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Truth

truth
BOOKS

Magazine

THIS I *Know*...



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to Take Away the
Sins of the World

18 All Things Work
Together for
Good

28 "The Day of the
Lord Will Come as
a Thief in the Night"

This I KNOW...

This I Know . . .

MIKE WILLIS

I want to begin by thanking Stan Adams for putting together this special issue of *Truth Magazine*. The subjects he chose are practical and the writers are men who do not usually write for *Truth Magazine*, for the most part. You will profit and benefit from studying this special issue, and it is an issue that you can profitably share with your non-Christian friends.

CAN WE KNOW ANYTHING FOR CERTAIN?

In the last fifty years, the influence of modernism has spread like a gangrene throughout American society undermining the influence of divine revelation. Having rejected God, humanism denies that there are any absolutes. Writing in *A Secular Humanist Declaration*, Paul Kurtz said, "Morality that is not God-based need not be antisocial, subjective, or promiscuous, nor need it lead to the breakdown of moral standards." But that is exactly what secularism has led to—the breakdown of moral standards, subjective ethics, and promiscuous living.

Not only has relativity undermined morality, it has destroyed *epistemology*. That is a word most of us do not use, but epistemology is the branch of philosophy concerned with the nature and origin of knowledge. Epistemology asks the question, "How do we know what we know?" What humanism has led to in philosophy, religion, and American culture is that no one

can know anything certainly. Every man has his own subjective truth—"what is true for you may not be true for me."

In practical application, this works out in the morals of American culture like this: "You may believe that homosexuals should not be married to one another, but don't impose your moral standards on me." "You may believe that abortion is sinful. Don't have an abortion, but don't impose your moral standards on me." "It would be wrong for you to live together without being married, since you think that is wrong, but don't imply that my girlfriend and I are not just as good Christians as you are because we are living together."

This works out in religious studies in much the same way. "If you want to believe that the body of Jesus rose from the dead on the third day, you can believe that, but don't try to say that I am any less a Christian than you are if I believe that His body rotted in some Judean tomb." "You may think that one should be baptized in order to be saved, but I disagree and my religion is just as good as yours."

The result of this subjective thinking is that *no one can know anything with certainty*. And this is the only absolute truth that humanism can espouse. Stated formally, one might say, "Man can know for certain that he cannot know anything for certain!" Of course, that proposition is self-contradictory, but that is where modern America is.

WHICH BRINGS US TO . . .

To be able to know anything for certain, one would have to have an objective point of view. There are no objective points of view. Historians may leave the impression that history is written objectively, but the fact of the matter is that there are no objective historians who can write objectively. Every man is affected by the social context in which he lives; every man writes subjectively. To be objective, one would have to have a "God" point of view. But no man has that point of view. A man believes a certain thing and tries to write that certain conviction he has so that others can understand it as well as he does. But what he writes may be somewhat different from what he meant to say. And, the one who reads it may understand it differently from what he intended. So there are several subjective steps between what is in my mind and what it conveys to your mind. What one conveys to another may not be anything near what he intended to convey.

The only way that one can know anything for certain is to have a divine point of view. The reason that we can know anything certainly is because we have that divine point of view, revealed and conveyed to us through the pages of divine inspiration. One who denies the inspiration of Scripture destroys man's only means of knowing anything with certainty. He destroys epistemology.

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This I KNOW...

The Bible is Inspired

DONNIE V. RADER

In this day of uncertainty, one thing we can know is that the Bible is the inspired word of God. Understanding inspiration is fundamental to all else we believe and do in our service to God. If the Bible is not of God, what value is it to us?

WHAT IS INSPIRATION?

Inspiration is “the supernatural influence exerted on the sacred writers by the Spirit of God, by virtue of which their writings are given Divine trustworthiness” (B. B. Warfield, *ISBE*, III: 1473). Perhaps David said it best, “The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue” (2 Sam. 23:1-2). Paul said all scripture is given by the “inspiration of God” (2 Tim. 3:16). The terms “inspired of God” means “God breathed” (A. T. Robertson, *Word Pictures of the New Testament*, Biblesoft). This does not have reference to the effect that the Scriptures have on the one who reads it, rather it tells us of its Divine origin.

OLD TESTAMENT WRITERS WERE INSPIRED

1. *Moses spoke and wrote as God directed.* When giving the ten commandments, Moses said, “And God spoke all these words, saying. . .”

(Exod. 20:1). After the return from Babylon, Ezra was told to bring the “Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel” (Neh. 8:1). Later in the same book we find the statement, “God’s law, which was given by Moses” (10:29). Later when Moses reiterated the law to Israel he attributed every word of the law to God:



And Moses called all Israel, and said to them: “Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your hearing today, that you may learn them and be careful to observe them. The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. The LORD did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, those who are here today, all of us who are alive. The LORD talked with you face to face on the mountain from the midst of the fire. I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to declare to you the word

of the LORD; for you were afraid because of the fire, and you did not go up the mountain. He said: ‘I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage’” (Deut. 5:1-6).

2. *The prophets spoke as God directed.* Isaiah was preaching what the “Lord has spoken” (Isa. 1:1-2). Chapter 6 tells of his call to be a

prophet. God also called Jeremiah to be a prophet saying, “And whatever I command you, you shall speak. . . . Behold I have put my words in your mouth” (Jer. 1:4-9). God told Ezekiel, “But when I speak with you, I will open your mouth, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’ He who hears, let him hear; and he who refuses, let him refuse; for they are a rebellious house” (Ezek. 3:27). Zechariah spoke of the inspiration of proph-

ets before him and how the people refused to hear: “Yes, they made their hearts like flint, refusing to hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Thus great wrath came from the LORD of hosts” (Zech. 7:12).

3. *New Testament writers said the Old Testament was inspired.* Peter

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The Bible is Inspired (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

said, “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Pet. 1:20-21).

Jesus endorsed Old Testament stories. Jesus believed what was recorded in the Old Testament to be *fact* and not *fiction*. He endorsed the story of creation (Matt. 19:4), Noah and the flood (Matt. 24:37-38), Sodom’s judgment (Matt. 11:24), Lot’s wife (Luke 17:32), and Jonah and the whale (Matt. 12:40).

NEW TESTAMENT WRITERS WERE INSPIRED

1. *The apostles claimed to speak and write by inspiration.* Paul said, “now the Spirit expressly says” (1 Tim. 4:1). Peter referred to Paul’s writings as “Scripture” (2 Pet. 3:15-16). Paul explained that the apostles and prophets were guided by the Spirit of God to write down the things that were in the mind of God (Eph. 3:3-5). The same apostle claimed that what he spoke at Thessalonica was the “word of God” (1 Thess. 2:13). He told the Galatians that he received his gospel, not from man, but God (1:11-12). What he wrote to the Corinthians and others were the “commandments of the Lord” (1 Cor. 14:37). These writers could make this claim because Jesus said the Holy Spirit would guide them into all truth (John 16:13).

2. *The apostles were directed in what and how to speak.* The apostles were told, “But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given

to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you” (Matt. 10:19-20). Notice that they would be told both *what* (the content of the message) and *how* (the words to express the message).

THE NATURE OF INSPIRATION

1. *Plenary inspiration.* This refers to the fact that all of the Bible is inspired. Paul said *all Scripture* is inspired (2 Tim. 3:16). The Psalmist said that all God’s precepts are right (Psa. 119:128). Peter’s reference to the prophets included all the Old Testament prophets (2 Pet. 1:20-21). Thus, what is true of one prophet (inspired of God) was true of others. One Bible writer was just as inspired as the others.

2. *Verbal inspiration.* This refers to *every word* being inspired of God. Some believe in “thought inspiration.” That theory says that God gave the writer the thought to teach, but the writer was left to choose his own words. Such thinking would make the Bible subject to error. The Bible claims that not only is the entire book inspired, but that every word was chosen by the Holy Spirit. Paul said, “These things we also speak, not in *words* which man’s wisdom teaches, but which the *Holy Spirit* teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual” (v. 13, emphasis mine, DVR). Notice that the *words* were chosen by the *Holy Spirit*. That is verbal inspiration.


3. *The scriptures are reliable down to the smallest detail.* Jesus said, “For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and

earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled” (Matt. 5:18). A “jot” is the smallest Hebrew letter. A “tittle” is the small stroke distinguishing one Hebrew letter from another. A jot and tittle is much like our dot of the “i” and the cross of the “t”. Jesus said that there would not be one jot or tittle to pass until all was fulfilled. His point is that the Scriptures are true and reliable down to the smallest detail!

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

1. *The resurrection of Christ.* If Jesus was raised from the dead, that proves there is a God, Jesus is divine and what He says is true (Rom. 1:4). The empty tomb (Matt. 28:6) is just one of many proofs that Jesus indeed arose from the dead. This assures us that the Bible is indeed from God.

2. *The unity of the Bible.* The Bible was written over a period of 1500 years with forty different writers from different parts of the world. They used three different languages. Yet, there is not a single contradiction. This assures us that there is one mind (the mind of God) behind the scriptures.

3. *Prophecy and fulfillment.* Man cannot foreknow the future; only God can. Thus, if men foretold the future, they had to be speaking by the inspiration of God. There are over 300 prophecies concerning the Messiah that were fulfilled in every detail. Thus, the prophets of old were inspired of God. 

Jesus Is the Son of God

J. WILEY ADAMS

In discussing the identity of Jesus, Paul, the apostle, speaks of His divine nature . . . the Form of God. Jesus could say this because it was true, but men are prone to demand proof. (See Phil. 2: 5-11.)

The highest proof was God, the Father, who Jesus called to witness when speaking with Peter. The apostle confessed the identity of Jesus because the Father had revealed it to him. Peter confessed Jesus to be the Christ, the Son of the living God (Matt. 16:15-17). But there is more to consider. The angel who appeared to Joseph said the son who would be born to Mary would be called Emmanuel, which being interpreted is “God with us” (Matt. 1:23). The angel, Gabriel, who appeared to Mary to inform her of the coming of a son said to her that His name would be called Jesus and that He shall be called the Son of God (Luke 1:31-35). Very strong testimony!

The mother of John the Baptist, in speaking to Mary, called her “The Mother of my Lord.” But who did men say Jesus was? The bulk of the ideas say that he was surely a prophet (which He was, indeed!). Which prophet? They were uncertain, and left it at that.

On the Mount of Transfiguration (Matt. 17:5), God, the Father, declared Jesus to be His Son, and, therefore, urged men to hear Him. Also, at the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist,

the Father, again, declared Jesus to be His Son. “And lo, a voice from heaven saying, ‘This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased’” (Matt. 3:17).

The woman at the well, after her interview with Jesus, went into town maintaining that she had found “the Messiah” speaking in reference to Jesus (John 4:29-42). Philip preached Christ to the Ethiopian eunuch causing him to request baptism and to confess



his belief that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Acts 8:34-39).


All of these things, and many more, should be more than enough to show that the Bible says that Jesus is the Son of God. What great love God manifested in sending His only begotten Son down from heaven in bodily form as man to live on earth. In that form, Jesus lived among men for the purpose of redeeming mankind. Through faith in Jesus and His death

on the cross, one can receive salvation, to have his sins taken away by the blood of Christ that he might be saved, thus making it possible to make heaven one’s eternal home.

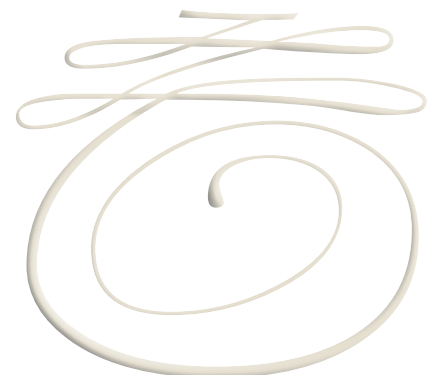
Jesus did for man what man could not do for himself. He emptied Himself of His exalted position with the Father to live a sinless life on earth, thus showing us the way we ought to live. Christ lived a perfect life in the flesh. When sin entered the world, man gave up a perfect life.

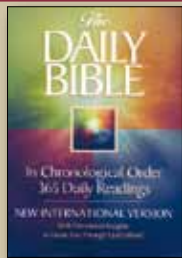
Jesus lived a perfect life, which made Him the only sacrifice that could take our sins away, and He died in our stead. He died for all of our sins, thus opening the door to heaven if mankind will meet His conditions for salvation.

In the flesh, He was the son of man. As our Savior, He is the Son of God. He is both, at once. Indeed, Jesus is the Son of God!

“If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature . . .” (2 Cor. 5:17). 

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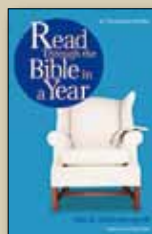
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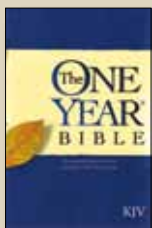
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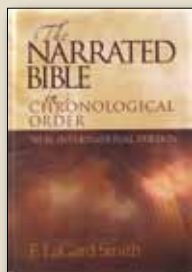
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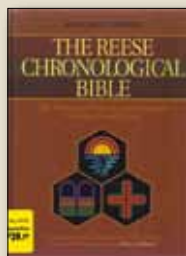
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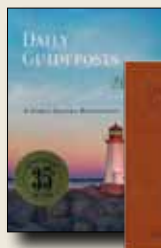
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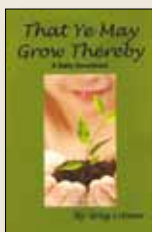
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This I KNOW...

Christ Was Manifest to Take Away the Sins of the World

(1 John 3:5)

MATT ADAMS

“And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.”

DEFINING OUR TERMS

YOU KNOW: denotes a given fact, without a doubt, unavoidable truth; **HE:** no one else was able; **MANIFESTED (appeared):** to lay bare, reveal, make visible, uncover; **TAKE AWAY:** completely atone for, remove, forgive, erase; **OUR:** He was without sin, we are the sinners in need of Him; **SINS:** that which separates us all from our Creator, from eternal life, from spiritual liberty and true happiness; **IN HIM IS NO SIN:** impossible to be said of anyone except for our Savior, confirms Him as the perfect sacrifice for our sins, to be in Him we must be cleansed by the blood He shed, sin is everything He is not.

EVALUATION

What good is knowledge without the proper application of it? In this life, and throughout all of time, man has been faced with much uncertainty and has had to admit there are many things that he simply does not know. Job was confronted with this reality (Job 38-42), and even Solomon, the wisest man to ever live, realized he did not possess perfect knowledge (Prov. 1:7, 22; 9:10; 14:6). At the end of the day, we have to accept that some things we will never know and, even if it were told to us, we could not

grasp the complexity of the eternal wisdom of God for, “our thoughts are not His thoughts, nor our ways His ways” (Isa. 55:8-9).

However, we can be comforted that the revealed things belong unto us and God has “given us all things that pertain to life and godliness (Deut. 29:29; 2 Pet. 1:3). This means that God has revealed everything He desires us to know through His holy word, and so we must abide by that word and teach it to others. Since God has given us everything we need, let us consider the verse we are discussing and notice that we “know” Christ was manifested to take away our sins. There is no mystery about who Christ was, His purpose, the life that He lived, or the price that He paid for our sins. All that He came to do He did, as it was foretold by the prophecies of old so it was fulfilled in the gospels and throughout the pages of the New Testament. This, as the Scripture says, we know.

Once we come to a knowledge of something we can no longer claim ignorance and, therefore, are bound to do something with what we have seen, heard, and/or realized; it is in this way that knowledge can be bittersweet. With more knowledge comes more responsibility, for “to whom much is given, from him much will

be required” (Luke 12:48). We are entrusted with the complete, revealed word of God, and having the knowledge provided within our very hands requires that we submit and follow His every word unto us. The knowledge, given as fact, in this passage requires so much of us. Yet, oftentimes, we are more concerned how the world perceives us and we hold back when the Lord says move forward. Christ died so that we may live, gave His life a ransom for our sins to provide us with the blessed gift of redemption. When we acknowledge the facts given in this one verse (1 John 3:5) then we cannot regard man’s wisdom or respect it above that of God’s, we must strive evermore to please our Father in Heaven.

Let us take a moment to consider the weight of this



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Christ Was Manifest to Take Away the Sins of the World (1 John 3:5) (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

passage and the simple fact of Christ: His purpose; the sobering impact of God humbling Himself; how God left Heaven; lowered Himself to take the form of His own creation; lived a lowly life; was rejected by His own people; was falsely accused; then submitted His mortal flesh to be beaten, spat upon, ridiculed, nails driven into His flesh, thus His body rent asunder by His own creation; was silent through it all; and never once did He retaliate, though possessing the power to destroy the world (Isa. 53). All of this in order to provide salvation for the whole world, for all time. Our sins put our Savior, God in the flesh, upon that cross. Take a moment to let this thought sink in: He who knew no sin, became sin for us (2 Cor. 5:21).

APPLICATION

In light of what we have discussed thus far, what business do we have toying with the world, seeking its approval, or flirting with its sinful practices? The goal of our mortal lives is to sin less and less, draw closer, grow in grace and knowledge, and learn from our failures and shortcomings, striving continually to pattern ourselves after our precious Savior. The goal is certainly *not*, as some think and act, to become more creative in our justifications of sin. Can we state, with the utmost conviction as David, that “I *hate* every false way” (Psa. 119:104, 128)? As Matthew 16:26 says, “What will a man give in exchange for his soul?” Many times we exchange our souls for such trivial things.


Christ was *not* manifested so that we can keep on living however we

wish in this flesh: feeding our physical desires, neglecting the commands of God, giving in to temptations of the world, flirting with sin, compromising the truth, dismissing sin, and go on being silent rather than speaking up. Christ was manifested to take *away* our sins, not to make us comfortable in them! As Paul says in Romans 6:1-2, “Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?” Now, having realized this fact requires of us some action, some application, and some true soul-searching. Do we view the sacrifice of our Savior for our sins – the reason He left Heaven – as the precious gift that it is, always striving to live in constant reflection of it and in obedience to His will? Or do we, like the angry mob at His trial, shout “Crucify! Crucify!” by the lives we choose to lead (Luke 23:21; Heb.6:6; 10:26-31)?

Being honest then with ourselves, what should be our response to these truths? The correct response is the same for all men, for all time, until eternity overtakes us; it is humble, complete surrender and submission to the will of God. If you have read this far, then you cannot claim ignorance, for “Christ was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him there is no sin.” We must become one with Him (Eph. 4:4-6).

Since all of us have sinned (Rom. 3:23; 6:23), then all are in need of the cleansing blood, the blood He freely gave which washes us clean of the stain of sin in our lives. If we desire to become a Christian, a child of God, then we must come into contact

with that blood and heed His words to us. He asks that we hear His word, believe it, repent of our sins, confess Him as the Son of God, and be baptized for the remission of our sins (Rom. 10:17; Heb. 11:6; Acts 2:38; 8:37-39; 1 Pet. 3:21).

Once we are Christians, have followed the previously mentioned commands, then we, too, have a response every day as we continue our walk (Rev. 2:10). We can choose to be *selfless*, as Christ was, and one day reach Heaven; or we can choose to be *selfish*, which is at the core of every sin, and one day spend eternity in hell. If we are living a selfless life, seeking to be evermore pleasing to God and conforming our will to His, then keep it up! Press on brother, or sister, and lay hold of that prize awaiting all the righteous in Heaven above (Phil. 3:12-14)! Yet, if we are living a selfish life, one of sin and loaded with many burdens and regrets, then is it not about time that we lay those things aside (Heb. 12:1-3; Matt. 11:28-30; James 4:14)? Come back to the Lord, cast off those chains of bondage in sin, and live free in Christ! Knowing what we know about Christ, what He came to do, our responsibility as His followers, and what He requires of us, how can we walk away from Him? To whom shall we go (John 6:68)? What is there in this life that is worth losing our souls, worth missing Heaven, worth rejecting the very One who came to save us? It is high time to fully acknowledge, by putting into practice, what we know to be true. For, we *know* that Christ “was manifested to take *away* our sins, and in Him there *is no sin*.” 

This I KNOW...

The Son of Man Has the Power to Forgive Sins

ART ADAMS

The Text: “But that ye may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . . I say unto thee, Arise, take up thy bed and go unto thy house” (Mark 2:10).

The Occasion: Jesus was in Capernaum several days. Word circulated that He was in a house there and people filled the house to hear Jesus speak the word. Four men brought their palsied, paralytic friend to Jesus on a pallet. When they could not get through the crowd, these men rolled back part of the roof and lowered their friend down into the presence of Jesus. Jesus’ first response when seeing their faith was, “Son, thy sins are forgiven.” Evil leaders thought Jesus had committed blasphemy since “only God can forgive sin.” To demonstrate His right and power to forgive sin, Jesus performed the miracle of healing the paralytic. I urge you to read the full text in Mark 2:1-12 for more detail.

LESSONS LEARNED:

1. True friends bring you to Jesus. Toting a man on a pallet. Lifting him up onto a roof and then lowering him down was a great act of faith on the part of the friends. They did not seem to care what others thought. They just wanted their friend to come to Jesus. In the end, they all had reason to rejoice. When you are a true friend, you too will bring the sin-sick to Jesus.

2. Jesus knows the heart. Mark says that Jesus “realized in His spirit they were thus reasoning.” In other words, Jesus used His omniscience in this case. Thus with stunning directness Jesus confronts these Jews with their own thoughts.

3. Forgiveness of sins is more important than physical health.

Though it was apparent the man was a bed-ridden paralytic who could not walk on his own power, Jesus saw this as secondary. What Jesus saw as primary is that this man needed forgiveness of his sins more than he needed to get up off of his sick bed. Think about it – suppose you were given the choice of being bed ridden, unable to move on your own, and at the mercy of your four friends to move you around *or* to have the forgiveness of your sins. Which would you choose? Jesus sees the need for souls to be cleansed of sin as more important than physical health. Do you?

4. Forgiving sins is not easy. Verse 9 says “which is easier” forgiveness of sins or walking in full health? One is seen and one is not, but the power of both are experienced. Jesus had done the one act, forgiving the paralytic’s sins. The effect of this act was invisible – no one there saw that mass of sin vanish into nothingness from his soul. Jesus then followed with the second act — He healed the paralytic. This effect was instantly visible to all – they saw the man rise, take up his bed, and walk away, not only free of

paralysis but restored to perfect health and strength, all this in an instant. This miracle attested to the fact that just as the visible miracle happened even



more so the invisible – the forgiveness of sins. Yes, dear one, this man walked out sin free and in perfect health. All of this attests to the only conclusion: “Only God can forgive sin” and only God can heal! This is a case where Jesus did not touch the sick man but uttered only the word as the expression of His Almighty Will. By the word of Jesus, his sins were forgiven and by the word of Jesus, the man walked away in perfect health. There is both power *in* the word and power *behind* the word of the Lord. The message is

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The Son of Man Has the Power to Forgive Sins

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

clear – to walk away sin free and to be healed, we must come in faith to Jesus and follow His command. He has the power to make us whole instantly!

5. The meaning of forgiveness. In the end they could see the paralytic get up, carry his pallet, and walk out of the room. What they could not see is that a miracle greater than that had happened. With five words the Master cleansed this man of every transgression in his life to that point. Can we fathom the power of what happened? This man was purified – clean – found righteous before God from the inside out. Although he was still on his pallet, he was free of his burden. His relationship with God was now unhindered. Nothing stood between him and Deity. He was debt free. The crowd evidently did not see the greatest miracle. Just as this man was cleansed from sin by five words, today we can be cleansed by five simple steps and walk away feeling the power of His cleansing.

6. It takes power to forgive sins. Sin is a heavy load. It is laden with guilt and shame. We stand powerless to remove it once it is attached to us. Sin is our greatest burden. Jesus is our greatest relief. He has the only power to remove it. How did He get this power? It is part of His very nature as Deity for He is the “Son of man” and the “Son of God” (Mark 2:10).


7. This act proves the Son of Man is God. Even the evil minded knew this basic truth – “who can forgive sins but one, even God?” What an effect this miracle had! The silence of the Pharisees and scribes is significant.



They had come to spy on Jesus and at first they thought they had caught Him in nothing less than blasphemy. Now, with the Father’s own stamp of approval for His Son (a miracle), Jesus gave them something to see and to hear, something on which they could base no charge against Him. It should have turned their hearts from hatred to faith and praise – instead, it turned them into even more intense efforts to discredit the Savior.

The reaction of the crowd was different. The amazement came as something sudden and is thus recorded by the Greek present tense which has the significance, “they went on glorifying God.” Luke’s account of this adds that the healed man also glorified God. This man was a living witness to Jesus being the God who can forgive sin. Every step the paralytic took was a testimony. Every person who saw him had cause to glorify God. Yes, they did not just glorify God – “they went on glorifying God.”

Mark wants us to know that the people declared they had never seen the like. The common people saw the truth to which their prominent leaders were blind. This is an encouragement for ordinary people to follow their own honest impressions and not to yield to the perverse conclusions of false leadership.

Sometimes we come to Jesus sick with our own burdens and sin, oppressed by life, afraid and unable to move. At times we need friends who will lead us to the presence of Jesus. We need to hear His teaching, to have faith restored, and to be made whole again. We need the assurance, “Son, thy sins are forgiven.” Jesus – only He can do this for you! He has the *power!* Hallelujah! 

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This I KNOW...

God Does Not Hear Sinners

(John 9:31)

STEVE MCALLISTER

John 9 contains the account of Jesus healing a man born blind and the subsequent questionings of that man (and on one occasion his parents) by the Pharisees and a conversation Jesus had with that man at the end of the chapter. The realization, by the formerly blind beggar, of a world he had never actually seen and his spiritual awakening regarding the One who healed him is a fascinating account of an individual who bluntly counters the interrogations of the miracle by the hypocritical Pharisees. The persistent questioning by the jealous Jews causes the man to contemplate the nature of the One who healed him and causes him to respond, with great courage, in a forthright manner.

In his retort, he makes a statement in verse 31 that, at first, might be confusing to some. Starting in verse 30, the healed beggar said, *“Well, here is an amazing thing, that you do not know where He is from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not hear sinners, but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will He hears them.”* What is meant by the fact that God does not hear sinners? Doesn’t Scripture state in Romans 3:23 that all sin and fall short of the glory of God? Since that is the case, does that mean that God hears no one? What about godly individuals who occasionally fall short and transgress God’s law?

When the formerly blind man makes this powerful statement, his intention is not to say that godly people will not be heard by the Lord, recalling what he said in 31b, “but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will He hears him.” 1 John 3:21-22 says, “Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God: and whatsoever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.” Psalm 34:15 teaches, “The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous and His ears are open to their cry.” Peter states in 1 Peter 3:12, “For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, and His ears attend to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” Psalm 145:19 says, “He will fulfill the desire of those who hear Him: He will hear their cry and save them.” Proverbs 15:29 states, “the Lord is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.” Psalm 66:18 says, “For I know their works and their

thoughts; the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and see my glory.”

The word “sinners” denotes an impenitent individual who willfully transgresses God’s commandments. In Deuteronomy 1:41-45 Moses tells the



Israelites why the Lord, in verse 45, did not listen to their voice or give an ear to them. The people violated the commandment not to go up and fight the Amorites. Quite simply, they were told not to, and they did. The warning is clearly stated in verse 42, “Say to them, ‘Do not go up to fight, for I am not among you; otherwise you will be defeated before your enemies.’” There are numerous other passages that express God’s feeling about an impenitent attitude. Isaiah 1:15 says, “So when you spread out your hands

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God Does Not Hear Sinners (John 9:31)

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12)

in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you, Yes, even though you multiply prayers I will not listen, your hands are covered in blood.” Job says in 35:13, “Surely God will not listen to an empty cry, nor will the Almighty regard it.”

There can be no doubt about God’s attitude towards sin. It separates us from the Almighty (Isa 59:2). Also, there are numerous passages that use vivid terms to reveal God’s feeling about those who transgress His law.

David says in his prayer, “For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness; no evil dwells with you” (Psa. 5:4). Psalm 11:5 says He hates sin and Leviticus 20:23 says He abhors wickedness. To say the least, God is not pleased when we sin, yet the Bible teaches that a child of God who errs can, with a penitent heart, have those sins forgiven and move forward in service to Him. But, as the former beggar states in John 9, God does not hear one who, in rebellion to the Almighty, continues in sin. The patriarch David committed terrible sins and paid a heavy price for it. Yet examine what is stated in 1 Samuel 13:13-14. Samuel tells Saul he has acted foolishly and not kept God’s commandments and because of that it is written, “the Lord has sought out a man after His *own heart*,” referring to David. The Lord forgave David because he wasn’t a man who was a willful, impenitent sinner. On the contrary David loved the word of God (Psa 119:97), praised God (Psa 119: 164), and hated every false way (Psa 119: 104).

Let’s make application to today. How many within the Lord’s body

will “start out strong” yet fall into willful, sinful behavior. They will be quick to tell you that they don’t commit adultery, murder, steal, and so forth; yet their pattern of attendance will become poor when social opportunities arise, or they have a poor attitude towards their brethren, or many other things that exhibit a rebellious spirit. How is that different from the attitude of the children of Israel? How many times do we have those who “show up” at services to partake of the Lord’s Supper, sing, pray, etc., and then they’re not seen for a period of time and show up again with an attitude that exhibits no remorse for that pattern of behavior? Time or space will not permit the many examples we

“For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness; no evil dwells with you”

can list which show this same attitude. Yet, during a time of crisis, those individuals want the Lord to hear their prayer. Haven’t we abundantly shown that God will turn a deaf ear to them? As Christians, we need to examine ourselves daily to make sure that we’re on the right course, serving the Lord as He would have us to do. As the former blind man proved to the Pharisees, only a man whom God hears and does His will would be able to perform that great miracle. In that case, Jesus Christ, our perfect example was heard by God.



Thanks be to God that we have a Savior who died on the cross that we might have the hope of eternal life, and when we do fall short as His children, we can pray for forgiveness, and then He is “faithful and just to forgive.” **TM**



Whom I Have Believed

DEREK LONG

“For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day” (2 Tim. 1:12).

How can the Christian suffer and not be ashamed? When so many suffer, why do they become ashamed (Luke 8:6, 13)? Many questions like these come down to knowledge and trust. Paul is urging Timothy not to be ashamed of “the testimony of our Lord” (2 Tim. 1:8) and proceeds to tell Timothy how he himself, having suffered so much for the gospel, could still say he was not ashamed of it (Rom. 1:16).

What types of knowledge help us when it comes to suffering? Of course, there can be many answers

to this question. (1) A knowledge of what suffering does for us (Rom. 5:3-5; James 1:2-4; 1 Pet. 1:6-7); (2) A knowledge of Christ’s sufferings (1 Pet. 2:22-24; Heb. 12:3); (3) A knowledge of the reward (2 Cor. 4:16-18). The point of 2 Timothy 1:12 is that knowledge about God helps us suffer and not be ashamed.

WHAT CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD HELP US NOT BE ASHAMED WHEN WE SUFFER?

1. God is Faithful. We do not have to be ashamed when we suffer for God’s word, because we know it is still God’s will, and He hasn’t changed it on us (John 12:48; Heb. 13:8-9). We do not have to be ashamed when we suffer as Christians (1 Pet. 4:16), because we have committed our souls to God and we can rely on Him, because He is a faithful Creator (1 Pet. 4:19). We know that God keeps His promises (Deut. 7:9; Tit. 1:2) and, therefore, we have no fears that our inheritance will not be there for us (1 Pet. 1:4). Instead, we know for certain that, since God promised heaven for the faithful, He will deliver that promise to the faithful. The question when one is suffering is not, “Is God going to abandon me?” It is, “Am I going to abandon God?” (2 Tim. 2:11-13).

2. God is Omnipotent. We do not have to be ashamed when we suffer for God, because we know that He is all-powerful. If God is on our side, we do not have to worry

about men or other lesser fears (Heb. 13:6; Matt. 10:28).

3. God is Reigning. We do not have to be ashamed when we suffer for God because He is still reigning. In Psalm 11, we find a scenario where it appears the Psalmist has a temptation to flee from the persecution of the wicked (Psa. 11:1-2). Yet even though it appears that the foundations have crumbled (Psa. 11:3), the Psalmist reminds himself God is still reigning, God is still in control, and God will still punish the wicked and reward the righteous (Psa. 11:4-7). When we are suffering it is good for us to contemplate that God is still in control and will judge each according to His works.

4. God Cares. We do not have to be ashamed when we suffer for God, because He cares for us. God’s care for us allows us to go to Him in prayer when we suffer (1 Pet. 5:7). In prayer we are able to give God our concerns and thanksgivings (Phil. 4:6). God does not distance Himself from the suffering His followers undergo. In fact, God takes the suffering His followers undergo personally (Acts 9:4-5). It is helpful to call to mind, when we are suffering and we feel all alone, or like no one understands what we are going through, that God is with us (2 Tim. 4:17-18) and understands what we are going through (Heb. 4:15).



Whom I Have Believed (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14)

5. God is Victorious. We do not have to be ashamed when we suffer for God, because God will triumph. When many people suffer, the only thing they can think about is surviving, but what is encouraging to the Christian is that we can do more than simply survive; we can be “more than conquerors” (Rom. 8:37). God will never lose any battle, and, with our faith in Him, we will always triumph as well (1 John 5:4; 2 Cor. 2:14).

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF THESE PRINCIPLES

Scenario 1. The Christian may suffer and be tempted to become ashamed in the area of practicing the Biblical doctrine of fellowship. For example, there may be a gospel meeting in the area where we live that is being held by a preacher who is unsound. We may know people in the group who strongly wish we would come there. We may even hear various rationalizations as to why we should go to the meeting in spite of the fact that the preacher is unsound. When a situation like this presents itself we have a few options: (1) Compromise and go to the meeting, (2) Feel ashamed of God’s teachings on fellowship, or (3) Realize something about the God we believe in. This situation should help us realize that God is faithful and has not changed what He thinks about fellowship. To this very day those who receive those who go beyond the doctrine of Christ share with them in their evil deeds (2 John 9-11). In addition, it should remind us that God is a jealous God and does not want us playing around with error or having mixed loyalties (Exod. 20:4-6). When we or others fellowship those

who are unsound, we are no longer presenting ourselves a chaste virgin to Christ (2 Cor. 11:1-4). If we stick with God by continuing to practice the Biblical doctrine of fellowship, we will not be disappointed on the last great day. God is faithful to reward those who contend for His standard of fellowship.


Scenario 2. The Christian may suffer and be tempted to be ashamed in regards to abstaining from various forms of worldliness (1 Thess. 5:22). We live in a society that sees nothing wrong with dancing, drinking, gambling, immodesty, and many other sins. Living in such a society, it is tempting sometimes for the Christian to become ashamed of his different lifestyle. He often feels the pressure

He has not changed His mind on right and wrong nor have His sayings lost authority due to the passing of time.

to become like the world (Rom. 12:2) or to just go along with the flow (1 Pet. 4:3-4), but he must not. Instead of becoming ashamed, Christians need to remember that God is still reigning and we are His own special people (1 Pet. 2:9; Tit. 2:14) with a different lifestyle. We need to remember that God is faithful and what He said in the New Testament is still true today (Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Cor. 6:9-10). He has not changed His mind on right and wrong nor have His sayings lost authority

due to the passing of time. We need to remember that the darkness has never liked the light (John 3:19-21) and that Jesus is well aware of that fact (John 1:5, 9-11) and has given us the avenue of prayer in our times of suffering (Heb. 4:15-16). It should not surprise us when we suffer for being different (John 15:18-19).

Scenario 3. The Christian (especially gospel preachers, elders, etc.) may be tempted to become ashamed when suffering for standing up for the truth. When people turn their ears from the truth to fables it takes courage and strength to not just go along with the flow, especially when it is popular to compromise and it feels like you may be standing all alone (2 Tim. 4:2-4). Sometimes to stand up and be counted on the side of truth causes suffering, but we have no need to be ashamed, because God has not gone along with the winds of change. He has stayed faithful to what He said in His word, and we must stay true to His word as well (Gal. 1:6-9). When everyone else seems to be changing, we know the one in whom we have believed is still faithful and unchanging.

Instead of letting suffering make us ashamed (Luke 9:26), let us make sure that suffering increases our faith and knowledge about the one in whom we have believed. The Psalmist was able to look at the sufferings he had undergone not with shame but with the recognition that they led him to know more of God (Psa. 119:71). When I think back on some of the times I have suffered, I can see how it drove me to study more and rely more on God and less on men and the ever shifting sands of human opinion. 

This I KNOW...

The Sheep Know the Shepherd's Voice

BILLY RANDOLPH

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: and they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers” (John 10:1-5).

This text gives a picture of a true shepherd going about his daily work. He enters in through legitimate ways, addresses the sheep by name, and then leads them out into green pastures and to clear water. His is the voice of care and tenderness. He is gentle in guiding them. He has their individual interest and welfare at heart. He guards them with his very life. He provides for their physical needs while also protecting them from any dangers that may appear while out in the fields.

The sheep likewise respond to their shepherd. They are drawn to him by his well-known voice. He is recog-



nized as their leader and provider. They are well aware of whom they are dependent upon. At the call of his voice, they obey and follow.

Just as the faithful shepherd above gives his sheep the sustenance needed for natural life, so Jesus as the Good Shepherd gives His flock the things that make for eternal life. He is aware of those who are His (2 Tim. 2:19). He knows each by name. He cares. He provides. He protects. But just as in

the above allegory, there must be a mutual knowledge. His sheep recognize the Shepherd's voice. They follow. They obey. They trust.

What lessons can we in the present make from such teachings?

APPLICATIONS:

1. It is possible for the world's "voices" to drown out the Shepherd's voice. There are many attempts to imitate the "voice" of the Shepherd in the religious world. False teachers are real (both without and within the church, 2 Pet. 2:1). The ideas of men are prevalent. Denominational doctrines are continually presented in our society. Worldliness is an ever sounding "siren" that pulls at us all. Conforming to these various other sounds is easy to do. But we believers must recognize the voice of our Master. His voice must become familiar to us. Once we are truly acquainted with His voice, all other sounds will be recognized as "*the voice of strangers*" (v. 5). Have you listened enough to distinguish the difference?

2. Merely reading His words does not mean that you "know His voice." Those who truly "hear his voice" will follow his teachings/commands. The sheep in the allegory did not "hear," and then hang around the barn! They heard and followed. Does

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The Sheep Know the Shepherd's Voice

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16)

our Shepherd deserve anything less? Does He expect anything less? Will He accept anything less? His words must transform how we talk, think, act, dress, etc. We must be attentive. We must be trusting, because eternal life is conditional (John 10:27-28)—“... they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life.” What is the inference if we are *not* following? Sadly, too many will miss out on the wonderful salvation that has been made available to us due to not knowing and following the voice of the Shepherd. The provisions He offers are useless to us if we wander out of earshot or plug up our ears.

3. To follow His voice means we follow wherever He leads. We obey wherever the teachings direct us. We trust whatever the consequences may be. Some specifics? We must hear what the Good Shepherd says concerning the plan of salvation. We must heed His voice concerning what is acceptable worship. We must have His authority for the various works of the church. We must follow His outline and not be negligent in our practicing of church discipline. We cannot let emotions and family ties turn our ears away from what constitutes adultery and sexual immorality. We let Him

We must be willing to allow Jesus to determine the differences. He speaks and we follow!

(not our conscience or culture) dictate what are acceptable morals and actions. Etc. We must be willing to allow Jesus to determine the differences. He speaks and we follow!

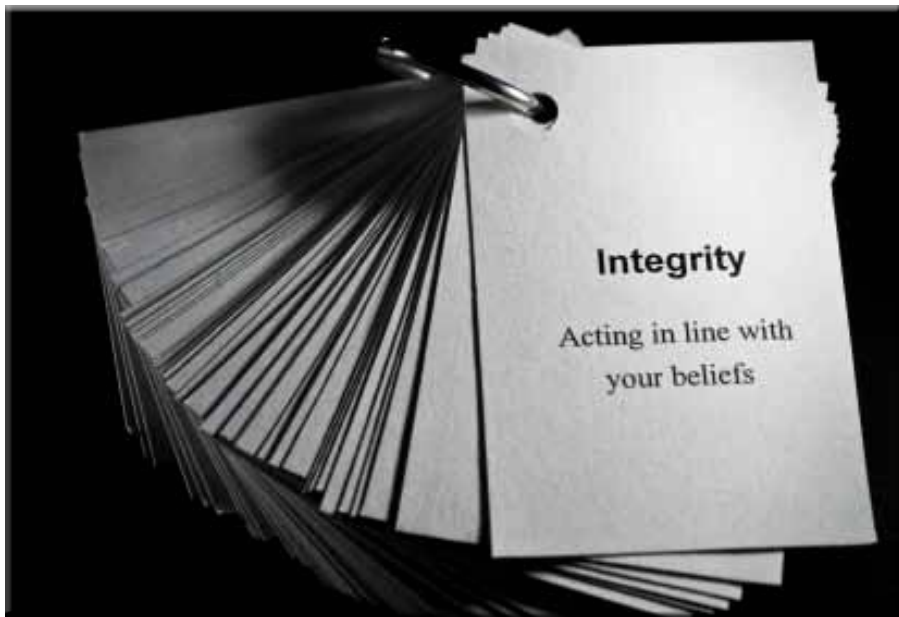
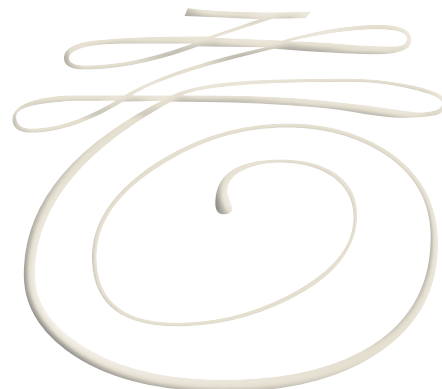
4. It is a high honor to be recognized by the Good Shepherd. Why would He speak to us at all? Because He loves us. Because He is aware of our needs and has provided for them. Will we thank Him and show our appreciation through an obedient service? It is through our obedience that we express our love toward Him (John 14:15) – “*If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*” If we believe He is who He claimed to be, if we believe that He died on our behalf, if we believe in all that He has promised, why would we not listen to and follow Him?

This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them” (John 10:6). As we might say

– the hearers that day didn’t “get it.” Their response was a renewed attempt to put Him to death (v. 31). The timely question for us is: Do we “get it”? How will we respond? Do we know His voice? Are we truly following it?

In every time period of man, only the minority have been willing to hear and follow the teachings from above. What about you? I know the sheep know the shepherd’s voice (John 10:4). Are you a part of the flock? **TM**

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This I KNOW...

That We Know Him If We Keep His Commandments

SAM EZELL

When John writes in 1 John 2:3, “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments,” we are first struck by the apparent redundant nature of the statement. After all, if I “know” the Lord, then why is it necessary for me to have further assurance or verification of that knowledge? However, we learn the great lesson which John provides through his inspired writing as we apply ourselves to understanding his purpose in writing as well as the context of his letter.

During the last years of the first century, when this letter was most likely written, there arose several false

doctrines or philosophies concerning the nature of Jesus. Christians were being taken in by these corrupt teachings, especially the theory historically referred to as Gnosticism. Gnostics denied that Jesus had come in the flesh, due to their belief that a perfectly sinless deity could not occupy a material, evil body. They taught that their own bodies were evil, but their spirits, once regenerated, were pure and remained undefiled by the body’s evil actions. Because of this erroneous assumption, Gnostics held the belief that they could indulge in any activities they desired, no matter how vile, and no harm would come to their soul. Since they claimed to have this superior knowledge and understanding of the body and spirit, the Greek term *gnosis* (to know) began to be applied to them and the term Gnostic developed. It is this extremely dangerous and completely unscriptural doctrine that John sought to defeat with this letter.

John’s purpose in this passage which we are considering is clearly to instruct Christians in the proper and accurate way to know Jesus, the Son of God. The Gnostics boasted of great knowledge concerning Jesus, but they practiced blatant violation of His teachings about righteous living. John eloquently turns the concept inside out by showing how our dedication to keeping His commandments is our assurance that we do indeed know Him! He even points out that to say “I

know Him” and not keep His commandments renders one to be a liar and devoid of the truth (1 John 2:4).

to say that “I know Him” and not keep His commandments renders one to be a liar and devoid of the truth (1 John 2:4).

Knowing Jesus the Christ is essential to our attainment of eternal life, according to Jesus Himself. John records Jesus’ words in his gospel account, “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent” (John 17:3). The Lord’s statement presents eternal life as being united with the concept of knowing Him, so we seek to fully understand what it means to know Him. The word “know” that John uses in our text describes a knowledge which comes through experience, in a sharing of experiences in life together. This aspect of knowing Jesus is vastly different from a simple acquaintance with Him or an awareness of His existence; it must include our total commitment of our will to His and thus knowing His saving power.




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That We Know Him If We Keep His Commandments (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18)

The apostle Paul wrote to Titus concerning those who "...profess to know God, but in work they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work" (Tit. 1:16). The same concept may be applied to the way in which we are to know Jesus; our profession should be accompanied by the actions that show we are under His guidance. So, when John writes that "by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments," he is showing us how we can be sure that we know Jesus as we should.

"If we say we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth"

It is also evident that our very fellowship with God and with the Son of God depends on our keeping the commandments which are issued by their divine authority. John states that his purpose in writing this first letter is "...that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ" (1 John 1:3). He further explains that, "If we say we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth" (1 John 1:6). Therefore, it becomes clear that knowing Jesus denotes having fellowship with Him by way of keeping His teachings. Jesus included love as a factor in this process as well when He linked our love for Him, and His fellowship with us, with our keeping His commandments (John 14: 21, 23). John then incorporates the concept of love into our assurance of knowing Jesus when he writes, "But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him" (1 John 2:5).

What about the idea that John promotes with "if we keep His commandments"? His use of the word "keep" is based on a form of the word that indicates "to keep on keeping"; this present tense strongly teaches us that we are to continually and diligently practice the Lord's commands—all of them! And there is no better way to be sure that we are doing this than to note John's observation in verse 6: "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk as He walked." To walk as Jesus walked, or as Peter puts it, "...Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps" (1 Pet. 2:21), is the proof, the way we may be sure, that we know Him. Every Christian should be truly motivated to know our Lord, to have fellowship with him, and to walk in His way. May our joy be full! 

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This I KNOW...

All Things Work Together for Good

SAM BINKLEY, JR.

The subject that has been assigned to me in this series of articles on things we know is: “all things work together for good” (Rom. 8:28). It occurs to me that one of the first things to consider in order to properly understand the teaching of this passage is how we know anything.

There are some things we know because we have experienced them. Most of us know that a cut, broken bone, or a bruise on the body causes pain. There are some things we know, not because of some experience we have had, but the evidence may be such as to produce a conviction in the mind that amounts to knowledge. Some Bible examples that help illustrate this include the statement of Peter as he concluded the sermon in Jerusalem on that memorable Pentecost day. After giving sufficient evidence to convince one who has an honest and good heart, he said, “Let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God has made that same Jesus, whom you have crucified, both Lord and Christ” (Acts 2:36). The way they could know with such assurance was not by what they experienced, but evidence they heard. The apostle Paul wrote, “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens” (2 Cor. 5:1). His earthly house had not been dissolved at that time and he had

not entered that house not made with hands, but he believed confidently it would happen. Therefore with great faith Paul could say, “we know” this will happen. John wrote (1 John 3:2) that we know that when Jesus appears we shall be like Him. We know this because of the abundance and credibility of the evidence we have that convinces us of the truthfulness of it.

Those who love God can know that all things work together for good because the word of God says so. They also have experiences that relate directly to this promise. However, let us not use the promise as an umbrella to cover things the Lord never intended to be included. Paul was slanderously accused of teaching that we can do evil that good may come, but denied he taught that. We can expect God to bring about good done to us, but we should never do evil expecting good to come from that.

A proper understanding of the meaning of this promise of the Lord depends upon our learning to whom the promise was made and what is included in the promise. The passage says those who love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. What a comfort it is for those who love God to know that all things work together hand in hand for his benefit. God is able to do this even when there is pain and suffering associated with it. Whether we

see the good at first or not we can be sure that in the end we will derive some benefit. Paul had a thorn in the flesh and asked the Lord three times that it might depart from him. He told Paul that His grace was sufficient for him. The purpose for which the thorn was given him was lest he be exalted above measure. How did Paul benefit by this? He took pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ’s sake realizing that when he was weak then he was strong for he depended upon the Lord for strength. See 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.

Another example in the Bible of the wonderful way in which God makes some evil done to us turn out to our good is the story of Joseph in the Old Testament. His brothers sold him to some merchantmen who took him to Egypt and sold him to an official in the Egyptian government. He was put in prison, but later released. Because the Lord was with him he was able to save many from starvation, including his family, during a long famine in the land. Joseph later revealed himself to his brethren and assured them they had no reason to be grieved or angry with themselves for God sent him before them to preserve life and a posterity for them in the earth. See Genesis 45:5-7. This worked out, not only for Joseph’s good, but the good of his family, and God’s plan for man continued to unfold.

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All Things Work Together for Good

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20)

Loving God denotes continuous action, not some off-and-on feeling of admiration for Him with no real commitment to doing His will. Those who love God do His will. Jesus said, “If ye love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). The apostle John wrote, “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments, and His commandments are not grievous” (1 John 5:3). Those who utter the words, “I love God,” but live in disobedience to His commandments are not included in the promise of God in the scripture we are currently studying.

After stating that the promise is to those who love God Paul discusses the way we have been made what we are, the called according to His purpose. These are not two separate groups, but two descriptions of the same group. In some cases those who simply hear God’s message are referred to as the called (Matt. 20:16; 22:14), but in the epistles the called are those who accept the call. A good example of this is in 1 Corinthians 1:9 where we are told that we are called into the fellowship of God’s Son. God calls by the means of the gospel which the apostles preached, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thess. 2:14). God’s people for whom all things work together for good are those who are saved when they obey the gospel of Christ.

One important thing to remember in studying the Bible, especially those passages that seem to be more difficult to understand than some others, is to take into account the context in which the statement is found. This is one reason many seem to include more in the

“all things” than is intended. With this in mind let us direct our attention to some things mentioned in the context of Romans 8:28.

The matter of suffering for Christ is mentioned in the context and shows that the reward for those who thus suffer is not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in them (Rom. 8:14-18). Jesus taught His disciples that those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake will be rewarded (Matt. 5:10-12). One of the things Jesus said to Saul of Tarsus (later Paul) was to show him how many things he must suffer for Him (Acts 9:16). The apostles refused to refrain from preaching salvation in the name of Jesus Christ when threatened by the Jewish council, and rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name (Acts 5:41). This worked together for good for the gospel was preached and many believed and obeyed. Peter said that none should suffer for doing evil, but if any man suffer as a Christian, “Let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this name” (1 Pet. 4:16). Many other places in the New Testament teach us that suffering for Christ works for our good.

The hope we have of our salvation works together for our good. There may be times when our hope is threatened by persecution, ridicule, pain, and suffering, but if by persevering we keep that hope alive, good will come in due time. The hope by which we are saved is an element of the faith that is essential. The writer of the Hebrew letter said that faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of

things not seen (Heb. 11:1). This same writer said that hope is the anchor of the soul (Heb. 6:19). Christians are begotten to a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 1:3). A desire for those things which are spiritual coupled with the expectation of one day receiving life eternal with God will work for our good. It is through faith and comfort of the Scriptures that we have hope (Rom. 15:4). Therefore, hope that is based upon anything other than the word of God is not the hope that will work for our good. Extended illness, permanent injury, or affliction may cause us to lose hope, but these things can work together for our good if we deal with them in the proper way. A number of years ago a young blind man came to work with me in the preaching of the gospel. I expressed my sympathy to him, and he replied that, if he had not become blind, he would not be a Christian. He was an example of something that worked for good in his life when, at first, it may have seemed to be a tragic happening. My wife suffered from multiple physical problems for a number of years, sometimes severe pain, but never lost hope. Rather, she believed to the very end that the time would come when the suffering would end and she would have a new body free of all pain.

A failure to recognize God’s part in all things working together for good to those who love God, the called according to His purpose, is a great mistake. If there is any question about His part from the immediate text, then one needs only to look further in the chapter. God foreknew those whom He called according to His purpose

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

This I KNOW...

“I Know How to Be Abased, and I Know How to Abound”

BEN LIGGIN

“I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need” (Phil. 4:12).

The apostle Paul first visited the city of Philippi on his second missionary journey about A.D. 49 (Acts 16:12). Luke’s recording of the first century church’s history tells us that Paul set sail from Troas, accompanied by Silas and Timothy. On the following day, the party reached Neapolis (Acts 16:11). From there, Paul and his companions journeyed by foot to Philippi. The city did not have the necessary number of Jewish males (ten) to form a synagogue, so Paul met with a group of women who had met for prayer outside the city gate (Acts 16:13) on the bank of the Angites River. One of those present was Lydia,

a Greek proselyte from Thyatira, described as a “seller of purple.” Lydia was baptized with her household and insisted that Paul and his companions stay with her during the rest of their stay in the city (Acts 16:14-15). Lydia and her household were the beginning of the first Lord’s church on European soil.

It was also here in Philippi that Paul commanded (by the authority of Christ) the spirit of divination to come out of the young girl who was making her masters rich (Acts 16:18). This threw the city into an uproar resulting in Paul and Silas being thrown into prison. Acts 16:23-34 tells us that it was about midnight when Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns while the other prisoners were listening to them. Just then, the building was shaken by a severe earthquake. The prison doors were opened and the chains fell off the prisoners’

hands and feet. The jailer was about to take his own life when Paul reassured him the prisoners had not escaped. The jailer took Paul and Silas into his house where he tended their wounds and fed them. After hearing the gospel, the jailer was baptized together with his whole household.

In the years that followed, Paul and the brethren in Philippi developed a lifelong supportive relationship. From the very beginning of Paul’s work in Philippi, the brethren there were quick to support Paul and his needs (1:5), and continued to support Paul whenever they could (4:15-16). Throughout Paul’s life, the Philippians held a special place in his heart. We learn from Acts 20:1, 6 that Paul visited the church in Philippi again on his third missionary journey.

Now some ten years after Paul’s

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All Things Work Together for Good

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21)

and predestinated, called, and justified them. He did not spare His Son but delivered Him up for us all that His purpose might be fulfilled (Rom. 8:29-32). The point being made in this passage is that, since God did not spare His own Son, the greatest gift of all, He will not withhold anything that will work to bring about the salvation of our souls.

This is not intended to be a complete list of all the things that work together for good for those who love God, the called according to His purpose. It is rather an attempt to explain what this passage teaches, giving some examples to help us see how we can receive the promises found in it.

Do you want all things to work together for the good of your salvation?

If you are a Christian then continue to love God with all you heart and fulfill the purpose God has for you. If you are not a Christian then show your love for the Lord, accept His call by obeying the gospel and let Him work with you to bring good out of what otherwise might be harmful to your soul. 

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“I Know How to Be Abased, and I Know How to Abound” (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22)

first visit, Paul writes his heartfelt letter to the brethren in Philippi. Paul’s letter of affection and joy was not hampered by the fact that he was in prison again, this time awaiting his trial in Rome. Paul was still able to celebrate the Christians’ joy in the midst of suffering writing, “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!” (Phil. 4:4).

The focus of Paul’s letter is the Christ-centered life, the hallmark of which is joy. Paul had surrendered everything to Christ and could confidently say, “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain” (1:21). Paul had literally given up everything he once had, all he had worked to achieve according to the Law as a Pharisee. Paul’s confidence was once in the flesh, “circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless” (3:5-6). To this former way of life Paul now writes, “But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ” (4:7).

How could Paul give up so much so easily? Paul realized what he had was nothing compared with what Christ had to offer. “I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ” (3:8). Paul realized that serving God was not achieved through works of the Law but rather the righteousness which

comes from God on the basis of faith in Jesus Christ!

Paul submitted himself to serving the Lord. Paul’s decision to follow the Lord put him in harm’s way. To this Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 11:23-28, “Are they servants of Christ? (I speak as if insane) I more so; in far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death. Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; I have been in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. Apart from such external things, there is the daily pressure upon me of concern for all the churches.” Paul suffered much for the cause of Christ.

From our studies of Paul’s life we learn that not all of Paul’s days were filled with suffering and being in need. Paul enjoyed the blessings of life as well. In fact, Paul makes mention of his present abundance writing, “But I have received everything in full, and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God” (4:18).

How did Paul learn to cope with the constant change of suffering need and having abundance? Paul wrote, “I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need” (4:12). Paul knew how to get along with humble means and how to live in prosperity, because Paul had learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. The secret is found in verse eleven. “I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.” That’s right! Contentment!

Contentment is the secret to being able to make it through the difficult times in life—times when money is tight, bills are piling up, and no end is in sight; times of “going hungry” and “suffering need.” If during these times we practice contentment, we stand a much better chance of making it through tough times without compromising our faith. Paul certainly experienced times of humble means, going hungry and suffering need. Paul was able to endure because he was content with what he had.

Contentment is also the secret to knowing how to live in times of prosperity—times when money flows, bills are paid on time, and nothing but good times are ahead; times “of being filled” and “having an abundance”. It’s generally during times of prosperity that one tends to lose sight of contentment. The more we have, the more we want. Not so with Paul. Paul realized that contentment is all the more

This I KNOW...

That He Hears Our Prayers

(1 John 5:15)

PHILLIP E. STUCKEY

The Bible says we have all spiritual blessings in Christ (Eph. 1:3). While our justification before God is the foremost blessing we have, there are many others we enjoy, even in this life. One of these blessings is the ability and the privilege to petition almighty God in prayer through Jesus Christ (Heb. 4:16; 10:19). The apostle John assures us that we can be confident that God hears our prayers (1 John 5:14-15). Yet, perhaps we may still wonder, does God really hear them?

PRAYER PRESCRIBED

We can know God hears our prayers because the Christian is encouraged and commanded to pray. The very fact that God desires us to call on Him in prayer should give us the assurance that He hears us! David told the Israelites, “Seek the Lord and His

strength, seek His face continually” (1 Chron. 16:11). The Lord Himself enjoined His disciples to pray on many occasions (Matt. 6:6; 7:7; 26:41). He taught them that they ought to pray always and not lose heart (Luke 18:1). Paul encouraged the saints to pray at all times, without ceasing (Eph. 6:18; 1 Thess. 5:17). James says, if one is sick, suffering, or has sinned, prayer is the remedy (Jas. 5:13-16). Peter wrote to the brethren that they ought to pour out all of their concerns before Him because He cares so much for His children (1 Pet. 5:7). The Christian is to pray to receive forgiveness of sin (Luke 11:4), deliverance from evil (Luke 11:4), grace (Heb. 4:16), wisdom (Jas. 1:5), and to make intercession for others (1 Tim. 2:1-2). Why should one petition God for these things if He will not hear? Space

would not permit us to examine all the occasions that Jesus prayed, which was often (Mark 1:35). But on one occasion we find the Lord praying and the disciples ask Him to teach them to pray, and He does (Luke 11:1-4). Why did He pray if God wouldn’t listen, or answer? Why did Jesus instruct His disciples to pray if God wouldn’t listen? For what other purpose would He have us to pray to Him unless He intended to listen to our petitions? Yes, because God has told us to pray, we can know He hears us.

ANSWER PROMISED

We can also know God hears our prayers because He has promised to answer them. God said, “And call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee and thou shalt glorify me”

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“I Know How to Be Abased, and I Know How to Abound” (Continued from Page 23)

important in times of prosperity, being filled, and having abundance. Paul was able to endure because Paul was content with what he had.

There was one more secret to Paul knowing how to get along with humble means and knowing how to live in prosperity. Philippians 4:13 tells us, “I can do all things through

Him who strengthens me.” No matter how prosperous the times, no matter how humble his means were, Paul did what he had to do “through Him who strengthens me.” Paul never relied on his own strength to make it through the good times or through the bad. Paul relied on the strength that only comes from God!

Because of Paul’s faith in Jesus Christ and the secret of contentment, Paul could say, “I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.” **TM**

That He Hears Our Prayers (1 John 5:15)

(Continued from Page 24)

(Psa. 50:15). Throughout the prophets God promises again and again to hear the prayers of His people (Isa. 58:9; 65:24; Zech. 13:9). Today, as a Christian we have the same assurance. Jesus told His disciples, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you” (Luke 11:9). He went on to say that just as earthly parents hear their own children and provide for them, our heavenly Father hears and provides for His children (Matt. 7:7-11). Good friends, God cannot lie (Tit. 1:2; Heb. 6:18)! If we come to Him in prayer, meeting the conditions which He prescribes; believing (Jas. 1:6; Heb. 11:6), with unselfish motives (Jas. 4:3), by the authority of Jesus (John 16:23), and in fellowship with Him (John 15:7-8; 1 John 3:22); then we can be assured that He has heard us and will answer us (1 John 5:15)!

PRAYER ANSWERED

Finally, we can know God hears our prayers because of the evidence in the Bible of prayers that were heard and answered. Paul said things written before were for our learning (Rom. 15:4). When considering the subject of whether or not God hears our prayers, the Old Testament offers numerous examples that He does and that He will answer! When the Jews murmured against Moses at Marah for water, Moses cried out to Lord and He heard and answered (Exod. 15:24-25)! When God raised up Gideon to judge Israel and Gideon asked for assurance of Israel’s deliverance by his hand, God heard and answered (Judg. 6:39-40)! When Hannah prayed to the Lord for a child to ease her suffering, that if He would grant her petition, she would

give the child to God, God heard and answered (1 Sam. 1:10-11, 27)! When Elijah called on God at Mount Carmel to show Himself to be the one true God of Israel, God heard and answered (1 Kings 18:36-38)! When Hezekiah was besieged by the Assyrians, he cried to God and God heard him and answered (2 Kings 19:19-20)! When Hezekiah became ill and was told by Isaiah that God said he was going to die, Hezekiah prayed, and God heard and answered by sparing his life for fifteen years (2 Kings 20:1-7)! When we turn to the pages of the New Testament we see God continuing to hear and answer prayer. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He prayed and God heard and answered (John 11:40-44)! When the church in Jerusalem prayed for boldness to proclaim His word, God heard them and answered (Acts 4:24-31)! When Paul asked God to remove his “thorn,” God heard and answered (2 Cor. 12:7-9)! Again and again, the testimony of the Scriptures is that God hears and answers prayer. As we have seen sometimes the answer is yes, sometimes the

answer is no, sometimes the answer is delayed (Luke 18:7), and sometimes the answer even exceeds our petitions (1 Kings 3:7-14). There are so many more examples we could cite, but may these suffice to show that we can know that God hears us because God has testified in His word that He hears and answers the prayers of His faithful servants!

Does God hear our prayers? Yes! We know God hears our prayers because prayer is prescribed, because God has promised to answer, and because He has offered us abundant evidence in the past that He is faithful and that He hears and answers the prayers of His servants. Thus we know that, if we offer our prayer in faith, according to His will, He hears us and will answer (1 John 5:14-15). We may not always get the answer we want, but we will get the answer we need (2 Cor. 12:9). May we learn to seek Him in prayer and to thank Him for His answer, whatever it may be. **TM**

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This I KNOW...

This Life Is Not All There Is

TOM O'NEAL

There are some things of a spiritual nature we *can know* and there are some things that we *cannot know*. The reason for this is: “The secret things belong unto Jehovah our God; but the things that are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law” (Deut. 29:29).



There were a lot of questions in regard to the blind man healed by Jesus, but the blind man said, “*one thing I know*, that, whereas I was blind, now I see” (John 9:25).

In this special issue writers are discussing those things that *we can know*. Paul wrote Timothy, “But abide thou

in the things which thou hast learned and *hast been assured of*, knowing of whom thou hast learned them” (2 Tim. 3:14).

One of the things that we can know, and which has been assigned to me, is that “this life is not all there is.” We can know of life beyond this one — eternal life.

The American Indian believed in a “happy hunting ground” after this life in which there was an abundance of game. The Egyptian believed there was something beyond this life as evidenced by the Pharaohs being buried with many items they believe they could use in the future life.

ANCIENTS BELIEVE THIS LIFE IS NOT ALL THERE IS

Abraham “*looked for a city* which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God” (Heb. 11:10). Those who sprang from Abraham were “as the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable. These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but *having seen them after off*, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth” (Heb. 11:12-13). They also “*desire[d] a better country*, that is, *an heavenly*: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for *he hath prepared for them a city*” (Heb. 11:16).

THE NEW TESTAMENT TEACHES THIS LIFE IS NOT ALL THERE IS

The faithful Christian looks forward to eternal life which is not physical life on this earth. Eternal life is a promise (1 John 2:25), which the Christian has in hope (Tit. 1:2; 3:7), and which will be fully realized in the world to come (Mark 10:30).

In the greatest sermon ever preached, Jesus said, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, which neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matt. 6:19-20). The individual who obeys Jesus has the prospect of heaven, which is after this life.

To the Philippians the Apostle Paul wrote “For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you” (Phil. 1:23-24). Paul said that departing was from the flesh. If he had departed the flesh, he would have been with Christ, which he said was “far better.” To the Christian being with Christ is “far better” than being “in the flesh” here on this earth.

This Life Is Not All There Is (Continued from Page 26)

“If in this life only we have hope in Christ; we are of all men most miserable” (1 Cor. 15:19).

The Apostle Paul writing to the Corinthians and discussing the resurrection said, “If in this life only we have hope in Christ; we are of all men most miserable” (1 Cor. 15:19). Observe that Paul is saying the Christian can have hope in a life besides “this life” which would be in heaven or that eternal city.

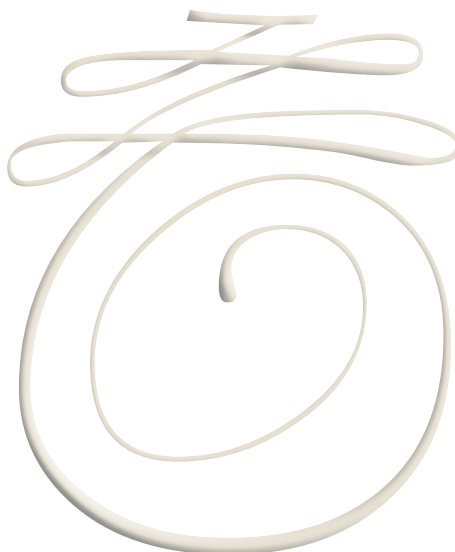
When Paul wrote his valedictory epistle to Timothy, after having served the Lord faithfully, he wrote, “the

time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing” (2 Tim. 4:6-8). Paul was looking forward to eternal life in heaven, or a “crown of righteousness” which the Lord would give him “in that day.” It was with great confidence that Paul also said to Timothy “I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day” (2 Tim. 1:12).

It was Jesus who taught that the righteous at the judgment “shall go away into life eternal” (Matt. 25:46).

Based upon the promise of God who is faithful to his word (1 Cor. 1:9; 10:13) the Christian can *know* that this life is not all there is! **TM**

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This I KNOW...

“The Day of the Lord Will Come as a Thief in the Night”

STAN ADAMS

There are few things that are more certain in Scripture than the fact there will be a time when the Lord will return to judge all mankind for the deeds done in the flesh (Rom. 14:11-12; 1 Thess. 5:1-10; 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-57; Rev. 20:10-15; John 14:1-4; 2 Pet. 3:9-15). Paul tells these brethren, that they “know this perfectly. . . .” How did they know this? They knew this from history, knowledge of the Old Testament accounts, and faith. The term “day of the Lord” is a common expression that is found over thirty-one times in the Scriptures (mostly in the Old Testament—Joel 1:15; Lam. 2:22; Zeph. 1:14; 14:1; Ezek. 7:19). Every time the term is used, it indicates a time when the Lord has come or will come for the purpose of rendering judgment on His people. He has never failed to follow through when He has come in judgment on His people in the past and He will not fail to come once again to judge all of mankind.

The term “day of the Lord,” used in 1 Thessalonians 5:2 and 2 Peter 3:10, is also known as the judgment day, the day of Christ (Phil. 1:6-10; 2 Cor. 1:14), and the “last day” (John 6:39). In our songs, we sing of a Great Day Coming (Rev. 6:17; Jude 6), Resurrection Morning, and other poetic expressions. The exact time of this



day is known only to God. It will be a sudden and unannounced time when we may be thinking all is well.

Imagine the times in your life when you have been caught suddenly doing something you did not want anyone to know you were doing. Do you remember the startled feeling, the shame you may have felt and/or the disappointment and guilt you felt for your actions? This is similar to what it will be like for those unprepared for the “day of the Lord.”

In 1 Thessalonians 5:1-10, Paul informs these brethren of something they already know perfectly. He recalls to them that this “day of the Lord” will be a time when some will be caught off-guard. It will be a time of destruction for the ungodly and no one will escape. He then reminds them that there is no reason for this day to overtake them as a thief, because they are not children of darkness but

children of light. He admonishes them not to sleep or let their guard down. As citizens of the day they are to be sober, having on the armor of God and realizing that God has not appointed the righteous unto wrath, but unto salvation. This day will be a day of salvation for some and a day of destruction for the rest.

This will be the final day of time and will also be the beginning day of eternity for all mankind. Everyone will be judged on that day. There will be no time to do over what we have messed up, or time to repent, correct, and reconcile our ungodliness. The Lord will be here and all opportunities to do anything about where we will spend eternity will be over.

Paul had previously written to these brethren in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 that those who were already dead would not miss out on the judgment of God. He tells them, “Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then those who are alive and faithful will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and so will ever be with the Lord.” They were to comfort one another with those words.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

“The Day of the Lord Will Come as a Thief in the Night” (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28)

This is to be a day of wrath for the unprepared (Rom. 2:5-6). Sometimes it is called “that day” which stresses the significance of it as the time when we better be ready (Matt. 7:22; 1 Thess. 5:4; 2 Tim. 4:8). Jesus alluded to this when He told the parable of the ten virgins (Matt. 25:1). The story is clear that five were prepared for the “coming of the bridegroom” and five were unprepared. Once the door was shut, there was no more opportunity for preparation and so it will be when the bridegroom returns again in judgment to claim His own (those prepared).

Should we live in fear of this day? Paul says that this day should not be one that overtakes the prepared, for we are living and looking for this day to come and should be keeping ourselves in a constant state of preparation. He also tells us that we are citizens of the day, so when that day comes we will be ready if we walk in the light, making sure our lives are in order and our sins are forgiven. The fact is clear that Christians can live with hope and certainty. God made us creatures of choice and it is human to do right and human to do wrong—the choice is ours (James 1:13-16). There are three avenues we are not to walk in (lust of the flesh, lust of the eye and the pride of life, 1 John 2:16, 17). We do not have to walk down those roads (Psa. 1:1-3; 1 Cor. 10:13). God’s Word is clear that the saved will make it to heaven.

On that day, some may think they are ready only to realize they have not made proper preparations having be-


lieved a lie and will now be damned. On that day, they will lament the fact that they did not listen and did not make their calling and election certain (2 Pet. 1:10). Also on that day, those who have labored for earthly treasures will realize they have labored in vain because they will take no riches with them (1 Tim. 6:7). This will be a day of sadness for many Christians who have fallen away and will not repent. All they have in this life is “certain and fearful looking for of judgment” (Heb. 10:27). What a shame it will be for those who have had salvation and thrown it away to spend all eternity realizing what they did. It will be a day when “every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess to God, so then every one of us shall give account of himself to God” (Rom. 14:10-12).

It will be a day when all who are in the graves will come forth either to the resurrection of life or of damnation (John 5:27-29). There will not be any such thing as a Rapture, Tribulation, or Battle of Armageddon—no second chance for the unprepared to get prepared. Those who have believed in these false doctrines will realize that the kingdom came on Pentecost and they have labored in vain looking for an earthly kingdom. In that day, the righteous will meet the Lord in the air and the earth and all the works therein will be burned up (2 Pet. 3:10).

It will be a time of joy for the prepared. Jesus will return and we will be changed and be like Him (1 Cor. 15:52; 1 John 3:2, 3). We will be at home with the Lord in the place He went to prepare for us (John 14:2-

4). We will finally enjoy all we have longed for forever. Our faith will be lost in heavenly sight.

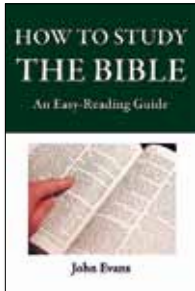
John gives a moving and vivid picture of what will take place on the final day of the Lord in Revelation 20:10-15. The devil, all evil, and those who follow him will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone and be tormented day and night forever. All the dead, small and great, will stand before God and be judged out of the things God has recorded about their lives, every man according to his works. Death and Hades will be cast into the lake of fire and whoever was not found written in the Lamb’s book of life.

This day will come with a shout and very publicly (1 Thess. 4:13-17). Friend, there is a great day coming. Are you ready? It is with soberness that we should read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-10. If you are lost, repent and be baptized for remission of sins. If you are a Christian who has wandered away, repent and pray for forgiveness, because life is a vapor (James 4:14). Paul speaks boldly to the Corinthians in 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 about this day, and as we close this article, may we heed these words: “. . . death is swallowed up in victory. O death where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 

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Book Review

CHRIS REEVES



How to Study the Bible: An Easy Reading Guide. John Evans. Privately Published, 2009. 93 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-1441450456

There are many “How To” books on the market for Bible Study, but the reader often has to be careful not to get a hold of one that has denominational bias. For example, many Bible study guides by denominational authors promote the idea that the student should pray for special Holy Spirit guidance and enlightenment during study. In contrast to these guides that can be misleading, a new “How To Study the Bible” book by John Evans can be trusted to direct the student in a conservative approach to Bible study. This book is written by a faithful gospel preacher and former public school teacher, so John’s approach to Bible study is both sound and organized. John covers the usual topics of this kind including Bible translations, study tools, basic rules of interpretation, use of commentaries, and understanding figurative language. Additionally, John discusses other important topics not found in many study guides today. He encourages the Bible student to have courage in study, to understand the proper task of study, and to respect Bible authority while studying and applying God’s word. John’s book also lives up to its name, “An Easy Reading Guide,” because the Bible student can learn in an easy manner how to study without getting discouraged, confused, or bogged down reading scholarly books of the same type. The question and answer format at the end of each chapter also

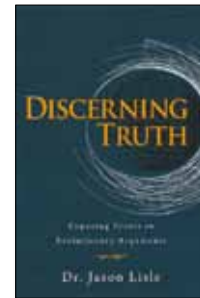
makes this book useful as a classroom text or in a group study. *How to Study the Bible: An Easy Reading Guide* is well-written and highly-recommended.



Three Views on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament. Stanley N. Gundry, series editor. Zondervan, 2008. 256 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-0-310-27333-2

When developing Bible material for presentation, it is often helpful to understand opposing views and alternate views that stand in contrast to Bible truth. One good source for learning different views on religious topics is the “Counterpoint” series by Zondervan. Each book covers three to five views on a given subject. Sometimes a book may include an author who defends the Biblical truth on a topic such as the truth of a literal and eternal hell, or the truth of the Lord’s supper as a memorial. Other books in the series may contain views that present no Biblical truth at all or a mixture of truth and error, such as the three views on the rapture or the three views of remarriage after divorce. Some of the books in the series cover subjects in which good can be learned from each of the authors, such as the subjects of apologetics, the use of the Old Testament, and how the Bible applies today. Regardless of which book in the series is read, the Bible student can learn to compare and contrast man’s word with God’s word. Each book in the series is designed to outline the personal view of the author as well as his “counterpoint” response to the other views presented in the book. This way, the

reader can learn how a person would present and defend a particular religious topic. There are over twenty topics covered in this series and many of the major religious issues of today are addressed. The Zondervan “Counterpoint” series is recommended for anyone preparing to answer religious error with the truth of God’s word. (Feel free to contact me to see if a particular religious issue you are studying is covered in this series.)



Discerning Truth: Exposing Errors in Evolutionary Arguments. Dr. Jason Lisle. Master Books, 2010. 135 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-0890-515945

Since the days of Darwin, evolution continues to be taught as fact by many, even though it is based upon faulty science and illogical argument. In his new book, *Discerning Truth*, Dr. Jason Lisle steps forward to expose some of the bad science and fallacious arguments of the evolutionary proponents. Lisle helps the reader to understand why an argument is false and how to answer it. The author covers the following types of arguments in an easy-to-understand way: reification, equivocation, question-begging, bifurcation, *ad hominem*, the straw man fallacy, and other fallacies. Practical examples along with a glossary of terms are laid out in this book to help the reader answer the illogical arguments that are presented on the subject of evolution and other topics. *Discerning Truth* is a great book.

Chris Reeves • 4922 Ogg Road • Cedar Hill, TN 37032 • (615) 384-2410 • chrisreeves@juno.com



News of You

JEFF SMITH

HERSCHEL PATTON PASSES

We mourn the passing of an old soldier of the cross, but rejoice also to celebrate the life of one who finished the race set before him (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

Herschel Erwin Patton passed away on December 1, 2010 at his home in Huntsville, Alabama, at the age of 93. Funeral and graveside services were held three days later and were officiated by Jackie Bradford, Don Patton, and Jeff Archer; brother Patton was laid to rest in Booneville, Tennessee.

Herschel Patton was born in Grayson County, Texas, and preached the gospel of Christ for over sixty years in Alabama, Tennessee, and Texas. For more than twenty-five years, he also served as an elder with the Jordan Park church of Christ.

Brother Patton leaves behind his wife of seventy-one years, Reba Ashby Patton, three sons, Gary N. Patton and wife Billie of Decatur, AL, Charles E. Patton and wife Sylvia of Lake Waccamaw, NC, Steve A. Patton and wife Pam of Temple Terrace, FL; two sisters, Pat Lasher, Montgomery, TX and Peggy Busby of Eunice, NM; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Sarah Wheeler Patton, and a brother, Marshall E. Patton.

TOM O'NEAL ILL

Tom O'Neal recently underwent surgery in Tampa, Florida for what doctors believed was a pituitary tumor that had stretched his optic nerve and caused loss of vision in his left eye. As we went to print, Tom was progressing well in his recovery and was even able to get up and walk about his room. We are grateful for his prognosis, but solicit your ongoing prayers in both his behalf and that of his wife, Carolyn, who has struggled for years with her own health.

PHILIPPINE TYPHOON

David Tant writes of continuing hardships in the typhoon-stricken Philippines. "Another severe typhoon has devastated parts of the Philippines, and brethren in the area where I work are in desperate need." If you would like to assist these brethren, please contact brother Tant by mail at 11550 Strickland Road, Roswell, GA 30076 or by phone at 770-993-7157.

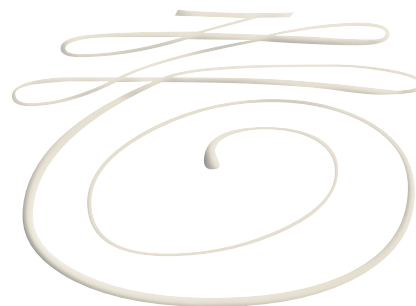
WALTER B. HUNTER PASSES

Walter B. Hunter, an elder for the Lassen Street congregation in the Los Angeles area for twenty-nine years passed away in late November 2010. His son, Brent, writes, "He was a great example of integrity and soul-winning. He was always a humble servant in spite of his many accomplishments.

He told me recently his greatest legacy was that his four children, and all their spouses, and all of his grandchildren and their spouses are all faithful Christians. My parents' influence, no doubt, had a great impact on several generations. He will be missed but I am so blessed to have a father for which I can be so thankful."

THANKS

We appreciate your contributions to this monthly column and the opportunity to weep and rejoice with those of like, precious faith. Please continue to submit news of milestone wedding anniversaries, deaths of widely known individuals, debates scheduled, overseas preaching trips planned, preacher relocations or retirements, congregations established, relocated or merged; appointment of elders or deacons, and human interest or inspirational stories (Phil. 3:17). If you would like to submit news items of this sort, please email them to Jeff Smith at jssmith@electronicgospel.com or mail them to 845 Edgehill Road, Burleson TX 76028.



This I Know . . . (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

YEARS AGO, A LYRICIST WROTE:

Have faith, hope and charity
That's the way to live successfully
How do I know? The Bible tells me so!

And that's the truth!

Because God has spoken, man can know the truth. Jesus said, "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). There is a truth! It is knowable! One must know it to obtain forgiveness of his sins! That truth is expressed in God's word. "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth" (John 17:17).


Because God has spoken, one can know that Jesus is God's only begotten son, that He died on the cross of Calvary for the sin of mankind, that one can be saved from his sins when he believes in Christ, repents of his sins, confesses his faith in Christ, and is immersed in water for the remission of his sins (Acts 2:38). How do I know this? The Bible tells me so! And so it is.

One can know many things certainly because God has spoken in His word.

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these

last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds (Heb. 1:1-2).

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account (Heb. 4:12-13).

I hope you enjoy reading the various articles on the subject of "This I Know. . . ." 

Update on Funds for the Bangalore, India Property & Building

BOBBY R. HOLMES

My many thanks to all who have contributed to the "Help a Neighbor Fund" for the monies needed to purchase property and then building supplies for the brethren there to build a meeting place to meet and worship God. As of date (mid-January 2011), there is a total of some \$22,000.00 in the "Help a Neighbor Fund" that brother Ron Halbrook is using to receive monies for this project and the monies in the bank in Red Oak, Texas that brother Le Roy Klice is taking care of. Tom Roberts is serving as the accountant for these funds and enters all contributions in the ledger he is using. All contributions will receive a tax credit from Ron Halbrook and the tax exempt status that has been granted him by the IRS. The church in Bangalore has committed \$5,000.00 from personal loans made by the members. All of this is included in the \$22,000.00 total we are looking at now. Let me again urge those who have planned to give to this but have yet to do so. The church in Bangalore has no place to meet except in

a small room in the house of brother Balaswamy. The last time I was there, we had sixty-five people in a 10 x 12 room and people were still coming in. These are faithful Christians and deserve our help. Not only can this provide a meeting place for the saints every week but provide the facilities needed for the American brethren (brothers Joe Price, Dan Torres, and Marc Smith) who make trips yearly to teach converted preachers from denominations and from liberalism in training classes for two weeks. By dividing the men up into basic classes and advanced classes, they are able to "turn out" almost 100 well-grounded men each year. When the church there has its own building, the monies being spent to rent a place to teach and train these men can be applied to further the Lord's work there instead of using it to pay rent. Brethren, I plead with you to open your heart to the great need of these precious souls and come to their aid. Just as brother Ron Halbrook and I helped to make brethren aware of the needs of the saints in Sturgis, Mis-

issippi a few years ago, when they had their building taken by a liberal church and brethren graciously helped us get some \$70,000.00 together in about three months, we can do this as well. Is there not a just cause here? Let us look at how richly God has blessed each of us and give as much as we can and, if we do, these monies needed will soon be enough to buy the land and build the building. The cost of the property when we first began trying to purchase land was quoted to us at some \$26,000.00 but as time has gone along and prices have soared in Bangalore and other major cities, the cost has risen to \$48,000.00. We have "locked" the price in if we can raise the money. The reason that prices for land is rising as it is, is because investors are buying up land to build office buildings, apartment complexes, and anything that can make them money. Thus land is becoming a premium. If you have any questions, contact Ron Halbrook, Tom Roberts, or myself, Bobby Holmes and we will do our best to answer all, questions.

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

ALABAMA
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The following congregations have paid for advertising in *Truth Magazine*. Inclusion of churches in this list is not an attempt by *Truth Magazine* to certify their faithfulness to God. We do believe the vast majority are striving to uphold the Word in faith and practice.

BIRMINGHAM, AL Pine Lane Church of Christ 3955 Pine Lane • Bessemer, AL (N. side of Exit #6 at I459) Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Terry W. Benton (205) 425-2352 or 978-8342	Shop online at truthbooks.net	OWENS CROSS ROADS, AL Church of Christ at Elon In Elon Community 4021 Hobbs Island Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Charles Maples 256-539-0772	TUCSON, AZ Tucson Church of Christ 2020 N Forbes Blvd., Suite 107 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. 520-622-8986 www.tucsonchurchofchrist.com	JACKSONVILLE, AR Church of Christ 1807 McArthur Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (501) 982-6413 - church bldg. (501) 982-6776 - William Engel	
BIRMINGHAM, AL Pinson Church of Christ 4233 Glen Brook Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ken Chapman (205) 681-6231 or 680-5770	See YOUR ad here!	PARRISH, AL McArthur Heights Church of Christ 5082 Hwy. 269 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (205) 686-5978 or 686-5620	BATESVILLE, AR Church of Christ Quail Valley 4104 E. Harrison St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Leonard Westbrook (870) 612-8409 or 698-0542	JONESBORO, AR Stone Street Church of Christ 1607 Stone St Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dick Blackford (870) 933-9134	ALAMEDA, CA Alameda Church of Christ 2167 Santa Clara Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Olen Holderby (510) 523-9547 www.alamedacoc.org
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BRUNSDIDGE, AL Church of Christ 437 Clayton St (at US 231) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Paul Carter (334) 397-4684 Billy Carter: (334) 566-3205 pcarter@graceba.net billyc@troycable.net	MOBILE, AL West Mobile Church of Christ 129 Hillcrest Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (251) 342-4144 or 342-2041	SCOTTSBORO, AL Eastside Church of Christ John T. Reid Pkwy. (Hwy. 72, 2 mi. E. of Hwy. 35) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne Chappell, Sr. (256) 574-1603 or 575-2664	CONWAY, AR Hwy. 65 Church of Christ 271 Highway 65N Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bruce Reeves Bldg: (501) 336-0052	MARSHALL, AR Marshall Church of Christ (North Central, AR) Hwy. 27 N, 1 Mi. from 65 Jct. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Randy Searight (870) 448-2055	CANOGA PARK, CA (San Fernando Valley) Church of Christ 7054 Winnetka Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Afternoon 2:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Minister: Bruce Evans (818) 795-5566 Spanish congregation (818) 701-0112
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HUNTSVILLE, AL Chapman Acres Church of Christ 2137 Penhall Dr., NE (I-565, Exit 21, left on Maysville Rd., left on Chapman Ave., right on Penhall Dr.) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Roger Blackwelder (256) 536-5296 or 617-2848	NORTHPORT, AL Northwood Church of Christ 4601 Northwood Estates Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Hartselle	TUCSON, AZ Church of Christ 145 N. Country Club Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Hugh Delong 326-3634 or 722-3179	HARRISON, AR Capps Rd. Church of Christ 407 Bella Vista Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Sewell 741-9104 or 741-5151	TEXARKANA, AR Church of Christ 2301 Franklin Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc R. Hinds	FOLSOM, CA Church of Christ 900 E. Natomas St. P.O. Box 492 Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Posey (530) 676-9514 or (916) 608-4866 www.folsomchurch.com

<p>FREMONT, CA Centerville Church of Christ 3885 Beacon Ave, Ste D Fremont, CA 94538 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (510) 794-7659</p>	<p>MONTROSE, CO San Juan church of Christ 1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Richard Thetford (970) 626-5558 or (970) 249-8116 www.sanjuanchurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>FORT LAUDERDALE, FL Northside Church of Christ 912 NW 19th St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (305) 763-1404</p>	<p>KEY LARGO, FL Key Largo Church of Christ 100695 N. Overseas Hwy. 33037 m.m. 100.7 on US 1 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: William LeDent (305) 451-1194</p>	<p>ORLANDO, FL S. Bumby Church of Christ 3940 S. Bumby Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joshua C. Creel (407) 851-8031 or (321) 235-3307</p>	<p>HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP</p>
<p>HEMET, CA Church of Christ 203 W. Acacia Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Will Wilson (951) 846-9174</p>	<p>Place Your Ad Today!</p>	<p>FORT MYERS, FL Church of Christ 200 Pine Island Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Vernon E. Ford (239) 567-0819</p>	<p>KISSIMMEE, FL Church of Christ 2431 Fortune Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Copeland (407) 931-1725 or 348-0300</p>	<p>PALATKA, FL Palatka Church of Christ 505 Third Ave. (Third Ave. intersects Hwy. 19 one block south of Hwy. 20) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Skomp (386) 326-3952 or 546-5689</p>	<p>SEFFNER, FL Church of Christ 621 E. Wheeler Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Bobby Witherington (813) 684-1297 www.seffnercoc.org</p>
<p>LONG BEACH, CA Church of Christ 3433 Studebaker Rd. Bible Study 9:50 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Darryl Schmelzer (562) 420-2363 Mark Reeves (562) 420-9577 www.JustChristians.org</p>	<p>DOVER, DE Kent-Sussex Church of Christ 2041 South DuPont Hwy Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (302) 672-7087 www.delawarebiblestudies.com</p>	<p>FORT MYERS, FL Southside Church of Christ 13641 Learning Ct. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David P. Schmidt 433-2838 or 482-2158</p>	<p>LAKELAND, FL Lakeland Hills Blvd. Church of Christ 2510 Lakeland Hills Blvd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelists: Marc W. Gibson (863) 688-4336</p>	<p>PALMETTO, FL Palmetto Church of Christ 1575 14th Avenue W. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Beck (941) 722-1307, or (941) 803-8084 www.palmettochurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>TAMPA, FL Central Church of Christ 2701 E. Fowler Ave (in the Clarion) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. John Lockaby (813) 833-5786 John Trimble (813) 914-0546 Tom O'Neal (813) 625-5651</p>
<p>OCEANSIDE-VISTA, CA Church of Christ 2020 Sunset Dr. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lowell C. Bell (760) 940-8003</p>	<p>MIAMI, FL Church of Christ Eglise du Christ de Miami 8343 NE 3rd Ct. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Minister: Junot Joseph (305) 244-8295</p>	<p>FT. WALTON BEACH, FL 6 Lane Dr. Mary Esther, FL Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joey Rankin (850) 244-9222</p>	<p>MERRITT ISLAND, FL Church of Christ 512 Plumosa St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (321) 453-3320</p>	<p>PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL Beach Church of Christ 8910 Front Beach Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ben Liggins (850) 234-2521 or 234-1368</p>	<p>ZEPHYRHILLS, FL Church of Christ 5444 4th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Assembly 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (813) 788-9587</p>
<p>ARVADA, CO (Denver) Northgate Church of Christ (Lincoln Academy Charter School) 6980 Pierce Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Aftersnoon Class/ Worship 1:30 P.M. (303) 456-4895</p>	<p>BRONSON, FL Church of Christ 894 E. Hathaway (Hwy. 27A) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Thursday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Zellner (352) 528-3058</p>	<p>FROSTPROOF, FL Church of Christ 40 W. "A" St. Frostproof, FL 33483 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (863) 635-2607 or 635-4278</p>	<p>MIAMI, FL Flagler Grove Church of Christ (Nearest to Airport) 500 N.W. 53rd Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: John Buttrick (305) 634-5924</p>	<p>PANAMA CITY, FL Church of Christ 3339 Florida Ave. (Between Baldwin Rd. & Hwy. 390) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Marvin Hudson (850) 265-6539</p>	<p>CENTERVILLE, GA Centerville Church of Christ 250 Collins Ave. (Near Robins AFB) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: J. Wiley Adams (478) 922-1158</p>
<p>HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP</p>	<p>BROOKSVILLE, FL Church of Christ 604 W. Fort Dade Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: V.C. McCormick (352) 796-9803</p>	<p>GENEVA, FL Church of Christ Ave. C and 2nd St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M.</p>	<p>MIAMI, FL Church of Christ 12780 Quail Roost Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Clark Pace (305) 233-9590 or (954) 430-1437</p>	<p>PENSACOLA, FL East Hill Church of Christ 2078 E. Nine Mile Rd. at Camberwell Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Stan Adams 479-2130 or 994-7749</p>	<p>CONYERS, GA Rockdale Church of Christ East Metro Atlanta, 705 Smyrna Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Forrest Bacon, elder (770) 918-1932; Wendell Holland, elder (770) 761-6987; Building (770) 929-3973</p>
<p>FT. COLLINS, CO Foothills Church of Christ 1200 Raintree Drive Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:30 A.M. Call (970) 482-9690 for Wednesday Service (Meets in home.)</p>	<p>CHIPLEY, FL Church of Christ 1295 Brickyard Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 638-2366 www.chIPLEYchurch.com</p>	<p>HOLLYWOOD, FL Harding St. Church of Christ 5828 Harding St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (954) 961-4112</p>	<p>truth BOOKS</p>	<p>To make changes to your ad, contact us at andy@truthbooks.net</p>	<p>CORDELE, GA Crisp County Church of Christ 120 Emmaus Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Jimmy Tuten Call for directions: (229) 271-1964 (229) 382-8766 (229) 3263715</p>
<p>GRAND JUNCTION, CO Valley Church of Christ 491 Spahn Road P.O. Box 40531 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Bohannon www.ValleyChurchofChrist.net</p>	<p>DELAND, FL North Blvd. Church of Christ 823 N. Woodland Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Owen (386) 734-6907 or 734-4311</p>	<p>JACKSONVILLE, FL Julington Creek Church of Christ 1630 State Rd 13N Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (904) 230-3332 (Bldg.) or 268-9638 (Wendell Bowman) www.jccoc.com</p>	<p>ORLANDO, FL Pine Hills Church of Christ 890 Hastings St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ray West (407) 293-2851 or 290-8650</p>	<p>PUNTA GORDA, FL Church of Christ 2300 Taylor Road PO Box 511069 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening (Nov.-Mar.) 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Paul Branch (941) 347-8425</p>	<p>PINE MTN. VALLEY, GA Church of Christ Route 116 (near Callaway Gardens) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Tommy W. Thomas (706) 628-5117 or 628-5229</p>
<p>IGNACIO, CO Church of Christ 295 Burns Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 1:00 P.M. (970) 563-9418</p>	<p>DESTIN, FL South Walton Church of Christ 64 Casting Lake Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 622-3817 www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>JACKSONVILLE, FL Marietta Church of Christ 8150 Driggers St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jamie Rhoden Elders: Jamie Rhoden & Steve Frazier (904) 781-5704 or 693-0432 www.mariettacoc.com</p>	<p>ORLANDO, FL Azalea Park Church of Christ 6800 Lake Underhill Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: James P. Needham (407) 277-7931 or 628-2995</p>	<p>ST. PETERSBURG, FL Church of Christ 901 49th St. South Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Barlar (813) 321-2721</p>	<p>SAVANNAH, GA Coastal Church of Christ 7201 Johnny Mercer Blvd Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Nelson ronnelson@embarkmail.com (912) 306-4631 www.coastalchurchofchrist.com</p>

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<p>VALDOSTA, GA Church of Christ 4313 North Valdosta Rd. (Located 1 mile E. of Exit 22 off I-75) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. (No evening worship) Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (229) 244-8630</p>	<p>PALATINE, IL Church of Christ (N.W. Chicago Suburb) 1050 N. Deer Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (847) 967-9667</p>	<p>OOLITIC, IN Church of Christ 400 Lafayette Ave. P.O. Box 34 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (812) 279-4332</p>	<p>LENEXA, KS Lenexa Church of Christ 7845 Cottonwood Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Stauffer (913) 631-6519 or 764-9170</p>	<p>CAMPBELLSVILLE, KY Sunny Hill Dr. Church of Christ (near the Dairy Queen) AM Worship 9:30 A.M. AM Bible Study 10:30 A.M. AM Worship 11:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Lee stevelee451@windstream.net (270) 789-1651</p>	<p>REGINA, KY Road Creek Church of Christ 7 miles west of Elkhorn City on Route 460 & Route 80 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (606) 754-9883, 754-8642 or 754-5398</p>
<p>BLACKFOOT, ID Church of Christ 370 N. Shilling P.O. Box 158-83221 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (208) 785-6168 or 681-1552</p>	<p>CLARKSVILLE, IN Clarksville Church of Christ 407 Lewis and Clark Pkw. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kipp Campbell (812) 941-0747 or 944-2305 KCampbell@earthlink.net Elders: 944-1878 or 948-9917</p>	<p>PEKIN, IN Church of Christ (First St. & Karnes Cl.) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Henry 967-3437 or 967-3520</p>	<p>TOPEKA, KS 17th Street Church of Christ 5600 SW 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (785) 235-8687 or 273-7977 www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>CANEYVILLE, KY Caneyville Church of Christ 103 N. Main St. (near the 4 way stop) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Barnes (270) 879-6152 or 274-3065</p>	<p>BATON ROUGE, LA Park Forest Church of Christ 9923 Sunny Cline Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Crews 275-4684 or 273-1105</p>
<p>ABINGDON, IL Abingdon Church of Christ 209 N. Main Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Evangelist: John B. Wilson (309) 462-5368</p>	<p>ELLETTSVILLE, IN Church of Christ 303 W. Temperance St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Isaac Edwards (812) 876-2285</p>	<p>PLAINFIELD, IN Church of Christ 350 E. Township Line Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnie Edwards (317) 839-0174</p>	<p>truth BOOKS</p>	<p>DANVILLE, KY 385 E. Lexington Ave. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Scott Vifquain (859) 236-4204</p>	<p>BOSSIER CITY, LA Bossier Church of Christ 2917 Foster Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 747-4308 or 742-4557</p>
<p>Place Your Ad Today!</p>	<p>HAMMOND, IN Woodmar Church of Christ 2133 169th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (219) 845-8942</p>	<p>RICHMOND, IN Gaar Road Church of Christ 1835 Gaar Rd. (1 mi. S. of I-70 off Hwy. 227) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Douglas R. Clark (765) 935-2911</p>	<p>WICHITA, KS Westside Church of Christ 2626 W. 47th St. South Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike O'Neal (316) 729-9302 or 942-1649 www.cocwestside.com</p>	<p>FRANKLIN, KY 31-W North Church of Christ 1733 Bowling Green Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Monts (270) 586-3978 www.franklinchurch.com</p>	<p>HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP</p>
<p>CHICAGO, IL Northside Church of Christ 2543 W. Division St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James R. Davis, Jr. (312) 961-2150</p>	<p>HOBART, IN Church of Christ 300 N. Liberty St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Cleek (219) 942-2663</p>	<p>SALEM, IN Westside Church of Christ 2000 West State Rd. 56 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Evan Casey (812) 883-2033 www.westsidechurchofchrist.info</p>	<p>AUSTIN, KY Peter's Creek Church of Christ 856 Thomerson Park Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening (Nov-Mar) 5:00 P.M. Evening (Apr-Oct) 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Justin Monts (270) 404-2171 or 646-0498 www.peterscreekcoc.com</p>	<p>GLASGOW, KY East Main St. Church of Christ 106 Carnation Dr. (across from Gorin Park) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Lancaster (270) 404-0346 or 651-7141</p>	<p>LEESVILLE, LA White Park Church of Christ 17801 Nolan Trace; 20 mi. from Fort Polk (5 mi. W. of Leesville) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:35 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (337) 239-4614 www.whiteparkchurchofchrist.org</p>
<p>CHICAGO, IL Church of Christ 1514 West 74th Street Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James E. Scott Bldg. (773) 224-9279 (708) 339-6126</p>	<p>INDIANAPOLIS, IN Castleton Church of Christ 7701 East 86th St., 46256 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (317) 842-3613</p>	<p>TRAFALGAR, IN Spearsville Rd. Church of Christ, 6244 S. 500W. (1.2 mi. S. of Hwy. 135) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David R. Dodd (317) 878-5969 or (317) 439-3252 spearsvilleroadmessenger@gmail.com</p>	<p>BEAVER DAM, KY Church of Christ 1235 Williams St. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study After Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Thomas (270) 274-4451 or 274-4486</p>	<p>LEITCHFIELD, KY Mill St. Church of Christ Highway 62 E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:55 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joey Cooper (270) 259-4968</p>	<p>MANY, LA Lakeside Church of Christ 12095 Texas Hwy. (Hwy. 6 W.) 12 miles west of Many Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 256-9396</p>
<p>DOWNERS GROVE, IL Church of Christ 1236 63rd St. (1 and 1/2 mile E. of I355) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (630) 968-0760 • www.dgccc.org</p>	<p>JAMESTOWN, IN Church of Christ (1 Mi. south of I-74) Cor. Darlington & Mill Sts. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Hallbrook (765) 676-6404 or (317) 892-6285</p>	<p>DES MOINES, IA Church of Christ 1310 N.E. 54th Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (515) 262-6799</p>	<p>BOWLING GREEN, KY Eastside Church of Christ 1706 Smallhouse Rd Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wed. 10:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Gary Kerr (270) 843-9925 www.mightyisthelord.com</p>	<p>LOUISVILLE, KY Valley Station Church of Christ 1803 Dixie Garden Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Dudley Ross Spears (502) 937-2822</p>	<p>STONEWALL, LA N. DeSoto Church of Christ 2071 Highway 171 (South of Shreveport) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Bobbitt (318) 925-2733</p>
<p>GLEN ELLYN, IL Church of Christ 796 Prairie, 60137 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Joseph T. Novak (630-529-2149) (630) 858-2290</p>	<p>MARION, IN South Marion Church of Christ 3629 S. Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Alan Jones (765) 922-7602</p>	<p>GRINNELL, IA Church of Christ 1402 Third Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (641) 236-1955 (641) 521-6485 (641) 236-3883</p>	<p>BOWLING GREEN, KY West End Church of Christ 300 Blue Level Rd., 42101 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelists: Todd Chandler & Lowell Sallee (270) 842-7880 www.westendchurch.com</p>	<p>LOUISVILLE, KY Church of Christ 4401 West Broad St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Wright, Jr. (502) 772-3026 or 491-9372</p>	<p>WEBSTER, MA Church of Christ Webster 168 Main St. Sunday Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship 10:30 A.M. Wed Bible Study Call for details (401) 440-5117 Preacher: Robert Weltzin</p>
<p>MATTOON, IL Southside Church of Christ 1100 S. 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (217) 234-3702</p>	<p>MUNCIE, IN Church of Christ 301 N. Calvert Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Sulc (765) 284-5299 or 286-5488</p>	<p>EL DORADO, KS Emporia St. Church of Christ 1154 S. Emporia Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (316) 321-3632</p>	<p>BRANDENBURG, KY Brandenburg Church of Christ 612 Broadway Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Charles J. White (270) 422-3878</p>	<p>OWENSBORO, KY Southside Church of Christ 2920 New Hartford Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs (270) 683-5386 or 264-7869</p>	<p>PORTLAND, ME Church of Christ 856 Brighton Ave. (Breakwater School) Leave Maine Turnpike at Exit 48 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Second service immediately following morning worship. Mid-week Bible Study—Please call for times & places (207) 839-3075 or 839-8409</p>



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<p>SEVERN, MD Southwest Church of Christ 805 Meadow Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brandon Trout (410) 969-1420 or (410) 551-6549 www.swcfcchrist.com</p>	<p>COLUMBUS, MS Woodlawn Church of Christ 359 Sanders Mills Rd. Steen Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Willis Logan (601) 356-6629</p>	<p>FAIR GROVE, MO Church of Christ 217 N. Orchard Blvd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Walter Myers (417) 830-8972 or (417) 736-2663</p>	<p>ST. JOSEPH, MO County Line Church of Christ 2727 County Line Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 279-4737 www.countylinechurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>ALBUQUERQUE, NM Heights Church of Christ 7801 Zuni Road, S.E. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Darrel Yontz (505) 266-7577 www.heightschurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>MARION, NC Hwy. 70 Church of Christ 18 Peachtree St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (828) 652-7504</p>
<p>RIVERDALE, MD (Washington, D.C. area) Wildercroft Church of Christ 6330 Auburn Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Antoine Holloway (301) 474-7460 or (301) 741-0012</p>	<p>GULFPORT, MS Morris Rd. Church of Christ 1 blk. N. of Dedeaue Rd. & 3 Rivers Rd. on Morris Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steven Carmack (228) 832-5529</p>	<p>KANSAS CITY, MO Nashua Church of Christ 11425 N. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Broyles (816) 532-4270 or 734-4142</p>	<p>ST. JOSEPH, MO Prairie Hills Church of Christ 14273 County Rd. 307 (.7 mi. E of Intersection I-29 & Hwy. 169) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 233-6485 Evangelist: Erik Smith</p>	<p>ALBUQUERQUE, NM Greater Buffalo Church of Christ 3578 Walden Ave Lancaster, NY 14086 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tuesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Daniel Bailey (716) 870-3259</p>	<p>BEAVERCREEK, OH Knollwood Church of Christ 1031 Welford Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Afternoon 3:00 P.M. Wed. Afternoon 1:00 P.M. Wed. Evening 7:30 P.M. (937) 426-1422 www.knollwoodchurch.org</p>
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<p>ST. CHARLES, MN Church of Christ 636 Whitewater Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:45 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Lehnertz (507) 534-2905 or 932-3521</p>	<p>CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO North Cape Church of Christ 121 S. Broadview St. Suite 2 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Lee Westbrook (573)334-9673</p>	<p>RAYTOWN, MO Sterling Ave. Church of Christ 5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Fultz (816) 358-3096 or 554-8036 www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>PISCATAWAY, NJ Highland Ave. Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Bible Classes 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gary P. Eubanks (732) 463-1323</p>	<p>CHARLOTTE, NC Charlotte Church of Christ 5327 S. Tyrone St. Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Wendell Powell (704) 525-5655 or 522-9971</p>	<p>DAYTON, OH West Carrollton 28 W. Main Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Michael Grushon (937) 866-5162 or 434-3090 E-mail: www.wc-coc.org</p>
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MANSFIELD, OH Southside Church of Christ 687 Mansfield-Lucas Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Leon Bond: 525-3684 Glenn Bond: 522-1965	TULSA, OK Woodland Hills Church of Christ 9119 E. 61 St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Oldenkamp (918) 252-1220	NORTH CHARLESTON, SC Ashley Heights Church of Christ 2605 S. Oakridge Cir. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (843) 553-4970 www.ahccc.info	FAIRVIEW, TN New Hope Church of Christ 7500 Jingo Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Shannon Shaffer (615) 289-1721 or 799-0162 www.newhopecc.com	MURFREESBORO, TN South Ridge Church of Christ 488 Barfield-Crescent Rd. • PO 2257 (I-24, Exit 81, South 1.5 miles on Hwy 231, turn right) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 425-6300 southridge.churchofchrist@yahoo.com	TULLAHOMA, TN Church of Christ 1625 W. Lincoln St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Mickells (931) 455-0273 or 563-7312
MARIETTA/RENO, OH Jct. St. Rt. 7 & County Rd. 20 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 222-9160 (Daniel Rueegg) or 473-9028 (Steve Foutty)	MEDFORD, OR Church of Christ 1850 Spring St. (Roxy Ann Grange Hall) Corner of Spring/Valley View Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Thursday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dean Blackwell (541) 773-2649	ORANGEBURG, SC Southside Church of Christ 1502 Binnicker Bridge Rd. (Grange Building - Hwy 70) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Fred England (803) 939-0672 www.southside-church.org	JACKSON, TN Sunset View Church of Christ 3618 Hwy 70 East (Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Wilkerson (731) 987-2200 or 968-9851	NASHVILLE, TN Bell Road Church of Christ 1608 Bell Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davenport (615) 833-4444 or 331-7377	ALLEN, TX West Allen Church of Christ 1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (2 miles W. of Hwy. 75) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry King (214) 504-0443 (972) 727-5355 (bldg)
NEW CARLISLE, OH Church of Christ 235 Funston Ave. (Near Wright-Patterson AFB) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Randy Blackaby (937) 849-1643 or 845-8467 (bldg.)	SWEET HOME, OR Church of Christ 3702 E. Long St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Building: (541) 367-1599	SUMTER, SC Woodland Church of Christ 3370 Broad St. Extension Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. (803) 499-6023	JOHNSON CITY, TN Brookmead Church of Christ 2428 Lakeview Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Kay 423-282-6251 or 426-1836	NASHVILLE, TN Hillview Church of Christ 7471 Charlotte Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 952-5458 or (615) 356-7318 Evangelist: Lee Wildman	ALVARADO, TX I-35 Church of Christ (E. Service Rd. of I-35, N. of Alvarado) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 295-7277 or 790-7253
NEW LEBANON, OH Church of Christ 1973 W. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marvin L. Eads (937) 236-6521 or 546-8828	AVONDALE, PA Avondale Church of Christ 1606 Glen Willow Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (610) 268-2088 Rex Cornwell (970) 667-3507 Randy Frame (610) 869-4146	TAYLORS, SC (Greenville Area) Taylors Church of Christ 400 E. Main St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Luther Pratt (864) 268-5224 or 877-2728 www.taylorschurchofchrist.com	KINGSTON SPRINGS, TN Kingston Springs Church of Christ 350 North Main St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dan King, Sr. (615) 952-5720 or 662-7626	NASHVILLE, TN Perry Heights Church of Christ 423 Donelson Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnny Felker (615) 883-3118 http://perryheights.faithweb.com	ALVIN, TX Adoue St. Church of Christ 605 E. Adoue St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (281) 331-4953 or (832) 837-9038
NEW RICHMOND, OH Church of Christ 550 Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: Dave Wylie (513) 553-6414 www.nrchurchofchrist.com	EXTON, PA Exton Church of Christ 217 N. Whitford Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 363-8042	WEST COLUMBIA, SC Airport Church of Christ 4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Michael McCleary (803) 735-6065	KNOXVILLE, TN Chapman Hwy. Church of Christ 7604 Chapman Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Tim Shepherd (865) 573-6638	PIGEON FORGE, TN King Branch Road Church of Christ 560 King Branch Road Worship 10:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Facilities available for Sunday evening services upon request. Evangelist: Roger Williams (865) 430-5980 www.KingBranchRoadChurchOf-Christ.org	ANGELTON, TX Kiber St. Church of Christ P.O. Box 1162 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Zeke Flores (979) 849-8376

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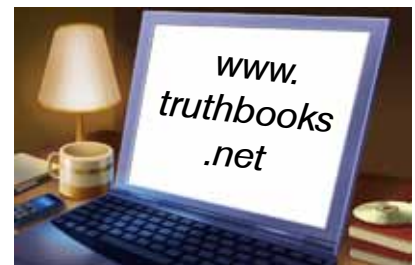
<p>AUSTIN, TX Coloned Center Church of Christ 9025 Research Blvd.- Unit 175 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Lehde</p>	<p>DUNCANVILLE, TX Whispering Hills Church of Christ 2126 S Main Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (972) 298-2522 info@whchurchofchrist.net</p>		<p>MANSFIELD, TX Northside Church of Christ 1820 Mansfield-Webb Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelists: Tom Roberts (817) 466-3160</p>	<p>SAN ANGELO, TX Green Meadow church of Christ (Off Loop 306, sw part of the city) 3438 Green Meadow Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Boyd Jennings (325) 224-2848 or (325) 944-8147</p>	<p>COLONIAL HEIGHTS/ PETERSBURG, VA Appomatox church of Christ 117 Orange Avenue (Ft. Lee Area) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lenny Chapman (804) 526-6464 or (804) 675-0216</p>
<p>BAYTOWN, TX Church of Christ at Pruett & Lobit 701 North Pruett St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jesse Flowers (281) 515-8939 Building (281) 422-5926 Weldon (713) 818-1321</p>	<p>EDNA, TX 301 Robison Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (361) 782-5506 or 782-2844 Evangelist: Heath Rogers Elders: R. Dunham, J. Mercer S. Mercer, G. Nordin, S. Wilson</p>	<p>HOUSTON, TX (Southwest) Murphy Rd. Church of Christ 2025 Murphy Rd., Missouri City Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gene Mabry (281) 265-8071 or 261-5216</p>	<p>McKINNEY, TX Central Church of Christ 1805 White Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00P.M. Evangelist: Jack Howard III (214) 544-3035</p>	<p>SAN ANTONIO, TX Pecan Valley Church of Christ 268 Utopia (I-37 S.E. Exit Pecan Valley) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Clyde W. Carter (210) 337-6143</p>	<p>NEWPORT NEWS, VA Harpersville Rd. Church of Christ 315 Harpersville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (757) 595-9564</p>
<p>BAYTOWN, TX East Side Church of Christ 3107 N. Highway 146 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kris Emerson (281) 427-8729; 837-9259 422-8800; 573-1940</p>	<p>EL PASO, TX Eastridge Church of Christ 3277 Pendleton Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (915) 855-1524</p>	<p>HOUSTON, TX Spring Woods Church of Christ 9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist (281) 794-0837</p>	<p>MESQUITE, TX (East Dallas) Westlake Church of Christ 427 Gross Rd., 75149 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ashley Sharkey (972) 285-1610</p>	<p>SHERMAN, TX Westwood Village Church of Christ 314 N. Tolbert Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Smelser</p>	<p>RICHMOND (Metro), VA Courthouse Church of Christ Courthouse Rd. at Double Creek Ct. (2.2 miles S of Rt. 288) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evang: Gene Tople (804) 790-1629 www.courthousechurchofchrist.com</p>
<p>BEAUMONT, TX Dowlen Rd. Church of Christ 3060 Dowlen Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Max Dawson & David Banning (409) 866-1996</p>	<p>FORT WORTH, TX Woodmont Church of Christ 6417 Landview (at Altamesa) Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Afternoon 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jeff S. Smith (817) 292-4908 or 426-2242 woodmontchurch.org</p>		<p>MIDLAND, TX Woodcrest Drive Church of Christ 1401 Woodcrest Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Danny Hooper (432) 689-0955 (432) 694-3482</p>	<p>TEMPLE, TX Leon Valley Church of Christ 4404 Twin City Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Warren King (254) 939-0682 or 228-5038 www.biblemoments.org</p>	<p>RICHMOND, VA Forest Hill Church of Christ 1208 W. 41st St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959</p>
<p>CLEBURNE, TX Nolan River Church of Christ 1705 Longfellow Ln at 1700 S. Nolan River Rd Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tim E. Stevens (817) 645-2353</p>	<p>FORT WORTH, TX West Side Church of Christ 6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (817) 738-7269</p>	<p>IRVING, TX Westside Church of Christ 2320 Imperial Dr. (closest to D/FW Airport) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Roberts (972) 986-9131 www.justchristians.com</p>	<p>NACOGDOCHES, TX Stallings Dr. Church of Christ 3831 N.E. Stallings Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Randy Harshbarger & Jay Taylor</p>	<p>TEMPLE, TX Southside Church of Christ 2003 S. 5th Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (254) 773-0931</p>	<p>RICHMOND, VA West End 4909 Patterson Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Stacy Crim (804) 358-5933</p>
<p>CLEVELAND, TX Church of Christ 310 E. Houston Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davis (281) 592-5676</p>	<p>FRISCO, TX (North Dallas-Plano) 4220 Preston Rd. (Holiday Inn) Call for times of services. Glenn Henderson (972) 378-3621 Rex Payne (972) 740-1486 Al Payne (972) 712-9274</p>		<p>ODESSA, TX Crescent Park Church of Christ 1415 Royalty Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Garrison (432) 366-5071 or 413-7759</p>	<p>WACO, TX Sun Valley Church of Christ 340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc Smith (254) 666-1020 or 420-1484</p>	<p>RIDGEWAY, VA Church of Christ 2970 Old Leaksville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Byrd (276) 956-6049</p>
<p>CLUTE, TX Church of Christ 343 S. Main Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (979) 265-5283 or 265-2933</p>	<p>GRANBURY, TX Old Granbury Rd. Church of Christ 4313 Old Granbury Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 573-6878</p>	<p>LANCASTER, TX Pleasant Run Church of Christ 831 W. Pleasant Run Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 227-1708 or 227-2598 www.planochurch.org</p>	<p>PLANO, TX (North Dallas Suburb) Spring Creek Church of Christ 2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 517-5582 or 231-3748 www.planochurch.org</p>	<p>THE WOODLANDS, TX Woodlands Church of Christ P.O. Box 7664-77380 3987 Wellman Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (281) 367-2099 www.simplychristians.net</p>	<p>ROANOKE, VA Blue Ridge Church of Christ 929 Indiana Ave. N.E. 5 min. from Roanoke Convention Center 1st Lesson 9:15 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (540) 344-2755</p>
<p>CORPUS CHRISTI, TX Hwy. 9 church of Christ Worship 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Worship 12:00 noon Wednesday 7:30 Call for location: Gary Madden (361) 289-1439 or Patrick Frazier (361) 225-4792</p>	<p>HOUSTON, TX Fry Rd. Church of Christ 2510 Fry Road (77084) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Bob Pulliam (281) 832-4633</p>	<p>LUBBOCK, TX Indiana Ave. Church of Christ 6111 Indiana Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Brett Hogland (806) 795-3377 or 928-9262</p>	<p>RED OAK, TX Methodist Street Church of Christ 211 Methodist St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (972) 576-3119 or 363-7672 info@methodiststreet churchofchrist.com</p>	<p>CHESAPEAKE, VA Tidewater Church of Christ 217 Taxus St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Schlosser (757) 436-6900</p>	<p>STAFFORD, VA Stafford Church of Christ 767 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evanglist: Mark McNabb (540) 379-4915</p>
<p>DICKINSON, TX Church of Christ 2919 FM 517 Rd. E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 9:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (281) 534-4870</p>	<p>HOUSTON, TX Bellaire Church of Christ 8001 South Rice Ave. Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. www.bellairechurchofchrist.org (713) 668-4810</p>	<p>LUFKIN, TX Timberland Dr. Church of Christ 912 S. Timberland Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Harold Hancock Regan McCleamy 634-7110 or 632-7070</p>	<p>ROSENBERG, TX Church of Christ 908 Frost St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jason Trick Bldg: (281) 232-4425 Cell: (832) 228-8973</p>	<p>CHESTER, VA Chester Church of Christ 12100 Winfree St. (Central to Richmond, Hopewell, Petersburg, & Colonial Heights) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Church Building: (804) 796-2374 (804) 497-3638 or (804) 271-0877</p>	<p>VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Southside Church of Christ 5652 Haden Rd. Worship 11:00 A.M. Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574</p>

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<p>VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Virginia Beach Church of Christ Pembroke Manor Recreation Building 4452 Hinsdale St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (757) 486-6639</p>	<p>CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 873 Oakwood Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jonathan Chaffin (304) 989-7316 or 342-5637 www.oakwoodroad.com</p>	<p>RAVENSWOOD, WV Church of Christ 1101 Gallatin St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (304) 273-3267</p>
<p>BELLINGHAM, WA Mt. Baker Church of Christ 1860 Mt. Baker Hwy. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joe Price (360) 752-2692 or 380-2960 www.bibleanswer.com/mtbaker</p>	<p>CLARKSBURG, WV Westside Church of Christ Davisson Run Road Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M. (304) 622-5433</p>	<p>WELLSBURG, WV Charles St. Church of Christ 836 Charles Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jessie Daniels (304) 527-4438 or 737-3124</p>
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<p>SUNNYSIDE, WA Sunnyside Church of Christ (sound) 1312 East Edison Bible Study 2:00 P.M. Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com</p>		<p>RANCHESTER, WV Church of Christ Hwy. 14 West Ranch Mart Mall Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Contact: Bob Reici (307) 655-2563</p>
<p>Shop online at truthbooks.net</p>	<p>MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brian Price (304) 845-2820, 845-4940</p>	<p>CANADA Calgary, Alberta Northside Church of Christ 803 - 20 A Ave. N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (403) 452-5116</p>
	<p>MOUNDSVILLE, WV Roberts Ridge Church of Christ Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Don Terrill: (304) 845-2344 Mail to: Sam Wood (304) 845-2202 406 Jefferson Ave. Glen Dale, WV 26038</p>	<p>Place Your Ad Today!</p>
<p>CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 522 Daugherty St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (304) 346-2112 or Kent Clark (304) 342-0237 mansuper1965@hotmail.com oakwoodroadchurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>PARKERSBURG, WV Marrrtown Church of Christ 825 Marrrtown Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (304) 861-0342 or 422-7458</p>	<p>CANADA Hamilton, Ontario 126 Ottawa St. N. Mailing Address: 33 Highcliffe Ave. L9A 3L3 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Monday 7:00 P.M. Tuesday 7:00 P.M. Steve Rudd, Evangelist (905) 575-8437</p>

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9:00		Christianity Can Survive The Threat of Hollywood – Leon Maudlin	Christianity Can Survive The Threat of Sports Mania – Alton Bailey	Christianity Can Survive The Threat of Secular Education – David Arnold
10:00		Christianity Can Survive The Threat of the Breakdown of the Home – Philip Owens	Christianity Can Survive the Threat of Apathy – Aaron Veyon	Christianity Can Survive The Threat of an Anti-Christian Government – Heath Robertson
11:00		The Growth of the Church: Philippines – Ron Halbook	General Observations on Foreign Evangelism – Connie W. Adams	The Growth of the Church: India – Joe Price
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.		Open Forum		Open Forum
7:00	Singing	Singing	No singing	Singing
7:30 p.m.	Christianity Can Survive in America – Jim Deason	Christianity Can Survive The Threat of A Diluted Message – Bob Waldron	No lecture	Christianity Can Be Victorious – Joshua Gurtler