

# **Sermon Outline Collection**

**Volume I**

**By**

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**Published by**

**J.C. Choate Publications**

**Winona/Singapore/New Delhi/Cape Town**

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**Third Printing, 1997, 5,000 copies**

**Order From:**

**J.C. Choate Publications**

**PO Box 72**

**Winona, MS 38967**

**Phone: (601) 283-1192**

**Fax: (601) 283-1191**

## INTRODUCTION

I have authored a number of sermon outline books during the past several years. I have not done so to encourage any preacher to be lazy or to lean on someone else. Rather, I have prepared such materials for the purpose of suggesting that certain themes be used, but always with the prayer that each outline might be re-worked, re-studied, and that the proper scripture references be added, so that in the end the one using the material might feel that it is really his and that it might be delivered in such a way as to get the maximum amount of results from it.

These particular outlines have been brought together over the past several years during which time I have been involved in preaching to small groups of people in Pakistan, Ceylon, and India. I am sure there is nothing new in them or anything different about them in particular. I do not claim any of the thoughts as being original but have simply put them together in this form out of my own knowledge, study, and of the needs that existed at the time for such lessons. Should any of this material resemble any other printed matter then it is either because similar truths are being considered or one of mere coincidence, and certainly with no intention whatsoever of claiming the thoughts of others as my own. As a matter of fact, being on foreign soil during these years I have

been almost entirely deprived of outline books printed by my brethren.

If any of these lessons can be used in a profitable way, of course as already suggested, then I would be most happy. I do know that many have told me in the past how that they had been able to use other outline books of mine to great advantage and no telling how many souls have been brought to the truth as a result. How could I hope any less for this book?

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January 25, 1982

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## **BY WHAT AUTHORITY ?**

**Luke 20 : 1-8**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Authority means power, dominion, reign, right, rule, and strength.
2. Jesus was questioned concerning his authority and he answered them according to their folly.
3. This should call to our minds the importance of doing what we do according to proper authority.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Authority is very important.**

1. The people of the Government have authority.
2. Those who come from other countries to serve as Ambassadors have authority.
3. All office holders have authority.

#### **II. Jesus had authority.**

1. Had credentials.
  - a. Born of the Virgin Mary.
  - b. Fulfilled prophecies.
  - c. Performed miracles. (John 3:1-3).
  - d. Was resurrected. (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).
  - e. Returned to the Father.
  - f. Things written about him. (John 20:30,31).
2. He spoke with authority. (Matthew 7:29).
3. He spoke the word of God.
4. Given authority to execute judgment. (John 5:26,27).
5. All authority given to him. (Matthew 28:18).

6. When he delivers the kindgom to God then he shall lay down all authority. (1 Corinthians 15:24).

### **III. We have no Authority apart from Lord's authority.**

1. God hath spoken. (Herbrews 1:1.2).
2. His word is final. (1 Peter 4:11).
3. No scripture is of private interpretation.
4. Not to add to God's word, subtract from it, or substitute for it. (Rev. 22:18, 19 ; Gal. 1:6-9).
5. The Bible to be our only rule for all we do and teach.

### **IV. By what authority do you do and teach the things you do ?**

1. Denominations ?
2. Man-made names ?
3. Sprinkling ?
4. Titles ?
5. Worship ?

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. If you are doing or teaching something that is not by the authority of the Lord, then it is error.
2. Man's authority is not equal to the authority of the Lord.
3. Man may tell you that something is all right, but what does the Bible say ?
4. Be careful lest you be deceived.

## **IN THE NAME OF CHRIST**

### **Colossians 3:17**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Many times it is said that there is nothing in a name.
2. If so, then why does the Bible say so many times that all is to be done in the name of Christ ?
3. To do it in the name of something else or some one else is to sin against the Lord himself.
4. In this lesson before us we want to stress this point.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. What the Bible Teaches.**

1. Salvation is in the name of Christ. (Acts 4:12).
2. Must use Bible names and titles only. (1 Peter 4:16).

##### **II. To do all in the name of Christ.**

1. The apostles healed in the name of Christ. (Acts 3:6).
2. Many believed in his name. (John 2:23).
3. To confess the name of Christ. (Matthew 10:32,33).
4. To repent and be baptized in the name of Christ. (Acts 2:38).
5. Salvation is in the name of Christ. (Acts 4:12).
6. Life is in the name of Christ. (John. 20:30, 31).
7. His name is above every name. (Ephesians 1:21).
8. The church is named after Christ. (Ephesians 3 : 14, 15 ; Romans 16 : 16).
9. To wear the name of Christ. (Acts 11 : 26 ; 1 Peter 4 : 16).
10. Justified by the name of Christ. ( 1 Corinthians 6 : 11).
11. To do all in the name of Christ. (Colossians 3:17).
12. To pray in the name of Christ. (John 14 : 13).

13. To gather in the name of Christ. (1 Corinthians 5 : 4 ; Matthew 18 : 20).
14. Every knee to bow to Christ. (Philippians 2 : 9, 10).
15. To suffer for his name (Acts 5 : 41 ; Acts 9 : 16).
16. Some blasphemed that name. (James 2 : 7).

### **III. Christ warned.**

1. Some would come claiming to be Christ.
2. Some would come in their own name and be received. (John 5 : 43).
3. Some would draw off disciples after them. (Acts 20 : 30).

### **IV. Christ is Dishonored.**

1. When his name is rejected.
2. When his name is not worn.
3. When his name is shared along with others.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Even as the Lord's name is above every name, the name Christian is above man-made names and titles.
2. Are you wearing the name of Christ ?

## **CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS**

### **Matthew 3 : 3**

#### **INTRODUCTION ;**

1. John came crying in the wilderness.
2. He came preaching that the people should repent and obey God.
3. But he was not the only one to cry in the wilderness.

- a. Both in preaching and sorrow.
  - b. Both in the physical wilderness and spiritual wilderness.
4. Let us think about some of these and then consider the great need for such today.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. Some who cried out in the Old Testament.**

1. Samuel. (1 Samuel 15).
  - a. He spoke out against the sins of the King and Israel.
  - b. He delivered God's word that Saul had been rejected.
2. Elijah. (1 Kings 18).
  - a. He challenged the prophets of Baal to a test.
  - b. He mocked them and showed them that their god was nothing.
  - c. He offered evidence that there was a true and living God.
3. Issaiah. (Isaiah 13).
  - a. He speaks of the wrath of the Lord coming on wicked Babylon.
  - b. He tells of the curse that will rest upon it.
4. Jeremiah. (Lamentations 1).
  - a. Known as the weeping prophet.
  - a. He tells of the woes of Israel.
5. Ezekiel. (Ezekiel 3).
  - a. He was to warn the people.
  - b. If he failed to warn then he would be held responsible.
6. Jonah. (Jonah 1).
  - a. God commanded Jonah to go to Nineveh and cry against it.
  - b. He did and Nineveh repented.

7. **Habakkuk.** (Habakkuk 1).
  - a. The prophet cried out to them.
  - b. But the people would not listen.
8. **John the Baptist.** (Matthew 3 : 3).
  - a. Came preaching in the wilderness.
  - b. Taught people to repent.
  - c. Asked them to bring forth proof of their repentance.
9. **Christ.** (Matthew 23 : 37).
  - a. Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.
  - b. Spoke of the religious leaders of his day as being hypocrites.
  - c. Wept for Jerusalem.

## **II. Some who cried out in the New Testament.**

1. **Peter.** (Acts 8).
  - a. Preached the first gospel sermon.
  - b. Told Simon of his sin to his face.
2. **Paul.** (Acts 17).
  - a. Spoke out against idolatry at Mars Hill.
  - b. Condemned sin in every form.
  - c. Warned of what would happen.

## **III. The great work of these men.**

1. They preached the will of God.
2. There were but few of them.
3. Their job was not easy.
  - a. They had to condemn sin in every form.
  - b. To point to a better way.
4. They often had to suffer for their preaching.
5. It was a work that had to be done.

## **IV. Men who have betrayed their calling.**

1. Those who refuse to preach the truth.

2. Those who do not have the courage to say what needs to be said.
3. Those who will not proclaim the whole counsel of God.
4. Those who sell out.
5. Those who are hypocrites.
6. Those who want to be popular.

#### **V. The need for such men today.**

1. The Lord has said to go and preach. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).
2. Paul says we must preach the word. (2 Timothy 4 : 2).
3. Men need to be warned of sin and of its consequences. (Ezekiel 3 : 17-21).
4. It is not a popular job but it needs to be done.
5. This is the hope of the world.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. The preacher is a watchman for the souls of others.
2. There has always been a few who would cry out in the wilderness and this is the salvation of man.
3. Will you be one, or will you respect those who are ?

### **CRUCIFYING CHRIST—YESTERDAY AND TODAY**

#### **Hebrews 6 : 6**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Many read about the unfaithfulness of Israel and declare that they would not be guilty of such.
2. Most would say that they would not be guilty of crucifying the Lord.

2. But perhaps we are even more guilty of these things.
  - a. Not physically. (Hebrews 6 : 6).
  - b. By refusing to hear the Lord's word. (Luke 10 : 16).
  - c. By rejecting the church. (Acts 9 : 4, 5).
4. The Lord's crucifixion in the long ago was painful but when we crucify him afresh it is even more painful.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. The Physical Crucifixion of Christ was a result of Several Sins.**

1. Ignorance. "And now, brethern, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers." (Acts 3 : 17).
  - a. Ignorant of the law.
  - b. Ignorant of the prophecies.
  - c. Ignorant of the purpose of his coming.
2. Unbelief. "Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious : but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly unbelief." (1 Timothy 1 : 13).
3. Envy. "For he knew that for envy they had delivered him up." (Matthew 27 : 18).
4. Neglect. (Matthew 25 : 45).
5. Falling away. (John 12 : 42, 43).
6. Dividing his body. (Matthew 27 : 35).
7. Rejecting him. (Matthew 27 : 22, 23).

### **II. Crucifying Christ Afresh.**

1. By ignorance, (1 Corinthians 2 : 8).
  - a. Ignorant of the truth.
  - b. Dividing up.
2. Unbelief. (John 3 : 18).



3. Envy. (Titus 3 : 3).
4. Neglect. (John 5 : 40 ; James 4 : 17).
5. Falling away. (Hebrews 6 : 6).
7. Rejecting him.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. How horrible to crucify him who came to save us.
2. Let us resolve to remove those things from our lives that would bring about such a tragic life.
3. Christ died once, don't destroy him in your life.
4. Let him live daily in your life so you can be saved.

### CHRISTMAS

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. Our study may do several things.
  - a. Shock you.
  - b. Rock your faith.
  - c. Ignore it.
2. This is true because the majority have never studied the subject.
  - a. They go along with the crowd.
  - b. Have always done it.
  - c. Do it for their children's sake.
3. Need to realize that Christmas is a Roman Catholic invention.
  - a. May doubt it.
  - b. But it is true.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. Definition of Christmas.**

1. Means Christ's Mass or Mass for Christ.

2. Instituted by the Catholic Church.

## **II. How December 25 was Chosen.**

1. The Pagans had a festival in memory of Sol the Sun God.
2. "Christians" wanted to join the celebration.
3. Selected December 25 as the birthday of Christ.
4. Time Magazine (December 20, 1963) says no Bible Scholar will say December 25 is the birthday of Christ.

## **III. Other Traditions and Customs Connected with Christmas.**

1. Santa Claus.
2. Christmas Tree.
3. Christmas Decorations.
4. Mistletoe.
5. Holly.
6. The Yule Log.
7. Christmas Goose.
8. Gifts.

## **IV. What Christmas Leads to.**

1. Parents to teach their children things that are not so.
2. Engage in parties, etc., that are sinful.
3. Uphold the customs the Bible does not teach.
4. Support the Catholic church.
5. Give gifts to everyone but Christ.

## **V. Why Christians do not Celebrate Christmas.**

1. The Bible no where mentions the date of the Lord's birth.
  - a. To speak as the oracles of God. (1 Peter 4:11),
  - b. Not to add to the word. (Revelation 22 : 18, 19).

2. Paul condemns those who would observe times and seasons. (Galatians 4 : 10, 11).
3. December 25' would hardly be the date of the Lord's birth.
  - a. Shepherds were in the field.
  - b. But December is in the rainy cold season.
4. The Bible emphasizes the death of Christ. (Matthew 26 : 26-28).

## **VI. Things to Remember.**

1. You cannot celebrate a religious holiday non-religiously.
2. If Jesus had wanted us to remember his birthday he would have revealed it.
3. It is wrong to uphold customs and traditions that are basically wrong.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. There is nothing wrong in enjoying a holiday.
2. We may give gifts anytime but why on December 25 only ?
3. It is not easy to do right but it pays.

## **EASTER**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Spring always brings the celebration of Easter.
2. Most of the so-called Christian world will participate in this.
3. However, true Christians will not. But why not ?

**DISCUSSION :****I. The Observance of Easter.**

1. Easter is celebrated in remembrance of the resurrection of Christ.
2. It is done in the spring of each year.

**II. The History of Easter.**

1. Easter comes from the spring goddess Eostre.
2. Each year there was a celebration in honor of this goddess.
3. The "Christians" also celebrated at this time.
4. Easter was the result.

**III. What the Bible Teaches.**

1. There is no mention of such in the Bible.
2. Therefore it is an unscriptural practice.

**IV. What the Bible Does Say.**

1. It teaches that Christ was crucified, buried, and resurrected. (1 Corinthians 15 : 1-4)
2. It teaches that he came forth on the first day of the week. (Matthew 28 : 1).
8. It teaches that we are to remember this. (Matthew 26 : 26-28).
3. But every first day of the week. (Acts 20 : 7).

**V. What the Bible Does not Teach.**

1. It does not say what first Sunday he arose from the grave.
2. It does not teach that we are to have an annual celebration of the resurrection.

**VI. Therefore we Conclude.**

1. Easter is not scriptural.
2. The Lord does not endorse such.
3. Celebrating such days is wrong. (Galatians 41 : 10, 11).

4. We are to remember the Lord fifty two times a year.

### CONCLUSION :

1. Men love to celebrate.
2. But we must do it the Lord's way.

## CHRISTIAN GROWTH

**1 Peter 2 : 2 ; 2 Peter 3 : 18 ; Hebrews 5 : 12-14**

### INTRODUCTION :

1. The Christian life is compared to the physical life.
2. There must be growth in both.
3. If growth does not take place then death follows.

### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. One becomes a Christian by being born again.** (John 3 : 3-5).

1. New creatures in Christ. (2 Cor. 5 : 17).
2. As new born babes, desire the milk of the word.  
(1 Pet. 2 : 2).
3. To grow in grace and in knowledge of the Lord.  
(2 Peter 3 : 18).

#### **II. Things We are to grow in.**

1. In knowledge.
2. In faith.
3. In love.
4. In spirituality.
5. In influence.
6. In giving.

**III. How Christians can grow.**

1. By studying. (2 Tim. 2 : 15 ; Matt. 4 : 4).
2. By praying.
3. By attending the assemblies. (Hebrew 10 : 25).
4. By exercising in godliness.
5. By bearing fruit. (John 15 : 1-8).
6. By teaching. (1 Tim. 4 : 16).
7. By adding Christian Graces. (2 Pet. 1 : 1-11).

**IV. Results of Growth.**

1. Faith becomes great.
2. Develops our ability.
3. Spiritually strong.
4. We are faithful.
5. Influence for good.
6. Able to win more.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Don't starve your soul.
2. Must grow up in the Lord.
3. Become a full grown man in Christ.

**CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINE**

**Matthew 18 : 15-17 ; Hebrews 12 : 5-13**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. The church must be strong, but for that to be then the members must be strong.
2. For this to be there must be discipline.
3. It is for our good and not to harm us.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. It is possible for any Christian to fall away.** (1 Corinthians 10 : 12)

1. It doesn't have to be but it is possible.
2. Some do purposely but many do so unintentionally.
3. We have examples of Ananias and Sapphira and others who did. (Acts 5 : 1-11).

### **II. When one sins he must correct the matter to be acceptable to God. (James 5 : 16).**

1. If he has sinned before God, he must take it to him.
2. If he has sinned before a neighbor he must go to him.
3. If his sin is public then he must go to the church.
4. Simon and the prodigal son went home. (Acts 8 ; Luke 15).

### **III. Dealing with those who have sinned. (Matthew 18: 15-17).**

1. Go to him and tell him of his wrong.
2. If he refuses take one or two with you.
3. If he still refuses take it to the church and let him be withdrawn from.
4. Example in 1 Corinthians 5.

### **IV. The way to treat one who refuses to repent.** (1 Corinthians 5 : 7).

1. Cast out the old leaven.
2. Refuse to eat with him.
3. Treat him an unbeliever.

### **V. The Purpose of Discipline. (1 Coriuthians 5 : 5).**

1. To save a soul.
2. To keep the church clean.

3. To set a good example.
4. To glorify God.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. The Lord chastens those whom he loves.
2. It is not only needed, but necessary.

### PREACHING CHRIST

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. Christ should be the theme of all preaching.
2. Many do not understand what it means to "preach Christ".
3. It is often said that we should "preach Christ and leave others alone."
4. A study of the Bible version of "preaching Christ" should benefit us.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. New Testament Examples of Preaching Christ.**

1. Apostles beaten, but ceased not to preach Christ. (Acts 5 : 42).
2. Philip preached Christ to Samaria. (Acts 8 : 5, 12).
3. Philip preached Jesus to the Eunuch. (Acts 8 : 35).
4. After his conversion, Saul preached Christ. Acts 9 : 20).
5. Paul preached Christ at Thessalonica. (Acts 17 : 1-3).
6. Paul preached Jesus and his resurrection at Athens. (Acts 17 : 18).
7. Often in Paul's writings. (1 Corinthians 1 : 23 ; 2 Corinthians 4 : 5).



## **II. To Preach Christ is not to :**

1. Preach ourselves. (2 Corinthians 4 : 5).
2. Preach "another Jesus." (2 Corinthians 11 : 4).
3. To preach Jesus merely as a good man, but not divine.
4. Preach merely on love, kindness, etc.
5. Abstain from pointing out error.
6. To avoid controversial subjects.

## **III. Preaching Christ Includes :**

1. Death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. (Acts 17 : 3 ; 1 Corinthians 1 : 23).
2. Preaching His sinless life. (1 Peter 2 : 21-24).
3. Preaching necessity of faith in Christ. (John 3 : 16, 18).
4. Preaching Christ's gospel. (Mark 16 : 15, 16 ; 2 Timothy 4 : 1, 2).
5. Preaching the Sonship of Christ. (Acts 9 : 20).
6. Warning and teaching. (Colossians 1 : 28 ; Acts 17 : 1,2).
7. Preaching Christ's plan of salvation. (Acts 8 : 5, 12 ; 8 : 35-40 ; Mark 16 : 15, 16).

## **IV. Results of Preaching Christ.**

1. Good is accomplished, regardless of number who obey the gospel.
2. Number will be multiplied. (Acts 5 : 42 ; 6 : 1).
3. Men and women believed. (Acts 8 : 12).
4. The eunuch was baptized. (Acts 8 : 35-39).
5. Some believed Paul at Thessalonica. (Acts 17:3, 4).
6. Some mocked, others desired to hear more. (Acts 17 : 18, 32-34).

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. Let all preach only Christ.

2. All should obey Christ.
3. Be as Paul and rejoice when Christ is preached.  
(Philippians 1 : 15-20).

## **THE TWO BUILDERS**

**Matthew 7 : 24-27**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. When one begins to build a house, the first thing is to dig down to build on a solid foundation.
2. How much the more should we do this in connection with our spiritual building.
3. Jesus illustrates this in the story of the two builders.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. The wise man.**

1. Heard the truth.
2. Obeyed the Lord.
3. A wise man.
4. Built upon a rock.
5. Wind, rain, etc., could not move it.

#### **II. The Foolish man.**

1. Heard the truth.
2. Didn't obey the Lord.
3. A foolish man.
4. Built upon the sand.
5. His house fell.

#### **III. Compare the two men.**

1. Both heard the word of God.

2. One obeyed and the other didn't.
3. One was wise and one foolish.
4. Both built but one on a rock and the other on the sand.
5. One house stood and the other fell.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. What are you building upon ?
2. Should dig down below everything else and build upon Christ, the sure foundation. (1 Corinthians 3 : 11).
3. Only those on Christ (by doing his will) will be able to stand in the last day.

## **WORKERS TOGETHER WITH GOD**

### **2 Corinthians 6 : 1**

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. This is a lesson for Christians.
2. It is a lesson that we need to learn.
3. As we understand it, we will do a better job, and others will want to have a part.

#### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. There is Nothing Wrong with work, Provided it is the Right Kind.**

1. The Bible speaks of the works of the flesh, but it also speaks of the works of the Spirit. (Galatians 5 : 19-21).
2. There are the works of Satan but there are the works of God too.
3. God never gives something for nothing.
4. He requires that we work. (Ephesians 2 : 8, 9).

**II. To work out our Salvation. (Philippians 2: 12).**

1. Must hear and obey God. (Matthew 17 : 5 ; Hebrews 5 : 8, 9).
2. To be faithful to the Lord. (James 1 : 25).
3. To add the Christian graces. (2 Peter 1 : 5-11).

**III. The Lord's work is the Greatest work in the World.**

1. It deals with the eternal-souls. (Matthew 16 :26).
2. It promotes a better way of life.
3. It prepares men for something better.

**IV. We are Workers Together with God.  
(2 Corinthians 6 : 1).**

1. Not my work or your work, but God's work.
2. A beautiful relationship—we are working together with God.
3. There is unity in the work.
  - a. Harmony. (1 Corinthians 1 : 10).
  - b. Love. (Hebrews 13 : 1)
  - c. Fruit. (John 15 :2).
4. When we do our part God will give the increase. (Matthew 28 : 19, 20).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Are you working with God or against him ? (Acts 9).
2. No man can serve two masters. (Matthew 6 : 24).

## **JESUS—A MAN OF PEACE**

**John 14 : 27**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The world is full of trouble.
2. There is war and rumors of war.
3. Feuding and fussing is always going on.
4. Confusion and division are everywhere.
5. But man wants peace.
6. Need to look to Jesus as an example.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Jesus was Born Into a world of Troubles.**

1. Yet he harmed no man.
2. He did good for evil.
3. Died to bring peace.

#### **II. Jesus Taught Peace.**

1. Blessed are the peacemakers. (Matthew 5 : 9).
2. Do good to those who do you evil.
3. Love your neighbor.
4. Christ preached peace. (Ephesians 2 : 17).
5. He is our peace.

#### **III. Christ Brought the Gospel of Peace.** (Romans 10 : 15 ; Ephesians 6 : 15).

1. Saves from sin.
2. Makes one free.
3. Gives hope.

#### **IV. Christ Established the Kingdom of Peace.** (Romans 14 : 17).

1. Christ the King.
2. Subjects are for peace.
3. Fruit of the Spirit. (Galatians 5 : 22).

**V. Christianity is a Religion of Peace.**  
**(1 Peter 3 : 10, 11).**

1. Do good.
2. Seek peace.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Should strive to be at peace with all.
2. The peace of God passeth all understanding.

**ALL-POWERFUL GOD**

**Psalms 104 : 27-31**

**INTRODUCTION :**

“These wait all upon thee ; that thou mayest give them their meat in the season. That thou givest them they gather ; thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good. Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled : thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created ; and thou renewest the face of the earth. The glory of the Lord shall endure forever ; the Lord shall rejoice in his works.”

**DISCUSSION :**

**I. Man Thinks of Himself as Being Important.**

1. We are the center of our existence.
2. Our thoughts center around ourselves.
3. We feel that we are masters of our faith.

**II. Man Fails to Realize his size Before God.**

1. God is as a mountain—man, a grain of sand.
2. God is toward man what man is toward a mite.

3. God can do as he desires, regardless of man's opinion.

### **III. Man Needs to see Himself Before God.**

1. We are completely dependent on God. (Romans 11 : 36).
  - a. We look to him for the passing of the seasons.
  - b. What food we have comes from him alone.
  - c. Even the harvests that we work to gather are blessings from his hand.
2. God opens his hand and blessings flow.
3. God turns his face and our lives are upset.
4. God takes the breath of life from us.
  - a. We die.
  - b. We return to the dust of the earth.
5. God gives the spirit of life.
  - a. New souls are born.
  - b. Mankind is renewed on the earth. (Deuteronomy 32 : 39, 40).

### **IV. God's Glory is Eternal.**

1. It does not depend on us.
2. His glory is in himself.

### **V. Man is Nothing Before God.**

#### **VI. God has seen Fit to Elevate man.**

1. To a creation of dust he gave life in his likeness.
2. To save that creation from being cut off from him, he devised a scheme of redemption.

#### **VII. God Climaxed his Elevation of man by Sending Christ.**

1. Christ took on himself the flesh of man, raising mankind up.
2. He lived for man.

- a. An example for us.
- b. Taught the way of salvation.
- 3. God's own Son died for man.
  - a. Would you die to spare an ant under your foot ?
  - b. Would you let your Son die for something so insignificant ?
  - c. God elevated man, making the human race worth the life of his own son.

### CONCLUSION :

Whatever importance we may have has been granted us by God, because God loves us. He wants to make us even greater by letting us share heaven and eternity with Him and his Son. We can live for him, and glorify him in our feeble way, or we can live for ourselves and die. The decision is ours. Regardless, "The Glory of the Lord shall endure forever : The Lord shall rejoice in his works."

(Why ? Why would God willingly give his Son for us ? Because we have something that belongs to God. Our parents can give us a physical body, but our soul belongs to God, just as though he had reached out to that new body and said "Here. Here is life—an eternal soul—take it and use it to glorify me". God wants that spirit, that life, that he gave away to return to him for all eternity.)



## **THE PROPER USE OF TIME**

### **Ephesians 5 : 16**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. There is something that all of us have in common right now :
  - a. It has been given to us.
  - b. We are using it.
  - c. When it is gone, it cannot be recalled.
  - d. What is it ? **TIME.**
2. Thomas Edison, the inventor, said that time is the most important thing in the world.
3. If wisely used, it may be a blessing.
4. If improperly used, it is a waste.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. The Meaning of Time.**

1. It is that period between eternity.
2. It is the period during which an action continues.
3. It is a measured duration.

##### **II. Things we Cannot do with it.**

1. We cannot stop it.
2. We cannot call it back.
3. We cannot prolong it.

##### **III. The Misuse of Time.**

1. By wasting it.
  - a. Many wonder why they cannot succeed.
  - b. They wonder why they must be poor.
  - c. They wonder why they are not smart.
  - d. It is because they have not used their time wisely.
2. By being lazy. (Proverbs 19 : 15).

3. By working all the time.
4. By playing all the time.
5. By gossiping. (1 Timothy 5 : 13).
6. By reading bad literature.
7. By joining too many organizations.
8. By worrying.
9. By filling the day with useless things.

#### **IV. Understand These Facts About Time.**

1. God has given us the time we have.
2. We have the time to do what we want to do.
3. It should be used wisely.
4. Time is short.(James 3 : 13,14).
5. We must answer for how we have used it.

#### **V. The Proper Use of Time.**

1. Should use part of our time to worship God.
2. Should use part of our time for work.
3. Should use part of our time for rest.
4. Should use part of our time for play.
5. Should use part of our time for our family.
6. Other uses :
  - a. Study God's word.
  - b. Prayer.
  - c. Visit the sick.
  - d. Teach your neighbor.
  - e. Do right.

#### **VI. All we have is time.**

1. Yesterday.
  - a. It is gone.
  - b. Cannot recall it.

2. Tomorrow.
  - a. It is yet to come.
  - b. It may not come for us.
3. Today.
  - a. It is time to obey God. (Romans 13 : 11).
  - b. Now is the accepted time. (2 Corinthians 6 :2).
  - c. Must redeem the time. (Ephesians 5 : 16).
  - d. Must take time to be holy.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. How are you using your time ?
2. Is it for self or for God.?

### JOY OF SERVING THE LORD

#### 1 Thessalonians 5 : 16

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. Rejoicing is of the divine nature.
2. Of all people that should be happy, it should be Christians.
3. It is a command of God.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### 1. Examples of Early Christians.

1. Converts on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2 : 46,47).
2. The Samaritans. (Acts 8).
3. The Eunuch. (Acts 8:39).
4. The Jailor and his household. (Acts 16 : 31-34).
5. Rejoicing over the conversion of the Gentiles. (Acts 15 : 3).

## **II. Rejoicing in Tribulation.**

1. Persecution. (Acts 5 : 41).
2. Imprisonment. (Acts 16 : 23-25).
3. Poverty. (2 Corinthians 6 : 10).
4. Loss of property. (Hebrews 10 : 34).
5. Fiery trials. (1 Peter 4 : 12,13).
6. Christ on the cross. (Hebrews 12 : 1,2).

## **III. Time of Rejoicing.**

1. Rejoice evermore. (1 Thessalonians 5 : 16).
2. Rejoice when souls are saved.
3. Rejoice that you can teach others.
4. Rejoice in the Christian life.
5. Rejoice in worship.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. Christianity is a religion of joy.
2. Our joy should lead others to seek the same.

## **THE NEED OF COURAGE**

**Acts 28 : 15**

## **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Courage is needed in every walk of life.
2. Police must have courage to back law.
3. Soldiers must have courage to protect their country.
4. Must have courage to enter business.
5. Above all, need courage in religion.

**DISCUSSION :****I. Some who had courage.**

1. Noah.
2. Abraham.
3. Moses.
4. Daniel.
5. John the Baptist.
6. Saul.
7. The church.

**II. Must have Courage to Become a Christian.**

1. To love the Lord. (Luke 9 : 23).
2. Put God first. (Matthew 6 : 33).
3. Give up sin and worldly life.
4. Leave behind family and friends.
5. Leave denominational churches.
6. To change religions.

**III. Must have Courage to Live Right.**

1. To be honest.
2. To treat others right.
3. To live a godly life.

**IV. It takes Courage to Condemn sin. (2 Timothy 4 : 2).**

1. To condemn the doctrines of men.
2. To tell people they are wrong.
3. To show members their need of repentance.

**V. Some Sources of Courage.**

1. Facts or truth.
2. Faith in God.
3. Christ being with us.
4. Prayer.

5. Association with the righteous.
6. Faithfulness.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. How much courage do you have ?
2. Those who have courage to obey God will be saved.

## **THE GREAT NEEDS OF ASIA**

### **1 Corinthians 16 : 19**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Paul spoke of the churches of Asia.
2. That means there was a plurality of them.
3. He had planted many of them himself.
4. The church is gradually returning to Asia.
5. Let us look forward to the day when we can talk about the churches of Asia.
6. We must begin where we are and spread.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. We need Christians.**

1. Numbers are important, but just a few Christians can make all of the difference.
2. Those who have obeyed the gospel.
3. Those who are members of the church.
4. Those who are faithful.
5. Those who are committed.
6. Those who are involved.

##### **II. We need Evangelists.**

1. Not hirelings.

2. Not hypocrites.
3. Men who are dedicated to the Lord.
4. Those who are filled with the word of God.
5. Those who must tell the story.
6. Those who preach.
7. Those who are willing to sacrifice.
8. Those who are willing to go.

### **III. We need Congregations.**

1. We need them in all of the cities and villages of Pakistan, India, etc.
2. We need them in all of the major cities of Asia.
3. There are a number here and there, but other great cities need the gospel.
4. They need to be planted and watered.
5. They need to grow and develop and radiate the love of God.
6. They need to carry the gospel to all of their area.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Foreign workers can do part of this but the local people must finally do it if it is to be done.
2. Once receiving the truth, they must take it to their own people.
3. The cause of Christ is spreading, but so much more needs to be done.
4. We must double, triple, and multiply our efforts to evangelize Asia and the world.
5. If we will work, God will bless us, and we will be successful.

## THE GODHEAD

**Acts 17 : 29 ; Romans 1 : 20 ; Colossians 2 : 9**

### INTRODUCTION :

1. Godhead comes from a Greek word which means "the Deity."
2. Different teachings about the Godhead.
  - a. Some have said that the Godhead is a three-fold manifestation of one person.
    - (1) Jesus only theory.
  - b. Another view is that there are three Gods.
  - c. Then the Bible view is that there are three persons.
    - (1) Christ referred to God as his Father. (John 17).
    - (2) He also promised the Comforter. (John 16).
    - (3) God spoke of Christ as his Son. (Matthew 17 : 5).
3. "The Trinity" is a term that has been given to the Godhead.
  - a. It is given because there are three members.
  - b. It is not to be found in the Bible, as a phrase, but the idea is there.
4. The doctrine of the Godhead is found only in the Bible.
5. There is one of each. (Ephesians 4 : 1-6 ; 2 Corinthians 13 : 14 ; Romans 15 : 30).
6. Baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28 : 19, 20).
7. Three that bear record in Heaven. (1 John 5 : 7).
8. There's one but three personalities. (John 17).



## DISCUSSION :

### I. God—The Father.

1. Was in the beginning. (Genesis 1 : 1).
2. The creator. (Genesis 5 : 1).
3. I AM that I AM. (Exodus 3 : 14).
4. There is no other beside him. (Deuteronomy 4 : 39).
5. He is giver of all blessings. (James 1 : 17).
6. Father. (John 14 : 1-3).
7. He is Spirit. (John 4 : 24).
8. He is one. (Ephesians 4 : 6).

### II. Christ—The Son.

1. With the Father in creation. (Genesis 1 : 26, 27 ; 3 : 22 ; Hebrews 1 : 1, 2 ; John 1).
2. Was before Abraham. (John 8 : 51-59).
3. The only one of the Godhead clothed in the flesh. (Philippians 2 : 6, 7).
4. Was born miraculously. (Matthew 1).
5. Performed miracles. (John 3 : 2).
6. Died for man. (Philippians 2 : 6, 7).
7. Resurrected and ascended to the Father. (1 Corinthians 15 : 1-4).
8. Man's saviour. (1 Timothy 4 : 10).
9. Also called God. (Philippians 2 : 5-11 ; John 1).
10. He is to be worshipped. (Matthew 28 : 9).
11. Baptized in his Name. (Matthew 28 : 19, 20).
12. There is but one Christ. (Ephesians 4 : 4, 5).

### III. Spirit—The Holy Spirit.

1. Always put third.
2. Was present with God and Christ in the creation. (Genesis 1 : 1).
  - a. Here "God" in the original is in the plural.

- b. The divine beings of the Godhead were present.
- c. The Holy Spirit was included in the term God. (Genesis 1 : 2).
- 3. Holy men of old spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1 : 21).
- 4. Christ promised the Holy Spirit. (John 16).
- 5. He came. (Acts 2 : 1-4).
- 6. To be baptized in his Name. (Matthew 28 : 19, 20).
- 7. To receive the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2 : 38).
- 8. To bring forth the fruits of the Spirit. (Galatians 5 : 22, 23).
- 9. There is one Spirit. (Ephesians 4 : 4, 5).

#### CONCLUSION :

- 1. We could continue our study indefinitely of this great theme.
- 2. These are the deep things of God and perhaps they can never be understood in this life perfectly.

### **"BE YE STEADFAST"**

**Acts 2 : 42 ; 1 Corinthians 15 : 58**

#### INTRODUCTION :

- 1. There are many great needs in the church today but one of the greatest of these is steadfastness.
- 2. This was a great need in the early church. (1 Corinthians 15 : 58).
- 3. The early Christians continued steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine. (Acts 2 : 42).

## **DISCUSSION :**

### **I. The Christian cannot be what he should be if he is not steadfast.**

1. He is continually changing his mind.
2. He is faithful and then unfaithful.
3. He cannot be counted on.
4. He sets a bad example.
5. The Bible calls him unstable.
  - a. He is double minded and unstable in all his ways. (James 1 : 8).
  - b. They are easily deceived. (2 Peter 2 : 14 ; 2 Peter 3 : 16).
6. He is lost.

### **II. The Church cannot be strong if its members are not steadfast.**

1. It cannot do the work that it needs to do.
2. It cannot have the influence on the world that it need to have.
3. It cannot grow numerically or spiritually under such conditions.

### **III. What it means to be steadfast.**

1. It means to be firm, settled, set.
2. It means to be planted, anchored, fixed.
3. It means to be strong, determined, faithful.
4. It means to be dependable and reliable.
5. It means that one can be counted on.

### **IV. Things that lead one to be steadfast.**

1. Learning the truth. (John 8 : 32).
2. Being convinced of the right way. (Acts 2 : 37).
3. Being converted to the Lord. (Acts 3 : 19).
4. Attending worship regularly. (Hebrews 10 : 25).

5. By being around other Christians. (1 Corinthians 15 : 33).
6. By staying busy for the Lord. (1 Corinthians 15 : 58).
7. By adding the Christian Graces. (2 Peter 1 : 5-11).

#### **V. The Worth of a Steadfast Christian.**

1. He is not easily deceived.
2. He is one of the faithful few.
3. He will always do his part.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Are you steadfast or one of the many who are unstable ?
2. Are you with the Lord or against him ?
3. The Lord wants you to make up your mind and take a stand.
4. The church, yea the Lord, needs people who are steadfast.

### **SIMPLICITY IN CHRIST**

**Romans 12 : 8 ; 2 Corinthians 1 : 12 ;  
2 Corinthians 11 : 3**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Simplicity is that which is clear, plain, easy to be understood or done.
2. It is not complex or complicated, but natural.
3. Sometimes people think of the simple as having to do with the ignorant and backward.
4. However, we are using simplicity in the sense that Christianity is plain and uninvolved.

## **DISCUSSION :**

### **I. Christ lived a simple life.**

1. His was a lowly birth. (Matthew 1 : 18).
2. He was the son of a carpenter. (Matthew 13 : 55 ; Mark 6 : 3).
3. He humbled himself to be baptized. (Mark 1 : 9).
4. Lived and ate with sinners. (Luke 15 : 2).
5. Taught simple lessons. (Matthew 5).
6. Died a lowly death. (Matthew 27).

### **II. Brought a Simple Gospel.**

1. Based on his death, burial, and resurrection. (1 Corinthians 15 : 1-4).
2. Those who believe and are baptized may be saved. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).

### **III. Established a Simple Church.**

1. Christ built it. (Matthew 16 : 18).
2. Made up of the saved. (Acts 2 : 47).
3. Consists of the called out. (Colossians 1 : 13, 14).
4. Christ is the head, saviour, and will return for it. (Ephesians 5).
5. It is not complicated by worldly organization.

### **IV. It has a Simple Worship.**

1. To worship in spirit and truth. (John 4 : 24).
  - a. Singing.
  - b. Praying.
  - c. Bible Study.
  - d. Giving.
  - e. Lord's Supper.
2. On each first day of the week. (Acts 20 : 7).
3. Nothing difficult about it.

**V. Gave Us a Simple Book.**

1. The perfect law of liberty. (James 1 : 25).
2. Completely furnishes man unto every good work. (2 Timothy 3 : 16, 17).
3. Things are written that we might believe. (John 20 : 30, 31).
4. The milk of the word. (1 Peter 2 : 3).

**VI. To Live a Simple Life.**

1. Be humble.
2. Be patient.
3. To love God and one another.
4. To do right in all things. (Titus 2 : 11, 12).
5. Not to be a hypocrite.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. This is Christianity.
2. It is so simple that sometimes it becomes a stumblingblock.
3. People are looking for that which is difficult and mysterious.
4. But the Lord's way is so plain that a wayfaring man, though a fool, should not err therein.

**WORKERS FOR GOD**

**Philippians 2 : 12, 1 Corinthians 15 : 58,  
2 Corinthians 6 : 1**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. God has always required that man do something.
2. Not that man can earn his salvation, but he must do what he can do.

3. We are going to see the importance of works and that of working God.

## DISCUSSION :

### I. God Requires Work.

1. In the physical realm.
  - a. Must work or not eat. (2 Thessalonians 3 : 10).
  - b. A man that will not provide for his family is worse than an infidel. (1 Timothy 5 : 8).
2. In the spiritual realm.
  - a. To become a Christian. (Hebrews 5 : 8, 9).
  - b. To live the Christian life. (1 Corinthians 15 : 58).
  - c. In preaching the gospel. (1 Thessalonians 4 : 11).

### II. Kinds of Work.

1. Works of the law. (Ephesians 2 : 8, 9).
2. Works of our own righteousness. (Titus 3 : 5).
3. Works of the flesh. (Galatians 5 : 19-22).
4. Works of God. (1 Corinthians 15 : 58).

### III. By Grace Through Faith. (Ephesians 2 : 8, 9)

1. Grace on God's part.
2. Faith on man's part.
3. Salvation is the result.

### IV. Further Teaching.

1. Man shows his faith through works. (James 2).
2. The Christian graces. (2 Peter 1 : 5-11).
3. The Christian life. (Revelation 2 : 10).

## CONCLUSION :

1. Are you working for God ?
2. If not, you are not of God.

## **GOD SPEAKS TODAY**

**Hebrews 1 : 1, 2 ; Matthew 17 : 5**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. God had spoken in every period of time.
2. He speaks today.
3. He does so to reveal his will.
4. But how does God speak today ?

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Many are Deceived Concerning how God Speaks Today. (Acts 8, 9, 10).**

1. He does not speak directly.
2. He does not speak through dreams and visions.
3. He does not speak through an angel.

#### **II. How God Speaks Today.**

1. He speaks through his Son.
2. He speaks through the word. (John 20 : 30, 31)
3. Faith comes by hearing. (Romans 10 : 17).

#### **III. The Importance of God's Word,**

1. He is giving man the truth. (John 8 : 32).
2. It is all inspired of God. (2 Timothy 3 : 16, 17).
3. Not to add to it or subtract from it. (Revelation 22 : 18, 19).
4. Not to substitute for it. (Galatians 1 : 6-9)
5. To speak only as the oracles of God. ( Peter 4 : 11).
6. Will be judged by it. (John 12 : 48).
7. It is perfect. (James 1 : 25).

#### **IV. What it Tells us.**

1. We are sinners. (Romans 3 : 23).
2. Christ is the saviour. (Luke 19 : 10).
3. What to do to be saved. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).



4. All about the church. (Ephesians 5 : 23).
5. How to worship. (John 4 : 24).
6. The Christian life. (Colossians 3 : 17).
7. Where we will spend eternity. (Matthew 25 : 46).

#### CONCLUSION :

1. Must hear and obey. (Matthew 7 : 24, 27).
2. Be doers of the word and not hearers only.

### LEARNING TO BE THANKFUL

#### Colossians 3 : 15

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. We have so many things for which to be thankful.
2. But usually we do not express our thanks.
3. We think that somebody owes us something.
4. Must change our attitude to be pleasing to God.

#### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. Should be Thankful for Material Things.** (James 1 : 17).

1. For life and health.
2. For food and shelter.
3. For families and loved ones.
4. For school and job.
5. For country and freedom.

#### **II. Should be Thankful for Spiritual Things.** (Ephesians 1 : 3).

1. For the Bible.
2. For Christ.

3. For the church.
4. For the gospel.
5. For the privileges of worship.
6. For preachers who have come.
7. For the hope of eternal life.

### **III. Ways of Expressing our Thanks.**

1. Saying, "Thank you." (1 Timothy 1 : 12).
2. Through prayer. (Philippians 4 : 6).
3. By doing good. (Colossians 3 : 17)

### **IV. Reasons for Being Thankful. (Romans 1 : 14 ; Ephesians 2 : 8).**

1. Have something to be thankful for.
2. We are what we are because of others.
3. We are helpless by ourselves.
4. Even after we have done all we can, it is still by the grace of God that we are saved.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Don't ask for more until you thank God for what he has already done for you.
2. Not only be thankful to God but man as well.
3. This is a lesson that every Christian must learn and practice.

## **DISHONESTY**

### **2 Corinthians 4 : 2**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. We are living in evil times.

2. People find it hard to be honest.
3. Many think dishonesty is the easiest course.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. Meaning of Dishonesty.**

1. To deceive betray, keeping back, stealing, etc.
2. May be by word of mouth or by possessions.

##### **II. Some Bible Examples of Dishonesty.**

1. Peter. (Matthew 27).
2. Ananias and Sapphira. (Acts 5).

##### **III. Still a Common Sin.**

1. Lying.
2. Stealing.
3. Failing to pay debts.
4. Bribery.
5. Refusing to acknowledge the truth.

##### **IV. Consequences of Dishonesty.**

1. The wages of sin is death. (Romans 6 : 23).
2. Sowing and reaping. (Galatians 6 : 7, 8).
3. The way of the transgressor is hard.
4. Many angles.

##### **V. The Bible Teaches Honesty.**

1. Look out seven men of an honest report. (Acts 6 : 3).
2. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. (Romans 12 : 17).
3. To walk honestly. (1 Thessalonians 4 : 12).
4. To live honestly. (Hebrews 13 : 18).
5. Let your conversation be honest. (1 Peter 2 : 12).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. It is not easy to be honest.
2. But honesty pays.

**LAWS OF SOWING AND REAPING****Matthew 13****INTRODUCTION :**

1. The physical and spiritual world have many things in common.
2. This is true with the laws of sowing and reaping.
3. Let us draw some lessons from them.

**DISCUSSION :****I. The Material World.**

1. Sower.
2. Seed.
3. Soil.
4. Seed to be sown.
5. Cultivation.
6. Harvest.

**II. The Spiritual World.**

1. The sower is the Christian.
2. The seed is the word of God.
3. The soil is the world.
4. The seed is to be sown through preaching the gospel.
5. The cultivation is done through Christian living.
6. The harvest leads to eternal life.

### **III. Other Principles Pertaining to Sowing and Reaping. (Galatians 6 : 7, 8).**

1. Must sow to reap.
2. You always reap what you sow.
3. Harvest is greater than the sowing.
4. The harvest is final.
5. Sow a little, reap a little, etc. (2 Corinthians 9 : 6).

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. All are sowing and all will reap.
2. What will be your harvest ?

### **WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED ?**

**Mark 10 : 17, 31**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Jesus and the disciples were in the coasts of Judea and there were those who came tempting him.
2. He answered their questions and silenced them.
3. He blessed the little children.
4. Then a man came to him asking what he should do to inherit eternal life.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. The Question.**

1. "What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life ?"
2. This question may have been asked to tempt the Lord.

##### **II. The Answer.**

1. Keep the commandments.

2. The question as answered according to the law they lived under.
3. It would not apply today.

### **III. The Man.**

1. He had kept these commandments from youth.
2. But Jesus told him that he lacked one thing.
3. "Go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor,"
  - a. "And thou shalt have treasure in heaven."
  - b. "And come, take up the cross, and follow me."
4. And he was very sad and went away grieved because he had great possessions.

### **IV. "Who then can be Saved?"**

1. Some who cannot be saved.
  - a. Those who are content to remain ignorant.
  - b. Those who trust in their goodness.
  - c. Those who trust riches.
  - d. Those who continue in sin.
  - e. Those who accept religious error.
  - f. Those who neglect their salvation.
2. Those who will be saved.
  - a. Those who leave all to follow Christ.
  - b. Those who obey the Lord's commands.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Do you really want to be saved ?
2. Are you willing to follow Jesus on his terms ?

## **SECOND COMING OF CHRIST**

**John 14 : 1, 3**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Much is said about the coming of Christ and what he did while on earth.
2. But Christ will be coming again one day.
3. What does the Bible teach on this ?

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Christ will Come Again.**

1. He said he would. (John 14 : 1, 3).
2. The Bible clearly teaches it.

#### **II. When will Christ Come ?**

1. We do not know.
2. The angels do not know.
3. Christ does not know.
4. Only God knows.

#### **III. How will Christ Come ?**

1. As he went away. (Acts 1 : 11).
2. As a thief. (2 Peter 3 : 10).
3. In the clouds. (1 Thessalonians 4 : 17).

#### **IV. Why will He Come ?**

1. To keep his promise.
2. To gather out of the kingdom all that offend. (Matthew 13).
3. To take vengeance on the wicked. (2 Thessalonians 1 : 7, 9).
4. To receive his bride. (Ephesians 5 : 27).

#### **V. What will Happen when He Comes Again ?**

1. The heavens and earth will be destroyed. (2 Peter 3 : 10).

2. The resurrection will take place. (John 5 : 28, 29).
3. The wicked will cry for the rocks and mountains to fall on them. (Revelation 6 : 16).
4. Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess to God. (Romans 14 : 11).
5. The judgment shall take place. (Hebrews 9 : 27)
6. Eternity will begin. (Matthew 25 : 46).

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Will you be ready for the Lord's return ?
2. It will mark the end and the beginning for all.

### **OBLIGATIONS TO THE CHURCH**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Great stress usually put on first principles.
2. Many times we neglect to stress obligations to the church on part of members.
3. Most organizations have obligations to be met.
4. There are definite obligations for the member of the Lord's church.
5. Sinner's obligation is to become a member of the church.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. Put the Church First.**

1. Should seek first the kingdom of God. (Matthew 6 : 33).
2. Church should come before pleasure, job, etc.

##### **II. Be A Faithful Member.**

1. Should be faithful under all circumstances.



2. Should be faithful unto death. (Revelation 2 : 10).
3. Lord blesses the faithful. (Matthew 25 : 21).

### **III. Love the Church.**

1. Christ loved the church. (Ephesians 5 : 25).
2. Paul stated his love for the church in Corinth. (2 Corinthians 2 : 4).
3. Our love should be shown by our life and actions.

### **IV. Use Talents in the Church.**

1. Lord demands that we use our talents. (Matthew 25 : 14-30).
2. Should not excuse self from service.
3. Should seek to prepare for greater service.

### **V. Abide by Just Decisions.**

1. In matters of opinion, voice opinions.
2. When final decisions are made, abide by them.
3. Don't have attitude of "my way or else."

### **VI. Be Faithful in Attendance.**

1. We are commanded to not forsake the assembly. (Hebrews 10 : 25).
2. We are strengthened and encouraged by attending.
3. Failure to attend weakens the church that much.
4. Bad example to others if we fail to attend.

### **VII. Financially Support the Church.**

1. The Lord commands giving. (1 Corinthians 16 : 1, 2 ; 2 Corinthians 9 : 6-8).
2. Church needs money to carry on work.

### **VIII. Right Living.**

1. Keep unspotted from the world. (James 1 : 27).
2. Love not the world. (1 John 2 : 15-17).
3. Behave in the house of God. (1 Timothy 3 : 15).

4. Ungodly living hurts the influence of the church.

#### **IX. Defend the Church.**

1. Paul was set for the defense of the gospel. (Philippians 1 : 17).
2. Uphold the church in the world.
3. Never apologize for any truth taught.

#### **X. Pray for the Church.**

1. Prayer is a great blessing.
2. The church needs the prayers of the members.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. By understanding our duties and obligations, we should be better servants of the Lord.
2. Every Christian should be interested in the growth of the church.
3. There is a work for every member.

## **THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. There are two divine institutions.
  - a. The family.
  - b. The church.
2. The success of the church depends upon Christian homes.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. Marriage.**

1. It is of God. (Genesis 2 : 18-25)
2. It is honorable. (Hebrews 13 : 4).

3. Jesus taught on the subject. (Matthew 19 : 1-9).
  - a. Went back to the beginning.
  - b. One man and one woman.
  - c. Only one reason for divorce and remarriage.
4. Should not be unequally yoked together.

## **II. The Home.**

1. Husband, father—head of the household.
2. Wife, mother—keeper of the home.
3. Children—need training.
4. Should be Christian.
5. If one member is not a Christian, then the others should try to convert that person.

## **III. Duties of Each.**

1. The Father.
  - a. To assume position of head. (Ephesians 5 : 23).
  - b. To provide for the household. (1 Timothy 5:8).
  - c. To love his wife. (Colossians 3 : 19).
  - d. To train children. (Ephesians 6 : 4).
2. The Mother.
  - a. To submit to husband. (Ephesians 5 : 22).
  - b. To love the husband. (Titus 2 : 4).
  - c. To love the children. (Titus 2 : 4).
  - d. To be keeper of the home. (Titus 2 : 5).
3. The Children.
  - a. To obey their parents—this is right.
  - b. To honor them to live a long life.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. To have a happy home it should be a Christian home.
2. The teaching of the Bible must be applied in every phase.  
Should be an example for others.

## **THE DIMENSIONS OF GOD'S LOVE**

### **Ephesians 3 : 17-19**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Love is the most powerful thing in the world.
2. Love is greater than faith and hope (1 Corinthians 13).
3. It was because of love that God sent his own Son to the world. (John 3 : 16).
4. Therefore God has commended his love toward us. (Romans 5 : 8).
5. Love reaches out in every direction. (Ephesians 3 : 17-19).

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. Breadth of God's Love.**

1. Breadth means width, extent of, or the largeness of a thing.
2. God's love is so broad that it covers the whole world. (John 3 : 16).
  - a. Christ laid down his life for us. (John 15 : 13).
  - b. He shed his blood for us. (Matthew 26 : 28).
3. God's love is great. (Ephesians 2 : 4).
4. God is love. (1 John 4 : 8).
  - a. He may be described by love.
  - b. He acts by love.
  - c. The only way to think of him is by love.

##### **II. Length of God's Love.**

1. It is from everlasting to everlasting. (Jeremiah 31 : 3).
2. It reaches out to the ends of the earth. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).
3. It is long suffering. (2 Peter 3 : 9).

### III. Depth of God's Love.

1. It reaches down to the lowest of sinners. (Romans 5 : 8).
2. Christ laid down his life for the sinner. (John 10 : 17).
3. God's love will reach down into the grave to raise up the righteous unto everlasting life. (John 5 : 28,29).

### IV. Height of God's Love.

1. It is as high as heaven.
2. It reaches up to God.
3. The righteous shall dwell with God. (Matthew 5 : 8).

### CONCLUSION :

1. Love is powerful. (2 Timothy 1 : 7).
2. The love of God for man does many things.
  - a. Provides salvation for him.
  - b. Gives him hope.
3. Man's love for God leads to many things.
  - a. Obedience. (John 14 : 15).
  - b. Love of neighbor. (Matthew 22 : 39).
  - c. Love of enemy. (Matthew 5 : 44).
  - d. Love leads to work. ( 1 Thessalonians 1 : 3).
  - e. Love casts out fear. (1 John 4 : 18).
  - f. Love brings everlasting consolation. (2 Thessalonians 2 : 16).
4. Nothing can separate us from the love of God. (Romans 8 : 35).
5. The love of God passeth all understanding. (Ephesians 3 : 19).

**CAN WE ALL UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE ALIKE ?****Ephesians 5 :17****INTRODUCTION :**

1. It is commonly taught that we can't understand the Bible alike.
2. This is not Bible teaching but what the Devil says.
3. Let us study the question and see.

**DISCUSSION :****I. What People say and why They say it.**

1. "The Bible can't be understood."
2. "God never intended the Bible to be understood."
3. "The Bible is not to be understood alike."
4. "The Bible is to be privately interpreted."  
(2 Peter 1 : 20).
5. Depending on man's wisdom.
6. Do not study.
7. Don't want to.

**II. The Result of this type of Reasoning.**

1. Discourages study.
2. Excuse for believing most anything.
3. The Bible is rejected.
4. No authority is respected.
5. Man becomes his own guide.
6. There is division.
7. Souls are lost.

**III. Why we can Understand the Bible Alike.**

1. God gave the Bible.
2. He had the power to give us a book that can be understood.
3. The Bible contains the truth.

4. Truth never contradicts itself.
5. It is perfect. (James 1 : 25).
6. Christ has all authority. (Matthew 28 : 18).
7. Though a fool, he should not err therein. (Isaiah 35 : 8).
8. Christ's teachings are plain and simple.
9. Must have help to misunderstand them.
10. The foolishness of God is wiser than the wisdom of men.

#### **IV. Rules to help us to Understand the Bible. (2 Timothy 2 : 15).**

1. Who is speaking ?
2. To whom is he speaking ?
3. When was it spoken ?
4. Is it a command ?
5. Does it deal with salvation ?
6. Study the context.
7. Do not add or subtract.
8. Do not cause the truth to contradict itself.
9. Obey all the Lord's commands.
10. Do not isolate certain teachings.
11. Is it figurative or literal ?
12. Have an open mind.
13. Do not get involved in deep things.

#### **V. Why we Know the Bible can be Understood.**

1. Christ prayed for unity. (John 17).
2. There is a plan for unity. (Ephesians 4 : 1-6).
3. Division is condemned. (1 Corinthians 1 : 1-17).
4. There is but one way to heaven. (John 14 : 6).
5. Jesus would not command the impossible.  
(Matthew 7 : 21).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. God speaks to all of us alike.
2. He would have us all to do the same thing.
3. When we do then we'll all be one.

**CHRIST IN YOU**

**Galatians 2 : 20 ; Ephesians 3 : 17 ;  
Colossians 1 : 27 ; Colossians 3 : 16**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. We understand, according to the teaching of the Bible, that we must be in Christ to be saved.
2. We further understand that to get into Christ we must be baptized into Him. (Galatians 3 : 26, 27 ; Romans 6 : 3, 4).
3. But to be baptized into Christ is to be a new creature. (2 Corinthians 5 : 17).
4. However, in this lesson we want to talk about Christ being in us.

**DISCUSSION :****I. The majority are not in Christ and Christ is not in them.**

1. They think they have been saved.
2. They are told that they have been saved.
3. But they cannot prove by the Bible that they are in Christ and they do not demonstrate by their life that Christ is in them.

**II. The conditions of Christ being in us.**

1. Christ will not enter us as long as we are willing for Satan to live in us.



2. He will not dwell in us as long as we are in error and we refuse to obey him.
3. He will not live in us as long as we are engaging in the works of the flesh.
4. If Christ is to dwell in us then there is to be no room for the world and its pleasures.
5. If Christ is to dwell in us then envy, jealousy, hatred, etc., must take their leave.
6. We must enter Christ in order for Christ to enter us.
7. He will dwell in us as long as we are faithful to him. (1 John 1 : 7).

### **III. How Christ lives in us.**

1. It is not a miraculous thing.
2. Christ dwells in us by faith.
3. He dwells in us as we receive his word.
4. He dwells in us as we subject ourselves to him and are influenced by his principles and teachings.
5. He dwells in us only as we obey him.

### **IV. The proofs that Christ is in us.**

1. It should make a difference for Christ to be in us.
2. If Christ be in us then he is there to control and guide us.
3. If Christ is in us then we will live the good life.
4. If Christ is in us then we will bear good fruit.
5. If Christ is in us then we will be faithful to him.
6. However, just because Christ may be in us that will not keep us from certain things :
  - a. Temptation.
  - b. Sickness.
  - c. Death.

### **V. The greatness of Christ being in us.**

1. What an honor to have Christ to live in us.

2. He has promised to be with us. (Matthew 28 : 20).
3. He will never leave us or forsake us as long as we welcome him and desire to keep him.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. Is Christ living within you ?
2. Is he welcome ?
3. Christ desires to enter the door of your heart now if you will but open the door. (Revelation 3 : 20).

### LOVE THE BRETHREN

#### 1 Corinthians 13

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. God loved the world. (John 3 : 16).
2. Theme of the Bible is love.
3. Man is also to love.
4. Need more love in the world.
5. Should be our greatest motive.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. To love God. (Matthew 22 : 37).**

1. To keep the commandments. (John 14 : 15).
2. All things work for good. (Romans 8 : 28).
3. Love him. (1 John 4 : 19).

##### **II. To love our Neighbor. (Matthew 22 : 39).**

1. Man loves himself.
2. To love our neighbor as much.

### **III. To love the brethren.**

1. Love one another. (John 15 : 12, 17).
2. Taught to love. (1 Thessalonians 4 : 9).
3. Love the brotherhood. (1 Peter 2 : 17).
4. Love as brethren. (1 Peter 3 : 8, 9).
5. Love one another. (1 John 4 : 12).
6. Love the children of God. (1 John 5 : 2).

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. God loved the world and would have us to love the souls of men.
2. Christ loved the church and would have us to love the brethren.
3. Love will lead us to do many things and will keep us from many things too.
4. Read 1 John 4.

## **LIVING IN A LOST CONDITION**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. It is horrible to think about a person dying without God and hope.
2. It is especially painful when an individual is related or is a loved one and we know that he died lost.
3. But it is even worse to live in a lost condition.
4. Those who die are out of the way, but those who are living lost continue to do damage.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. He does not Know the Meaning of Being Lost.**

1. Have you ever been lost physically ?

2. Why is one lost ? (Romans 3 : 23).
3. Must be made aware of being lost and of the consequences of sin. (Romans 6 : 23).
4. This was true of the people on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2).
5. Then comes repentance and obedience.

**II. He does not Know the value of the Soul.**  
(Matthew 16 : 26).

1. Does not know, in many instances, that he has a soul.
2. The emphasis is placed upon the material side of life.
3. Feels no concern for it.
4. But he must be made to realize that his most valuable possession is his soul.

**III. He is not Aware of the Enemy of Death.**  
(Hebrews 9 : 27).

1. All must die.
2. We do not know what shall be on the morrow. (James 4 : 13,14).
3. After death there will be no second chance.

**IV. He is not able to Picture Eternity.** (1 Corinthians 15 : 35-58 : Matthew 25).

1. There will be a resurrection.
2. There will be a judgment.
3. All will spend eternity somewhere.
  - a. The righteous in heaven.
  - b. The evil in hell.
4. Once aware of this then one will obey the Lord.

**V. He does not value his time.** (James 4 : 13, 14).

1. All we have is now.
2. We should use it to serve God and to do good.

3. The majority waste their time or misuse it.

#### **VI. Causes his Family to be Lost.**

1. Many times one's failure to obey God causes the other family members to neglect their salvation.
2. If out of the way, then they might obey.

#### **VII. Causes others not to Obey.**

1. Has a bad influence.
2. May be waiting on you.

#### **VIII. Causes Others to be Unfaithful. (Luke 15 ; 2 Peter 2 : 21, 22).**

1. Will be lost, but will cause others to be lost.
2. They are watching you.

#### **IX. Sets a Bad Example.**

1. Would not want others to follow but they do.
2. Should become a good example.

#### **X. Living Without Christ.**

1. Without the church.
2. Without spiritual blessings.
3. Without the presence of Christ.
4. Without prayer.
5. Without hope.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. The alien sinner is living in a lost condition.
2. The erring Christian is in worse condition.
3. Where do you stand ?

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

### INTRODUCTION :

1. The Book of Acts or the Acts of the Apostles is so called because it tells of some of the acts of some of the Apostles.
2. The author of it was Luke the Physician.
3. It was probably written from Rome during Paul's imprisonment.
4. It was written around 63 or 64 A.D.
5. It contains some 33 years of Christian history.
6. Acts is a continuation of Luke's first book.
7. It is the heart of the New Testament, revealing the beginning of the church and its growth.

### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. Acts is a Book of Beginnings.**

1. It tells of the beginning of the church. (Acts 2).
2. It tells of the coming of the Holy Spirit and his work.
3. It tells how the gospel was first preached and what was preached.
4. It tells how people began to worship the Lord.
5. It tells what day they began to meet on. (Acts 20:7).
6. It tells what name they wore. (Acts 11 : 26).
7. It tells of the work it did. (Acts 2 : 42 ; 8 : 1-5).

#### **II. Acts is a Book of Church History.**

1. The church had its beginning in Jerusalem in A. D. 33.
2. It grew in numbers and spread everywhere.
3. The gospel was preached in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and then throughout the world.

#### **III. Acts is a Book of Conversions.**

1. Pentecostians. (Acts 2).

2. Those at Solomon's Porch. (Acts 3-5).
3. Samaritans. (Acts 8).
4. Simon. (Acts 8).
5. The Eunuch. (Acts 8).
6. Saul. (Acts 10).
7. Cornelius. (Acts 10).
8. Lydia. (Acts 16).
9. Jailor. (Acts 16).
10. Corinthians. (Acts 18).
11. Ephesians. (Acts 19).

#### **IV. Acts is a Book of Travels.**

1. Tells of the travels of those preaching the gospel.
2. Says the early Christians went everywhere preaching the word.
3. Gives the account of Paul's three missionary journeys.

#### **V. Acts is a book of Persecutions.**

1. Tells how Peter and John were persecuted. (Acts 4, 5).
2. Tells of Stephen's death. (Acts 7).
3. Acts shown how Saul persecuted the church. (Acts 8, 9).
4. Then it shows how Paul and others were persecuted. (Acts 16).
5. It tells of the death of James.

#### **VI. Acts is a book that Reveals the Equality of men.**

1. It shows how the Jews were first given the gospel. (Acts 2).
2. Then it shows how the Gentiles heard the same gospel. (Acts 10).
3. Peter said the Lord is no respecter of persons. (Acts 10 : 34,35).

**VII. Acts Is a Book that Teaches the truth on many Subjects.**

1. Where the Lord went.
2. What one must do to be saved.
3. The work of the Holy Spirit.
4. The foundation of the church.
5. The importance of the name.

**VIII. Acts is a Book that shows the church as Being Victorious.**

1. The church grows and covers the world.
2. It is victorious over sin and the world.
3. It is victorious over persecution.
4. It glorifies its builder—Christ.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Get acquainted with the book of Acts.
2. It contains a gold mine of information that you need to know.
3. It is God's message to you.

**PRIDE**

**Proverbs 16 : 18**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. There are many things that are both good and bad.
2. Such is the case with pride.
3. We are going to first study this from the standpoint that it is bad, but then we'll see how pride can be good.



## DISCUSSION :

### I. The bad side of pride.

1. It means arrogance, conceit, and naughtiness.
2. It is defined :
  - a. A quality or state of being proud.
  - b. Inordinate self-esteem.
  - c. Lofty self-respect ; a reasonable delight in one's position, achievements, possessions, etc.
  - d. Proud behavior or treatment.
3. It may be brought on because :
  - a. Of one's position.
  - b. Of one's possessions.
  - c. Of one's ability.
  - d. Of one's opportunities.
  - e. Of one's color of skin.
4. It causes :
  - a. Envy and jealousy.
  - b. Hatred.
5. The Bible condemns it :
  - a. Proverbs 8 : 13.
  - b. Proverbs 11 : 2.
  - c. Proverbs 13 : 10.
  - d. Proverbs 14 : 3.
  - e. Proverbs 16 : 18.
  - f. Proverbs 29 : 23.
  - g. Mark 7 : 22.
  - h. 1 Timothy 3 : 6.
  - i. 1 John 2 : 16.
6. A good example of pride is told in the story of the Pharisee and publican. (Luke 18 : 9-14).
7. What the Lord requires :

- a. Humility.
- b. To esteem others better.
- c. Not to seek the glory of men.
- d. To be like Jesus. (Matthew 11 : 28-30).

## **II. The good side of pride.**

- 1. Its meaning :
  - a. To have some pride.
  - b. To be proud in a godly way.
  - c. To have some care for one's self.
  - d. To try to do better.
- 2. To take pride :
  - a. In one's appearance.
  - b. In one's family.
  - c. In one's work.
  - d. In one's country.
- 3. To be proud :
  - a. That you are a Christian.
  - b. That you are a member of Christ's church.
  - c. That you believe the Bible.
  - d. Of the religion of Christ.
  - e. Of the name you wear.
  - f. Of your friends.
  - g. Of your hope.
- 4. This will make you better.

## **CONCLUSION :**

- 1. What kind of person are you ?
- 2. Are you a true Christian ?
- 3. May the Lord help us to be seasoned Christians—  
with enough, but not too much, of the ingredients  
that will make us such.

## **FIRST GIVING OURSELVES TO THE LORD**

### **2 Corinthians 8 : 5**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. What is Christianity ?
2. So many do not know the meaning.
3. So many call themselves Christians but never practice Christianity.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. Misconceptions of Christianity.**

1. It is all receiving and no giving.
2. Not willing to give of time, money, etc.
3. Never try to convert anyone.
4. But if you never put anything into it you'll never get anything out of it.

##### **II. God expects something.**

1. Must put God first. (Matthew 6 : 33).
2. Cannot serve two masters. (Matthew 6 : 24).
3. Follow Christ daily. (Luke 9 : 23).
4. Must love Christ more than father or mother.
5. Not to look back.
6. Be faithful to Christ. (Revelation 2 : 10).

##### **III. First must give ourselves to the Lord, (2 Corinthians 8 : 5).**

1. Then we will have time for him. (Hebrews 10 : 25; Acts 2 : 42).
2. We will work for him. (James 1 : 25).
3. We will be glad to give. (1 Corinthians 16 : 2 ; 2 Corinthians 9 : 7).
4. No sacrifice too great.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Are you a real Christian ?
2. What are you doing to prove it ?

**WHERE CAN I WORSHIP GOD ACCEPTABLY?****INTRODUCTION :**

1. The Bible definitely teaches that we should worship God. (John 4 : 24).
2. It definitely teaches that we should gather with others to worship. (Hebrews 10 : 25 ; Acts 20 : 7).
3. But with some people the place of worship becomes a problem.
4. The important question then is this : Where can I worship God acceptably ?

**DISCUSSION :****I. Can I worship with Muslims ?**

1. The answer would be no.
2. They do not even believe that Christ is the Son of God.
3. Their worship is not in harmony with Bible teaching but according to the Quran.

**II. Can I worship with a Denominational Church ?**

1. They use mechanical music but the Bible says to sing. (Ephesians 5 : 19).
2. They study man-made books but Christians are to study the scriptures. (2 Timothy 2 : 15).
3. They are not true children of God so they cannot pray scriptural prayers. (John 9 : 31 ; 1 John 5 : 14).

4. They do not partake of the Lord's Supper each Sunday as the Bible teaches. (Acts 20 : 7).
5. They take up a contribution but it is used to spread false doctrine. (1 Corinthians 16 : 2 ; 2 John 10, 11).
6. So the answer is no.

### **III. Can I worship in My own home ?**

1. Not if there is a congregation nearby.
2. That would cause division.
3. But probably the individual would not engage in the different acts of worship if he did.
4. A true Christian will not want to stay at home when he can worship with the Lord's people.

### **IV. The only people I can really worship with are the Lord's people.**

1. They worship as the Bible teaches.
2. Here I can enjoy fellowship with fellow Christians.
3. In this way alone I can be strengthened and benefitted.
4. In this way alone I can please God and glorify Him.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. It makes a difference with true Christians as to where they worship.
2. If it doesn't then there is something wrong.
3. Remember, God is the one to be pleased.

## **THE NECESSITY OF CONVICTION**

**Acts 2: 37**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Meaning of conviction :
  - a. A state of being convinced.
  - b. A strong persuasion or belief.
2. The church needs members that have conviction.
3. The church must have people like this if it is to grow and to become strong.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Where There is no Conviction.**

1. The truth is not important to the individual.
2. One church is as good as other.
3. He is more interested in the material things than the spiritual.
4. He is but interested in a job.
5. It is easier to sleep than to go to worship.

#### **II. Many are Confused with conviction and Convenience.**

1. They think they have conviction when really it is but convenient to do what they do.
2. Examine yourself :
  - a. Did you become a Christian because the Bible teaches it or to please some one ?
  - b. Are you a member of the church of Christ because you really believe it is the only true church or because you think you might as well be a member of this one as another ?
  - c. Do you attend worship because God says to or to impress someone ?
  - d. Will you remain faithful to the Lord unto death or will you eventually quit?

### **III. Some who had real Conviction.**

1. The people on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2 : 37).
2. Peter and John. (Acts 5 : 29,41).
3. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. (Acts 7).
4. Paul who suffered so much for the cause of Christ. (Philippians 3 : 8).
5. All of the Apostles died, except John, as martyrs.
6. Many Christians were put to death.
7. Christians today must be willing to stand firm. (Philippians 1 : 29).

### **IV. The Necessity of Conviction.**

1. One must really believe if he is to be saved.
  - a. Without faith it is impossible to please God. (Hebrews 11 : 6).
  - b. Must be willing to leave all to follow Christ. (Luke 9 : 23).
  - c. Must be faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10).
2. One must have conviction to be able to convince others.
  - a. Must believe in what we are doing.
  - b. Must be sincere.
  - c. Must not be a hypocrite.
3. One must have conviction to work for the Lord.

### **V. Things we Must Have Conviction About.**

1. Must believe in God.
2. Must believe that Christ is the Son of God.
3. Must believe in the church that Christ established.

4. Must believe the truth about the plan of salvation.
5. Must believe the truth about worship.
6. Must believe in the Christian life.

#### **VI. Where there is Conviction.**

1. One is not continually changing.
2. One is firm and solid in what he believes.
3. One is not a quitter.
4. One is effective.
5. One is dedicated.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. How much conviction do you have ?
2. Do you have enough to save you ?
3. If a thing is right, believe in it.

### **THE LONGSUFFERING OF GOD**

**Exodus 34 : 6 ; 2 Peter 3 : 9**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The word longsuffering is found in the Bible several times.
2. Definition of the word :
  - a. Long—a period of time.
  - b. Suffering—pain, hurt incurred.
3. Another word for it is patience or waiting.
4. If you have ever waited on some one then you know in part the meaning.



5. The Bible teaches the longsuffering of God.
6. I marvel at this.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. God has been Longsuffering In Dealing with man.**

1. God waited in the days of Noah. (1 Peter 3 : 20).
2. God was patient in dealing with the Egyptians at the time the children of Israel were in bondage.
3. God suffered long in dealing with many Old Testament characters and nations.
4. God waited for the right time to send his Son.
5. God was long suffering in dealing with those who rejected his Son.
6. God has been longsuffering in dealing with the world. (2 Peter 3 : 9).
  - a. Many deny Him.
  - b. Many procrastinate.
  - c. Others follow man.
7. God is patient in dealing with us who have obeyed the first principles.
  - a. Some have turned back.
  - b. Others have become indifferent.
  - c. Others do not grow and develop.
  - d. We are not very patient with each other.
  - e. Have not evangelized the world.

### **II. The Difference Between God and Man.**

1. God the creator, man the creature.
2. God commands, man is to obey.
3. God does not have to wait on anyone.
4. He does so out of his mercy.

5. If it was not for the longsuffering of God, man would have been destroyed long ago.

### **III. God Teaches Longsuffering.**

1. Paul taught it by example. (2 Corinthians 6 : 6).
2. The fruit of the Spirit. (Galatians 5 : 22).
3. To be patient with one another. (Ephesians 4 : 2 ; Colossians 1 : 11 ; Colossians 3 : 12).
4. To be longsuffering in preaching. (2 Timothy 4:2).

### **IV. Blessings of Longsuffering.**

1. Shows the love and mercy of the God we are dealing with.
2. Gives us an opportunity to be saved and to develop ourselves.
3. Gives us time to correct our mistakes.
4. Gives us time to try to reach others, even the world.

### **V. The Lord's Longsuffering will not last Forever.**

1. He sent the flood.
2. He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.
3. He delivered the children of Israel.
4. And one day he will send his Son back to the earth. (2 Thessalonians 1 : 7-9).
5. Then there will be no more opportunity to obey God. (2 Corinthians 5 : 10).

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. We must act now while we have the time and the opportunity.
2. Why risk our souls a minute longer in view of the fact that the Lord has been so gracious ?
3. If we are lost we can only blame ourselves.

## **"THEY HAD BEEN WITH JESUS"**

**Acts 4 : 13**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Tell the story of Peter and John. (Acts 4, 5).
2. In many ways they were as other men.
3. But having been with Jesus made a difference.
4. That difference may still be seen.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Why Jesus came.**

1. He came to call sinners to repentance. (Luke 19 : 10).
2. He came to change people for the better. (John 4).
3. He came to influence them for good.

#### **II. The results of Jesus coming.**

1. He made disciples.
2. He made believers.
3. He changed the lives of many.
4. He changed the course of history.

#### **III. Those who have been with Jesus.**

1. They have been saved.
2. They are members of the church.
3. They wear his name.
4. They speak differently.
5. They look differently.
6. They act differently.
7. They think differently.
8. They are the best people.
9. They have been influenced by Jesus.

**IV. Those who have not been with Jesus.**

1. They are lost.
2. They think of this world only.
3. They are worldly and ungodly.
4. They stand out from the others.

**V. Which is the better ?**

1. The fruit tells the whole story.
2. Most people prefer the good fruit.
3. Let Jesus change you for the better.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. You can be a better, happier persons with Christ.
2. You can have a better life, and above all, hope through Christ.
3. Jesus is calling for you to come. (Matthew 11 : 28-30).

**A PECULIAR PEOPLE**

**Titus 2 : 14 ; 1 Peter 2 : 9**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. The word peculiar means : to belong to an individual, privately owned, not common, different from the usual.
2. Not peculiar in the sense of being different for the sake of being different, wearing religious dress, etc.
3. The Lord's people are said to be a peculiar people for a number of reasons.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. The Lord's People are not of this world.**

1. In this world but not of the world. (John 15 : 19).
2. Not to love the world. (1 John 2 : 15).

### **II. Come ye out from among them and be ye separate. (2 Corinthians 6 : 17).**

1. Translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God's dear Son. (Colossians 1:13, 14).
2. To be the lights of the world. (Matthew 5 : 14-16).

### **III. To present bodies as a living sacrifice. (Romans 12 : 1, 2).**

1. The Lord doesn't want part of us but all of us.
2. He wants us to offer ourselves completely to him.
3. He wants us to be totally committed to him.

### **IV. Other reasons why we are a peculiar people.**

1. Members of a peculiar church. (Matthew 16 : 18).
2. Wear a peculiar name. (Acts 4 : 12 ; Acts 11 : 26 ; 1 Peter 4 : 16).
3. A peculiar worship. (John 4 : 24).
4. A peculiar way to live. (Colossians 3 : 17).
5. A peculiar gospel. (Romans 1 : 16).
6. Follow the Bible only. (Revelations 22 : 18, 19 ; 2 Timothy 3 : 16, 17).

## CONCLUSION :

1. If we are like those around us then we are no different to them.
2. When people see the difference in us then they are attracted and desire to know more, etc.

## SCRIPTURAL TEACHING

### INTRODUCTION :

1. Faith comes by hearing the word of God. (Romans 10 : 17).
2. Therefore we must hear the right thing to have the right faith.
3. The truth makes free. (John 8 : 32)
4. God spoke through Christ, Holy Spirit, Apostles, and Word.

### DISCUSSION :

- I. Christ taught only the word of God. (John 14 : 24 ; John 17 : 8 ; John 12 : 48-50).**
- II. The Holy Spirit got his teaching from God. (John 16 : 13 ; John 14 : 26).**
- III. The Apostles taught only God's word. (Galatians 1 : 12 ; John 17 : 8 ; Matthew 28 : 19, 20).**
- IV. We must teach the word of God. (Revelation 22 : 18, 19 ; Galatians 1 : 7, 9).**
  1. Not to add to it.
  2. Not to subtract from it.
  3. Not to substitute for God's word.
  4. To speak only as the oracles of God. (1 Peter 4 : 11).

### CONCLUSION :

1. The Bible is the word of God.
2. It is inspired of God. (2 Timothy 3 : 16, 17).
3. All things given that pertain to life and godliness. (2 Peter 1 : 3).
4. Perfect law. (James 1 : 25).
5. Must be doers. (James 1 : 22).
6. Must preach it. (2 Timothy 4 : 2).
7. It will judge us. (John 12 : 48).

## FRIENDSHIP

**Proverbs 18 : 24 ; 1 Samuel 18 : 1**

### INTRODUCTION :

1. One attached to another by esteem, respect, and affection.
2. One not hostile ; not a foe ; not an enemy.
3. A friend sticketh closer than a brother—one is a brother by birth but a friend by choice.
4. A product that is rarely found any more.
5. The poorest people on earth are those without friends.

### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. The story of David and Jonathan is a classic example of friendship. (1 Samuel 18 : 1).**

1. Life of David.
2. Life of Jonathan.
  - a. Eldest son of Saul.
  - b. Heir to the throne.
  - c. Killed in battle.
3. David and Jonathan were best of friends—their souls were knitted together with love.
4. Jonathan showed his love.
5. David gave a eulogy upon Jonathan's death. (2 Samuel 1 : 17, 27).

#### **II. Abraham was called the friend of God. (James 2 : 23).**

1. Had faith in God.
2. Acted on that faith.

#### **III. John the baptizer was a friend of the bridegroom. (John 3 : 29).**

1. A fore-runner of Christ.

2. Pointed his followers to him. (John 3 : 30).

**IV. Cornelius had friends. (Acts 10 : 24).**

1. Called in his friends.
2. They were taught the truth.

**V. Friends give instead of take.**

1. Love. (Proverbs 17 : 17).
2. Help the poor. (James 1 : 27).
3. Gospel. (Mark 16 : 15).
4. Forgiveness. (Matthew 5 : 14, 15).

**VI. Fair weather friends. (Proverbs 19 : 4).**

1. Made with money.
2. Through popularity.
3. Because of politics.
4. Looking for a favor.
5. As long as things are going good.
6. On and off.

**VII. Friends of the world. ( James 4 : 4).**

1. Live with the world.
2. Hypocrites.
3. Love the world.
4. The enemies of God.

**VIII. Be a friend.**

1. To God.
2. To Christ. (John 14 : 15).
3. To the church.
4. To your neighbor.
5. To the world.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Be nice and friendly to everyone.
2. A friend will make friends.
3. A friend will be rewarded many times.



## **NEW TESTAMENT CONVERSION**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The New Testament is a book of conversions.
2. There are 11 cases in the book of Acts.
3. Conversion means to change.
  - a. For example, converting money.
  - b. Changing from one religion to another.
4. It has to do with being saved.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Modern Day Practice.**

1. There is the sinner.
2. There is the preacher.
3. They hear the message.
4. They are asked to pray.
5. Sometime later they are "baptized".

#### **II. The New Testament Pattern.**

1. There was the sinner.
2. There was the preacher.
3. The sinner heard the truth.
4. The sinner believed it.
5. The sinner confessed Christ.
6. The sinner was then baptized.
  - a. Buried in water.
  - b. For the remission of sins.
  - c. This was done immediately.

#### **III. Changes that take Place.**

1. Change of mind—by faith.
2. Change of life—through repentance.
3. Change of allegiance—in confessing Christ.

4. Change of state—in baptism.

#### **IV. Results of Conversion.**

1. Heard the same message.
2. Obeyed the same commands.
3. All saved alike.
4. All added to the same church.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Have you been converted ?
2. Does your conversion compare to those in God's word ?
3. Have you been converted to Christ or to the teaching of men ?

### **IMPORTANCE OF THE NAME**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Much said about the name in the religious world.
2. This is a Bible subject.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. What others say About the Name.**

1. "There is nothing in a name".
2. "The name is not important."

##### **II. Why People Teach such.**

1. Because they are in religious error.
2. People haven't been taught.

##### **III. The Purpose of Names.**

1. To identify, to make known.

2. God given names make a difference.

#### **IV. Names Given by men are Wrong.**

1. They divide people up into parties, etc. (John 17).
2. Condemned in the scriptures. (1 Cor. 1 : 10-15).
3. Given to honor men and exalt teachings of men.
4. Acts as a stumbling block for the sinner.

#### **V. God Given names worn in days of New Testament.**

1. Individuals.
  - (1) Authorized by God. (Isa. 62 : 2).
  - (2) Worn by early disciples. (Acts 11 : 26).
  - (3) Taught by Paul. (Acts 26 : 28).
  - (4) To glorify God in this name. (1 Pet. 4 : 16).
  - (5) To do all in the name of Christ. (Col. 3 : 17).
  - (6) Other relationships :
    - a. Saints. (Phil. 4 : 2).
    - b. Disciples. (Acts 20 : 7).
    - c. Brethren. (Col. 1 : 2).
2. Of the Church.
  - (1) Churches of Christ. (Rom. 16 : 16).
  - (2) Church of God. (1 Cor. 1 : 2).
  - (3) Kingdom of God. (Matt. 13).
  - (4) Body of Christ. (Col. 1 : 18).
  - (5) House of God. (1 Tim. 3 : 15).

#### **VI. Why we should wear only the Name God has Given.**

1. The church is the Bride of Christ and should wear his name. (2 Cor. 11 : 12).
2. Church is God's family and should wear his name. (1 Tim. 3 : 15 ; Eph. 3 : 14, 15).

3. To do all in the name of Christ. (Col. 3 : 17).
4. It is only name in which unity can exist. (Eph. 1 : 20, 21 ; Philippians 2 : 9-11).
5. The plea of others to leave man-made names.
6. Salvation in that name only. (Acts 4 : 12).
7. To the name of Christ every knee must bow. (Phil. 2 : 9-11).

#### CONCLUSION :

1. To wear some other name is to be unscriptural.
2. Why be a denominational Christian when you can be just a Christian ?

### TWO KINGDOMS

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. There are two kingdoms on the earth today.
2. All people are in one or the other.
3. They are both powerful.
4. They are opposed to one another.
5. Let us consider each one.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. Earthly Kingdom. (1 Corinthians 6 : 9; Galatians 5 : 21).**

1. It is of the world. (John 18 : 36).
2. Satan is its ruler. (Ephesians 6 : 12 ; Matthew 4).
3. Its subjects are sinners. (Romans 3 : 23).
4. It is full of darkness. (1 Peter 2 : 9).
5. It is full of sin. (Galatians 1 : 4).

6. It is described as worldly. (1 John 2 : 15).
7. The religions of men are here. (Mark 7 : 7).
8. It is called the broad way. (Matthew 7 : 13, 14).
9. It represents the sand. (Matthew 7 : 21-24).
10. It will be cast into hell. (1 John 2 : 17).

## **II. Spiritual Kingdom, (Matthew 6 :33 ; John 18:36).**

1. It is of the spiritual. (Galatians 6 : 1).
2. Christ is its head. (Colossians 1 : 18).
3. Its subjects are Christians. (Ephesians 5 : 24).
4. It is full of light. (1 Peter 2 : 9).
5. It is full of righteousness. (1 Peter 4 : 18).
6. It is the church. (Matthew 16 : 18, 19 ; Hebrews 12 : 28).
7. It contains the saved. (Mark 16 : 16 ; Acts 2:47).
8. It consists of the faithful. (James 1 : 12).
9. All spiritual blessings are in it. (Ephesians 1 : 3).
10. It represents the narrow way. (Matthew 7:13-14).
11. It is like building on the rock. (Matthew 7:21-24).

## **III. Transferring from one Kingdom to the other.**

1. Christ tells how in John 3 : 3.
2. One must take the right steps :
  - a. Believe. (Hebrews 11 : 6).
  - b. Repent. (Acts 17 : 30).
  - c. Confess. (Romans 10 : 10).
  - d. Baptism. (Mark 16 : 16).
3. This translates one from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light. (Colossians 1 : 13, 14).

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. The earthly kingdom has nothing special to offer.

2. The spiritual kingdom of God is the greatest kingdom in all the world.
3. The Lord's kingdom not only offers blessings now, but eternal life to come.

## **THE SIN OF LYING**

**Revelation 22 : 15**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. One of the biggest problems in Pakistan, Asia, and the world is lying.
2. Dishonesty is seen everywhere.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Definition of Lying.**

1. A false statement, or action, especially one made with the intent to deceive.
2. Anything that gives or is meant to give a false impression.
3. Two kinds of lies :
  - a. Out and out lie without a mixture of truth.
  - b. With a mixture of truth—just enough truth to make it believable.
4. Hypocrisy.

#### **II. Suggestions on Lying.**

1. Do not make a lie.
2. Do not believe a lie.
3. Do not repeat a lie.
4. Do not love a lie.

### **III. The Bible Teaches Honesty.**

1. "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men." (Romans 12 : 17).
2. "Let us walk honestly, as in the day ; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying." (Romans 13 : 13).
3. "Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men." (2 Corinthians 8 : 21).
4. "That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing." (1 Thessalonians 4 : 12).
5. "Pray for us : for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly." (Hebrews 13 : 18).

### **IV. Lying is Opposite to Truth.**

### **V. The End of Liars. (Revelation 21 : 8).**

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Honesty pays but dishonesty can destroy you.
2. Lying is definitely a sin regardless of color or size.
3. Always tell the truth, then you won't have to lie.

## **JESUS AT JACOB'S WELL**

**John 4:1-42**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Jesus was the greatest teacher to ever live.

2. He preached to the multitudes but also to the individual.
3. This is such a story with its many lessons.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. Jesus kept on the move.**

1. Left Judea and went to Galilee.
2. On the way he passed through Samaria.
  - a. The Jews hated the Samaritans.
  - b. They were outcasts.
  - c. He did not hate anyone.
3. He came to Sychar, a city of Samaria.
4. This was near a parcel of ground that Jacob had given Joseph.
5. Jacob's well was there.
6. Jesus was tired and sat on the well.

##### **II. A sinful woman comes to the well.**

1. A Samaritan woman came to draw water.
2. Jesus asked her for water : "Give me to drink."
  - a. The disciples had gone to buy meat.
  - b. They would have given him water had they been there.
3. The woman wanted to know why a Jew would ask her for water.
4. Jesus pointed out if she knew who she was speaking to that she would have asked of him, and he would have given living water.
5. The woman misunderstood.
  - a. She said, "You have nothing to draw water with."
  - b. "And the well is deep."



- c. "How can you give living water?"
- d. Are you greater than the father of the well ?
- 6. Jesus said that those who drink of that water would thirst again, but not so with the water he would give.
- 7. The woman asked for this water that she might not thirst again.
- 8. Jesus asked for her husband.
  - a. She said she had none.
  - b. Jesus told her she had five but she was indeed without a husband.
- 9. She said, "Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet."

### **III. Discussion on worship.**

- 1. The woman explained how their fathers had worshipped in that mountain.
- 2. But the Jews said the place of worship was Jerusalem.
- 3. Jesus said the hour would come when men would not just worship there or in Jerusalem.
- 4. The time would come when God would seek true worshippers.
- 5. They would worship God in spirit and in truth.
- 6. She said when Christ comes he would tell them.
- 7. Jesus said "I am he."

### **IV. The Disciples Arrive.**

- 1. They are amazed that he would speak to her.
- 2. The woman then left her waterpot and went into the city to call the men.
  - a. Come see.
  - b. Is not this the Christ ?
- 3. Then they went out of the city and came unto him.

4. In the mean time the disciples invited Jesus to eat.
5. But he said he had meat to eat that they knew not of.
6. The disciples inquired if someone had brought food.
7. Jesus said his meat was to do God's will.
8. He taught of the importance of reaping the harvest while there was time.

#### **V. Results of Jesus Teaching the Woman.**

1. Many believed because of the teaching.
2. They came and heard Jesus and many others believed.
3. Jesus spent two days there and departed.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Jesus stresses the individual.
2. He came to call the sinner to repentance.
3. He offers living water and living bread.
4. Think of what one person can do.

### **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**Matt. 26 : 26-28 ; Acts 20 : 7 ; 1 Cor. 11**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Christians are to worship God each first day of the week. (Acts 20 : 7).
2. This is to be in spirit and in truth. (John 4 : 24).
3. The Lord's Supper is a part of the worship.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. What is the Lord's Supper ?**

1. It is a spiritual supper or feast.
2. It takes place between Christ and his disciples.
3. It is a communion with the Lord.

### **II. Who instituted it ?**

1. Christ instituted it himself before his death.
2. It was later to be observed in his kingdom.
3. It is of a divine nature.

### **III. Of what does it consist ?**

1. The bread.
2. The cup.

### **IV. On what day is it to be partaken ?**

1. On the day the saints assemble.
2. This is each first day of the week.

### **V. How often is it to be partaken ?**

1. As often as the saints assemble.
2. Every first day of the week.

### **VI. Who is to partake of it ?**

1. Christians.
2. But all who desire may likewise partake of it.

### **VII. What is the purpose of it ?**

1. Not to put on a show or to go through an elaborate ceremony.
2. But to remember the body and blood of Christ.
3. To remain faithful to the Lord.

## CONCLUSION :

1. Many never partake of it.

2. Many others partake of it in vain.
3. Must follow the Lord's pattern.
4. Can mean much to the Christian.

## **THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. To accept the religion of Christ then one must accept his authority.
2. We believe that Christ has all authority.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Definition of authority.**

1. Legal or rightful power.
2. The right to speak, command, etc.

#### **II. The Bible teaches Christ has Authority.**

1. God speaks through his Son. (Heb. 1 : 1, 2).
2. To hear Christ. (Matt. 17 : 5).
3. All power belongs to Christ. (Matt. 28 : 18-20).
4. Has all pre-eminence. (Eph. 1 : 20-23).
  - a. He is divine. (John 1: 1).
  - b. He is Prophet. (Deut. 18 : 15 ; Acts 7 : 37).
  - c. He is King. (1 Timothy 6 : 14, 15).
  - d. He is High Priest. (Heb. 7 : 23-28 ; 8 : 1-5).
  - e. He is Saviour and Redeemer. (Tit. 2 : 13, 14).
5. He is head of the church. (Col. 1 : 18).
6. His name is above every name. (Phil. 2 : 8-11).
7. Salvation is in his name. (Acts 4 : 12).

8. To do all in his name. (Col. 3 : 17).
9. We are complete in him. (Col. 2 : 9, 10).
10. At the right hand of God. (1 Pet. 3 : 22).

### **III. To accept the Authority of Christ.**

1. One accepts the will of the Father.
2. The teaching of the Apostles. (Acts 1 : 8 ; 1 John 4 : 6).
3. He gives heed to the Holy Spirit. (John 16:13, 14).

### **VI. Christ has all Authority.**

1. Must accept him and his word only.
2. He does not share that authority with any man.
3. Neither does his word share its authority with some other book.

### **V. Must have respect for his Authority.**

1. Must hear the Lord and obey him without question.
2. Must not add to his word, subtract from it or substitute for it. (Rev. 22 : 18, 19 ; Gal. 1 : 7-9).
3. Should not question the Lord.

### **VI. Therefore we must go to him.**

1. For plan of salvation. (Mk. 16 : 15, 16).
2. For the truth about the church. (Matt. 16 : 18).
3. For the plan of worship. (John 4 : 24).
4. For all things.

### **VII. Christ will also have Authority in judgment.**

1. He will be the judge. (Acts 17 : 30, 31).
2. To be judged according to the way we have dealt with his word. (John 12 : 48).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Christ now invites all to come to him. (Matt. 11 : 28-30).
2. He has the power to save. (Lk. 19 : 10).
3. Respect his authority now and always.

**THE MOST DANGEROUS SIN****James 4 : 17****INTRODUCTION :**

1. The Bible repeatedly warns of the danger of neglect.
2. Many will be lost, not because of what they did, but because of what they failed to do.

**DISCUSSION :****I. Neglect is Dangerous because of its Deceptive Nature.**

1. Murder, lying, drunkenness, adultery and stealing are great sins.
2. But we overlook the things that should be done.
3. The sins of commission are stressed but the sins of omission are bypassed.

**II. Neglect is Dangerous because it Requires no Effort.**

1. Energy is required to involve a person in the sins of commission.
2. But it takes no effort to avoid doing things.
3. It takes no effort to avoid those in need, ignore teaching those about us, etc.

4. It takes no effort to avoid helping the church.

### **III. Neglect is Dangerous because it is at the Root of other Sins.**

1. A cultivated field is free of weeds, but a neglected field is soon filled with weeds and thorns.
2. David's idleness led to adultery and murder.

### **IV. Neglect is Dangerous because it is Contrary to the Spirit and purpose of the Gospel.**

1. The law said "Thou shalt not."
2. The gospel says, "Thou shalt."
3. The aim of many is to be good but we must do good. (Acts 10 : 38).

### **V. Neglect is Dangerous because Negligent People will be lost.**

1. Matt. 25 : 14-30.
2. To be lost just do nothing.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Arise and obey the Lord.
2. Tomorrow will be too late.

## **THINGS KNOWN AND UNKNOWN**

**Deut. 29 : 29**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. There are many things that man does not know, even though he thinks he is so smart.
2. Some things that God did not intend for us to know about.

3. There are other things that we do know and therefore we should be concerned about them.
4. Often though, man gives more attention to the things that are unknown than to those that are known.
5. This is a mistake.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. Things that Man cannot know.**

1. Do not know how old the world is. (Gen. 1 : 1).
2. Do not know the day Christ was born. (Matt. 1 : 21).
3. Do not know the date of the Lord's resurrection. (1 Cor. 15 : 1-4).
4. Do not know when death will come. (Heb. 9:27).
5. Do not know when Christ shall return. (Matt. 24 : 36).

### **II. Things that Man can know.**

1. He can know there is a God. (Ps. 19 : 1).
2. He can know there is a Saviour. (John 3 : 16).
3. He can know there is truth. (John 8 : 32).
4. He can know that he is a sinner. (Rom. 2 : 23 ; 5 : 8).
5. He can know about the Lord's church. (Matt. 16 : 18).
6. He can know the plan of salvation. (Mark 16:16).
7. He can know the way of worship. (John 4 : 24).
8. He can know that death is coming. (Heb. 9 : 27).
9. He can know the Lord will return. (2 Thes. 1 : 7-9).
10. He can know there will be a judgment. (2 Cor. 5 : 10).
11. He can know there will be an eternity. (Matt. 25 : 46).



**CONCLUSION :**

1. If man would only act on what he knows is right then he would be a lot better off.
2. But remember the Lord has revealed to us what we need to know.
3. It would be better to leave things as they are.

**ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA****Acts 5 : 1-11****INTRODUCTION :**

1. This is a true story.
2. It happened in the early days of the church.
3. It brought fear upon the Lord's people.
4. Many valuable lessons are taught.

**DISCUSSION :****I. Ananias and Sapphira.**

1. They were married.
2. They were members of the church.
3. Had possessions.
4. Sold their possession.
5. Kept back part of the price.
6. They were selfish.
7. They separately went to Peter.
  - a. Others were selling their possessions and were giving it to the Apostles.
  - b. They wanted to have part but at the same time hold back part for themselves.

- c. Many want to seem religious but have their wordly things too.

## **II. Ananias.**

1. He was the first to approach Peter.
2. He brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet.
3. Peter asked him why had Satan filled his heart to lie to the Holy Ghost to keep back part of the price of the land ?
  - a. It suggests that the Spirit gave Peter knowledge of what had happened.
4. He reasoned that while it was his that it was his own to do as he pleased.
5. He also showed him that it was still his own money after he sold it.
6. But Ananias had thought up this deed in his heart.
7. Therefore he did not lie to men but to God.
8. When he heard these words he fell down dead.
9. Fear came upon those who heard.
10. Then some young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out to bury him.

## **III. Sapphira.**

1. She came about three hours later.
2. She had no knowledge of what had happened.
3. Peter asked her about the land.
4. She told the same story.
5. Peter asked why had she and her husband agreed on such a story to tempt the Spirit.
6. He explained that the same ones that had taken her husband out was waiting on her.
7. She then fell down dead.
8. The young men then came in, found her dead, carried her forth, and buried her by her husband.

9. And great fear came on the church.

#### **IV. Lessons.**

1. God wants his people to give.
2. God wants us to tell the truth.
3. God will punish those who fail to abide by his will.
4. This lesson should cause us to fear.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. What would happen if God was still working to-day as then ?
2. He warns us now through his word.
3. The day will come in which he will deal with the sinner.

### **THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN**

**Luke 18:9-14**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Jesus taught this lesson by using a parable.
2. The purpose of it was to condemn self-righteousness.
  - a. Those who "trusted in themselves."
  - b. And those who "despised others."
3. He spoke to those who needed the lesson.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. Similarities between the Pharisee and the Publican.**

1. Both went to the temple.
2. Both were religious.

3. Both were Jews.
4. Both called upon God through prayer.
5. Both represented different classes.
  - a. The Pharisee represented a very strict religious sect.
  - b. The publican was a tax collector.

## **II. The Pharisee.**

1. He possessed some very fine qualities.
  - a. He went to the place of worship.
  - b. He prayed.
  - c. He spoke to God.
2. He explained to God that he was not like others.
  - a. He was not an extortioner.
  - b. He was not unjust.
  - c. He was not an adulterer.
  - d. He was not like the publican.
3. Then he listed his good points.
  - a. He fasted twice a week.
  - b. He gave tithes of all that he possessed.
4. However, he was not justified in God's sight.
5. Just because one is religious does not make him right.
6. Pride, self-righteousness, etc., can destroy one.

## **III. The Publican.**

1. He went to the temple.
2. He went to pray.
3. He did not even lift his eyes to heaven.
4. He smote his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.
5. He recognized he was a sinner and he approached God on that basis.

6. He went down to his house justified.

#### **IV. Lessons.**

1. Those who exalt themselves shall be abased and those who humble themselves shall be exalted.
2. There are many Pharisees today but few publicans.
3. Often time we hear people talking like this :
  - a. "I am a Christian too."
  - b. "I don't do this or that."
  - c. "I have been baptized."
  - d. "I am a member of a church."
  - e. "I believe in God."
  - f. "I go to worship."
4. So many feel better than others.
  - a. Won't worship with them.
  - b. Won't take the gospel to them.
5. But it is not enough to be religious.
6. One must be right, and with the right attitude.
7. One must be a Christian.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Are you a Pharisee or Publican ?
2. Remember what Jesus said—only the humble will be exalted.

## **THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

**John 10 : 1-18**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Jesus often spoke in parables or stories that illustrated truth.
2. Here we have him presenting two parables.
3. We may see Jesus relationship to the church and then the elders and their work with the church.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. The Good Shepherd.**

1. He leads the flock.
2. He knows his sheep by name.
3. The sheep belong to him.
4. The flock knows his voice.
5. He feeds the sheep.
6. He sees after their welfare.
7. He is willing to lay down his life for the sheep.
8. Jesus is the good shepherd.

#### **II. The Sheep.**

1. They will hear the voice of the shepherd.
2. They will follow him.
3. They will not follow a stranger but will flee him.
4. They are Christians.

#### **III. The Sheepfold**

1. The place of safety.
2. Has but one door.
3. Only thieves and robbers would try to enter another way.
4. The sheepfold is the church.

**IV. The Door.**

1. The door of the sheepfold.
2. Suggests entrance. There is one door.
3. Christ is the way.

**V. Thieves and Robbers.**

1. They try to enter the sheepfold another way.
2. They come but to steal, kill, and to destroy.
3. They represent false teachers.

**VI. The Hireling.**

1. He is not the good shepherd.
2. The sheep are not his.
3. When the wolf comes, he leaves the sheep and flees.
  - a. The wolf then catches them.
  - b. And scatters the sheep.
4. He is but a hireling and he has no love for the sheep.
5. The hireling represents a hypocrite, one who works only for money.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. As you can see there are many spiritual lessons to be drawn from these parables.
2. Let us evaluate our lives and see where we are in the story.

## **CREDENTIALS OF CHRIST**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. For a man to be what he claims to be then he must have some proofs and evidences to back it up.
2. Just to make a claim is not enough.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. What some say about Christ.**

1. He is not the Son of God.
2. He was not born of a virgin.
3. That he is but a fable.
4. That he was a good man only.

#### **II. What others say.**

1. That he was the Son of God.
2. That he was born of a virgin.
3. That he is the saviour.

#### **III. External Evidences that Suggest he lived and was the Son of God.**

1. The followers of Christ.
2. Christianity in the world today.
3. Books written by both enemy and friend.
4. The Bible itself. (John 20 : 30, 31).

#### **IV. Internal Evidences suggest that he was the Son of God.**

1. The many prophecies and their fulfillments. (Isa. 53 ; Matt. 1).
2. The many testimonies.
  - A. The Angel. (Luke 1 : 35).
  - B. God. (Matt. 17 : 5 ; John 3 : 16).
  - C. Peter and the Apostles. (Matt. 16 : 16).



- D. The devils. (Luke 4 : 41).
- E. Martha. (John 11 : 27).
- F. The Disciples. (Matt. 14 : 33).
- G. John the Baptist. (John 1 : 34).
- H. Nathanael. (John 1 : 49).
- I. Paul. (Acts 9 : 23).
- J. John. (1 John 5 : 5).
- K. The Centurian. (Matt. 27 : 43).

**V. Christ Himself Indirectly said He was the Son of God.**

- 1. Points this out to the blind man. (John 9:35-38).
- 2. Jesus did not deny he was the Son of God. (Matt. 27 : 43).
- 3. He did not reprove those who said he was the Son of God.

**VI. Credentials to prove that Christ was the Son of God.**

- 1. With God in the beginning. (Gen. 1; John 1:1).
- 2. Born of the virgin Mary. (Matt. 1).
- 3. Performed miracles. (John 3 : 2).
- 4. Was resurrected. (1 Cor. 15 : 1-4).
- 5. Reigns in Heaven. (Acts 1 : 9).
- 6. Built the church. (Eph. 5 : 23-27).
- 7. Will come again. (John 14 : 1-3).

**VII. Jesus warned that others would come saying they were the Christ.**

- 1. Believe them not. (Matt. 24 : 23)
- 2. He called them false Christs. (Matt. 24 : 24).
- 3. There is one true Lord. (Eph. 4 : 4, 5).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. We must therefore conclude that Christ is the Son of God.
2. Do you believe ?

**WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT****John 16****INTRODUCTION :**

1. The Bible has a lot to say about the Holy Spirit.
2. He had a certain work.
3. Most people misunderstand the purpose of the Spirit and his work.
4. We therefore want to make a study of the scriptures on this subject.

**DISCUSSION :****I. The coming of Christ.**

1. Came to seek and save the lost. (Luke 19 : 10).
2. Came to do a great work.
3. Could not do all by himself.

**II. Twelve Apostles Chosen.**

1. He chose them and trained them well.
2. Sent them out on the limited commission. (Matt. 10).
3. They were to carry on his work after his departure..
4. To be sure they made no mistake, he promised to send the Spirit to guide them. (John 16).

### **III. The coming of the Spirit.**

1. It was prophesied. (Isaiah 2 : 2, 3).
2. It was promised. (John 16).
3. He came on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2).
4. Proofs of the Spirit.
  - (a) Spoke in other tongues.
  - (b) Guided in their speech.
  - (c) Able to perform miracles.
5. Work of the Spirit.
  - (a) To guide the Apostles in all the truth.
  - (b) To confirm the word.
  - (c) To guide them in writing the Lord's word.

### **IV. Measures of the Spirit.**

1. Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
  - (a) The apostles. (Acts 2).
  - (b) The household of Cornelius. (Acts 10).
2. Laying on of hands.
  - (a) The apostles laid their hands upon others so that they might have the power to help.
  - (b) Read Acts 8.
3. Gift of the Holy Spirit.
  - (a) All Christians receive it. (Acts 2 : 38).
  - (b) No miraculous power.

### **V. Coming of the New Testament.**

1. With the New Testament being written, there was no longer a need for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
2. Now the New Testament would do what the Holy Spirit had been doing. (John 20 : 30, 31).
3. With the death of the Apostles and those they laid their hands on, miraculous deeds ended.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. This is a very simple subject if we would accept it the way it was given.
2. Just because miracles aren't being performed, that doesn't limit God.
3. God has chosen it this way.

**SPIRITUAL FOOD****Matthew 4 : 4****INTRODUCTION :**

1. We are well aware of man's needs physically.
2. He must have daily food, water, and other necessities, to live.
3. Man also needs spiritual food.
4. We are not talking about man's physical needs, or even the bread of the Lord's Supper, but spiritual food.

**DISCUSSION :****I. Man has a Spiritual being.**

1. It was created in the image of God. (Genesis 1 : 26).
2. It is a spirit, of inner being, that will live forever. (Matthew 10 : 28).
3. The soul shall return to God who gave it. (Eccl. 12 : 7).

**II. Man becomes a Sinner.**

1. Born with a pure soul. (Matt. 18 : 1-3).
2. On reaching the age of accountability, one's soul becomes spotted with sin. (Romans 3 : 23).

3. To die in this state is to be lost. (Rom. 6 : 23).

### **III. One must be born again.**

1. Born of the water and spirit. (John 3 : 5).
2. Born of incorruptible seed. (1 Peter 1 : 23).
3. A new creature in Christ. (2 Cor. 5 : 17).

### **IV. The Spiritual man needs food.**

1. It needs food to grow. (2 Peter 3 : 18).
2. It needs food to grow strong. (Eph. 6 : 12).
3. It needs daily food.

### **V. The nature of the food.**

1. Not material or physical. (Matthew 4 : 4).
2. Jesus called it the bread of life. (John 6 : 48).
3. Jesus spoke of living water. (John 4 : 10).

### **VI. Spiritual food.**

1. The Word of God.
2. Prayer.
3. Love.
4. Christian Fellowship.
5. Worship.
6. Good Deeds.

### **VII. Then comes development.**

1. Partakes of the milk of the word. (1 Peter 2 : 2).
2. With growth he can partake of the meat of the word. (Hebrews 5 : 12).

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Without this food the soul will die.
2. With it the soul can be saved.
3. Are you starving or feasting on God's Word.

**THE POOR MAN AND THE RICH MAN****Luke 16 : 19-31****INTRODUCTION :**

1. This is a true story.
2. It concerns a poor man and a rich man.
  - a. A good man and a bad man.
  - b. But being poor didn't make him good and being rich didn't make him bad.
3. Both died and experienced life beyond the grave.
4. This is a lesson designed to help each one of us to prepare for the future life.

**DISCUSSION :****I. The Poor Man.**

1. His name was Lazarus.
2. He was a beggar.
3. He was full of sores.
4. He lay at the gate of a rich man.
5. He desired to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table.
6. Dogs came and licked his sores.
7. This man died.
8. He was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom.

**II. Rich Man.**

1. Jesus said there was a certain rich man.
2. He was clothed in purple and fine linen.
3. He fared sumptuously every day.
4. The rich man also died.
5. And was buried.
6. And in hell he lifted up his eyes being in torment.
7. There he saw Lazarus in Abraham's bosom.

8. He begged Father Abraham to send Lazarus that the might dip the tip of his finger in water and cool his tongue.

### **III. What the rich man Discovered in hell.**

1. That riches aren't every thing. (1 Timothy 6 : 10).
2. That death comes even to the rich. (Heb. 9 : 27).
3. That there is a hell. (Matt. 25 : 46).
4. That it is a place of torment.
5. That it continues on.
6. That there is no way to escape.
7. That one cannot return to the earth from the dead.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Do you want to go to Hell ?
2. Jesus teaches that if one believes not he will be condemned. (Mark 16 : 16).
3. Paul says the Lord is coming to punish those who obey not the gospel. (2 Thess. 1 : 7-9).
4. So you must obey God to be saved.
5. Prepare now while you have the opportunity.

## **A JEALOUS GOD**

**Ex. 20 : 5**

**1 Corinthians 10 : 22**

**2 Corinthians 11 : 2**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Jealous is defined as being, "Enacting exclusive devotion ; intolerant of rivalry. Disposed to suspect rivalry in matters of interest and affection"

2. This means that God wants all of our love and affection and service.
3. He does not want to share us with others.
4. He wants all of us or none of us. (Matt. 6 : 24).

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. God is Jealous For Certain Reasons.**

1. Because of his love for us.
2. Because of his interest in us.
3. Because of his purpose for us.

### **II. God is Jealous of Many Things.**

1. God is jealous of who we hear.
  - a. He wants us to hear Christ. (Matt. 17 : 5).
  - b. To hear the word of God. (Romans 10 : 17).
  - c. The truth will make one free. (John 8 : 32).
2. God is jealous of what we believe.
  - a. He wants us to believe him. (Heb. 11 : 6 ; John 3 : 16).
  - b. He wants us to believe Christ. (John. 14 : 1).
3. God is jealous of the gospel we obey.
  - a. Paul says there is one gospel. (Gal 1 : 7-9).
  - b. It has power to save. (Rom. 1 : 16).
  - c. Must believe and be baptized. (Mk. 16 : 15,16).
  - d. Those who do not obey it will be lost. (2 Thess. 1 : 7-9).
4. God is jealous of the church that we become members of.
  - a. It belongs to God. (1 Cor. 1 : 2).
  - b. Christ established it. (Matt. 16 : 18).
  - c. There is but one. (Eph. 4 : 4).
  - d. The saved are added to it. (Acts 2 : 47).
  - e. God is glorified through it. (Eph. 3 : 21).



5. God is jealous of the name we wear.
  - a. He wants us to wear the family name. (Eph. 3 : 13, 14).
  - b. Must do all in the name of Christ. (Col. 3:17).
  - c. To meet in the name of Christ. (Matt: 18 : 20).
  - d. To be members of the church of Christ (Rom. 16 : 16)
  - e. To be Christians only. (Acts 11 :26).
  - f. Salvation is in the name of Christ. (Acts 4:12).
6. God is jealous of our worship.
  - a. Must worship him in spirit and truth. (John 4 : 24).
  - b. Must continue steadfastly. (Acts 4 : 42).
  - c. Must not forsake the assemblies. (Heb. 10:25).
7. God is jealous of the way we live.
  - a. Not to live with the world. (1 John 2 : 15).
  - b. To obey God only. (Eccl. 15 : 13, 14).
  - c. To present our bodies as a living sacrifice. (Rom. 12 : 1,2).
  - d. To be faithful unto death. (Rev. 2 : 10).
8. God is jealous of the book we follow.
  - a. He wants us to continue in his word. (James 1 : 25).
  - b. Not to add to it or subtract from it. (Rev. 22 : 18, 19).
  - c. The scriptures completely furnish us. (2 Tim. 3 : 16, 17).

### **III. God is Jealous of All.**

1. Your mind.
2. Your speech.
3. Your body.
4. Your work.

5. Your soul.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. God wants you—all of you.
2. He wants that which rightfully belongs to him.
3. Can we afford to give him less ?

### SAVING SOULS

(Prov. 11 : 30).

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. The Bible teaches that the Christian should be a worker.
2. Everyone should be busy with his secular job but all should engage in spiritual work as well.
3. The greatest work in the world is that of winning souls to Christ.
4. Each member of the church should be a soul winner.
5. This should be true of the preacher but others as well.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. To Be a Soul winner one Must First of all obey God.**

1. He must be concerned about his own soul.
2. Unless this is so, how can he show an interest in others ?
3. He must obey the gospel if he is to effectively preach the gospel. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).
4. He is to be a Christian only if he is to persuade others to be the same. (Acts 26 : 28).

5. He is to be a member of Christ's church if he is to encourage others to be the same. (Eph. 3 : 21).
6. He is to be a faithful Christian if others are to respect him. (1 Tim. 4 : 16).

**II. To be a soul winner he must Recognize the value of a soul.**

1. Every human being possesses a soul. (Gen. 2 : 7).
2. It will live forever. (Eccl. 12 : 7).
3. It is priceless. (Matt. 16 : 26).
4. To save our souls, we must save others. (Acts. 20).

**III. To be a soul Winner we must Recognize that it is our duty.**

1. Jesus said to go. (Mk. 16 : 15, 16).
2. Must love our neighbor. (Matt. 22 : 37-39).
3. We have been saved to save others.

**IV. To be a soul winner we must meet certain Qualifications.**

1. Must be truly converted to Christ.
2. Must be sincerely interested in others.
3. Must be patient in dealing with them.
4. Must really believe in what we are doing.
5. Must be willing to work hard.
7. Must be a close student of God's word.
8. Must be a prayerful person.
9. Must put first things first.
10. Must be happy.

**V. To be a soul winner he must use every means to reach the lost.**

1. Teach by example. (Matt. 5 : 16).
2. Teach by sermon. (2 Tim. 4 : 2).
3. Teach in the home.

4. Teach by tract.
5. Teach by Bible course.
6. Teach through the newspaper.
7. Teach by going to them.
8. Teach by having them to come.
9. Visitation program to begin.

**VI. To be a soul winner he must understand the Purpose of it all.**

1. To save souls.
2. To build up the church.
3. To make the world better.
4. To glorify God.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Are you a soul winner ?
2. How many souls have you won ?
3. Begin to work on this today.

## **A STEWARD OF GOD**

**1 Cor. 4 : 1**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. The words steward and stewardess are commonly used today.
2. Steward means an officer or employee, a minister, a servant.
3. The Bible uses the word in the sense of one who has been placed in charge of something.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. Scriptures that speak of a Steward.**

1. A faithful and wise steward. (Luke 12 : 42).
2. Ministers and stewards of God. (1 Cor. 4 : 1).
3. A requirement of a steward is that he must be faithful. (1 Cor. 4 : 2).
4. Bishops are described as stewards of God. (Tit. 1 : 7).
5. Stewards of the grace of God. (1 Pet. 4 : 10).
6. Must give account of one's stewardship. (Lk. 16 : 1-12).

### **II. Every Christian is a Steward.**

1. God has made him a steward.
2. The Lord has left the Christian in charge of many things.
3. The Christian is responsible to God for them.
4. This is a great honor but also a grave responsibility.

### **III. God has made the Christian Steward over many things.**

1. Steward of time.
2. Steward of money.
3. Steward of talent.
4. Steward of children.
5. Steward of souls.
6. Steward of our physical bodies.

### **IV. A good Steward.**

1. He is one who accepts his responsibility and does not try to put it on another.
2. He is one who works hard to care for that which the Lord has left in his charge.

3. He is one who seeks to return to the Lord that which belongs to him.
4. He is one who the Lord will bless.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. What kind of steward are you ?
2. Are you a good steward or a bad one ?

### WHY BE A CHRISTIAN ?

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. Many people are not Christians.
2. They see no need of becoming such.
3. They do not see that they will be benefitted by it.
4. But such people need to be taught the facts of the case.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. Why some reject Christianity.**

1. They have been reared in another religion.
2. They are afraid to change their religion.
3. They are afraid that they will be in the minority.
4. They see no need of being religious.
5. They are ignorant of the truth. (John 8 : 24).

##### **II. Why some profess Christianity.**

1. They are born into a family who professes to be Christians.
2. They were sprinkled as infants.
3. They accept the fact that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

4. They join a denominational church because of their friends.
5. They accept Christinity to make an impression.
6. They accept Christianity for relief.

### **III. Why be a true Christian ?**

1. Because one is a sinner and needs to be saved.
  - a. All have sinned. (Rom. 3 : 23).
  - b. A sinner is lost. (Eph. 2 : 11, 12).
2. Because the Lord came to save the sinner.
  - a. Christ came to saved the lost. (Lk. 19 : 10).
  - b. While we were sinners Christ died for us. (Rom. 8 : 5).
3. Because of the plan of salvation.
  - a. Christ's blood was shed that we might have the remission of sins. (Eph. 1:7 ; Matt. 26:28).
  - b. When we obey the gospel our sins are forgiven. (Acts 2 : 38 ; Mk. 16 : 16).
4. To be a foliower of Christ.
  - a. That makes a Christian out of one. (1 Peter 2 : 21 ; Acts 11 : 26).
  - b. Christ was perfect and good.
  - c. To follow him will makes us good.
5. To be a member of Christ's church.
  - a. Christ loved it so much that he was willing to die for it. (Eph. 5 : 25).
  - b. He purchased it with his own blood. (Acts (20 : 28).
  - c. It will never be destroyed. (Dan. 2 : 44).
  - d. It is the greatest institution in the world.
6. To be a better person.
  - a. To abstain from evil. (1 Thess. 5 : 22).
  - b. To live a good life. (1 Thess. 5 : 21).

- c. To love God and my fellowman. (Matt. 23 : 37-39).
- d. To love my country. (Til. 3 : 1, 2).
- 7. To enjoy the blessings of God.
  - a. If we seek him, the other things will be added. (Matt. 6 : 33).
  - b. All things work together for good... (Rom. 8 : 28).
- 8. To be prepared for the next life.
  - a. Life is short. (James 4 : 13, 14).
  - b. Death will come. (Heb. 9 : 27).
  - c. The judgment will take place. (2 Cor. 5 : 10).
  - d. The righteous will be eternally saved but the evil eternally lost. (Matt. 25 : 46).

#### CONCLUSION :

- 1. Are you a Christian ?
- 2. You cannot afford not to be one.
- 3. Everything is at stake.

### **"SPEAK EVIL OF NO MAN"**

**Titus 3 : 2**

#### INTRODUCTION :

- 1. One of the great problems in the world is that man has no love for his fellowman.
- 2. Man is continually condemning someone, regardless of what he does.
- 3. Thus the tongue is a little member but it can be full of posion. (James 3 : 8).



4. And the tongue echo's the thoughts of the heart.  
(Prov. 27 : 7).

## **DISCUSSION :**

### **I. Those evil spoken of.**

1. The leaders of the country.
2. Those that we work for.
3. Our neighbors.
4. Members of the church.
5. Anyone that we may be associated with.

### **II. Evil things that are said.**

1. They were crooks.
2. He is dishonest.
3. He is a liar.
4. He is lazy.
5. He is no good.
6. He is a hypocrite.

### **III. Why such things are said.**

1. To curse the person.
2. To try to hurt him.
3. To make him look little.
4. For revenge.

### **IV. The reasons behind such.**

1. Jealousy.
2. Envy.
3. Hatred.

### **V. The person speaking the Evil.**

1. He doesn't have the courage to say it face to face to the person.
2. But he has to find a sympathiser or one who doesn't know the facts to say it to.

**VI. The results of such talk.**

1. He says things that will hurt the other person.
2. These things will do a lot of harm even though they might be the truth.
3. For instance, in speaking about members of the church to strangers, and even members, the church is hurt.
4. One likewise hurts himself.

**VII. What should be done.**

1. The individual hearing such a person should ask him to be quite.
2. If he allows it to continue, then it means that he delights in hearing it himself.

**VIII. What the Bible teaches.**

1. Put evil speaking away from you. (Eph. 4 : 31).
  - a. Cursing.
  - b. Lying.
  - c. Gossip.
  - d. Talking about others.
2. To speak evil of no man. (Tit. 3 : 2).
  - a. Those in authority. (Heb. 13 : 7).
  - b. Elders of the church. (1 Tim. 5 : 17).
3. Speak not evil of one another. (James 4 : 11).
4. Live in such a way that evil cannot be spoken of you. (1 Pet. 3 : 16).
5. If evil is spoken of you, seek no revenge. (Rom. 12 : 17).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. One who usually speaks much usually says little.
2. Do unto others as you would have them do to you.
3. Remember, if you want to say something about a person, try to say something good.

## **THE LORD'S ARMY**

**Eph. 6 : 10-20 ; 2 Tim. 2 : 3, 4 ; 2 Cor. 10 : 4 ;  
1 Tim. 1 : 18**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Time Magazine says that there have been forty wars since 1945.
2. One of them is the current Pakistan-India war.
3. We all know then what war is and we know that it takes armies to have a war.
4. I want to talk about the Lord's Army.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Our Warfare is not Carnal. (2 Cor. 10 : 4).**

1. We do not believe in war.
2. We do not believe in a holy war.
3. Therefore we do not believe in carnal armies.
4. We are not to hate people.
5. We do not have an earthly head.
6. We do not have carnal weapons.
7. We are not seeking material gain.

#### **II. The Lord's Army.**

1. Christ is the Captain or head. (Heb. 2 : 10).
2. A spiritual army.
3. Fighting a spiritual warfare.

#### **III. One must Volunteer**

1. Christ invites all to come. (Matt. 11 : 28-30).
2. But he forces no one to become a member.

#### **IV. Weapon given to each Soldier.**

1. Not a sword.

2. Not a gun.
3. But the word of God, the Sword of the Spirit. (Eph. 6 : 17 ; Heb. 4 : 12).

**V. The army is to march Against the Enemy. (Eph. 6 : 12).**

1. The Devil.
2. His co-workers.
3. All evil.
  - a. Ignorance.
  - b. Pride.
  - c. Prejudice.
  - d. Unbelief
  - e. Materialism.
  - f. False religion.

**VI. The armor. (Eph. 6 : 14-18).**

1. Loins Girt about with truth.
2. Breast plate of righteousness.
3. Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel.
4. Helmet of faith.
5. Helmet of salvation.
6. Sword of the Spirit.
7. Be prayerful.
8. Be watchful.

**VII. Those who surrender must do so Unconditionally.**

1. The Lord will not stand for compromise.
2. Must come on his terms. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).
3. Must give all. (Rom. 12 : 1,2).

**VIII. Penalty for Deserters.**

1. Withdrawal of fellowship. (1 Cor. 5).
2. The Lord will cast them out. (Matt. 13).

3. To be punished eternally. (Rev. 21 : 8).

### **IX. Faith is the Victory.**

1. Must be willing to sacrifice.
2. Must be faithful.
3. Will win this war.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. The Lord's Army is out to conquer the world. (Mark 16 : 15).
2. Spiritual victory will bring peace to the earth.

## **WATCH**

### **2 Timothy 4 : 5**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. In Bible times it was customary to have a watch-tower connected with the vineyard.
2. The watchmen also played a prominent role in times of war.
3. Today we are well aware of what it means to watch in this period of emergency.
4. We are taught in God's word to watch in all things. (2 Timothy 4 : 5).

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. The Meaning of Watch.**

1. The word watch, as it is commonly used in the New Testament, is directed to the Christian.
2. It means to be alert, to give attention, to be busy, active, industrious.

3. It means to be careful, to be on guard, to not be found sleeping.
4. It suggests that we have enemies and we must watch lest they come upon us and destroy us.

## **II. We should keep in mind that there are those who are Watching us.**

1. God is watching us.
2. The enemy is watching us.
3. The church is watching us.
4. Our friends are watching us.
5. Our family is watching us.

## **III. We must be watchmen.**

1. We must watch for the enemy.
2. We must watch ourselves.
  - a. Our thoughts.
  - b. Our speech.
  - c. Our appearance.
  - d. Our action.
3. We must look for the Lord's return.

## **IV. The Seriousness of our watching.**

1. To watch day and night.
2. To watch with prayer.
3. To watch for our souls.

## **V. What the Bible Says.**

1. Jesus told the apostles.
  - a. Watch with me. (Matthew 26 : 38).
  - b. Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation. (Matthew 26 : 41):
  - c. Watch therefore. (Matthew 24 : 42).
  - d. Watch. (Mark 13 : 37).

2. Lessons that teach watching.
  - a. The shepherd and the sheep. (John 10).
  - b. The ten virgins. (Matthew 25 : 1-13).
3. Blessed are those whom the Lord will find watching when he comes. (Luke 12 : 37, 28).
5. Watch with all perseverance. (Ephesians 6 : 18).
6. Continue in prayer and watch. (Colossians 4 : 2).
7. Not to sleep, as others, but to watch. (1 Thessalonians 5 : 6).
8. Watch in all things. (2 Timothy 4 : 5).
9. Watch unto prayer. (1 Peter 4 : 7).
10. Blessed is he that watches. (Revelation 16 : 15).

#### CONCLUSION :

1. Those who do not watch will suffer the consequences.
2. Are you watching ?

### THE FEAR OF GOD

2 Cor. 7 : 1 ; Eph. 5 : 21 ; Heb. 10 : 31

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. In many ways man is so brave.
2. On the other hand, he fears many things—the enemy, war, diseases, death, etc.
3. But above all, man needs to have the fear of the Lord in him.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### I. Definition of Fear.

1. Afraid, Dread, Honor, Obey, Quake, Respect, Reverence, Tremble, Trembling, and worship.

2. Man should not fear God in the sense that a law breaker would fear the police.
3. He should fear God as a child fears his parents.
4. He should love, respect, obey, and reverence God.

## **II. Some who Feared God.**

1. Noah moved by fear. (Heb. 11 : 7).
2. Moses feared and quaked. (Heb. 12 : 21).
3. Fear came upon the people that heard the first sermon. (Acts. 2 : 43).
4. Great fear came upon all the church. (Acts. 5 : 11).
5. Cornelius feared God. (Acts. 10 : 22).
6. Every nation that feareth God is accepted with him. (Acts. 10 : 35 ; Ps. 33 : 8).

## **III. That which Produces Fear.**

1. A knowledge of God. (Isaiah 11 : 2).
2. God's creation and work. (Eccl. 3 : 14).
3. Knowing how God has dealt with the wicked. (Rom. 11 : 22).
4. Knowing of man's dependence on God.
5. Knowing of how the Lord will deal with the evil in the future.
6. Knowing that the future is uncertain.
7. Knowing that death will come.
8. Knowing the Christ will return.
9. Knowing that there will be a judgment.
10. Knowing that we must spend eternity somewhere.

## **IV. What fear will Lead one to do.**

1. Fear is the beginning of knowledge. (Prov. 1 : 7).
2. Fear the Lord and depart from evil. (Prov. 3 : 7).
3. Fear of the Lord is to hate evil. (Prov. 8 : 13).



4. The fear of the Lord prolongeth days. (Prov. 10 : 27).
5. Fear God and keep his commandments. (Eccl. 12 : 13).
6. Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (Phil. 2 : 12).
7. Serve God with reverence and Godly fear. (Heb. 12 : 28).
8. Love the brotherhood—fear God. (1 Pet. 2 : 17).
9. Fear God and give him glory. (Rev. 14 : 7).

#### **V. Rewards of those who fear him.**

1. Blessed is the man that fears God. (Ps. 112 : 1).
2. The Lord taketh pleasure of those who fear him. (Ps. 147 : 11).
3. Eternal Salvation.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Many defy God now.
2. But one day every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess to God. (Rom. 14 : 11).

## **THE WORKS OF THE FLESH VERSUS THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT**

### **Galatians 5 : 19-23**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. There are many things taught by showing a contrast between them.
  - a. Old Testament and New Testament.
  - b. Rich and poor.

- c. Heaven and hell.
- d. Works of the flesh and fruits of the Spirit.
- 2. Paul shows the contrast between the good life and the bad life by showing the fruits of each.
- 3. A study of this should help us to choose the good part.

## DISCUSSION :

### I. The works of the flesh.

- 1. Adultery—living with a partner unscripturally. (Matthew 19 : 9).
- 2. Fornication—immorality that doesn't necessarily involve marriage. (Matthew 5 : 27, 28).
- 3. Uncleaness—Unnatural practices. (Romans 1:24 ; 2 Corinthians 12 : 21).
- 4. Lasciviousness—Anything that produces unclean and lewd thoughts and actions. (Matthew 15 : 19, 20).
- 5. Idolatry—The worship of idols.
  - a. Paul teaches that covetousness is idolatry.
  - b. Jesus said, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." (Matthew 6 : 24).
- 6. Witchcraft—Sorcery, magic, etc.
  - a. Simon was a sorcerer. (Acts 8).
  - b. It was practiced in the days of Paul. (Acts 19 : 9).
- 7. Hatred—Enmities, ill will, qualities that make enemies.
- 8. Variance—Strife, when men oppose one another because of personal dislike.
- 9. Emulations—Jealousy, suspicions of one another, unholy desires to out do the other. (Romans 12 : 15).
- 10. Wrath—Openly showing anger.

11. Strife—Factions, indicates self interest. (James 3 : 16).
12. Seditions—Divisions. (Romans 16 : 17, 18).
13. Heresies—Parties. (1 Corinthians 1).
14. Envyings—Wanting to enjoy the benefits of others.
15. Murders—The feelings discussed often leads to murder.
  - a. Taking the life of another physically.
  - b. Jesus taught to hate a brother is to be counted as a murderer.
16. Drunkenness—Becoming intoxicated.
17. Revellings—Party going, running wild, getting into trouble.
18. And such like—This includes any work of the flesh not mentioned here.
19. Those who are guilty of such cannot go to heaven.

## **II. The fruit of the Spirit.**

1. Love—to love God. (1 John 4 : 8).
2. Joy—The Christian has much to be happy about.
3. Peace—Walking with God brings peace that passeth understanding.
4. Longsuffering—Patience to suffer long for the Lord.
5. Gentleness—Being kind to all.
6. Goodness—Doing good even when evil is done.
7. Faith—Faithfulness.
8. Meekness—Being humble.
9. Temperance—Self-control.
10. Against such there is no law—Neither God nor man makes laws against such principles or teachings. Even the wicked make laws against only that which is evil.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. In which category do you find yourself ?
2. Wouldn't it be better to bear the fruit of the Spirit than do the works of the flesh ?

**THE TRANSFIGURATION**

**Matthew 17 : 19 ; 2 Peter 1 : 16-21**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. Here we have the story of the transfiguration.
2. Jesus was transfigured or changed from flesh to Spirit.
3. Also Moses and Elias appeared in the spirit.
4. All of this was to teach Peter, James, and John a valuable lesson.
5. We may also learn.

**DISCUSSION :****I. The setting : Jesus takes Peter, James, and John with Him.**

1. This must have been special.
  - a. All three played a very important role in the early church.
2. They went to a high mountain where they could be to themselves.

**II. A special Act : Jesus was Transfigured.**

1. This was before the disciples.
2. His face shined as the sun.
3. His raiment was white as the light.

**III. Visitors : others appeared.**

1. Moses, to represent the Law.
2. Elias, to represent the Prophets.

**IV. Peter's offer.**

1. He thought it was good to be present.
2. Wanted to make a tabernacle for each one.
3. Wanted to honor each equally.

**V. God Spoke.**

1. A bright cloud over-shadowed them.
2. A voice spoke.
3. "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased ; hear ye him." (Matthew 17 : 5).
4. God made it plain as to who was to be heard.
5. The disciples fell on their faces and were afraid.

**VI. Jesus Speaks.**

1. Touched them and said arise and be not afraid.
2. When they looked up they saw no man, except Jesus.
3. Jesus asked them to tell no man until after his resurrection.

**VII. Lessons.**

1. Jesus was both physical and spiritual.
2. Man never dies.
3. God was pleased with his Son and said so.
4. Christ is greater than all others.
5. He wants man to hear Christ.
6. Not to be afraid.

**VIII. Peter's Testimony.**

1. He was greatly impressed by what he saw.

2. He was an eye witness of Christ.
3. Said that God spoke his approval of Christ.
4. Said that Christ should be heard.
5. Spoke from heaven.

**IX. The Lord wants us to be Transfigured or changed.**

1. This can be brought about through obedience to Christ.
2. To change from a bad life to a good life.

**X. The Transfiguration of the last day.**

1. The Bible says we will be changed.
2. We'll be changed from the physical to the spiritual.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Let this be a turning point in your life.
2. Hear Christ, obey him, and let him change you for the better.

**WHOSOEVER SHALL CALL UPON THE NAME  
OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED**

**Romans 10 : 13-17**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. Many misunderstand what it means to "call on the name of the Lord."
2. All must call upon the Lord to be saved.
3. Without the Lord, man is lost.

## DISCUSSION :

### I. Misapplication of Text.

1. To prove that the alien receives salvation by prayer.
2. To justify mourner's bench system.
3. To justify death-bed repentance.

### II. Salvation is offered to all.

1. Whosoever calleth shall be saved.
2. All who labor are invited to come. (Matt. 11 : 28-30).
3. Eternal life to all who believe. (John 3 : 16).
4. Whosoever will, let him drink of the water of life freely. (Rev. 22 : 17).

### III. What it means to call upon the name of the Lord.

1. Not merely calling without obeying.
  - a. "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say ?" (Lk. 6 : 46).
  - b. Not all who cry, "Lord" shall enter. (Matthew 7 : 21-23).
2. The text.
  - a. All who call to be saved.
  - b. But must believe to call.
  - c. Must hear to believe.
  - d. Word must be preached to be heard.
  - e. Preacher is sent.
  - f. Faith cometh by hearing God's word. (Rom. 10 : 17).
  - g. Compare. (John 6 : 44, 45).
3. Bible examples.

## a. On Pentecost.

- (1) Joel's prophecy quoted. (Acts 2 : 16-21 ; Joel 2 : 28-32).
- (2) People obeyed and were saved as they called upon the name of the Lord. (Acts 2 : 37, 38).

## b. Conversion of Saul.

- (1) His vision. (Acts 9 : 1-9).
- (2) Told to go into city and he would be told what he must do. (Acts 9 : 6).
- (3) He was told : "Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22 : 16).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. To be saved we must call upon the name of the Lord in the Bible way.
2. People today are to be saved just as the people on Pentecost.
3. Christians should continue to be doers of God's word. (James 1 : 22-25).

**TREASURE IN EARTHEN VESSELS****2 Corinthians 4 : 7****INTRODUCTION :**

1. Some people believe that the Holy Spirit directs one apart from the word of God.
2. But if so, why doesn't the Spirit so direct every one ?



3. Since God wants all to be saved (2 Peter 3 : 9), why doesn't he come to each one ?
4. Simply because the Lord doesn't operate in this manner.
5. If Christ were here today he wouldn't be able to tell us the plan of salvation.
6. If an angel were present he couldn't tell us what to do to be saved.
7. The Bible teaches that the gospel has been left in earthen vessels.

## **DISCUSSION :**

### **I. God sent His Son.**

1. Christ took the likeness of man upon himself that he might work with men.
2. Chose certain men to carry on his work on his departure.

### **II. Christ placed the Gospel in Earthen Vessels.**

1. Sent the apostles forth to preach the gospel. (Mark 16 : 15, 16 ; Matt. 28 : 19, 20).
2. The church was established and spread through the world. (Acts 2).

### **III. An Earthen Vessel was necessary for Conversion.**

1. A person was never saved by himself.
2. A preacher was always present. (Rom. 10).
3. He had to teach the word. (2 Tim. 4 : 2).
4. He had to hear the confession. (Matt. 10 : 32).
5. He had to do the baptizing. (Acts 8).

### **IV. Three examples of where a Divine being wasn't enough.**

1. The case of the Eunuch. (Acts 8).

- a. The angel of the Lord appeared to Philip to direct him to the Eunuch's chariot.
- b. Why didn't the angel go ?
- c. An earthen vessel was necessary.
2. The case of Saul. (Acts 9).
  - a. The Lord appeared to him.
  - b. Saul wanted to know what he should do.
  - c. Christ told him to go into the city and it would be told him.
  - d. He went and Ananias came and told him.
  - e. Why didn't Christ tell him ?
  - f. This was the work of an earthen vessel.
3. The case of Cornelius. (Acts 10).
  - a. The angel asked Cornelius to send for Peter.
  - b. Then Peter was told in a vision to go.
  - c. He went and preached and Cornelius and his household obeyed the Lord.

#### **V. The Gospel today is in Earthen Vessels.**

1. The work of the church is that of preaching the gospel.
2. We have been commanded as individual Christians to carry forth the message of salvation.
3. If we wait for the Lord to do it, or an angel to do it, then we'll not be saved.
4. Some are deceived into thinking the Lord has saved them in some miraculous way, but he has not.
5. That is why we have come to Pakistan—to preach the gospel of Christ and this is the Lord's way.

## CONCLUSION :

1. This is the way God has chosen to declare his will to man.
2. It pleases God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. (1 Cor. 1).

## THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH

### INTRODUCTION :

1. Faith is one of the most important things in the world.
2. All that we say and do is based on faith.
  - a. We believe the Postman will deliver the letter, so we turn it over to him.
  - b. We believe that if we'll look for a job, we'll find one, so we look.
3. Because our soul is involved, faith is of even greater importance when it comes to religion.
4. Let us make a study of this Bible subject.

### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. Faith comes by hearing the word of God. (Romans 10 : 17).**

1. This is the only way that genuine faith comes.
2. In order to believe the truth then one must hear the truth. (John 17 : 17 ; 8 : 32).
  - a. Many people believe error simply because they have been taught error.
  - b. This shows the importance of teaching only the truth. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).

3. In order to believe in Christ then one must hear about Christ. (Acts 8 : 35).
  - a. Why is it that so many do not believe in him?
  - b. They haven't been taught.
  - c. For the world to be converted to Christ then we must take Christ to the world.

## **II. We must believe in God to please Him. (Heb. 11 : 6).**

1. Must believe that He is. (Genesis 1 : 1).
2. Must believe he is a rewarder of them who seek him.

## **III. We must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (John 14 : 1).**

1. Must believe in him or perish. (John 3 : 16).
2. He that believes not is condemned already. (John 3 : 18).
3. He that believeth not shall be condemned. (Mark 16 : 16).
4. To believe in Moses is to believe in Christ. (John 5 : 46).

## **IV. There is but one Faith. (Eph. 4 : 5).**

1. If there is one God, and all believe in Him, there can be but one faith.
2. If there is one Christ, and all believe in Him, there is one faith.
3. If there is one Bible, and all believe it, there can be but one faith.

## **V. Faith works. (John 6 : 29).**

1. Faith is what leads the individual to obey the commands of God so that he might be saved. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).
2. Faith is what leads the Christian to add the Christian graces. (2 Peter 1 : 5-11).

3. Jesus has taught that if we believe in Him we should keep his commandments. (Mark 2 : 5).
4. The scriptures teach faithfulness unto death. (Rev. 2 : 10).

#### **VI. There are different degrees of Faith.**

1. No faith. (2 Thess. 3 : 2 ; 1 Tim. 5 : 8).
2. Little faith. (Matt. 6 : 30).
3. Great faith. (Mk. 15 : 28).
4. Working faith. (1 Thess. 1 : 3).
5. Full of faith. (Acts 6 : 5).
6. Small faith.
7. Weak faith.
8. Strong faith.
9. Growing faith. (2 Thess. 1 : 3).

#### **VII. The meaning of Faith.**

1. To walk by faith. (2 Cor. 5 : 7).
2. Precious faith. (2 Pet. 1 : 1).
3. Saved by faith. (Eph. 2 : 8).
4. Children of God by the faith. (Gal. 3 : 26).
5. To live by faith.
6. Trusting the Lord. (Heb. 11 : 1).

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. How much faith do you have ?
2. Do you have enough to obey the Lord ?
3. Do you have enough to be faithful to Him ?

## WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST ?

**Matthew 22 : 42 ; Matthew 16 : 13-19**

### INTRODUCTION :

1. There are different beliefs concerning Christ.
2. Most of them are wrong.
3. Christ asked what others thought about him.
4. It might be well to consider these as we think about today's situation.

### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. "What think ye of Christ ?" (Matt. 24 : 42).**

1. Christ did not ask if they thought he was the Messiah.
2. He asks for their opinion as to whom he is.
3. Knowing the scriptures, they answer "the Son of David."
4. Then the Lord wanted to know why David called him Lord.
5. David was led by the Holy Spirit.
6. But if David called him Lord, then how is he his Son ?
7. They cannot answer and respond with anger.

#### **II. "Whom do men say that I the son of man am ?" (Matt. 16 : 13, 14).**

1. Christ wanted to know what the general public thought about him.
2. Some said John the Baptist, some Elijah, some Jeremiah, and others one of the prophets.
3. Naturally he was none of these and so the answers were not acceptable.

### **III. "But whom say ye that I am?" (Matt. 16:14-17).**

1. He now turns to the apostles and asks what they think.
2. Peter speaks for the apostles and declares Christ to be the Son of God.
3. Christ is pleased with this and promises to build his church on this confession.

### **IV. Answers that are given today.**

1. A good man.
2. A prophet.
3. The Son of God.

### **V. What do you think of Christ ?**

1. Do you believe in him as being the Son of God ?
2. Do you believe in him enough to obey him ?
3. Do you believe in him enough to worship him ?
4. Do you believe in him enough to follow him daily?
5. Do you believe enough to be faithful ?

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Christ said "ye believe in God, believe also in me." (John 14 : 1).
2. The right faith in the right person is what gets the right results.

## **THE MISUNDERSOOD BOOK**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The Bible is probably the most misunderstood of Books.
2. Yet, should be understood, loved, and respected.

**DISCUSSION :****God is not to Blame for the Bible being Misunderstood.**

1. He desires the Bible to be understood.
2. Salvation conditioned on doing the Lord's will.
  - a. Not all who say, but those who do. (Matt. 7 : 21).
  - b. To do the Lord's will is to abide. (1 John 2 : 17).
  - c. Do the commandments. (Rev. 22 : 14).
3. Grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord. (2 Peter 3 : 18).
4. Be not unwise, but understand. (Eph. 5 : 17).
5. Early disciples were of one heart and mind. (Acts. 4 : 32).

**II. The Tragedy of a Misunderstood Bible.**

1. Unbelievers scoff and blame God.
2. Many give up and never try to understand.
3. Many religious groups oppose each other.
4. The loss of many souls.

**III. Reasons for Many Misunderstanding the Bible.**

1. The Bible is never studied.
  - a. The Bible should be studied. (2 Tim. 2 : 15).
  - b. Can't understand that which we do not study.
2. The Bible is not rightly divided. (2 Tim. 2 : 15).
  - a. Recognize the difference in the Old and New Testaments.
  - b. Consider these points.
    - (1) Who is speaking ?
    - (2) To whom is he speaking ?



## (3) Circumstances.

- c. Other books, etc. must be properly studied.
- 3. Traditions blind man.
  - a. Commandments of men are vain. (Matt. 15:9).
  - b. Jews rejected God's commands by traditions. (Matt. 15 : 1-9).
  - c. Many today follow traditions.
- 4. Ignorance.
  - a. Israel was ignorant of God's ways. (Rom. 10 : 1-4).
  - b. Athenians ignorant. (Acts 17 : 30, 31).
  - c. Paul ignorantly opposed God. (Acts 23 : 1 ; Acts 26 : 9).
- 5. Some see no necessity of understanding the Bible.
  - a. Think that they are alright if they believe and are sincere.
  - b. A study of the Bible proves the necessity.
- 6. Some use the Bible for the wrong purpose.
  - a. Seek to uphold their own preconceived ideas.
  - b. Some use the scriptures to their own destruction. (2 Pet. 3 : 16).
- 7. Some are misguided by preachers, priests, etc.
  - a. Preachers are divided.
  - b. Some blindly follow preachers.

**CONCLUSION :**

- 1. What is your attitude toward the Bible ?
- 2. Accept the truth and uphold it.

**THE LOVE OF MONEY****1 Timothy 6 : 10****INTRODUCTION :**

1. Money is one of the most powerful weapons in the world.
2. It is prized from the highest to the lowest.
3. It can be a blessing but it is usually a curse.

**DISCUSSION :****I. Money Defined.**

1. It is but paper or metal.
2. There is nothing harmful about this.
3. It is used to exchange for something else.

**II. The thing that makes money Harmful.**

1. Is a love for it.
2. The love of money is the root of all evil.
3. Regardless of sin, the love of money is usually behind it.

**III. Those who love money.**

1. The rich.
2. The poor.
3. Most all people.

**IV. What it leads too.**

1. Murder.
2. Theft.
3. War.
4. Prostitution.
5. All sins.

**V. Even Christians love money.**

1. Annanias and Sapphira lied because of it. (Acts 5).

2. Judas betrayed the Lord as a result.
3. Many rob God, when it comes to giving.

#### **VI. The Bible warns about laying up treasure on the Earth.**

1. The rich man. (Lk. 16).
2. The foolish man.
3. Treasures on earth will pass away.
4. Money perishes with the individual. (Acts 8 : 20).
5. The love of money is the root of all evil. (1 Tim. 6 : 10).
6. Riches do not profit one in the day of wrath. (Prov. 11 : 4).
7. To trust in riches is to fall. (Prov. 11 : 28).
8. A good name is better than great riches. (Prov. 22 : 1).
9. Many are deceived by riches. (Matt. 13 : 22).
10. It is difficult for a rich man to go to heaven. (Luke 18 : 24).
11. One cannot serve the Lord and love money. (1 Tim. 3 ; Titus 1).

#### **VII. Money keeps the sinner from obeying God so often.**

1. He puts his trust in his money.
2. He thinks he has need of nothing.
3. He thinks that his money will save him.

#### **VIII. What money cannot do.**

1. It cannot save.
2. It cannot give hope.
3. It cannot buy good health.
4. It cannot bring true friendship.

**IX. Should store up treasures.**

1. Not by serving man, but by serving God.
2. Not on earth but in heaven.

**X. The Christian is rich.**

1. He is saved.
2. He has the blessings of the Lord.
3. He is a Christian.
4. He is a member of the church.
5. He has friends.
6. He has a clear conscience.
7. He is at peace with all.
8. He has hope.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Money is the curse of most people.
2. Don't become a slave to it but let it serve you.

**THE CHRISTIAN'S INFLUENCE****1 Peter 2 : 21****INTRODUCTION :**

1. Everyone follows someone.
2. We are all influenced by others and we in turn influence those around us.
3. This is true in daily life.
4. This is likewise true in religion.
5. There is much power in example and influence.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. Jesus is our great example.**

1. He is an example in all things :
  - a. In purity.
  - b. In obedience.
  - c. In humility.
  - d. In prayer.
  - e. In love.
  - f. In suffering.
  - g. In forgiveness.
2. He is our guide. (John 14 : 6).
3. He is our saviour. (Luke 19 : 10).
4. We are to follow in his steps. (1 Pet. 2 : 21).

### **II. The Bible may have a great influence on us.**

1. We need to study it.
2. It pictures the model man of God.
  - a. One of service.
  - b. One of trust.
  - c. One of perseverance.
  - d. One of honesty.
  - e. One of caution.
  - f. One of hospitality.
  - g. One of work.

### **III. The Christian may have a great influence on others.**

1. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.
2. Do all in the name of the Lord. (Col. 3 : 17).
3. Two kinds of example :
  - a. Bad.
    - (1) Bad language.

- (2) Dishonest.
- (3) Hypocritical.
- (4) Unfaithful.
- b. Good.
  - (1) Do good for evil.
  - (2) Always do right.
  - (3) Put the Lord first.
- 4. You can do worlds of good by just doing right.
- 5. You have a powerful weapon and you can influence others for good.
- 6. It is a great blessing to know that you have encouraged others to do right.

#### CONCLUSION :

- 1. What kind of an example are you ?
- 2. Are you using your influence for good ?
- 3. Use the most powerful weapon you have for good.

### LIVING WITHOUT CHRIST

#### INTRODUCTION :

- 1. The gospel means "Good News."
- 2. The gospel exists because of man's need of salvation.
- 3. But before anyone will accept it then he must realize his need for it.
- 4. In Acts 2 : 14-40 is recorded the first gospel sermon ever preached.
  - a. When the people heard it they asked what they should do. Why ?

- b. Because they were convicted of their sin.
5. Let us now study concerning sin.

## DISCUSSION :

### I. Sin Defined.

1. "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law : for sin is the transgression of the law." (1 John 3 : 4).
2. One sins when he fails to do good. (James 4 : 17).
3. Further, the New Testament not only deals with the outward sin but with the motive as well. (Matthew 5 : 21, 22, 27, 28 ; Matthew 7 : 21 ; 1 John 3 : 15).
4. Specific sins are condemned. (Matthew 15 : 19 ; Galatians 5 : 19-21).

### II. The Universality of Sin.

1. All have sinned. (Rom. 3 : 23).
2. Sin is everywhere in every form.

### III. Origin of Sin.

1. The author of sin is the Devil.
2. "He that committeth sin is of the devil ; for the devil sinneth from the beginning." (1 John 3 : 8).
3. The devil's avenue of approach in getting men to sin is through temptation. (John 13:2 ; 1 Cor. 7:5).

### IV. The effects and consequences of sin.

1. The state of the sinner.
  - a. He is separated from God. (Isa. 59 : 2).
  - b. He lives in darkness. (Col. 1 : 13).
  - c. He is a child of the devil. (John 8 : 44).
  - d. He is spiritually sick. (Matt. 9 : 12).
  - e. He is a servant of sin. (Rom. 6 : 16).
  - f. He is lost. (Luke 19 : 10).

- g. He is heavily burdened. (Matt. 11 : 28).
- 2. The most horrible effect is death—two deaths.
  - a. Physical death is the effect of Adam's sin, not of personal sins.
    - (1) All men will die regardless of their spiritual state. (1 Cor. 5 : 21, 22).
    - (2) All will be raised. (John 5 : 28, 29).
    - (3) Will not have to answer for Adam's sins. (Rom. 14 : 12 ; 2 Cor. 5 : 10).
  - b. The penalty for personal sins is the second death which is spiritual.
    - (1) Cast into the lake of fire. (Rev. 21 : 8).
    - (2) The wages of sin is death. (Rom. 6 : 23).
    - (3) The Lord will seek vengeance. (2 Thess. 1 : 7-9).
    - (4) Hell is a real place. (Matt 13 : 42).
      - (a) Tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Rev. 20 : 10).
      - (b) It was prepared for the Devil and his angels. (Matt. 25 : 41).
    - (5) Cannot blame God if we are lost.
      - (a) Has warned us.
      - (b) Has provided a way of escape.

#### **V. Only Christ can remove our sins.**

- 1. He invites all to come. (Matt. 11 : 28).
- 2. Gospel has been given. (Mk. 16 : 15, 16).
- 3. Saved are added to the church. (Acts 2 : 47).
- 4. The faithful receive a crown of life. (Rev. 2 : 10).

#### **CONCLUSION :**

- 1. It is a terrible life without Christ.
- 2. But you need not live without him.
- 3. Come to Jesus today.



## **WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS**

**1 John 4 : 1 ; 2 John 10, 11**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Man is very gullible.
2. He is easily deceived.
3. Therefore the Lord warned us about false teachers.
4. Even then most people are deceived.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. We must realize that all religious people are not good people.**

1. Just because they are religious that doesn't make them right.
2. The Devil has people who pose as ministers of righteousness. (2 Cor. 11 : 15).

#### **II. We must realize that all people who use the Bible are not of God.**

1. The devil quoted scripture. (Matt. 4).
2. The majority who use the scripture refuse to obey it themselves.

#### **III. We must realize that not all who call on the Lord will be saved.**

1. Christ himself said so. (Matt. 7 : 21-23).
2. The Lord asked why should one call him Lord and then not obey him.

#### **IV. We must try the spirits to see if they be of God or not.**

1. John says that we are not to believe every spirit. (1 John 4 : 1).
  - a. Because many false prophets have gone out.
  - b. Therefore we are to try them or test them by the word of God.

2. If people would really do this then so many would not be deceived.

**V. We must be careful not to encourage those who are in error.**

1. If one does not bring the truth then he is not to be received or encouraged. (2 John 10, 11).
2. To bid him God's speed is to partake of his evil deeds.

**CONCLUSION :**

1. The truth only saves.
2. All must be careful.

**“FINALLY, BRETHREN, FAREWELL”**

**Acts 18 : 21 ; 2 Cor. 13 : 11**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. It is not easy to say goodbye.
2. We hate to say goodbye to our friends, family members, etc.
3. With sorrow we have to say goodbye to our loved ones as they depart from this earth.
4. But goodbyes have to come sooner or later.
5. Much depends on the circumstances of the goodbye.

**DISCUSSION :**

**I. Abraham had to say Goodbye to his Kindred and Country to obey the Lord.**

**II. Christ had to say Goodye to his Disciples.**

### **III. Paul had to say Goodbye to his Brethren. (Acts 20).**

#### **IV. Likewise, I must now say Goodbye to you.**

1. I do so with mixed emotions.
2. It may be for your good.
3. A review of the work.
4. Some things to remember.
  - a. Love one another.
  - b. Be patient with each other.
  - c. Learn to work together, and help each other.
  - d. Respect one another.
  - e. Be faithful.
  - f. Be prayerful.
  - g. Be a student of the Bible.
  - h. Be a worker for the Lord.
  - i. Grow and develop.
5. We love you.
6. Our prayers will be with you.
7. Lord willing, I will be back later with another family.
8. In the mean time learn to carry on with outside help or without it.
9. Write us, but when you do, send good news.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. God bless you and keep you is my prayer.
2. There are many more things I would like to say and do, but I cannot.
3. To those of you who are not members of the church we would be thrilled to see you obey God.
4. To those of you who are members, we are counting on you to keep the Lord's work going in Karachi.
5. God be with you till we meet again.

## **“THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME”**

**Matthew 26 : 26-28**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. There are many memorials in the world.
  - a. Jinnah's Tomb.
2. The Bible speaks of the rainbow and the Passover.
3. There are also memorials in Christianity.
4. Jesus did not want us to forget him, so he instituted the Lord's Supper.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Institution of the Lord's Supper. (Matt. 26 : 26-28).**

1. Jesus instituted it himself.
2. This was done just before his death.
3. He said that the next time he partook of it would be in his Father's Kingdom.

#### **II. The Ingredients of the Lord's Supper. (1 Cor. 11).**

1. Bread.
2. Fruit of the vine.

#### **III. The Significance of these Ingredients.**

1. The bread was to be in memory of the body of Christ.
2. The cup was to be in memory of the blood of Christ.

#### **IV. The day set aside for the Lord's Supper.**

1. The first day of the week. (Acts 20 : 7).
2. The Lord's Day.

#### **V. The Regularity of the Lord's Supper.**

1. Since there is a first day in every week then it is to be partaken of each first day of the week.

2. It is to be partaken of as often as the other acts of worship are engaged in.

#### **VI. The Lord's Supper is open to all.**

1. That is, it is not closed to any.
2. It is actually only for Christians.
3. Only Christians are benefited by it.
4. It is directed to Christians.
5. Others should obey God if they desire to partake of it.

#### **VII. The Importance of the Lord's Supper.**

1. To be done in spirit and truth. (John 4 : 24).
2. To be done each first day of the week. (Acts 2:42).
3. To fail to partake of the Lord's Supper is to forget the Lord—to sin.
4. If one feels that he is not prepared to partake of the Lord's Supper, then that is a signal for him to correct his life so he can.
5. For the Lord's Supper to be beneficial then the individual must live daily for the Lord.
6. We must continue to remember the Lord till he come again.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. The Lord's Supper should be a means of serious meditation.
2. It should be a time of re-dedication.
3. It should be a time of receiving new strength.
4. It should be a time of joy and happiness.

**COUNTING THE COST****Luke 14 : 25-33****INTRODUCTION :**

1. Some enter the Christian life blindly.
2. They do not stop and consider what it will cost them.
3. Need to consider two things :
  - a. What it will take.
  - b. What it will bring.
4. There must be determination to live the Christian life.

**DISCUSSION :****I. Salvation.**

1. It is free.
2. But it costs much.

**II. What Salvation Cost Others.**

1. Cost God his Son.
2. Cost Christ his life.
3. Cost the Apostles much.

**III. What Salvation may cost us.**

1. Changing our way of life.
2. Giving up the religion of man.
3. Family.
4. Job.
5. Persecution.

**IV. Should Count the Cost.**

1. Buying in the bazaars.
2. Buying land.
3. Building a house.

4. Price to be a Christian.

#### **V. Paying the Price.**

1. Leave all to follow Christ. (Luke 9 : 23).
2. Obedience. (James 1 : 22).
3. Becoming a living sacrifice. (Romans 12 : 1,2).
4. Being faithful unto death. (Revelation 2 : 10).

#### **VI. Reward of Salvation.**

1. Remission of Sins.
2. Gift of the Holy Spirit.
3. Spiritual blessings.
4. Peace.
5. Hope.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Better not to begin than to start and quit.
2. A great decision to make.

### **COMPLETE IN CHRIST**

**Colossians 2 : 10**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. We have seen people who were without an arm, leg, or some other part of the body. This is terrible and means that they are incomplete physically.
2. We have seen people who were not balanced mentally and we felt sorry for them.
3. But more terrible is for one to be incomplete spiritually.

4. The Bible tells us that we can be complete in Christ.
5. That means that we can be whole in the Lord, lacking nothing.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. We Have a Complete Law.**

1. We have the perfect law of liberty. (James 1 : 25).
2. It perfectly furnishes man unto every good work. (2 Timothy 3 : 16,17).
3. It is perfect in converting the soul. (Psalms 19: 7).

### **II. It Reveals a Complete Plan of Salvation.**

1. Must obey the gospel. (Mark. 16 : 15, 16).
2. It has power to save. (Romans 1 : 16).

### **III. This Will Make us members of a Complete Church.**

1. Christ is the head. (Colossians 1 : 18).
2. We are the members. (1 Corinthians 12).

### **IV. Our Worship must be Complete to be Acceptable.**

1. To worship in spirit and in truth. (John 4 : 24).
2. This is to be each first day of the week. (Acts. 20 : 7 ; Hebrews 10 : 25).

### **V. We will then be Complete in Christ.**

1. Where all spiritual blessings are. (Ephesians 1 : 3).
2. Doing all in the name of the Lord. (Colossians 3 : 17).

### **VI. On a Complete way.**

1. It is narrow but straight. (Matthew 7 : 13, 14).
2. Christ is the way. (John. 14 :6).



## **VI. Headed for a Complete Home.**

1. Mansions prepared for us. (John 14 : 1-3).
2. Where there will be rest. (Matthew 11 : 28-30).

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. How could we be complete any other way ?
2. Are you complete ?

## **LOVE FOR THE TRUTH**

### **2 Thessalonians 2 : 10**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The word of God is truth. (John 17 : 17).
2. Jesus brought grace and truth. (John 1 : 17).
3. Truth makes free. (John 8 : 32).
4. Should love it.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **1. All do not love the truth. (2 Thess. 2 : 10).**

1. Not interested. (Acts 24 : 25).
2. Are satisfied.
3. Follow men. (Matthew 15 : 9).
4. Deceived. (1 John 1 : 8).
5. Love the world (1 John 2 : 15).
6. Want to have their own way.
7. Do not think.
8. Do not investigate.

9. Ever learning but never coming to the knowledge of the truth. (2 Tim. 3 : 1-7).
10. Refuse to obey it. (Romans 2 : 8).

## **II. Should love the truth.**

1. Should want it. (Prov. 23 : 23).
2. Should seek it. (Matt. 7 : 7).
3. Should read and study to find it. (2 Tim. 2 : 15).
4. Should believe it. (John 20 : 30, 31).
5. Should obey it. (James 1 : 22 : Heb. 5 : 8, 9).
6. Should live by it. (Gal. 3 : 11).
7. Should teach it to others. (Matt. 28 : 19).

## **III. Signs of our love for the truth.**

1. Love for God.
2. Love for Christ.
3. Love for the Bible.
4. Love for the church.
5. Love for the another.
6. Willingness to suffer.
7. Loyalty to the truth.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. Where do you stand ?
2. Do you really love the truth ?
3. What are you doing to prove it ?

## **THE FOUR ESSENTIALS OF THE GREAT COMMISSION**

**Matthew 28 : 19, 20 ; Mark 16 : 15, 16**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Jesus died for the sins of the whole world to provide salvation for all.
2. He wants everyone to know that.
3. He has given his people the job of doing it.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. The four essentials of the great commission.**

1. Go.
  - a. To all the world.
  - b. To every nation.
  - c. To every creature.
2. Preach.
  - a. Gospel.
  - b. Believe and be baptized.
  - c. He that believeth not shall be damned.
3. Baptize.
  - a. Baptize believers.
  - b. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
4. Teach.
  - a. To observe all the Lord's commands.
  - b. With the Lord's promise that he will be with us.

#### **II. Why take the gospel to others ?**

1. Commanded to.
2. To save the lost.
3. To share the good news.

4. Because of love.
5. To be wise.
6. To keep from being lost.
7. To make the world better.

### **III. How can we reach others ?**

1. By word of mouth.
2. By example.
3. By good works.
4. By giving out tracts.
5. By inviting someone to attend.
6. By giving of one's means.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. The early Christians went everywhere preaching .
2. Think of all the needs today.
3. What are we doing about them ?

## **THE MEANING OF GIVING**

**2 Cor. 8 : 5**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The word give means bestow, grant, offer, or present.
2. The Lord has given so much but we have given so little.
3. We cannot expect to receive until we learn to give.
4. What does it mean to give ?
5. Only God can teach us.

## DISCUSSION :

### **I. The meaning of giving.**

1. To give self. (2 Cor. 8 : 5).
  - a. In obedience.
  - b. In service.
2. Present your bodies as a living sacrifice. (Romans 12 : 1).
  - a. A pure body.
  - b. A pure spirit.
3. To give time. (Matthew 6 : 33).
  - a. For salvation.
  - b. For the church.
  - c. For worship.
4. To give material things. (1 Corinthians 16 : 2 ; 2 Corinthians 9 : 7).
  - a. Of our money.
  - b. As we have prospered.

### **II. Why should We give ?**

1. Because God has given. (Galatians 1 : 4 ; 2 : 20).
2. To show our love.
3. To honor the Lord. (1 Cor. 6 : 20).
4. To receive. (Matt. 7 : 7).
5. To carry on the Lord's work. (1 Corinthians 16 : 1, 2).
6. So as not to rob God. (Malachi 3 : 8).

### **III. How should we give ?**

1. Cheerfully. (2 Corinthians 9 : 7).
2. With love. (1 Corinthians 13 : 3).
3. With faith (James 2 : 16).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. What have you given ?
2. How much are you giving now ?
3. How much are you going to give ?

**THE PURPOSE OF BAPTISM****Mark 16 : 15, 16****INTRODUCTION :**

1. Baptism is one of the most simple subjects but the most often misunderstood.
2. One of the main problems is that the majority do not understand the purpose of it.
3. What does the Bible teach ?

**DISCUSSION :****I. Baptism may be for the wrong purpose.**

1. It is not to be done because one is already saved.
2. As a saved person, one cannot be baptized to enter a church.
3. Scriptural baptism will not put one into a denominational church.

**II. The scriptural purpose of baptism.**

1. Following faith, repentance and confession, baptism saves. (Mark. 16 : 15, 16 ; 1 Peter 3 : 21).
2. Baptism is for the remission of sins. (Acts 2 : 38).
3. Baptism puts one into Christ. (Romans 6 : 3, 4 ; Galatians 3 : 26, 27).

4. Baptism puts one into the church. (1 Corinthians 12 : 13).
5. Baptism involves the new birth. (John 3 : 1-5).
6. Baptism pictures the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection. (Romans 6).

#### CONCLUSION :

1. There is one baptism. (Ephesians 4 : 5).
2. Water does not save but the act of baptism does in obedience to the Lord's command.

### **"SAVE YOURSELVES"**

#### **Acts 2 : 40**

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. Salvation is a most important subject.
2. Man is a sinner and needs to be saved. (Romans 3 : 23).
3. How can one be saved from his sins ?
4. Can man save himself ?

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. No, man cannot save himself.**

1. There are those in the world who feel that they can do enough good deeds so they can be saved.
2. Many have devised ways to save themselves and others.
3. But how can a sinner be his own saviour ?
4. Christ, who was sinless, is the saviour. (Romans 5 : 8).

5. We are saved by the grace of God. (Ephesians 2 : 8, 9).

## **II. Yes, man can save himself.**

1. Peter said, "Save yourselves." (Acts 2 : 40).
2. He also said, "Repent and be baptized everyone of you." (Acts 2 : 38).
3. Saul was told to arise and be baptized. (Acts 22 : 16).
4. Christ said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Mark 16 : 16).
5. Paul said, "Work out your own salvation." (Philippians 2 : 12).
6. Man cannot provide the sacrifice, but he must accept the sacrifice.
7. Man cannot give the medicine but must take the medicine.
8. It is grace on God's part but faith on man's part. (Ephesians 2 : 8, 9).

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. God has provided salvation and man must comply with the terms of salvation.
2. God cannot save unless man accepts.

## **THE SOUL WINNER**

**Matthew 6 : 21 ; Romans 8 : 5**

## **INTRODUCTION :**

1. "He that wineth souls is wise." (Prov. 11 : 30).
2. Personal work is the most likely method to be used by the majority.



3. Think of good that could be done if all would do this kind of work.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### **I. Must save souls to be saved.**

1. Cannot go to heaven alone.
2. Must at least save one's own soul.

##### **II. If one is interested in his soul then he will be interested in others.**

##### **III. Requirements of a soul winner.**

1. Must be converted. (Acts 3 : 19 ; Rom. 6 : 17,18).
2. Must realize the value of a soul. (Matthew 16:26)
3. Must love souls. (1 Thess. 4 : 9).
4. Must work. (2 Thess. 2 : 17).
5. Must realize what will happen to the lost. (2 Thess. 1 : 7-9).

##### **IV. What soul winning will do for you.**

1. Keep you humble. (1 Cor. 9 : 16, 17).
2. Keep you from being selfish. (Rom. 10 : 1, 2).
3. Put a purpose in your life.
4. Keep you from back-sliding. (1 Cor. 15 : 58).
5. Will give you Christian joy. (Ps. 126 : 5, 6).
6. Will cause you to pray.
7. Will move you to study.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. Throw out the life line.
2. Help save the world.

## **A GOOD CONSCIENCE**

### **1 Peter 3 : 21**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. All of us have heard the saying that an individual should be guided by the dictates of his conscience.
2. "A good conscience is all that is necessary."
3. What role does the conscience play in one's life ?
  - a. It must have something to do with it.
  - b. The Bible talks about it.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. Definition of Conscience.**

1. "Inmost thought ; also, the internal recognition of right and wrong as regards to one's actions and motives ; the faculty which decides upon the moral quality of one's actions and motives, enjoining one to conformity with the moral law."
2. It is one's knowledge of good and evil and then when an act is done that violates that which he knows is right ; then it hurts him.

##### **II. Example of Paul.**

1. Even as a persecutor Paul obeyed his conscience. (Acts 26 : 9).
2. Kept a pure conscience always. (2 Tim. 1 : 3).
3. Was free from the blood of all men. (Acts 20 : 26, 27).
4. Ready to be offered. (2 Tim. 4 : 6).
5. Exhorted Timothy, and others, to keep a good conscience. (1 Tim. 1 : 18, 19).

##### **III. All have a standard.**

1. Must obey that standard or be hurt.

2. Not always right.

#### **IV. Conscience must be governed by word of God.**

1. Obtain knowledge of it.
2. Must abide by it to have a good conscience.
  - a. Obey the gospel. (1 Pet. 3 : 21).
  - b. Worship.
  - c. Morality.
  - d. Work.
3. To fail to obey God is dangerous.

#### **V. Conscience may be hardened.**

1. When one knows what the Bible teaches but he continues to act contrary to it then it sears his conscience. (1 Tim. 4 : 2).
2. This is the most dangerous state one could be in.
  - a. Cold blooded murderer.
  - b. Refuse to obey the gospel.
  - c. Won't repent.
3. Hard to be reached because he has become indifferent to the only thing that can reach him.

#### **VI. Some do not want to know any more lest they should have to answer to their conscience.**

1. Less they know the less they will have to do.
2. Don't want the truth preached lest their sins be pointed out and their consciences are bothered.
3. They had rather drift along.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Do you have a good conscience ?
2. Remember, you can have a good conscience only if it is governed by the word of God.

## **"NONE OF THESE THINGS MOVE ME"**

**Acts. 20 : 17-27 ; Psalms 1**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Must obey God.
2. To take a firm stand. (1 Cor. 15 : 58 ; Eph. 4 :14).
3. "I shall not be moved."
4. Need encouragement.
  - a. Find inspiration in the lives of others.
  - b. To help others.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Things that Failed to move Paul.**

1. Persecutions. (Acts 20 : 23).
2. Stoned at Lystra. (Acts 14 : 19).
3. Beaten in prison. (Acts 16 : 19-24).
4. Tears and pleas of brethren. (Acts 21).
5. Mobbed at Jerusalem. (Acts 21 : 27-40).
6. Lost work. (Gal. 4 : 11).
7. False brethren. (2 Cor. 11 : 26).
8. Severe criticism. (2 Cor. 10 : 10).
9. Failure of others. (Gal. 2 : 31).
10. Prisoner at Rome. (Acts 28 : 16-13).

#### **II. Others who were Unmoveable.**

1. Abraham.
2. Moses.
3. Joshua.
4. Joseph.
5. Daniel.
6. Three Hebrew children.
7. Job.

8. Stephen.

### **III. Reasons they could not be moved.**

1. They looked beyond.
2. Had real faith in God.
3. Built on a rock.

### **IV. Some things that move us.**

1. Wanting to please the people.
2. Friendship of world.
3. False brethren.
4. False doctrine.
5. Out of work.
6. Wife, husband, etc.
7. Money.

### **V. Some who Should be moved.**

1. These who are lost. (Acts. 22 : 16).
2. The erring. (Acts 8).

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Take your stand for the Lord.
2. Stand with the Lord always.

## **WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FAITHFUL**

### **Revelation 2 : 10**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Man needs Christ.
2. Christ needs man.

3. This is where faithfulness comes in.
4. The end is just as important as the beginning.

## **DISCUSSION :**

### **I. Examples of Faithfulness.**

1. Noah.
2. Abraham.
3. Moses.
4. Heroes of Faith. (Hebrews 11).

### **II. Exhortations to Faithfulness.**

1. Matthew 6 : 33.
2. 1 Corinthians 15 : 58.
3. Revelation 22 : 14.
4. Revelation 2 : 10.
5. James 1 : 12.

### **III. Works of Faithfulness.**

1. Worship.
2. A clean life.
3. Teaching others.

### **IV. Rewards of Faithfulness.**

1. A crown of life.
2. Heaven itself.
3. The Lord's blessings.
4. Contentment.
5. Spiritual blessings.
6. Fellowship.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. Each needs to examine his own life.

2. Are we as faithful as the Lord would have us be ?
3. What more can we do ?

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SOUL**

**Matthew 16 : 26**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. I often wonder if the majority realize they have a soul.
2. God gave us a body, but he also gave us a soul.
3. The emphasis is placed on the body when it should be placed on the soul.
4. Should be concerned about the physical but we should be much more concerned about the spiritual.

### **DISCUSSION :**

- I. The Soul Given by God. (Genesis 1 : 26, 27).**
- II. Man is the Crowning of God's Creation. (Genesis 2 : 7 ; 1 Corinthians 15 : 45).**
- III. The Soul is Eternal. (Matthew 19 : 28).**
- IV. The Soul is man's Most Valuable Possession. (Matthew 16 : 26).**
- V. The Soul Needs to be Saved. (Psalms 19 : 7 ; 1 Peter 1 : 22 ; James. 1 : 21).**
- VI. The Soul Will Spend Eternity Either in Heaven or Hell. (Matthew 25 : 46).**

**CONCLUSION :**

1. The Lord is interested in souls.
2. The scriptures say that 3000 souls were added. (Acts 2 : 41).
3. What are you doing about your soul ?

**"THE LORD'S PRAYER"****Matthew 6:9-13****INTRODUCTION :**

1. Christ taught various lessons on prayer.
2. Christ then gave the disciples a prayer of example.
3. Many have labeled this as the Lord's Prayer and end up in doing the very thing the Lord condemned—using repetition when praying.
4. Let's take a closer look.

**DISCUSSION :****I. Christ Taught After This Manner, Pray.**

1. He was not saying this was his prayer.
2. This was not necessarily to be the prayer of the disciples.
3. It cannot be the prayer of Christians today.

**II. Christ Mentioned the Various Things that Should be Brought Out in a Prayer.**

1. Our father—directed to God—in heaven—praising his name.
2. For the kingdom—it had not come then but it has now, so we couldn't pray this. (Hebrews 12:28).



3. For the Lord's will to be done—on earth as in heaven.
4. For daily needs—food, etc.
5. For forgiveness—as sins of others are forgiven.
6. For guidance—deliver us from temptation and evil.
7. For all belongs to God now and forever. Amen.

### **III. What Should be our Prayer ?**

1. Similar but different.
2. Can pray for the spread of the Lord's kingdom.
3. To pray in the name of Christ.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Christ goes on to talk more about prayer.
2. Must be a Christian and have a forgiving spirit to expect the Lord to hear our prayers.
3. Our prayers should come from us and not from habit.

## **HEAVEN**

**John 14:1-3; Revelation 22:14**  
**Revelation 2 : 10**

### **INTRODUCTION ;**

1. There is no place like home here on earth.
2. Heaven is the home of the soul.
3. The more we know about it then the more we will want to go there.
4. Must prepare to go to it.

**DISCUSSION :****I. What is Heaven ?**

1. A place prepared. (John 14:1-3).
2. A beautiful city. (Revelation 21,22).
3. A place of rest.
4. Home of the soul.
5. It is eternal.
6. It is in the future.

**II. Why we Should be Interested in it.**

1. Nothing is permanent here.
2. Material things do not satisfy.
3. Life is full of sorrows.
4. Made tired by responsibility and work.
5. Look forward to a better life.
6. Death is certain.
7. Judgment is coming.
8. Eternity is forever.

**III. Who Will be There ?**

1. God.
2. Christ.
3. Angels.
4. Righteous.
5. The kingdom of God.

**IV. Things not There.**

1. Flesh and blood.
2. Sin.
3. Wicked.
4. Sorrow.
5. Death.

## **V. How can we go There ?**

1. By wanting to go.
2. By obeying the gospel.
3. By living for the Lord.
4. By being faithful unto death. (Rev. 2:10).
5. In the mean time our name will be written in the book of life.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. Heaven is a real place.
2. Too many think of it only as a myth.
3. Must become serious about it and plan to go there.
4. Those who do not go there will go to hell.

## **BUILDING THE CHURCH TODAY**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. We know that the Lord's church was built almost two thousand years ago. (Acts 2).
2. But congregations still continue to be established the world over. (Luke 8:11).
3. Here in Delhi we are in the process of building a strong church.
4. Not a material building but a spiritual house.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. It Must be Built According to the Pattern. (Hebrews 9:23).**

1. Obedient members. (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:47).

2. Weekly worship. (John 4:24 ; Hebrews 10:25).
3. Christ is the head. (Colossians 1:18).
4. Preaching the gospel. (Matthew 28:19,20).
5. Prospects :
  - a. Growth in membership.
  - b. Elders and Deacons.
  - c. Support of preacher.

## **II. It Must be Built Spiritually strong.**

1. Word of God preached.
2. The members must be faithful.
3. Give more to carry on its own work.
4. Members to study and pray.
5. More faith and love.
6. Unity of believers.

## **III. Must Grow Physically.**

1. Grow in number.
2. Care for the needy.
3. Build meeting house.

## **IV. Must Grow in Work.**

1. To spread out to find the lost.
2. Each member to have a part.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. Must grow or die.
2. What will the church in Delhi be like in ten years ?
3. Its growth depends on you and me.

## **THE SPIRIT OF WORSHIP**

**John 4 : 24 ; 1 Corinthians 14 : 14, 15**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. It is the duty of each Christian to worship God each first day of the week. (Acts 2 : 24).
2. To worship God acceptably then this worship must be in spirit and in truth. (John 4 : 24).
3. It is very important that we worship according to the truth, but at this time we want to consider the spirit of worship.
4. One may worship according to the teachings of the Lord but if it is not done with the proper spirit then it is vain.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. What is worship ?**

1. It is praise, honor, glory, reverence that is paid to the Lord.
2. It is assembling to engage in those acts that God has commanded, and through which we submit to his will.
3. We do not come to pay respect to man, to honor man, to visit, to show off, but to pay homage to our creator.

#### **II. For this to be acceptable worship, it must be done with the proper spirit.**

1. To worship God in spirit is to worship God with the understanding. (1 Corinthians 14 : 14, 15).
2. To worship God in spirit means to do it humbly and sincerely. (Ephesians 4 : 23).

#### **III. Things that will kill the spirit of our worship.**

1. Getting to worship late.
2. Rushing through the meeting.

- a. Can't do that with work.
  - b. Can't do it with school.
  - c. It is not done with entertainment.
  - d. People who love the truth want to feast on it.
3. Going for the wrong motive. (Matthew 6).

#### **IV. Things that will improve the spirit of our worship.**

1. Live daily for Christ. (Luke 9 : 23).
2. Study God's word at home.
3. Pray often to the Lord.
4. Look forward to the Lord's day. (Hebrews 10:25).
5. Get your body and mind ready for worship.
  - a. Rest your body before attending worship.
  - b. Forget about your work and other problems.
6. Come to worship on time.
7. Come to worship God. (Philippians 3 : 3).
8. Be quite and reverent.
9. Slow down some in life.
10. Become involved in every phase of the worship.
11. Be happy in what you are doing.

#### **V. The fruit of spiritual worship.**

1. You'll enjoy worship.
2. It'll become a greater part of your life.
3. It'll make a better person of you.
4. Others will get more from it.
5. God will be glorified.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Let's try to make our worship more meaningful.
2. Let's get back to the spirit of worship.
3. Let's pour out our very souls to God.

4. Let's remember that Sunday is the Lord's Day—don't steal it from him.
5. No one is forcing you to attend worship but if you do attend then worship.

## **WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN**

### **1 Peter 4 : 16**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. There are so many ideas about being a Christian.
2. Some people try to be a Christian without ever wearing his name.
3. Some think they are Christians by only wearing his name.
4. Let us look into this question.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. What did it mean to those of New Testament times ?**

1. Stephen. (Acts 7).
2. Philip. (Acts 8).
3. Peter and John. (Acts 5).
4. Paul. (Acts 9).

##### **II. What does it mean to be a Christian today ?**

1. It means to believe in Christ.
2. It means to follow Christ.
3. It means to obey Christ
4. It means to be saved.
5. It means to be a member of the Lord's church.

6. It means to be in Christ.
7. It means to be a new creature.
8. It means to have Christ in you.
9. It means to wear the name of Christ.
10. It means to live for Christ.
11. It means to worship Christ.
12. It means to serve Christ.
13. It means to die for Christ.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. What does it mean to you ?
2. Don't you want to be this kind of Christian ?

### **PREACHERS AND PREACHING**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. We have a great responsibility.
2. We must not forget who we are and our mission.
3. As a preacher, I would like for us to make some observations.

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. Who we are. (Romans 3 : 23).**

1. We are human beings.
2. We are sinners.
3. We have need of salvation.
4. We are Christians.
5. We are preachers and teachers.
6. We must set a good example. (1 Timothy 4 : 12).



**II. The Lord's Command. (Matthew 28 : 19, 20 ; Mark 16 : 15).**

1. We are to take the gospel to others.
2. We are to preach the word. (2 Timothy 4 : 2).
3. We are not to serve man, but the Lord.
4. If we are with Christ, he is with us.

**III. With whom we are dealing. (Mark 16 : 15; Matthew 16 : 26).**

1. Self.
2. Family.
3. Human beings.
4. The world.
5. Souls.
6. Not just a job.

**IV. The message. (2 Timothy 4 : 2).**

1. The gospel.
  - a. Not to be ashamed. (Romans 1 : 16).
  - b. Not to add to it, etc. (Galatians 1 : 7-9).
2. The word of God.
3. Christ.
4. To preach all the truth.
5. To condemn sin.
6. With love.
7. Preach on needs :
  - a. God.
  - b. Christ.
  - c. Bible.
  - d. Moral living.

**V. The brevity of time. (James 4 : 13, 14).**

1. We must work while it is day.

2. The world needs the gospel now.
3. After death, it is too late.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. Do we measure up to the Lord's expectations ?
2. Are we delivering the message as the Lord intended ?
3. What difference will it make on us and the world ?

### THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

**John 19 : 13, 37**

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. Blood has always been held a sacred thing by God and man, in that there is life in the blood. (Heb. 10 : 4 ; 9 : 22).
2. Ever since the beginning of time man has been forbidden to eat blood. (Acts 15 : 20 ; Genesis 9 : 4 ; Deuteronomy 12 : 23).
3. When Christ died he gave his blood, which was his life, as a sacrifice.
4. We benefit from that sacrifice through the plan God has made.

#### DISCUSSION :

1. The law of Moses was blotted out by the Death of Christ and the shedding of his blood. (Heb. 9:16-18; Colossians 2:14; Hebrews 10:9, 10).
  1. The law could not take away sins.
  2. A new and better law took its place.

**II. God revealed his will through the New Testament and sealed it with Christ's Blood. (Hebrews 9 : 16-18).**

1. All inspired of God. (2 Timothy 3 : 16, 17).
2. A perfect law. (James 1 : 25).

**III. The Blood of Christ cleanses us from our sins. (Ephesians 1 : 7 ; Matthew 26 : 28).**

1. We learn how to reach the blood of Christ through studying that blood-sealed plan.
2. Then we contact the blood through obedience to the commands, and baptism is the last command. (Acts 22 : 16).
3. Through baptism and the washing of the blood, we receive spiritual life.

**IV. When we are washed in the blood we become a part of that blood-cleansed group called the church.**

1. The church was purchased by the blood of Christ. (Acts 20 : 28).
2. You can't become a member of the church without being cleansed through the process of baptism, and you can't be cleansed without becoming a member of the church.

**V. As members of the church each week we remember the blood that gave us life through partaking of the Lord's Supper. (Matthew 26 : 26-28).**

1. Through partaking of it we receive new life each week.
2. Through our actions we proclaim our faith in the power of the blood.

**VI. The Christian Remains in constant contact with the Blood of Christ as it blots out his daily sins.**

1. To do this the Christian must be faithful. (1 John 1 : 7).

2. There is a plan for the erring Christian too. (James 5 : 16).

### CONCLUSION :

1. It is through the blood of Christ that Christians will be presented pure and white before the judgment throne.
2. Truly, there is power in the blood.

## PREACH THE WORD

### 2 Timothy 4 : 2

### INTRODUCTION :

1. Preach.
  - a. Teach and communicate.
  - b. By life and word of mouth.
2. Word.
  - a. Word of God.
  - b. Truth.
  - c. Powerful.
  - d. Saves.

### DISCUSSION :

#### I. Who is to preach ?

1. All Christians. (Acts 8 : 4).
2. Preacher and teacher. (2 Timothy 4 : 2).

#### II. To whom are we to preach ?

1. To the world. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).
2. To the sinner.
3. To the erring.

4. To the church.

### **III. What are we to preach ?**

1. Not ourselves. (2 Corinthians 4 : 5).
2. Not to preach another gospel. (Galatians 1 : 7-9).
3. To preach the word. (2 Timothy 4 : 2).
4. To preach the gospel. (Acts 16 : 10).
5. To preach sound doctrine.
6. To preach Christ. (Acts 8).
7. To preach the resurrection. (Acts 17 : 18).
8. To preach the judgment to come.
9. To preach Christian living.

### **IV. Why are we to preach ?**

1. To reveal God's will.
2. To warn the erring.
3. To condemn sin.
4. To condemn evil doing.
5. To save.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. What kind of preacher are you ?
2. Do you practice what you preach ?
3. Preach and teach the truth only.

## **WHO IS SACRIFICING ?**

**Romans 12 : 1, 2**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The word sacrifice also means offering, giving, service, suffering, etc.

2. Man has always been known to sacrifice.
  - a. Among people of all religions.
  - b. The Bible teaches it.
3. Originally it involved offering something to God.
4. Kinds of sacrifices.
  - a. Animal (blood).
  - b. One tenth of all.
5. The purpose of sacrifices.
  - a. To please the Lord.
  - b. To avert disaster.
  - c. To obtain a blessing.
  - d. To show repentance.

## DISCUSSION

### I. Sacrifices before Christ.

1. Sacrifice of Cain and Abel. (Genesis 4 ; Hebrews 11 : 4).
2. Sacrifice of Isaac. (Genesis 22).
3. The tithe. (Malachi 3 : 8).
4. They could not take away sin. (Hebrews 10 : 4).

### II. Sacrifice of Christ.

1. Left his father to come to the earth.
2. Gave himself as a sacrifice for the sins of men. (Ephesians 5 : 2 ; Hebrews 10 : 12).
3. Possible to reject this sacrifice. (Hebrews 10 : 26).

### III. Sacrifice of the early church.

1. Members brought all of possessions and lay at Apostles feet. (Acts 2).
2. The church was persecuted and scattered abroad. (Acts 8).
3. First gave themselves to the Lord.

4. Peter and John were beaten. (Acts 5).
5. Stephen was stoned to death. (Acts 7).
6. Paul persecuted the church. (Acts 8, 9).
7. Paul's suffering for Christ.
8. All apostles but one died for Christ.
9. The church was victorious.

**IV. The kind of sacrificing the Lord wants today.**  
**(Usually defined as giving, service, persecution, and service).**

1. Must be willing to leave all to follow Christ. (Luke 9 : 23).
2. Must love Christ more than father and mother.
3. To love God and neighbor as self. (Matthew 22 : 27-39).
4. To serve and minister. (Matthew 20 : 26, 27).
5. To give of our means.
6. To praise the Lord with the fruits of our lips. (Hebrews 13 : 15).
7. To offer ourselves as a living sacrifice. (Romans 12 : 1).
8. To be faithful to the Lord.
9. All who live for the Lord shall suffer persecution. (2 Timothy 3 : 12).
10. To give up bad things and to do the things of the Lord.

**V. Who is sacrificing ?**

1. Who is really giving himself to the Lord ?
2. Who is putting the Lord first ?
3. What are we giving up to serve Christ ?
4. What are we willing to give Christ ?
5. How much work are we willing to do ?
6. How far are we willing to go ?

7. How much suffering would we be willing to do for Christ ?
8. How many of us would be willing to die for Christ ?

#### CONCLUSION :

1. The cause of Christ cannot grow and spread unless we are willing to pay the price.
2. We cannot grow as individuals unless we are willing to put something into it.

### WHAT CHRIST EXPECTS OF THIS CHURCH

#### **Ephesians 5 : 23-27**

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. The Lord built the church. (Matthew 16 : 18).
2. He died for it. (Ephesians 5 : 25).
3. He shed his blood for it. (Acts 20 : 28).
4. He is the saviour of it. (Ephesians 5 : 23).
5. He is the head of it. (Ephesians 1 : 22,23).
6. It is his body. (Colossians 1 : 18).
7. Therefore, he has a right to expect certain things of it.

#### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. Christ Expects this Church to be a Loving Church.**

1. God is love. (1 John 4:8).
2. The first great commandment is to love God. (Matthew 22 : 37).



3. To love our neighbor as self. (Matthew 22 : 39).
4. To love the church.

#### **I. Christ Expects this Church to be a pure Church.**

1. To be pure in heart. (Matthew 5 : 6).
2. To be pure in life. (1 Timothy 5 : 22).
3. To be pure in religion. (James 1 : 27).
4. The Lord is coming to receive a pure church. (Ephesians 5 : 27).

#### **III. Christ Expects this Church to be a Praying Church.**

1. To pray without ceasing. (1 Thessalonians 5 : 17).
2. To pray for one another. (James 5 : 16).
3. Prayer to be engaged in. (Acts 2 : 42).
4. Pray for more workers. (Luke 10 : 2).

#### **IV. Christ expects this Church to be a Giving Church.**

1. Give first of all yourselves. (2 Corinthians 8 : 5).
2. Give as you have prospered. (1 Corinthians 16 : 2; 2 Corinthians 9 : 6, 7).
3. Present your bodies as a living sacrifice. (Romans 12 : 1).
4. Forsake all to follow Christ. (Luke 9 : 23).
5. Give of time and all.

#### **V. Christ Expects this Church to be a working Church.**

1. To be a teaching church. (Mark 16 : 15, 16).
2. To help those who are in need. (Galatians 6 : 10).
3. To be a growing church. (3 Peter 3 : 18).

#### **VI. Christ wants this Church to be a Faithful Church.**

1. To be faithful in all things.

2. To be strong and stand firm always. (Ephesians 6 : 10).
3. To oppose the enemy.
4. The reward will be for the faithful only.

#### CONCLUSION :

1. What kind of church is this ?
2. Is there any room for improvement ?
3. Will the Lord recognize it as his when he returns ?

### THE BIBLE AS A GUIDE

#### James 1 : 25

#### INTRODUCTION :

1. Every religion is based on some book.
2. Every thing has a standard by which all else is judged.
3. The Bible is our guide.

#### DISCUSSION :

##### I. There is a God.

1. He has spoken. (Heb. 1 : 1,2).
2. He has spoken through his Son. (Matthew 17 : 5).
3. It has been recorded. (John 20 : 30,31).

##### II. God's Book is Inspired.

1. Holy men spake as moved by the Holy Ghost. (2 Pet. 1 : 20,21).
2. All scripture is given by inspiration. (2 Tim. 3 : 16, 17).

### **III. Must handle the Bible Right.**

1. To rightly divide it. (2 Tim. 2 : 15).
2. Not to add or subtract. (Rev. 22 : 18,19).
3. Not to substitute. (Gal. 1 : 7-9).
4. Must preach it. (2 Tim. 4 : 2).

### **IV. What it is.**

1. It is a pattern.
2. It is a guide.
3. It is a standard.
4. It is a mirror.
5. It is a judge.
6. It is a law.
7. It is spirit.

### **V. What it Reveals.**

1. Man.
2. Christ.
3. Salvation.
4. Church.
5. Worship.
6. The Christian life.
7. The Hereafter.

### **VI. What it Does.**

1. Furnishes man to every good work. (2 Tim. 3 : 16, 17).
2. Gives us all things that pertain to life and godliness. (2 Pet. 1 : 3).
3. It saves. (James 1 : 21).

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. The word will stand forever.
2. Let it be your guide forever.

## CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

**Acts 2 : 42 ; 1 John 1 : 7**

### INTRODUCTION :

1. Fellowship means friendship, acceptance, approval, sharing, helping, being of like faith, etc. Also brotherhood and participation. One we can support, unity of believers.
2. We sing the song, "Bless be the tie that binds." We are of like faith and therefore we are one in Christ and love to be together and work together.
3. The early Christians enjoyed this kind of fellowship.
4. Who can we fellowship ?

### DISCUSSION :

#### **I. Christians are to have Fellowship.**

1. With Christ. (Phil. 3 : 10 ; 1 Cor. 1 : 9 ; 1 John 1 : 6).
2. With God. (1 John 1 : 3).
3. With the Spirit. (Phil. 2 : 1).
4. With other Christians. (1 John 1 : 7).
5. In attending the assemblies. (Acts 2 : 42 ; Hebrews 10 : 25).
6. In preaching the gospel. (Phil. 1 : 5).
7. In ministering to the saints. (2 Cor. 8 : 4).
8. In every good work. (Acts 2 : 42).

#### **II. Those we Cannot Fellowship.**

1. Not to have fellowship with those who offered sacrifices to the Devil. (1 Cor. 10 : 20).
2. Not to have fellowship with unbelievers. (2 Cor. 6 : 14).

3. Not to have fellowship with unfruitful works of darkness. (Eph. 5 : 11).
4. Not to fellowship false teachers. (2 John 10, 11).
5. Not to fellowship false worship. (Matthew 15 : 19; Acts 17).
6. Not to give our money to support error.
7. Not to fellowship the unfaithful Christian.

## **II. The Unfaithful are to be Disfellowshipped.**

1. The Lord has commanded that unfaithful Christians should be disciplined.
2. Paul discussed the importance of disfellowshipping in 1 Cor. 5.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. Fellowship with God's people can be powerful.
2. To extend our fellowship to those in error would only weaken us, therefore we cannot do it.

## **BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED THROUGH FAITH**

**Eph. 2 : 8, 9**

## **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The Bible teaches that we are saved by several things.
2. Here it teaches by grace through faith.
3. Grace on God's part and faith on man's part.

## **DISCUSSION :**

### **I. Illustrated by Material Things.**

1. God's part.

- a. Gives air.
- b. Gives food.
- c. Gives water.
- 2. Man's part.
  - a. Must breathe.
  - b. Must eat.
  - c. Must drink.
- 3. By doing so man is blessed.
- 4. Failing to do so man suffers.

## **II. Spritual Lesson.**

- 1. God's part.
  - a. Sent Christ.
  - b. Provides salvation.
  - c. Offers blessings.
- 2. Man's part.
  - a. Must believe.
  - b. Must accept in obedience.
  - c. Must receive.
- 3. By faith man accepts the grace of God.
- 4. If he refuses, he cannot be saved.

## **III. Definition of Terms.**

- 1. Grace.
  - a. Unmerited favor.
  - b. Mercy.
  - c. God's part.
- 2. Faith.
  - a. Trust.
  - b. Belief, that which leads man to obey.
  - c. Man's part.

#### **IV. The Truth.**

1. Grace only will not save.
2. Faith only will not save.
3. But we are saved by grace through faith.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Do you believe the Lord enough to obey him?
2. Can't be saved by the law, goodness, etc., but only by doing God's will.

### **IN CHRIST**

**Gal. 3:26**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. The Bible talks about being in Christ.
2. What does this mean ?
3. Does it apply to you and me ?

#### **DISCUSSION :**

##### **I. What are the Blessings of Being in Christ ?**

1. There is forgiveness of sins in Christ. (Eph. 1:7).
2. Salvation is in Christ. (2 Cor. 5:17).
3. We are all one in Christ. (Gal. 3:28).
4. All spiritual blessings are in Christ. (Eph. 1:3).
5. Hope is in Christ. (1 Cor. 15:19).

##### **II. What Does it Mean to be in Christ ?**

1. It means that one is in the spiritual body of Christ.

2. It means that one is a member of the church.
3. It means that one a Christian.

### **III. How Does One Get into Christ ?**

1. By obeying the Lord. (Acts 2:47).
2. By being baptized into Christ. (Gal. 3.26,27; Rom. 6:3,4).

### **IV. What About Those Not in Christ ?**

1. They are lost.
2. They refuse to obey God.

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Are you in Christ ?
2. If not, enter him today.

## **MUSIC IN THE CHURCH**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. God's people are to worship each first day of the week. (Acts 20:7).
2. To worship in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24).
3. Singing is a part of that worship.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Two Kinds of Music.**

1. Mechanical.
2. Vocal.

#### **II. God Demands His People to use Vocal Music only.**

1. By command and example.



2. No where is mechanical music included.

### **III. Scriptures That Teach Singing.**

1. Acts 16:35.
2. Romans 15:9.
3. I Corinthians 14:15.
4. Ephesians 5:19.
5. Colossians 3:16.
6. James 5:13.
7. Hebrews 2:12,
8. Hebrews 13:15.

### **IV. The Nature of our Singing.**

1. Congregational.
2. Each individual participating.
3. Spiritual songs.
4. Music made in the heart.

### **V. The Purpose of our Singing.**

1. To praise God.
2. To teach others.
3. To inspire.

### **VI. Arguments for Mechanical Music Answered.**

1. Old Testament teaches it—But we are living under a new law.
2. Will have music in heaven—Must wait till we get there.
3. Nothing wrong with it—Then why didn't Christ command it?

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Let us learn to accept God's plan of doing things.
2. Can worship him only as we do his will.

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. To study the history of the church is to see the plan of God for the world.
2. It is also to discover the true church.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. The Church in the Past.**

1. In the mind of God. (Ephesians 1).
2. In prophecy. (Isaiah 2:2,3).
3. In promise. (Matthew 16:18).

#### **II. The Church in New Testament Times.**

1. Established by Christ. (Matthew 16:18).
2. In Jerusalem. (Acts 2).
3. The time was A.D. 33. (Acts 2).
4. Spread over the world. (Colossians 1:23).
4. Then it began to fall away. (1 Timothy 4:3).

#### **III. The Church in Apostasy.**

1. The Catholic church grew out of it.
2. The dark ages.

#### **IV. The Reformation.**

1. Luther and others sought to reform a corrupt Catholic Church in the 1500's.
2. Denominationalism came out of it.

#### **V. The Restoration.**

1. In the 1800's Thomas Campbell, Alexander Campbell, and others, led the fight against error and a return to the Bible plan.
2. They aimed at restoring pure New Testament Christianity.

3. Many saw the wisdom of such.

#### **VI. The Church Today.**

1. Now the Lord's church numbers over 3,000,000.
2. It is to be found around the world.
3. We are seeking to get people to return to pure New Testament Christianity.
4. We will succeed only if the people love God and his will enough to do that.

#### **VII. The Church of the Future.**

1. It will never be destroyed. (Daniel 2:44).
2. It will be victorious.
3. Christ will come one day for his church.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

1. Are you a member of the church of Christ ?
2. If not, then how can you claim to be a follower of Christ ?
3. Let me encourage you to return to the church of the Bible.

### **A PURPOSE IN LIFE**

#### **Colossians 3 : 17**

#### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. God created men and that was for a purpose—to glorify Him.
2. Our purpose in life should be that of obeying God and glorifying Him.
3. Solomon says that this is the conclusion of the whole matter. (Eccl. 12 : 13, 14).

**DISCUSSION :****I. Where one does not have a purpose or goal in life.**

1. One is miserable.
2. He is just drifting.

**II. The things of this world cannot satisfy.**

1. Money.
2. A job.
3. Position.
4. Travel.

**III. Christ is our example.**

1. Think about Mathuselah (He lived and died) and then Christ.
2. Anyone can live and die but life should be more than that.
3. Christ made his life count.
4. So did the Apostles.
5. So do Christians.

**IV. What are we doing to justify the Lord's placing us here ?**

1. Are we wasting our lives ?
2. Are we wasting our opportunities ?
3. Are we making it count ?

**V. Ask some questions.**

1. Where did I come from ?
2. What am I doing here ?
3. Where am I going ?

**VI. We should have a purpose in life.**

1. We should obey God.
2. We should live the Christian life.

3. We should try to share it with others.

## **VII. Those who have a purpose in life.**

1. Life becomes meaningful.
2. They live rather than exist.
3. They take pride in what they are doing.
4. They are happy.
5. They have hope.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. Be like Paul and be content in whatever state you are in.
2. The Lord can use you if you will let him.
3. Have a purpose in life.

## **HOW TO DIE**

### **Philippians 1 : 21**

## **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Much said about how to live, how to enjoy life, etc.
2. Question should be how to die.
3. Life is for the purpose of learning how to die.
4. The way we live will determine how we die.

## **DISCUSSION :**

### **I. Different deaths.**

1. Physical. (Hebrews 9 : 27 ; Eccl. 12 : 7).
2. Death to sin. (Romans 6 : 3, 4 ; John 3 : 14).
3. Spiritual. (James 1 : 14, 15).

4. Eternal. (Romans 6 : 23 ; Revelation 2 : 11).

## **II. What is death ?**

1. Separation of Spirit and Body. (Eccl. 12 : 7).
2. Body without the spirit is dead. (James 2 : 26).

## **III. Example of physical death.**

1. Abel murdered. (Genesis 4).
2. Achan stoned. (Joshua 7).
3. Christ crucified. (Matthew 26, 27 ; Romans 5 : 8).
4. Rich man. (Luke 12).
5. Rich man. (Luke 16).
6. Poor man. (Luke 16).
7. Ananias and Sapphira struck dead. (Acts 5).

## **IV. How do you want to die ?**

1. Facts about death.
  - a. Death coming. (Hebrews 9 : 27).
  - b. Life short. (James 4 : 13, 14).
  - c. After death, judgment. (2 Corinthians 5 : 10).
  - d. Spend eternity somewhere. (Matthew 25 : 46).
2. Facing reality.
  - a. Do you want to die as you are now ?
  - b. Do you want to die out of Christ ?
  - c. Do you want to die out of the church ?
  - d. Do you want to die as an unfaithful Christian ?
  - e. Do you want to die as an enemy of the Lord ?
  - f. Do you want to die as a faithful Christian ?

## **V. Prepare to die.**

1. Believe in the Lord and obey him.
2. Be faithful unto death. (Revelation 2 : 10).

**CONCLUSION :**

1. Not will you die, but how ?
2. Christ died for you—will you die for him ?

**JESUS CHRIST—THE SAME YESTERDAY,  
TODAY, AND FOREVER**

**Hebrews 13 : 8**

**INTRODUCTION :**

1. Jesus Christ is the theme.
2. Divinity of Christ taught.
3. The law changes but Christ is the same.

**DISCUSSION :****I. Jesus Christ of Yesterday.**

1. With God in the beginning. (Genesis 1 : 1 ; Genesis 1 : 26, 27).
2. Had part in the creation. (Genesis 1 : 26, 27 ; Hebrews 1 : 1, 2).
3. Became the word of God. (John 1 : 1, 2).
4. Jesus said, "Before Abraham was, I am."

**II. Jesus Christ of today.**

1. Many think only of Jesus of yesterday.
2. They think of him as being dead and in the tomb.
3. Some think of him only as a myth.
4. But Jesus arose and went to heaven.
5. He lives today.
6. He lives in heaven.

7. He lives on the earth—not in the flesh but in the spirit.
8. He lives through the church—it is his spiritual body. (Colossians 1 : 18 ; Ephesians 1 : 22, 23).
9. We are in Christ. (Romans 6 : 3, 4).
10. Christ is in us. (Galatians 2 : 20).
11. He lives through his name. (1 Peter 4 : 16 ; Romans 16 : 16).
12. He lives through the word. (John 14 : 6).
13. He lives through the Lord's Supper. (Matthew 26 : 26-28).
14. He lives through singing. (Colossians 3 : 16, 17).
15. He has promised to be with us in worship. (Matthew 18 : 20).
16. He has promised to be with us always. (Matthew 28 : 20).

### **III. Jesus Christ of tomorrow.**

1. "I will come again." (John 14 : 1-3).
2. He will come in the clouds. (1 Thessalonians 4 : 16, 17).
3. He will take vengeance on those who know not God and obey not the gospel. (2 Thessalonians 1 : 7-9).
4. He will come to receive his bride. (Ephesians 5:27).
5. The earth and all things will be destroyed.
6. He will judge the world. (2 Corinthians 5 : 10).
7. The righteous to live with him through eternity. (Matthew 25 : 46).

### **CONCLUSION :**

1. What does Jesus mean to you ?
2. If you will obey him today, you can live with him tomorrow.



## **THE VICTORIOUS KINGDOM**

**Daniel 2 : 44**

### **INTRODUCTION :**

1. Victory means success, winning out, overcoming.
2. We like to win in sports, succeed in business, and be victorious in war.
3. During the Pakistan-India War signs were seen throughout Karachi saying, "Victory is Ours". Radio, newspapers, etc., were saying the same. No doubt such was being emphasized in India as well.
4. During the Second World War we raised "Victory Gardens". The sign V for Victory was every where.
5. We want to think about spiritual victory and talk about The Victorious Kingdom.

### **DISCUSSION :**

#### **I. Daniel Prophesied that God would set up a Victorious Kingdom. (Daniel 2 : 44).**

1. It would never be destroyed.
2. But it would stand forever.
3. Earthly kingdoms had come and gone but this one would go on through time and eternity.

#### **II. Christ Promised to Build it in Spite of his Death. (Matthew 16 : 18).**

1. Christ was going to die, be buried, and resurrected, but the church would be built on schedule.
2. It would be built on a rock, a sure foundation, to insure its permanence.

#### **III. The Kingdom would come with Power. (Mark 9 : 1).**

1. Christ was going away, but he would send the Holy Spirit, to guide the Apostles.

2. The Lord was making sure that the kingdom had a perfect beginning.

#### **IV. The Church had a Victorious Beginning. (Acts. 2).**

1. As promised.
2. Holy Spirit came.
3. There was a great sermon to a great audience.
4. There was a great response.

#### **V. The Church Spread from the Beginning. (Acts 2 ; 8).**

1. Many nations were represented on the day of Pentecost to hear the gospel.
2. No doubt many of them obeyed and took the gospel to their own people.
3. There was a great persecution and the Christians were scattered abroad but went everywhere preaching the word.
4. The Lord had commanded that the gospel should be preached in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth. (Acts 1 : 8 ; Acts 2 ; Acts 8 ; Colossians 1 : 23). This plan was carried out.
5. Paul went on three missionary journeys and preached to the poor, to the rich, out of prison, in prison, etc.
6. The church was successful in carrying out the great commission. (Mark 16 : 15,16).

#### **VI. There was a Great Persecution. (Revelation).**

1. Many Christians were killed and some perhaps had begun to wonder what the end would be.
2. So John wrote :
  - a. God was still on the throne.
  - b. Those martyred would not lose their reward.

- c. The kingdom would be victorious in the end.

## **VII. The Kingdom Today.**

1. The same kingdom still exists.
2. Have the same promises and assurances.
3. The Lord has promised to be with us. (Matthew 28 : 20).
4. We are on the winning side if we are members of the Lord's kingdom and are faithful to him.
5. Should therefore not be ashamed of the Lord or his kingdom regardless of size or what have you.
6. If you are not in the Lord's church then you are on the losing side.

## **CONCLUSION :**

1. How wonderful it is to be a member of such a kingdom.
2. We cannot lose but will enjoy victory with Christ.