

SERMON OUTLINES THAT LIVE

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INTRODUCTION

The message of these outlines is that which is found in the Bible. Man is in great need of it today and that is why we are presenting *Sermon Outlines with a Message*. We want you to know it and to be prepared to give it to others.

Please study this material carefully along with your Bible. Be sure that it is the truth before you pass it on to others. But if you study it, learn it well, and find it is according to God's will, surely you would not deprive anyone from having it.

Remember that God's message to you is that you should go and teach others. It is hoped that this book will in some measure help you to do that.

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WHAT MUST A SINNER DO TO BE SAVED?

Acts 2

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible clearly reveals what the sinner must do in order to be saved.
 - a. All must realize that they have sinned and need to obey God.
 - b. All must obey the same gospel in order to be saved.
2. This study in the main will deal with the first principles of the gospel.
3. The question under consideration implies that one must do something to be saved and that is exactly right.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Sinner Must Hear The Gospel Of Christ.

1. Faith comes by hearing the will of God. (Rom. 10:17).
2. After one has heard the truth then he is in a position to obey it. (Acts 8).

B. The Sinner Must Obey the Commands Of The Gospel.

1. He must believe in Christ. (John 14:1).
2. He must repent of his sins. (Lk. 13:5).
3. He must confess Christ before men. (Matt. 10:32).
4. He must be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38).

C. The Sinner Must Become A Member Of The Lord's Church.

1. Through obedience one is saved. (Mk. 16:16).

2. The saved are added to the church. (Acts 2:47).
3. One must be a member of the church to be saved. (Eph. 5:23).
4. The Lord will return for his church. (Eph. 5:27).

D. The Sinner Must Wear The Name Of Christ.

1. To obey the gospel is to become a child of God. (Gal. 3:27).
2. As a child of God one is to wear the name of Christ. (1 Pet. 4:16).
3. Salvation is in the name of Christ. (Acts 4:12).

E. The Sinner Must Accept The Bible Way.

1. Only the gospel of Christ will save. (Mk. 16:15, 16).
2. If one accepts another gospel then he will be lost. (Gal. 1:7 — 9).
3. The Lord will punish those who fail to obey his will. (2 Thess. 1:7 — 9).

F. The Sinner Must Follow The Lord.

1. Christ is the one and only way. (John 14:6).
2. Must walk in the steps of Christ. (1 Per. 2:21).

CONCLUSION:

1. There are many ways of emphasizing the importance of obeying the Lord.
2. There are also a number of examples to be found in the book of Acts.
3. The main thing is to follow the safe course with respect to these matters and all will be well with your soul.

WHAT MUST A CHRISTIAN DO TO BE SAVED?

INTRODUCTION:

1. The question under consideration has to do with one's eternal salvation.
2. The particular query suggests:
 - a. It is not enough to live a good moral life.
 - b. It is not enough to read the Bible.
 - c. It is not enough to study the Bible.
 - d. It is not enough to obey the gospel.
 - e. It is not enough to be a Christian.
 - f. It is not enough to be a church member.
3. After one becomes a Christian then he must do something in order to be saved.

DISCUSSION:

- A. The Christian Must Attend The Assemblies. (Hebs. 10:25).**
 1. One could hardly serve God and fail to worship him..
 2. To worship God in spirit and in truth.
 3. The assemblies are to be based on the word of God.
- B. The Christian Must Work Daily For The Lord. (1 Cor. 15:58).**
 1. One cannot be a Christian and do nothing.
 2. Each one is to work out his salvation.
 3. To be justified by doing the work of God.
- C. The Christian Must Teach God's Word. (Matt. 28:19).**
 1. This is another way of saying that he is to be a soul winner.
 2. The word of God is to be taught by word and by deed.
 3. The truth must be taught if souls are to be made free.

- D. The Christians Must Be An Example. (1 Tim. 4:12).**
1. To let his light shine before men.
 2. God is to receive all the glory.
 3. This is a fine medium of teaching the will of the Lord.
- E. The Christian Must Do All In The Name Of The Lord. (Cor. 3:17).**
1. This includes what one says or does.
 2. Through such the Lord will be glorified.
 3. To do this he must ever follow the will of God.
- F. The Christian Must Be Faithful To The Lord. (Rev. 2:10).**
1. This means that one must be faithful unto death.
 2. Those who overcome will receive a crown of righteousness.
 3. To obey the Lord's commands is but to prepare one's self for Heaven.

CONCLUSION:

1. Faithful will be rewarded.
2. Remember two things:
 - a. One must obey the gospel to be saved from his alien sins.
 - b. One must obey the will of God to be eternally saved as a Christian.
3. Don't just talk about these matters but do something about them.
4. Obey the gospel but don't stop there — keep going until you enter the portals of Heaven itself.

WHAT MUST THE ERRING CHRISTIAN DO TO BE SAVED?

James 5:16

INTRODUCTION:

1. One must obey the gospel of Christ in order to be saved.
2. After one has obeyed the first principles it is possible to fall away.
3. In such a case one becomes an erring child of God.
4. Thus, we come to the important question before us.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Erring Christian Must Repent Of His Sins.

1. Since he has sinned then he must repent of them.
2. The Lord would have all people to repent of their sins.
3. He must repent of his sins to live the Christian life.

B. The Erring Christian Must Confess His Faults.

1. If one is sincere about his salvation then he will do this.
2. That is, one will acknowledge even publicly that he has sinned.
3. Such prepares one to obtain forgiveness.

C. The Erring Christian Must Ask Forgiveness.

1. Yes, he must be humble enough to do this very thing.
2. To ask the church for forgiveness, and above all, he must ask the Lord for the same.
3. In such a case both are to extend forgiveness.

D. The Erring Christian Must Follow The Bible Plan.

1. To obey the Lord in part, but to fail in the rest, would mean failure.
2. The Lord has revealed a plan for the erring Christian to follow and it must be followed.

3. This is the only way that one can obtain forgiveness.

E. The Erring Christian Must Become A Follower Of Christ.

1. One cannot follow Christ and at the same time live a sinful life.
2. It takes obedience to the Lord then in order to make a righteous man out of an individual.
3. The Lord will lead the righteous home to glory to ever live with him.

CONCLUSION:

1. There are Bible examples dealing with this subject.
 - a. The prodigal son. (Lk. 14).
 - b. Simon the sorcerer. (Acts 8).
2. If you are an erring Christian then take heed before it is too late.
3. The Lord would have all to be saved and to come unto a knowledge of the truth.

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

2 Tim. 3:16, 17

INTRODUCTION:

1. Many answers have been given to this all important question.
2. The Catholics, as well as others, say that they are responsible for the Bible.
3. The important question is: Is the Bible from man or from God?

DISCUSSION:

A. Some People Who Did Not Write The Bible.

1. The infidel. (Ps. 14:1).
2. The modernist. (Matt. 1:21).
3. The denominationalist. (Matt. 15:9).
4. The Catholic. (Col. 1:18).
5. The universalist. (Matt. 25:46).
6. The worldly. (1 John 2:15, 17).
7. The moralist. (2 Pet. 1:21).

B. Those Who Wrote The Bible.

1. Old Testament men of God. (2 Pet. 1:21).
 - a. Moses.
 - b. David.
 - c. Solomon.
 - d. Isaiah.
 - e. And many others.
2. New Testament men of God. (John 16:13).
 - a. Paul.
 - b. Peter.
 - c. John.
 - d. Luke.
 - e. And others,

C. The Bible.

1. It is inspired of God.
2. It is the truth.
3. It reveals the place of salvation.
4. It answers man's every problem.

CONCLUSION:

1. All should believe the Bible.
2. Furthermore, all should obey the Word of God.
3. The Bible is a road map and will lead one to Heaven.

SOME THINGS THAT GOD CAN DO

INTRODUCTION:

1. Have you ever thought about what God can do?
2. We must understand that God is all powerful.
3. To think on this subject should help us all.

DISCUSSION:

- A. God Can See. (Jonah 3:10).**
1. Has the power to see all.
 2. He knows our very works.
 3. He also knows our hearts.
- B. God Can Hear. (1 John 5:14).**
1. He will not hear the sinner.
 2. He will hear the Christian's prayer.
- C. God Can Speak. (Heb. 1:1, 2).**
1. He does not speak in an audible way.
 2. He does not speak in a miraculous way.
 3. He speaks through his Son.
 4. He speaks through the word.
- D. God Can Feel. (Heb. 4:15).**
1. Christ could feel for us.
 2. God can do likewise.
 3. He knows our needs, etc.
- E. God Can Love. (John 3:16).**
1. He gave his Son to prove it.
 2. He is love.
 3. He commends his love toward us.
- F. God Can Hate. (Ps. 5:5).**

1. He hates all sin.
2. He hates those who do iniquity.

G. God Can Make A Way Of Escape. (1 Cor. 10:13).

1. He can deliver one from temptation.
2. He can help one remain faithful.

H. God Can Save. (Eph. 2:8, 9).

1. He presented the scheme of redemption.
2. It takes the grace of God to save.

I. God Can Bless. (Eph. 1:3).

1. He can bless materially speaking.
2. He can bless in a spiritual manner.

J. God Can Give Hope. (Tit. 1:2).

1. He will raise all from the dead.
2. He has promised eternal life.

CONCLUSION:

1. God can do all of these things and many others.
2. Such should strengthen the faith of all.
3. Remember to put God first lest one day you regret it.

THE COMING OF THE DEVIL

Lk. 8:12

INTRODUCTION:

1. We usually think about the coming of Christ but forget about the Devil in this relation.

2. The Bible has more to say on this subject than of the coming of Christ.
3. The purpose of the Devil's coming:
 - a. To tempt all.
 - b. The deceive honest souls.
 - c. To keep man from being saved.
4. A warning concerning the Devil's appearance should keep us on the alert.
5. It is possible to overthrow the Devil and his will.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Devil's Appearance.

1. A serpent. (Gen. 3:1 — 13).
2. As a roaring lion. (1 Pet. 5:8).
3. An angel of light. (2 Cor. 11:14).

B. The Coming Of The Devil.

1. Bible days.
 - a. The Devil came of Eve. (Gen. 1:1 — 13).
 - b. The Devil came to Cain. (Gen. 4:1 — 14).
 - c. The Devil came to the Children of Israel. (1 Cor. 10:1 — 12).
 - d. The Devil came to Christ. (Matt. 4:1 — 11).
 - e. The Devil came to Judas. (Matt. 26:14 — 16).
 - f. The Devil came to Peter. (Matt. 27:69 — 75).
 - g. The Devil came to Ananias and Saphira. (Acts 5:1 — 11).
 - h. The Devil came to Saul. (Acts 9:1, 2).
 - i. The Devil came to Demas. (2 Tim. 4:10).
2. Present days.
 - a. The Devil comes to the sinner.
 - (1) To keep him from obeying the gospel.
 - (2) To keep him away from the church.
 - b. The Devil comes to the erring Christian.
 - (1) To tell him that he is alright where he is.

- (2) To tell him that he is as good as the other fellow.
- c. The Devil comes to the Christian.
 - (1) To try to get him back into the world.
 - (2) To keep him away from the assemblies.
 - (3) To keep him fruitless.

C. The Manner In Which To Deal With The Devil.

1. Reject him altogether. (James 4:7).
2. Put God first in everything. (Matt. 6:33).

CONCLUSION:

1. Must overcome every temptation. (James 1:12).
2. The Lord has promised to make a way of escape for us. (1 Cor. 10:13).
3. In all things be strong in the Lord and the power of his might. (Eph. 6:10).

SACRIFICIAL LIVING

Rom. 12:1, 2

INTRODUCTION:

1. To sacrifice is to give even to the extent of loss.
2. The Christian is expected to sacrifice for the Lord's cause.
3. Anyone that is worth living for is worth sacrificing for.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Present Status.

1. Many Christians are not giving let alone sacrificing.
 - a. Not having the time to serve the Lord.
 - b. Failing to give as prospered.

2. Because many are failing then Christianity as a whole is having to suffer.
 - a. Insufficient funds to preach the word.
 - b. Numerous souls are drifting away.
3. On the other hand, there are still those who are willing to put the Lord first.
 - a. Willing to give even to the extent of sacrifice.
 - b. Such people are keeping the Lord's work going.

B. Some Who Have Sacrificed.

1. God gave his Son. (John 3:16, 17).
2. Christ gave his life. (Rom. 5:8).
3. The apostles gave their all. (Matt. 10:1 — 15).
 - a. During the limited commission.
 - b. Under the great commission.
4. The early church. (Acts 2:41 — 47).
5. The church at Macedonia. (2 Cor. 8:1 — 5).

C. Christians Must Be Sacrificial Now.

1. Sacrificial in living. (Rom. 12:1, 2).
2. Sacrificial in giving. (Mk. 12:41 — 44).
3. Sacrificial with time. (Lk. 9:23).
4. Sacrificial with energy. (Matt. 6:33).
5. Sacrificial in spirit. (Matt. 5:5).

CONCLUSION:

1. Too many do not sacrifice and yet brag about the little that they do.
 - a. Evidently they are trying to leave the impression that they have sacrificed.
 - b. On the other hand they may be like Ananias and Sapphira.
 - c. And yet they may have sacrificed considering the manner in which they gave.
2. Those who sacrifice according to the will of God will be

- blessed for it.
3. If one follows the Lord's will then he will sacrifice gladly because he loves to.
 4. It is not hard to sacrifice for a worthy cause — the Lord's cause.

FALSE DOCTRINES

Mk. 7:7

INTRODUCTION:

1. There are many false doctrines.
2. All need to be on guard against such doctrines.
3. Those who accept false doctrines will be lost.
4. Considering these things then we need to meditate seriously on this subject.

DISCUSSION:

A. What Is Doctrine?

1. Doctrine has to do with those things that are taught.
2. It further pertains to a principle or a group of principles.
3. Many think of it as that which has to do with faith.
4. True doctrine has to do with what the Bible teaches.

B. What Is False Doctrine?

1. A doctrine that is not to be found in God's word is said to be a false doctrine.
2. That is, if a doctrine cannot be backed up by the word of God then it is the Devil's doctrine.
3. Furthermore, a false doctrine is nothing more than an untruth or a lie.

C. What Are These Doctrines Called Generally Speaking?

1. False doctrine.

2. Man-made doctrine.
3. The Devil's doctrine.

D. What Are Some Of These Doctrines Specifically Speaking?

1. Faith only doctrine. (James 2:24).
2. The doctrine that the church is not necessary. (Matt. 16:18).
3. The doctrine of grace only. (Eph. 2:8, 9).
4. The doctrine of mechanical instrumental music in worship. (Eph. 5:16).
5. The doctrine of worshipping as you please. (John 4:24).
6. The doctrine of attending the assemblies at will. (Heb. 10:25).
7. The doctrine that an individual should enjoy himself. (James 4:4).
8. The doctrine that all are going to be saved. (Matt. 25:46).
9. The doctrine that there will be no hell. (2 Thess. 1:7 — 9).

E. What About Bible Doctrine?

1. The apostles' doctrine. (Acts 2:42).
2. The doctrine of Jesus Christ. (2 John 9).
3. Must obey the form of doctrine. (Rom. 6:17).
4. Must abide in sound doctrine. (1 Tim. 1:10).).
5. Must preach this doctrine. (2 Tim. 4:2).

F. What Must Be Done With False Doctrines?

1. All such doctrines are to be rejected. (Col. 2:22 — 22).
2. Not to be carried away by every wind of doctrine. (Eph. 4:14).

CONCLUSION:

1. Some preachers of the religious world refuse to preach on doctrinal subjects.
 - a. Those that are controversial.

- b. Afraid of the outcome.
- 2. But to preach the Bible is but to preach doctrine — the doctrine of Christ.
- 3. We should not be ashamed of the Lord's doctrine, but at the same time, do all that is possible to condemn man-made doctrines.

SIN

INTRODUCTION:

- 1. People don't like to talk about sin, especially their sin.
- 2. But they must be made aware of it and its consequences if they are to rid themselves of it.
- 3. A person must be convinced of his disease before he will take the remedy.

DISCUSSION:

A. What Is Sin?

- 1. Sin is the transgression of the law. (1 John 3:4).
- 2. All unrighteousness is sin. (1 John 3:17).
- 3. Sin is of the devil. (1 John 3:8),
- 4. When we know to do good but we do not then it is sin. (James 4:17).
- 5. Whatsoever is not of faith is sin. (Romans 14:23).

B. What Are The Consequences Of Sin?

- 1. Servants of sin. (Romans 6:20; John 8:34).
- 2. Fornication is sin against your own body. (1 Corinthians 6:18).
- 3. Sin against the brethren is a sin against Christ. (1 Corinthians 8:12).
- 4. To fail to believe in Christ is to die in your sins. (John 8:24).
- 5. Whatsoever we sow, we shall reap. (Galatians 6:7, 8).
- 6. The wages of sin is death. (Romans 6:23).

C. Who Has Sin?

1. All have sinned. (Romans 3:23).
2. There is none righteous. (Romans 3:10).
3. The whole world lieth in wickedness. (1 John 5:19).
4. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar. (1 John 1:8, 10).
5. Suppose you sinned only once a day — that would be 365 sins in one year, 3,065 in 10 years, etc. Imagine going before a court with that type of record.

D. How Can We Rid Ourselves Of Sin?

1. Repent and be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38).
2. Repent and be converted that sins may be blotted out. (Acts 2:38).
3. Wash away your sins. (Acts 22:16).
4. The forgiveness of sins through the blood of Christ. (Ephesians 1:7).
5. The blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:7).

CONCLUSION:

1. There are so many areas of sin that we could study.
2. But we need to be aware of sin so we will repent and obey God.

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEW YEAR

INTRODUCTION:

1. The beginning of a new year should be the time of new beginnings.
2. Many make resolutions and such would be a fine pattern

for all to follow.

- a. Should make good resolutions.
 - b. Then they should be kept.
3. The Christian should make plans for the new year and then follow them up.
 4. A planned year will bring forth desired results.

DISCUSSION:

A. Resolutions In General.

1. The sinner should resolve to obey the gospel. (Mk. 16: 15, 16).
2. The erring Christian should resolve to repent of his sins. (James 5:16).
3. The Christian should resolve to do more for the Lord. (James 1:27).

B. Resolutions That Should Characterize The Christian.

1. To study the Bible daily. (2 Tim. 2:15).
2. To pray daily. (Lk. 18:1).
3. To attend every service. (Heb. 10:25).
4. To visit the sick. (James 1:27).
5. To help the poor. (James 2:5).
6. To preach the gospel. (2 Tim. 4:2).
7. To be a good example. (Matt. 5:16).
8. To be faithful to the Lord. (James 1:12).

C. Resolutions That Should Characterize The Church.

1. To preach the gospel. (Mk. 16:15, 16).
2. To help the needy. (James 2:5).
3. To influence the community. (Acts. 19:23).
4. To better the services. (Matt. 25:14 — 30).
5. To work for unity. (John 17:20).
6. To put every member to work. (Acts 2:42).

CONCLUSION:

1. The Lord will bless those who carry out his will.
2. Make your resolutions but don't break them.
3. Encourage others to resolve to do better.

THE PURPOSE OF PREACHING

2 Tim. 4:2

INTRODUCTION:

1. Preaching is that of declaring the gospel or making a certain thing or things known.
2. The kind of preaching that is under consideration is that of a public nature in the main.
3. The purpose of this lesson is to learn the scriptural purpose of preaching.

DISCUSSION:

A. Why Some Preach.

1. To have an occupation.
2. For the money that's in it.
3. In order to entertain.
4. To express their speaking ability.
5. For the sake of being a leader.
6. In order to be honored.
7. To get around certain obstacles.
8. That the truth might be made known.

B. The Purpose Of Scriptural Preaching.

1. To declare good news. (1 Co. 15:1 — 4).
2. To present the truth. (John 8:32).
3. To inform the listener. (Matt. 28:19, 20).

4. To edify the hearer. (1 Thess. 5:11).
5. To convert the lost. (Mk. 16:15, 16).
6. To rebuke the erring. (2 Tim. 4:2).
7. To condemn error. (James 5:19, 20).
8. To produce faith. (Rom. 10:17).

C. Scriptural Preaching.

1. It requires one to be a Christian.
2. One must have the right motive.
3. The truth must be declared.

CONCLUSION:

1. Scriptural preaching will bring forth scriptural results.
2. There are too many false preachers and not enough gospel preachers.
3. Each soul should dedicate himself to that of carrying forth the good news.

**“IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE
THAN TO RECEIVE”**

Acts 20:35

INTRODUCTION:

1. This is a great lesson that all must learn in order to be what the Lord would have his people to be.
2. Giving is a necessity when it comes to serving the Lord.
3. Not only are individuals to give but the church as a whole is expected to give.

DISCUSSION:

A. An Explanation Of The Text.

1. To give something is to present it without expecting to receive anything in return.
2. For a person to give in the right spirit then he will be blessed from the very fact that he has given.
3. To be blessed in a spiritual sense is the greatest blessing of all.

B. Some Who Practiced This.

1. God. (John 3:16, 17).
2. Christ. (Rom. 5:8).
3. The poor widow. (Mk. 12:41 — 44).
4. The apostles. (Matt. 10:7, 8).
5. The early church. (Acts 2:41 — 47).

C. Some Who Are To Give In Our Time.

1. The individual Christian. (1 or. 16:2).
2. The church. (2 Cor. 8:1 — 5).

D. Truths In Relation To Giving.

1. Every Christian is to give. (1 Cor. 16:2).
 - a. On the first day of the week.
 - b. All are to give.
 - c. To lay by in store.
 - d. To give as prospered.
 - e. That there be no gatherings.
2. The law of sowing and reaping. (2 Cor. 9:6).
 - a. To sow sparingly is but to reap sparingly.
 - b. To sow bountifully is but to reap bountifully.
3. The manner in which one is to give (2 cor. 9:7).
 - a. To give as he has purposed in his heart.
 - b. The Christian is not to give grudgingly.
 - c. Neither is the Christian to give of necessity.
 - d. The Christian is to give cheerfully.

E. That Which Is To Be Given

1. The soul. (Matt. 16:26).
2. The body. (Rom. 12:1, 12).
3. One's time. (Lk. 9:23).
4. One's material gains. (1 Cor. 16:2).

F. The Purpose Of Giving.

1. That the giver might be saved.
2. That the church might be able to do its work.
3. That souls might be saved.

G. The Results Of Giving.

1. The giver will be blessed.
2. The church will be strengthened.
3. Souls will be saved.

CONCLUSION:

1. Man is selfish — such is recognized by all.
 - a. That's the reason the highway department puts up the various signs: "The life you save may be your own."
 - b. That's the reason the various businesses stress the individual in advertising new clothes, etc., : "You want the best."
2. Man is forgetful — such is seen on every hand.
 - a. He puts in so many hours for so much money and then goes out and wastes his money.
 - b. For a person to do that is the same as throwing away so many hours or part of one's life on a little pleasure or a few luxuries.
3. Man has a great need — that of putting God first.
 - a. This should be characteristic of man in every phase of life.
 - b. For one to put God first then he is assuring himself of a future.
 - c. Those who put God first will be blessed in many many ways.

“WHOSOEVER SHALL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED”

Acts 2:21; Rom. 10

INTRODUCTION:

1. There are many deceived people and a great host of those people are deceived on this subject.
2. It is our purpose to examine this theme and get to the bottom of it.
3. Only the truth will be accepted on this matter.

DISCUSSION:

A. Some Opinions On This Subject.

1. Many believe that this teaches prayers only.
2. Others think that this upholds death bed repentance.
3. There are others who believe that this means that one can be saved off some where to himself.
4. And finally, there are those who uphold the idea that obedience is related to that of calling on the Lord.

B. Some Who Called On The Name Of The Lord.

1. The Pentecostians. (Acts 2).
2. Saul. (Acts 22:16).
3. All who became Christians. (Acts 9, 16).

C. What They Did When They Called On The Lord.

1. They called on the Lord in obedience.
2. That is, they obeyed the gospel of Christ.
3. Such people repented and were baptized.
4. As a result they were saved and added to the church.

D. The Meaning Of The Statement.

1. It means that one must obey the Lord in order to call on him.

2. On obedience within itself is that of calling on the name of the Lord.
3. For one to obey the Lord then he is merely asking the Lord to save him.
4. Thus, upon obedience then one is in position to call upon the name of the Lord through the medium of prayer.

E. The Territory That The Statement Covers.

1. "Whosoever" — All may call on the Lord's name. (Matt. 11:28 — 30).
2. "The name of the Lord" — One must recognize the Lord's name in that there is salvation in it. (Acts 4:12).
3. "Shall be saved" — All that meet the Lord's conditions of the pardon may be saved (Mk. 16:16).

F. Harmony Of The Truth.

1. The Bible does not tell one to be baptized to be saved and another to pray through to be saved.
2. If you will study the context of each passage of scripture and will but rightly divide the word then you will find that the Lord, and in the same way, in order to be saved.
3. Hence, all must obey the Lord, and in the same way, in order to be saved.

CONCLUSION:

1. Men of God of old predicted that the time would come when all that would call on the name of the Lord would be saved.
2. That time came and is still in existence, and therefore, we should thank God that it is.
3. Hear the will of the Lord and call upon him through obedience and he will save your soul.

“IF THE RIGHTEOUS SCARCELY BE SAVED”

1 Pet. 4:17, 18

INTRODUCTION:

1. The judgment is coming. (Heb. 9:27).
2. Each man will be judged according to his works. (2 cor. 5:10).
3. Only the righteous will be saved. (1 Pet. 4:18).

DISCUSSION:

A. The Point: If The Righteous Shall Scarcely Be Saved Then What Will Happen To:

1. The modernist?
2. The denominationalist?
3. The moralist?
4. The worldly?
5. The erring Christian?
6. The sinner?
7. The ungodly?

B. The Conclusion: The Sinner:

1. Will be lost.
2. Will be cast into the lake of fire.
3. Will be punished throughout eternity.

C. Therefore: Unless You Want To Be Lost Then You Had Better:

1. Obey the gospel of Christ.
2. Become a member of the church.
3. Become a Christian.
4. Live a righteous life.
5. Live faithful to God.

D. Listen: The Righteous Must:

1. Keep the Lord's commandments.
2. Worship God according to the scripture.
3. Practice pure religion.
4. Work continually for the Lord.

E. And Then What?

1. The righteous will scarcely be saved.
2. That is, the righteous will barely make it in.
3. After one does all that he can do then it will still take the grace of God to save him.
4. A person cannot afford to play with religion but must put his whole soul into it.

CONCLUSION:

1. Do not waste your time and the Lord's too.
2. If you want to be saved then act like it.
3. Serve God to the best of your ability and the Lord will take care of you.

THE LORD'S NAME — A STRONG TOWER

Prov. 18:14

INTRODUCTION:

1. Some truths to be found in the text.
 - a. The name of the Lord.
 1. A great name.
 2. Christ himself.
 - b. A strong tower.
 1. A place of safety.
 2. A mighty fortress.
 - c. The righteous runneth into it.

1. The wise will accept the Lord.
2. The righteous will put their trust in him.
- d. The righteous are safe there.
 1. Safe from the Devil and his works.
 1. Free from the woes and troubles of life.
2. This is a beautiful verse of scripture.
 - a. A principle that has ever been true.
 - b. Let's continue the lesson by giving further thought to it.

DISCUSSION:

A. Those Who Are Interested In The Lord.

1. The individual who is lost.
2. That soul who wants to live a righteous life.
3. The one that is troubled at heart.
4. The person that has obeyed God.
5. The individual who wants to go to heaven.

B. Some Blessings To Be Found Within The Lord.

1. Rest for the soul. (Matt. 11:28 — 30).
2. Salvation. (Mk. 16:16).
3. A peace of mind. (Lk. 12:29 — 31).
4. The Lord's presence. (Matt. 9:20).
5. Strength in time of need. (Matt. 6:34).
6. The privilege of prayer. (John 9:31).
7. The power to be a Christian. (I Pet. 4:16).
8. The ability to overcome temptations. (I Cor. 10:13).
9. The hope of eternal life. (John 14:1-3).

C. Those Who Are In The Lord.

1. They cannot be destroyed by the Devil.
2. The world cannot overpower them.
3. Sin cannot overcome them.
4. The enemy cannot deceive them.

D. Entering The Lord And Remaining In Him.

1. One may enter the Lord through obeying his will.
2. Upon entering him then one cannot be snatched away, that is, unless he gives his approval.
3. But upon becoming a child of the Lord then one must be faithful even unto the end.

CONCLUSION:

1. There is only happiness and joy in the Lord.
2. Within him there is work but it's a joy to serve the Master.
3. All spiritual blessings are there.
4. Those in him will be cared for throughout time and eternity.
5. Enter him today and begin to really live.

SOME GREAT DAYS

Acts 20:7

INTRODUCTION:

1. There have been great events, and so on, throughout time.
2. But as with other things, there have been great days.
3. Please consider the important days that shall be mentioned.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Reason That These Days Are So Great.

1. Because they are God given.
2. They have to do with religious matters.
3. They involve the individual.
4. These days have to do with time and eternity.

B. Some Great Days.

1. The day of creation. (Gen. 1:3).
2. The seventh day or sabbath day. (Gen. 2:3).
3. The day the sun stood still. (Josh. 10:12).
4. The day that Christ was born. (Matt. 1, 2).
5. The day of the crucifixion. (Matt. 27).
6. The day of the resurrection. (Matt. 28).
7. The day the church was established (Acts 2).
8. Lord's day. (Acts 20:7).
9. The day of salvation. (2 Cor. 6:2).
10. The judgment day. (Heb. 9:27).

C. Sad Days.

1. For those who refuse to accept those things that are of a divine nature.
2. For those who fail to obey God.
3. For those who will stand condemned on the last day.

D. Happy Days.

1. For those who accept the truth.
2. For those who obey the God of Heaven.
3. For those who remain faithful to the Lord.
4. For those who shall be blessed with eternal life.

CONCLUSION:

1. Leave that which brings sadness and accept that which bring happiness.
2. So serve God today so as to be saved tomorrow.
3. May all of your days be happy days both now and forever more.

ONLY A FEW WILL BE SAVED

Matt. 7:13, 14

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Lord's people have ever been in the minority.
 - a. The people of Israel were few in number compared with the other people of the world.
 - b. The faithful Israelites were few in comparison with those that disobeyed God.
2. God gives all mankind the privilege and opportunity to obey him but it seems that the majority are interested in other things.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Lord Taught That Only A Few Would Follow Him.

1. Only a few will travel the narrow road. (Matt. 7:13, 14).
2. Many to be called but few to be chosen. (Matt. 20:16).
3. The Lord's labourers are few. (Lk. 10:2).
4. Only a few Jews accepted him. (John 1:11).

B. Some Examples Of This Sacred Truth.

1. Only a few accepted Christ at birth.
2. Only a few accepted the Lord's message.
3. Only a few stood with the Lord in time of need.
4. Only a few stood with him at the cross.
5. Only a few visited the tomb of Christ.
6. Only a few witnessed his ascension.
7. Only a few obeyed the Gospel on Pentecost.
8. Only a few stood with Stephen at his death.
9. Only a few remained faithful to the Lord.

C. Why Is It That Only A Few Followed The Lord?

1. Because many expected him to establish a material Kingdom.

2. Because the majority were satisfied with the religion that they had.
3. Because the people loved darkness rather than the light.

D. Only A Few Will Be Saved, But In What Sense?

1. As far as man is concerned many will be saved but when that number is compared with those that will be lost then the number will be few indeed.
2. Only a few will be saved due to the fact that only a few have followed the Lord.

E. The Majority Of People Are Lost Even In Our Time.

1. Such is because of neglect, etc.
2. Also, many are lost because of being deceived, and what have you.

F. Only A Few Will Be Saved.

1. Because only a few have obeyed the truth.
2. Because only a few are members of the Lord's Church.
3. Because only a few are nothing but Christians.
4. Because only a few are living the Christian life.

CONCLUSION:

- 1 You can't walk with the majority and be saved.
2. The Lord must be obeyed regardless of what the world does.
3. Will you be in that number that will be saved?

“WORK, FOR THE NIGHT IS COMING”

John 9:4

INTRODUCTION:

1. Far too many people do not realize the importance of this life in relation to the world to come.
2. There are those that stress the physical side of life but overlook the spiritual phase.
3. The purpose of this lesson is to emphasize the importance of preparing for the future.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Importance Of Work.

1. Faith itself is a work. (John 6:28, 29).
2. Faith is made perfect by works. (James 2).
3. Saving faith expresses itself by works. (Mk. 16:16).
4. To work out our salvation. (Phil. 2:12).
5. Must always abound in the work of the Lord. (1 Cor. 15:58).

B. Why Work?

1. “Work, for the night is coming.” (John 9:4).
2. Now is the time to work for tomorrow may be too late. (2 Cor. 6:2).
3. Life is short and the future must be faced. (James 4:13, 14. Matt. 16:26).
4. The Christian must work to please God. (Rev. 2:10).
5. Those that spend their life in the service of the Lord will be rewarded with eternal rest. (Matt. 11:28 — 30).

C. It Is Not Enough.

1. It is not enough to be baptized.
2. It is not enough to be a member of the Lord’s Church.
3. It is not enough to be a Christian.

4. It is not enough to attend worship.
5. It is not enough to profess the religion of Christ.

D. Some Work That Christians Must do.

1. Practice pure religion. (James 1:27).
2. Visit the sick and help the poor. (James 2).
3. Help to build up the Lord's work. (Eph. 2:10).
 - a. In the local community.
 - b. Throughout the world.
4. Love one another as well as the world. (1 John 4:7, 8).
5. Preach or teach the word. (2 Tim. 4:2; Matt. 28:19).

E. The Results Of Good Hard Work.

1. The Lord's work is built up.
2. Souls are saved.
3. Those that work will be blessed in this life and the world to come.
4. The Lord is glorified.

CONCLUSION:

1. Are you working for the Lord?
2. If not then you had better get started right now.
3. Remember those that work shall find rest for their labor.

THE BROAD AND NARROW WAYS

Matt. 7:13, 14

INTRODUCTION:

1. This is a study of contrasts.
2. Man is a free moral agent and therefore may choose his course.

3. There is no middle ground so one must go in one direction or the other.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Broad Way.

1. It is a very popular way.
2. The majority are on it.
 - a. The alien sinner.
 - b. The infidel.
 - c. The modernist.
 - d. The denominationalist.
 - e. The moralist.
 - f. The wordly.
 - g. The erring Christian.
3. It is the Devil's way.
4. It leads to eternal destruction.

B. The Narrow Way.

1. It is an unpopular way.
2. Only a few are on it.
 - a. The righteous.
 - b. The godly.
 - c. The Christian.
3. It is the Lord's way.
 - a. Christ is the way.
 - b. The way of truth.
 - c. The way of life.
 - d. The Bible way.
4. It leads to eternal life.

CONCLUSION:

1. Which road are you on?
2. Are you standing with the wicked or the righteous?
3. What are you going to do about this matter?
4. You can change from one to the other if you desire.

5. Be sure that you make no mistake by taking the right course and remaining on it.
6. The Lord will take vengeance on the wicked but will bless the righteous.

GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

1 Cor. 162

INTRODUCTION:

1. The subject of giving is a great one.
 - a. It involves God.
 - b. It involves man.
2. God has done his part but is man doing his?
3. Please give this lesson much consideration.

DISCUSSION:

A. Things That Have Been Given:

1. What has God given?
 - a. His only Son. (John 3:16, 17; 2 Cor. 9:1).
 - b. "Every good gift and every perfect gift." (James 1:17).
2. What has Christ given?
 - a. He gave his life. (Rom. 5:8).
 - b. Established the church. (Acts 20:28).
 - c. Has given the gospel. (Rom. 1:16).
 - d. The hope of life eternal. (John. 14:1 — 3).
3. What have the Apostles given?
 - a. They gave their all to present Christianity to the world. (Acts 2).
 - b. Penned down the word of truth, etc. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

B. Things That Man Is To Give.

1. To give of his time. (Lk. 9:23).
2. To give of his material things. (Matt. 6:33).
3. To give of his money. (2 Cor. 9:7).

C. Some Examples Of Man's Giving.

1. The poor widow. (Mk. 12:41 — 44).
2. The Corinthians. (1 Cor. 16:1, 2).
3. The Church at Jerusalem. (Acts 2:41 — 47).
4. The Church in Macedonia. (2 Cor. 8, 9).

D. God's Plan for Giving. (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:7).

1. Give on the first day of the week.
2. Give — a command to every Christian.
3. Give what you have.
4. Give according as you have prospered.
5. Give that there may be no gatherings.
6. Give as you have purposed in your heart.
7. Give cheerfully.

E. What's The Purpose Of Giving?

1. God has commanded it.
2. To help the poor.
3. That the church might do its work.

CONCLUSION:

1. "Will a man rob God?" (Mal. 3:8).
 - a. Many have.
 - c. Will you?
2. Those that will give will be blessed of God. (Matt. 5).
3. It is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35).

WORKS

Tit. 2:7

INTRODUCTION:

1. Many are opposed to works of all nature.
2. But there are a number of works — different kinds of works.
3. To condemn all works is but to deny the Lord and his will.

DISCUSSION:

A. Different Kinds Of Works.

1. Works of God. (John. 6:28, 29).
2. Works of the Law. (Gal. 2:16).
3. Works of the Ministry. (Eph. 4:12).
4. Works of Darkness. (Eph. 5:11).
5. Works of the Wicked. (Col. 1:21).
6. Works that are Good. (Thess. 2:17).
7. Works of an Evangelist. (2 Tim. 4:5).
8. Works of Denial. (Tit 1:16).
9. Works that are dead. (Heb. 9:14).
10. Works that are Perfect. (James 1:4).
11. Works that Justify. (James 2:21).
12. Works of the Devil. (1 John 3:8).
13. Works of the Lord. (1 Cor. 15:58).
14. Works of Salvation. (Phil. 2:12).
15. Works of our own Righteousness. (Tit. 3:5).

B. Certain works Stand Condemned.

1. Works of this World.
2. Works of the Devil.

C. Works That are Demanded.

1. Works of the Lord.
2. Works of Salvation.

D. Those That Are Deceived In Regard To Works.

1. The majority of the religious people.
2. Those that depend on morality to save them.
3. Some members of the church.

E. God And Man.

1. God supplies the grace but man must perform the works.
2. With grace and works, salvation is the result.
3. One cannot be saved by grace alone and one cannot be saved by works alone.
4. As stated, both are involved in relation to salvation.

CONCLUSION:

1. Are you opposed to works?
2. Are you doing the works of God?
3. Remember, to obey the commandments of the Lord is but to do the works of God.
4. Those that work for the Lord in this life will be blessed with rest in the world to come.

TRYING TO BE LIKE THE WORLD

James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17

INTRODUCTION:

1. The average individual wants to keep up with his neighbor.
2. As a result, such leads him to do many things that are foreign to the will of God.
3. One cannot follow the world without getting a bad deal.

DISCUSSION:

A.. Some Things Of The World That Are Followed.

1. Cursing. (Matt. 5:34, 35).
2. Dancing. (Gal. 5:19-21).
3. Gambling. (1 Cor. 15:33).
4. Drinking. (Rom. 13:13).
5. Divorce. (Matt. 19:3-9).
6. Mixed bathing. (Rom. 12:1, 2).
7. Improper dress. (Tim. 2:9).
8. Forsaking the assemblies. (Heb. 10:25).
9. Tobacco. (1 cor. 3:16).
10. Card playing. (Col. 3:17).
11. Religion. (Matt. 15:9).

B. Ways In Which The World Is Followed.

1. By actually engaging in worldly things.
2. By endorsing worldly things.
 - a. Either by not condemning them.
 - b. Or by allowing the children to participate in them, etc.

C. The Church Must Remain Pure.

1. The church is made up of godly people. (Tit. 2:11, 12).
2. The ungodly are to be withdrawn from. (1 Cor. 5).
3. The Lord will return for a glorious church. (Eph. 5:27).

CONCLUSION:

1. Some ask the question: "What does the church teach on the subject of worldliness?" (1 Pet. 4:11).
 - a. Many churches have certain laws in regard to this.
 - b. However, the question should be: "What does the Bible teach?"
2. Members of the church may try to be like the world, but there's one thing about it: they'll have to reap the consequences. (Gal. 6:7, 8).
3. The religious world is where it is now because of trying to

- be like the world. (Rom. 16:17, 18).
4. Taking this lesson into consideration, therefore, "Live not after the flesh." (Rom. 8:13).

SINS THAT CRUCIFIED CHRIST

Matt. 27

INTRODUCTION:

1. Not any one sin led to the Lord's death, but rather, a number of them led Christ to the cross.
 - a. Christ was without sin.
 - b. The sin, or sins, that is under consideration has to do with those that were actually guilty of crucifying the Lord.
2. Sin led to the death of Christ and at the same time he died for the sins of the world.

DISCUSSION:

A. Sins That Crucified Christ.

1. The sin of ignorance. (Acts 3:17).
2. The sin of hate. (Matt. 27:20).
3. The sin of jealousy. (Mk. 15:11).
4. The sin of neglect. (John 5:39).
5. The sin of unbelief. (John 1:11).
6. The sin of selfishness. (Lk 23:20 — 24).
7. The sin of denial. (ASets 3:14).
8. The sin of rejection. (John 5:40).
9. The sin of hypocrisy. (Acts 1:15 — 20).
10. The sin of lying. (Mk. 15:30, 31).
11. The sin of envy. (Matt. 27:17, 18).
12. The sin of error. (Matt. 6:1 — 8).

13. The sin of loving money. (Matt. 26:14 — 16).
14. The sin of mob spirit. (Matt. 27:19 — 23).
15. The sin of revenge. (Matt. 15:9).
16. The sin of betrayal. (Matt. 26:47 — 56).
17. The sin of mockery. (Mk. 15 — 31).
18. The sin of torture. (Matt. 27:26 — 49).

B. Are You Crucifying The Lord Today?

1. Yes, the Lord was crucified many years ago. (Matt. 27).
2. But still, the Lord may be crucified afresh. (Heb. 6:4-6).
3. The Lord may be crucified now by the same sins that crucified him in the long ago.

C. Some People That Continue To Crucify The Lord

1. The worldly. (1 John 2:15-17).
2. Religious people. (Acts 9:1-18).

D. Instead Of Crucifying Christ All Should Desire To Crown Him.

1. Hear the Lord's will. (Rom. 10:17)
2. Believe it and obey him. (Matt. 7:24, 25).
3. Live faithful to the Lord and he will crown you. (John 1:12; Rev. 2:10).

CONCLUSION:

1. To crucify the Lord is but to stand with the wicked, but to crown him is to stand with the righteous.
2. The decision is up to you, but remember, your future depends on it.

BELIEVING A LIE

2 Thess. 2:9-12

INTRODUCTION:

1. God would have all to believe the truth.
2. However, if one is determined to believe a lie then God permits such.
3. As a matter of fact, God will even send strong delusions to such people that they may be damned.

DISCUSSION:

A. Some Who Are Determined To Believe Lies.

1. The infidel.
2. The modernist.
3. The denominationalist.
4. The erring church member.
5. The moralist.
6. The worldly.
7. The sinner.

B. Some Lies That Are Believed.

1. That there is no God. (Ps. 14:1).
2. That the Bible is but a book of fables. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).
3. That one church is as good as another. (Matt. 16:18).
4. That the church is not important. (Acts 20:28).
5. That one can be saved without baptism. (Mk. 16:16).
6. That there are three baptisms. (Eph. 4:5).
7. That one faith is as good as another. (Eph. 4:5).
8. That faith only saves. (James 2:24).
9. That one may worship with the church of his choice. (John 4:24).
10. That once saved always saved. (Gal. 5:4).
11. That there are many ways to heaven. (John 14:6).
12. That a good moral life is sufficient. (Acts 10).

13. That a person should have a good time. (1 John 2:15).
14. That there is plenty of time to obey God. (James 4:13, 14).
15. That all will be saved. (Matt. 25:46).

C. Who Is The Author of These Lies.

1. The Devil.
2. The servants of the Devil.
3. Those who are of the world.

D. What Will Happen To those Who Believe Lies?

1. God shall send them strong delusions.
2. They will be lost, thus to suffer the consequences.

CONCLUSION:

1. Be careful lest you be deceived.
2. It is possible for all to be misled.
3. The Bible should settle every issue.
4. Believe the truth because it will save.

**THE WAY OF THE TRANSGRESSOR
IS HARD
Prov. 13:15**

INTRODUCTION:

1. A transgressor is one who goes beyond, one who trespasses or over-steps.
2. The transgressor always has to pay for his deeds; sin demands a great price.

DISCUSSION:

A. Why the Way Of The Transgressor Is Hard.

1. Because he goes beyond God's will. (Acts 1:25).
2. He overlooks the good for the bad. (Lk. 15).
3. That which is sown must be reaped. (Gal. 6:7-8).
4. Every transgression receives a recompense. (Heb. 2:2).
5. Sin is the transgression of the law. (1 John 3:4).
6. The wages of sin is death. (Rom. 6:23).
7. The transgressor is building on the sand. (Matt. 7:26, 27).
8. He is on the broad way. (Matt. 7:13, 14).
9. He shall not inherit the kingdom of heaven. (Gal. 5:19-21).
10. He shall be destroyed. (Matt. 25:46).

B. Transgressors Who Lived Under The Old Testament Law.

1. Adam and Eve partook of the forbidden fruit. (Gen. 3).
2. Cain slew his brother. (Gen. 4).
3. Moses became angry and smote the rock. (Num. 20:8 — 12).
4. Nadab and Abihu offered a strange fire to the Lord. (Rev. 10:1, 2).
5. Saul failed to destroy all of the Amalekites. (1 Sam. 15).
6. The prodigal son wasted his goods in riotous living. (Lk. 15).
7. The rich man was too busy to think of God. (Lk. 16).
8. Judas betrayed the Son of God with a kiss. (Matt. 26).

C. Transgressors Who Lived Under The New Testament Law.

1. Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit. (Acts 5).
2. Simon tried to buy the gift of God with money (Acts 8).
3. The Gentiles turned unto man-made idols. (Rom. 1:20 — 25).
4. The church at Corinth became divided. (1 Cor. 1).
5. Demas turned back to the world. (2 Tim. 4:10).

D. Some Transgressors In Our Day.

1. Denominational people.
2. Infidels and modernists.
3. People of a worldly nature.
4. Erring church members.

E. What God Has Done And What He Is Doing Now With The Transgressor.

1. God has ever punished those who have gone beyond his will. (Rom. 11:22).
2. At one time punishment was stressed from a physical standpoint but now in connection with the spiritual. (Matt. 10:28).

CONCLUSION:

1. The transgressor will not only have to suffer in this life for his sins, but even more so in the life to come.
2. Live a righteous life and have the blessings of God showered upon you.
3. God has at all times lived and blessed righteous people and now is no exception.
4. Woe be to the transgressor but blessed be the righteous.

**“YE SHALL KNOW THEM BY
THEIR FRUITS”**

Matt. 7:16

INTRODUCTION:

1. Many say that we are judging them when we say that they are sinning or will be lost.
2. However, the Lord tells us that we do not have to judge

- them but that we may know them by their fruits.
3. Hence, it is very easy to look at a person's fruits and tell what kind of person he is.

DISCUSSION:

A. Some That We May Know By Their Fruits.

1. The atheist or infidel. (Ps. 14:1).
2. The modernists. (2 Tim. 3:5).
3. Denominationalists. (Matt. 15:9; Rom. 16:17, 18).
4. Erring people of God. (Lk. 15).
5. The worldly. (James 4:4; 1 John 2:15 — 17).
6. The evil at heart. (Proverbs 23:7).
7. The hypocrite. (Matthew 6:1 — 8).
8. The Moralist. (Acts 10:1 — 48).
9. The Christian. (1 Pet. 4:16; Col. 3:17).

B. There Are Only Two Kinds Of Fruit.

1. Good fruit. (James 3:17).
2. Bad fruit. (Jude 12).

C. Some Good Fruit.

1. Fruit of righteousness. (Phil 1:11).
2. Fruit of the Spirit. (Gal. 5:22).
3. Fruit of the lips. (Heb. 13:15).
4. Fruit unto God. (Rom. 7:4).
5. Fruit of the Christian. (Rev. 2:10).
 - a. Visiting the fatherless and widows. (James 1:27).
 - b. Preaching the word. (2 Tim. 4:2).
 - c. Being a good neighbor. (Matt. 22:39).
 - d. Helping the poor. (James 2:1 — 21).
 - e. Attending the assemblies. (Heb. 10:25).
 - f. Doing good works. (James 1:25).
 - g. Influencing people for good. (1 Tim. 4:12).

D. Some Bad Fruit.

1. Fruit of denominationalism. (Col. 2:20 — 22).
 - a. Many churches.
 - b. Division every where.
 - c. "Can be saved apart from the church."
 - d. "Salvation apart from baptism."
 - e. Faith only taught.
 - f. Instrumental music in the worship.
 - g. Numerous doctrines and practices propagated.
2. Fruit of the world. (Gal. 5:19 — 21).
 - a. Adultery.
 - b. Fornication.
 - c. Dancing.
 - d. Gambling.
 - e. Murder.
3. Fruit of a wicked tongue. (James 3).
 - a. Gossip.
 - b. Lying.
 - c. Cursing.

CONCLUSION:

1. There must be growth to produce fruit.
2. The Lord would have his people to produce fruit.
3. The good fruit will be saved but the bad fruit will be destroyed.

WALKING WITH GOD

Gen. 5:24

INTRODUCTION:

1. It is possible to walk with God.

2. Others have done it and so can we.
3. The Christian must walk with God to be his.

DISCUSSION:

A. Enoch Walked With God. (Gen. 5:21 — 24).

1. The father of Methuselah.
2. He also had other sons and daughters.
3. Lived to be three hundred and sixty-five years old.
4. Walked with God and he took him.

B. Noah Walked With God. (Gen. 6:9).

1. Found grace in the sight of the Lord.
2. A just man and perfect in his generations, ever walking with God.
3. Built an ark and warned the world of the on-coming flood.
4. Saved along with his family from the flood.
5. Landed safe on the other side of the flood.

C. How Old Testament People Walked With God.

1. By keeping the commandments of God.
2. By service, offering sacrifices, etc.

D. How New Testament People Walk With God.

1. By following the written word.
2. By obeying the Lord's commandments.

E. To Walk With God.

1. In faith. (2 cor. 5:7).
2. In love. (Eph. 5:2).
3. In newness of life. (Rom. 6:4).
4. After the spirit. (Rom. 8:1; Gal. 5:16).
5. Honestly. (Rom. 13:13).
6. In unity. (Phil. 3:16).
7. Worthy of the Lord. (Col. 1:10).

8. Walk in the Lord. (Col. 2:6).
9. In the light. (1 John 1:7).

CONCLUSION:

1. We are to walk with the Lord daily.
2. Those who walk with God may walk on into the holy city.

**“WHAT THEREFORE GOD HATH
JOINED TOGETHER, LET NOT MAN
PUT ASUNDER”**
Matt. 19:6

INTRODUCTION:

1. God has joined certain things together and means for them to stay that way.
2. Woe be to the man who would change God's order.
3. What God has joined together, let no man put asunder.

DISCUSSION:

A. Some Things That God Has Joined Together.

1. Husband and wife. (Matt. 5:31, 32; 19:1 — 12).
2. Belief and baptism. (Mk. 16:16).
3. Faith and works. (James 2).
4. Old Testament and New Testament. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).
5. Obedience and salvation. (Heb. 5:8, 9).
6. Worship and the Lord's day. (John 4:24; Acts 20:7).
7. Death and Judgment. (Heb. 9:27).
8. Faithfulness and a crown. (Rev. 2:10).
9. Christ and the church. (Col. 1:18; Eph. 5:23).

B. Some Who Would Dare to Put God's Order Asunder.

1. The worldly.
2. The wicked.
3. The denominationalist.
4. The modernist.
5. Some church members.

C. Those Who Put God's Way Asunder.

1. Punished for such.
2. Such people sin against God.
3. To be lost in the future world.

D. God's Way Is Best.

1. His way brings happiness.
2. His way brings salvation.
3. His way brings eternal life.

CONCLUSION:

1. Take heed and do not go beyond the Lord's will.
2. God's will is better than man's way any day.
3. Do not put God's order asunder.

**“MY SPIRIT SHALL NOT ALWAYS
STRIVE WITH MAN”**

Gen. 6:3

INTRODUCTION:

1. God has pleaded with man throughout time to live a righteous life.
2. One cannot read the Bible without seeing the longsuffering of God expressed on every hand.

3. The Lord will soon return and then he'll serve as Judge; he'll no longer be the Saviour but the Judge.

DISCUSSION:

A. Before The Flood. (Gen. 1 — 6).

1. Man created in the image of God. (Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:7).
 - a. Blessed spiritually.
 - b. Blessed also materially.
2. There was no sin upon the earth. (Gen 1:2).
 - a. There is no sin with God.
 - b. Man was dwelling in the garden of God.
 - c. God even warned man not to sin.
3. Man sinned and continued to sin. (Gen. 3 — 6).
 - a. Man ignored God to the extent that God said that his spirit would not always strive with man.
 - b. God saw that man was wicked continually.
 1. Man's imagination was wicked.
 2. Man's thoughts were wicked.
 3. Man's heart was wicked.
 4. Man's deeds were wicked.
 - c. It even repented God that he had made man on the earth.
4. As a result of man's wickedness God sent the flood to destroy man and sin. (Gen. 7).
 - a. Only Noah and his family found grace in the eyes of the Lord and this was because of their righteous living.
 - b. Man was warned but would not heed the warning, and therefore, perished in the flood.

B. After The Flood.

1. God blessed man. (Gen. 8 — 50; Ex. 1 — 40).
 - a. Materially.
 - b. Spiritually.
2. God punished man. (Lev. 10:1, 2).
 - a. The wicked.

- b. Physically and otherwise.
- 3. The Lord winked at sin upon many occasions. (Acts 17: 30; Matt. 5).
- 4. The goodness and severity of God manifested. (Rom. 11:22).

C. New Testament Days.

- 1. Christ came to save the lost. (Lk. 19:10).
 - a. A Few followed. (John 1).
 - b. His own rejected him. (John 1:11; 5:40).
- 2. He died for the sins of the world. (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8).
- 3. The Lord offered salvation to all. (Matt. 11:28 — 30; Mk. 16:15, 16).
- 4. Those who rejected him were said to be worse off than the cities of Tyre and Sidon. (Matt. 11:20 — 24).
- 5. He taught lessons in regard to his return. (Matt. 25).
- 6. All to appear before the judgment. (Heb. 9:27).

D. Present Day Conditions.

- 1. A few are following the Lord but the majority are upon the broad way. (Matt. 7:13, 14).
- 2. The Lord would have all to be saved. (2 Tim. 2:4).
- 3. The longsuffering of God continues to save many. (2 Pet. 3:9).
 - a. Given another opportunity.
 - b. However, death visits many.
- 4. God's spirit shall not always strive with man.
 - a. Man has the opportunity of obeying the Gospel but that will soon be taken away. (Mk. 16:15, 16; 2 Thess. 1:7 — 9).
 - b. The erring Christian is invited to repent and return to God but one day it will be too late. (Lk. 15; James 5:16).
 - c. The Christian has many opportunities of doing good but one day they'll be gone. (2 Pet. 1:5 — 11).

- (1) Being a good neighbor.
 - (2) Preaching the word.
 - (3) Practicing pure religion.
 - (4) Working for the Lord.
 - (5) Living faithfully.
5. Man's opportunities to obey God will soon be gone.
- a. Either because of death. (James 4:13, 14).
 - b. Or because of the Lord's return. (Acts 17:31).

E. The Last Day. (Heb. 9:27).

1. All will be there.
2. Man shall be judged according to his works.
3. It will be too late to obey God; the judgment will be final.
4. The righteous will be saved but the wicked will be cast into the lake of fire.

CONCLUSION:

1. Dear friend, don't put off your salvation but obey the Lord today while you have time and opportunity.
2. Just remember that God's spirit shall not always strive with man — prepare to meet the Lord thy God.

THE CHRISTIAN GRACES

2 Pet, 15 — 11

INTRODUCTION:

1. One must obey the gospel of Christ to be saved.
2. This puts one in position to do something for the Lord.
3. The Christian must add the "Christian graces."
4. Please note that all is built upon faith.

DISCUSSION:

A. Add To Your Faith:

1. **VIRTUE.**
 - a. Strength, power, courage, etc.
 - b. "Think on these things." (Phil. 4:8).
2. **KNOWLEDGE.**
 - a. Understanding, information, etc.
 - b. Search the scriptures. (John 5:39).
 - c. Sturdy the word of God. (2 Tim. 2:15).
3. **TEMPERANCE.**
 - a. Self-control, self-restraint, etc.
 - b. Paul preached temperance to Felix. (Acts 24:25).
4. **PATIENCE.**
 - a. Forbearance, endurance, longsuffering etc.
 - b. Thessalonians were patient. (2 Thess. 1:4).
 - c. Follow after love patience. (1 Tim. 6:11).
 - d. To be sound in faith, patience, and so on. (Tit. 2:2).
5. **GODLINESS.**
 - a. Purity, holiness, reverence, etc.
 - b. To live a peaceful life in all godliness. (1 Tim. 2:2).
 - c. To deny ungodlines. (Tit. 2:11, 12).
6. **BROTHERLY KINDNESS.**
 - a. Fraternal love, kindness toward one another etc.
 - b. Be kind to one another. (Rom. 12:10).
 - c. Taught of God to love one another. (1 Thess. 4:9)
 - d. "Let brotherly love continue." (Heb. 13:1).
7. **CHARITY.**
 - a. Love, kindness, goodness, etc.
 - b. To put on charity. (Col. 3:14).
 - c. Follow charity, etc. (1 Tim. 2:22).

CONCLUSION:

1. To have these things in you means that you will be fruitful, and so on, in the service of the Lord.
2. To lack these things means that you are blind and you

- have forgotten that you once obeyed the gospel.
3. Add the Christian graces — make your calling and election sure.

A PECULIAR PEOPLE

Tit. 2:14; 1 Per. 2:9

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Lord's people are not a peculiar people in that they wear a certain type of uniform, etc.
2. Neither are the Lord's people a peculiar people because of their practice such as the Mormons marrying more than once, etc.
3. But the Lord's people are a peculiar people because they are different from the people of the world.
 - a. They believe in God and his will,
 - b. They believe in abiding by the same.
4. The Lord's people are a holy people — those who have been set apart to live the Christian life.

DISCUSSION:

- A. The Lord's People Are Members Of A Peculiar Church. (Matt. 16:18).**
 1. Christ is recognized as founder of the church.
 2. The Lord is also accepted as being the saviour of the church as well as head of the church.
 3. Its members uphold the Lord's church as being the one church of the Bible.
- B. The Lord's People Participate In A Peculiar Worship. (John 4:24).**

1. The Lord's Supper is observed each first day of the week.
 2. Instruments of music are never used.
 3. Each member gives as he has prospered.
- C. The Lord's People Are Peculiar In Name. (Acts 11:26).**
1. Man-made names and titles are rejected entirely.
 2. Each member wears the name Christian and the name Christian only.
- D. The Lord's People Are Peculiar in Practice. (Col. 3:17).**
1. Worldliness is rejected altogether.
 2. A Christ-like spirit is exemplified.
 3. They are Godly in every phase of life.
- E. The Lord's People Are Peculiar In Their Preaching. (2 Tim. 4:2).**
1. They preach the Bible plan of salvation.
 2. They preach the one faith of the Bible.
 3. They preach one way of heaven.

CONCLUSION:

1. The points listed make the Lord's people a peculiar people.
2. Even the world itself recognizes the Lord's people as such.
3. Unless the members of the church are peculiar or different then there's something wrong.
4. It is the Lord's will that we be a peculiar people.

GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

Matt. 26:36 — 46

INTRODUCTION

1. Jesus prayed much to his father.
2. Near the close of his life he went to the garden of Gethsemane.
3. Some of his last words were uttered here.

DISCUSSION:

A. Watch And Pray

1. Watch your thoughts.
2. Watch your words.
3. Watch your actions.
4. Watch your appearance.
5. Watch that you enter not into temptation.

B. Work For The Night Is Coming.

1. Work out your salvation. (Phil. 2:12).
 - a. Be a real Christian.
 - b. Attend the assemblies.
 - c. Give of your time, money, etc.
 - d. Preach the gospel.
2. Work in the church.
 - a. Pray.
 - b. Teach a class.
 - c. Wait on the Lord's Table.
 - d. Do whatever you can.
 - e. Work to reach the world.
 - (1) Visit the sick.
 - (2) Visit new members.
 - (3) Visit each other.
 - (4) Love one another.
3. Work for a Christian home.

- a. That each member be a Christian.
- b. That thanks be offered at each meal.
- c. That Bible Study be conducted.
- d. That the children be brought up as they should be.

C. Sleep On, The Hour Is come.

1. For many it is too late to watch and pray or to begin to work.
 - a. Lost the power of their influence.
 - b. Time has already gone.
2. Many others are negligent.
 - a. Drifting through life, meaning well but doing nothing.
 - b. Time to do the good deeds will be gone before they wake up.
3. Death is fast approaching us all.
 - a. Need to work today while there is time.
 - b. Soon we will sleep in death.
 1. Will have no more chance to work.
 2. Will answer for deeds we have done or left undone.

CONCLUSION:

1. After pleading that we watch and pray for him, that we work for him while it is day, will Jesus have to say to us in sorrow: "sleep on, the hour has come."
2. Let us be diligent in our service, for life is even as a vapour that appeareth for a moment and then passeth away.
3. We want to be prepared for that last sleep, and the rest that has been promised to the faithful.

IS IT NOTHING TO YOU?

Matt. 27:4

INTRODUCTION:

1. Some people can be touched with the truth but others have hardened themselves to the point where it is impossible to reach them.
2. The majority of the people reason, "What is that to us?"
3. Where do you stand? Please consider the following:

DISCUSSION:

A. Is It Nothing To You That God Is?

1. That he is. (Gen. 1:1).
2. That he created man. (Gen 2:7).
3. That he loves man. (2 Thess. 2:16).
- 4 That he is the giver of all blessings. (James 1:17).

B. Is It Nothing to You That Christ Gave Himself For You?

1. Was willing to come. (Lk. 2).
2. Suffered as man. (Heb. 2:18).
3. Tasted death for every man. (Heb. 2:9).

C. Is It Nothing To You That Christ Built The Church?

1. Promised to build it. (Matt. 16:18).
2. Purchased it with his own blood. (Acts 20:28).
3. But one church. (Eph. 4:4)

D. Is It Nothing To You That The Gospel Has Power To Save?

1. Based on the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. (1 Cor. 15:1 — 4).
2. Has the power to save. (Rom. 1:16).
3. Requires obedience. (Mk. 16:16).

- E. Is It Nothing to You That God Is To Be Worshipped?**
1. To be worshipped in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24).
 2. To be worshipped each first day of the week. (Acts 20:7).
- F. Is It Nothing To You That Salvation Is In The Name Of Christ?**
1. To be baptized in the name. (Matt. 28:19, 20).
 2. To wear that name. (1 Pet. 4:16).
 3. Salvation is in it. (Acts 4:12).
- G. Is It Nothing To You That There Is Much Work To be Done?**
1. That we are to work out our salvation. (Phil. 2:12).
 2. That every member is to work. (Acts 10:34, 35).
- H. Is It Nothing To You That The Majority Of The People Are Lost?**
1. 14,800,000 will go to meet their God this year unprepared.
 2. 1,200,000 will die without Christ this month.
 3. 280,000 will pass into eternity this week — lost, without hope.
 4. 48,000 will die without Christ within the next 24 hours.
 5. 1,289 will pass into eternity unprepared within the hour.
 6. 21 people have died out of Christ during the past minute.
- I. Is It Nothing To You That The Majority Of Us Are Negligent Of Our Duties?**
1. Of all church members 10 % never pray.
 2. Of all church members 20 % never read the Bible.
 3. Of all church members 30 % never go to church.
 4. Of all church members 40 % never contribute.
 5. Of all church members 50 % never participate in the church work.
 6. Of all church members 60 % never give to mission work.

7. Of all church members 75 % never serve by visitation.
8. Of all church members 85 % never go to prayer meetings.
9. Of all church members 95 % never have won a soul.

— The Minister's Monthly

J. Is It Nothing To You That Death Is Coming?

1. All will die. (Heb. 9:27).
2. Death will soon come. (James 1:13, 14).

K. Is It Nothing To You That You Must Spend Eternity Somewhere?

1. Either in heaven or hell. (Matt. 25:46).
2. Only the obedient will go to be with God. (Rev. 22:14).

CONCLUSION:

1. Wake up before it is too late.
2. Take inventory and strengthen yourself in the weak spots.
3. Now is the time to do it.

**“THEY WENT EVERYWHERE
PREACHING”**

(Acts 8:4)

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Book of Acts records the story of the beginning of the church and its progress.
2. The gospel was to be preached first in Jerusalem and then eventually taken to the whole world. (Acts 1:8).
3. Let us now see how this was done.

DISCUSSION:

A. Who Went?

1. The apostles.
2. Those who had been converted to the truth.
3. For instance, Philip was out preaching. (Acts 8).
4. Priscilla and Aquila went. (Acts 18:24—28).

B. Why Did They Go?

1. Because they were commanded to go. (Mk. 16:15, 16).
2. Because of persecution, but they still preached. (Acts 5:41, 42).
3. Because of work, but they take their religion with them. (Acts 18:1—8).
4. Because of their love for the lost.

C. Where Did They Go?

1. "They went everywhere preaching."
2. They went to Samaria, Judea, and to the whole world.
3. They went to the large cities, small cities, and all.
4. They went to the islands, wherever man was found.
5. Christ said to go into all the world and they did. (Mk. 16:15).

D. What Did They Do?

1. They preached and preached.
2. They performed miracles.
3. They gave of their means. (Acts 4:31—37).
4. They worked for the Lord.
5. They praised the Lord.

E. What Did They Preach?

1. They preached the word of God. (Acts 18:11).
2. They preached the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. (Acts 2).
3. They preached that one must believe. (Acts 16:30, 31).

4. They preached that one must repent. (Acts 17:30).
5. They preached that one must confess Christ. (Acts 8).
6. They preached that one must be baptized. (Acts 2:38).
7. They preached that salvation is in the name of Christ. (Acts 4:12).

F. What Was The Result?

1. Many obeyed the gospel.
2. The saved were added to the church. (Acts 2:47).
3. The gospel was taken to the world.

CONCLUSION:

1. We must follow in their steps.
2. If we'll preach the same gospel, we'll get the same results.
3. The Great Commission is still binding.

CLEARING UP SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS

INTRODUCTION:

1. Although we may have good intention in our preaching and teaching, sometimes we leave the wrong impression.
2. The truth can be presented about one thing but cause misunderstanding on another point.
3. The purpose of this study is to clear up some of those misunderstandings.

DISCUSSION:

A. We Have Preached For So Long That The Old Testament

Is No Longer Binding That Many People Have Come To The Conclusion That We Do Not Believe In The Old Testament.

1. This is untrue, for we do believe in the Old Testament as being the word of God. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).
2. The point is, it was nailed to the cross in order that a new one might take its place. (Col. 2:14; James 1:25).

B. We Have Preached For So Long That The Ten Commandments Are No Longer Binding That Many People Are Under The Impression That We Sanction Murder, Stealing, etc.

1. This too is untrue, because the New Testament condemns such sins. (Gal. 5:19:20).
2. Even those who claim to be keeping the Ten Commandments do not.

C. We Have Preached For So Long That Mechanical Instruments Of Music Are Not To Be Used In Worship, That Many Think That We Are Opposed To Music Altogether.

1. We are opposed to mechanical music only, and then only when it is used in worship.
2. The Bible teaches that Christians are to sing. (Eph. 5:19).
3. Outside of worship, a piano, organ, etc., are perfectly in order to provide good wholesome music.

D. We Have Preached For So Long That The Bible Does Not Uphold Tithing For People Of Our Time That Many Have Concluded That It Is Not Necessary To Give.

1. Although the Bible does not teach tithing for Christians, it does teach us to give. (1 Cor. 16:2)
2. No doubt if we give as we should we will give more than a tenth.

E. We Have Preached For So Long That We Are No Longer Living Under The Sabbath That Some Have Gotten The Impression That We Can Do As We Please On The First Day Of The Week.

1. It is true that the Sabbath is no longer binding but the Lord's Day is to be recognized as the day of worship. (Acts 20:7).
2. We should use that day in such a way as to glorify the Lord in it all.
3. It should not be allowed to just be another day with us.

F. We Have Preached For So Long That God Hears Not A Sinner's Prayer That Some Of Us Have Gotten To The Place Where We Feel That It Is A Waste Of Time To Pray.

1. Although God will not hear a sinner's prayer that does not mean that he will not hear and answer prayer.
2. He desires that his people should pray and has promised that if their prayers are in harmony with his will that he will hear and answer them. (Lk. 18:1; 1 John 5:14).

G. We Have Preached For So Long That Faith Only Won't Save That We Have Almost Lost Ours.

1. No, faith only won't save but faith will.
2. It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:6).
3. We need to have faith and a lot of it.

H. We Have Preached For So Long That One Cannot Depend On His Feelings Only To Take Him To Heaven That Some Think That There Is No Feeling In Religion.

1. But this is wrong, because there is feeling.
2. The eunuch went on his way rejoicing. (Acts 8).

CONCLUSION:

1. There are many other things that could be listed along with these.
2. But let us take care not to be misunderstood.
3. Let us present the truth, but be sure it is the truth.
4. Let us also put emphasis where it belongs.

WANTED

INTRODUCTION:

1. On looking in any newspaper one will come across the want ad section, where people are telling the readers what they want.
2. Likewise, the Bible may be thought of as a book of wants ads.
3. For it is through the Bible that God reveals what he wants and it is through reading that book that we learn what he wants.
4. Let us consider a few of those wants.

DISCUSSION:

A. Wanted: People To Obey The Gospel.

1. The Lord can use as many as will obey. (Matt. 11: 28—30).
2. He wants the kind who will obey. (Mk. 16:15, 16).
3. Those who answer will be rewarded. (Acts 2:38).

B. Wanted: People To Add To The Church.

1. Must first obey the gospel. (Rom. 1:16).
2. Then the Lord will add the saved to it. (Acts 2:47).
3. This is the Lord's business.

C. Wanted: True Worshipers.

1. The Lord seeks such to worship him. (John 4:23, 24).
2. This is to be done on the first day of the week. (Acts 20:7).
3. Why don't you apply for this job?

D. Wanted: People Who Will Serve.

1. Must be willing to work. (1 Cor. 15:58).
2. Must follow the Lord daily. (Lk. 9:23).
3. Must put God first in all. (Matt. 6:33).

E. Wanted: Faithful Gospel Preachers. .

1. Men who will preach the Word. (2 Tim. 4:2).
2. Those who are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. (Rom. 1:16).

F. Wanted: People Who Are Planning For The Future.

1. Will be faithful to the end. (Rev. 2:10).
2. To receive the mansion in glory. (John 14:1—3).
3. To have all spiritual blessings. (Eph. 1:3).

CONCLUSION:

1. Friend, the Lord wants you.
2. Why not answer his call?
3. If you will he'll surely make it worth your while.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

INTRODUCTION:

1. This subject is a very touchy one with many but needs to be discussed because it is a Bible subject.
2. Those congregations which have practiced this are

strong and godly but those which have not are composed of hypocrites and reprobates.

DISCUSSION:

A. Scriptural Steps In Withdrawing From The Ungodly. (Matt. 18:15—17).

1. Go to the one that has sinned.
2. If necessary, take two or three witnesses.
3. If that fails, then take it to the church.

B. Those Who Should Be Withdrawn From. (1 Cor. 5:13).

1. Generally, those who have sinned and refuse to return to their first love.
2. Specially:
 - a. Those who walk with the world.
 - b. Those who refuse to attend the assemblies.
 - c. Those who bring about strife and division.

C. The Purpose Of Withdrawing From A Member. (1 Cor. 5:7, 8).

1. To keep the evil from leading the godly away.
2. That the disfellowshipped might return to the Lord.
3. To take away the stumbling block.

D. Our Attitude Toward The Disfellowshipped. (1 Cor. 5:9 — 11).

1. If the church sees fit to withdraw from one then we should support it.
2. The disfellowshipped should be treated as a heathen.

E. The Problem Of Sympathizers. (1 Cor. 15:33).

1. They should be disfellowshipped.
2. The church cannot accomplish anything as long as half the members pull in one direction and the other half pull in the other direction.

CONCLUSION:

1. Brethren, let us return to the Bible in regard to dealing with the ungodly.
2. Let's quit fellowshiping them, patting them on the back, and so on, just so long as they will attend the assemblies and contribute of their means.
3. On the other hand, let's clean up the church, at all times preaching godliness and holiness in speech and actions.

EXCUSES

Lk. 14:16 — 24; Gen. 3:9 — 13

INTRODUCTION:

1. Many try to excuse themselves in regard to their duties and opportunities.
2. Such is true in all walks of life, but especially in regard to church attendance.
3. An excuse is an apology for that which has or has not been done.
4. In other words, the excuse is offered to attempt to cover up, or to justify.
5. There is a difference between an excuse and a reason.

DISCUSSION:

- A. Excuses That Are Offered For Not Attending The Assemblies;**
1. "The weather was bad." (Matt. 5:16).
 - a. It is never too bad to go to town.
 - b. Don't let the weather keep us from our work.

2. "I didn't feel like going." (1 Pet. 2:21).
 - a. Were you sick enough to have a doctor?
 - b. Did it keep you at home the next day?
3. "I didn't have a way." (Acts 8:26).
 - a. How far away did you live?
 - b. Did you call someone to come after you?
 - c. Does distance hinder you in other ways?
4. "The children didn't want to go." (Eph. 6:4).
 - a. But the children are to be taken.
 - b. Parents are to train their children.
5. "The congregation isn't friendly." (Acts 2:42).
 - a. Have you put forth any effort to be friendly?
 - b. Regardless of the congregation, you are to worship.
6. "It isn't necessary that one go every Sunday." (Acts 20:7).
 - a. Who gave you the right to come to that conclusion?
 - b. The Bible teaches that the disciples met each Lord's day?
7. "We had company." (Lk. 9:23).
 - a. Did you invite your company to go to worship?
 - b. Would you allow them to keep you from missing work?
8. "We went visiting." (Matt. 6:33).
 - a. Couldn't you have waited until after worship?
 - b. What if the Lord had come while you were visiting?

CONCLUSION:

1. Are you bad to make excuses?
2. Quit fooling yourself and act like a Christian.
3. Remember, you are accountable to God.

OPEN DOORS

Gal. 6:10; Matt. 7:7, 8; Rev. 3:20

INTRODUCTION:

1. An open door is but an opening or an opportunity to do good.
2. These doors are opened to all of us from time to time.
3. We must enter before they are closed, perhaps forever.

DISCUSSION:

A. Some Open Doors Of The Bible.

1. Noah's obedience. (Gen. 6).
2. Naaman discovers he can be healed. (2 Kings 5).
3. The Spirit directs Philip to go to the eunuch. (Acts 8).
4. The Lord appears to Saul. (Acts 9).
5. A door is opened to Macedonia. (Acts 16:9 — 13).
6. Paul and Silas are given the opportunity to preach to the jailer and his household. (Acts 16).

B. Open Doors To Obey The Gospel.

1. Everytime one hears a gospel sermon.
2. By studying the Bible for self
3. Take a Bible Correspondence Course.
4. Reading a tract.
5. Listening to the radio sermons.

C. Open Doors To Return To The Lord.

1. Through attending the assemblies.
2. Hearing or reading sermons that would prompt one.

D. Open Doors To Worship.

1. Every Sunday morning and night.

2. Every Wednesday night.
3. During gospel meetings.
4. Vacation Bible Schools.
5. When traveling.

E. Open Doors In Worship.

1. To sing.
2. To pray.
3. To study.
4. To give.
5. To partake of the Lord's Supper.
6. To be strengthened.
7. To develop talent.

F. Open Doors To Service.

1. To study.
2. To pray.
3. To forgive.
4. To love.
5. To invite people to worship.
6. To teach a friend.
7. To live a godly life.
8. To rear children properly.
9. To give out tracts.
10. To visit one another.

G. Open Doors In Preaching.

1. To invite people to hear a sermon.
2. Radio preaching.
3. Giving out tracts.
4. The fair exhibit.
5. Bible camps.
6. Gospel meetings.
7. Vacation Bible schools.
8. Television.

9. Newspapers.
10. From house to house.
11. Giving so others can go.

H. Ways That These Doors May Be Opened.

1. By looking for doors.
2. By praying to God.
3. Through death.
4. Through suffering.
5. While on the job.
6. By war.

I. Open And Closed Doors.

1. First open your own door.
2. Then knock on the doors of others.
3. There are plenty of opportunities for doing good.

DISCUSSION:

1. First open your own door.
2. Then knock on the doors of others.
3. There are plenty of opportunities for doing good.

PERSONAL WORK

INTRODUCTION:

1. Personal work is one of the finest ways to reach people with the truth.
2. All may take part in this type of work.
3. Can help according to the individual's need.

DISCUSSION:

A. Some Examples Of Personal Work.

1. Christ was the greatest example of all. (Matt. 4:18–22).
 - a. Calling of Peter, Andrew, James and John.
 - b. Sermon to Nicodemus. (John 3:1 — 13).

2. Andrew and Simon. (John 1:40, 41).
3. Philip went to Nathaniel. (John 1:45).
4. The apostles taught daily. (Acts 20:20).
5. Members of Jerusalem church went everywhere preaching. (Acts 8:4).
6. Philip called away from the multitudes to preach to the eunuch. (Acts 8).

B. The Importance Of Personal work.

1. Every soul is precious. (Matt. 16:26).
2. It is a type of teaching that will work.
3. All can do it. (Mk. 16:15).
4. Best way to reach all the people. (Mk. 16:15).

C. Some Essentials To Do Personal Work.

1. Must want to. (Rom. 10:1, 2).
2. Must have knowledge. (Rom. 10:1, 2).
3. Must work at it.
4. Must have love for souls.
5. Must be ready to meet error.

D. Ways To Do Personal work.

1. From house to house.
2. Cottage Bible studies.
3. Use of literature.
4. Calling people.
5. Personal godliness.

E. Rewards Of Personal Work.

1. To be blessed of God. (Dan. 1:12).
2. Saving of souls. (James 5:20).

CONCLUSION:

1. Why don't you become a personal worker?
2. Take advantage of the opportunities that are yours.

THE SIN OF DOING NOTHING

**Matt. 7:21; James 4:17;
Matt. 25:31 — 46**

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible teaches that we must do something.
 - a. Work. (1 Cor. 15:58).
 - b. Doers of the word. (James 1:22).
2. Must have the will, the desire to try.
3. To do nothing is to be a failure.

DISCUSSION:

A. One Must Turn His Back On Sinful Practices But At The Same Time Add The Christian Grace. (2 Pet. 1:5 — 11).

1. Can't hate your brother, but you must love him. (1 John 4:7).
2. Must not swear, but you must now praise the Lord. (Col. 3:16, 17).
3. Not to do the works of the flesh, but now you are to bear the fruit of the Spirit. (Gal. 5:19 — 26).

B. It Is A Sin To Do Nothing. (Matt. 25:26).

1. In the physical world the law is if an individual is going to eat he must work. (2 Cor. 9).
2. The Lord will condemn that individual who knows his will but refuses to obey him. (Lk. 12:47, 48).
3. In regard to the Christian, unless he becomes active his former habits and sins will slip back into his life. (2 Pet. 2:20 — 22).

C. Many Are Doing Nothing In Relation To Certain Truths.

1. Obeying the gospel. (Acts 2:38).
2. Returning to first love. (James 5:16).

3. Attending the assemblies. (Heb. 10:25).
4. Giving as prospered. (2 Cor. 9:7).
5. Taking a public part. (Matt. 25).
 - a. In praying.
 - b. In teaching.
 - c. Waiting on the Lord's Table.
6. Studying the Bible.
7. Praying. (1 John 5:14).
8. Personal work. (Mk. 16:15).
9. Helping the poor. (James 1:25).

D. Reasons Why Many Do Nothing.

1. Because of unbelief. (Mk. 16:16).
2. Because of a lack of interest. (Matt. 13:15).
3. Because of fear. (Matt. 2:25).
4. Because of laziness. (Rom. 12:11).
5. Because of neglect. (Heb. 2:3).
6. Because of love for world. (Matt. 13:22).
7. Because of lack of knowledge. (Rom. 10:1, 2).

E. The Spirit Of Do Nothing.

1. Will not make faithful Christians. (Rev. 2:10).
2. Will not bring others to the truth. (Matt. 28:19).
3. Will not build up the Lord's church. (Acts 2:38 — 47).
4. Will do nothing but damn. (Matt. 25:37—46).

CONCLUSION:

1. An individual may reason that he is not going to do anything lest he make a mistake, but to do nothing is to make the greatest mistake of all.
2. One must put forth some effort to be saved in the world to come.

“THE GOD OF THE LIVING”

Mk. 12:27

INTRODUCTION:

1. God “is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living.”
2. Jehovah lives and all that is of him lives, whether it be his Spirit, word, people, and so on.
3. That which is of a physical nature would be dead if it were not for the spirit. (James 2:26).
4. To belong to God we must be full of life.

DISCUSSION:

God Is The God Of The Living;

1. God lives. (Deut. 5:26; 1 Thess. 1:9; Eph. 4:6).
 - a. He had no beginning — will have no ending; from everlasting to everlasting.
 - b. He is the creator of all — earth, heaven, every creature.
 - c. He is a Spirit, and desires worshippers — true worshippers.
 - d. All that is of him lives.
2. Christ lives. (Gen. 1:26; Matt. 28:19; Matt. 16:16; John 6:51; Heb. 13:8; Eph. 4:5).
 - a. He was with God in the beginning.
 - b. Was born of the virgin Mary.
 - c. Recognized as the Son of God.
 - d. He died physically but lives on.
3. The Holy Spirit lives. (Matt. 2—;19; 2 Cor. 3:3; 1 Per. 1:21; Eph. 4:4).
 - a. The Spirit was poured out upon the apostles.
 - b. He directed them in the writing of the word.
 - c. Given to every one who obeys the truth.
4. Man lives. (Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:7; Eccl. 12:7; Matt. 10:28;

- 14:26; Hos. 1:10; Matt. 25:46).
- a. God created man, giving him a soul
 - b. The body may die, but the spirit will never die.
 - c. He will spend eternity somewhere.
5. Bible lives. (Matt. 24:35; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Rev. 22:18, 19; James 1:21, 22; John 12:48).
- a. It contains the will of God.
 - b. It will never be destroyed, but will live on.
 - c. It has the power to make alive.
 - d. Will one day judge the world.
6. Gospel lives. (Mk. 16:15, 16; Rom. 1:16; 1 Thess. 1:9).
- a. It is based on the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.
 - b. It has power to save, to make alive.
 - c. It lives on in the pages of God's word and in the lives of many.
7. Christian lives. (Gal. 3:26, 27; 1 Pet. 4:16; 2 Cor. 5:17; 1 Pet. 2:2, 3).
- a. One must be a Christian to be spiritually alive.
 - b. He not only lives now but has the hope of eternal life.
8. Church lives. (Matt. 16:18, 19; 1 Cor. 12; Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22, 23; 4:1 — 6; 5:23 — 27; 1 Tim. 3:15).
- a. It has a living foundation.
 - b. It has a living name.
 - c. It has a living saviour.
 - d. It has a living head.
 - e. It has a living members.
 - f. It has a living hope.
9. Faith lives. (Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:10; James 2:14 — 26).
- a. Must have faith to please God.
 - b. To be a live faith, it must be working.
 - c. It lives in the lives of many.
 - d. It will take one to heaven.

CONCLUSION:

1. Of course, there are many who are dead.
 - a. Dead spiritually.
 - b. Refuse to do God's will.
2. One must live and serve God to belong to him.
3. God demands his people to be a living example.

PRACTICE WHAT YOU PREACH

Acts. 1:1

INTRODUCTION:

1. Many preach one thing but practice something else.
2. The world wants know why we don't practice what we preach.
3. The Bible teaches "That Jesus began both to do and teach."

DISCUSSION:

A. Preaching. (2 Tim. 4:2).

1. It is not too difficult to preach.
2. Preaching must be done but this is not enough.
3. To be effective we must practice what we preach.
4. To preach one thing but practice something else is but to act the hypocrite.

B. Some Things That We Preach. (Mk. 16:15, 16).

1. We preach that one should attend the assemblies.
2. We preach that one should be reverent in worship.
3. We preach that one should give as he has prospered.

4. We preach that one should pray.
5. We preach that one should study the scriptures.
6. We preach that one should love this neighbor.
7. We preach that one should have a forgiving spirit.
8. We preach that one should hate worldliness.
9. We preach that one should teach the will of God.
10. We preach that one should do the work of God.
11. We preach that one should be humble.

C. Practicing What We Preach. (Matt. 28:19, 20).

1. We should attend the assemblies.
2. We should be reverent in worship.
3. We should give as prospered.
4. We should pray.
5. We should study.
6. We should love our neighbors.
7. We should have a forgiving spirit.
8. We should hate worldliness.
9. We should teach God's will.
10. We should do the work of God.
11. We should be humble.

D. Scriptural Results. (Acts 2:42 — 47).

1. If we will not only teach but follow it up then we will get results.
2. People need to see more Christianity in action.

CONCLUSION:

1. Remember you can't convince the Lord of your desire to go to heaven as long as you merely talk about it.
2. The Christian must walk by faith and to walk by faith is but to do the work of God.
3. Therefore, be a doer of the word.

HOSPITALITY

1 Pet. 4:9

INTRODUCTION:

1. A concordance on the Bible defines this term as being "love of stranger."
2. Webster says: "Hospitable treatment, reception, or disposition."
3. In other words, to be hospitable is but to be friendly, receiving, and generous toward your friends and neighbors.
4. This is something that is not practiced enough and the effects can certainly be felt.

DISCUSSION:

A. Bible Teaching On The Subject.

1. To be given to hospitality. (Rom. 12:13).
2. An elder must be given to hospitality. (1 Tim. 3:2).
3. To be a lover of hospitality. (Tit. 1:8).
4. Use hospitality in relation to one another. (1 Per. 4:9).

B. Some Examples Of Hospitality.

1. Abraham entertains three angels. (Gen. 18).
2. Lot entertains two angels. (Gen 19).
3. Jethro expresses his hospitality. (Ex. 2:20).
4. Samuel entertains Saul. (1 Sam. 9:22).
5. David is hospitable to Israel. (2 Sam. 6:19).
6. Levi made a great feast for the Lord. (Lk. 5:29).
7. The people of Melita showed their kindness. (Acts 28:2).
8. Gaius sets forth his hospitable spirit. (3 John 5).

C. Some Ways In Which One Can Be Hospitable.

1. By being kind to those you meet.

2. By inviting your neighbors to your home.
3. By having members of the church to visit.
4. By encouraging your friends to attend worship.
5. By making strangers feel welcome.

D. Things That Can Be Accomplished Through Being Hospitable.

1. The truth can be taught.
2. A good example can be set.
3. The church can be strengthened.
4. Fellowship can be enjoyed.

CONCLUSION:

1. We are living in a time when the majority of the people want to be left to themselves.
2. A neighborhood is nothing more than a multitude of strangers.
3. The Christian should do his best to change this.
4. Much good can be accomplished by those who have a hospitable spirit.
5. The Christian should most certainly take the lead in this type of work.

DO'S AND DON'TS

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible not only tells a person what to do but also what not to do.
2. Consider the Law of Moses and the Law of Christ on this point and you will find that such is the case.
3. The Lord has not left man to wander about not knowing what to do.

DISCUSSION:

A. Some Do's In Religious Matters.

1. Obey the gospel (Mk. 16:15, 16).
2. Pray without ceasing. (1 Thess. 5:17).
3. Study the word of God. (2 Tim. 2:15).
4. Love one another. (Heb. 13:1).
5. Grow daily. (2 Pet. 3:18).
6. Teach the truth. (Matt. 28:19).
7. Bear one another's burdens. (Gal. 6:1, 2).
8. Be a doer of the word. (James 1:22).

B. Some Don'ts In Religious Matters.

1. Don't be a drunkard. (Eph. 5:18).
2. Don't forsake the assemblies. (Heb. 10:25).
3. Don't be a hypocrite. (Matt. 6:1:8).
4. Don't neglect your salvation. (Heb. 2:1 — 4).
5. Don't bow to the world. (1 John 2:15).
6. Don't engage in the works of the flesh. (Gal. 5:12 — 21).
7. Don't follow the doctrines and commandments of men. (Col. 2:20 — 22).
8. Don't use the tongue in vain. (James 3:1 — 13).

CONCLUSION:

1. In order to please God then one must not only do certain things, but at the same time, must abstain from certain things.
2. Hence, the religion of Christ is both a positive and negative religion.
3. Please consider both sides, and thus, keep the religion of Christ balanced.

SEEMINGLY DIFFICULT PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE

2 Tim. 2:15

INTRODUCTION:

1. There are many seemingly difficult passages of scripture.
2. Some reasons stated for such difficulties:
 - a. Difficulties arise due to misinterpretation of the scripture.
 - b. Others have trouble due to their state of thinking.
 - c. Many others have trouble because they fail to rightly divide the word, etc.
3. Through a correct study of these passages of scripture all of the seemingly difficult passages will clear up.

DISCUSSION:

A. A Child Of God Cannot Sin. (1 John 3:9).

1. A child of God cannot intentionally sin and remain faithful.
2. For instance, a child of God cannot curse and remain a Christian.
3. At the same time, it is impossible to live altogether above sin.

B. All Have Sinned. (Rom. 3:23).

1. All that have reached the age of accountability have sinned.
2. The Bible teaches that little children are born free from sin.

C. Baptism Saves. (1 Pet. 3:21).

1. Baptism is the final command of the gospel.

2. Baptism saves only when it is preceded by faith, etc.
3. The Bible does not teach that baptism only saves.

D. Faith Saves. (Acts 16:31).

1. Faith saves but faith only will not save.
2. A saving faith will lead one to obey the gospel.
3. If faith is to save it must be followed by repentance, etc.

E. Work Out Your Salvation. (Phil. 2:12).

1. Must do the works of God.
2. This does not mean that one is saved apart from grace.
3. One must serve the Lord to be saved by the grace of God.

F. Saved By Fire. (1 Cor. 3:11 — 15).

1. If a man's work is saved then he shall be blessed.
2. But if a man's work is burned up then he shall suffer loss but he will be saved.
3. This has reference to a man's fruit remaining faithful or becoming unfaithful, etc.

G. You Must Be Born Again. (John 3:3 — 5).

1. This has to do with obeying the gospel of Christ.
2. Through obedience one becomes a new creature in Christ.

H. Those Who Believe Have Everlasting Life. (John 3:36).

1. The saved have the hope of everlasting life.
2. Eternity is yet to come as all will surely admit.

CONCLUSION:

1. Many would have the scripture contradicting itself.
2. But as illustrated there is a scriptural explanation for every verse of scripture.
3. Think on these truths and remember to accept the truth instead of twisting it around to suit your doctrine.
4. It is the truth and the truth only that will save.

INDIFFERENCE

Rev. 3:15, 16

INTRODUCTION:

1. To be indifferent toward something is to have a lack of feeling for it or against it.
2. Many Bible examples can be cited where this was the case:
 - a. Adam and Eve.
 - b. People before the flood.
 - c. Children of Israel.
 - d. Church of Laodicea.
3. In other words, to be indifferent is to have the "I don't care" spirit or "there's plenty of time."
4. It seems as a whole this is the condition of the world as it exists today.

DISCUSSION:

- A. Many Are Indifferent Toward God. (Gen. 1:1).**
 1. There are those who reason, "I don't know whether I believe in God or not."
 2. Still others will tell you that they don't want to talk about God and the future.
- B. Many Are Indifferent Toward The Bible. (2 Pet. 1:21).**
 1. "The Bible is alright for those who want to read it."
 2. "I am going to do what I please regardless."
- C. Many Are Indifferent Toward The Gospel. (Rom. 1:16).**
 1. "One can be saved by living a good moral life."
 2. "I prayed to God and he saved me."
 3. "There is plenty of time to obey the gospel."

- D. Many Are Indifferent Toward The Church. (Acts. 2:47).**
1. "One church is as good as another."
 2. "I don't think the church is important."
 3. "I am going to join the church some of these days."
- E. Many Are Indifferent Toward Worship. (John 4:24).**
1. "Worship with the church of your choice."
 2. "Worship is not so important that you have to attend every service."
 3. "It doesn't matter how much you give just so long as you give a little dab."
- F. Many Are Indifferent Toward The Christian Life. (1 Tim. 4:16).**
1. "I am not a saint."
 2. "A fellow has a right to a little fun in life."
 3. "I want to sow my wild oats now."
 4. "There's plenty of time yet."

CONCLUSION:

1. Indifference is not only to be found in the world but in the church as well.
2. But mind you, wherever it is found it spells damnation.
3. To live for God requires firmness, determination, and faith.
4. Be not indifferent but think seriously about this life and the one yet to come.

WHAT ARE YOU WORTH TO THE CHURCH?

INTRODUCTION:

1. This question is for each member of the church.

2. The attitude of some members:
 - a. "The church just couldn't get along without me."
 - b. "I can't do this or that and so I am not worth anything."
3. Each person should examine himself in relation to this question.

DISCUSSION:

A. Members Who Aren't Worth Anything To The Church.

1. Those who have merely been baptized. (Matt. 28:19, 20).
2. Those who are not truly converted. (Acts 3:19).
3. Those who will not attend the assemblies. Heb. 10:25).
4. Those who will not give. (1 Cor. 16:2).
5. Those who will not study. (2 Tim. 2:15).
6. Those who will not pray. (Lk. 18:1).
7. Those who love the world. (1 John 2:15 — 17).

B. Members Who Are Worth Something To The Church.

1. Those who attend the assemblies. (Acts 20:7).
2. Those who give as they have been prospered. (2 Cor. 9:7).
3. Those who study the word of God. (John. 5:39).
4. Those who continually pray. (1 Thess. 5:17).
5. Those who preach God's word. (2 Tim. 4:2).
6. Those who abound in the Lord's work. (1 Cor. 15:58).
7. Those who are faithful to God. (Rev. 2:10).

CONCLUSION:

1. What are you worth to the church.?
2. Make up your mind to be worth something or get out.

HOLY THINGS

Rom. 21:1, 2; 1 Pet. 1:15, 16

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible speaks of many, many holy things and it is our purpose to consider some of them.
2. The term 'holy' simply means: that which has been set apart or dedicated; that which is sacred, holy, or godly.
3. One should not be afraid of the word 'holy' even though there is a group of religious people who are known as 'Holiness'.
4. That which is from God is referred to as being holy and the Lord would have his people to be likewise.

DISCUSSION:

A. God Is Holy. (John 17:11).

1. Christ called his Father holy.
2. The Christian is to reverence God.
3. The Father reigns in glory itself.

B. Christ Is Holy. (1 Pet. 1:15).

1. Came down from heaven.
2. The Son of God.
3. He lived a perfect life.

C. Spirit Is Holy. (Matt. 28:19, 20).

1. Christ sent him upon the apostles.
2. Promised to those who obey the truth.
3. Even called holy.

D. Church Is Holy. (Heb. 3:1).

1. Christ established it.
2. Purchased with the blood of Christ.
3. Composed of those who are called of God.

E. Gospel Is Holy. (Rom. 1:16).

1. Called by the gospel.
2. Has the power to save.

F. Blood Is Holy. (1 Pet. 1:18, 19).

1. The blood of Christ.
2. The blood of Christ saves.

G. Name Is Holy. (Acts 4:12).

1. Salvation is in the name of Christ.
2. Must wear the name of Christ.
3. The church wears the Lord's name.

H. Word Is Holy. (2 Tim. 3:16, 19).

1. Holy men of old spake as moved by the Holy Ghost.
2. All scripture is given by inspiration of God.
3. The word us truth and the truth saves.

I. Heaven Is Holy. (Rev. 22:18, 19).

1. God and Christ are there.
2. Only the righteous will enter that city.
3. It will stand forever and ever.

CONCLUSION:

1. One cannot live in sin all of his life and go home to heaven when he dies.
2. The Lord would have all to obey him and thus live holy lives.
3. As holy people God would have us to be holy in worship, conversation, and so on.

SOME ANCIENT FOES

INTRODUCTION:

1. A foe is an enemy or an oppressor.
2. There are ancient foes and modern foes.
3. This lesson will emphasize the ancient ones.

DISCUSSION:

- A. **The Devil.** (1 Pet. 5:8).
- B. **Death.** (1 Cor. 15:26).
- C. **Those Of One's Household.** (Matt. 10:36).
- D. **The Unbeliever.** (Phil. 3:18).
- E. **The Hypocrite.** (Matt. 6:5).
- F. **The Worldly.** (James 4:4).
- G. **False Teachers.** (Rom. 16:17, 18).
- H. **Money Lovers.** (1 Tim. 6:10).
- I. **Those In High Power.** (Lk 23:35).
- J. **The Carnal.** (Rom. 8:7).
- K. **Sin.** (Rom. 6:23).
- L. **Division.** (1 Cor. 1:10).
- M. **Neglect.** (Heb. 2:3).
- N. **Lukewarmness.** (Rev. 3:13 — 16).
- O. **Pride.** (1 John 2:16).
- P. **Gossip.** (James 3:1 — 13).
- Q. **Hatred** (Gal. 5:20).
- R. **Self.** (2 Pet. 2:10).

CONCLUSION:

1. Then there are other ancient foes like infidelity.
2. These things can destroy one if they are only given a chance.
3. One needs to put on the whole armour of God in order that he may throw off the wiles of the devil.
4. All of the foes mentioned are of the devil and therefore

- need to be put in their place.
5. Continue to think on these things in the light of the holy scriptures.

PURIFICATION

1 Pet. 1:22

introduction;

1. Purification has reference to that of cleansing something; clearing and refining it.
2. In Old Testament days there were days of purification, that is, days set aside for one to purify himself.
3. God would have all to purify themselves, but of course, according to his will.

DISCUSSION:

A. How May One Purify Himself?

1. Through obeying the truth. (1 Pet. 1:22).
2. Through faith. (1 Tim. 3:9; Acts 15:9).
3. Through purging our sins. (2 Pet. 1:9).
4. Through washing with water. (Heb. 10:22).

B. Who Does The Purifying?

1. The Lord. (Tit. 2:14).
2. The word of truth. (1 Pet. 1:22).
3. The individual. (1 Pet. 1:22).

C. How May One Remain Pure?

1. By keeping a pure heart. (Matt. 5:8).
2. By keeping a pure conscience. (1 Tim. 3:9).

3. By dealing with pure things. (phil. 4:8).
4. By practicing a pure religion. (James 1:27).
5. By keeping a pure mind. (2 Pet. 3:1).
6. By keeping his hope in the Lord. (1 John 3:3).

CONCLUSION:

1. The Lord demands that one purify himself if he expects to be saved.
2. He also demands a life of purity — a life free from sin and worldliness — if one is to be eternally saved.
3. The Christian life then is a life of purity in preparation for the eternal abode with God where there is no sin.

WHO AM I?

INTRODUCTION:

1. We are to be nothing but what the Bible teaches that we should be.
 - a. We are not to be anything less.
 - b. We are not to be anything more.
2. Some people have drifted away from the will of God, and therefore, are either more or less than what they should be.
3. The purpose of this lesson is to find out just who we are.
4. Please consider the statements that I am going to make relative to the question that is before us.
5. As you consider my statements then you may also consider your situation.

DISCUSSION:

A. My Friends, I Am Not:

1. A reverend. (Ps. 111:9).

2. A pastor. (Eph. 4:11).
3. An elder. (Tit. 1:5).
4. A bishop. (1 Tim. 3:1).
5. A Father. (Matt. 23:9).
6. A rabbi. (Matt. 23:8).
7. A denominationalist. (Mk. 7:7).
8. A sinner.
 - a. An alien sinner. (Acts 2:38).
 - b. An erring Christian. (1 John 1:9).
9. A modernist. (John 20:30, 31).
10. A infidel. (Mark 16:16).

B. My Friends, I Am.

1. A believer. (John 3:16).
2. A Christian. (1 Pet. 4:16).
3. A child of God. (Gal. 3:26, 27).
4. A church member. (Acts 2:47).
5. A saint. (1 Cor. 1:2).
6. A teacher. (Matt. 28:19, 20).
7. A preacher. (2 Tim. 4:2).
8. A servant. (Rom. 6:17, 18).
9. A minister. (Matt. 20:26).

CONCLUSION:

1. Who are you?
2. are you following man?
3. Are you following the Lord's will?
4. May the Lord help us to be what God would have us be.

GLORIFYING GOD

1 Cor. 10:31

INTRODUCTION:

1. Only God deserves all glory; He is the creator and the giver of all blessings both temporal and spiritual.
2. Man is to strive to glorify God in all that he says or does; he was put here for that purpose.

DISCUSSION:

- A. **Man Was Created In The Image Of God In Order That He Might Glorify His Creator . (Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:7).**
- B. **God Sent His son Into The World In Order That He Might Be Glorified Through Him. (John 8:50).**
- C. **The Church Was Established For The Purpose. Of Glorifying God. (Eph. 3:21).**
- D. **The Gospel Was Presented To The World In Order That God Might Be Glorified. (2 Cor. 4:4; 1 Tim. 1:11).**
- E. **The Christian's Worship Is A Matter Of Glorifying The God Of Heaven. (John 4:24).**
- F. **God May Be Glorified Through Wearing The Name Of Christ. (1 Per. 4:16).**
- G. **To Glorify God In The Body And In The Spirit. (1 Cor. 6:20).**
- H. **The Christian Must Glorify God Through His Manner Of Life. (Matt. 5:14 — 16).**
- I. **The Christian Is To Glorify God Through His Preaching. (1 Pet. 4:11).**
- J. **Whatsoever Is Done In Word Or Deed Is To Be Done To The Glory Of God. (Col. 3:17).**

CONCLUSION:

1. What's the purpose of glorifying God?
 - a. Because he is the giver of all blessings.
 - b. In order that we might please God.
 - c. That He might continue to bless us.
2. Remember, one must abide by the will of God To glorify him.
3. To glorify God is but to honor him, or to thank Him for all that He has done.

A SPIRITUAL EXAMINATION

2 Cor. 13:5

INTRODUCTION:

1. We should be concerned about everything that we says or do.
2. Especially so, since we are going to have to give an account of the same.
3. Furthermore, we should examine ourselves every now and then to see where we stand.
4. Just now I am going to examine myself and I want you to do likewise.

DISCUSSION:

- A. Some Things to Consider In Regard To The Examination.**
1. This is to be a religious or spiritual examination.
 2. Certain scriptural truths will be stated and then I will examine myself accordingly.
 3. This examination will reveal one of two things.
 - a. It will show if I am a sinner.
 - b. It will show if I am a Christian.
 4. The purpose of this examination is to help me.

B. The Bible And What It Teaches.

1. The Bible teaches that one must hear the truth. (Rom. 10:17).
2. The Bible teaches that one must believe. (Heb. 11:6).
3. The Bible teaches that one must repent. (Lk. 13:3).
4. The Bible teaches that one must confess Christ. (Matt. 10:32).
5. The Bible teaches that one must be baptized. (Mk. 16:16).
6. The Bible teaches that the saved are added to the church. (Acts 2:47).
7. The Bible teaches that one must be a member of the Lord's body to be saved. (Eph. 5:23).
8. The Bible teaches that one must worship God in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24).
9. The Bible teaches that one must practice pure religion. (James 1:27).
10. The Bible teaches that one must remain faithful to the Lord. (Rev. 2:10).

C. I Am Now Ready To examine Myself In The Light Of God's Word.

1. I heard the truth of God.
2. I believed it with all of my heart.
3. I repented of my sins.
4. I confessed my faith in Christ.
5. I was baptized for the remission of sins.
6. I was added to the Lord's Church.
7. I am a member of the Lord's Church.
8. I worship God in spirit and in truth.
9. I practice the pure religion of Christ.
10. I am endeavoring to remain faithful to the Lord.

D. The Results Of The Examination.

1. I believe that I have passed it, but what about you?

2. I have given you what the Bible teaches and what I have done.
3. My friends, the Lord would have us all to do the same thing.
4. Consider your situation in the light of God's word and if it needs correcting then do so.

CONCLUSION:

1. The Bible is always right.
2. We'll always be right as long as we abide by it.
3. Think seriously about these matters.

FAITH IN CHRIST AND HIS WORD

Mk. 16:16

INTRODUCTION:

1. It is impossible to believe in a man and fail to believe that which he says.
2. Likewise, it is impossible to believe in Christ and at the same time doubt his word.
3. However, there are people who confess to believe in Christ but along with that confession acknowledge that they do not believe his word.
4. Hence, this is a lesson to show the absurdity of such.

DISCUSSION:

- A. It Is Enough To Merely Profess Faith In Christ.**
1. Some believe in Christ historically.
 2. Some believe in Christ physically speaking.
 3. Some believe in Christ sacrificially speaking.

4. But one must believe the Lord's word as well.
5. Not only must one believe it but must obey it.
6. Then, and only then, can one say that he believes in Christ.

B. To Believe In Christ Is To Believe The Lord's Word.

1. The gospel has power to save. (Rom. 1:16).
2. Baptism is for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38).
3. The church belongs to Christ. (Matt. 16:18).
4. The saved are added to the church. (Acts. 2:47).
5. There is but one church. (Eph. 4:4).
6. Division stand condemned. (John 17).
7. Each must work out his salvation. (Phil. 2:12).

C. To Believe In Christ And His Word Is To Obey Him.

1. To obey the gospel. (Mk. 16:16).
2. To be a member of the Lord's church. (1 Cor. 12:13).
3. To wear the name of Christ. (1 Per. 4:16).
4. To worship god in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24).
5. To live faithful to the Lord. (James 1:12).

CONCLUSION:

1. The majority have only a dead faith.
2. A Saving faith leads one to walk according to the Lord's will.
3. The kind of faith that you have determines the course you will follow.

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Matt. 16:18

INTRODUCTION:

1. Many people reason that the title or name “church of Christ” cannot be found in the Bible.
2. However, such is to be found time and time again and it will be proven.
3. Please turn to the Bible and consider the God-given name of the church.

DISCUSSION:

A. The Church And Its Bible Name — The Name Of Christ.

1. the body of Christ — the church of Christ. (1 cor. 12:27).
2. The body of Christ — the church of Christ. (Eph. 4:12).
3. The members of Christ — the church of Christ. (1 Cor. 6:15).
4. My church — the church of Christ. (Matt. 16:18).
5. Church of the firstborn — the church of Christ. (Heb. 12:23).

B. The Church And Its Bible Name — The Name Of God.

1. The church of God — the church of Christ. (1 Cor. 1:10).
2. The church of God — the church of Christ. (1 Cor. 10:32).
3. The church of God — the church of Christ. (Acts 20:28).
4. The church of God — the church of Christ. (1 Cor. 11:22).
5. The church of God — the church of Christ. (1 Cor. 15:9).
6. The church of God — the church of Christ. (2 Cor. 1:1).
7. The church of God — the church of Christ. (Gal. 1:13).
8. The church of God — the church of Christ. (1 Thess. 2:14).
9. The household of God — the church of Christ. (Eph. 2:19).

10. The kingdom of God — the church of Christ. (Eph. 5:5).
11. Servants of God — the church of Christ. (1 Pet. 2:16).
12. The temple of God — the church of Christ. (1 Cor. 3:16).

C. The Church Of Christ And The Church Of God.

1. That which belongs to the one belongs to the other.
2. The church of Christ is the church of God and vice versa.
3. Both names are scriptural.
4. It is more expedient to use one name.
5. The church of Christ is better known for this reason.

CONCLUSION:

1. So you see, the Bible does uphold the church of Christ.
2. Therefore, for a church to wear a name other than the name of Christ then that church is a fake.
3. Let's speak as the oracles of God and remain with the God-given name of the church.

A SCRIPTURAL FORMULA FOR FUTURE HAPPINESS

INTRODUCTION:

1. There are certain drugs, that if properly mixed and taken, will help one to gain his health back.
2. There are many formulas, in regard to the physical side of life, and all for a good purpose.
3. The kind that is under consideration will not only help in this life but in the world to come as well.

DISCUSSION:

A. Faith Is Important. (Heb. 11:6).

1. One must have faith in any field of endeavor.

2. It will lead one to make the right steps.
3. To actually walk by faith.

B. An Obedient Spirit Will Go Well. (James 1:22).

1. Action speaks louder than words.
2. There's nothing like a good demonstration.
3. The Lord has always been interested in doers.
4. Such is a test of one's faith.

C. An Expression Of Love Wouldn't Hurt. (Matt. 22:36, 37).

1. To love God with all the heart.
2. Also, must love the neighbor.

D. A Desire To Serve Will Fit In Fine. (Matt. 20:26 — 28).

1. To be great then one must serve.
2. A Christian is nothing more than a servant of Christ.
3. A good servant will follow his Master's instructions.

E. Add A Supply Of Hope. (Heb. 6:18, 19).

1. It is hope that keeps a man moving.
2. There's always a better tomorrow.

F. Mix Now With A Life Of Faithfulness. (Rev. 2:10).

1. The Lord would have his people to be faithful.
2. A faithful life will bring a crown of life.

CONCLUSION:

1. To be happy now and forevermore then try this formula.
2. It will work because it is suggested by the great physician.
3. It has gotten results before and it will again.

THOSE WITHIN AND WITHOUT

INTRODUCTION:

1. Those within have reference to those who are in the church.
2. Those without have reference to those who are outside the church.
3. There are those in the church but the majority are outside the church.
4. Those in the church may be saved but those outside the church will be lost.

DISCUSSION:

A. Those Within The Church.

1. Children of God. (Gal. 3:26, 27).
2. Those who are Christians. (Acts 11:26).
3. The individuals who have been baptized into Christ. (Rom. 6:3, 4).
4. Faithful people of God. (Rev. 2:10).
5. Saints of the Lord. (1 cor. 1:1, 2).

B. Those Without The Church

1. Infidels. (Ps. 14:1).
2. Modernists. (John 8:31).
3. Moralists. (Acts 10:1 — 48).
4. The sinner. (Rom. 3:23).
5. The worldly. (1 John 2:15 — 17).
6. The denominationalists. (Rom. 16:17, 18).
7. The hypocrite. (Matt. 6:1 — 13).
8. The transgressor. (2 John 9 — 11).
9. The unbeliever. (Mk. 16:16).

C. Your Group.

1. You must be in one group or the other.

2. You are either with the Lord or against him.
3. You are either on the narrow road or the broad road.
4. You are either obedient or disobedient.
5. You know what group you are in.
6. You may also change from one group to the other.
7. You will be responsible as to the actions you take.

CONCLUSION:

1. Those within and those without — the saved and the lost.
2. Much depends on these important matters.
3. Weigh carefully each point and take your stand with the truth.

NEEDS OF THIS CONGREGATION

INTRODUCTION:

1. Congregational needs vary with different ones.
2. Some congregations are stronger than others.
3. All could stand more teaching and practice.

DISCUSSION:

A. A Need In Regard To Attending The Various Services.

1. A Christian should attend every service possible.
2. Christians are not to forsake the assembly. (Heb. 10:25).
3. We have an example where people met to worship God. (Acts 20:7).
4. The church must continue steadfast in the apostle's doctrine. (Acts 2:42).
5. Everything that we say or do should be to the glory of God. (Col. 3:17).

B. A Need For More Reverence.

1. A worship service should be quiet, and thought pro-

voking.

2. We need to feel that we are in the presence of the Lord. (Matt. 18).
3. The Lord has promised to be with us always. (Matt. 28:18 — 20)
4. We meet in the name of the Lord. (Col. 3:17).
5. Should not let our worship become a mere formality.

C. A Need For More Giving.

1. The Christian is blessed of God.
2. To seek first the kingdom of God. (Matt. 6:33).
3. Example of people giving. (Acts 4, 5).
4. We are taught to give as we have been prospered. (1 Cor. 16:2).
5. If we will but give ourselves to the Lord, then we will have no trouble.

D. A Need For More Love For God And One Another.

1. We are to love God. (Matt. 22:36).
2. Must love our neighbor as ourself. (Matt. 22:37, 38).
3. Love is a great thing. (1 Cor. 13).
4. It is included in the Christian graces. (2 Pet. 1:5 — 11).
5. To hate our brother is to hate God.

CONCLUSION:

1. What are you going to do about these things as an individual?
2. As a congregation, what are we going to do about these things?
3. Let's take action and do the right thing about them.

THE BEATITUDES

Matt. 5:1 — 12

INTRODUCTION:

1. The word beatitude means blessed, happy, etc.
2. The Lord presents nine in one sitting.
3. This is but a portion of the Sermon on the Mount, said by some to be the greatest sermon ever delivered.

DISCUSSION:

The Beatitudes.

1. "Blessed are the poor in spirit."
 - a. The humble, the lowly.
 - b. These shall compose the Lord's kingdom.
2. "Blessed are they that mourn."
 - a. A godly sorrow that works repentance.
 - b. These shall be comforted or forgiven.
3. "Blessed are the meek."
 - a. The mild and gentle.
 - b. Shall inherit spiritual Canaan.
4. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness."
 - a. Those who hunger for spiritual things.
 - b. The Lord has promised to fill such people.
5. "Blessed are the merciful."
 - a. Those who are ready to forgive.
 - b. The Lord has promised to forgive the same.
6. "Blessed are the pure in heart."
 - a. The Lord demands a pure heart, mind, etc.
 - b. These will see God by faith and will one day dwell with him.
7. "Blessed are the peacemakers."
 - a. Those who go forth preaching peace and good will

- among men.
- b. These are truly the children of God.
8. "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake."
- a. Those who suffer for that which is right, doing the will of God, and so on.
 - b. These will be remembered.
9. "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you.
- a. Those who suffer for the Lord's sake.
 - b. Rejoice and realize that the men of God of days gone by suffered likewise.

CONCLUSION:

1. Are you happy? are you blessed of God?
2. Here are some fundamental principles of genuine Christianity.
3. The Lord has given us something to measure ourselves by.

THREE GROUPS OF PEOPLE AND THEIR PHILOSOPHIES

INTRODUCTION:

1. Various people have various philosophies.
 - a. The robber — what is yours is mine if I can get it.
 - b. The worldly — eat, drink, and be merry.
2. This is a study of three groups of people and their philosophies.
3. After a study of these things, then let us make a Christian application to them.

DISCUSSION:

A. Athenians — Learn Thyself.

1. They were noted for their wisdom in secular things. (Acts 17).
 - a. Wise in the things of the world.
 - b. Ignorant of God and his will.
2. The wisdom of man is void. (Rom. 1:20 — 25).
3. The wisdom of God is greater than the wisdom of man. (1 Cor. 1).

B. Romans — Enjoy Thyself.

1. They sought after worldly pleasure. (Rom. 1).
2. It is but vain to seek pleasure only. (Lk. 12).
3. The prodigal son failed to find lasting pleasure in the world. (Lk. 15).

C. Christians — Give Thyself.

1. It is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35).
2. The Good Samaritan had a giving spirit.
3. One must give up all to follow the Lord. (Lk. 9:23).
4. One must give his life to the Lord to obey him. (Matt. 16:24).
5. The Christian is to give materially and otherwise. (1 Cor. 16:2; Matt. 5:14 — 16).

CONCLUSION:

1. Happiness cannot be found in wisdom and pleasure, but only in giving.
2. Through giving we receive if we have the spirit of Christ.

UNBELIEF

Heb. 3:19

INTRODUCTION:

1. The opposite of belief; failing to believe.
2. Unbelief is a sin; many are guilty.
3. It will be the ruin or damnation of more souls than any other one thing.

DISCUSSION:

A. Examples Of Unbelief.

1. The Israelites. (Heb. 3:19; 4:11).
2. The people of Nazareth. (Matt. 13:58; Mk. 6:6).
3. Paul was at one time an unbeliever. (1 Tim. 1:13).

B. Unbelief Will Be The Cause Of Damnation.

1. "He that believeth not is condemned already." (John 3:18).
2. "He that believeth not shall be damned." (Mk. 16:16).
3. Unbelief destroys in this life and in the world to come.

C. The Commandments And Unbelief.

1. A failure to repent will not condemn a soul but unbelief will. (Acts 17:30).
2. A failure to confess Christ will not condemn a soul but unbelief will. (Rom. 10:10).
3. A failure to be baptized will not condemn a soul but unbelief will. (Mk. 16:16).
4. A failure to worship God will not condemn a soul but unbelief will. (John 4:24).
5. A failure to live the Christian life will not condemn a soul but unbelief will. (Rev. 2:10).

D. Unbelief Is To Be Put Down.

1. "Help thou mine unbelief." (Mk. 9:24).

2. Must believe to please God. (Heb. 11:6).
3. To live by faith. (Rom. 1:17).

CONCLUSION:

1. Why are the commands of God rejected?
 - a. Because of complete infidelity.
 - b. Because of lack of faith.
 - c. Or, in plain language, because of unbelief.
2. Unbelief will damn but faith will save. (Mk. 16:16).
3. Faith only will not save but faith will save. (James 2).
4. Saving faith is a working faith. (James 1, 2).
5. Bible faith will not only save but will lead one to Heaven's celestial shore. (John 14:1 — 3).

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