leave the Church when THEY want too.

Are you looking to the Church for Peace? Or the Lord??

3. THE WORD OR THE WORLD

- Ask the adverage Chruch congregation if they believe the Bible and they will shout a resounding "Yes!". Ask them how many read 1 chapter a day and they will hang their head.
- Look at how many people teach principles based on Society's approval instead of Scripture Truths.
- Mention testing to increase Bible knowledge in Sunday School and people respond that they won't attend such a Church. Then see these same people get red in the face if a public school teacher does not instill all of the World's Wisdom in their child.

Are you a Candidate for the Cults?? Are you a good person that believes everyone ought to be saved, join the Church, and read the Bible? Or are you a Born Again Child of God that is part of the Body of Christ that rejoices to hear Cod's message to you thru the Word?

If you have questions or need help then let me know.

The Teen Fellowship will sponser a Banquet at the Church Saturday, March 3. This is for everyone 12 and up and will feature Escambia County Alabama Sheriff Tim Hawsey as special speaker. MOre details will be announced Sunday but Reservations are needed. Contact Joey McCall or Pam Hall if you plan to attend.

A Special Special Thank You to Mrs. Teresa Brown for becoming my part time Secretary. She is trying to help me with some of the typing I have to do and it has already proved a great Blessing. I was out of notes on some of the Chapters in Revelation and she has typed the masters for them so I can restock my files. (So if you want a set of the chapter by chapter notes on Revelation order them while they're "hot off the press".). Maybe I'll finally be able to write that book I've always wanted to now.

March is going to be a very busy month so I thought it might be good to let you know what's coming.

- 1- Ladies Prayer Group meets
- 3- Teen Sponsered Banquet
- 4- Teen Fellowship Meets
- 5-6- Church Pews Padded
- 8-9- Miss Jamie White weds Mr Jeff Amerson
- 11-14- REVIVAL with Rev. Dennis Owen
- 25-29- Pastor in Revival at Piney Grove FWB Church, Chipley, Fl

TRUST IN THE LORD- D.L. Moody

Trust in yourself, and you are doomed to disappointment

Trust in your friends, and they will die and leave you.

Trust in money, and you may have it taken from you.

Trust in reputation, and some slanderous tongue may blast it.

But TRUST IN GOD, and you are never to be confounded in time or eternity.

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SENTINEL

February 22, 1984 Vol II Num 7 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

The "Shiloh Sentinel" this week is a PRAYER BOOKLET. AS we approach Revival (March 11-14) one of the greatest things we can do is to unite our hearts in Prayer. I believe a Praying Church will be a Powerful Church, a Growing Church, and a Loving Church (You can't Pray for someone very long without beginning to love them!!).

If we can get people to pray for 15 minutes a day we can see God change our churches, our communities, and our country. This Booklet is designed to help you get started. I have used this type Prayer Booklet for years and have seen prayer after prayer answered as my communion grew with God. Remember that God's command is that we *Pray without ceasing (1 Thess 5:17)*. Our Prayers don't just "disappear into the air"; they are of value in this world and in the world to come- *Rev. 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.* Won't you join me in Prayer??

NOTE- Several of the items included in this Prayer Booklet are just for the people here at Shiloh (such as our membership roll). For those of you who are unlucky enough to belong to another church (!) you will need to add your Church roll to this booklet. Hopefully you will pray for Shiloh as well.

--Additional copies of this booklet are available to anyone requesting them. Pastors are urged to make them available to their congregations. May God give us a generation of Prayer warriors.

WHY PRAY?? If God is as good as we represent Him, and if He knows all that we need, and better far than we do ourselves, why should it be necessary to ask Him for anything? I answer: What if He knows Prayer to be the thing we need first and most? What if the main object in God's idea of Prayer be the supplying to our great, our endless need- HIMSELF.

Hunger may drive the runaway child home, and he may or may not be fed at once, but he needs his mother more than his dinner. Communion with God is the one need of the Soul beyond all other needs. Prayer is the beginning of that communion, and some need is the motive of that Prayer. George MacDonald

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THIS "HAND OF PRAYER" WILL HELP US REMEMBER WHAT
TO PRAY FOR. BEGIN WITH "CLOSEST TO BODY".

REMINDS US TO PRAY
FOR OURSELVES

REMINDS US TO PRAY FOR
THOSE WHO ARE SICK.

REMINDS US TO PRAY FOR
THE LEADERS OF OUR
COUNTRY

REMINDS US TO PRAY FOR THOSE
WHO POINT TOWARD SALVATION -
SUCH AS PASTOR AND SUNDAY
SCHOOL TEACHERS

REMINDS US TO PRAY FOR THOSE
WHO ARE CLOSE TO US SUCH AS
OUR PARENTS. WE SHOULD ALSO
THANK GOD ESPECIALLY FOR JESUS WHO
SHOULD BE THE CLOSEST TO US.

5. SMALLEST

4. WEAKEST

3. TALLEST

2. DIRTIER

1. CLOSEST TO BODY

TYPES OF PRAYER

1. PRAISE/THANKSGIVING Expressing our Love for God and acknowledging every gift He has given.
2. REPENTANCE- A) Self Examination B) Confession
C) Request for pardon
3. INTERCESSION- For people (To "go between" God and the person asking for help)
4. PETITION- Request for CERTAIN things (Praying til you get it)
5. DEDICATION- Offering yourself a "living sacrifice" to God
6. WORSHIP- Seeking GOD instead of a GIFT
7. VISITING- Just talking with God and allowing Him to talk to you thru the Scriptures.

PRAYING THE WAY JESUS TAUGHT

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
(Matt 6:9-15)

1. We are to Pray to our Father (In Jesus' Name, thru the Spirit)
2. We are to Pray for the Coming of the Kingdom
3. We are to Pray for His will to be done in everything
4. We are to Pray for daily necessities
5. We are to Pray for forgiveness, and practice it
6. We are to Pray for the leading of the Lord, and deliverance from evil.
7. We are to Pray in Faith (Without Faith it is impossible to please Him).

WHEN SHOULD WE PRAY??

- A) Three times a day (Dan 6:10)
- B) Early in the Morning (Mark 1:35)
- C) At Evening (Matt 14:2, 3)
- D) All Night (Luke 6:12)
- E) All the Time (I Thess 5:17, Lu 18:1)

HOW SHOULD WE PRAY??

- A) Kneeling (Ps 95:6, Luke 22:41)
- B) Standing (Luke 18:11, 13)
- C) Lying Down (Ps 4:4, Matt 26:39)

PRAYER PROMISES

- Matt 21:22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive
- Luke 11:9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
- I Jn 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.
- Phil 4:19 My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- Matt 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
- Jer 33:3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.
- Ps 37:4 Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
- Ps 34:15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.

HOW CAN WE HEAL THE LAND? II Chron 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

HOW CAN WE DELIGHT THE LORD? Prov. 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

HOW CAN WE ASK FOR THINGS THAT WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE ASKING FOR? Rom 8:26 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.

HOW CAN WE KNOW WE'RE DOING SOMETHING? James 5:16 The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. I John 5:14-15 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

HOW CAN WE GET WHAT WE WANT? Matt 7:7-8 Ask, and it shall be given you: seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. James 4:2b... ye have not because ye ask not.

WHEN PRAYERS AREN'T ANSWERED

When it appears that God will not hear your prayers- Lam 3:8
When I cry and shout, he shutteth out my prayer. 3:44 Thou hast covered thyself with a cloud, that our prayer should not pass through- then it's time for us to find out why. Lam 3:40 Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord.

I. THERE ARE TIMES THE ANSWER IS DELAYED

A) By Satan- Dan 10:12-13 *Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me;*

B) To Increase our Faith

1. The Canaanite woman who asked for the crumbs from the table and Jesus called her faith great Matt 15:21-28
2. The death of Lazarus: Jesus delayed coming to him in order to show God's glory. Jn 11
3. By waiting on the Lord Habakkuk went from doubt to trust in God even in the midst of famine, bankruptcy, and trouble.

C) To take our eyes off the GIFT and put them on GOD. Time after time Jesus had to get people to focus on who He was rather than on what they wanted.

II. THERE ARE TIMES YOU SHOULDN'T PRAY

A) When God has already given an answer (Even though the answer is not what you want! Remember the trouble Balaam got into because he wouldn't accept God's answer. Num 22)

1. Sin in the life of Moses- Deut 3:25-26 *I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon. But the Lord was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and the Lord said unto me, let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter.*

2. Sickness in the life of Paul- II Cor 12:8-9 *For this (Thorn in the flesh) I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, my grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

B) When God has already decreed Judgment

Jer. 7:16 *Pray not thou for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me: for I will not hear thee.*

Jer. 11:13-14 *According to the number of thy cities were thy gods, O Judah; and according to the number of the streets of Jerusalem have ye set up altars to that shameful thing, even altars to burn incense unto Baal. Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up a cry or prayer for them: for I will not hear them in the time that they cry unto me for their trouble.*

III. THERE ARE REASONS YOU FAIL TO RECEIVE ANSWERS

1. **DISOBEDIENCE-** Deut 1:43, 45 So I spake unto you; and ye would not hear, but rebelled against the commandment of the Lord, ... And ye returned and wept before the Lord; but the Lord would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear to you. Their Disobedience was caused by disbelief (They believed the report of the 10 spies instead of God's Word and would not enter into the Promised Land.) If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ... nothing shall be impossible unto you. Matt 17:20

2. **SECRET SIN-** Ps 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me. If my heart is set on sin can a Holy God have fellowship with me??

3. **INDIFFERENCE-** Prov 1:24, 28 Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded, ... Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: Zech 7:14 Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the Lord of hosts: Ignore God and there may come a time when He will ignore you!!

4. **NEGLECT OF MERCY-** Prov 21:13 Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard. You reap what you sow.

5. **DESPISING GOD'S LAW-** Prov 28:9 He that turneth away his ear from hearing the Law, even his prayer shall be abomination. Would YOU give something to someone knowing they would use it wrongly??

6. **INIQUITY-** Is 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. What you do speaks so loud I can't hear what you say.

7. **SELFISHNESS-** James 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Sometimes people want things that aren't good for them- you don't let a child eat an entire gallon of ice cream at one time, even though they think they want to.

8. **REFUSING TO TAKE YOUR PLACE IN GOD'S PLAN-** 1 Pet 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life: that your prayers be not hindered. God is concerned about what you do with what He gives you. If you aren't willing to accept His plan and purpose for your life then He can't give you the Blessings that go with the Responsibilities.

9. **UNBELIEF-** Matt 17:20-21 Jesus said to them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS

Rom 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things.

(Pray for their Salvation, Supply of needs, Any Sickness, their area of Service, and any Special requests you know of)

List each family member by name.

MY TEN MOST WANTED PEOPLE

He that winneth souls is wise

Prov 11:30

Make a list of ten people you want to see won to Christ.

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1. _____ | 1. Select your persons prayerfully |
| 2. _____ | 2. Pray earnestly for each one on the list each day. |
| 3. _____ | 3. Be a friend to each one. Invite them into your home; Do things with them. |
| 4. _____ | 4. Share Christian literature with them. |
| 5. _____ | 5. Share with them what Christ and His Church mean to you. |
| 6. _____ | 6. Invite them to come to Church services and activities with you. |
| 7. _____ | 7. Seek to win their commitment to Christ. |
| 8. _____ | 8. When they have been won to Christ stay with them and help them to grow in the Christian life. |
| 9. _____ | 9. Add another person to the list. Keep it at ten. |
| 10. _____ | |

FINANCIAL NEEDS 11 Cor 9:8 And God is able to make all
 grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency
in all things, may abound to every good work:

REQUEST	DATE	HOW ANSWERED	DATE
---------	------	--------------	------

FINANCIAL WANTS Ps 81:10 I am the Lord thy God, which brought
 thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill
it.

REQUEST	DATE	HOW ANSWERED	DATE
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SHILOH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Otis Agerton	Jennifer Gibson	Keith Morgan
Vera Agerton	Mike Gibson	Carolyn Morgan
Ida Amerson	Connie Gibson	Jess Mooney
Fannie Amerson	Gracie Mae Gunn	Evie Mooney
Jerald Amerson	Wilburn E Godwin	Elmer Mooney
Ruby Amerson	Joanne Gilmore	Jack McCullough
Jeff Amerson	Lamar Holmes	Margaret McCullough
Mike Amerson	Wildon Hall	John McCall
Margie Amerson	Ophelia Hall	Maxine McCall
Doris Amerson	Mrs Harrelson	Mike McCall
Agnes Ashcraft	Jimmy Henderson	Joey McCall
Judy Amerson	Terry Hall	Bobby McCall
Maggie Ashcraft	Ann Hall	Melissa McCall
Murdick Barfield	Darryl Hall	Haburn Norris
Bernice Barfield	Shelia Hall	Dorthy Norris
Donnie Barfield	Pam Hall	Johnnie O'Farrell
Maude Blanton	David Johnson	Ray Purvis
Louise Barlow	Jackie Johnson	Bernice Purvis
Betty Brown	Dale Johnson	Willis Peebles
Mark Berube	Rev Mike Jones	Betty Peebles
Gail Berube	Paula Jones	Kevin Peebles
David Brown	Linda Jackson	C.T. Porcher
Teresa Brown	Billie Ray Lowery	Cora Porcher
Wayne Baker	Louise Lowery	A.D. Sanders
Diane Baker	Barney Lowery	Maggie Sanders
Miranda Baker	John Lowery	Jerry Stucky
Scottie Baker	Jeremy Lowery	Myrtle Spence
Gertude Caraway	Kim Lowery	Merle Smith
Alberta Campbell	Dovie Mack	Nancy Smiley
Frank Busbee	Donna McCall	Deborah Smith
Margie Busbee	Vivian May	Ruth Stewart
Johnnie Busbee	Kathy Mauldin	Diann Stewart
Kem Busbee	Steven Mauldin	Mike Robbins
Sammy Day	Jennifer Mauldin	Sharon Robbins
Sandra Day	Nettie Martin	Ronnie Stabler
John Davis, Jr	Ethel Lee Martin	Linda Stabler
Lynn Davis	Donnie Martin	Jason Stabler
Carrie Mae Coleman	Harold Martin	David Stabler
Floyd Coleman	Bobby Martin	Mike Vaughn
Essie Coleman	Billy Mauldin	Patsy Wiley
Kim Cox	Lisa McCall	Shirley Whatley
Mark Dortch	Cecil McElhaney	Billy Glen Wiggins
Angie Dortch	Mable McElhaney	LaJuana Wiggins
Medie Dortch	Vicki Cook	Roy Glenn Ward
Randy Dortch	Jimmie McElhaney	Jackie Ward
Billy Dortch	Judi McElhaney	Clark Ziglar
Tracy Dortch	Joshua McElhaney	Iris Ziglar
Merietta Downer	Stephani McElhaney	David Ziglar
Bobby Davis	Candi McElhaney	Jamie Ziglar
Velma Etheridge	Jerry McElhaney	Laura Whitehead
Merdic Eddins	Gleda McElhaney	Jamie White
Eunic Godwin	Keri McElhaney	
David Gibson	Orie Morgan	
Ethelene Gibson	Christeen Morgan	
Larry Gibson	Douglas Morgan	
Carolyn Gibson	Fay Morgan	

PRAY FOR 25 NEW
MEMBERS THIS YEAR.

CHURCH PRAYER LIST

PASTOR- A) His Personal Holiness, B) His Preaching,
C) His Pastoral Responsibilities

DEACONS- David Gibson, Terry Hall, John McCall,
Jimmy McElhaney, Ray Purvis

TRUSTEES- Jerald Amerson, Cecil McElhaney, Douglas Morgan

BIBLE STUDY HOUR- Leaders and Teachers, Attendance (150)

CTS- Leaders and Teachers, Attendance (125)

MUSIC PROGRAM- Song Leader, Musicians, Special Music

FINANCIAL NEEDS OF THE CHURCH

MISSION GIVING: Foreign- Dennis Owen, Spain
Carlisle Hanna, India
Home- J.D. Norris, Tallahassee
Elmer Turnbough, St Petersburg
Albert Rollins, Gainesville

TEEN FELLOWSHIP- First Sunday of each month
Leaders: Jimmy McElhaney/David Johnson

LADIES PRAYER GROUP- First Thursday of each month

OUTREACH MINISTRIES- Newsletter Ministry
Booklet Ministry
Tape Ministry - Lamar Holmes

THINGS I WOULD LIKE TO SEE OUR CHURCH ACCOMPLISH:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

WEST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

Beulah- Rev Lindbergh Bass

Christian Home- Rev R.C. Wiggins

First Niceville- Rev Pat Patterson

Ensley- Bethel

Shiloh

* * * * *

*Heb 13:7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken
unto you the Word of God: whose faith follow.*

FLORIDA FREE WILL BAPTIST

Moderator- Gene Helton
Clerk- Larry Montgomery
Treasurer- W.J. Amerson

Assistant- Gerald Fowler
Assistant- Randy Bryant

Executive Board
Youth Board
Florida Coordinator Newspaper

Home Mission Board
Christian Education Board

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

Executive Office (CONTACT)
Home Missions
SS and CTS Department
Master's Men

Foreign Missions
Bible College
Board of Retirement
Ladies Auxiliary

OUR NATIONAL LEADERS 1 Tim 2:1-2 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, Supplications, Prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men: For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

(Fill in the Names)

President _____

Senators _____

Representative _____

State Senator _____

State Representative _____

Is there any pending Legislation that you should Pray for?
(Remember that Mordecai and Esther saved a nation!!)

Is our Country in Crisis and noone seems to have the answer?
Jehoshaphat faced an impossible situation in which he did not know what to do but he prayed to God and God said He would fight the battle and grant the victory. (II Chron 20)
Neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee

Be not afraid...for the Battle is not yours but God's.

HAVE YOU PRAYED FOR YOUR ENEMIES?? Matt 5:44 I say unto you,
Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that
hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and
persecute you:

HAVE YOU PRAYED FOR THE SICK?? James 5:16 Confess your faults
one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.
The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

###

IT IS BY PRAYER THAT WE RECEIVE:

WISDOM- James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God,
that giveth to all men liberally, and up braideth not;
and it shall be given him.

PEACE- Phil 4:6-7 BE careful for nothing; but in everything by
Prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests
be made known unto God. And the Peace of God, which passeth
all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds
through Christ Jesus.

VICTORY OVER TEMPTATION- Matt 26:41 Watch and Pray, that ye enter
not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but
the flesh is weak.

ALL GOOD THINGS- Matt 7:11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give
good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your
Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask
him?

Jesus did not teach His Disciples to Preach but He did
teach them to Pray!!! Every important event in the life
of Christ took place either immediately after or during
a time of Prayer! Even in Death He Prayed!

Men ought always to Pray, and not to faint. Luke 18:1

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rt 2 Box 238 Bratt, Fl
Pastor Mircheal Jones
369-6460

SENTINEL

March 7, 1984 Vol II Num 3 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S PART: I like it when the Lord "spoils" me. Sometimes I work so hard until I get too tired and the tiredness turns into depression. That's when it seems the Lord gives me a special Blessing to get me started again. He did that several times last week.

BLESSING #1. I have prayed for a Memo Machine for years and years and last week Mr Jack Hanna of Lake City, S.C. came to see me and brought me one! The AB Dick plant in Lake City has closed and Mr Jack was able to get me an electric machine and 3 drums for hardly anything.

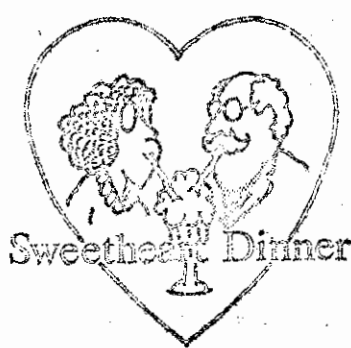
I know we have a good hand driven machine now but the Lord gave me this machine to encourage me to continue writing (and to make me stop pestering Him!!). First of all, since it's my own personal machine it means that I can look to the future assured of access to a good machine (Only someone who has had to put up with what I have had to use in years gone by can appreciate that.). Secondly, it confirmed the fact that the Lord wanted me to continue putting out a newsletter and the study helps. (I had really prayed about stopping. I have lots of things to do, I'm tired, and it seemed that most people here would be affected little if I stopped.) The Lord let me know with the gift of this machine that I was to do the work because HE wanted it done and not because men wanted it done. And, as you'll see in the next paragraph, it has proved a Blessing to many people at a distance. A special Thanks to Mr Jack for his generosity and his confidence in this work.

BLESSING #2 I have given away nearly 50 copies of study notes in the past 2 weeks to people on our mailing list in other states. This nearly depleted my Fund so that when I took out money to buy some more folders Saturday I had only 1 dollar left in the fund. Just before I went to town to get the folders I checked the mail and there was a check from Mrs. Gerry Cannon of Andrews, S.C. for \$20!! That will allow me to get folders for several copies of all of the notes and still have mail money left. Thank the Lord for this Christian Lady from another state who is concerned with getting the word to people.

BLESSING #3 Mrs Teresa Brown has volunteered to help in the office 1 or 2 days a week and this has eased my work load tremendously. She does a lot of my typing now and that allows me more time to do the other parts of the work.

Her first project was to retype the notes on Revelation. I was about out of many of the chapter notes but thanks to her work I now have plenty of copies available for anyone requesting them. She also did most of the typing on the recent Prayer Booklet we mailed out (Additional copies of this are available also.). (By the way, that's another reason I appreciate the electric memo machine. In putting out the Prayer Booklet I had to turn the drum of the memo machine over 6000 times!! Now I can just flick a switch.)

Please don't tell the Lord he's spoiling me. I'm enjoying it too much now for Him to stop!



Due to the death of Mrs Eunice Godwin we moved our Youth sponsored Banquet from last Saturday until this Thursday (March 8) at 6:00pm. I trust we will have a large turn out. It's going to be a good time of Fellowship and Fun and your support will encourage the Young People

The Speaker will still be Sheriff Tim Hawsey and the dress is semi-formal. There is no charge to attend. If you haven't signed up then be sure to contact Joey McCall or Pam Hall so they can know how many to prepare for.

CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY is Saturday March 10 at 9:00am. The Young Adult Class is sponsoring this but everyone is urged to participate. We have a number of clean-up and fix-up projects to be done around the Church so there will be plenty for everyone to do.

Bring whatever you would like to eat and we'll have a Fellowship Feed around noon.

The material to PAD THE PEWS was delayed and will not arrive until later this week. Because of Revival next week we have asked them to begin work Monday, March 19. So enjoy the hard pews during this Revival because we hope it's the last time you'll have to.

REVIVAL

MARCH 11-14

REV. DENNIS OWEN will be our Evangelist for the Revival Services beginning this Sunday and running thru Wednesday Night. Brother Dennis is one of our missionaries to Spain and he has part of his roots here in Bratt so we're looking for a very good week.

Matt 11:28-30 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

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SENTINEL

March 19, 1984

Vol II Num 9

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Augustine- "Thou hast formed us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless til they find rest in Thee."

The Westminster Catechism asks the question, "What is the Chief End of Man?" and gives this answer, "Man's Chief End is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever."

The 24 Elders around the throne in Heaven say, (Rev 4:11) Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive Glory and Honour, and Power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

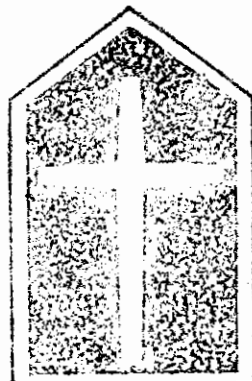
22 years ago today (Monday night, March 19, 1962) I received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. I was Born again and became a new creature in Christ Jesus. I found the pardon for my sins, the pathway God wanted me to walk, and the marvelous Presence of the Lord to satisfy the hunger of my soul. The road has been strait, but I know what's at its end. The Road has been narrow, but never so narrow that Jesus could not walk beside me. In the valleys of depression and despair and on the mountains of triumph and victory His presence has been my source of Strength and Stability. I have found that eating the husks for the hogs with the crowd was as nothing when compared to eating the Bread of Life and drinking the Water of Life in the company of the Father. I have found that the liberty the world offers is actually bondage to sin and Self while the Yoke of Christ is easy and gives true Liberty.

I have found God- and found He's all I need. The world offers me "things"; Religion offers me "Righteousness"; Sin offers me momentary "Pleasures"; but God gives me Peace- and His Presence. Why should I settle for the world's cup of stagnant water when God has rivers of living water? Why should I settle for Preaching about Heaven when I can enjoy the Presence of God? Why should I settle for an amusing life instead of an Abundant Life? Why should You????

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He died to free you from Sin's Penalty and Power and to enable you to have fellowship with God. The Gift is Great. The Decision is yours!

In 17:3 This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

Phil 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,



Thanks to everyone for their participation in the recent Missionary Revival with Rev Dennis Owen. We received \$352 in a Love Offering and Faith Promise pledges of \$210 per month. I would also like to thank everyone for the fine meals that were served and for the special music that was a real blessing.

We acknowledge with grateful appreciation the memorial gifts from Mr and Mrs Bryan Cilmore and Mr and Mrs Vernon Wiggins given in memory of Mrs Eunice Godwin. I think Memorial gifts are one of the best ways to remember someone and this is what I have requested when the Lord calls me home.

It is a little belated but I would like to commend the David Johnsons, the John McCalls, and Lamar Holmes for their work during our recent Work day. I can't express how much it meant to me to have things cleaned up around the Church during Revival.

You won't be receiving a newsletter next week because the Pastor will be in Revival with the Piney Grove F.W.B. Church of Chipley March 25-30. Please Pray for these services that God will Bless in both the morning and Evening Services. Rev Gerald Fowler is the Pastor.

Looking ahead. I hope many of our South Carolina Friends will make plans to attend the Revival Services at Grace F.W.B. Church of Manning, S.C. April 30 - May 4. I'm looking for a great Revival and am trusting God to save many souls and I look to see many of the people from the surrounding area. Rev W.D. Jones is the Pastor.

Even as I write this, the Pews are being padded. It has already changed the looks of the Church and I believe it will add greatly to the comfort. Rev Bill Van Winkle is doing the installation, with some help from Rev Bob Hesselmeier. (I'm scared my people will see Bill and Bob working and expect me to do so also!!). I appreciate their work and I'm glad of the chance to fellowship.

Mark these Revivals on your calender and support them with your presence and Prayers:

First F.W.B. Church Niceville
March 26-30 7:00pm
Rev Pat Patterson, Pastor

Christian Home F.W.B. Church
April 1-6
Rev R. C. Wiggins, Pastor
Rev Cliff Holland, Evangelist

++ ++ ++ ++ ++ ++ ++ ++ ++

Study notes are going almost as fast as I can put them together now so I really appreciate the latest gift from Mr Otis Agerton to help this work.

If you would like to have any or all of the following booklets then let me know. We WANT you to have them if they will help you in your relationship with the Lord. They are absolutely Free.

Chapter by Chapter notes on:
REVELATION
GALATIANS
PHILIPPIANS
I THESSALONIANS
I CORINTHIANS

PRAYER BOOKLET
PROVERBS: Practical Philosophy
for Pilgrims

SHILOH SENTINEL

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April 3, 1984 Vol II Num 10

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

"FAINTING" As I read of failing Churches and talk with struggling Christians I see more and more the need of Christians encouraging one another. Christians seem to be faint and weak and they need to find the strength to continue and to conquer. Here's some help if you feel "Faint".

I. CAUSES OF FAINTING

- A) TROUBLE- Prov 24:10 If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. (DO YOU JOY IN TRIBULATION OR TREMBLE AT TRIALS???)
- B) SIN CLOGGED ARTERIES- Is 1:4-5 Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward: Why should ye be stricken any more? Ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. (THE CARES OF THIS WORLD, THE DECEITFULNESS OF RICHES, THE LUST OF OTHER THINGS ENTER IN AND SLOWLY BUT SURELY CHOKE YOU UNTIL YOU ARE UNABLE TO WORK FOR "FAINTING")
- C) LACK OF NOURISHMENT- Matt 15:32 I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way. (HOW MUCH SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT HAVE YOU HAD TODAY??? NO WONDER YOU FEEL FAINT.)
- D) ABSENCE FROM GOD'S HOUSE- Ps 84:2 My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. (SOME PEOPLE MUST HAVE "FAINTED" AWAY FROM CHURCH AND NEED TO BE REVIVED!!)
- E) LACK OF ASSURANCE OF SALVATION- Ps 119:81 My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in thy word. (YOU FAINT WITHOUT FAITH).

II. RESULTS OF FAINTING

- A) LOSS OF BLESSINGS- Esau sold his birthright because he was "faint" Gen 25:29-34. Present Problems overcome Future Promises. The Children of Israel were at the Door of the Promised Land but their Faith was Faint and they died in the desert!
- B) FAILURE TO COLLECT FRUIT- Gal 6:9 Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. (OTHERS ARE LOST BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE PATIENCE AND PERSERVANCE.)

III. WAYS TO AVOID FAINTING

- A) BY BELIEVING GOD- Ps 27:13 I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. (RENEWAL OF FAITH IN GOD IS LIKE A CUP OF COLD WATER TO A FAINTING SOUL)
- B) BY REMEMBERING GOD- Jonah 2:7 When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the Lord. (WHEN ALL SEEMED LOST, GOD WASN'T!!)
- C) BY PRAYER- Ps 107:5-6 Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.
Luke 18:1 Men ought always to Pray and not to faint
- D) BY CONSIDERING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE JOB- II Cor 4:1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not. (THE POSITION AND THE PAY CAN'T KEEP ME GOING BUT THE PLIGHT OF LOST SOULS WON'T LET ME STOP!)

(Concluded on Back)

(Fainting continued)
F) BY WAITING ON THE LORD Is 40:28-31

1. God does not faint vs 28 Rest in that.
2. He gives power to those that faint vs 29 Depend on that.
3. Even Youth Faint vs 30 Remember that.
4. They that wait on the Lord Renew Strength vs 31 Do that!

WHEN A PERSON IS ABOUT TO FAINT YOU TELL THEM TO:

1. Sit or lie down- Notice that almost all the ways to avoid fainting involve sitting and calmly seeing what God has done, what He can do, and what He is doing.
2. Put your head between your knees- Prayer and waiting on the Lord will enable you to go on without "Fainting".

If you feel you can't go on, Rest in the Lord, Renew your "batteries", and go on in the Strength of the Lord. Don't Quit!!

(The tape of this message is available to anyone requesting it. Also available is the tape on "Why People Backslide")

I gave away over 35 booklets last week and I really appreciate the gifts to help this ministry from Mrs. Medie Dortch and Mrs. Billie Ard. I'm sitting back and seeing what God is doing in and thru this Ministry and I am utterly amazed. Please continue to Pray for it.

*** **

We had a good week of Revival at Piney Grove. There was only 1 Salvation decision but I feel that the Lord really ministered to some hearts. The people of the Church were exceptionally kind and Brother Gerals Fowler is doing an outstanding job as Pastor. It's encouraging to see how God is working in churches like this one. I look forward to visiting again in the future.

It's going to be a busy week here at Shiloh this week:

Wednesday 7:00pm. We carry our Prayer Meeting to the Revival at Christian Home FWB Church. Rev Cliff Holland of First FWB Church of Chipley is the Evangelist.

Thursday 7:00pm. Ladies Prayer Group meets at the Church.
(Remember also the Revival at the Flomaton FWB Church Thursday - Saturday at 7:00pm each night. Rev Jerry Everage is the Evangelist and Rev J.C. Dortch is the Pastor.)

Sunday 5:00pm Deacon's Meet

7:30pm Monthly Teen Fellowship Meet

A lot of people were out of Town Sunday and our attendance was down both morning and Evening but we had a very good service Sunday Evening and I'm looking for things to pick up. If every Church member will make it a point to invite at least 2 people to attend Church this week then we'll have a marvelous service Sunday. We've got a beautiful Church, comfortable pews, great singing, clear Bible teaching and preaching, and no reason not to have a Church full every week. Let's begin this Sunday!!!

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SENTINEL

April 12, 1984 Vol II Num 11 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

REVIVAL

1. When do we need Revival?

- A) When members who once were faithful begin to miss church services on a regular basis.
- B) When the lure of the world replaces the love for God.
- C) When church members want to fellowship with those outside the church more than those in God's family.
- D) When there is no burden for lost souls.
- E) When there are no new births into God's family.
- F) When the world ignores the church because they see a club instead of Christ.

2. How can we have Revival?

A) Praying- When the preceding problems occur most people want to organize instead of agonize. They think more activity will "cure the patient" but fail to realize that when someone is sick they need rest (waiting on the Lord and renewing strength). Activity may cover the symptoms but they will not cure the "disease". That requires "heart surgery" that God performs when we come before Him and see how Holy He is and how sinful we are.

We get ourselves in tune with God and then He can use us to help others. Our prayers for others then change from "help our church's honor by saving people" to "save lost hell bound sinners because you love them and so they can bring glory to God".

So Revival begins when we come before God and allow the Holy Spirit's fire to burn out the dross in our own life and then to make us so "hot" for God until those around us begin to feel the heat.

B) Preaching- Once people begin to feel the heat they're going to want a drink of water- and the Living Water, Jesus Christ needs to be held out to them. Rom. 10:14 *How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher (witness)?* The need of our day is clear preaching about the hotness of Hell, the happiness of Heaven, the Holiness of God, and the hazard of lukewarmness.

How can you be this kind of a witness for God?

1. Love- *In 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one for another.* The world is crying for and seeking for love; and when they see Christians love one another then they are drawn to us and to our message.

2. Lips- *1 Jn 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you.* Tell people what God is doing in and for you. We tell people when we find a sale but we don't tell them when we've found the Saviour!!

3. Life- *1 Cor 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

The Holy Spirit within shines thru our life and people are naturally drawn to the light. A witness is not just something you do, it's something you are.

Are you a witness for God? Do you need Revival?

The Lord has blessed this ministry with a second piece of major machinery in just a 2 month span. Rev. Gerald Fowler and the good people of Piney Grove F.W.B Church gave us a professional quality addressograph machine to use in our mailing of the Shiloh Sentinel. It consist of a typewriter that types out the metal plates, the addressograph machine itself, and a file cabinet to hold the address plates. Once it is all set up and working it will greatly speed the addressing of the newsletter and also mean that we can add new addresses right away instead of waiting for months as we have to now. Thank the Lord for this equipment and pray that it would advance the cause of Christ.

As we begin to change over to these metal plates we need to be sure that we have correct addresses so please let us know if your address is incorrect in any way. Also let us know if you have other addresses you would like to see added to our list. (I don't know what God has for us in the future but it must be great with all He's giving us!)

Special thanks to Mike Robbins and David Johnson for going with me to pick up the equipment. It weighs nearly 1000 lbs. all together and I couldn't have done it without their help. Also thanks to Mitch McCall for welding a piece that was broken. It was some type of alloy aluminium and he did a great job welding it.

*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***

While I'm thanking people, let me give a tremendous thanks to Mr. Ernest O'Farrell for repairing the church lawn mower. He can do wonders with mowers and I appreciate his work more than I can say. (After he repaired our mower last year my cutting time went from 5 hours to around 3 hours- and as busy as I am 2 hours is a lot of time. I can't wait to see how fast I can do it this year since he's reworked it again!)

*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***

Next weekend is going to be VERY busy.

Friday-April 20 Community Easter Service here at Shiloh. The services will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will include special music from several of the churches, a message from the Word of God, and will be followed by a fellowship "supper" (coffee, soft drinks, and cake). We're looking for a church full so make your plans to be here for this special Good Friday Service.

Saturday-April 21 West Florida District CTS competition here at Shiloh at 10:00 a.m.

-Teen Fellowship sponsored Youth Night at the Church at 5 p.m. This will include food, films, and fun and the teens invite the 11 and under ages to attend. (The teens sponsored an Adult Banquet recently and now they're doing something for the younger folks.)

Sunday-April 22 Easter Sunday. Let's have our largest attendance of the year. (What a great time to pray for God to save the unsaved members of your family as you worship together.) This will also be time to receive our regular monthly Faith Promise Offering for missions. God gave His Son for you; What will you give to get the message out???

SINLOI SENTINEL

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rt 2 Box 238 Bratt, FL
Pastor Mircheal Jones
(904) 369-6460

April 17, 1984 Vol II Num 12

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

It was a dark, desperate, despairingly deadly day. The man who had fed the hungry, healed the sick, and even claimed to be the Son of God was hanging on a cross dying as a common criminal among other criminals. He had claimed to be the way to God but one of his own had betrayed him, the highest religious court in the land had convicted him, and the common people had chosen a murderer instead of him. Even nature herself had seemed to turn her back on him as darkness covered the Sun and the earth trembled and shook. No wonder he had cried out to God asking Why God had forsaken him.

What a horrible way to die; forsaken by his friends, railed on by his enemies, without help or (seemingly) without hope, and even with God's face turned away. What could bring a man to such a death? Why would Jesus willingly walk to Calvary? How could He face such an inglorious end to his life and ministry? The answers are the heart of the Christian message.

1. What could bring a man to such a death? SIN Not his own (for He was sinless) but yours and mine. *All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God (Rom 3:23) and the wages of sin is death (Rom 6:23) so God made him to be sin for us who knew no sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (II Cor 5:21).* The next time you think your sin is small and matter then you need to look to Calvary and see how much of a Penalty was paid for it!!

2. Why would Jesus willingly walk to Calvary? LOVE God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Rom 5:8). Such love overwhelms me. God didn't wait for me to get better or even to stop sinning. Jesus loved me in spite of it and offered to pardon me if I'd just accept by Faith His payment of my sin debt. How can He love us so much when we serve Him so little? How can we serve Him so little when He loves us so much??

3. How could He face such an inglorious end to his life and ministry? HOPE. He knew the tomb could not hold Him. He looked beyond the momentary to the permanent. He knew that the end was the beginning. He knew God had a plan and He was doing His part in it. He knew that the defeat of His death would become the Victory of His life and death would be 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. (I Corinth 15:54-57)*

If you're in the will of God don't worry about the Crowd's approval, or Life's Conditions, or Changing Circumstances; just remember that God will never do wrong and He WILL be victorious in the end. Halleluyah!!!



YOUTH NIGHT - The Teen sponsored Youth Night has been moved from Saturday to Wednesday night at 5:00pm. (We will have our Prayer meeting service on Friday this week). This should be a great night of Fun and Fellowship for our young people and I appreciate the Teens interest and effort. We've got a great group of Teens here at Shiloh and I'm looking for a great summer of activities for the Lord.

EASTER SCHEDULE

COMMUNITY EASTER SERVICE- Friday night at 7:00pm here at Shiloh. We're looking for a Church full as most of the Churches in our Community join together to celebrate the Easter Season. There will be much special music, a message from the Word of God, and a Fellowship "Supper" afterwards (Cake, coffee, and soft drinks). Let's show our Community that our doctrines may differ but we serve the same Saviour- who died for our sins and has been resurrected from the grave.

EASTER SUNDAY- We will begin with the study of "Witnesses of the Resurrection" in our Bible Study Hour at 10:00am and continue with the Worship Service at 11:00am as we celebrate the greatest event in the history of the world: Christ's victory over death, hell, and the grave. Invite everyone you can and let's have the biggest attendance so far this year.

* * * * *

WEST FLORIDA DISTRICT CTS COMPETITION will be held here at Shiloh beginning at 10:00am on Saturday, April 21. There is not a lot of extra activity planned so the service should be over before noon. The Ladies of the Church will serve a light lunch following the meeting. (The Food Committee is in charge so any of you Shiloh Ladies can contact them if you desire to help)

Looking ahead to the last Sunday in April, remember that the time will change to Daylight Savings Time on that Sunday (Don't be late for Church!) and we will have a Church Singsperation that night. (All of those special music groups that sang last year but have gotten slack need to get practiced up and ready to sing during this service.)

Continue to be much in Prayer for the Pastor as he prepares for the upcoming Revival at Grace FWB Church in Manning, S.C. April 30-May 4. Trying to reach Lost people for the Lord is the most important job in the World and it needs the backing of all of God's people.

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SENTINEL

April 25, 1984 Vol II Num 13

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

THE CHURCH AS A WITNESS

The purpose of the Church is to witness to the world about Jesus Christ. There are 2 basic ways that they can do this:

1. BEARING WITNESS- Acts 1:8 *ye shall be witnesses unto me.* This is done by what we Say. We actually deliver the message of the Gospel to the world thru sermons, conversations, and personal contact. (Every Christian ought to have a goal of speaking to at least 1 person every day about their relationship with the Lord.). Rom 10:17 *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

2. BEING WITNESSES- Jn 17:20-21 *Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they a-l may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.* This is done by what the world sees in the Church. If the world sees the Church as an exclusive club where the members quarrel and bicker among themselves then they will have little reason to listen to our message about the life changing Christ. But if they see the Church working together as different parts of the Body of Christ then they will begin to desire the union and the unity we have to offer.

Here are 10 ways the Church can bear witness in our dealings with one another:

1. LOVE ONE ANOTHER Rom 12:10 *Be kindly affectioned one to another with Brotherly Love.* They'll know we are Christians by our Love.

2. HONOR ONE ANOTHER Rom 12:10 *In honor preferring one another.* Christians should try to exalt one another; not disgrace one another. I Cor 12:26 *When one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured all the members rejoice with it.*

3. LIKEMINDED ONE TOWARD ANOTHER Rom 15:5 *Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus.* "Live in mutual harmony and full sympathy toward one another" (Amp. Bible). When we all have the mind of Christ we radiate a hymn of harmony that stirs the world. When we see things each our own way the "music" hurts even our own ears!

4. ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER Rom 15:7 *Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.* Realize that we have different personalities, circumstances, and ages but we are all part of the same body and "God hath set the members of the body as it hath pleased him" (I Cor 12:18). A hand is not an elbow but they get the job done when they work together.

5. SERVE ONE ANOTHER Gal 5:13 *For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh; but by love serve one another.* Christians know that the greatest shall be servant of all.

6. HELP ONE ANOTHER Gal 6:2 *Bear one another's burden's, and so fulfil the law of Christ.* We lean one upon another and share the Load.

(Continued on Back)

7. SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER Ep 5:21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of the Lord We accept our place in God's Plan.
8. FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER Col 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. WE bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances we may have against one another
9. ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND BUILD EACH OTHER UP I Thess 5:11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do. We grow as we help others grow.
10. FELLOWSHIP ONE WITH ANOTHER I Pet 4:9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging. Don't just invite those who invite you! (Luke 6:32-35). WE realize that the stand-offish person may not know how to "break the ice" and our Love for each other makes us want to know about one another.

When the World looks at Shiloh as we attempt to bear witness for Christ, does it see this kind of people????? If not, what can YOU do to make it different??

*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***

Our Community Easter Service was well attended (around 150), well organized, and seemingly, enjoyed by all. I appreciate the special music from the various churches and the good time of Fellowship that followed the Service. A special word of Praise to Brother Tom Little of the First Baptist Church of Bratt for his organizational work and for supplying the Bulletins.

THIS SUNDAY-



DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time begins.
Don't be late for Sunday
School.

LIFE AFTER DEATH- This Sunday morning we will look at what the Scriptures have to say about Life on the other side of death. We will examine some actual examples of people who have died and see what they encountered (What clothes do you wear on the other side? What do you talk about on the other side? What kind of body will you have? What happens as soon as you die? etc). This is a subject that involves each of us and I hope you'll make a special effort to be here - and bring a friend.

SPECIAL SONG SERVICE- This Sunday Night's Service will be a time of singing Praise to God (This is one of the things we will spend a lot of time doing in Heaven so we need to get started practising!). Everyone needs to come prepared to join in

Special Thanks to the person that gave a much needed anonymous gift to our newsletter ministry and also to my beautiful wife for her gift. (She helped in a yard sale recently so she had some money to give). We continue to give away booklets and tapes on a regular basis and I appreciate the way the Lord supplies the needs.

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SHILOH SENTINEL

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
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Rev Mike Jones 369-6460

May 8, 1984 Vol II Num 14

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

MOTHER'S DAY This Sunday we will have Special Activities here at Shiloh to Honor our Mothers. We invite and urge all of our Mothers to be here and to bring their Children with them.

We will have a Special Gift for every Mother that attends and we will also recognize our Oldest Mother, our Youngest Mother, and the Mother with the Most Children present.

In addition, the Toddler thru Teen Sunday School Classes will present special programs for the Mothers at the end of the Sunday School Hour and the Choir for the Morning Service will be the Men of the Church.

Here is the Order of Service:

10:00am Bible Study Lesson- "The Church at Prayer"
10:30am First Bell
10:35am Assembly
10:40am Toddler- Teen Mother's Day Programs
11:00am (About) Morning Worship Service

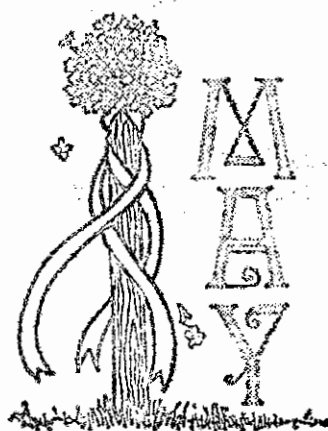
Men's Choir

Recognition of Mothers

Message: "Faith of Our Mothers" It's Duration, it's Place, and it's Character.



MOTHER'S
DAY



MAY EVENTS

- May 13 Mother's Day
Special Youth Meeting to discuss Summer Activities
- May 18-19 State CTS Meeting at Marianna
This is one of the biggest "get togethers" among Florida FWB and it's close enough that many of us should be able to attend.
- May 27 Faith Promise for Missions Sunday
Graduation Day- We rejoice with those who have completed a course of Study.
Promotion Day in Sunday School and CTS. (Contact Your Superintendent if you have any questions)

Shiloh Church?? They aren't always perfect but they continue to manifest a desire to work for the cause of Christ and I appreciate them more than I can say.

Let me give you a few examples: I returned home from Revival Saturday Evening VERY tired and found Mrs Maxine McCall and Melissa had just completed cutting the Church and Parsonage grass for me (Glory!). Then Sunday night Brother Lamar Holmes volunteered to help me a couple of hours a week to relieve some of my work load (Hallelujah!). Then Monday I asked Judi McElhaney and Angie Dortch to help me get the flowers and gifts ready for our Big Mother's Day celebration this coming Sunday and they willingly accepted the responsibility, removing a great load from my shoulders (If you knew how bad I am at picking out this sort of thing then you'd realize how important this is!). And while I'm "Baching" it a couple of weeks while my wife helps her sister with her new baby people have been extremely nice to ask me home for a meal so I won't starve to death. FAT (That's me) Chance! (See also the next item for more examples)

When we were in S.C. in Revival last week we got to see some of the people we used to Pastor and they were very nice to us also. I don't know why the Lord always gives me great Churches with great people but I sure do appreciate it.

PRAISE The Lord gave us a very good Revival with Rev. W.D. Jones and the good folks of Grace FWB Church of Manning. We had a large number of visitors and I pray the Lord will Bless this Church to be a good witness to the cause of Christ in Manning.

I carried over 60 Booklets of Prayer Helps and Outline Notes to give away during the Revival and God richly rewarded the "bread we cast upon the waters". I used every folder I had in preparing the notes and was trusting the Lord to meet the need. Well, so far I have received \$165 in gifts since last Monday! (Glory Hallelujah!). This will allow me to buy the new filing cabinet we needed so desperately for this ministry (The 2 I have now are packed and we really need room if we are going to produce more study helps for people). I hope, with Brother Lamar and Mrs Teresa Brown's help, we'll be able to expand beyond Booklets to specific helps for specific problems (Like the one I gave out Sunday night telling how to decide whether a thing is right or wrong. Write for it if you'd like a copy.).

Praise and Thanks to Marion Coker, Lunette Skipper, David and Jackie Johnson, and Otis and Vera Agerton for their help in this work

11 Tim 1:5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that is in thee also.

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May 15, 1984 Vol II Num 15 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Sunday was a good day and I praise the Lord for His continued Blessings. The programs presented by the classes were simply great, the men's choir was almost full and the men's quartet did a good job. We had a large number of Mothers present and they all were able to remember their Children's names! I appreciate everyone's help and participation.

On the other side of the coin, Sunday Night was a disaster. Our CTS attendance was the lowest this year (Moms, stop feeding your children so much until they get too lazy to come to Church!). The lessons we're in right now about Stewardship are very important and I hope everyone will make an effort to be here this coming Sunday night and every Sunday night. (I think everyone was a little discouraged Sunday night until the day's offering- \$2167 -was posted. That brightened things up a little.)

This coming Sunday Night we will begin a new program for the younger children that will be headed by Mrs. Linda Jackson. We're going to try to begin a Primary Choir that will meet for practice toward the end of CTS and then will sing for us on Sunday Night. We will try to get ages and scheduling straight this Sunday.

Sunday, May 27, is going to be a BIG Sunday here at Shiloh and I hope you'll pray that God will use it to transform lives. Sunday Morning we will honor our Graduates for a job well done and Have Promotion Day for Sunday School and CTS. Then Sunday Night we will have a Home Made Ice Cream Supper Fellowship following the Evening Service. Plan to be here, and come expecting a Blessing.

The material enclosed concludes our study in Proverbs and begins our Study in James. Proverbs dealt with Practical Principles in your daily life. James deals with Practical Practice in your Spiritual Life. May the Lord use it to develop us into the Christians He wants us to be. (The complete set of Proverb notes are now available for anyone desiring them.)

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THE RIGHT TOOL

JAMES 1:2-4

The back door of the Parsonage has not worked right since we arrived here but since we hardly ever use it it was put off as one of those jobs I was going to do "sometime". Well, when I left my wife at home by herself while I was away in Revival recently she didn't like having a door that wouldn't lock so I promised her I'd try to fix it.

Every time I would walk by it I would think about it but dreaded getting everything set up and then trying to saw off the small amount that needed to be removed. Then yesterday as I walked by it it dawned on me that I could use a plane to trim it down to size. I rode up to Brother Floyd Coleman's and borrowed a plane and in less than an hour the job I had put off for 2½ years was cut down to size!!

Everything fell into place when I recognized the right tool for the job. That really spoke to my heart about a spiritual need also. The Education Committee and I have been evaluating Teachers to see if any changes were needed and one of the things we realize is that the right teacher in the right class is the only right course to follow. It also fits in very well with a Study I'm working on about Spiritual Gifts and how each part of the Body needs to work with all the other parts. But, most of all, it spoke to my heart about the tools God uses to make me into the vessel I should be for His Glory.

I think I need Sunshine and cool breezes but the Lord knows that land that receives only sunshine become desert. I want no pain but the Lord knows that *our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory (II Cor 4:17)*. And I think that the best way to grow is to Enjoy but God knows the best way for me to mature is by Enduring- *Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work (Endure it), that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. (James 1:3-4)*. Just remember that the Lord always knows just the right tool that's needed to get the Job done. (By the way, that's why the "Health and Wealth" preachers have such a following. They seek to make people Happy while God seeks to make them Holy! Which one are YOU seeking: Happiness or Holiness???)

Let me quote James 1:2-4 from the Amplified Bible so that you can see how Endurance is God's Tool to shape you into a complete Christian.

"Consider it wholly joyful, my brethern, whenever you are enveloped in or encounter trials of any sort, or fall into various temptations.

Be assured and understand that the trial and proving of your faith bring out endurance and steadfastness and patience.

But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play and do a thorough work, so that you may be (people) perfectly and fully developed (with no defects), lacking in nothing."

ENDURING

One of the main problems the church faces today is defections in it's ranks. People will make a profession of Faith in Christ but when the going gets a little rough or even inconvenient then they fall by the way side. Where are our Cross-bearers? Where are the soldiers of Christ who fight the good fight of faith? Where are those who endure unto the end? Mk 4:16-17 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; and have no root in themselves, and so endure for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.

I. WHAT IT IS TO ENDURE (The Greek meanings define the Word)

A) TO Stay Under- Matt 24:13 He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. The idea being to remain faithful even though Pressures and Problems remain and even increase. Jesus said in Jn 16:33 that as long as we were in this world we would have tribulations (Pressures) but to be of good cheer because he had overcome the world. The trying of your faith worketh patience. When you are tried you shall come forth as gold. (When you are tried in the furnace of affliction just remember that God said that in all your afflictions He was afflicted. He never leaves you and underneath are the everlasting arms.)

B) To be Strong- Heb 11:27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the King; for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. Strong enough to Forsake Sin, not to Fear the King, and to live by Faith.

C) To undergo Hardship- II Tm 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. II Tm 4:5 But watch thou in all things; endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. A Soldier is under command in reference to Location, Job, dress, etc. It's not personal preference but obedience to command.

D) To be Long Spirited- Heb 6:15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. In your patience possess ye your souls Lu 21:19

E) To Hold oneself up against- II Thess 1:4-5 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer. Ep 6:13 Stand and having done all, Stand

II. WHY SHOULD WE ENDURE???

A) For our own Salvation's sake- Mk 13:13 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. The Possibility of Apostacy when we renounce Faith because of the Pressures and Pains of this life.

B) For Others' Salvation's Sake- II Tm 2:10 Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. Jesus DIED for men to be saved. I should be able to endure persecution to get them the Gospel.

C) To Build our Character- Heb 12:7 If ye endure Chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? Heb 12:10 He chastens us for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

D) To encourage other Christians- James 5:10-11 Take, my brethern, the prophets who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

E) For Conscience's Sake- I Pet 2:19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. May the Lord deliver us from "Jelly-fish" Christians who aren't willing to stand for anything if it involves any suffering.

F) For the Crown of Life- James 1:12 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. No Cross, No Crown

G) For the Joy to Come- Heb 12:2-3 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. Heaven will surely be worth it all!!

III. HOW CAN WE ENDURE??

1. Pace Yourself Gen 33:14 Renew Strength as you Wait on the Lord. (The longest part of the trip from Crow Corner to Bratt is from Montgomery to Bratt. By that time I'm beginning to get tired and I begin to get impatient so I try to "think" myself home and it makes the last 120 miles seem longer than the previous 500 put together.) Remember that you don't want the Father to take you out of the "oven" while you're "half-baked".

2. Seek Help from others- Ex 18:23 Moses' Father-in-law told him to get help so that he wouldn't wear away. Seek support from Family, Friends, and Fellow Christians. They can help with Concern, Advice, and Prayer Support (Remember that Jesus in the Garden wanted His disciples to Pray with Him)

3. Remember who's in Control- Ps 30:4-5 Weeping may endure for a night, but Joy cometh in the morning. God knows how hot the "oven" is and He won't allow the "bisquits" to be burned (I Cor 10:13). NOTE- Be aware that God told Satan he could not go beyond certain boundaries in the life of Job (Job 1:12, 2:6) but those boundaries allowed Satan to kill Job's children, destroy Job's property, and inflict Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown!! Don't allow Satan to tell you God has forgotten you simply because the water is hotter than you thought it would be.

Remember that it was only after his furnace of affliction that Job went from knowledge about God to Fellowship WITH God (Job 42:5). And that's God's Goal for each of us (Jn 17:3).

4) Let Love Control- I Cor 13:7 Love endureth all things

A) Love God and rest in His Love

B) Love others as yourself and you can forgive them.

WARNING- Ez 22:14 Can thine heart endure, or can thine hands be strong, in the days that I shall deal with thee? I the Lord have spoken it, and will do it. I Pet 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 well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. If Sin brought the heat then let it cause you to seek the cool shelter of the Rock- Jesus Christ.

ARE YOU ROOTED IN THE ROCK?? SO YOU CAN ENDURE LIFE'S STORMS.

PROVERBS: PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY FOR PILGRIMS

GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE PROV. 16:1-9

Most people don't mind doing a job- once they get started! The problem is to decide what to do and then to have the courage to do it. Many a person today is existing in life when they could be great workers for God: if they could just understand God's Plan for their life, and then put that plan into action.

Here are some guidelines:

I. vs 1 GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOU Ps 16:11 *Thou wilt show me the path of life*
He will show you His Plan- Is 48:17 *Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, the Holy one of Israel; I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.*

II. vs 2 MAN CAN'T FIGURE OUR GOD'S PLAN ON HIS OWN
Jer 10:23 *O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.*
Prov 14:12 *There is a way which seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.*

III. vs 3 SO DO WHAT GOD SAYS AND YOU'LL THINK WHAT GOD WANTS
Phil 2:13 *For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure*
Prov 4:18 *The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day*
Jn 7:17 *If any man will DO his will, He shall KNOW of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.*

IV. vs 4 THE ULTIMATE JUDGE IS GOD. We were created for His pleasure and Glory- He is the one we have to answer to, not man.
Rom 9:20-21 *Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor?*
Rom 14:12-13 *Everyone of us shall give account of himself to God. Let us not therefore judge one another any more.*

V. vs 5, 8 EVEN SUCCESS IS FAILURE IF IT'S NOT IN GOD'S WILL
1 Cor 1:19-20 *It is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world.*

VI. vs 6 WE NEED MERCY TO COVER OUR SINS AND FEAR TO CAUSE US TO FLEE FROM THEM.

Chastening- God spans Christians to cause us to fear sin and
Flee from it

Conviction- God shows Sinners the terror of Hell to cause them
to flee to Grace.

VII. vs 7 THE PLACE OF PEACE IS THE WILL OF GOD. Is 26:3 *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.* Sin is missing God's Goal for your life. Peace is in doing the will of God.

VIII. vs 9 THE KEY TO IT ALL IS HAVING YOUR HEART RIGHT WITH GOD.

A) Where you are going is God's Responsibility- *The Lord directs the steps.*

B) Getting there involves effort on your part- *A man's heart deviseth his way.*

GOD'S WILL IS FOR YOU TO BE SAVED AND SERVING.

PROVERBS: Practical Philosophy for Pilgrims

"A Wise Man's Observations" Prov. 30

We know little about the author of this Chapter of Proverbs except what is given in vs. 1. Agur means "collector" and evidently he collected wisdom from all areas of life. (This chapter and the next were probably added at the same time as chapters 25-29 by Hezekiah's men.)

- I. The Need of Dependence on God's Word Alone 2-6 (Agur begins by acknowledging that all of his wisdom and observing are as nothing when compared to the Word of God.)
- A) Because of our lack of wisdom - vs 2-3 Remember that the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. I Cor. 1:20
 - B) Because of God's Greatness - vs 4 as evidenced in Creation. (We are the Creatures. He is the Creator. We must depend on Him.)
 - C) Because of the Purity and Protection of the Word vs 5
Pure: It is a Holy God's Word.
Protection: Shield for those that trust in it. Ps 119:11
Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
 - D) Because of the Penalty for adding to the Word
Reproof from God - see Rev. 22:18-19
Reproof from Man - thou be found a liar

Do you try to "figure out life" and "do the best you can" or do you by Faith follow the plan God has given us in His word.
*Is 55:7-8 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.
11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*

II. Two Request for a Good Life vs 7-9

- A) Santification - Remove far from me vanity and lies
(Help me not to build my life on the frivolous or the false.)
- B) Satisfaction-
 - 1. Don't let my proverty tempt me to lie or steal
 - 2. Don't let my plenty make me forget who is the source of all things

(Like Paul we need to learn to be content in whatsoever state we find ourselves. Phil 4:11)
What do YOU think the Good Life is?? Your answer will determine your effectiveness for the Lord and your peace during changing circumstances.

III. 5 Observations about this Present Generation vs 10-14

- 1. They mind other people's business vs 10 (Busybodies)
- 2. They disregard their family vs 11 (see Mk 7:9-13)
- 3. They think themselves pure in spite of their filthiness vs. 12 (see Rev 3:17)
- 4. They are a prideful people vs 13
- 5. They disregard others to satisfy their own wants vs 14 (selfish)

Do you fit into any of these classes.

IV. 5 Things That Are Never Satisfied vs 15-17 (Having given the basis of satisfaction and then shown the failure of his generation Agur now shows by example how dissatisfaction can wreck your life.)

- A) Death-
 - 1. Horseleach (A worm that sucks the blood from it's victim). Why can't people see that things like drugs, alcohol, and lust suck the very life out of a person?
 - 2. Grave - All die because the wages of sin is death and all have sinned.
- B) Destitute - (No Fruit)
 - 3. Barren Womb - Give no children or I die (Gen 30:1)
 - 4. Dry Earth - Can't produce Fruit
- C) Destruction
 - 5. Fire - consumes that that's put into it.

Do YOU allow envy, covetousness, or "want" to wreck your life??

vs 17 - Disobeying Parents brings Punishment -What a way to close this first section that has death with observations about Satisfaction. Agur shows the folly of children being dissatisfied with their parent's leadership (Like the Prodigal Son who wanted his inheritance and then wasted it on this world.). Children seem to think that they know better than their parents or that the parent is keeping back something from them.

Do YOU disregard God's Word or His Plan for your life because you think you know better than He!?

PROVERBS: Practical Philosophy for Pilgrims

"A Wise Man's Observations" Prov. 30:-

Part II

Having made his observations about people's wants Agur now looks at their ways and their walk.

V. 5 Wonderful Ways vs 18-20

1. Eagle in the Air - How does he fly?
2. Serpent on a Rock - How does he crawl?
3. Ship in the Sea - How does it find it's port?
4. Man with a Maid - How do they "fall in love"?
5. Adulterous Woman - How does she explain her sin?

Agur lays special emphasis on the fact that each of these leave no trait. He then especially applies it to the adulterous woman who "wipes her mouth and says, I have done no wickedness". The idea being that people think that because no one sees what was done then it's not really wrong. How many people's only hindrance to sin is public opinion instead of faithfulness to God??

VI. Wrong Promotions vs 21-23 (shows that changing circumstances doesn't change character)

4 unbearable things:

1. Servant made to reign - power without ability
2. Fool filled with meat - prosperity without responsibility
3. Odious (unloved and repugnant) woman when married - Privilege without love
4. Handmaid heir to mistress - position with accountability (Remember Hagar and Sarah's trouble when the handmaid began to think she was better than the mistress. Gen. 16:4)

Luke 16:10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

VII 4 Wise Things vs 24-28

1. Ants - because of the preparation they make: prepare their meat in the summer.
 - A) Not strong but work hard
 - B) Prepare for the future
2. Cronies (cliff badgers) - because of the protection they enjoy: make their houses in the rocks.
 - A) Foundation - build their house on the rock and not the sand
 - B) Fortification - depend on the rock for protection (The cottontail rabbit lives while the jack rabbit dies because the cottontail hides in the rock while the jack rabbit tries to outrun his foe.)
3. Locust - because of the partnership they share: go forth by bands.
 - A) Unity - The church has no visible King but it is a divine fellowship (The Body of Christ)
 - B) One Direction - forward
4. Spider - Because of the position they occupy: in kings palaces.
 - A) Persistent - Keep at it
 - B) Position - Christians dwell in the heavenlies with Christ

No wonder these are called exceeding wise.
Have you made your preparation to meet God? Do you enjoy
the protection, partnership, and position of a child of God?

VIII 4 Things that Go Well vs 29-31 "Stately in Steps"

These are examples of what we should have by righteous living:

1. Lion - Because of his strength: strongest among beast
Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which
strengtheneth me.
2. Greyhound - Because of his speed. They that wait upon
the Lord renew strength so that they can run and not
be weary. (Is 40:31) So run with patience the race
that is set before you.
3. He goat - Because of his surefootedness: able to climb
on the rocks stable in difficult circumstances
4. King, when no one rises up against him - Because of his
security. The pleasantness of peace when all enemies
have been defeated. We have this kind of peace in
Christ who has defeated death, hell, and the grave.

IX. 2 Parting Observation vs 32-33

1. Don't tell others what to do when you are at fault
vs 32 See Matt 7:3-5 and Rom 2:21-23
2. Don't keep "picking" at trouble or it will get bigger.
If you know what to do then do it. If not, "let sleep-
ing dogs lie" until you do know what to do.

Prov. 16:7 When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies
to be at peace with him.

Ep. 4:1 I beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith
ye are called.

SHILOH

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SENTINEL

June 4, 1984 Vol II Num 16

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

It's been a very busy 2 weeks and I'm sorry I haven't gotten a newsletter out. I spent part of the time going back to S.C. to pick up my wife and dedicating a child (Laura Ashley Cox) and the rest of the time I've been trying to catch up on some visiting and studying. So let me catch you up on what's been going on.

FILE CABINET-The Lord supplied the needed money and I have purchased a new file cabinet to hold notes and study booklets and I hope to have it organized soon so that I can send out notes as soon as they're requested.

FOLDERS- A very special THANKS to Mr and Mrs Ernest Skipper for their gift of 90 booklet folders to this work. They were able to purchase the folders at ½ price thru the P.X. and I'm working hard right now to fill the folders so they can be given out to help people get into the Word and grow in the Lord.

Also Thanks to the Senior Class of Grace FWB Church of Manning for their gift of \$10 to this ministry.

MOTOR- Do you believe God can "cure" a motor? Theologically speaking I would say that God is not in the mechanic business but.... The motor on the electric memo machine went out several weeks ago and I hadn't had time to check it out. Last week I pulled it out and Brother Floyd and I checked it over and couldn't find the problem. I tried everything I knew and everytime I'd hook it up it still would not work so I decided to take it to get it rewound. I set it aside while I turned out over 3000 copies of some notes on James by hand and kept thinking the whole time how much I needed the electric memo machine to work. It was late and I was tired and about to quit and go home when the Lord seemed to speak to my heart about trying the motor again. Can God cure a motor? All I know is that this newsletter you're reading right now was run off on a machine that wouldn't work and now does!

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TAPES- The Lord recently chastened me about our Tape Ministry and I want you to help be pray about it. Several people have come to me from time to time about buying a Tape duplicator but I have put them off because I wanted to wait until we could afford a real good model so that we could record music as well as sermons. Well, The Lord rebuked me about that and now I'm praying for the \$350 needed to buy the duplicator. The Lord has greatly used several of the messages on James to speak to people's hearts recently and I really would like to distribute some of them on a wider scale. (The messages on "Faith on Trial" and "Enduring" are ones that every Christian needs to hear. The Preaching is not the best but the message is very needful). Help me pray that God would meet this need.

TEEN FELLOWSHIP- At the Teen Fellowship meeting Sunday night the Teens discussed plans to go to 6-flags this summer and ways to raise the funds. Several methods were suggested and they decided to begin with a "Slave Auction" to be held Sunday night, June 24 after the Evening Service. You'll be able to "buy" the services of the Young People for a day to help you do some of the things you've put off doing because you didn't have help. More details later. (We are raising a new crop of Teens and I'm glad to see them want to do things together. Part of Christianity is learning to work and play together.)

We also had a Fellowship Supper at the conclusion of the meeting to honor David Ziglar who's going into the National Guard. We discovered many things about David but I guess the most interesting was why he always makes sure who's behind him now before he sits down!!

THIS COMING SUNDAY- If there has ever been a Sunday that you don't want to miss Church it's this Sunday. The Bible Study Lesson at 10am is from Acts 16 and it deals with "What a Sinner Needs to get Saved" and the CTS lesson at 5:30pm deals with "The Spirit Filled Abundant Life". Two great lessons- How to get right and how to live right. Let's have our biggest attendance of the year and pray God will start Revival thru these lessons.

SNAKE- I just went over to the house to see if my wife was awake yet and walking down the bedroom hall I stepped on a snake. The worst part was trying to figure out how to kill it without waking my wife. I didn't. She heard me when I hit it and you can be sure she's very careful where she cleans now!!

That's the way it happens in people's lives sometimes also. Satan slips in a "snake" of sin when and where you least expect it. But the sad part is that many people fail to kill it when they see it and it goes on giving them trouble.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jennifer Mauldin for winning the Bible Memorization trophy at the State CTS Meeting recently. EVERY child in our Church ought to be able to memorize part of the Word of God. It's the best investment you'll ever make with your time.

Congratulations also to the Bible Tic Tac Toe Team from Christian Home FWB Church. They did a fine job and we wish them and Jennifer the best at Little Rock in July.

**FOR THE CHRISTIAN, LIFE IS NOT A LEISURE CRUISE ON THE LOVE BOAT;
IT IS ACTIVE DUTY ON A BATTLE SHIP!!**

PAUL BEGINS THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY Acts 15:36-41 16:-

Having decided the circumcision issue at the Counsel in Jerusalem Paul now decides to return to the Churches that were established on the first missionary journey and see how they were getting along.

I. THE COMPANIONS 15:36-41 16:1-3

A) The second journey began with a dispute over who to carry as traveling companions. Barnabas wanted to give John Mark another chance but Paul didn't trust him to stand up under the trials of the journey. The problem was so serious until it divided the Team. Barnabas and John Mark went to Cyprus and Paul chose Silas and they went overland to visit the Churches.

--Shows that even Christians can have Personality Problems (Who was "right" in this problem? As in most cases, there was a little right in both cases. Just remember that Paul eventually accepted John Mark II Tim 4:11)

--Is it possible this problem had a reason? After the split Paul went overland to visit the Churches and eventually went to Troas and Philippi. Indications are that his and Barnabas' original plans called for them to simply revisit the churches they had already started. Sometimes God takes our obstacles and makes them opportunities.

B) When Paul and Silas arrived at Lystra they met Timothy. Timothy had a good report of the Church and Paul decided to take him on the journey with them.

--Timothy eventually became Paul's "son" in the Gospel (II Tim 1:2) and was the one Paul chose to carry on his ministry after Paul no longer could (II Tim 2:2).

--Paul made Timothy become circumcised even as he was delivering the decrees to the churches to show that circumcision was not required. We have Legal Rights and Loving Responsibilities. If Timothy was to be effective in his ministry with Paul to the Jews then he had to be willing to sacrifice his rights in order to reach others.

II. THE CALL 16:4-13

--Paul, Silas, and Timothy went to the Churches to share with them the decision of the Council at Jerusalem and to establish them in the Faith. God gave them a fruitful ministry.

--As they journeyed God kept "hedging" them in and pointing them in the direction HE wanted them to go.

--Finally Paul receives his Macedonian Call and they cross from Asia to Europe to preach the Gospel. (Significant to you and I because God closed the door to Asia and opened it to Europe and that meant we would receive the Gospel)

--Note the "we" of vs 10. This is where Luke joined the group.

III. THE CONVERTS 16:14-40

--Since Philippi did not have a large Jewish Population Paul begins by preaching to the Ladies Prayer Meeting by the river. There, Lydia, a businesswoman of Thyatira, was converted and became the home base of the work.

--A demon possessed girl began to harass the Team and finally Paul commanded the demon to leave the girl. This caused a stir because the girl's masters saw they would lose money because the girl could no longer "tell fortunes". They had Paul and Silas arrested, beaten and cast into prison.

-- At the midnight hour, as Paul and Silas prayed and sang, There was an earthquake that loosed the bonds of the Prisoners and caused the Jailor to realize his need of Salvation. He was saved and took Paul and Silas into his home where he ministered to them.

These verses show us THE 4 THINGS THAT A SINNER NEEDS TO BE SAVED

1. A Going Saint- I am just as import to a man's salvation as Christ! What good is the Gospel if noone hears it? What good is it to have the keys to the jail if you won't open the door? The Ethiopian Eunuch said, "How can I understand except some man guide me?". God's command to us- YE shall be Witnesses.

A) He needs a BURDEN- "Come over and Help us" Do you have a Burden for the Lost or have you Lost your Burden?

B) He can expect a BLESSING- *He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. Ps 126:6*

1. Lydia and the Jailor and their households were saved.

2. Food for the Soulwinner- Lydia (vs 15) and Jailor (34).

3. Joy for all- Preacher and Saved.

C) He can expect a BEATING- When you stir the water the dirt will begin to fly. *If any man come after me let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.*

2. A Drawing Spirit- "Whose heart the Lord opened" vs 14 Except the Father draw a man he cannot come. The Spirit:

A) CALLS- Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. The Spirit takes the Preached Word and uses it to speak to the sinners heart.

B) CONVICTS- For some it is a simple sermon. For others it takes an earthquake! But the Spirit makes you realize you are lost and have a need.

C) CEASES- The same sun that melts snow hardens concrete. The masters of the demon possessed girl were not interested in the Gospel: they wanted only Gain.

3. A Sufficent Saviour- "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved"

A) Able to pay a debt I couldn't pay- wages of sin is Death

B) Able to conquer an enemy I couldn't conquer- Satan

The sinner must not only realize how bad he is but he also must know how able God is to overcome his problems.

4. A Willing Heart- "What must I do to be Saved?"

ONce you realize you're lost, and repent of sin, you need to receive Christ as Saviour. It's not enough to know that God will save you. You must accept Christ and follow Him.

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

WHY PROBLEMS REMAIN James 1:12-16

Why do we continue to be tried and tempted? Why doesn't God throw Satan into Hell and throw away the key? Why are Christians beset with troubles and tribulations? Why can't we have Heaven on Earth? I think there are 3 Basic Reasons that Problems remain:

I. THE SOURCE OF TEMPTATION- SELF

God cannot get rid of the Problem without getting rid of the Person! If self were like a toe or a finger then God could maybe cut it off and solve the problem but you cannot remove the bad without removing the good also:

- Hunger is right and necessary but uncontrolled it is a problem
- The tongue is a need to communicate but it is also "a fire, a world of iniquity" James 3:5
- Imagination is necessary to invent good but it also invents evil.

The control of Self is the Will yielded to God. God will not force us to do right- He will only ask that we deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him.

II. THE SCHOOL OF TRIALS

Troubles many times are our teachers. They are a necessary part of our development.

The 4 reasons the Heathen Nations were left in Israel show some of the lessons we learn:

1. To Punish Israel- Judges 2:2-3 *Ye have not obeyed my voice: ...wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.*

Some people learn more from Defeat than they ever will from Victory! Paul's thorn in the flesh showed him that when he was weak then he was strong (II Cor 12:10).

2. To Prove Israel- Judges 2:21-22 *I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died: that through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the Lord to walk therein, as their fathers did keep it, or not.*

If there were no test in school many would not attempt to learn. Anything of value should be able to withstand the Test. If your faith cannot stand the trials of life then I would surely hate to face death with it.

3. To Provide experience in Warfare- Judges 3:1-2 *Now these are the nations which the Lord left, to prove Israel by them, even as many of Israel as had not known all the wars of Canaan: only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing thereof:*

I know a great deal about the Bible today because I started Teaching and Preaching at 14 and I had to know what to Teach in order to teach. Most Christians never win a soul to Christ and live inconsistent lives because they don't know what to do.

4. To Prevent the land from becoming a Wilderness- Deut 7:22 And the Lord thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the fields increase upon thee.

We must GROW in the Grace and Knowledge of Christ. If we have more responsibility than we have knowledge then we fail in our responsibility. Learn to deal with today's Problems today and you'll be able to deal with tomorrows problems tomorrow.

III. THE SACRIFICE OF TRUST- "When he is tried" The Cross must come before the Crown. As we endure we show God our:

A) Love- James 1:12 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.

B) Faith- Rev 2:10 Fear none of these things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

But the amazing thing is that when we give God our Love and Faith we find them returned manyfold. As we live thru the Problems we find that what we considered Burdens are actually Blessings.

Problems will bring you closer to God or drive you away in doubt. See God's purpose in them and let them bring you into a deeper Fellowship than ever before.

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

TEMPTATION James 1:13-18

James now goes from examining Trials without to looking at Temptations within. The reason he did this is because many times the pressure of an outward trial will cause us to be tempted to do wrong. (Abraham went thru a trial of Famine that led him to fall to the temptation of going to Egypt. Pressures at Home, at work, from companions, etc may cause the child to seek escape in Drugs and the parent to seek escape in Drink.)

I. THE ORIGIN OF TEMPTATION 13-14

A) Not from God

1. God cannot be tempted with evil (It is impossible for God to consider doing wrong. That is why the present intercessory ministry of Christ is so important. As a man he was tempted in all points like as we are tempted, yet without sin (Heb 4:15) and now he is able to show God the Father the frailty of Flesh)

2. God does not tempt any man. Trials from without are allowed by God. The inward temptation to sin is wholly of Self. God can not and will not make a man sin. That would make God a sinner!!

B) From within Self

1. A common Problem- EVERY man (See I Cor 10:13). The Sin Nature we inherited from Adam is within all of us. Every person must contend with it.

2. An enticing Problem- Bait is used to lure you. Sin never shows the naked hook! The trap allows you to see the Bait but not the Bite of Sin.

3. A varying Problem- drawn away of his own Lusts (One man's worm may be another man's Bait!!)

Look at the Temptation of Jesus and see the Variation of Temptation:

1. Tempted to accomplish a good thing in a bay way- Jesus told He would receive the world if He would Worship Satan. It's right to want to pass the exam; but it's wrong to cheat to do so.
2. Tempted to accomplish a good thing out of time- Jesus told to turn stones to bread. Sex is part of God's plan for man but only within Marriage.
3. Tempted to accomplish a doubtful goal in a doubtful way.- Jesus told to prove God by jumping from the Temple. Many people seem to think that the way to change situations ar. people is to gossip about them! (Bear in mind that Satan is the Accuser of the brethren. Rev 12:10)

DESIRE MUST BE OUR SERVANT NOT OUR MASTER

II. THE ORDER OF TEMPTATION 15

A) Tempted- Something excites our Desire (This is not Sin- you can't keep the bird from flying overhead but you can keep him from building a nest. And you can keep out of his flight path!)

B) Lust conceives- The temptation is embraced by Sinful Self and a "Baby" is conceived. The downward process has begun.

C) Sin (Disobedience)- The "Baby" of Lust (Desire) now grows strong enough to withstand God's directions in your life.

D) Death- The "Baby" is now full grown and looks for payment- The Wages of Sin is Death. These wages must be paid! Either by the shed blood of Christ or by you in Hell forever.

WHEN YOU PLAY WITH TEMPTATION YOU PLAY WITH DEATH

III. THE OVERCOMING OF TEMPTATION 16-21

A) Consider the Folly of Sin vs 16 *Prov 14:27 The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death. Look beyond the "Bait" to the trap. Is the "Pleasure" worth the Price???*

B) Consider the Faithfulness of the Father vs 17

1. He gives you the good you need- *Ps 84:1 No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. He does not keep anything from You if it's for your good.*
2. He does not change- you can trust Him- Rest in the Rock. Cometh down means keeps on coming down. The good you need keeps on coming regardless of outward circumstances.

C) Consider the Responsibility of being a Firstfruit 18-21
Firstfruits are the best "samples" of the Harvest. We are examples to the rest of the universe of what God's Grace can produce and of the benefits of righteous living.

1. Born Again by God's Grace through God's Spirit (By means of the Word of God). The indwelling Holy Spirit then gives us the power we need to withstand sin.
2. Patient- So you won't take things into your own hands. *Rom 12:21 Be not overcome of Evil, but overcome evil with good*
3. Put away the World
Receive the Word- *Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee. Ps 119:165 Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them.*

IF YOU'VE SINNED- *If we confess our sin he is faithful and just to forgive our sin and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*

IF YOU WANT VICTORY- *James 4:7-8 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

TRUE RELIGION James 1:21-17 2:1-26

"Our Relationship to the Word" James 1:21-25

Having listed the benefits of Trials and the source of Temptation James now goes on to describe True Religion. His main emphasis is that True Religion is Practical in its Relationship to the Word (1:21-25), to the World (1:26- 2:9), and to Works (2:10-26). Today let's look at our Relationship to the Word.

I. OUR FIRST OBLIGATION IS TO RECEIVE THE WORD vs 21

A) How are we to Receive it?

1. Lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness- Put away anything that is unclean or even that appears to be evil. There must be a turning from the World if there is to be a turning to the Word.
2. Receive it with meekness- Accept the Word of God with Humility: to be obeyed, not to be debated or argued with.

B) Why are we to receive it? To Save your Soul

1. The Engrafted Word- The Word takes root and becomes part of our life. *Rom 10:17 Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*
2. The Enlightening Word:
 - a. For Salvation 1:21
 - b. As a Mirror 1:23
 - c. As a Guide for Christian Living 1:25
 - d. As a basis of Judgment 2:12

As we are exposed to the Word of God it should cause us to turn from Sin to the Saviour and this Faith in Jesus Christ will produce Salvation.

II. OUR SECOND OBLIGATION IS TO PRACTICE THE WORD vs 22-25

Our obligation does not end at simply receiving the Word.

A new life has begun and now it must be lived.

A) Not just Hearers- 4 kinds of hearers in Mk 4:14-20

1. No understanding- Having ears to hear they hear not
2. No Root- Emotion but no devotion. Troubles cause to wilt
3. Crowded out- "*Becometh unfruitful*". Cares replace conviction, Riches replace Righteousness, and Lust replaces Love.
4. Produce Fruit- Their heart is in it.

B) Not just Lookers- The Word is a Mirror:

1. For Examination- To see ourselves as we are
2. For Restoration- *Jn 15:3 Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you.* Having seen the dirt we find how to get clean thru the Word.
3. For Transformation- *II Cor 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.* What purpose is there in seeing the fault if you're not going to correct it???

C) A Doer of the Work-

1. A Continuing Process- "*Continueth therein*"
2. A Learning Process- "*Not a forgetful Hearer*"
3. A Fruitful Process- "*Blessed in his deeds*"

ARE YOU A HEARER OF THE WORD AND A DOER OF THE WORD??

If not, then what you have is worthless!!!

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

TRUE RELIGION James 1:21-27 2:1-26

"Our Relationship to the World" James 1:21- 2:9

There are multitudes of Religions in the World today (Everyone has some type of Religion). Some are false: Cults, Homosexual "Churches", Idol worship, Moslems, etc. And some are True: In these we see Hell bound sinners born again by Faith in Jesus Christ, we see Drunkards become good dads, drug users become good children, adulteresses become good moms, and lifes transformed by the power of God.

But sometimes it is difficult to distinguish the Good from the Bad. How can we tell which Religion is right and which is wrong?

I. 3 MARKS OF A FALSE RELIGION vs 26

1. False Religion is Hypocritical- "seems to be religious"

A) A Hypocrite is an Actor. He wears a "mask" and appears to be what he's not (Do you have a "Church Mask" that you wear when you want to appear religious? Jesus said the Pharisees looked fine on the outside but within they were full of dead men's bones Matt 23:27). Are you religious to impress the World, or do you truly worship God???

B) The Testing Point is the Tongue- "Bridleth not his tongue" Remember that *out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh* (Matt 12:34) and *by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned* (Matt 12:37).

Does it Confess Christ? *With the heart man believes and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Is it Clean? *He that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile* I Pet 3:10

Does it cause Confusion? *Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people.* Lev 19:16

Will your Religion stand the Test of The Tongue???

2. False Religion is Self Deceiving- "deceiveth his own heart"

How sad to trick your own heart into believing you're safe when you're not- like the ostrich that hides his head in the sand and thinks it's safe!

A) You're deceived if you hear the Word but don't do it vs 22 If you think that Christianity means simply coming to Church then you're deceived about what it's all about. Yet most people seem to think they have accomplished God's will for their life if they sit thru a couple of sermons a week!

B) If a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. Gal 6:3 Many people measure their Righteousness against other men instead of against the Word of God. Jesus told of some who *trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others* (Luke 18:9) but he condemned them because they didn't measure up to God's standards.

Are you deceived about your relationship with God because you look at man's standards instead of Gods'??

3. False Religion is Worthless- "This man's religion is vain"

A) It doesn't bring Peace- That's why he has tongue Trouble. Christianity brings Peace with God and with Self.

B) It's an empty Promise- There is no change of heart, and, like the man who built his house on the sand, it will not stand the storms of life. What a sad thing to hear Jesus say *I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.* Matt 7:23

II. 3 MARKS OF TRUE RELIGION 1:27-2:9

1. A Compassionate Heart- "Visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction"

True Religion causes us to go from Selfish Absorption to Caring Concern. (Compare this to many "Religions" whose main emphasis is to get you to look within and "find yourself")

A) Manifest in Problems- "Visit in their affliction" When Christianity comes to a community Caring, Compassion, and Concern follow. *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another* I Jn 13:35

B) Magnified in Prejudice- "Have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ ... with respect of persons"

The Pharisees rejected Christ because he was from the wrong town, had not gone to school, associated with the wrong crowd, and didn't observe the same traditions as they did.

The Royal Law is that you love your neighbor as yourself and if you have respect of persons you commit sin. *If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen.* I Jn 4:20

2. A Clean Life- "Keeps himself unspotted from the World"

How can a religion affect a man's life without affecting the way he lives??? Who wants clean water from a dirty glass? This means staying away from the dirt and washing when you get dirty.

3. Based on the Word of God- vs 21

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

The Guidelines for Living are in the Bible- they are not based on Public Opinion or Private Preference.

This means that True Religion uses the Word of God for it's Foundation, it's Guidelines, and it's hope for the Future.

CAN YOU DIE WITH THE RELIGION YOU HAVE???

DO YOU LIVE THE RELIGION YOU HAVE???

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SHILOH

June 14, 1984 Vol II Num 17

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

FATHER'S DAY

This Sunday we will honor all our Fathers with a special program between Bible Study Hour and the Worship Service. (Bible Study Hour will be shortened a little.) The program will include special music, presentations, and some surprises. We also look forward to the All Women's Choir during the Worship Service. Be sure to be here this Sunday beginning at 10 a.m.

SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Church will hold a special business meeting this coming Sunday (June 17) during the Evening Service to decide on putting central heat and air in the parsonage.

SPECIAL SPEAKERS

Brother Lamar Holmes will be speaking Sunday night during the Evening Service. Brother David Johnson will be speaking on Wednesday night (June 20). Remember these in your prayers and support them with your attendance. (The Pastor and several others will be in Primary/Junior Youth Camp during this time. Pray for a good week of camp.)

ADDRESSES

Thanks to help from my wonderful wife, Mrs. Teresa Brown, and some of my Juniors we now have completely changed over to our new mailing system. Would you please check your address and let us know if it needs any correction. We also invite you to submit any more addresses that would like to receive our newsletter.

RAIN

We are going to have to get a better system of getting rain around here. Everytime it gets really dry and I go to South Carolina for something it rains here. But that 1400 mile trip is beginning to wear on me. I think I'm going to ask all the farmers to chip in and buy me a big nice car to make the trip in the next time it gets dry!! (My wife and I left on Monday morning and took part in the funeral services for Mr. Wilford Ard on Tuesday and returned on Wednesday. When the men were kidding me Sunday night about sending me to South Carolina for rain we had no idea that I would have to leave Monday morning. Situations can change so quick'y.)

DO YOU HAVE CORPSE RELIGION??? *Faith without works is dead, being alone.*
Rev. 3:1 *I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.*

A Dead religion never gives life. Read the article on the back and check up on your Relationship to Works.

James has been dealing with various aspects of True Religion. He has told us that the Word of God must be used for our Foundation but he also told us that we had to DO the Word as well as Hear it. Then He showed us how we could be deceived unless our LIVES bore out what our LIPS said. He concludes this theme by showing that a right relationship to the Law and Faith requires proper works.

I. THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW 10-13

A) The Law Requires Perfection

1. One Sin makes us guilty of all
2. The Law does not differentiate between sins
3. The Law will be the basis of Judgment
4. The Judgment of the Law does not show any mercy, yet Mercy can overcome Judgment.

B) James is trying to show that to have respect of persons is to commit sin (vs 9) and that as far as the Law is concerned the sin of respect of persons requires judgment just as much as adultery or murder does. (Remember that John said, "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer:" I Jh 3:15). He wanted them to see that their claim of righteousness by the keeping of the Law would not hold up to close examination. When a man resorts back to the Law for Justification he also finds Condemnation (See Gal 5:4.). For the Law requires that all of our works be perfect and any fault condemns the whole. This makes the works of the Law beyond our reach.

II. THE REQUIREMENTS OF TRUE FAITH 14-26

A) A man is saved by Faith apart from works. Christ paid the price for our sins and there is nothing we can do to earn Salvation. It is ours as a free gift of Grace by Faith.

B) But this Faith will produce works - or it is not real Faith. 3 times James says that Faith without works is dead, being alone (2:17, 2:20, 2:26) and each time is preceded by a way to demonstrate that Faith.

1. We demonstrate Faith in our care of others. 14-17 Too many people are like the Priest and the Levite in the parable of the Good Samaritan. They could DEFEND their Faith, yet they did not DEMONSTRATE it. (Luke 10:25-37).

2. We demonstrate Faith by Godly Living 18-20 Even the devils believe IN God but they don't obey Him. They talk the talk without walking the walk.

3. We demonstrate Faith by our confidence in God's Word 21-26

A) The Example of Abraham (A Jew)- Willing to offer his son because God said so

B) The Example of Rahab (A Gentile)- Willing to hide the messengers because she trusted God's Word.

"Faith is not some kind of mysterious feeling we work up; Faith is confidence that God's Word is true, and conviction that acting upon that word will bring God's Blessings" (Warren Wiersbe).

A Faith that works is Profitable (vs 16, Visible (vs 18), Made Perfect (vs 22), and the Saving Kind (vs 14, 24).

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June 27, 1984 Vol II Num 18

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

OPPORTUNITIES TO WITNESS

When my wife and I were returning from Youth Camp last Friday the Air Conditioner on our car tore up. We hated it but it could not have happened at a better time because we were already hot and sweaty from a week of camp and one more half day wasn't so bad (What if it would have happened when we had on our best clothes going to visit some one?). I left home at 6am Monday so I could be in Pensacola at 7am when the shop opened and was planning to do my daily Bible reading and some studying while I waited. Almost as soon as I sat down and began to read a lady came in and saw me reading the Bible and asked if I was a Christian. That led to an opportunity to share with her a clear presentation of the Gospel and answer some questions that were troubling her about the Charismatics. Someone came for her and almost as soon as she left another lady came in and asked the same question and I was able to help her also.

With all the interruptions I had just finished my Bible reading and had started to work on a message when the cashier called and said my car was ready. When I went to sign the papers she said that all of the secretaries in the office had been listening to me witness to those 2 ladies. I hadn't thought of them but the Lord gave me a large "congregation" Monday Morning. Just goes to show that you should always take your chance to witness because you may be doing more than you think.

CENTRAL HEAT AND AIR

The Church voted to put central heat and air in the Parsonage and it is in the process of being done right now. I really appreciate it and it will really be helpful with all of the guest we're expecting in the next 6 weeks.

HIGH PRICED KIDS

The Teen Auction Sunday Night was a big success raising over \$400 for the Teens trip. Everyone joined right in and the Teens have a busy couple of weeks to fulfil their "contracts".

If you didn't get to hire one of the Teens and you'd like to then contact Joey McCall and see if it can be arranged. The tentative plans call for the trip to be taken Aug. 13 and 14.

TAPE DUPLICATOR FUND

Brother Lamar Holmes began the Tape Duplicator Fund and we're now awaiting God's time for the funds to come in so that we can purchase the machine. I'm looking forward to expanding this part of our ministry.

REVIVAL

I will be in Revival at Pleasant Hill FWB Church near Bonifay beginning next Monday (July 2). Their Evangelist took sick and I was called in as a substitute but I'm expecting God to give us a great week and a good harvest. Rev Keith Cole is the Pastor and we invite all of our friends in that area to visit during these services.

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FOURTH OF JULY FAMILY DAY. We will have a special day of Family activities on Wednesday, July 4 here at the Church (Sack races, volley ball, watermelon eating, etc). It will begin at 2:00pm and last until around 6:00pm. Each family is asked to bring a cut up chicken and a covered dish for supper. The Ladies Prayer Group is sponsering this and they invite everyone. (I plan to drive back from Bonifay so that I can be here for the beginning of the activities and lead in a short service so be here on time.).

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL/ YOUTH RALLY. Instead of regular Vacation Bible School this year we will have a 3 night Youth Rally with Rev. Cliff Holland. It will begin Monday, July 23 and go thru Wednesday, July 25 from 6:00pm until 8:00pm each night. We will have 2 service times each night with a craft/refreshment time sandwiched in between. The final service time on Wednesday Night will be the Commencement Service and will be geared for Adults as well as Kids.

Each night the kids will earn "Big Bucks" by being here, bringing their Bibles, bringing a Visitor, etc and on Wednesday night after the commencement service they will be able to spend their bucks in a "General Store" we will set up.

Brother Cliff pastors the First Free Will Baptist Church of Chipley and is an excellent worker with Children and we're looking forward to having him for these services.

We're going to need help with classes for the below 6 year olds, with Craft, and with refreshments. If you will help in either of these areas then contact Judi McElhaney or Iris Ziglar.

So much is going on in the next 6 weeks until I'd better list it.

July 2-8 Pastor in Revival at Pleasant Hill FWB Church, Bonifay

July 4 Family Activities at the Church 2:00pm - 6:00pm

July 11 Quarterly Conference/ Pastor calling

July 15- 19 National Association, Little Rock, Ark.

July 21 Living Faith Trio/ Rev Frank Breeden from FWB Bible College

July 23-25 Youth Rally/ VBS with Rev Cliff Holland

Aug 5-10 Revival with Rev Bobby Jackson

Aug 13-14 Teen Trip

Hosea 10:12 Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

SHILOH SENTINEL

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July 16, 1984 Vol II Num 19

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Since many of you are receiving this newsletter for the first time I thought an explanation was in order. Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church puts out a weekly newsletter to inform and instruct people but it normally only goes to those who have expressed an interest in being on our mailing list. This particular edition is not only going to our regular addresses but also to every home in our community because it contains information that we feel will be beneficial to our entire community. If you would like to receive this newsletter on a regular basis (absolutely free of charge, of course.) then please write or call the Church:

Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church
Rt 2 Box 238 Bratt, Fl 32535
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WHO WE ARE- We have National Roots: Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church is a member of the West Florida Association of Free Will Baptist which is a member of the Florida State Association of Free Will Baptist Which is a member of the National Association of Free Will Baptist. This means we help support Home and Foreign Missionaries, Bible College, a Children's Home, and a number of other organization that work together to do the Lord's work. We have Local Roots: We have been a part of the Bratt Community since 1898 and most of the people in our community have visited with us at one time or another. Many of our members are actively involved in Community programs and you know them as good friends and neighbors.

WHAT WE DO- The goal of Shiloh Church is to get people to KNOW Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and then to SHOW Him in their changed life. This is done thru our Bible Study Hour, our Bible Based Preaching, and our Training Services. It is also the basis of our outreach ministries such as this newsletter, gospel tapes, and various special services.

WHEN WE MEET- We have classes for all ages that meet on a regular schedule:

Bible Study Hour	10:00am
Morning Evangelistic Service	11:00am
Church Training Service	5:30pm
Evening Worship Service	6:30pm
Wed. Prayer Service	7:00pm

We also have a very active Youth Program that meets on the First Sunday night in each month and a Ladies Prayer Group that meets on the First Thursday night of each month.

We invite YOU to attend our services anytime and especially invite you to attend the up coming Special Services we're having.

JULY 23-25 (MONDAY-WEDNESDAY) 6-8PM



WELCOME ABOARD a very special and different Vacation Bible School this year. Rev. Cliff Holland of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Chipley will be our guest speaker and he's going to take us on a 3 night tour of Noah's Ark. All of the kids 5 and up will meet together for a Bible Lesson and Object lessons and a lot of activities will take place before and between these times (We'll also have regular classes for the under 5 ages so bring them also!).

Christian Home FWB Church will join us for this special time and we're looking for many of the people in our community to join us also.

Here is the way the schedule looks:

Monday-Tuesday 6:00pm-6:15pm Opening Assembly
6:15pm-6:45pm Bible Lesson
6:45pm-7:30pm Refreshments/ Practice
7:30pm-8:00pm Bible Object Lesson

Wednesday 6:00pm- 6:30pm Bible Lesson
6:30pm- 7:00pm Play Practice
7:00pm- 8:00pm Commencement Activities (All Parents are urged to be here for this)
8:00pm- Hot Dog Fellowship Supper

"General Store" opens (Each child will be given a "Big Buck" for each night they attend, for each night they bring their Bible, and 3 for each visitor they bring (A visitor is someone who is not a member of our Sunday School). They will be allowed to spend these big bucks in the "General Store" Wednesday Night (We're doing this instead of craft this year.).

WE'RE LOOKING FOR OUR BEST BIBLE SCHOOL EVER AND HOPE YOU CAN BE HERE WITH US.



We will have a WORK DAY Saturday from 8:00am until 11:00am to clean up and fix up for all of the up coming events and all of the members are urged to come out and lend a hand.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR PEACE, SATISFACTION, AND THE WAY TO FILL AN EMPTY ACHING HEART? LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO JESUS- HE'S THE ANSWER.

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BOXHOLDER

BEING A CHRISTIAN Acts 26:28, 11:26, I Pet 4:16

The most important decision you'll ever make is your decision about your relationship to Jesus Christ. This is what we mean when we ask people to be Born Again- we ask them to accept by Faith Jesus Christ as Saviour and become a Christian. But many people have misunderstood what it means to be a Christian (Example of mountain climber who fell to his death because he thought a bunch of spider webs was a rock) and they will go to Hell when they die because they're holding to the wrong things.

There are only 3 times in the Bible that the word Christian is used and they tell us what it means to be a Christian.

I. THE PERSUASION INVOLVED Acts 26:28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

Agrippa believed the Bible (vs 27) and knew about Christ (vs 26), but he was not willing to make the step of commitment.

There are 2 things we must be persuaded about if we're to become a Christian:

1. Persuaded about our Sinfulness- We must be persuaded that all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God (Rom 3:23) and that there is none righteous, no, not one (Rom 3:10). We must face the fact of our sin (Not mistakes, nor human frailties; but rebellion against a Holy God and his plans for our life.) Too many people are like the Beauty contest for women over 40- anyone pretty enough to enter was unwilling to admit she was over 40!! Do you know YOU are a sinner and that that sin separates you from God???

2. Persuaded about the Saviour- Jesus Christ

A) Faith in His shed Blood as the only way to Heaven (Ep 2:8-9) If you trust in works it's like trusting in a steel chain of 1000 links; all of steel except one that is of paper!!

B) Faith in His ability to save- We must be persuaded He CAN save us and He WILL save us. When we stand before God in Christ we must believe that He will stand in our shoes and we will stand in His- II Cor 5:4 He hath made him to be sin for us who knew no sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Don't be Almost Persuaded- But Lost!!

II. THE PRACTICE NEEDED Acts 11:26 And when he (Barnabas) had found him (Paul), he brought him into Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the Church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

Christianity is not just Believing the Gospel, It is Behaving the Gospel.

A) We Practice His Person- Christ lives in us thru the Holy Spirit. God does not rework the old man, He makes us new creatures in Christ. It is no longer my life to live but the Christ life. We Joy in doing the Father's will as He did. We sorrow over Sin as He did.

B) We Practice His Pattern- The World takes knowledge that we have been with Christ because it sees Christ in our lives. We deny ourselves, take up our Cross, and follow God's Plan for our lives. The world learns of Christ as they see His light shine thru us.

C) We Practice His Purpose- Jn 17:18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the World. WHAT IS HIS PURPOSE?? I Tim 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. A Christian not interested in soul winning better check his salvation!!

III. THE PERSECUTION THAT COMES I Peter 4:16 *Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; let him glorify God on this behalf.*

It has been truly said that God had 1 Son without Sin but no Sons without suffering. Phil 1:29 *It is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;*

There are 3 types of Suffering:

1. Natural Suffering: Result of being a person (Aches, Hunger, etc.)
2. "Earned" Suffering (See I Pet 4:15)- Result of Sin. (Example of boy who complained about eating Peanut Butter sandwiches every day but he made them!!)
3. Christian Suffering: Result of being for Christ and against the World. If the world is your friend and never persecutes you then you are the enemy of God (James 4:4) (Example of "Christian" logger who lived in woods for a year without persecution because he didn't tell anyone he was a Christian!!)

Peter gives us 3 helps in Persecution in verses 12-14

1. The Purpose of Persecution- "Trial which is to try you" To see if you will serve God in spite of circumstances.
2. The Partnership in Persecution- "Partakers of Christ's sufferings" It allows us to know the Fellowship of His Suffering (Phil 3:10) which brings us into His heart.
3. The Power to withstand Persecution- "The Spirit of Glory and of God rests on you" We can overcome because greater is he that is within us than he that is in the World (I Jn 4:4).

I Pet 4:17-18 The time is come that judgment must begin... And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

ARE YOU PERSUADED ABOUT YOUR SIN AND THE SAVIOUR???

ARE YOU PRACTICING THE CHRIST LIFE???

ARE YOU SUFFERING PERSECUTION BECAUSE YOU HAVE ACCEPTED CHRIST AND REJECTED THE WORLD???

ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN???

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SENTINEL

July 29, 1984

Vol II Num 20

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REPORT-

We had a very good Bible School and I praise the Lord for what was accomplished. Our average attendance during the week was 116 and we had around 225 for the commencement service Wednesday night. Many of the kids in our community visited with us during the week and many of their parents were with us for the commencement service and we were thrilled to get to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them. We love our community and know that the greatest need of each of them is to know and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. That makes us especially thankful of the Salvation decision that was made.

Our offering for the week was \$109.24 and it was designated for the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Eldridge, Al.

A Special Word of Thanks to Brother Cliff Holland for all of his work in preparing and presenting our lessons. God has given him special talents and we're thankful we got to share them. Also thanks to the fine folks of Christian Home FWB Church for their participation and help during the week. And last, but by no means least, a special thanks to all of the Shiloh people who worked long and hard during the week to take care of all of the "details" that are such a vital part of any work. I'd like to be able to name them all but that would take several pages so I'll just say that I appreciate them and know that it's this kind of cooperation that will allow our church to do a great work for God.

REVIVAL NEWS

Revival Services are almost upon us (They begin Sunday, Aug. 5). I'll give more details next week but I hope you'll spend next week in prayer and in witnessing and inviting people to attend the services. People need Jesus as their Saviour more than anything in the world and this is an opportunity for us to share Him with them.

In preparation for this we will hold 2 Cottage Prayer Meetings next week: Monday, July 30 7 pm at Clark Ziglar's home. I want to especially urge all of the men to attend this service. Thursday, Aug. 2 at 7 pm at Mrs. Vivian May's home. This is the time for the regular monthly Ladies Prayer Group meeting and I want all of the ladies to attend this special service.

CHURCH MEETING

We will have a special Church Meeting Wednesday, Aug. 1 after Prayer Meeting to elect a new treasurer for the Church. The Deacons will recommend Mrs. Gleda McElhaney as Treasurer and Roy Ward as assistant.

ETERNAL SECURITY

This coming Sunday morning I plan to speak on "Can A Saved Man Be Lost?" and I invite everyone to attend this important service. If sinless Adam fell, if angels fell, if God's chosen nation of Israel fell, if one of the longest books in the New Testament (Hebrews) was written to encourage men not to reject Faith in Christ and return to sacrifices, if most of the books of the New Testament were written to warn people about doctrines that could lead them away from God, and if Paul told the Church at Corinth "let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." (I Cor 10:12) then it is necessary for us to know the truth about this issue.

In short, the Free Will Baptist position (and the right position), is that you are saved by Faith (Ep 2:8-9) and you must live by Faith (Heb 10:38). There is no work that can save you and there is no work that can "lose" you BUT you can renounce Faith in Christ, become an apostate, and be lost forever (I Tim 1:19-20). This bases Salvation and Security on God's power and not the person's power but it also allows us to serve God in Love and Free Will instead of like a robot.

Many people allow the doctrine of Eternal Security to mislead them into thinking that because they have at one time made a profession of Faith that now they can live like they please and still claim to be right with God. "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone" (James 2:17) and a doctrine that allows you to think that Lukewarm Christianity is right instead of making God sick (Rev 3:16) is a dangerous doctrine.

Let me just add this note in closing, although I do not have Eternal Security, I do have Eternal Assurance! I rest in God's power and love and not my own ability and I know that God will never forsake me and I will never forsake Him. I don't fear losing my salvation but the fact that I know that Satan is trying to undermine my Faith in God continually gives me a greater desire to serve God and remain Faithful to Him.

Come be with us this Sunday and hear this important message about a very vital issue.

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RT 2 BOX 238 BRATT, FL.
PASTOR MIRCHEAL JONES 369-6460

NEWSLETTER

Vol II Num 21 August 1, 1984 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

YOU ARE INVITED TO REVIVAL AT SHILOH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH BEGINNING THIS SUNDAY (AUG. 5) AND GOING THROUGH FRIDAY NIGHT (AUG. 10). SERVICES WILL BEGIN AT 11:00AM AND 6:30PM ON SUNDAY AND AT 7:00PM ON MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY NIGHT.

THE EVANGELIST FOR THESE SERVICES WILL BE REV. BOBBY JACKSON. HE BECAME AN EVANGELIST AT THE AGE OF 20 AND DURING THE PAST 32 YEARS HE HAS CONDUCTED OVER 1100 REVIVALS IN 30 STATES AND CANADA. HE HAS AUTHORED SEVERAL BOOKS AND RECORDED A NUMBER OF RECORDS AND HE HAS SERVED AS MODERATOR OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST FOR THE PAST 8 YEARS. HE'S A REAL MAN OF GOD THAT WILL USE THE WORD OF GOD TO SPEAK TO YOUR HEART ABOUT GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE.

WE HAVE A NUMBER OF EXCELLENT SINGING GROUPS TO HELP BROTHER JACKSON WITH THE SPECIAL MUSIC:

SUNDAY (PM) - JUNIOR CHOIR
MONDAY - SHILOH TRIO
TUESDAY - MRS. CAROLYN MASON
WEDNESDAY - CHRISTIAN HOME FWB CHURCH CHOIR
THURSDAY - BOLTON/BROWN TRIO
FRIDAY - CHRISTIAN HOME TRIO

WE WILL ALSO HAVE A NURSERY PROVIDED EACH SERVICE AND A LOT OF FRIENDLY SHILOH PEOPLE TO FELLOWSHIP WITH SO WE INVITE YOU TO COME TO THESE IMPORTANT SERVICES - AND BRING A FRIEND

God will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER- WE WILL HAVE A FELLOWSHIP SUPPER SUNDAY NIGHT AFTER THE REVIVAL SERVICES IN ORDER TO ALLOW EVERYONE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET BROTHER JACKSON AND HIS WIFE. COME JOIN US IN THIS TIME OF SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL FOOD.

PRAISE ITEM - A SPECIAL WORD OF PRAISE TO THE CYPRESS FORK FWB CHURCH OF MANNING, S.C. AND TO BROTHER LAMAR HOLMES FOR THEIR RECENT GIFTS TO HELP THIS NEWSLETTER MINISTRY. THERE IS HARDLY A WEEK THAT GOES BY THAT WE DON'T RECEIVE A LETTER OR PHONE CALL FROM SOMEONE TESTIFYING TO THE BENEFITS THEY RECEIVE FROM THE NOTES, TAPES, OR NEWSLETTER WE SEND OUT THRU THIS MINISTRY. I TRULY PRAISE GOD FOR HIS CONTINUED BLESSINGS. THERE ARE SOME WEEKS THAT THE FLESH IS WEAK AND THE BODY IS TIRED BUT KNOWING THAT GOD IS USING THE WORK MAKES ME GET UP AND DO WHEN NOTHING ELSE WOULD.

NOTES ON JAMES - WE HAVE FINISHED OUR STUDY OF THE BOOK OF JAMES AND THOSE NOTES SHOULD BE READY THIS WEEK. THEY DEAL WITH HOW TO HANDLE TESTINGS AND TEMPTATIONS, HOW TO IDENTIFY TRUE RELIGION, HOW TO HANDLE THE TONGUE, HEALING IN ANSWER TO PRAYER, VICTORIOUS PRAYING, ETERNAL SECURITY: CAN A SAVED MAN BE LOST?, ETC. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR FREE COPY OF THESE NOTES THEN CONTACT US AND WE'LL BE GLAD TO SEND THEM TO YOU.

(The tape of the message on "Eternal Security" is available. If you would like a copy then let me know and I'll try to borrow a tape copy machine and make the necessary copies.)

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I have talked to several people lately where the Lord blessed the person to be saved in the latter years of their life and the common cry has been, "Why didn't I trust the Lord sooner?". They now realize that they have wasted so much by living for the devil. They thought that getting saved would bind them and instead they found Christ set them free and gave them abundant life. They see their family and friends going down the same path to Hell that they were traveling and their heart is broken. They now understand that sin not only took the joy from their life but it caused them to lead others away from God and the joy that is found in Him. How sad that their theme song is "wasted years"!!

There is no reason for this to happen. The Gospel is plain: Salvation is available to whosoever will come. If you're wasting your life and heading to Hell then I urge you today to turn from sin and trust Christ as Saviour. Let me know if you need help.

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SHILOH

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
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SENTINEL

Vol II Num 22 August 21, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PUSHING THE WRONG BUTTON

I stopped at a candy machine the other day to get a bar of candy. When I decided on what I wanted I pushed the button and the wrong candy bar fell! I hadn't looked closely enough and I pushed the wrong button and got a candy bar I didn't want.

Sad to say, that same type thing happens to many people in their life. They don't search the scriptures correctly so they end up applying the wrong portion of Scripture to a situation and then blame God and the Bible when things don't work out. Instead of reading the Bible through as it is written and as God planned people take part of a verse here and part of a verse there and try to make them say what they want them to say. No wonder Christians live such unproductive lives.

That's the main reason I do so many Book studies here at Shiloh. When you study and preach thru a Book verse by verse and chapter by chapter you cover every subject (including those you don't want to!) and you find out why a promise is given and what conditions go with it. That's also the reason I try to print notes on these books- so other people can and will study for themselves what God has spoken. It's a ministry that I believe God has called me too and I plan to do it as long and as well as I can.

That is also the reason all of our material is now and will always be absolutely free. I want no one to be hindered from help because of a lack of finances. When God does lay upon someones heart to give something to this ministry then 100% of it is used for that purpose. (Either booklet covers, tapes, postage, envelopes, etc.). I never ask people for funds, I simply share with you our Praise to God AFTER He supplies them.

I hope you won't go thru life "pushing the wrong button" and being disappointed with what you receive. The Bible is profitable but not if you ignore large parts of it. Make use of the material we have available to you and "study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of God".

MEALS FOR THE MINISTER

My wife is staying a couple of weeks with her mother as she recovers from a heart attack and the ladies of the Church thought I would waste away to nothing so different ladies are preparing a meal for me each day. I really appreciate their concern and help. (My wife is really appreciative also. She thought I would live off of Hot Dogs and treet sandwiches!).

THANKS FOR GIFTS

A very special thanks to the A.T. Dodges of Bratt and Mrs. Billie Ard of Lake City, S.C. for their gift to this ministry. They came at a very critical time as I have just purchased a dual cassette recorder to put out better quality tapes and I'm also sending out numerous copies of the James Notes.

Special Thanks also to Brother Floyd Coleman for his gift of 150 booklet covers! The Lord always supplies just what we need when we need it. (This means we have plenty of copies of James notes available as well as the tapes of the James study. I also have tapes of sermons on almost any subject that I can now copy with the new cassette recorder. The help is available if you'll just use it.)

REVIVAL RESULTS

The Lord blessed us with a very good Revival. Brother Bobby Jackson delivered great messages and God really used them to speak to the people's hearts. We rejoice in the Salvation decision and in the rededications and look forward to continued Revival. If we can get out of the Summer doldrums and follow up on our new prospects we can begin to grow again. Let's really work hard while the Revival flames still burns in our heart.

TEEN TRIP

The Teen trip to Six Flags was exciting (wet but exciting). The Teens were a credit to the Church and I really appreciate the fine group of young people we have here at the Church.

The Adults are another story though!! They misled the preacher into getting into a part of the boat where he'd get drowned, they gave him the wrong name of the hotel where we were to stay, and they can't tell South from East. But other than that they behaved almost as well as the Teens.

It's good to have people that can have good Christian fun together. That's one of the benefits of being part of a Church that people never seem to talk about.

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JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

THE TRYING OF YOUR FAITH James 1:1-4

James is writing to Jewish Christians who had suffered severe persecution because of their stand for Jesus. Many had been disowned by their family, had lost their job, and had been forced to move. As a result of this severe persecution some of the people were questioning why God would allow this and some were even being tempted to turn away from God.

James begins by telling that this trying of their faith is actually a blessing instead of a burden. He knew that we are saved by Faith and that the just shall live by Faith. Anything this important needs to be put to the test to prove it is genuine. (How sad it would be to spend your life walking toward something and then find it was a mirage when you arrived!) James tells us the results of such a trial and what our response to such a trial should be.

I. THE REASONS FOR TRIALS

Note the difference between Trial (1-12) and Temptation (13-14). The first comes from without, the second from within. God sends trials to bring out the Best in us, Satan sends temptations to bring out the Worst in us. Trials are allowed by God to test our Faith, strengthen us, and make us eligible for rewards. Temptations are due to man's own sinful nature and are controlled by man's will.

1. To Test Our Faith- It assures us and God that our Faith is genuine. Sometimes people's Faith is in favorable circumstances or in their Faith instead of in God and when conditions change or self doubt comes the person falls by the wayside (See Mk 4:16-17).

Some Bible examples of Faith on Trial:

-These passed the Test

- a. Abraham was called upon to sacrifice his son of promise and he did so believing that God could raise him from the dead if necessary (Heb 11:17-19)
- b. Moses by faith forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.
- c. Job when he lost his fortune and his family said, "The Lord gave and the Lord takes away, blessed by the name of the Lord". When he also lost his health he said: "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him."

-These failed the Test

- a. The children of Israel failed because they looked at the circumstances instead of relying on the Promises of God.
- b. Lot followed a man of Faith but didn't exercise his own and lost his family and fortune.
- c. Jonah wasted his trial and acted like a spoiled child because he didn't like what God was doing.

2. To Strengthen Us. Problems can build us (the example of the widow problems that resulted in election of Deacons in Acts 6) or destroy us (the example of numerous church splits over unimportant items).

- a. Testing gives knowledge and experience-knowing this
- b. Testing produces and results in patience (endurance)-worketh patience
- c. Testing leads to full maturity of Christian Character-may be perfect and entire, wanting (lacking) nothing.

Trials strengthen us because they drive us to greater dependence on God. There are 2 important truths about God you should remember in trials:

-God's Sovereignty. A definition by Peg Rankin is as good as any: God can do anything He wants to do, anytime He wants to do it, anyway He wants to do it, and for any purpose He wants to accomplish. God is God; He is answerable to no man. If God is not sovereign then He is not God.

2 areas of Trial that we need to recognize the Sovereignty of God in are

(1) The Powers that be. They are ordained of God (Rom 13:1) and like Nebuchadnezzar people need to learn "that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will, and setteth up over it the basest of men" (Dan 4:17).

(2) The Problems of the World. Amos 4 says that God sent Disease, Death; Drought, and Destruction on Israel to drive them back to Him. The book of Habbakuk is about a man who learned to trust God even when his world was collapsing. Ep 1:11 *God worketh all things after the counsel of His own will that we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted Christ.*

-God's Righteousness. Shall not the judge of all the earth do right? (Gen 18:25)

(1) If God did wrong He would cease to be God and the world would collapse because "by Him all things consist" (Col 1:17)

(2) Some people seem to think God loves them less after Salvation than before. God loved them enough for Jesus to die for them but when a problem comes along they think God has forgotten them or is allowing something to happen to them that is not for their good.

3. To Reward Us *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. (vs 12)*

II. THE RESULTS OF TRIALS - Patience

Patience is not a passive acceptance of circumstances. It is a courageous perseverance in the face of suffering and difficulty. Patience teaches us to look beyond present circumstances to the future promises. (If you lack wisdom about the purpose or plan of trials then ask God- vs 5) The ultimate goal is Perfect Patience. A mature Christian who is useable in whatever way God wants.

III. THE RESPONSE TO TRIAL

Count it all Joy. Not because you're in the trials but because of the results of the trial.

-Remember some things about trials

1. They come suddenly- fall into (encounter around a corner)
2. They are varied- divers trials
3. They test our Faith- and in order to do so it must be a real test or it is no test.
4. They are to develop us as Christians.

Is your Faith on Trial? Are you failing that test? Will you bow before God and acknowledge your trust in and love for Him regardless of the circumstances?

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

"THE TONGUE" James 3:-

James has dealt with Trials, Temptations, and How to identify True Religion and now he deals with the most dangerous member of our body. It is natural that this subject should come up now because True Religion is not just Saying but Doing--yet it is manifested in what we say. Too often people seek to conform their lives to the right standards but fail to control what their lips say. James tells us how bad this is and what can be done about it.

I. THE TROUBLE WITH THE SOURCE 3:1-12

A) The Demands of the Tongue 1-2

- Responsibility brings accountability (vs 1) and this is especially shown in the instructions given by those in charge. They must be able to give orders, criticism, and praise and YET NOT OFFEND!! Remember this when you seek a position.
- The mark of a Mature Person is that they are able to control the Tongue. (*Prov 17:28 Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understand*) For if a man is able to control the tongue he is able to control the entire body. (Remember that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh (*Matt 12:34*) and if the heart is transformed the life is transformed which is shown by our control of the tongue.)

B) The Direction of the Tongue 3-4

1. The Example of the Bridle- used to make a horse go in the direction we desire.
 2. The Example of the Ship's Helm- used to control giant ships even though fierce winds try to change their course.
- We fail to realize that this one small part of the body has such an influence over the rest of the body. The Tongue gives directions that:

- a. Control us- Practical: "Stop That!", "Be Quiet!"
Personal: "I Love You", "You're Fat"
- b. Comfort us- Encouragement, Sound of your voice
- c. Condemn us- *Prov 10:19 In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.*
Prov 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue
Matt 12:37 By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

C) The Destruction caused by the Tongue 5-8

1. The Example of Fire

- a. Starts small and grows- "Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth"
- b. Destroys- "The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity" Loose lips sink ships...and lives!!
- c. Defiles (smoke)- "Defiles the whole body" Sometimes the smoke is more harmful than the fire. Gossip can ruin Reputation, Influence, and Authority
- d. Spreads- The more fuel you give it the more it burns.
Prov 26:20 Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

2. The Example of Wild Beast

- a. Need to be tamed. So you can turn destructive force into useful force. Control is the key.
- b. Like a snake the bite is dangerous because of the Poison injected. And no man can "tame" a snake so that his bite is not poison. There must be a change from within. So God must change a man's heart if he is to change his talk (Man may be able to Control his talk for a while but only God can "tame" his Tongue.)

D) The Divisiveness of the Tongue 9-12

1. As shown by Blessings and cursings from the same mouth. You Bless God and curse man made in God's image. "My brethern, these things ought not so to be"
2. As shown by the fountain's inability to bring forth sweet water and bitter. The bitter water would taint the sweet causing it to become bitter also.
3. As shown by the Fruit of the Tree
A fig tree does not bear olive berries
A grape vine does not produce figs.
The type of tree determines it's fruit. (Remember the story of the man who wondered why the small vine had big watermelons and the big Oak had little acorns until he wandered under the Oak and an acorn fell on his Head!)

DO YOU HAVE TONGUE TROUBLE???

If so you need to see:

if you've got True Religion 1:26
if you're growing in the Lord vs 2
if the control of your life is
under the right hand
if you're trying to tame your lips
or are you looking to God for a
change of heart
if the fruit is wrong then you'd
better check on what kind of tree
you are.

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

TROUBLES James 4:1-10 "What's Your Problem?"

James now brings the people face to face with why they are having problems and what can be done about them. The first step in solving a problem is admitting that you have a problem. The second step is to see the problem for what it is rather than what you want it to be. James strips away the outer layer and exposes the real problem and then he gives a workable solution to the problem.

I. THE PROBLEMS 1-6

A) Restless Heart vs 1-2 James says the people were at war with themselves and everyone else. Nothing seemed to satisfy them and they blamed everyone else because they were dissatisfied. Can't you see a crying baby here that doesn't know what he wants but he wants everyone to know he wants SOMETHING!

Restless hearts are caused by:

Lack of Love- "The heart is a lonely hunter seeking only Love"

The first problem was loneliness Gen. 3:18

Lust of the Flesh- Seeking to satisfy the flesh not realizing the flesh only wants "more". (Drugs, lust Etc)

Looking at Others- Thinking the grass on the other side MUST be greener! When you finally "catch up with the Jones" you find they're as lonely as you.

Restless hearts are manifested in:

Wars and fightings- Nations, Churches, Families

Backbiting and gossip- Seeking to bring people down to your level.

Do you have a Restless Heart?? Jesus said, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

B) Religious Hypocrisy vs 3

Many seem to think God is the great "Santa Claus" in the sky. They serve him because of what they can get out of it. (Remember the reason for trial in Chapter 1?) They think of God as a bank machine where you put in your card and the right formula and get money in return - and wonder why it works for others and not for you.

The greatest enemy you'll face is Religion; for it takes the place of Relationship and leaves you empty and lifeless instead of giving you an Abundant Life.

When's the last time God answered your prayers?? Why do you want them answered? (Bobby's Day saved for God's Glory)

C) Wrong Harmony vs 4

The World is your friend and God is your enemy! You're supposed to be the Bride of Christ but you love this world and you give it all of your time and energy. The World is supposed to persecute you but instead it pleases you. You're supposed to be marching to the beat of Heaven's drum but you're tuned to the world's beat. Like the Prodigal Son, you think you'll find happiness in the world and instead you find a Hog pen!

Do you think I'd have a happy marriage if I had to be forced to come see my wife and then spent most of the time we were together talking about another woman?? How often do you come to Church?? What do you talk about before and after Church??

D) Resisting Holy Spirit vs 5-6

Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (I Cor 6:19) and He wants to guide us into all truth (Jn 16:13) but we Quench Him (I Thess 5:19) by failing to follow his instructions and we Grieve Him (Eph 4:30) by the wrong things we do. He has to cease His ministry THRU us and go to a ministry TO us. Instead of being a Helper we're a Hinderer of the work.

Do you follow the Spirit's leadership or do you chart your own course??

II. THE CURE 7-10

James gives us a 7 fold cure for these dreadful and deadly problems. The completeness of the 7 makes us realize that the Cure is Christ. All of the following actions are based on a right Relationship to God thru Christ.

1. Submit yourself to God- He is the potter, we are the clay. You'll never find peace, joy, or meaning to life unless you are submitted to God's plan for your life.

2. Resist the Devil and he will flee from you- Don't yield to Satan's suggestions. Tell him a definite NO and make him back down. (Remember, greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world).

3. Draw Nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you- Seek God with the assurance that He will be found. Heb 11:6 *He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

4. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners- Clean up any thing in the flesh that displeases God. (Burn your books- Acts 19)

5. Purify your heart, ye double minded- Clean up the inside for that determines what the outside does. Don't try to love 2 opposite things at once. Love God with ALL your heart.

6. Be afflicted and mourn; let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to heaviness. Seriously mean business. This is no game!!

7. Humble yourself in the sight of God and He will lift you up. Serve the Lord and wait on His time. You must be under before you can ever be over.

DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM??? CHRIST IS THE CURE.

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

PATIENCE James 5:7-12

Having exposed the ruin of the rich James now tries to show the Brethern how to have patience in poverty and pain. This deals with some of the greatest problems and temptations that a Saint must live with - How to be in the world and yet not be of the world and How to live by Faith in a world that you must be the enemy of (James 4:4) and that persecutes you because of your relationship to Christ (Jn 17:14) but James shows us how to let patience guide us during the difficult times.

I. PATIENCE IS NEEDED FOR SEASONAL FRUIT vs 7

The example is given of the farmer who must plant and then wait until the time of fruit. If he tries to harvest early he will destroy the work already done and accomplish nothing. Likewise the Christian needs to learn patience in the matter of fruit:

- A) Don't become envious of those who receive a reward now - it may be the only reward they get. Look to the future - *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. Heb 11:13*
- B) Don't be discouraged if you don't get instant fruit - the farmer must have long patience as he waits on the fruit. He must continue to be instant in season and out of season (II Tim 4:2). (Don't become impatient for fruit like Abraham did with Ishmael). If you abide in Christ the fruit will come - *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. Jn 15:5*

II. PATIENCE IS NEEDED FOR STABILITY vs 8

The fact that the Lord will return soon should cause us to stablish our heart as we realize who is in charge. It should also bring us comfort (I Thess 4:18) and cause us to live clean (I Jn 3:2-3)

III. PATIENCE IS NEEDED FOR STRIFE AMONG BRETHERN vs 9

The Royal Law is that we love our neighbor as ourselves (Jn 2:8) and we need to be aware that the "Judge" hears the words we speak and even the thoughts we think about our brother. Don't allow a grudge to build up - it poisons your relationship with your brother and it poisons you, as well. Be patient with your brother as he grows in the Lord.

IV. PATIENCE IS NEEDED WHEN SUFFERING AFFLICTION vs 10-11

- A) Follow the example of the prophets. Look at how we honor them now.
- B) Follow the example of Job - Know that the Lord is very pitiful and of tender mercy. He loves you and although you may not understand why you are suffering, you can rest in His love.

V. PATIENCE IS NEEDED FOR STEADFASTNESS vs 12

In a world that is changing faster than we can comprehend it we need to rest in the rock, Jesus Christ, and show the world that we have what they need. If we keep changing with every wind we have nothing for the world to cling to.

A practical example of how this works - Mary, the sister of Lazarus. There are 3 times that Jesus uses Mary's patience to teach valuable lessons.

1. Luke 10:38-42 Mary had learned to wait patiently on the Lord even while her sister Martha is rushing about preparing supper. Martha was not willing to wait on the Lord's time; she felt she had to do things on her own. (No time to wait on fruit. Could not he that fed the multitude have fed this family also? But Martha was not willing to wait.) Martha was also cumbered about with much serving (She had no stability because she was trying to do things on her own instead of in God's time with God's help.) and this caused her to have strife with her sister Mary. ("Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone?") Martha chose the good (serving physical food to her guests) while missing the best (obtaining spiritual food from the Master) because she had not learned to be patient.
2. Jn 11:- See especially vs 28-29. Lazarus had taken sick and died while Jesus delayed his coming (patience when suffering). When He came Martha ran to meet Him to find out why He hadn't come. Mary patiently waited until Jesus called for her. Martha heard Jesus say he was the resurrection and the life, Mary saw Him raise Lazarus!! Patience in suffering means we know God loves us and we get into His heart and He gets into ours. It was after Jesus met with Mary that "Jesus wept".
3. Jn 12:1-8 Mary anointed Jesus' feet with ointment and wiped them with her hair. Judas rebuked her but Jesus commended her because she had anointed him for burial. Jesus had told the disciples he was going to die but they seemed not to understand. Mary was willing to steadfastly serve him even though He died - for she had set at His feet and knew that death could not hold Him.

In a busy world where everyone seems to be rushing around like Martha we need to learn the lesson of Mary's patience as we wait on God's time and God's method. The true test of faith is that it is able to wait as well as work.

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

"HEALING IN ANSWER TO PRAYER" James 5:13-16

James has tried to show the Church the need of Patience in the midst of suffering and being treated wrongly. He now shows how to reconcile this patience with sickness. Many a person has fell to doubt while their body was given over to sickness and James wants us to recognize this trial and to triumph over or in it.

I. THE CIRCUMSTANCES vs 13 It is important to realize what the problem is before we attempt to find a cure. Many people are frustrated spiritually because they're doctoring the wrong problem. (I once almost traded a car because a leak that appeared to be at the windshield would not stop no matter how much I sealed the windshield. One day I noticed a pin hole in the chassis and when I repaired that the problem was solved.)

A) Affliction- (The word means to undergo hardship, suffering). God told Israel that He had chosen them in the furnace of affliction (Is 48:10) and there are some problems and sicknesses that God allows for His Glory (Job).
Solution- Let Him Pray, (for wisdom to know God's purpose in it and to be submitted to God's will. James 1:5)

B) Joyful (Merry)- a contrast to show that affliction and sickness are not the only situations you'll face. A land without rain becomes a desert but the sunshine is needed also. Ecc 3:1,4 *To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to weep, and a time to laugh;*
Solution- Let him sing psalms See Ep 5:19 where such is a sign of the Spirit filled believer.

C) Sick- From a word meaning to become faint. The idea is that some sickness has come upon the person and they are in a weakened state as a result. (James seems to be conveying the thought that afflictions are in God's will but certain sicknesses are not. If God allows a problem in our life it is for our good and His glory or we can ask for and get relief.)
Solution- Call for the Elders, and let them pray over him.

II. THE CURE vs 14-16 The guidelines seem to limit these directions to a person who is sick as a result of sin in their life.

1. Let him call for the elders of the Church
 - a. Shows faith on the sick person's part
 - b. A private meeting- not a public performance
 - c. The Elders of the Church (Pastor- I Pet 5:11, I Tim 5:17 and possibly the Deacons. Not some busybody in the Church that goes from sick to sick telling them about their special gift and berating the sick for lack of Faith.)
- The confession that goes with the Cure seems to be the main reason the Elders are called.

2. Let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.
 - a. Joint Prayer is urged (2 or 3 gathered together in His name)
 - b. Anointing with oil:
 - (1) Oil represented the Holy Ghost who will do the healing
 - (2) Oil was used to symbolize setting a person apart for God
 - (3) Oil had a medicinal use (The Lord does not require medicine although He sometimes uses it. Is 38:21)
 - c. The authority for the Prayer was the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. (The Elders should meet and pray and seek God's will in the healing of the person before they pray over the person. God's will for some of His choicest servants had been for their sickness to bring Glory to Him (Paul in II Cor 12:9, Fanny Crosby, etc.) and God would not give Faith to expect healing when it was not in His will.
3. The Prayer of Faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.
 - a. The Prayer of Faith- This is the faith of the Elders! (See Mk 2:5). Confident in God's will for the person they approach God with certainty of results.
 - b. Shall save (restore) the sick, and the LORD shall raise him up.
 - c. If he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. If the sickness is a result of sins then the sick is to confess and repent so that he may be healed. Confessed sins are to be prayed for- not gossiped about. The cure is positive- "The Lord shall raise him up". Confession and curing go hand in hand- which may be the reason we see so little curing going on!!

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

"PRINCIPLES OF VICTORIOUS PRAYING" James 5:16b-18

James now uses the example of Elijah to show us the results when one man prays- and from Elijah we gain some Principles for Victorious Praying.

I. THE PROMISE- The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

- A) Effectual - affecting God because it's in His will
- B) Fervent - earnest, heartfelt, continued
- C) A Righteous Man - a child of God
- D) Avaieth Much - Makes tremendous power available
Can accomplish much

II. THE PASSION- Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are

Amp. Bible: Elijah was a human being with a nature such as we have (with feelings, affections, and constitution as ourselves); Promises of Prayer available to all.

III. THE PRAYER- Elijah prayed for the rain to stop and it did; he prayed for it to start and it did.

What Principles did he follow??

1. He had PURPOSE to his prayer- He prayed earnestly. He knew what he was praying for and expected to get results. (We need more people to pray like the Rich man in Hell- I need water, my brothers need salvation.)
2. His prayers brought him into CONFLICT with Satan in the person of Ahab. Prayers are not pretty words but spiritual conflict. We wrestle against Satanic Powers and He does everything to hinder the answer (Dan 10:12-13)
3. His prayers caused him to SEPARATE from the world. He first went to the brook Cherith and then to the widow of Zarephath's home. Jesus said we were to find a "prayer closet" (Matt 6:5-6) so that our prayers would not be to impress men but to communicate with God.
4. His prayers gave him the LEADERSHIP of the Spirit. God told him where to go, when to go, and what to say. If the purpose of your prayers is not to get you to know and do God's will then your prayers are vain.

Elijah got results from his prayers. He was able to bring REVIVAL to the nation by showing them a need and then showing them God's power over Satan. He was also able to bring REFRESHMENT in the form of rain. That's what a sin cursed world is looking for- Revival and Refreshment.

BRETHERN, LET US PRAY.

JAMES: FAITH ON TRIAL

THE BACKSLIDER "CAN A SAVED MAN BE LOST??" James 5:19-20

James has devoted an entire book to showing us some of the things that try our Faith- Testings, Temptations, Prejudices, Lack of works, the Tongue, Life's Problems, Riches, and Sickness. He now gives us a word of admonition about a brother who has allowed the testing of his faith to lead him astray.

NOTE- 1. James is talking to Fellow Christians- "Brethern, if any of you ..."

2. This Fellow Christian had erred (wandered) from the truth

3. The Solution was for the Fellow Christian to be "Converted".

Convert here carries the idea of turning from an evil course. It is illustrated in Jesus' desire to see Peter change his course of Fleshly Wisdom and instead look to Heavenly Wisdom. *Luke 22:32 I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not; and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethern.* He is now called a "sinner"???

4. The result of turning this man from the error of his ways would be to save a soul from death and hide a multitude of sins.

This brings us face to face with the doctrine of Eternal Security. James did not say that this man would lose his testimony; he said his soul would die. Can a saved man then be lost; and if so what would cause it to happen??

I. THE DOCTRINE

A) Explained There are 2 basic Beliefs about the Security of Believers- (1) Calvinism as set forth by John Calvin which basically states that God elects those who he wants to be saved and then saves them and will not allow them to be lost. This does away with man's Free Will and makes him only a "plaything" of God. It also does away with the need of Evangelism (If God is going to save whoever He wants then why should we put forth the effort to share the Gospel with them?) and Santification (If you cannot be lost then it does not matter what you do!). This is generally given as the "Tulip"

Doctrine: Total Depravity- Man is too sinful even to accept God

Unconditional Election- God chose men as He wanted

Limited atonement- Christ died only for elect

Irresistible Grace- Whom God calls cannot refuse

Preservation of the Saints- God will not let Elect
perish

Many Baptist have modified this so that man choses to be saved but once he is saved then he is "trapped" and can never be lost.

(2) Arminianism based on the doctrines of James Arminius which opposed the doctrine of John Calvin. Arminius taught that man must respond to God's call and that he COULD respond because the elect are those who respond (Not some preselected group) thus making the Gospel message that "whosoever will may come". Arminius agreed that God must keep the Christian or he would be overcome by Satan but this keeping was based on continual Faith in God. In other words, the Christian is not only saved by Faith (Ep 2:8-9) but he also must live by Faith (Heb 10:38). (Some groups have modified this so that it is man's Faithfulness instead of his Faith that saves him. They also say that a person can be saved and lost and saved and lost over and over which is in direct contradiction to the word of God (Heb 6:4-6).)

Summary of Free Will Baptist Doctrine: Anyone who hears the message of the Gospel and in whose heart a desire arises to respond can repent of their sin and turn in Faith to Jesus Christ as Saviour. They are at that moment born again by the Spirit and their bodies become the Temple of the Holy Spirit. As a new creature in Christ he is now able to walk in Fellowship with God and produce Fruit for God. But he can and will commit acts of sin (I Jn 1:10). This sin will hinder his fellowship and his fruits and bring the chastening hand of God. It should immediately be confessed and repented of (I Jn 1:9), so that Fellowship can be restored.

Was this man lost when he sinned? Yes and No but basically No. A man is saved by Faith without works. This means that there is no work he can do that will save him and no work that he can do that will "Lose" him. Had he died at that moment he would still have gone to Heaven based on his faith in Christ. (If this were not so then all of us would have no assurance or hope because we would always be afraid we'd be caught between the sin and the confession.) The "Yes" part comes from the fact that if that man would have willfully continued on in sin disregarding the call of God then he would be treading on dangerous grounds. Faith in Christ is a belief IN God not just ABOUT God (James 2:19-20). If a man loves sin and worldliness (James 4:4, I Jn 2:15) then we must judge his fruit (Matt 7:17-20) and proclaim him to have never been saved or else to be an apostate (Someone who has renounced Faith in Christ and who has no help or Hope).

B) Examples

A) Angels Fell Jude 6

B) Sinless Adam Fell

C) God's chosen nation of Israel Fell. They were saved from Egypt by the blood of the passover. They "did all eat the same spiritual meat and drank the same spiritual drink" (I Cor 10:3-4) but they were cast aside and not allowed to enter into the promised land because of unbelief (Heb 3:7-12). And Paul said that they were an example and a warning to us- *Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall* (I Cor 10:12)

D) The Watchman's Warning- *When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die thereby* (Ez 33:18)

E) Jesus' warning to the Church that He would blot their name out of the Book of Life. *He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.* (Rev 3:2)
(How can one overcome? *this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.* I Jn 5:4)

II. THE DUTIES

Knowing that there is a possibility of falling from grace (Gal 5:4) we want to know what to do to prevent such a tragedy.

A) Guard against anything that would lead away from faith in Christ.

1. Cults- *Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils. I Tim 4:1*

2. Worldliness- *The cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. (Mk 4:19).* Men get so involved in the world until they cease to produce fruit and that is dangerous. *Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away ... and it withereth; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. (Jn 15:2, 6)*

B) Grow in Grace and Knowledge of Christ.

Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. II Pet 3:17-18. This is why church attendance, prayer, Bible study, etc. are so important in a Christian's life. These are his source of strength and growth and as we grow in the graces of God we can rest assured that we will never fall! (See II Pet 1:5-10)

III. DEVOTION TO CHRIST IS THE ONLY SURE FOUNDATION

The Church at Ephesus was working and witnessing (Rev 2:2-3) but Jesus said that He would remove them from being a church unless they returned to first love (Rev 2:4-5).

When Peter had left the work of God to go back fishing the question Jesus used to warn him of the trouble he was in was, "Peter, do you love me more than these?" Jn 21:15

Faith in Christ is the only way to Heaven and we need to guard against anything that would steal our heart from Him. *Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Jude 21*

God will never leave nor forsake me and no one is able to pluck me out of His hand (Jn 10:28-29). There is no power that can conquer me because I rest in the power of God (Rom 8:35-39). As long as I love and serve Him then I have Eternal Assurance and can find rest and peace. Knowing it's possible to walk out of God's palm or power does not drive me FROM God but instead draws me closer TO Him in Love and Faith.

Has your love cooled? Has your Faith dimmed?? Come back to Christ before Satan blinds your eyes (II Pet 1:9) and He who is now your Saviour becomes your Judge (Heb 6:6).

S H I L O H

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238 BRATT, FL
PASTOR MIRCHEAL JONES

SENTINEL

Vol II Num 23 August 30, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

"Problems in the Vineyard"

We have been looking at the need of and the methods to produce Fruit as found in John 15 lately. The thing that is abundantly clear is that it's Fruit or Fire! And yet there are many Christians who are not producing Fruit for the Lord. What are some of the Problems that cause this fruitlessness?

THE PROBLEMS

1. Little Foxes Song of Solomon 2:15 *the little foxes spoil the vine: for our vines have tender grapes.*

An airliner almost went down because someone forgot to put rubber gaskets on the oil pumps. My wife threw away a whole glass of pepsi because a small bug got in it.

The Testimony of the adverage Christian is not hurt by Adultery, Robbery, or Murder but by Gossip, Swearing, Impatience, Cheating, etc.

2. Laziness Prov 24:30-31 *I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; and lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall was broken down.*

Lazy Christians don't maintain their Relationship- little prayer, witnessing, bible study, etc.- and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust of other things enter in and choke the word.

Lazy Christians have a poor testimony at work, at home, and at Church.

3. Laborers Jealousy Matt 20:1-6. Those who had worked all day thought they deserved more than the penny that those hired in the eleventh hour got. Many times in a Church jealousy over newcomers, and jealousy over rewards brings the work of the Church to a grinding halt.

4. Looking beyond your Responsibility Song of Solomon 1:6 *They made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept.*

Some people seem to always know what others are supposed to do while THEIR work, family, and testimony are going to ruin. Maybe it's time they took the beam out of their own eye.

5. Lack of Faithfulness Matt 21:33-44. When the Lord sent his messengers to claim His fruit the laborers decided it was for them instead of Him and they wounded and killed the messengers, including the Son! Many people today seem to think they produce fruit for self instead of the Saviour and get mad at the preacher and God when they are reminded of their responsibility.

or devils.

Sad to say, some times this happens because the Pastor does not Love his people and he just goes thru the motions instead of teaching and preaching with a burdened heart- Jer 12:10-11 Many Pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness. They have made it desolate, and being desolate it mourneth unto me; the whole land is made desolate, because no man layeth it to heart. And because their heart is not in their work they become hirelings and allow the wolf to scatter the flock. In 10:12-13 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

THE RESULTS In Isaiah 5 Isaiah is told of a vineyard that has had every opportunity to produce fruit but it has not and now it is to be torn down. Again it's Fruit or Fire. God does not look for a sign on a tree to indentify it; He looks for Fruit! He's not interested in what you say, He's interested in what you ARE. Fruit or the Fire. What's your Problem???????



CONGRATULATIONS TO ROY AND JACKIE WARD
ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR SECOND DAUGHTER,
JOCELYN RENEE.
LET'S KEEP THAT NURSERY GROWING.

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO DARRYL HALL ON HIS GRADUATION FROM AUBURN UNIVERSITY WITH A B.A. DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURE. MAYBE ONE DAY WE WILL USE HIM TO DESIGN A NEW CHURCH BUILDING FOR US!!

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL CALLED CHURCH MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5 TO VOTE ON PUTTING NEW WINDOWS IN THE PARSONAGE. HOPEFULLY, THIS WILL ALLOW US TO HEAT AND COOL THE PARSONAGE INSTEAD OF THE WORLD.

THE YEARLY MEETING OF THE WEST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD HERE AT SHILOH FRIDAY, SEPT. 7 BEGINNING AT 7:00PM. WE PLAN TO CONDUCT ALL OF OUR BUSINESS ON FRIDAY NIGHT SO WE WANT TO START ON TIME AND MOVE RIGHT ALONG. OUR ASSOCIATION IS AT THE PLACE RIGHT NOW WHERE WE CAN BEGIN TO GROW FOR THE LORD AND WE LOOK FOR A GOOD YEAR IN THE LORD.

OUR BAPTISTERY HAS BEEN DRY FOR SO LONG UNTIL IT'S BECOME DUSTY BUT, THANK GOD, IT'S TO BE USED THIS SUNDAY. EVERY MEMBER OUGHT TO WANT TO BE HERE AND REJOICE AS PEOPLE MAKE PUBLIC THEIR STAND FOR JESUS CHRIST.

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SENTINEL

Vol II Num 24 September 13, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

(Rev. Tommy Bryson, pastor of Mill Branch FWB Church of Crow Corner, S.C. shared some notes with me the other day and I thought I would share this with you. It's kind of funny but serious at the same time.)

EVOLUTION THEORY GAINS SOME SUPPORT

MAYBE THERE IS SOMETHING TO THIS IDEA OF EVOLUTION. AT LEAST, SOMETIMES SOME CHURCH MEMBERS GIVE EVIDENCE THAT THEY RESEMBLE ANIMALS- CHURCH MEMBERS ARE OFTEN AS STUBBORN AS MULES ABOUT CHURCH WORK; SLY AS A FOX IN THEIR BUSINESS DEALS; BUSY AS BEES IN SPREADING THE LATEST GOSSIP; QUIET AS A MOUSE IN SPREADING THE GOSPEL; BUT HAVE EYES LIKE A HAWK TO SEE THE MOTE IN THEIR BROTHER'S EYE. THEY ARE EAGER AS A BEAVER ABOUT A BAZAAR OR BALL GAME, BUT LAZY AS A DOG ABOUT PRAYER MEETING; MEAN AS A SNAKE WHEN THINGS DON'T GO THEIR WAY; BUT GENTLE AS A LAMB WHEN THEY NEED THE PASTOR'S AID; AND SLOW AS A SNAIL IN VISITING THE UNCHURCHED.

MANY ARE NIGHT OWLS ON SATURDAY NIGHT, BUT RED BUGS ON SUNDAY MORNING; SLIPPERY AS EELS ON SUNDAY NIGHT AND SCARCE AS HEN'S TEETH ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

DON'T LET THE WORLD SEE AN ANIMAL IN YOU. SHOW THEM CHRIST.

SONG SERVICE/FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

WE WILL HAVE A CHURCH WIDE SING THIS SUNDAY NIGHT (WHERE YOU CAN SING LIKE A BIRD) THAT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A FELLOWSHIP SUPPER (WHERE YOU CAN EAT LIKE A HORSE???). THIS WILL ALLOW EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE AND THEN ALLOW TIME TO FELLOWSHIP TOGETHER SO YOU CAN FIND OUT HOW WE SPENT THE SUMMER AND LEARN ANY AREAS OF NEED. THESE FELLOWSHIP TIMES ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH AND I HOPE EVERYONE WILL PARTICIPATE. (IF I DIDN'T THINK SO I SURELY WOULDN'T GIVE UP VALUABLE PREACHING TIME FOR IT.)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS- WE WELCOME INTO THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE CHURCH: ED CAMPBELL, CHRISTOPHER MCELHANEY, AND NATHAN ROBBINS. THEY JOINED THE CHURCH AND WERE BAPTIZED SEPT. 2 AND WE'RE GLAD TO HAVE THEM. WE HOPE THEY'RE THE BEGINNING OF A NEW HOST OF MEMBERS AS WE REACH OUT INTO OUR COMMUNITY FOR JESUS CHRIST.

APPRECIATION- I APPRECIATE, MORE THAN I CAN SAY, THE CHURCH ALLOWING ME TO BE OFF LAST WEEK SO THAT I COULD BE IN S.C. DURING MY MOTHER-IN-LAW'S HEART SURGERY. THE LORD BLESSED AND SHE CAME THRU VERY WELL (IN FACT, SHE'S ALREADY HOME!) AND, HOPEFULLY, MY WIFE WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO BRATT SOON. BECAUSE OF MY POSITION AS PASTOR THERE ARE SOME TIMES I HAVE TO CHASTEN AND CORRECT THE CHURCH LEST THEY WANDER FROM THE WAYS OF THE LORD BUT I WANT THEM TO KNOW THAT I LOVE AND APPRECIATE THEM AND AM THANKFUL GOD HAS ALLOWED ME TO MINISTER TO THEM.

THANKS ALSO TO THE DODGES AND AGERTONS FOR THEIR RECENT GIFTS TO THIS MINISTRY. THEY CAME AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME TO ALLOW ME TO PURCHASE SOME TAPES THAT WE NEEDED. (PEOPLE CONTINUE TO SHARE WITH US HOW GOD USES THE NOTES AND TAPES TO AFFECT FAMILIES AND CHANGE LIVES AND I REJOICE IN GOD'S BLESSINGS. ONE OF THESE DAYS WE'RE GOING TO GET AN ELECTRONIC STENCIL CUTTER AND CASSETTE DUPLICATOR AND DO EVEN MORE BUT RIGHT NOW I ASK YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR THIS MINISTRY THAT GOD WILL CONTINUE TO DIRECT IT.)

A SPECIAL WORD OF PRAISE ALSO FOR BROTHER FLOYD COLEMAN. HE HAS HELP DO MANY OF THE LITTLE PROJECTS AROUND THE CHURCH LATELY THAT ADD UP TO A VERY BIG WORK FOR THE LORD.

=====

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SHILOH SENTINEL

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238 BRATT, FL.
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Vol II Num 25 September 27, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

WIFE HOME

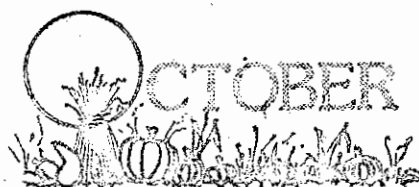
Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing,
and obtaineth favour of the Lord. (Prov.
18:22) . It is VERY good to have my
wife back home again. Her mother
continues to improve and we appreciate
each of you that prayed and
helped during her sickness. We
believe it's God's Blessings that
have allowed her to improve as
quickly as she has.

MEMBERS RECOGNIZED

We congratulate the TERRY HALL
Family on being selected as Farm
Family of the County and CECIL
McELHANEY on being recognized for
outstanding Community Service. It's
great for the Church when the
Community recognizes the contribution
that people in the Church make
to a better community.

I TIMOTHY STUDY

We are well into our study of the
book of I Timothy. It is a very
important study as it gives the
guidelines that the Church needs to
carry on the work of the Lord.
Try to be here for every service



- Wed. Oct 3- Quarterly Church
Conference
Thurs. Oct 4- Ladies Prayer Group
meets at 7:00pm at
the Church
Sat. Oct 6- Teen Fellowship
sponsored Car Wash at
the Church from 8:00am
until 1:00pm.
\$2.50 per car.
Sat. Oct 20- Teen Trip to Auburn
Sun. Oct 28- Time Change
Faith Promise
Offering for missions
Wed. Oct 31- Family Fun Night at
Church. The Teen
Fellowship will sponsor
a time of Fun &
Fellowship so our
Children will learn
the right way to have
a good time.

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I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

The Pastoral Epistles (I and II Timothy, Titus, and Philemon) were written by the Apostle Paul during the Closing years of his life to guide young men he had entrusted with the leadership of Churches along the proper path. As such they are a very important part of our understanding of how the Church is to operate and need to be studied thoroughly and often. (They were first called the Pastoral Epistles by Paul Anton in 1726).

The last years of the Apostle Paul were spent something like this:

- A) First imprisonment 60-63 AD
- B) Released from Roman Prison 63 or 64 AD
- C) Paul remained free until 67 or 68 AD during which time the following events seem to have happened:
 1. Paul sent Timothy to Philippi as he had promised (Phil 2:19-23).
 - a. Timothy probably went by Thess. to tell them of Paul's release.
 - b. Instructed to meet Paul in Ephesus
 2. Paul revisited Asia
 - a. Briefly by Ephesus and on to Colossae as Promised (Philemon 22)
 - b. Visited other Churches around Colossae
 3. Paul returned to Ephesus
 - a. Encountered heretics- expelled Hymenaeus and Alexander
 - b. Timothy rejoined Paul there
 - c. Timothy remained there to repel any further development of heretical teaching (I Tim 1:3-6)
 4. Paul goes to Macedonia
 - a. Left Timothy in Ephesus planning to return shortly
 - b. Detained in Macedonai so writes I Timothy (3:14-15)
 5. Paul later returns to Ephesus and then on to Crete
 - a. Titus was ministering in Crete
 - b. Paul couldn't stay long so he left Titus there
 6. Paul then goes to Corinth (Some think Titus written here)
 7. Paul then goes to Spain for two years (64-66AD)
 8. Paul leaves Spain and returns East
 - a. Some think Titus was written while Paul returned
 - b. Seemed to have visited Troas (II Tim 4:13), Miletus and Corinth (II Tim 4:20).
 9. Final Imprisonment
 - a. Fact that Paul left books and parchment in Troas could indicate that he was arrested there.
 - b. Christianity was now officially branded as an illegal religion
 - c. After Paul's arrest he was taken to Rome
 - d. While awaiting death there Paul wrote II Timothy (II Tim 4:6-8; 16-17)

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

INTRODUCTION:

I. THE PERSON OF THE EPISTLE- TIMOTHY

A) His Ancestry

1. Native or resident of Lystra (Acts 16:1-3)
2. His father was a Greek (Acts 16:2) and his mother was a Jew name Eunice (II Tim 1:5)
3. His name means "honoring God" or "Honored by God"

B) His Character

1. Somewhat timid (I Cor 6:10-11) perhaps due to his youth (I Tim 4:12)
2. Health possibly bad (I Tim 5:23) (Pastor Problem-ulcers!)

C) His Work

1. Converted by Paul on first missionary journey (Acts 16:1)
2. Joined Paul on second journey (Acts 16:3)
3. Close to Paul- called son in the faith (I Tim 1:2) and associated with Paul in more salutations than anyone else.

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE EPISTLE

A) To help Timothy refute false teachers (1:3)

B) To give Timothy guidelines to direct the church properly (3:14-16)

C) To allow Paul to pass the "Charge" of Bible teaching to Timothy (1:18, 6:20-21). (This gave Timothy authority and helped overcome his natural timidity). (One of the greatest sadnesses of this age is that many older Pastors hinder young Pastors instead of help them because of jealousy.)

Correct Bible teaching involves 3 areas. They may not be emphasized equally all the time but correct Bible teaching must involve each of these areas and all of these areas.

1. A Religious Worship of God (Alone, one becomes a Spiritualist-so heavenly minded until you're no earthly good.)
2. A Body of Truth (Principles) (Alone, one becomes a Student-ever learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth)
3. A Way of Life (Practice) (Alone, one becomes a Strict Legalist- laws without love)

III. THE PLAN OF THE EPISTLE

A) Guidelines in Patterns 1

Intro. 1:1-2

- a. Who wrote the letter- Paul, a man with a divine call and mission
- b. Who was the letter written to- Timothy, son in the faith

1. The Pattern in Preaching 1:3-10
2. The Pattern of Paul 1:11-17
3. The Pattern in Perseverance 1:18-20

B) Guidelines in Prayer 2

1. Types of Prayers 2:1
2. Task of Prayers 2:2-7
3. Troubles in Prayers 2:8-15

C) Guidelines for the Presbytery 3

1. Pastors Qualifications 3:1-7
2. Deacons Qualifications 3:8-13
3. Basis for Church Guidance 3:14-16

D) Guidelines from Prophecy 4

1. False Doctrine to Come 4:1-6
2. False Teachings to Challenge 4:7-11
3. Faithful works are commended 4:12-16

E) Guidelines for Practical Church Duties 5

1. Respect for older members 5:1-2
2. Care for Widows 5:3-16
3. Dealing with ministers 5:17-20
4. Personal Admonitions for Timothy 5:21-25

F) Guidelines in Poverty and Prosperity 6

1. Faithful Duties of the Poor 6:1-2
2. Foolish Doctrines of the Rich 6:3-19

Closing Plea to Timothy 6:20-21

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

I. GUIDELINES IN PATTERNS 1

Intro.-1:1-2

- a. Who wrote the letter? Paul; a man with a divine call and mission
- b. Who was the letter written to? Timothy; Dear son in the faith
- c. What did Paul want for Timothy? Grace, mercy, and peace (not gold, money, and prosperity)
- d. Who was it to come from? God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord (What a difference it makes when you realize the source of your supply!)

A) The Pattern in Preaching 1:3-10

1. The Stability in the Preacher. Paul had left Timothy at Ephesus to guide the church away from false doctrine and into the proper path. Evidently Timothy had met a great deal of opposition (did people take Timothy lightly after Paul left?) and he was thinking about quitting. Paul begins by begging Timothy to stay and continue the fight ("as I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus").

This is the most important element in successful preaching-staying until God says the job is done. A Christian (preacher or layman) is supposed to meet opposition (I Peter 4:12-14) as he stands for Christ and he must be willing to "keep on keeping on" until God says it's time to quit.

A Preacher must know that God has called him, that he's teaching correct doctrine, and that he's where God wants him to be. Once he's established on these issues then he must accept opposition and keep on doing the job God has called him to do. I wonder how many preachers or teachers have quit on the very verge of success??

2. The Steadfastness in Preaching

- a. The Rejection Admonished- Charge them (give them a solemn admonition) that they:

- 1) Teach no other doctrine- other than the Gospel of Christ. "There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (I Tim 2:5); "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12) and "if any man preach any other gospel ... let him be accursed" (Gal 1:9). (Not just the doctrine of cults but especially here doctrine that is posing as Christian but in reality is man thought instead of God sent. Today we see it where preaching teaches success instead of service, law instead of love, and man's happiness instead of God's holiness).

- 2) Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions. Paul calls these fables "profane" and characteristic of "old wives" (I Tim 4:7) and they involve such things as statues that weep and superstitions that enslave. The endless genealogies involve ancestor worship, prejudice based on bloodline (see Tit 1:12-14) and salvation based on parent's faith. The main thing is that these things cause us to question God instead of believe Him- "rather than godly edifying which is in faith."
- b. The Results aimed for- the end (aim) of the commandment
 - 1) Pure Love- Charity out of a pure heart
 - 2) Pure Living- A good conscience
 - 3) Pure Labor- Faith unfeigned (not hypocritical)

Some had swerved (missed the mark of God's purpose) and had turned aside into vain jangling (useless talk because it was not based on the correct foundation). Their desire to do good led them to become teachers but because their foundation was wrong they were ineffective- they didn't understand what they were teaching but they felt they needed to teach something. (Why are YOU running?? II Sam 18:19-33).

Paul now goes on to show the real meaning of the law. It is not our MEANS of righteousness but it is to show us the NEED of righteousness. A righteous man will not fear the Law because he's faithful to follow it. Paul then lists who the Law is for:

1. Lawless and disobedient- refusing to recognize or submit to Law
2. Ungodly and sinners- lacking reverential awe of God
3. Unholy and profane- controlled by the flesh
4. Murders of father and mother- ill treatment of parents
5. Manslayers- ill treatment of mankind
6. Whoremongers and them that defile self with mankind- fornication, homosexual
7. Menstealers- putting people into slavery (Drugs, drink, debt)
8. Liars and perjured people- untruth in lips and life
9. Any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine

The pattern in preaching means that the Preacher has the message stamped in his own heart, knows what to stand against and what to stand for, and is not afraid to name sin.

TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

I. GUIDELINES IN PATTERNS 1

B) The Pattern of Paul 1:11-17 Having shown Timothy the pattern in Preaching Paul now uses himself as a pattern for Timothy to follow in the matter of the Gospel's importance and saving power.

1. In Safekeeping vs 11-12 The Gospel of Jesus Christ had been committed to Paul as a Trust. (See Eph 3:1-10 where Paul describes how he was commissioned to proclaim the mystery of the Church as the body of Christ.)

The enablement to fulfill this obligation is shown in Paul's Thanksgiving Prayer:

- a. The Power- Christ Jesus enabled me
- b. The Picking- He counted me faithful (God trusted Paul)
- c. The Putting- Putting me into the ministry. God enabled him, trusted him, and then put him into a position to use that power and trust. God does not save us and enable us just so we can sit but rather in order for us to serve.

2. In Sinning vs 13 Paul was not picked because of his righteousness but because of his faithfulness. Paul describes himself as a:

- a. Blasphemer- against God
- b. Persecutor- against God's Church
- c. Injurious- against God's People

(And yet as far as the law's righteousness was concerned, blameless! See Phil 3:1-6).

God's Mercy was what allowed these sins to be covered.

(Ignorantly, in unbelief does not mean God excuses ignorance. It simply means that God's mercy was given because Paul in his unbelief was ignorant about how to be accepted before God. He thought the answer was zeal for the Law but God showed him it was mercy for sins).

3. In Salvation vs 14-17 Paul uses himself as a pattern to show the greatness of God's redemptive work.

- a. The Pardon vs 14
 - it's means- Grace (Unmerited Favor)
 - it's measure- exceeding abundant
 - it's members- with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus

Paul rejoiced in a Pardon that was granted thru God's Grace instead of Paul's goodness. This pardon was completely sufficient to cover all his sins and it was joined by faith and love so that Paul was not only forgiven but also enabled to serve (Faith) and desired to serve (Love). What a pardon!!

- b. The Purpose vs 15 Christ came to save sinners.
How plain! How necessary! How wonderful!

c. The Pattern vs 16 "Christ's longsuffering will never undergo a more severe test than it did in my case, so that no sinner need ever despair." God used Paul as an example of the greatness of His Grace and now whosoever will may come and drink of the water of life freely.

d. The Prayer vs 17 Paul describes God and then prays that honor and Glory would be His because of the greatness of God's Plan of Salvation. (This is the purpose of Salvation- I Pet 2:9 ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.)

Note the attributes of God Paul uses :

1. King- Ruler over all
2. Eternal- always was and always will be
3. Immortal- uncorruptable (Pure)
4. Invisible- Spirit
5. Only wise God- unique (Only god who is God).

What a marvel that such a God would save us and then allow us to praise Him and serve Him.

C) The Pattern in Perseverance 1:18-20

1. Faithful in the Fight. Paul exhorts Timothy to be faithful in his work for God because of:

a. The Prophecies that had been given about Timothy at his ordination (3:14). EVERY Christian receives a gift to help the work of the body of Christ and if they fail to use their gift then the whole body suffers (See I Corinth 12:~).

b. The War against Satan that every Christian fights (See Eph 6:10-17). A Christian cannot shed his armour or quit his post. To do so is not only dangerous for the Christian but also for fellow Christians. (If Timothy gave up the fight there was a good possibility that false doctrine would over run the Church at Ephesus. Stand, and having done all, Stand.)

2. Faithful to the Faith

a. The Problem- Some had put away the Faith (the words mean to "thrust away from". They imply wilful violence against conscience). Note how faith and a good conscience are tied together. Faith produces good works and when a man rebels against his conscience and begins to do wrong works his faith also begins to waver until he loses sight of the lighthouse and crashes on the rocks of sin.

b. The Punishment- delivered unto Satan that they may learn not to Blaspheme. Some think that this was simply excommunication from the Church (I Cor 5:1-5) but more seems to be implied here than that. These two had "thrust away" their faith in Christ and were teaching Salvation by works of the Law thus making shipwreck of Faith. A most undesirable state to be in.

Paul shows Timothy the wonderful Pattern of Salvation that God had used to Save him and then warns him of the dreadful consequences of leaving this wonderful Salvation. Preachers ought to always invite Sinners to Come and warn Saints not to stray!

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

II. GUIDELINES IN PRAYERS Chapter 2

A) Types of Prayer 2:1

1. Supplications- prayers for one's personal needs
2. Prayers- worship and adoration
3. Intercessions- Prayers for another's needs
4. Giving of Thanks- appreciation for past blessings and faith in future promises.

B) Task of Prayer 2:2-7

People

1. Kings, and for all that are in authority

Purpose

that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

The Powers that be are ordained of God and we should pray that God would guide them into a proper course. (This was written during a time of some of the most ungodly kings ever to reign. We may not like the men but we must respect their position. See Rom 13:1-7)

2. All men

to be saved and come unto the knowledge of the truth

Since there is but one God, and but one mediator between God and men- the man Christ Jesus, and since Christ gave himself a ransom for ALL men then the testimony about him must be given to all men. For this purpose Paul was set apart as a Preacher, an Apostle, and a Teacher. (In Paul's case this was specifically to the Gentiles. Some men get so bogged down with ALL men until they never minister to ONE man. Minister to the whole world but do it one man at a time!)

Paul gives the Purpose of the Prayer (men's Salvation) and then shows God's Way of answering that prayer (a preacher- Rom 10:13-15). The Task of Prayer thus becomes more than requesting certain things; it also means Reporting for Duty!!

C) Troubles in Prayers 2:8-15

1. Troubles for Men vs 8

In the Greek the definite article "the" precedes men. Paul is saying that "the" men should take the leadership in Church Prayer. (Sad to say, many times the prayer life of the Church is left to the women because the men are too "busy" to stop for Prayer.)

"without wrath and doubting" indicates the two conditions necessary to effectual prayer- freedom from irritation toward your fellowman, and confidence toward God.

Thus men's troubles in Prayer are an unwillingness to accept Responsibility and problems between themselves and between them and God.

2. Troubles for Women vs 9-15

a. Their appearance- modest apparel. Modest here means "an ordered system, a harmonious arrangement, order". This orderliness does not extend merely to the relationship of the various articles of clothing to one another but also to the relationship of that clothing to her Christian character and testimony.

b. Their attitude- shamefacedness and sobriety (Humility and Soundness of mind). The basic idea here is that Paul is trying to show women that many times their clothing is worn because of Pride instead of because it's Proper. This prideful attitude will hinder our prayers.

c. Their authority- they are not to teach or usurp (take the place of) authority over the man. This means that women should not teach Adult men or be in a position of defining doctrine (such as a woman Pastor). (This does not mean it is wrong for women to teach unmarried young men or children. This is part of her responsibility as a mother.)

Women are to learn in silence (no public outburst) because of:

1. Creation- Adam created first then Eve (Eve was created as a helper for Adam, not a boss!)

2. Corruption- The woman was deceived (Women are generally more easily swayed by emotional arguments. Their emotions are their greatest assets and yet their greatest liability.)

3. Childbearing- One of the main duties of the woman is to bear children (Not define Doctrine!). Doing so will save her from falling into false doctrine and allow her and her husband to continue in faith, love and holiness with a sober minded attitude.

(Blame Sin not me- Gen 3:16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.)

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

III. GUIDELINES FOR THE PRESBYTERY Chapter 3

Having shown Timothy the wonderful Salvation he proclaimed and established the pattern in Prayers Paul now gives Timothy guidelines to use in selecting leaders for the Church.

A) The Pastor's Qualifications 3:1-7

1. The Coveting of the Position 3:1

The word Bishop here means "to oversee, to superintend, to exercise care over". It is used for one who is charged with the responsibility of the oversight and direction of the spiritual life of the local Church. (Called Pastor (Greek-Shepherd) today.)

The word desire here means "to stretch one's self out in order to touch or to grasp something, to reach after something, to passionately long after something". This means that the Pastor should be someone who is God Called and is doing the job because of an overwhelming desire in his heart (put there by God) to be a Pastor. (My advice is this, if you don't have to be a Pastor then don't do it!! I pastor because my heart can't be satisfied doing anything else.)

Peter list 3 duties of a Pastor. 1 Pet 5:1-4 *The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

1. Fellowship in Christ's suffering and Glory. You must have something to Show (a witness) and Share (a partaker). The messages of a good Pastor are simply the overflowing of his relationship with Christ. As he enters into the Fellowship of Christ's sufferings and marvels as he partakes of the Glory to come he will show Christ thru his life and lips.

2. Feed the Flock among you-The Pastor is both Shepherd and Sheep! As Shepherd he is responsible to see that the Sheep Grow, are Guided, and are Guarded. As a sheep he mingles with and understands the needs of the other sheep. (See Heb 2:16-18 for Christ's example of this.) A Pastor must live with the people to know their problems and live with God in order to solve them.

3. Fulfills leadership responsibilities:

- Not because he's forced to but because he wants to. (A Leader who will not lead is no leader!!)
 - Not for Profit but because he realizes his responsibility
 - Not as a "Boss" but as an example
 - Realizing his reward will come when he meets the Lord.
- (See II Corinth 6:3-10 for a practical example of such a Pastor)

2. The Character of the Pastor 3:2-7

- a. Blameless- with^{out} reproach in character of Christianity. (His living doesn't get in the way of his Message)
- b. Husband of one Wife- "A one woman man". So dedicated to God's Plan of Husband and Wife until He doesn't even think of escape. (Forbids a divorced man from being a Pastor)
- c. Vigilant- Watchful (of false doctrines or other things that would harm the Church)
- d. Sober- Serious, earnest, responsible (Someone you can take serious)
- e. Of good behaviour- dignified, orderly (A gentleman) modest
- f. Given to hospitality- Willing to put up (and put up with) Strangers. He will be called upon to have many guests in his home.
- g. Apt to teach- Willing and Able to Teach. A student of the Word. A pastor who is lazy in the study is a disgrace in the pulpit.
- h. Not given to wine- Not controlled by outside "crutches", whether drink, drug, or whatever.
- i. No striker- Not contentious or quarrelsome. Willing to stand to the death for the RIGHT but willing to give up his rights.
- j. Not greedy of filthy lucre- Principles overrule Profit. God's Will is more important than Wealth.
- k. Patient, not a brawler- a person of reasonableness who does not go around with a "chip" on his shoulder". (He understands that people are different and accepts that.)
- l. Not covetous- content in whatsoever state he finds himself. Doesn't try to "keep up with the Jones".
- m. One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity. (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)- Able to deal with his own family problems.
- n. Not a Novice- (new convert) lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. He is Proven before he is put in a Position lest Pride overcome any Progress.
- o. Having a good report of them without, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. He's against the Pollution of the World but not against the People of the World!! He hates Sin but loves the Sinner.

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

III. GUIDELINES FOR THE PRESBYTERY Chapter 3

B) The Deacon's Qualifications 3:8-13

1. The Requirements of the Work 3:8-12

a. Deacon Duties- Deacons (Greek-Servants) were first selected by the Apostles to relieve them of physical pressure so that the Apostles could devote themselves to the Spiritual welfare of the Church (Acts 6:1-7). As the Pastor is the neck of the body of Christ (lift up the Head and communicate between head and body) so the Deacons are the hands of the body. (Serving by relieving the physical and personality problems that crop up among a body of believers.) Deacons are not the "bosses" of the church (or the pastor), rather they fulfil their leadership role by serving the church and as such are a vital part of God's program in the Church.

b. Deacon's Characteristics (Acts 6:3)

1) Of Honest Report- They are to handle the personality problems of the Church because people trust them. (Probably 90% of the people who deliberately leave a church do so because of a personality problem. If Deacons could and would deal with these problems then the Church would have much greater success. The sad truth is that many times a person will not tell the pastor about a personality problem until they've already made up their minds to leave but Deacons who are watchful can nip such a problem in the bud.)

2) Full of the Holy Ghost- Spiritually empowered so they can handle the responsibilities they assume. (Since being filled with the Spirit is not a one time experience but a continued relationship then it behooves the Deacon to live a continually yielded life.)

3) Full of Wisdom- They realize that the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God (1 Cor 1:20) so they cling to Christ who is our wisdom (1 Cor 1:30). Deacons are not necessarily the best educated men in the Church but they give evidence of the Spiritual Gift of Wisdom. (Which is extremely necessary if they are to faithfully fulfill their responsibilities of dealing with people and problems.)

4) Full of Faith- Without Faith it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6) and Deacons need faith to understand God's Purpose and Plan for the Church. As leaders in the Church assembly they will have a great affect on the church's progress according to their faith.

c. Deacon's Qualifications:

1) Grave- serious minded about God's work. They realize the tremendous responsibilities they have.

2) Not Doubletongued- Not saying one thing to one person and another to another. (This is extremely important as they deal with people problems. It's also vital as they deal with the people and the pastor.)

3) Not given to much wine- (Any is too much!). Not addicted to anything. Self control. Able to proclaim liberty because he's not under bondage.

4) Not greedy of filthy lucre- Not money hungry. Willing to sacrifice in order to serve the church.

5) Holding the Mystery of the Faith in a pure conscience- Has a basic knowledge of God's Plan for the Church and lives accordingly. (This means he knows the Church is the Body of Christ; with different parts and different tasks that work together for God's Glory.)

6) Proved- Put to the test before put in the place of responsibility. (Normally a member of the Church for a time then chosen for a 6 month to 1 year trial and then ordained.)

7) Good Home Life- His wife must also have the same character traits. (Most men confide in their wives. Unless she is of good character she will hinder rather than help the problems- either thru wrong advice or gossip). The Deacon also must be a "one woman man". He cannot be divorced or one to take advantage of close encounters he will find himself in as he helps people and problems. He must also be a good father that governs his own house in a manner to inspire confidence in others.

2. The Rewards for the Worker 3:13 If a Deacon Serves well in his job then he will be rewarded with:

A) A Good Degree (Rank)- As he administers faithfully the work of God, God will promote him to greater positions of trust and the work of God will flourish.

1. Many times a faithful deacon is called by God to go from assisting the Pastor to becoming a Pastor (Stephen and Philip). *"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much:" Luke 16:10*

2. When the original Deacons were selected *"the word of God increased; and the number of disciples multiplied..." Acts 6:7*

B) Great Boldness in the Faith which is in Christ Jesus- As he sees God work in the Church and in people's lives the good Deacon will increase in Faith and confidence and thus become even more productive for the Lord.

May God give us such men that the work of God may go forward.

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

III. GUIDELINES FOR THE PRESBYTERY Chapter 3

C) Basis for Church Guidance 3:14-16

Paul explains to Timothy that he has written these guidelines to him in order that he may know how to guide the Church. Then he goes on to say that it is necessary to guide the Church correctly because of the position the Church occupies and the message it proclaims.

1. The Church 3:14-15 Paul gives 3 descriptions of the Church that describe it's meaning and method of operation

a. The House of God- As the House of God the Church is the meeting place of the "Family of God". Here the Born Again meet to "eat" the Word (either Milk or Meat I Cor 3:1-2, Heb 5:12-14), to receive discipline or encouragement, and to fulfil their duties to the rest of the Family.

b. Church of the Living God- Church here means "called out Assembly" and as such it is an example to the rest of the world of what happens when men become new creatures in Christ. The Church is in the World but not of the world. It's job is to display Jesus Christ to the World.

c. Pillar and ground of the Truth- The Church is built on the Rock (Jesus) and as such is the foundation of the Truth and the "main beam" upon which to build. The Principles proclaimed in Church should allow you to build every area of your life for God.

2. The Confession 3:16 The Church is right only if it's message is right and Paul gives Timothy the Basic Message of Christianity. (Possibly the verse of a Hymn but used of God here to show what we need to proclaim. Do our hymns have God's message in them???)

Paul begins his great Confession by calling it the mystery of godliness. A "mystery" in scripture is a truth previously hid but able to be understood when God reveals it. (Some Bible mysteries are: the mysteries of the Kingdom of God Jesus revealed to His disciples (Mk 4:11), the mystery of the Rapture (I Cor 15:51), the mystery of the Church as the Bride of Christ (Ep 5:32), the mystery of iniquity (II Thess 2:7), and Mystery Babylon (Rev 17:5).).

The Mystery of godliness is that God would become flesh, live as a man, die for our sins, and be resurrected from the dead. (All along the Jews had the idea He would come as a conquering King to make Israel the greatest nation on earth. BE careful of "making" God say what you think He OUGHT to say!!).

Paul listed 6 aspects of this mystery:

a. Christ appeared in a body- This is the doctrine of Incarnation. God, a Spirit, took up residence in a human body (Jn 1:14), was tempted like we are yet without sin (Heb 4:15), and died to pay the sin debt for all men. As a man Christ can understand my weakness (Heb 2:17-18) and my wickedness (Heb 5:1-2), and give me the aid I need. That the great God of the Universe could love lowly man is a great thought. That He would become a Man and die for mankind is beyond human comprehension.

b. He was justified (vindicated) in the Spirit- At His baptism the Spirit descended like a dove when the Father announced Him as the Beloved Son. Jesus said that His miracles were the result of the power of the Spirit (Matt 12:28) and Paul said he was "declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead;" (Rom 1:4). There can be no doubt about the Deity of Christ because of the Witness of the Spirit. (That same Spirit living and working in a Christian is also an evidence of that person's relationship with God Ep 1:13-14).

c. He was seen by Angels- Angels announced His birth (Luke 2:8-14), ministered to Him at His temptation (Matt 4:11), strengthened Him during His agony in the garden (Luke 22:43), announced His resurrection (Luke 24:4-5), and took part in His ascension (Acts 1:9-11). Since man was led into sin by a fallen angel and the angels who fell had no chance of redemption (II Pet 2:4) then the angels in Heaven were very interested in how God would redeem man (II Pet 1:12).

d. He was preached unto the Gentiles (Nations)- The redemption Christ provided is of no use unless it is proclaimed to lost men. *How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?* (Rom 10:14). The task of the Church is to proclaim Jesus Christ for as He is lifted up He will draw all men unto Himself (Jn 12:32).

e. He was Believed on in the World- Men must not only hear the Gospel but they must also believe it. Multitudes of people thru the years have made known their faith in Jesus Christ and this faith has changed people, families, communities, and nations.

f. He was received up in glory- Christ ascended to Heaven victorious over death, Hell, and the grave and one day He will return to claim His bride as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Truely this is a GREAT Message the Church has to proclaim!

The foundation is sure; the Message is vital; let's get to work.

SHILOH SENTINEL

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Vol II Number 26 October 9, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

THE TEENS CAR WASH WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL. THEY EARNED OVER \$75, MADE THE COMMUNITY CLEANER, WORKED VERY HARD, AND GOT VERY WET. WE'VE GOT A GOOD GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE HERE AT SHILOH AND I APPRECIATE THEIR WORK.

THEIR NEXT CHURCH ACTIVITY IS A FAMILY FUN NIGHT ON WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31. I AM OPPOSED TO HALLOWEEN, AS IT IS PRESENTLY CELEBRATED (TEACHING CHILDREN TO DRESS AS WITCHES AND GHOSTS AND THREATEN SOMEONE TO GET A "TREAT" IS NOT MY IDEA OF PROPER GUIDANCE) AND THE TEENS ARE MAKING A GOOD ALTERNATIVE AVAILABLE TO THE CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY. I'LL GIVE YOU MORE INFORMATION AS THE TIME APPROACHES BUT HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS:

ENTRANCE "FEE"- EVERY FAMILY IS ASKED TO BRING A BAG OF CANDY. THE CANDY WILL BE PUT IN A LARGE TUB AND EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO COME BY AND GET A PIECE WHENEVER THEY WANT. WE WILL ALSO HAVE A LARGE BOX AVAILABLE TO ALLOW YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRING CANNED FOOD FOR DISTRIBUTION AT THANKSGIVING OR CHRISTMAS. MRS. JUDI McELHANEY SUGGESTED THE IDEA AND I READILY AGREED BECAUSE I FEEL IT WILL CHANGE THE EMPHASIS FROM "TAKE" TO "GIVE" (WHICH IS OUR GOAL).

COSTUME CONTEST- WE URGE THE KIDS (AND ADULTS TOO IF YOU'D LIKE) TO DRESS UP IN A COSTUME TO ENTER OUR COSTUME CONTEST. THE RULES ARE THAT THE COSTUMES MUST REPRESENT A BIBLE CHARACTER, BIBLE ANIMAL, OR SOMEONE IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY WHERE OUR MISSIONARIES MINISTER.

PARTICIPATION- EVERYONE WILL BE ASKED TO TAKE PART IN THE NIGHTS ACTIVITIES. WHEN YOU ARRIVE YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND THEN WHEN IT COMES TIME TO SELECT CONTESTANTS NUMBERS WILL BE DRAWN AND WHOEVERS NUMBER COMES UP WILL BE THE CONTESTANT. (THAT OUGHT TO MAKE FOR SOME INTERESTING CONTESTS!)

REVIVAL- CHRISTIAN HOME F.W.B. CHURCH WILL BE IN REVIVAL NEXT WEEK (Oct 15-19) WITH REV. JOHN BURNHAM AS THE EVANGELIST. WE WILL MOVE OUR PRAYER MEETING TO BE WITH THEM (WED. OCT 17) AND I HOPE WE CAN HAVE A LARGE TURN OUT. (WE'LL GET TO SEE THEIR NEW FELLOWSHIP BUILDING AND REJOICE IN ALL THE GOOD THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN HAPPENING TO THEM LATELY.)

APPRECIATION- I APPRECIATE VERY MUCH THE WORK DONE AROUND THE CHURCH LATELY. DAVID GIBSON MOWED THE FIELD BEHIND THE CHURCH WHICH REALLY NEEDED IT. GLEDA McELHANEY AND DONNA McCALL PAINTED AND FIXED UP THE TODDLER CLASS ROOM. LINDA JACKSON CLEANED AND FIXED UP THE NURSERY (IN ADDITION TO DOING A GREAT JOB WITH OUR JUNIOR CHOIR). MITCH McCALL AND FLOYD COLEMAN REPLACED THE BROKEN WINDOWS IN ONE OF THE CHURCH DOORS. JERALD AMERSON GREASED VENTS, CUT HEDGES, AND HELPED CLEAR A NEW DRIVE AROUND THE CHURCH. MRS. PAUL CLEANED THE FRONT HEDGES. MAXINE McCALL AND JACKIE JOHNSON CLEANED THE SCREENS AND PLANTS IN THE CHURCH. AND IF I LEFT ANYONE OUT I'LL TRY TO REMEMBER THE NEXT TIME WHEN I HOPE TO LIST A LOT MORE THINGS BEING DONE.

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PERMIT #6

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

IV. GUIDELINES FROM PROPHECY Chapter 4 Having shown Timothy the qualifications for Pastors and Deacons and having shown him the foundation to build on Paul now gives a Prophecy about future false Doctrines that Timothy should prepare for. (Isn't it great that God gives us His Word to lean on and a Warning to look for?! Sadly, many people look at the word and ignore the warnings and so find themselves in trouble.)

A) False Doctrine to come

1. The Source of the Doctrines- Fallen Christians! ("Some shall depart from the faith"). One of the saddest and most heart breaking things is when one of our own turns from God and betrays the confidence you have in him. (Satan once used Peter to try to lead Christ astray (Matt 16:23) and Paul warned these same Ephesians that *after my departing shall greivious wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.* Acts 20:29-30). What a tremendous ripple effect it has had on our denomination since several of our key men have had family and personal problems. What a devastating effect it has on a Church when a Pastor disobeys God in morals or moving. What a tragedy it is when a Church hangs fruitless on the vine year after year because leading members leave God's plan for their lives and insist on having their own way. (Remember that Israel wandered in the Wilderness for 40 years waiting on those that had departed from the faith to die!)

The problem is that men depart from the "Faith" (the teachings of Christ) and build a system of teaching that allows them to justify what they want to do (I once listened to a series of messages by a TV preacher on "How to prepare for Divorce". I was astonished until he revealed he was divorced and now was trying to build a congregation of divorced people.). Somehow men feel more secure in their sin when they get others to follow their path (This just compounds the problem as now many are following the wrong path instead of one!). How sad it is when people follow Personalities instead of the Word of God. (Be aware of this in the local Church. Every Church has "powerful personality people" and if they begin to go astray they are generally able to carry a segment of the church with them.).

It's not always a case of the diety of Christ either. It may be the question of whether the Pastor will be the servant of the people or a slave of a person. It may be a question of whether the "Greeks" are getting less attention than the "Jews" (Acts 6). Or it may be that one of the Church leaders has decided that his "weakness" (sin) is not as bad as the preacher says and so he builds a following to feel more confident.

Why would Christians allow this to happen?? Paul tells Timothy that the problem is that they pay attention to:

A) Deceitful Spirits- Paul had earlier warned the Ephesians that *we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rules of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ep 6:12)*. Now he shows why the whole armor of God is needed to defeat these enemies. These deceitful spirits were leading Christians away from the service of God by seducing them with promises of more pleasure, an easier road, or greater prestige. It is made to sound so good until the person looks, then lusts, then leaves the way of Faith to follow the broad road to destruction. (How easy it is to listen to that seducing spirit on Sunday morning when he says sleep in instead of go to Church. Then you feel guilty so you begin to say you don't really enjoy the teaching or preaching anyway. Finally you find someone who "hurts your feelings" and you can't possibly go to that Church where the people aren't perfect!).

B) Doctrines of Devils- What are these doctrines of Devils? Are they people who proclaim sex, murder, and drugs? No, they are people who proclaim salvation by self effort instead of Faith in the finished work of Christ. (1 Jn 4:2-3 *Hereby know ye the Spirit of God; every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God; and every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is the spirit of Antichrist.*)

2. The Signs of the Doctrine

a. Hypocritical Unconscionable liars- Having listened to these seducing Spirits and doctrines of Devils and departed from the Faith these people now seek to maintain outward appearances of righteousness so they resort to "Religion". This form of religion is what has today produced homosexual "preachers", social "gospel", and "Christians" you can't tell from the world. Paul told the Romans that God would give this type people over to a reprobate mind (Rom 1:28) and it is only such a mind coupled with a seared conscience that could approve of murdering babies thru abortion, being a drunken adulterer on Saturday night and teaching a Sunday School class on Sunday, or crucifying a man with slander behind his back and smilingly saying you love him to his face.

b. Substituting works of the Flesh for Faith. Paul gives 2 illustrations of things that sound good but aren't what God is looking for.

(1) Forbidding to marry- The Hypocrites disregarded marriage because of lust but these do so because of Law. (Notice that the foundation of the Family is under attack from both sides.) In Jesus' day the Essenes felt that marriage was wrong. Then came the monks, Catholic Priest, and nuns. These feel that denying the flesh makes one righteous (Disregarding the fact that God ordained Marriage!). This will indeed make a person proud of his will power but does not honor God (Col 2:23).

(2) Commanding to abstain from meats (food in general. Not just animal flesh as we know it today). The Jewish laws of diet were being incorporated back into the plan of salvation and Paul wanted to warn Timothy about this. He gives some guidelines for food.

1. Food is God given- Therefore it is not wrong to eat it.
(Every creature of God is good and nothing to be refused)
2. What you eat should not be a stumbling block to others
(Received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.) Your right to eat should not wound your weaker brother's conscience (I Cor 8).
3. Any Food should be received in a thankful attitude and set apart by prayer and God's word.

The thing to remember is that you can "overstate" what God has said and cause as much damage this way as the hypocritical liar does. The Cause of Christ in our day has been hurt by some who, in their zeal, have made it a "sin" to do almost everything. The Christian life for them is not an abundant life to live but a set of laws to keep.

(A practical example of this today is that dieting has become almost a "religion" to some people. You ought to take care of your body but slimness is not righteousness.)

Is it important that this type of false doctrine be exposed???
vs 6 *In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.*

B) False Teachings to Challenge 4:7-11

-The fables of "old wives": myths and legends (see notes on I Tim 1:4). My home church used to think it was "sinful" to have a bulletin because that didn't allow the spirit to lead but they always had the same order of service. I was nearly fired from a church once because I prayed a spontaneous prayer at the end of Sunday School assembly instead of the Lord's Prayer. Thru the years I have heard sermons on "The sin of having insurance" (that church is now insurance poor!), "The sin of preaching from notes" (preached from notes!), and "A God called man doesn't need to study" (and it was obvious he hadn't). The problem with fables is that they make common sense but not scriptural sense.

-The folly of Physical Exercise: In a day when Physical exercise has become a "cult" we need to heed Paul's statements. Bodily exercise does a little good and therefore should not be abandoned but the real discipline should be in Godly exercise because Godly exercise will help you in this life and in the life to come (Examples of Godly exercise are found in vs 12-16). Just as Physical Exercise requires discipline and sacrifice so Godly exercise requires discipline and sacrifice. You must set goals, make time, do it whether you feel like it or not, and accept the changes it will make in your life.

The reason we stand against False Teachings is that the purpose of our lives and teaching should be Jesus Christ. We should labor and suffer for Him because He is the only hope of mankind. The Salvation He offers is available to all but they must accept it by Faith. We are to command and teach the true doctrine in order that men may believe (Rom 10). Don't get caught up in seducing spirits that lead to False Teaching.

C) Faithful Works are commended 4:12-16 Paul now exhorts Timothy to some practical things for him to do that will enable him to withstand False Teachings and False Doctrine.

1. Be an example- vs 12 (Timothy was probably 35-40 years old. Some were disregarding his authority because they were older than he. Paul tells Timothy to "Stop letting them push you around." It is not your age that is in question but your authority.) As a person who was licensed to preach at 14 years old and ordained at 16 I can relate to this. It was just recently that I finally had a Deacon younger than myself. I have always realized that I not only had to accept my authority but also to show that I was worthy of being followed. This is why Paul tells Timothy to be an example in:

a. Word (speech)- *Col 4:6 Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.*

b. Conversation (Manner of life)- Live like a Christian

c. Charity (Love)- show the world the Love of God

d. Spirit (attitude)- Don't act like a spoiled kid

e. Faith (Christian Living)- Show Christ

f. Purity (Holiness)- realize you're the Temple of Holy Spirit

2. Devote yourself to your task vs 13

a. in public reading of the word (church attendance)

b. in exhortation (preaching)

c. in doctrine (teaching)

3. Do not neglect your gift vs 14 That divine enablement which was prophesied about you at your ordination.

4. Continually look at where you're going and what you're doing vs 15. When you loose sight of the goal stop until you get it back. Don't run around in the dark. (Evaluate your work.)

5. Realize your responsibility vs 16 What you preach will affect your Faith and the Faith of those who hear you. Make sure it's the Gospel.

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

V. GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICAL CHURCH DUTIES Chapter 5

Paul now goes from Principles to Practical Christian Living. Every one of his epistles is like this. He realizes that what you believe determines what you do and so he builds practise on principles.

A) Relationships with various ages vs 1-2

1. Elder men: They are to be treated with respect even when they err. Learn not to disregard and criticize the counsel of the elderly. If they do make a mistake deal with them as you would with your own father.

2. Younger men: As brothers in Christ we should respect one another, love one another, and accept one another's differences.

3. Elder women: Treat them with love and respect as you would your own mother.

4. Younger women: Let your relationship be as if they were a sister; with the strictest regard to purity.

Intrapersonal relationships probably cause more church problems than anything else. Christians need to realize their responsibilities to one another and live together as the Body of Christ.

B) Rules for Normal Help vs 3-8 Paul is specifically referring to Widows here but the basic guidelines are those the Church should follow today in it's help for the needy.

1. Family- The family of the person in need should care for that person if at all possible. (If she is a "widow indeed" (therefore no family) then support should be given to her.) Paul lists first the children and then the grandchildren (nephews in old English usage). The family is God's basic unit and they should draw support from each other.

2. Faith- A widow deserving help is one who doesn't have Family help (either because they can't or won't). She looks now to God for help (and He helps thru His people!), she prays, and she adjusts her lifestyle to her condition (To live in pleasure means to live delicately; therefore expecting life's luxuries)

3. Folly- When a Christian fails to provide for his own family (when able) he has denied the very foundation of Christianity- Love. *1 Jn 3:17 whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?* (Jesus even condemned those who gave their possessions to the Church instead of caring for their family as they were supposed to. Matt 15:3-9).

Note- The words provide for here carry the idea of future consideration. They mean that the person should not only care for the immediate needs of the family but should also plan for future needs- Retirement, School, illness, etc. (Which means it's alright for it to frustrate me when a family calls and says they are on the way from "point A" to "point B" and have run out of money and when I question them I find they didn't have enough to make the trip when they started!).

The Church should have an ACTIVE program of help for those who are truly in need. But any program should not foster Laziness (II Thess 3:10), taking advantage of people's goodness, or the breakdown of family responsibility.

C) Requirements of a Church Aid Program vs 9-16 There was no Social Security or Government aid program in Paul's day so it was very difficult for Widows to provide their own living.

1. The Qualifications for enrollment (Evidently the Church had a program of aid that allowed Widows to minister in and for the Church and in turn the Church would take care of them. These Widows were enrolled on a list and help was given to everyone on the list (The original reason for Deacons was to make sure each Widow was cared for.).

- a. A Widow over 60 years old.
- b. Have a good reputation
- c. Have a good Home life
 - 1) Not divorced (this leads some to believe that these women served as some form of Deaconesses. But it probably just God's way of re-affirming the sanctity of marriage)
 - 2) Raised Children- If she is to "teach the young women" proper home life (Tit 2:4) then she must have had one
- d. Hospitable- Lodged strangers. Willing to be sociable (May be forced to live with others)
- e. Serving- washed the saints' feet. Not just a Free Will Baptist! Willing to serve for Christ's sake.
- f. Caring- relieved the afflicted.
- g. Faithful- DILIGENTLY followed every good work.

2. Those to Refuse:

- a. Younger Widows. They can and should remarry. If they join with the older widows problems will result because:
 - 1) The younger Widows will become restless and want to remarry thus nullifying their commitment to full time service for Christ.
 - 2) They will allow their free time to become idle time and fill it with gossip instead of spreading the Gospel. (Today we would say that women who spend their time gossiping on the phone or watching "soap operas" need to find something constructive to do.)
 - 3) Advice for the younger Widows,
 - Remarry
 - have children
 - guide the house (manage the house as a ministry)
 - don't allow your life to help Satan's cause
- b. Those who have Family to support them. If those who can support their widows would do so then the Church would be more able to help those truly in need.

The idea is to help the person spiritually as well as Physically. Don't let your help cause the person to develop a carelëss Spiritual outlook or manner of life.

D) Right Reactions for Pastors vs 17-25

1. Regarding his pay. 17-18 If he is presiding over his job well then he should be accounted worthy of double pay. This is especially true if he is a faithful Pastor that labors with wearisome effort in the study and teaching of the Word. (Someone has their priorities out of order when they give a man millions of dollars to pass a ball and just dollars to preach the Gospel.).

Since the laborer is worthy of his reward this also means that a lazy Pastor should not be rewarded for his lack of effort.

2. Regarding sin in his life 19-20

-No charges should be brought against him without at least 2 witnesses. "Where there is smoke, there is fire" may be a good slogan for a volunteer fire department but not for the reputation of a man of God. It may simply be that someone's tongue has been "set on fire of hell" (James 3:6). Christians need to guard a man of God's reputation like gold because if you ruin people's respect for him then you hurt not only him but also those he ministers to.

-If a Pastor does sin and the witnesses prove it then he should be rebuked before all that everyone may know that God does not overlook sin. A Pastor has a great position but he also carries a great responsibility.

3. Regarding Partiality 21 Heed the entire Word of God. Don't just preach or study from your favorite text or subject. That's why Pastors and People ought to do regular Book studies in order to cover every subject the Bible covers.

4. Regarding new people 22 BE careful! Pastors and Deacons are to be put to the test before they are accepted and you need to be aware that people are not always what they appear at first. (I think this can also apply to new "Fad" doctrines. Be careful how you pick up every new idea that comes along- Remember when everyone had to wear white shirts to be "saved" or have a bus ministry to be "spiritual"?).

5. Regarding Personal Health 23 The Pastor's Problem- ulcers Noone knows the stress of pastoring like a Pastor. He must deal with people's personal and spiritual problems, the management of the Church, sickness and death among people he loves, be on call 24 hours a day 7 days a week, and learn to have his heart broken week after week by people who are careless in Church attendance and Christian living.

Timothy was told to use the available medicine to help his problem (He was not told to call a "Healer" or admonished for his lack of Faith.). Pastors must realize the stress they're under and care for their bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit

6. Regarding Rewards 24-25 Don't worry. Some people are rewarded- or exposed!- now but some await God's judgment. Don't get jealous or think someone is "getting by" with something. The day is coming when men's secrets will be revealed. Be faithful to the task God has called you to and in faith wait on God's time of recognition.

In chapter 6 Paul is telling young pastor Timothy how to deal with various troubles in the ministry. Among these are people who LOVE money and people who HAVE money. He gives Timothy some guidelines to help show that money can help or hinder the Christian and the Lord's work by our attitude toward it and our actions with it.

I. THE NEGATIVE INFLUENCE OF MONEY 5-10

A) Spiritually: The Wrong Idea- Gain is Godliness. The message being preached in some circles that it is God's will for all His children to be rich is false. *Mk 10:25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.* A man's financial statement is not an indication of his faith- Jesus died penniless and Paul had to make tents to make ends meet.

B) Mentally: The Wrong Goal- They sought contentment in Gain instead of Godliness. They thought the accumulation of things would bring Joy and meaning to life but (like many in today's world) they had to learn that contentment is not in how MUCH you have but in how MEANINGFUL it is. (My wife and I can take a minimum of money and take a few days off and enjoy looking at trees and birds and each other. I hear of others who take expensive trips and see expensive places and come home more dissatisfied than when they went. We take our Peace with us, they're looking for it!).

C) Physically: The Wrong Foundation- They begin to love Gain instead of God. Love for money is a root of evil that brings temptations, foolish and hurtful lusts, and the desire to live by sight instead of Faith. (Remember that Lot chose the well watered valley of Sodom because it LOOKED right. It caused his soul to be vexed, his family to be lost, and he ended up in a cave drunk, committing incest with his daughters. II Pet 2:7, Gen 19:-). It is not the AMOUNT of money you have but your ATTITUDE toward it that counts.

II. THE POSITIVE VALUE OF RICHES 17-19 Material goods are not just for our enjoyment; they are also for our employment- to be used for God's glory and to win souls.

Paul tells Timothy to Charge (Give a solemn command) to the rich that they turn the negative attitudes of money into positive actions.

A) God has given us things to enjoy- not to make us Prideful or Faithless. It's not wrong to enjoy the Blessings that come from wealth. If God has seen that you are able to handle money then you have a right to enjoy the fruits of your labor. Just don't let the fact and fruit of your wealth cause you to foolishly look down on those less fortunate than you or cause you to begin to trust in your abilities instead of God.

B) God has given us money for employment in His Work.

1. Do good, be rich in good works. (Do you attempt to do good as hard as you try to be rich??)
2. Be ready to distribute- liberal and generous hearted Mt 10:8
3. Willing to communicate- sociable, sharing Acts 20:35
4. Lay up Treasures in Heaven Matt 6:19-24

MAKE MONEY A TOOL- DON'T TREASURE OR TRUST IT TOO HIGHLY

I TIMOTHY: GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH

VI. GUIDELINES IN PROVERTY AND PROSPERITY chapter 6

"From whence come wars and fightings among yuu? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?" (James 4:1). Most Church (and family) problems are caused by Discontent among people, wrong Doctrines, or bad Debts. Paul tells Timothy how to deal with all 3 in chapter 6 and in so doing shows us the kind of life we ought to have as a Christian.

A) The Peaceful Life vs 1-5

1. Content with your Situation. 1-2 Paul told the Philippian: he had LEARNED to be content in whatever state he found himself (Phil 4:11). This means that if you're a "slave" or a "master" use your situation to bring Glory to God (See I cor 7:20-24). Too many people never do anything for God because they're too busy telling what they could do IF their situation were different. It's not your situation but your attitude that determines your effectiveness. Are you dissatisfied with yourself (and with others) because you aren't willing to accept your place of Service? Remember that *he that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much (luke 16:10).*

2. Content with God's Salvation 3-5 (Based on turning from sin and trusting in Christ as Saviour). The discontent try to revise or improve God's Plan because they are:

a. Proud of Human Wisdom (See I Cor 1:19-20). They are really "ever learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (II Tim 3:7). Some people just will not accept what they can't understand and Salvation is by FAITH.

b. Passionate (Dote= excessive love) about "nit picking" questions. These questions produce:
ENVY- they that compare themselves among themselves are not wise (II Cor 10:12). Sometimes people question God's Salvation because they envy the Sin of the Sinner or the Service of other Saints.

STRIFE- Free Will Baptist believe in at least 3 major doctrines on when the rapture will take place and we can quarrel over that but we'd better KNOW how a person is saved. (It causes strife when I tell people that their goodness or church membership will not save them).

RAILING- (abuse, insults, and slander). Why I heard that he did "so and so". He's not saved! All of us have made mistakes but sometimes we forget how much we were forgiven when it comes to judging others (see Matt 18:22-35).

EVIL SURMISING (Base suspicions)- I'm just as good as he is! He must be compromising to be so successful. (Some gain 5 talents, and some gain 2 talents but both are called faithful!)

All of this culminates in the PERVERSE DISPUTING of men (constantly quarreling and causing trouble) because they think that accumulating THINGS will satisfy the ache of their heart; not realizing that their heart will only be satisfied when they bow in submission to God.

Paul tells Timothy to "withdraw thyself" from these. Jesus did not argue with Satan. He simply showed him the Word. If a man will not accept God's Word on Salvation then arguing won't help! There are none so blind as those who will not see.

B) The Profitable Life 6-10 Is serving God your goal? Or is Gold your God??

1. Godliness is commended 6-8

-The Profitable Life learns that true Contentment (an inner sufficiency that keeps us at peace in spite of outward circumstances) comes from godliness in the heart, not wealth in the hand.

-It seeks after Godlikeness in the spiritual while trusting with contented faith in God's provision for the physical *Matt 6:33 Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

-It learns to enjoy the luxuries of life while knowing the real basics of life. Food and clothes are the only necessary things. It's when you begin to think everything else is necessary that you get in trouble.

2. Greediness is condemned 9-10 You don't have to have a lot of money to be greedy. The desire for Riches ("will be rich" "love of money") is the problem.

This desire leads to temptation (to use ANY means to get gain), a snare (you make your own trap), and foolish and hurtful lusts (The desire for "things" feeds off of itself and you just want more and more). It causes you to err from the Faith (By making gold your god) and pierces you with many sorrows (You lose your peace, you forsake your friends, and you turn from God. That's sorrow!!).

NOTE- This does not mean that it's wrong to try to improve your situation. If you can remain in God's will and accumulate goods that's fine. Just be sure it's in God's will (Remember Lot in Gen 13 and the Rich Fool with the bigger barns in Luke 12:18).

C) The Purposeful Life 11-21

1. The Goal is Godliness 11-16 Godliness means:

a. Fleeing from some things. (In this case the snares of the Love of Money). Turning to God means you turn from some things.

b. Follow (pursue) some things: Righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. (What are you aiming for in Christian life? Happiness or Holiness??)

c. Fight the good fight of Faith- contend for the really worthwhile prize in life- a productive life for Christ. Keep the example of Christ ever before you and strive to match it.

2. The Gain is for God 17-19 When God does Bless you with material possessions then keep this purpose in mind. Don't allow yourself to begin trusting in the false security of money. God has allowed you to have these things that you may enjoy Life. Don't get caught up in the things; Live Life.

And the secret of really living is learning to share what you have with others in need. (Paul says to share our works, our wealth, and ourselves with others.)

3. The Godly are to be on Guard 20-21 We are to guard as a sacred trust the Truth of the Gospel against attacks from unholy and worthless words (Is your preaching or teaching words to fill an hour or a message to change a heart?) and from opposition from some who have substituted wisdom for Faith (Do you try to convince people or convert them??).

SHILOH SENTINEL

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Vol II Number 27 October 23, 1984 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

IT'S GREAT TO BE A CHRISTIAN, ISN'T IT?? IF YOU LIVE THAT'S CHRIST AND IF YOU DIE THAT'S GAIN! ADD TO THAT THE FACT THAT WE'RE NOW PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST AND CAN ENJOY THE FELLOWSHIP AND SUPPORT OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BODY AND IT'S HARD TO KEEP FROM SAYING "HALLELUJAH!!". I'M SO GLAD GOD SAVED ME, AREN'T YOU???

HERE ARE SOME UPCOMING EVENTS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT:

SUNDAY, OCT. 28

-TIME CHANGE: DON'T FORGET THAT WE CHANGE FROM DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME TO STANDARD TIME THIS SUNDAY.

-FAITH PROMISE OFFERING: THIS SUNDAY IS TIME TO GIVE YOUR FAITH PROMISE OFFERING FOR MISSIONS FOR OCT. GETTING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD IS THE MOST IMPORTANT OBLIGATION WE HAVE AND WE NEED TO BE VERY FAITHFUL IN OUR PRAYING AND GIVING. (AS WELL AS OUR GOING HERE IN OUR OWN COMMUNITY!).

-SPECIAL SPEAKERS: BROTHER JOHN MCCALL WILL SPEAK THIS COMING SUNDAY MORNING AND BROTHER DAVID GIBSON WILL SPEAK SUNDAY NIGHT. COME HEAR THESE MEN SHARE GOD'S WORD WITH YOU.

(THE PASTOR WILL BE SPEAKING AT HOME COMING SERVICES AT BEECH SPRINGS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH JUST NORTH OF TUPELO, MISS. HE AND HIS WIFE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING OLD FRIENDS AND REJOICING IN THE NEW CHURCH AUDITORIUM. THE PEOPLE OF BEECH SPRINGS ARE SOME OF THE NICEST AND FRIENDLIEST PEOPLE AROUND AND IT'S ALWAYS A JOY TO GET TO WORSHIP WITH THEM AGAIN.)

STATE ASSOCIATION- THE FLORIDA STATE ASSOCIATION WILL MEET WEDNESDAY OCT. 31 - FRIDAY, NOV. 2 AT THE HOLLYWOOD FNB CHURCH IN HOLLYWOOD, FL. BROTHEP JIM MCALLISTER WILL BE THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER ON THIS YEAR'S THEME OF "GOD'S PEOPLE MINISTERING TO THEIR COMMUNITY". THE PASTOR AND MRS. PAULA WILL BE LEAVING FOR HOLLYWOOD SOON AFTER ARRIVING HOME FROM MISSISSIPPI AND SHOULD RETURN BY SATURDAY, NOV. 3. PLEASE PRAY FOR SAFETY OF TRAVEL AND A GOOD STATE ASSOCIATION

MISSIONARY- REV DENNIS OWEN, ONE OF OUR MISSIONARIES TO SPAIN WAS OUR GUEST SPEAKER SUNDAY NIGHT, OCT. 21 AND WE REALLY ENJOYED THE MESSAGE AND THE FELLOWSHIP. BROTHER DENNIS IS DUE TO RETURN TO SPAIN IN JANUARY AND OUR PRAYERS ARE THAT GOD WOULD MEET HIS EVERY NEED.



FAMILY FUN NIGHT WED. OCT 31
THE TEEN FELLOWSHIP IS SPONSERING
A TIME OF FAMILY FUN AND FELLOW-
SHIP THIS COMING WEDNESDAY FROM
6:00PM - 9:00PM IN THE CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP BUILDING. CHRISTIAN
HOME FWE CHURCH WILL JOIN WITH US
AS WE OFFER A CHRISTIAN ALTERNATIVE
TO HALLOWEEN. COME JOIN US.

ENTRANCE "FEE" - EACH FAMILY IS ASKED TO BRING A BAG OF CANDY. IT
WILL BE PLACED IN A LARGE TUB AND EVERYONE WILL BE
ALLOWED TO EAT AS THEY DESIRE.
- EACH FAMILY IS ALSO ASKED TO BRING SOME CANNED
FOOD TO BE PLACED IN A BOX FOR LATER DISTRIBUTION
TO THE NEEDY.

COSTUMES -THERE WILL BE A COSTUME CONTEST FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE
TO PARTICIPATE, YOU ARE ASKED TO DRESS AS A BIBLE
CHARACTER, A BIBLE ANIMAL, OR AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A
COUNTRY WHERE OUR FOREIGN MISSIONARIES ARE MINISTERING.

ENTERTAINMENT -THE "CHRISTIAN CLOWNS" OF CHRISTIAN HOME FWE CHURCH
WILL PRESENT A PROGRAM BASED ON A BIBLE PARABLE.
-A NUMBER OF "BOOTHs" WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE TO
WIN PRIZES
-CONTEST AND GAMES WILL TAKE PLACE ALL DURING THE
NIGHT AND EVERYONE WILL BE ASKED TO TAKE PART.
(YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER WHEN YOU ARRIVE AND
THESE NUMBERS WILL BE SELECTED TO DETERMINE
CONTESTANTS IN THE CONTESTS.)

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Vol II Number 28 November 6, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

SUPPORT

The Lord continues to supply the needs of this ministry. I have mailed and given numerous sets of notes away recently and I rejoice in God meeting the needs. Thanks to Rev. John Burnham of Perdido and to numerous people at Beech Springs FWB Church for their help. It's such an exciting thing to be part of a ministry like this where God is continually supplying the finances and using the materials to affect people's lives. Pray with us for God's continued guidance.

REPORT

Paula and I really enjoyed our visit with the people at Beech Springs. They were simply great to us and we had a good day in the Lord. There were over 150 in the morning service and the offering was over \$5300! The Singing was simply marvelous and we really enjoyed seeing old friends again.

Meanwhile back at Shiloh, The Lord was beginning a spirit of Revival thru the preaching of John McCall and David Gibson that will hopefully carry us out of our summer slump into the greatest period of sustained growth in the history of the Church. I believe we can and should double our attendance in 1985. It will take Prayer, work, and obedience to the Lord but those are things we ought to do anyway. Join with us as we reach out to affect our Church, our Community, and our State for Christ.

STATE ASSOCIATION

We had a very good State Association this year. The attendance was good (The church was full each night), the preaching was excellent (Brother Jim McAllister delivered needed and encouraging messages), the Business was brief and business like (Both days sessions ended early), and the food and fellowship were outstanding. The state of Florida has a great potential for doing the Lord's work and I'm excited about the future. I hope that before this decade is over our 78 churches will become 100 and we will have to rent facilities to hold our state meeting because of the number of people attending. (And that needs to begin here at Shiloh. Let's plan to take a bus load to next year's association).

CEMETERY FUND OFFERING

We will receive a special offering for the Bratt-Godwin Cemetery Fund this coming Sunday. Be sure to clearly mark your check.

SUBJECT SELECTION

Have you ever wished you could get the Preacher to talk about a special subject or portion of Scripture? now is your chance. Beginning this coming Wednesday (Nov 7) the Pastor will speak on requested subjects and will continue to do so as long as you request the subjects. This Wed. we will study "Fasting", as per request, and next Wednesday we will look at Gen 1:26. Be sure to let the Pastor know if you have a special subject you want to study.

150

SENIOR SAINTS SUPPER

The Teen Fellowship will sponsor a Thanksgiving Supper in honor of our Senior Saints on Saturday, Nov 17 at 6:00pm in the Church Fellowship Building. All of the older Adult Class plus any of our members over 60 who are not members of the Adult Class are invited to attend. Please sign up this week on the list posted on the Bulletin Board or contact the Pastor so they will know how many to prepare for.

***Our Teen Fellowship is one of the most active parts of our Church program and I commend them on their energy and zeal. Their Family Fun Night was a great success with over 100 people attending and a great time had by all. Following the Thanksgiving Senior Saint Supper they will begin work on a Float to represent the Church in the upcoming Christmas parade. Then they will begin plans for a Youth Day at the Church where the Teens will teach the classes and have charge of the morning service. President Joey McCall and Sponsors Jimmie McElhaney and David Johnson are doing a great work and I look forward to continued progress in 1985.

SPECIAL LADIES MEETING

The Ladies Prayer Group will hold their monthly meeting Thurs. Nov. 8 at 7:00pm at the Church Fellowship Building. They will be serving cake and coffee at this meeting and invite all of the ladies to attend. This group can be the power source for the Church and I urge you to participate.

*** *** *** *** *** ***

SHILOH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238
BRATT, FL 32535

IF YOU DIED TODAY
WOULD YOU GO TO
HEAVEN?????

VISITATION

Very seldom does a crop plant itself. And seldom do you hear of fish jumping into the boat of the fisherman. Yet the average Church member seems to think that sinners will simply walk into Church without any help from the member. It doesn't work that way- you must go if we are to grow. God did not call us just to sit and learn; He called us to go and tell. If you are to be successful in reaching the lost there are several guidelines to keep in mind:

1. Have a schedule- most people plan to go but they let the opportunity go by week after week. Set a time and then go.

2. Have a Plan- What are you going for? There are several types of visitation and you need to know which you are attempting.

a. Soul Winning: attempting to win people to Christ.

b. Sunday School Recruitment: inviting new people and absentees to attend Sunday School.

c. Sick:

d. Survey: door to door to find prospects.

e. Study: Bible Study courses, New Convert lessons

f. Shut-ins: Hospitals, Nursing homes, etc.

g. Strayed members: finding where the lost sheep have gotten to.

3. Go spiritually empowered as an ambassador for Christ:

People can see if you're faking it 30 seconds after they open the door. Love them as Christ loved them and show that love.

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SHILOH SENTINEL

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238 BRATT, FL.
REV. MIKE JONES 369-6460

Vol II Number 29 Nov 19, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PRAISE ITEMS-

Work Night- We had a good attendance for our Church Work Night and a number of projects were completed. I really appreciate the men who took part. The work done helps our Church look better and operate better.

Sign- One of the projects that we worked on during the work night was preparing to put up our announcement sign. It was completed Saturday and we hope it's message will inspire and interest the people of our community. If you have an inspirational message turn it in to the pastor and let it help others also.

Senior Saint Supper- We had a wonderful turn out for the Teen sponsored Senior Saint Supper and a good time was had by all. The food was VERY good, the Bolton's did another outstanding job of singing, and everyone seemed to enjoy the fellowship. Keep up the good work, Teens.

Support- I appreciate a nice Love Offering from Mr Jack Hanna of Lake City, S.C. to help with this ministry. I am amazed at how God continually and consistantly meets our needs.

Agape, J. J. J.

SHILOH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238
BRATT, FL 32535

(Mrs. Ruth Stewart shared this poem with me and I thought I would share it with you.)

MARY HAD A LITTLE BOY

Mary had a little boy, his soul
was white as snow;
He never went to Sunday School
'cause Mary wouldn't go.
He never heard the tales of Christ
that thrills the childish mind;
While other children went to class
this child was left behind.

And so he grew from babe to youth,
she saw to her dismay,
A soul that once was snowy white,
became a dingy gray.
Realizing he was lost, she tried
to win him back,
But now the soul that once was
white had turned an ugly black.

Mary even started back to church,
and Bible study too.
She begged the preacher, "Isn't
there a thing you can do?"
The preacher tried and failed and
said, "we're just too far behind
I tried to tell you years ago, but
you would pay no mind."

And so another soul is lost, that
once was white as snow,
Sunday School could have helped,
but Mary wouldn't go.

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WAYS TO WIN A PERSON TO CHRIST

	JOHN ROAD	REVELATION ROAD	I JOHN ROAD	ISAIAH ROAD	ROMANS ROAD
FACT OF SIN.....	3:18	21:8	1:8	53:6	3:23
JUDGEMENT OF SIN.....	3:36	21:8	2:17	52:12	6:23
CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SIN.....	3:16	5:9	4:9	53:4-10	5:8
ACCEPT CHRIST BY FAITH.....	1:12	3:20	5:12,13	55:6-7	10:9

SOME REASONS WE SHOULD WIN SOULS

1. SINNERS ARE PERISHING *Rev 20:15 Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*
2. GOD IS COMMANDING US *Mk 16:15 Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature*
3. HELL IS REQUESTING US *Luke 16:27 The rich man cried, I pray thee father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: For I have five brethern; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.*
4. HEAVEN IS ENCOURAGING US *Luke 15:15 There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.*
5. JOY IS AWAITING US *Ps 126:5-6 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him.*
6. WISDOM IS CALLING US *Prov 11:30 He that winneth souls is wise.*
7. RESPONSIBILITY IS PRESSING US *Ez 33:8 If thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from the error of his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.*

LET'S GO SOUL WINNING

25 REASONS TO BE SAVED

The greatest thing to happen to anyone at anytime is when that person escapes the penalty of Hell for the Promises of Heaven by Faith in Christ. We accept that and acknowledge that but sometimes the reality of it begins to escape us. I want us today to look at 25 qualities every born again believer has and really appreciate when God has given us in Christ.

EVERY BORN AGAIN BELIEVER IS:

1. FORGIVEN- Col 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Not only are your sins forgiven, they are also forgotten (Heb 10:17 your sins and iniquities will I remember no more), cast behind God's back (Is 38:17), removed as far as the east is from the west (Ps 103:12), and buried in the depths of the sea (Micah 7:19). (And God put up the "no fishing" sign!!).
2. FREE FROM CONDEMNATION- Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus... WE ARE ALSO JUSTIFIED (JUST AS IF I HAD NEVER SINNED) Rom 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
3. A NEW CREATURE- II Corinth 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new THAT'S WHAT BEING BORN AGAIN IS ALL ABOUT.
4. REDEEMED FROM THE SLAVE MARKET OF SIN- Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works. LIBERTY TO SERVE THE LORD IN LOVE.
5. CLEANSED BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST- I Jn 1:7 If we walk in the Light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. Is 1:18 through your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.
6. ACCEPTED IN CHRIST- Ep 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved
7. A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY OF GOD- Ep 2:19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God:
8. A SON OF GOD- Jn 1:12 As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
9. AN HEIR OF GOD- Gal 4:7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. WHAT GOD'S GOT I GET!
10. A MEMBER OF THE BODY OF CHRIST- I Cor 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body... PART OF THE CHURCH
11. A CITIZEN OF HEAVEN- Phil 3:20 For our conversation (citizenship) is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ; THIS MEANS WE'RE PILGRIMS AND STRANGERS ON THIS EARTH.

12. A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL PRIESTHOOD- 1 Pet 2:9 Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

13. THE SALT OF THE EARTH- Matt 5:13 SALT PRESERVES, SEASONS, AND IRRITATES!

14. THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD- Matt 5:14 WE ARE NOT TO HIDE UNDER THE BUSHEL (BUSY) or BED (LAZY).

15. A PROSESSOR OF ETERNAL LIFE- Jn 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. Jn 17:3 This is life eternal, that they may know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

16. ONE OF GOD'S SHEEP- Jn 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: WHICH MEANS THE LORD IS OUR SHEPHERD AND THAT GIVES US PROVISION (I shall not want), PEACE (made to lie down in green pastures), AND PROTECTION (with us in valley of shadow of death).

17. A SAINT- Ep 2:19 ...fellowcitizens with the saints... Col 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light

18. SANCTIFIED- 1 Cor 1:2 to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints. SET APART FOR GOD'S GLORY

19. THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT- 1 Cor 6:19 Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20. GIFTED BY GOD- 1 Cor 12:7 The manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit all with. 12:18 But now hath God set the members everyone to them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

21. SEALED BY THE SPIRIT- Ep 1:13 Ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. BRANDED

22. AN AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST- 1 Cor 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. REPRESENT CHRIST ON EARTH.

23. SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH- Ep 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 boast.

24. HAS A HOME IN HEAVEN- Jn 14:2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you, I go to prepare a place for you.

25. WANTS TO SEE YOU SAVED- Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the Bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come, and whosoever will, let him take the waters of life freely.

25 REASONS I'M GLAD I'M SAVED!

25 REASONS YOU OUGHT TO BE SAVED!!!!

CREATED IN HIS IMAGE Gen 1:26-28

A young boy who sat playing in the mud was approached by an older man who asked him what he was making. The boy replied, "I don't know sir. It all depends on what it looks like when I finish!"

Some people seem to think that God created man in almost this fashion. They have the mistaken idea that God created the earth and then put man on it as an "afterthought". They fail to realize that man was God's purpose for creating the world. Satan had rebelled sending the earth into chaos but God brought it back, re-established order and growth, and put man in charge (Gen 1:26). Man was also to care for the earth and to guard it against Satan's attacks (Gen 2:15). By allowing man this much authority and yet placing within him a free will God had all the ingredients necessary for man to worship Him in Spirit and in truth; and this is what God seeks. (Jn 4:23).

Man failed in this responsibility and came under the condemnation and guilt of sin. The penalty was death and man had no hope because he could not help himself. But Christ, who is the image of the invisible God, delivered us from the power of darkness, and redeemed us through his blood (Col 1:13-15) so that man can again worship and work for God. That's the basics of our relationship. Now let's look at how it's put into practice.

-THE PLAN OF MAN. Gen 1:26-28 As God is 3 in 1 (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) so He made man 3 in 1 (Body, soul, and spirit) and put him in charge of 3 kinds of creatures- fowls (air), fish (water), and flesh (land). Thus when we say that man is created in God's image it does not mean that he LOOKS like God. (Otherwise everyone would look alike); it means he reflects God's "form". NOTE: It may be helpful in understanding the difference between body, soul, and spirit if we look at the activities of each.

BODY - sight, smell, hearing, taste, touch

SOUL - imagination, conscience, memory, reason, affection

SPIRIT - faith, hope, love, worship, will

This does not mean that the body is unimportant. It becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit when a person is saved, (Cor 6:19-20) and as such we should not abuse or misuse it.

****What about putting a baboon heart in a baby??** As far as I'm concerned there are more medical than moral reasons to avoid this. If I can't find a Plymouth part for my Plymouth I don't mind using a Ford part (although it should be obvious that all "Ford" parts will not fit in a "Plymouth"). I would rather a baboon die to keep a person alive than another person. Pig valves have been used in heart surgery for a number of years. Using another part to keep the body up shows no disrespect for the "image of God". (Just as a deformed person or amputee are just as important in God's sight as a "whole" person.)

(Be aware that this is on the verge of the gray and black areas of medicine and morals. Artificial birth and artificial life systems and the whole "can of worms" are just a short step away. Be careful that a help doesn't become a hinderance when taken too far.)

-REPRODUCTION Gen 5:3 Adam begat a son in his own likeness, after his image: Man was to be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth (Gen 1:28) and his descendents are born with the same characteristics as he. (Including the sin nature Rom 5:12.)

****Abortion:** This is one of the reasons we oppose abortion. We believe that a child is a person from the moment of conception and as such is part of God's plan. (Jer 1:5)

-CAPITAL PUNISHMENT Gen 9:6 *Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.* Because men are part of God's plan their death by another man means punishment is necessary. Murder is not just a crime against man but against God.

-CONCERN FOR OTHERS James 3:8-9 *But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.* If a man loves God he will love those created in the image of God and his love will manifest itself in concern and action. (James 2:15-16)

-ACCEPTING OUR PLACE IN LIFE I Corinth 11:7 *For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man.* Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are equally God yet the Son submitted to the Father and the Spirit glorifies the Son.

-SALVATION Rom 8:29 *For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.* The ultimate purpose of God is that we return to fellowship with Him by Faith in Christ. Then as we learn more of Christ (the beloved Son, well pleasing to the Father) we become more and more like Him (II Cor 3:18) until that final glorious day when we are resurrected to bear the image of the Heavenly Father (I Cor 15:49, Ps 17:15).

The Pharisees came to Jesus one day to ask Him about paying taxes. He took a coin and asked them whose image it bore. Then He told them to "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's" (Matt 22:15-21). You are created in God's image and 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 (Rom 12:1).

NEHEMIAH: LEARNING TO WORK AND WORSHIP TOGETHER

"Fasting" Neb 1:4 And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven,

Fasting is something seldom preached on and practiced even less!! Yet when Nehemiah was faced with the burden of Jerusalem the first thing he did was to fast and pray. Why don't people fast today? Is it because they view it as an Old Testament principle to be ignored today? Do they neglect it because they're confused about what it is, when it should be practiced, and how it should be done? Are they missing a help for their spiritual and physical life? Let's look for the Bible answers.

I. WHAT IS FASTING?

Fasting in the Bible comes from words meaning (1) "to not eat", (2) "without grain or food", (3) "to cover the mouth" (I wonder how many people would rather give up food for a day instead of talk!!), and (4) "to afflict or humble oneself".

Therefore Fasting= To voluntarily deny the body something for a specific purpose. For Christians this means we abstain from something in order to draw near to God. (Dieting means we abstain from food to lose weight. Fasting means we abstain from food in order to spend eating time drawing near to God.)

There are several things the Bible list that can be abstained from when we fast:

1) Food (Fasting is not starving! It does not exhaust the bodies resources and abuse the body, which is the temple of the Holy Spirit.) It can be abstaining from all food for 1 meal or 1 day or longer. (Several in the Bible fasted for 40 days.) It can also be abstaining from certain foods for spiritual reasons (As Daniel and his friends in Dan. 1:-. This fasting not only produced a greater spiritual witness and awareness but it also made them much healthier and more mentally alert. Dan. 1:15,20..)

2) Sleep II Sam 12:16 David praying for sick child

Dan 6:18 Darius praying for Daniel's deliverance from the lion's den

Practically this could mean getting up an hour early to pray and read the Bible. (How many people are willing to sacrifice several hours sleep for a ball game or movie but aren't willing to give up any sleep for God?)

3) Sex I Cor 7:5 (By mutual consent in order to pray)

4) Anything you have a right to do but abstain from doing in order to draw near to God in prayer. (A night of TV, a day of fishing or hunting, a day of shopping, etc.)

II. WHEN SHOULD I FAST? Jesus did not say "if" but "when" you fast (Matt 6:16) and that we would need to fast after the bridegroom left (Luke 5:35).

1) In time of Need- The heart just naturally seeks to have God's close presence and earthly matters lose their appeal.

a. Hannah seeking a child I Sam 1:7

b. David praying for sick child II Sam 12:16

c. Paul's shipmates fasted 14 days in storm Acts 27:33

2) In time of Sorrow. See Luke 5:33-35 Jesus said we don't fast when God is blessing and the sun is shining but we do when the storm clouds are hanging over head.

3) In time of approaching Danger. Esther 4:16 Esther requested that people fast and pray for her before she put her life on the line by approaching the King.

4) To defeat Satan. Certain demons are only defeated by fasting and prayer Matt 17:21

5) To draw near to God. Anna "served God with fastings and prayers night and day" Luke 2:27. Jesus fasted at the beginning of his ministry (Matt 4:2) and Paul fasted while he awaited God's direction for his life (Acts 9:9). Paul said that one of the marks of a good minister was fasting (II Cor 6:5) and when he listed the things he had done he listed "fasting often" among them (II Cor 11:27).

III. HOW SHOULD YOU FAST??

There are 3 basic types of Fast and the type will determine how you fast.

1) National: 3 kinds of National Fasts

a) When disaster strikes I Sam 31:11-13 King died

b) National Repentance I Sam 6:3-6 Samuel led in Revival

c) Set times by God: Zech 8:19 Thus saith the Lord of hosts; the fast of the fourth month, and the fast of the fifth, and the fast of the seventh, and the fast of the tenth, shall be to the house of Judah and joy and gladness, and cheerful feasts: therefore love the truth and peace.

2) Church Wide Acts 13:2 When seeking what to do and who to lead. (Most people make their plans and then ask God to bless them!!). Ezra 8:21 Then I proclaimed a fast there...that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us....

3) Personal

a) In Secret - Not to be seen of men but to draw near to God Matt 6:16-18

- Not as a ritual. The Pharisee in Luke 18:9-14 fasted twice a week but didn't draw near to God.

b) By Service. God told Isaiah that we could fast not only by giving up something FOR self but also by giving OF self. Is 58:6-7 Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

Remember that Fasting when properly done is a way to increase:

1. Holiness- Joel 2:12-13 *Therefore also now, saith the Lord, Turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your hearts, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.* As you give up selfish desires to seek God you will find your spiritual life vastly improved.

2. Help- Matt 6:18 *That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.* When the loving heart of God sees his child in anguish He is naturally disposed to render the help needed. Jer 29:13 *Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.*

3. Health- A practical Fast could go like this:
Begin after supper and fast the next day and night until Break-fast the next day (Drink water during this time). An alternative is to begin after breakfast and fast until breakfast the next day. (There are some who say that God set aside 1 day in 7 to rest and we should do the same thing for our digestive system. That way we are continually strengthened physically as well as spiritually (By waiting on the Lord. Is 40:31). A days fast allows the body to dispose of excess waste that tends to poison our system. As these waste are eliminated you will have increased energy, be more alert, and possibly become less depressed, anxious, and worried. (Notice how often a wounded animal will go off and lay without being burdened with the poison of food waste and the lose of energy needed to digest that food. Ever notice how tired and sleepy you get after eating a big meal??).

But remember that this is simply dieting if there is no devotion. Use the saved time to seek God or to serve others. Fasting is helpful and needful. DO YOU??

SHILOH

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
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SENTINEL

Vol II Number 30 Nov. 27, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

We are having a Gospel Sing this coming Friday Night (Nov 30) featuring the Brashear Family of Russelville, Arkansas. It begins at 7:00pm and you are invited to attend. Everyone in the Bratt area is receiving a newsletter with the information about the singing on it but I knew that many of you that receive the newsletter on a regular basis could not come because of distance so I decided to use this opportunity to share some thoughts with you.

Before I do, let me express my appreciation to the many of you who have supported this ministry with your gifts, your prayers, and your encouragement. Many people in many states receive our notes and often they will tell me of how they are teaching or preaching on a subject with help obtained from the notes. This is a real Blessing to me as I see the original seed multiplied thru use. One of these days I hope to have the time and equipment to do this right but until I do I appreciate your support. (If you change your address or if your address is incorrect please let me know as the Post Office will not normally forward nonprofit mail.)

I think one of the greatest needs in Christianity today is the BURDENED CHRISTIAN. When Nehemiah heard about the problems in Jerusalem he became so burdened until it affected him Physically (Neh 2:2), Spiritually (He repented for himself and his nation), Mentally (His thoughts were continually on how to rebuild the walls), and Socially (He gained new friends and new enemies). He had a good position and was probably being a good witness where he was but when God put the burden of Jerusalem on his heart he couldn't shake it. God grant us some Christians like that!!

So often people only work for Pay, Position, or Pride and the work of God exists but that's all. When you really get a burden for a work it changes from a living to a life; it's not something you do, it's something you are. A Burdened Heart would change an ill-prepared, ill-tempered Sunday School Teacher into a patient, prepared, praying person. It would change a Pastor looking for a greener pasture with more benefits into a servant of God willing to do anything, anywhere for God. And it would change complacent Church Members into Prayer warriors, Soul Winners, and Willing Workers. Are YOU willing to be broken and burdened to be a Blessing???

Ex 22:30 AND I SOUGHT FOR A MAN AMONG THEM, THAT SHOULD MAKE UP THE HEDGE, AND STAND IN THE GAP BEFORE ME FOR THE LAND, THAT I SHOULD NOT DESTROY IT; BUT I FOUND NONE.



WE HAVE A BUSY MONTH AHEAD OF US AND WE
INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE
BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOUR.

- Dec. 2- Called Church Meeting to discuss
buying bond to help Gainesville
Mission.
- Teen Fellowship Meeting to discuss
numerous December activities.
- Dec. 6- Ladies Prayer Meeting 7:00pm
- Dec. 8- Adult Class Christmas Party. Meet
at Church at 6:00pm to go to supper
at Adrians
- Dec. 15- Senior Adult Class Christmas Party
6:00pm at Fellowship Building
- Dec. 16- Beginner Class Christmas Party
- Dec. 19- Community Caroling following Prayer
Service
- Dec. 23- Christmas Program 6:00pm
Fellowship Supper 7:30pm

The sad truth is that many people do not rejoice at this time of year in the birth of a Saviour- they groan at the Burden of Christmas. There is extra expense (Presents, Parties, Shopping trips...) and there is extra Pressure (What do I buy_____, How do I buy \$500 worth of gifts with \$100?, How do I find time to do everything?). Let me share some good news with you: 1) God's Gift of eternal life by Faith in Christ Jesus is free and available to whosoever will accept it. And 2) When you accept God's Gift you are not only Saved from the penalty of sin but you are empowered with the Holy Spirit to live the new life you've received.

A New Birth and a New Life. Have I got a Christmas Present for you!!! Come and accept it this week.

SHILOH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238
BRATT, FL 32535

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SHILOH

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238 BRATT, FL.
REV MIKE JONES 369-6460

SENTINEL

Vol II Number 30 Nov. 27, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

GOSPEL SINGING

FRIDAY NOV. 30 7:00PM

AT

SHILOH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

THE FEATURED SINGERS WILL BE THE BRASHEAR FAMILY OF RUSSELVILLE, ARKANSAS. THE BRASHEAR FAMILY HAVE BEEN PROCLAIMED BY THE GOVERNOR AS ARKANSAS' AMBASSADORS OF GOODWILL. THEY SING SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC WITH LIGHT CONTEMPORARY AND COUNTRY GOSPEL MIXED IN. THEIR PURPOSE IS NOT JUST TO ENTERTAIN BUT TO ENTERTAIN WITH THE PURPOSE OF LEADING PEOPLE TO CHRIST.

THE BRASHEAR FAMILY BEGAN SINGING IN 1972 AND HAVE WON A NUMBER OF AWARDS FOR THEIR MUSIC INCLUDING BEING VOTED GROUP OF THE YEAR BY THE SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC ASSOCIATION AND FAVORITE MIXED GROUP BY THE GOSPEL NEWS FAN AWARDS. EACH OF THE GROUP MEMBERS HAVE ALSO WON NUMEROUS AWARDS FOR THEIR TALENTS AS PART OF THE GROUP.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL SERVICE AND ENJOY GOD'S BLESSINGS. THERE IS NO ADMISSION CHARGE (A LOVE OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED) SO BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND EXPECT A BLESSING.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT US AT 369-6460

Ps 149:1 Praise ye the Lord. Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise in the congregation of saints.

Ps 147:1 Praise ye the Lord: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant: and praise is comely.



WE HAVE A BUSY MONTH AHEAD OF US AND WE
INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE
BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOUR.

- Dec. 2- Called Church Meeting to discuss
buying bond to help Gainesville
Mission.
Teen Fellowship Meeting to discuss
numerous December activities.
- Dec. 6- Ladies Prayer Meeting 7:00pm
- Dec. 8- Adult Class Christmas Party. Meet
at Church at 6:00pm to go to supper
at Adrians
- Dec. 15- Senior Adult Class Christmas Party
6:00pm at Fellowship Building
- Dec. 16- Beginner Class Christmas Party
- Dec. 19- Community Caroling following Prayer
Service
- Dec. 23- Christmas Program 6:00pm
Fellowship Supper 7:30pm

The sad truth is that many people do not rejoice at this time of year in the birth of a Saviour- they groan at the Burden of Christmas. There is extra expense (Presents, Parties, Shopping trips...) and there is extra Pressure (What do I buy_____, How do I buy \$500 worth of gifts with \$100?, How do I find time to do everything?). Let me share some good news with you: 1) God's Gift of eternal life by Faith in Christ Jesus is free and available to whosoever will accept it. And 2) When you accept God's Gift you are not only Saved from the penalty of sin but you are empowered with the Holy Spirit to live the new life you've received.

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ROUTE 2 BOXHOLDER

SHILOH SENTINEL

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238 BRATT, FL
REV MIKE JONES 369-6460

Vol II Num 31 Dec. 11, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR RESIGNS

REV MIKE JONES RESIGNED AS PASTOR OF SHILOH FWB CHURCH FOLLOWING THE MORNING SERVICE ON SUNDAY, DEC. 9 AND GAVE HIS 30 DAY NOTICE. HE STATED THAT HIS LOVE FOR THE CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY HAD NOT CEASED BUT THAT, AFTER MUCH PRAYER, HE FELT IT WAS GOD'S WILL.

IT HAS BEEN A GOOD AND FRUITFUL 3 YEARS OF MINISTRY. WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REMODEL THE PARSONAGE INCLUDING NEW WINDOWS AND CENTRAL HEAT AND AIR. WE ADDED A BAPTISTERY AND REMODELED THE BAPTISTERY AREA. WE PADDED THE PEWS AND PUT UP A NEW CHURCH SIGN. AND WE WERE ABLE TO INCREASE OUR CHURCH FINANCIAL BALANCE WHILE WE DID ALL THIS! (IN EVERY CHURCH I'VE

PASTORED WE HAVE SPENT MONEY LIKE IT WAS GOING OUT OF STYLE AND, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, OUR FINANCIAL BALANCE HAS INCREASED. I BELIEVE THE REASON IS THAT THE FIRST THING I DO AT A CHURCH IS STRESS FAITH PROMISE GIVING TO MISSIONS. OUR CHURCH HAS GIVEN A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT TO MISSIONS IN THE PAST 3 YEARS- WE SHOULD HAVE DONE MORE- AND I BELIEVE THAT'S ONE OF THE KEYS TO FINANCIAL GROWTH).

ALL OF THESE "THINGS" WE DID ARE NOT WHAT A MINISTRY IS ABOUT THOUGH. MINISTRY IS REACHING PEOPLE FOR JESUS CHRIST. THERE WE HAVE HAD SOME SUCCESS BUT NOT NEARLY AS MUCH AS WE WOULD HAVE LIKED. WE HAVE RECEIVED 42 NEW MEMBERS INTO THE CHURCH DURING THE PAST 3 YEARS AND, YET, I CAN
(CONTINUED ON BACK)

=====

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(CONTINUED FROM FRONT) RIDE THRU OUR COMMUNITY AND SEE HOUSE AFTER HOUSE WHERE PEOPLE NEED TO RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOUR. MY PRAYER IS THAT SOMEHOW GOD WILL SEND SOMEONE TO REACH THESE PEOPLE BEFORE ITS TOO LATE.

IT'S JUST BEFORE 6AM AS I WRITE THIS AND THE SUN IS JUST BEGINNING TO RISE ON WHAT PROMISES TO BE ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL DAY IN BRATT. I'M EXCITED ABOUT THE DAY AHEAD AND I'M EXCITED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH. THIS CHURCH HAS POTENTIAL TO BE ONE OF THE GREAT CHURCHES IN OUR DENOMINATION AND IF THE MEMBERS WILL ALLOW GOD TO USE THEM I BELIEVE THE BEST IS YET TO COME. LET'S MAKE THE NEXT 30 DAYS THE MOST PRODUCTIVE IN THE CHURCH'S HISTORY SO THAT THE NEW PASTOR CAN COME IN WITH A RUNNING START.

PRAYER ITEMS- 1. PRAY FOR THE PASTOR AND HIS WIFE AS THEY SEEK GOD'S NEW PLACE OF SERVICE. WE'RE BOTH READY TO SETTLE SOMEWHERE AND REACH AND BUILD PEOPLE FOR JESUS. GOD HAS ALWAYS BELSSED US WITH GOOD CHURCHES AND GOOD PEOPLE AND I'M EXCITED ABOUT THE FUTURE. 2. PRAY FOR THE DEACONS AS THEY SEEK A NEW PASTOR TO LEAD HERE. GOD HAS JUST THE RIGHT MAN; IT'S JUST A MATTER OF BEING RECEPTIVE TO GOD'S LEADERSHIP.

PRAISE ITEMS- I MADE THE DECISION TO RESIGN LAST WEDNESDAY MORNING AND IN THE MAIL THAT DAY WAS A LETTER FROM DR. J.D. NORRIS OF THE LAKE JACKSON FWB CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE SAYING THAT HE HAD A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT HE WANTED TO DONATE TO THE NEWSLETTER MINISTRY. IT IS A SINGER FLEXOWRITER THAT CAN BE PROGRAMED TO WRITE LETTERS. IT NEEDS SOME WORK BUT IF I CAN GET IT TO WORK LIKE IT'S SUPPOSED TO THEN IT WILL BE A REAL ASSET.

THE BLESSING IN THIS IS THAT IT WAS GOD'S WAY OF SAYING THAT EVEN IF I CHANGE CHURCHES THE NEWSLETTER AND BOOKLET MINISTRY WILL CONTINUE. THE LORD HAS BEEN SO GOOD ABOUT SUPPLYING EQUIPMENT AND FINANCES AND I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE I'LL MINISTER NEXT BUT I DO KNOW THAT WE'LL HAVE THE NEWSLETTER AND BOOKLET MINISTRY THERE SO IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER YOU NEED TO LET ME KNOW BEFORE JAN 10. IF I DON'T HEAR FROM YOU THEN I WILL ASSUME YOU NO LONGER WANT TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER. (I'M NOT ASKING FOR AN OFFERING OR ANYTHING I JUST NEED TO KNOW IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER.)

NEHEMIAH: LEARNING TO WORK AND WORSHIP TOGETHER

"Nehemiah, the Patriot"

This is the last historical book of the Old Testament. It was written around 430 BC and shows how God used a burdened layman to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

At the end of the 70 years of Captivity a group of Jews returned under Zerubbabel and built the Temple. Then there is a gap of 58 years, (During which Esther is chosen Queen and saves her people) until Ezra leads another group back and Revival and Reform take place under his leadership. About 13 years later Nehemiah become burdened for the City and is given permission to return and rebuild the WALLS. (The Temple was completed earlier. Now the Walls were needed for Defense and Unity).

A Brief chronology of the time would look like this:

- 606- The Babylonians begin their invasion and the deportation of prisoners.
- 587- Jerusalem falls to the enemy
- 539- Babylon falls to Cyrus and the Medio-Persian empire begins
- 538- Cyrus gives his edict permitting the Jews to return to Jerusalem
- 536- About 50,000 Jews return. The Altar is rebuilt and sacrifices begin to be offered
- 520- The work begins again under Haggai and Zechariah's preaching
- 515- The Temple is completed and dedicated
- 476- Esther becomes Queen of Persia
- 458- Ezra comes to Jerusalem. Spiritual reforms follow
- 445- Nehemiah returns to rebuild the walls and establish the government of Jerusalem.

Nehemiah is one of the great examples in the Bible of a man who uses all of the ingredients of success- Prayer, Planning, and Perservance. These all come out when you notice his Character, His Concern, and His Common Sense.

I. HIS CHARACTER- Strictly Honest

- Conscientious devotion to duty
- Unbending integrity in motive and purpose
- Practical godliness

He was a man that loved his country and his God and was willing to do his duty for both.

II. HIS CONCERN- (Whenever there is a Revival of God's work, some heart must become burdened as Nehemiah did)

- Like Moses, he counted the treasures of the World as naught for the opportunity to work for God.
- Like the disciples, he was willing to give up his family and his occupation to follow Christ.
- Like Christ, he was willing to be made of no reputation to bring glory to God.

Every great work of God begins when a man of God is willing to leave the Wealth for the Walls and to Weep and Work to relieve the reproach of the people of God.

III. HIS COMMON SENSE He mixed agonizing with organizing and found the secret to success.
He prayed, He planned, He organized, and He worked.
You must learn to depend on God but use your own strength.

The outline of the first part of the book shows how he worked:

- Chapter 1 The Problem- Begin with an understanding of the need: People in affliction, walls torn down.
- Chapter 2 The Preparation- Determine what's needed to do the job. Spend time considering and looking. Don't begin until you have an idea of what needs to be done and how you will do it. Count the Cost.
- Chapter 3 The Participation- Everyone has a job and a responsibility. (Common Sense- everyone works in own neighborhood)
- Chapter 4 The Persecutions- Expect some difficulties along the way.
- Chapter 5 The People- Project problems often turn into people problems. Don't let the project become more important than the people. The Lord did not come to save projects but people!
- Chapter 6 The Phonies- Be aware of wolves in sheep's clothing. Sometimes people who claim to help are really out to hinder. Pray for Wisdom.
- Chapter 7 The Participates- Recognize the people who have done the job. A recognition is often the way to renew effort for the next job.

Men look for better methods. God looks for burdened men. May God raise up Heroes of Faith FROM this generation FOR this generation. If the work of God and the people of God are brought to reproach it will be because we fail to do the work God has called us to do.

Enlist in God's army today- and fight the good fight of Faith.

Ps 137:4-6 How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy.

NEHEMIAH: LEARNING TO WORK AND WORSHIP TOGETHER

"The Burden for the Work" Neh 1:-

One of my favorite fables is that of the young man about to be married. He goes to his future Family's home and finds them all moaning and crying in the basement. Upon inquiry, he finds that they're afraid that when his daughter has children then the child will come into the basement and be hit by a falling axe that is presently sticking in the ceiling beam. The young man laughs at them and removes the axe. He then seeks to find 3 people more foolish than this family.

We too may laugh at such a silly situation but I wonder how often We mourn about problems in our country, our community, and our church because we aren't willing to do something about the situation. I want us to look at a man who saw a need and then set about to become a part of the answer instead of a part of the problem.

Nehemiah was a man of great power and prestige in Babylon but he is remembered because he became a man of great purpose for God. Men always look for better programs but God looks for better men!! God is still today looking for men that will yield themselves to Him so that He can use them to build the work of God. Are you the one He's looking for???

I. THE PROBLEM 1-3 You cannot find the solution until you recognize the problem. Nehemiah received word that the people of Jerusalem were in great affliction and reproach because the walls of Jerusalem still had not been built nor the gates repaired. This meant the people were discouraged (How would YOU like to live among rubble that consistantly reminded you of how helpless you were?) and defeated (They had no help or hope. Someone there should have done something but no one would take the first step.).

People need a rallying point. Sometimes to build people you must build "walls". (But remember this, the walls were needed. This was not "make work". The defense and unity of the city depended on these walls going up.)

If we are to be effective today then we too must realize the needs of lost people and seek to work on their problems.

Lost people are in:

1) Darkness (Jn 3:19)- They need LIGHT. (Jesus is the Light Jn 8:12 I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. And Christians are to be lights- Matt 5:14. Don't hide it under a bushel (Busy) or bed (Lazy).

2) Dispair- Ep 2:12 without Christ, having no hope- They need hope which comes when they trust Christ as LORD (Ep 2:13 Now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were afar off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.) Their sins are forgiven and they find new life.

3) Death- Ep 2:1 dead in trespasses and sins- They need LIFE that is found by faith in Christ.

When lost people aren't saved it may be because we fail to recognize the problem and then fail to become part of the answer.

II. THE PRAYER 4-7 The problem drove Nehemiah to God. Too often problems drive us from God and we end up with more problems. This was not a "now I lay me down to sleep" prayer. This was a real Prayer.

A) Real Prayer grows out of a burdened heart- The problem troubled Nehemiah. When's the last time you were deeply troubled by sin and sinners?? A Sinner won't get saved as long as there is no conviction and a Christian won't work as long as there is no burden.

B) Real Prayer begins by worshipping God- Nehemiah acknowledged God as his source of Help and Hope. The "Lord's Prayer" begins with worship of God and an effective prayer will do so also. (Many people's "prayers" are little more than talking to themselves! They don't seek God; they simply make request.)

C) Real Prayer acknowledges Sin- "both I and my father's house have sinned". And the sin was twofold:

1) The wrong we do- "we dealt very corruptly against thee"

2) The right we fail to do- "we have not kept thy commandments"

If we CONFESS our sins he is faithful and just to forgive.

III. THE PROMISE- 8-9 God had given a Promise to Israel that included a warning and a Blessing. (There must always be something to anchor your hope on. After all, if you build a great building on the sand you'll just have a great fall in the storm!!)

A) The Warning- "If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad." God's promises for the punishment of sin are just as real as His promises for the forgiveness of sins. *Rom 11:21-22 For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness; otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.*

If God's chosen nation could go into captivity because of sin then be aware that you can also!!

B) The Promised Blessing- "If ye turn unto me, and do my commandments I will gather them ..."

The Blessings are ours if we

1) Turn from sin to God

2) Do the commandments of God.

If you're missing God's blessings then you have no one to blame but self.

IV. THE PLEA 10-11 A specific request from God- Prosper me in getting to do the work. What do you want God to do??? Are you willing to be part of the answer? "Here am I, send me".

Are the "walls" of your life broken down?? Let Jesus show you how to repair them.

Are you "moaning" over the sad situation of the Church and the world?? Volunteer for action.

NEHEMIAH: LEARNING TO WORK AND WORSHIP TOGETHER

"Broken Walls"

Nearly 70 years passed between the building of the temple and the building of the walls of Jerusalem. You can't help but wonder about why there was this great delay in doing such a needful work. And yet, today, this same type attitude exist in the work of God. Whenever a building project is completed everyone decides to "rest" awhile and it soon becomes almost impossible to get started doing anything else. Once a group of people get stopped and settled it requires a tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm to get them re-started. (It is much easier to direct a moving object!)

I want to examine this situation and see the Reasons and the Results and find help for the work of God today.

I. REASONS FOR BROKEN WALLS

A) Why the walls were broken down- SIN

1. National Sin- Israel had gone from worship of God to worship of evil and Idols and finally God led them into captivity. Isaiah summed it up this way- *Is 5:4-5* What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? Wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes? And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down:

a. America saw it's walls start to crumble in 1973. In January of that year the Supreme Court legalized Abortion (murder) and in October we had an oil embargo that over tripled the price of oil and shook our nation to it's roots.

b. America's Churches stopped preaching against sin and now the nation (and the church) is being destroyed by divorce, incest, pornography, alcohol, and drugs.

2. Personal Sin- After David confessed his sin with Bath-sheba he was then able to ask God to "build thou the walls of Jerusalem" (Ps 51:18). Defeated, discouraged, dejected Christians are simply showing that their "walls" are broken down. Christians seem to think Holiness in Life and Lips is no longer applicable today and somehow they have forgotten that God said our song should be *We have a strong city: salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks (Is 26:1).*

Is Satan able to defeat you time after time because your walls are crumbled by Sin???

B) Why the Walls weren't rebuilt (Such an obvious need. Why didn't the people build the broken walls??)

1. Lazy People

a. content with the situation- satisfied to live among rubble and in defeat because they didn't want to rock the boat and, after all, they were surviving.

b. concerned only with self- who worries about other people or God's Honor when I have a home to live in.

2. Leadership Problems- No one was willing to take the first step. Everyone thought someone else should do it. God had to bring in someone with a burdened heart from Babylon

3. Large Piles of rubbish- Neh 4:10 Judah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we were not able to build the walls. The vastness of the task causes many people to hesitate to begin. A 1000 mile journey begins with 1 step.

II. THE RESULTS OF BROKEN WALLS

A) No Protection- Constant Fear

Constant Failure

No wonder so many Christians have hung their harps on the willows.

B) No Unity- The walls changed individual houses into a city. The Body of Christ (The Church) is often ineffective because the hand is doing one thing while the arm is doing another!

C) No Separation- The walls allow the Christian to be in the world but not of the world. The boat is in the water but we don't want the water in the boat.

Are you defeated and discouraged because the walls are broken down? Find out why- are you committing sin?? Are you compromising with sin?? Look to an outside leader - Jesus - and ask Him to restore the wall so you can have victory, do your part as a Christian, and live a life of Holiness.

NEHEMIAH: LEARNING TO WORK AND WORSHIP TOGETHER

"The Changes Caused by Commitment" Neh 2:-

Nehemiah had heard of the problems of Jerusalem in Chapter 1 and was burdened to pray for God to use him to help correct the situation. Now, nearly 4 months later, this burden has affected him in a number of ways. I want to look at these changes and help us to understand that these same changes will take place in a person when they become burdened for the work and will of God.

I. PHYSICALLY 1-3 The burden of Heart affected Nehemiah so much until the King questioned him about it. (The night I was saved my mother asked me what had happened the moment I walked into the house.)

A. It will affect your attitude- you'll joy in the midst of sorrows and, yet, you will sorrow over a world laughing its way to Hell.

B. It will affect your looks- You'll wear modest, decent apparel that brings honor to God, not self. You'll have a glow of God about you. Like Moses, you may not know it, but when you spend time alone with God it causes your face to shine. (The greatest compliment I get is when people ask me if I'm a Preacher when they see me.)

Do people take knowledge of you that you have been with Christ?

II. SPIRITUALLY 4 You look for opportunities to be used of God and you bathe every decision in prayer. You don't look for an excuse, you look for an opportunity.

III. MENTALLY 5-8

A. You have a purpose that you work toward- a vision

B. You plan how best to accomplish that purpose- you use the wisdom God has given you.

IV. SOCIALLY 9-10

A. You acquire new friends- you're part of God's family

B. You acquire new enemies- because your light exposes darkness.

V. INTELLECTUALLY 11-20

A. He surveyed the need- you learn to consider the problem and count the cost.

B. He shared the burden- a burden burns in a man's soul until he must share it. (See Jer 20:9)

C. He shunned the Scorners- a man on a mission doesn't have time to listen to dogs bark!

When a man and woman decide to get married they make a commitment to one another. That commitment changes them - from care-free unconcern to loving responsibility. When a person is saved and gets a burden from God he also will make a commitment that will change him.

Are YOU willing to accept the changes commitment brings?

NEHEMIAH: LEARNING TO WORK AND WORSHIP TOGETHER

"Building the Walls" Neh. 3:-

Nehemiah had heard of the problems in Jerusalem, his heart was burdened and he began to pray that God would use him to correct the situation. His burden was so great until the King noticed his appearance and asked Nehemiah what the Problem was. Nehemiah told the King he wanted to go and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. The King gave permission and Nehemiah set out for Jerusalem. Upon arrival he surveyed the situation and then laid his burden before the people.

Now the time has come to begin. It was not enough to have a burden; that burden must compel Nehemiah to build. And Nehemiah could not build by himself, he needed help. When he shared his burden with others they begin to see the need and the work began.

I. THE WALL

- A) The Workers "A Place for Everyone" There are 42 different groups of workers mentioned.
- vs 1- The high priest led the way
 - vs 2- Neighboring cities helped
 - vs 8- Artisans (goldsmiths) and Merchants helped (see vs 13-31)
 - vs 9- The Mayor's son helped
 - vs 12- Even Women helped (he and his daughters)
 - vs 14-19- Officials of other cities helped
 - vs 23-30- Householders helped

So today the Church as the body of Christ has a job and a gift for everyone. Jesus called old men and young, fishermen and tax collectors, Zealots and Doubters to be his disciples. Most of the Time God calls us as missionaries to a factory, a farm, or a family instead of to Africa or India but there is a place for everyone.

- B) The Cooperation "Everyone in His Place"
- Nehemiah couldn't build the wall alone
 - The people couldn't build the wall alone
 - Together they could build as each fulfilled his own responsibility. It's amazing what can be accomplished when everyone simply does what they're supposed to do.

Many of the people worked where they lived. Day after day they had seen the need but they did not begin work until everyone caught the burden. Most people can tell you what needs to be done in a church or community but they're scared to venture out on their own. (A leader is simply someone who is willing to take the first step.)

- Some did extra work (But some would not work vs 5)
- Some were the only ones named from their family
- Some were more zealous than others (vs 20 EARNESTLY)

If the Church today is to work together to accomplish God's work on Earth it must have a:

1. Message- Christ
2. Mission- Getting people to Know and Show Christ
3. Minister- To follow
4. Members- To Work
5. Means- To work with
6. Men- To take the "chances" of Faith
7. Miracles- Of Faith (Otherwise we're like a "Club")

II. THE GATES The main reference points for much of the wall were the doors that led into the city. These 12 doors were the means to enter into the city and as we see the people repairing these means of access it should make each of us realize who can enter and how they can enter into that Heavenly Jerusalem.

1. Dung Gate Neh 12:31 This is the gate they used when they carried out the city's trash. This may be the gate that the prodigal Son, the woman at the well, and Mary Magdalene used.

2. Water Gate Neh 12:37 This is where the word of God was taught (Neh 8:1) and represents the Study of God's Word (see Ep 5:26). This is people who come in via the Sunday School, CTS, Vacation Bible School route. What a tremendous responsibility a Teacher has.

3. Ephraim Gate Neh 12:39 Ephraim was the name given to the northern Kingdom. Here it represents Relatives. When Andrew met Jesus he immediately wanted his brother Peter to meet Him. Most people in the average Church came in because of some relative or family connection. Will the circle be unbroken?

4. Old Gate Neh 12:39 This represents the Elderly. Many of them have wasted their lives for the Devil and need to be shown this gate before it's too late.

5. Fish Gate Neh 12:39 Jesus said we were to be "fishers of Men" and so this gate represents all Lost people. Most fishermen spend 90% of their time fishing and only 10% actually catching fish (If that much!). Keep the bait on the hook and the hook in the water.

6. Sheep Gate Neh 12:39 Jesus said he was the Shepherd and we were the Sheep but, said to say, in today's Church there are a lot of Lost Sheep. Therefore, this gate is for the unsaved or backslidden Church member. (Most churches average less than 80% of their S.S. enrollment in attendance and most have bigger church rolls than S.S. rolls.). Leave the 99 and seek the 1.

7. Prison Gate Neh 12:39 This gate is for the Prisoners bound in slavery to Sin and sinning. Jesus said he came to set the prisoners free (Luke 4:18) and they need to be shown the way of escape.

8. Valley Gate Neh 3:13 This gate is for all those who are going thru valleys of Grief or depression. They need to realize that they can have victory and help in the valley (Ps 23:4). Jesus ministers to many people at this gate.

9. Horse Gate Neh 3:28 This represents those who ride to Church- either by Bus or by being picked up by concerned Church members. Jesus said to go out into the highways and byways and compel them to come in.

10. East Gate Neh 3:29 This gate was on the side where the sun comes up and represents Young People who are just getting started in life. Most decisions for Christ are made at a young age and we need to reach them before their heart becomes hardened.

11. Miphkad Gate Neh 3:31 (The Muster Gate where people were assigned jobs.) This is for new people that have just moved into your community and are looking for a place to worship and work.

12. Fountain Gate Neh 3:15 This is the gate for anyone left. Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say come, and let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will let him take the water of life freely.

But remember, although there is a door for everyone there is only one Door-Christ. In 10:9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. BUT 10:1 He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

THERE IS A PLACE FOR EVERYONE IN THE WORK OF GOD. ARE YOU IN YOUR PLACE? DOES SATAN ATTACK THE CHURCH THRU THE PORTION OF WALL YOU HAVE NOT REPAIRED?

ARE YOU OUTSIDE THE CITY? JESUS IS THE DOOR- COME IN TODAY.

SHILOH

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238 BRATT, FL
REV MIKE JONES 369-6460



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1984

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST,

I AM WRITING THIS IN BEHALF OF BROTHER DENNIS OWEN, OUR MISSIONARY TO SPAIN. BROTHER DENNIS PLANS TO RETURN TO SPAIN JANUARY 15, 1985 TO RESUME HIS DUTIES THERE. IN ORDER TO DO SO HE WILL NEED \$5000.00 MORE DOLLARS IN HIS ACCOUNT. HE IS ASKING THE PEOPLE OF HIS HOME STATE OF FLORIDA TO HELP HIM REACH THIS GOAL. PLEASE PRAY AND GIVE AS GOD LAYS ON YOUR HEART. IF YOU ARE A PASTOR THEN PLEASE GIVE YOUR PEOPLE AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE.

THE PEOPLE OF FLORIDA RESPONDED WONDERFULLY TO OUR LAST EFFORT TO RAISE MONEY FOR BROTHER DENNIS AND I BELIEVE YOU WILL COME THRU AGAIN. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP.

PLEASE SEND ALL MONEY TO: SHILOH F.W.B. CHURCH
RT 2 BOX 238
BRATT, FL. 32535

AND CLEARLY MARK IT DENNIS OWEN FUND. I WILL ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR GIFT AND SEND THE RECORD OF IT TO THE HOME MISSION OFFICE IN NASHVILLE. (WE ARE DOING THIS SO THIS SPECIAL OFFERING WILL NOT BE CONFUSED WITH THE GENERAL OFFERING.)

THANK YOU,

Mike Jones Ps. 14:11

PASTOR MIRCHEAL JONES

SHILOH

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SENTINEL

VOL II NUM 32 DEC. 13, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM- OUR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM "GIFTS ARE FOR GIVING" WILL BE PRESENTED SUNDAY, DEC. 23 BEGINNING AT 6:00PM.

MRS. RUBY AMERSON IS DIRECTING THIS PROGRAM AND WE'RE LOOKING FOR A VERY GOOD PROGRAM. (WE'RE ALSO EXPECTING A FULL HOUSE!).

PART OF THE PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE SPECIAL MUSIC BY THE JUNIOR CHOIR DIRECTED BY MRS. LINDA JACKSON. WE'RE ESPECIALLY PROUD OF THESE YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR WORK. (THE ADULT CHOIR ALSO HAS A SPECIAL "SPECIAL" THAT THEY'LL SING SUNDAY MORNING. PRACTICE HAS SOUNDED GOOD)

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER- THERE WILL BE A FELLOWSHIP SUPPER FOLLOWING THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM. THE PAST FEW WEEKS HAVE BEEN A TIME OF PARTIES AND SUPPERS AND THIS ONE WILL PUT THE "ICING ON THE CAKE" (OR ANOTHER NOTCH ON THE BELT!!).

SOCK TREE- EVERYONE IS ASKED TO BRING A PAIR OF SOCKS (9-13, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ -8 $\frac{1}{2}$) OR A PAIR OF HOSE (SMALL, MED., QUEEN SIZE) TO SERVICES SUNDAY. WE WILL PIN ALL OF THESE ON A "SOCK TREE" SUNDAY NIGHT AND THEN THEY WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE CHILDREN'S HOME IN ELDRIDGE, AL.

MISSIONS- SUNDAY, DEC. 23 IS ALSO OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MISSIONS SUNDAY. IN ADDITION TO YOUR NORMAL FAITH PROMISE OFFERING WE'RE ASKING THAT YOU GIVE A SPECIAL OFFERING TO HELP BROTHER DENNIS OWEN AS HE PREPARES TO RETURN TO SPAIN. (BE SURE YOUR OFFERING IS CLEARLY MARKED.).

TEEN NIGHT- THE TEEN FELLOWSHIP WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE CTS AND SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICES ON SUNDAY, DEC. 30. THEY'LL BE TEACHING, PREACHING, PLAYING, AND SINGING AND I URGE YOU TO COME OUT AND SUPPORT THEM WITH YOUR PRESENCE AND PRAYERS.

THE TEEN FELLOWSHIP HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE THIS YEAR AND OUR OFFERING ON SUNDAY NIGHT (DEC 30) WILL GO TO HELP FINANCE THEIR ACTIVITIES. WE REALLY APPRECIATE THEIR "MAIL BOX" AGAIN THIS YEAR THAT HAS ALLOWED CHURCH MEMBERS TO SHARE CARDS WITH EACH OTHER. THAT ALONE HAS SAVED MANY DOLLARS IN MAIL COSTS.

MAILING LIST- A NUMBER OF YOU HAVE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER AND I APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT. THOSE OF YOU WHO WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER AND HAVEN'T LET ME KNOW YET NEED TO CONTACT ME BY JAN. 10. I APPRECIATE YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT OVER THE PAST 3 YEARS OF THIS MINISTRY AND I LOOK FOR CONTINUED PROGRESS.

OFFERING- OUR CHURCH OFFERINGS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GOOD BUT LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING OF OVER \$2200.00 WAS EXCEPTIONAL. IT'S YET TO BE SEEN WHAT GOD CAN DO FOR AND THRU THIS CHURCH IF IT WILL ALLOW GOD TO USE IT.



PAULA AND I WANT TO WISH EACH OF YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS. GOD HAS BEEN SO VERY GOOD TO US AND WE REJOICE IN HIS BLESSINGS-- AND WE CONSIDER YOU A PART OF THOSE BLESSINGS.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS MEANT THAT MARY AND JOSEPH HAD TO MOVE FROM NAZARETH TO BETHLEHEM. IT MEANT JOSEPH HAD TO GIVE UP A GOOD JOB AND LOOK FOR ANOTHER. IT MEANT FINANCIAL BURDEN- TAXES (I HAVEN'T HAD TO PAY CITY, COUNTY, OR STATE TAXES IN FLORIDA.). BUT MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, IT MEANT THAT GOD'S PLANS WERE BEING FULFILLED. I CAN RELATE TO ALL OF THESE THINGS THIS CHRISTMAS. I'M NOT LOOKING FORWARD TO MOVING AND ALL THE COMPLICATIONS THAT GO WITH IT BUT I AM EXCITED ABOUT SEEING WHAT GOD HAS IN STORE (I JUST HOPE WE DON'T HAVE TO LIVE IN A STABLE!!!).

MAY THIS CHRISTMAS BRING THE JOY OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST TO YOU AND YOURS AND MAY YOU SPREAD THIS JOY LIKE THE ANGELS AND SHEPHERDS.

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SENTINEL

VOL II NUM 33 DEC 31, 1984

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits. Ps 68:19

SUBSCRIPTIONS- I cannot praise God enough for the continued support for this ministry. Large numbers of you have let me know that you want to continue receiving the newsletter when we move to a new church and that has been a real encouragement to me. If you have not let me know then please do so as I plan to purge the mailing list when I begin again. (I don't WANT to drop any names but I don't want to send material to people who don't want to receive it either.)

GIFTS- What a marvelous week last week was for gifts to this ministry. we received \$535 in donations!! (That's more than all of the rest of the year's gifts put together.). An anonymous doner gave \$500 to get things started at our new ministry (I'm praying about wheather to use it to buy a cassette tape duplicator or as a down payment on an electronic stencil cutter.).

Gifts were also received from Mr. Stephen Stanford of Saltillo, Miss. and Mrs. Corine Calcutt of Hemingway, S.C.. How can I praise God enough?? I can't wait to see what God has planned for this ministry in the future!!

CHURCH NEWS UPDATE

CHRISTMAS REVIEW-

The Church Caroling on the Wednesday night before Christmas was the best ever. The weather was perfect, the participation was excellent, and the spirit was just tremendous.

We also has a good Christmas play. You could tell a lot of hard work had gone into preparation for the play and it presented a very clear picture of what Christmas is all about. Thanks to everyone who put forth the effort to make it possible.

Paula and I spent Christmas week in S.C. and had a great Christmas. Everyone in both families were able to be home and we really enjoyed the fellowship. (I told someone that if I could enjoy life this much unemployed then I don't know if I can stand it when I go to work!!).

I'm so excited about the Future because God has been so good to me in the past. I enjoy living and I look forward to dying. I've got the best job in the world-telling people about Jesus, and the best "boss" a man could work under. I'll never understand why people chose to die and go to Hell when they could live and go to Heaven.

YOUTH NIGHT- The Teens did an outstanding job of teaching CTS and leading the Evening service last night. Brother David Johnson sang a good special and Brother Jimmie McElhaney preached one of the best messages I've heard lately. (I can't wait to hear all the "Amens" when I preach next Sunday!). Praise God for the Teens willingness to take an active part in the Lord's work. (The offering we received for them was \$126.05 and I thank each of you for your support.).



Jan 3 Ladies Prayer meeting
7:00pm Fellowship Building
Jan 6 or 13 (Depending on scheduling
of Pastoral Candidate)
AM- Baptismal Service
PM- Communion/Feet Washing
Jan 9 Quarterly Church Conference
Jan 27 Monthly Mission Sunday
Jan 29 - Feb 1 Home Mission Conf.
with Rev. Elmer Turnbough,
missionary to St. Petersburg.
Jan 29: Tuesday First FWB Church
Niceville
Jan 30: Wed. Beulah FWB, Pensacola
Jan 31: Thurs. Christian Home FWB
McDavid
Feb 1: Friday Shiloh FWB, Bratt
(This will also be our Mid-year
West Florida Meeting)

IF A MAN COULD WORK HIMSELF INTO HEAVEN, HE WOULD BRAG HIMSELF
INTO HELL!!

IF YOU WANT TO BE THERE WHEN THE ROLL IS CALLED UP YONDER THEN BE
HERE WHEN THE ROLL IS CALLED DOWN HERE.

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