

"And the gospel must first be published among all nations" (St. Mark 13:10).

"As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love" (John 15:9).



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOSPEL SPREADING CHURCH OF GOD

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NOT FOR SALE



Choir Day - Children's Choir

(Continued on Page 6 and 7)



One thing I like about God, He never forgets His promise.

\*\*\*\*\*

There can be no improvement to what God has done.

\*\*\*\*\*

The gospel is preached that man might see the love of God, not the wrath of God.

\*\*\*\*\*

The gospel is not to be changed to suit you; you are to be changed to suit the gospel.

\*\*\*\*\*

Everything is beautiful when you are happy in the Lord.

\*\*\*\*\*

When we hear the Word of God, we should lay aside our own thoughts.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't let the sun go down on your head with the wound unhealed in the heart of one you've hurt.

\*\*\*\*\*

A thankful heart will offer praise.

\*\*\*\*\*

What is one moment of lustful pleasure when compared with eternal joy in store for the pure in heart?

\*\*\*\*\*

Nothing can make a man holy but the Spirit of God.

\*\*\*\*\*

You've got to have the Spirit of God to keep from bowing to the flesh.

\*\*\*\*\*

Nothing brings knowledge to the mind of man like the Word of God.

\*\*\*\*\*

A lie might get you by for a while, but hope of an ultimate triumph can be found only in the truth.

\*\*\*\*\*

"Sparks from the Anvil" are now available in hard copy. If you desire a copy, write to the Happy New Publishing Company, 2030 Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001-3027 Contributions are \$8.00.

# WHY DID JUDAS BETRAY JESUS

I will preach to you about Judas, and the love of money in this message. You will no doubt recall that Judas was the disciple who betrayed Jesus, just before Christ was crucified. You will find the text in St Mark the 14th Chapter and the 10th Verse, which reads: "And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them." The text this morning is, "Why Did Judas Betray Jesus?" My precious ones, nothing but the Word of God can give you light and understanding on such a puzzling question as the one which I am using for a text.

The context is found in St. John, the 17th Chapter and the 12th Verse, which reads as follows: "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled." The words of the Scripture which I have just had read to you were spoken by Jesus in His prayer to God, His Father, just before He went to the cross. He was telling His Father that all of the Apostles which He (God) had given Him were still with Him except the son of perdition and that was to the end that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.

In Acts the 1st Chapter, reading from the 15th to the 20th Verses, you will find the statement that was made concerning Judas, to the disciples when they were gathered together at Jerusalem. I want you to get the picture and understand that Judas betrayed Jesus because it was ordained that he should do so. It reads: "And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama."

The one hundred and twenty spoken of by Peter, represents the number who had just come to the Upper Room after leaving the Mount of Olivet; for there Jesus ascended into Heaven. They were tarrying and waiting in Jerusalem for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as Jesus had promised. Peter spoke the aforementioned words to the disciples while he was being overshadowed by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God had also spoken these words long ago by the mouth of David.

Judas had at one time been numbered with the twelve disciples and had been ordained just as they had. The Chief Priest and Elders purchased a field with the reward of Judas' iniquity for the purpose of burying the poor and it was in this field that his bowels gushed out as he sought to take

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# The "Happy Am I" Radio Preacher's Message

## WHY DID JUDAS BETRAY JESUS

(Continued from Page 1)

his life. All the people of Jerusalem learned of his act. I had this passage of Scripture read to you to let you know that it was predestinated that he should betray Jesus Christ.

It just so happened that Judas turned out to be the Son of Perdition which was spoken of before he was born. It was not because of the fact that he was Judas but it was according to the foreknowledge of God, who realized that somebody, somewhere, would be called the Son of Perdition. Judas did not have to betray Jesus any more than you are forced to rebel against God, but it is ordained that **sinners** shall die **eternally** for their **sin**. It could have been any one of the other Apostles, but Judas just fulfilled the prophecy of God that promised that a friend would betray Him.

Now my brother and sister, this prophecy was spoken as far back as the time of David, before the birth of Christ. In Romans the 8th Chapter and the 30th and 31st Verses, you will find these words: **"Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."** This Scripture refers to the righteous predestination of men. **"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"** Let us read from the 28th to the 30th Verses, that you might get a clearer picture of the plan. It reads: **"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son..."**

It is true that those things were already planned. God knows everything before it ever comes to pass; He can tell you or me the way a certain thing will end when it begins. Whatever happens to you, does not happen because God is a respecter of persons, but the fact is, that God knows that one person or the other will do this or that thing. It is usually the person who rises up in unbelief and becomes arrogant toward God, when an event is predicted, and the time is at hand, who becomes involved in the prediction. Such was the case of Judas when Jesus told his disciples that someone would betray Him. Desiring to be looked upon as the others, Judas asked, "Is it I?" Christ answered, "Thou hast said." Judas became angry with Jesus because the Lord exposed him before the other disciples.

God raised up Pharaoh for a purpose which is told to us in the 9th Chapter and the 17th Verse of Romans, which reads: **"For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth."** The 18th Verse says: "Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth." Now that verse refers to the wicked. When the wicked becomes rebellious and hateful and won't hear God, then the Lord suffers his heart to be hardened. The Word of God says that he that is often reprov'd and hardens his heart, shall be destroyed suddenly and that without remedy. God lets the wicked know that no matter how powerful he rises up to be, he cannot thwart the plan of God. Pharaoh was a name given to the rulers of Egypt just as the name President is given to the rulers of our country.

Judas was not necessarily the man to betray Jesus in order that the Scriptures might be fulfilled; he just became hard in his heart and rebelled against God. His act was the result of his rebellion and thus the Scriptures were fulfilled by him. As I told you before, any one of the other disciples could have done what Judas did.

Even though Judas betrayed Jesus, he did not have to be lost, for Jesus prayed for him, and not only him, but for all sinners. While dying on the Cross, Jesus prayed to His Father saying, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." Judas came in under that prayer and if he had not let his sin get between him and God, he could have been saved.

I want you to see, my precious ones, that it is a dangerous thing to sit under the teachings of the Word of God and then harden your heart. The Word of the Lord says that, **"...whom he will he hardeneth."** He only wills to harden the heart of a man who is often reprov'd and doesn't take



Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux,  
founder

correction. You can't, to save your life, escape the judgments of God; someone is going to fulfill every passage. It doesn't have to be you, but if you will go your wicked way, it will be your portion and lot to fulfill some passage of Scripture, which God has said would come to pass. If you fulfill such a passage, you will be brought into the class with the Son of Perdition. There is no hope for you; for there is no hope for a man who will not hear. Judas sat there at the table with the twelve; he heard the teachings of Jesus and saw His works but his mind was covetous. He was the treasurer; he carried the bag with the money. It is dangerous for a person, without God, to handle money. You will become hard if you fool with money because you will find yourself beginning to love it because it has power. With a dollar, you can make some people who don't have God in them do most anything. Therefore the Scriptures declare that the love of money is the root of all evil. Just as soon as you begin to love money you will do anything to get it. Women will sell their bodies for money; men will murder you for money, just because they love it. They have no regard for law and order when they have a desire to get money.

On one occasion, when Jesus was gathered with His Apostles, a woman came in with a precious box of ointment, which cost several hundred dollars. She wanted to anoint Jesus because she loved Him, so she broke the box of ointment upon Him and its fragrance went all over the room. When Judas saw this, he claimed that the expensive ointment was wasted by breaking it and putting it on Jesus. He asked, "why is this waste; what is this woman doing? This ointment might have been sold and the money given to the poor." The Scriptures tell us that he did not say it because he was interested in the poor, but he said it because he carried the bag which held all the money that was brought in for the poor. The Bible says that he said it because he was a thief; he had been stealing all the time. Judas did not hold the position which he held because he loved Jesus; he was honest as the other disciples were when he began his work with Jesus, for he was chosen just as all of you, who are Saints are chosen of the Lord and are living a life above sin. If you come into the church and get smart on God's hands and get another vision, then the Scriptures don't take any effect on you and before long, you will be cut short. Judas had his days shortened because he was covetous and greedy.

So my precious ones, for your learning and understanding, may I tell you that the Scriptures declare what shall be among the wicked and the righteous. God speaks according to His foreknowledge, but He doesn't have to be talking about any particular person when He prophesies. Anyone is likely to fulfill that prophesy and you can be righteous as easy as you can be wicked and be the one to fulfill God's Word spoken by His prophet. God has told you what the portion of the righteous and the wicked will be. Whenever the time comes for a prophesy to be fulfilled, someone in the midst of the wicked or righteous will fulfill it; that's what Judas did. Judas was the only fellow in the crowd that wasn't right because even though he had sat among them and had listened to the teachings of Jesus, in his heart he had back slid. The time had come for Jesus to be betrayed, therefore, because Judas' heart was not right, God said to him "Thou art the one." Jesus had said, "One of you shall betray me."

Each of the disciples began to ask, "Is it I?" Then Judas wanted to be with them, so he asked, "Is it I?" Jesus answered him saying, "Thou has said."

Very often, when the Gospel is being preached and you are not living as you should live, you will conclude that the preacher is talking to you, when he doesn't even have you in mind. The Lord knows, so when you begin to say, "he is talking to me," – he is. How could you feel that he was talking to you, if you had no part in what was being said? You may come in and say that someone stole your pocketbook but I will know that you are not talking about me because I will not have had it. The fellow who has the pocketbook will say in his heart, "He is talking to me." He will say that because he has the pocketbook. It is dangerous to be deceitful.

Even though Judas betrayed Jesus, he did not have to be lost. Jesus has never planned that anyone be lost. His deed could and would have been forgiven, because Jesus prayed for him as well as for all of those who mocked and jeered Him as He was dying on the cross. Jesus even prayed for the centurion who pierced Him. Jesus said, **"Father forgive them; for they know not what they do."**

To show the effect of prayer, it is recorded in the Word of God that one of the thieves who hung on a cross beside Jesus believed. Jesus said to him, **"...Today, thou shall be with me in Paradise."**

The Scriptures declare that all manner of **sin** shall be forgiven. I want it read to you so that you can understand it. It is in your Bible in St Matthew the 12th Chapter, Verses 31 and 32. No matter what your **sin** is, God is willing to forgive it, but the danger is that your **sin** may get between you and God and you won't be able to get to God. Many of us have done things that were wrong to other people and we have felt sorry that we did them, but we lacked the courage to ask forgiveness. There is no need to run around to anyone else; the thing to do is to try to get things straightened out with God. Judas went to the Chief Priest and Scribes and tried to repent by taking the money back. There is only one source of forgiveness and that is from God. If Judas' sin had not stood so big in his eyes, he could have been forgiven. The Scripture, which I called your attention to a short while ago says: **"Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men:... but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come."** These words were spoken by Jesus. He says that all manner of **sin** will be forgiven you except that of blaspheming the Holy Ghost. You may say anything you want against Jesus, and He will forgive you, but God will not forgive the blasphemy of the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Ghost is the Spirit of God that comes to you and woos you; it convicts you; it pleads with you. If you should reject or speak against that Spirit, there is no other help for you, for the Holy Ghost is the last thing that comes to a man to convict him. God is the Judge, Jesus is the mediator, and the Holy Ghost is the Spirit of God which convicts and convinces. If the Holy Spirit is unable to convict and convince you of your **sins**; and you reject and blaspheme that, there'll be no forgiveness for you in this world, nor in the world to come. Remember my precious ones, all manner of **sin**: theft, murder, adultery, fornication, lying or any kind of **sin** will be forgiven if you make up your mind that you will forsake your **sins**. Jesus, who has the **power** to forgive **sin** will say to you, "Go in peace, sin no more lest a worse thing come upon you." If you should continue to listen to the **truth** and **reproof** of God and harden your heart and stiffen your neck, you shall be a Son of Perdition. Your heart will become so hard that nothing will affect you; you will be in a very dangerous place. When you become so set in your way that nothing can move you, then you become fit for God to use to fulfill His Word as a Son of Perdition, which has been prophesied. As I have told you before, Judas did not have to betray Jesus, but that the Scriptures might be fulfilled, he fell. Someone had to fall because the Scriptures said that it

(Continued on Page 12)

## The Holy Bible Word Puzzle Rules

1. Find the "Book" given at the top of the first column. Then find the "Chapter" and "Verse" indicated beside the "Book".
  2. To find the "Word", begin at the first word in the "Verse" and count each succeeding word until you have counted the number indicated on the table.
  3. Write the "Word" on the blank line in the "Answer" column.
  4. Repeat this operation for each book listed in the puzzle.
  5. Reading each word from the top to bottom in the Answer column, you will have a familiar Bible passage.
  6. Then search the Scriptures to find the answer. The use of a concordance is recommended. Quote where the passage is found.
  7. Please use the King James Version of the Holy Bible.
  8. Mail answer to: **Happy News Publishing Co., 2030 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001.** If you do not wish to cut the paper, you may submit your answer on plain paper.
  9. The answer to the puzzle should be postmarked by the fifteenth (15th) of the month for publication in our next issue.
  10. Letters must be limited to forty (40) words and are published as space will allow.
- Editors reserve the right to edit as needed.

## Responses to the Bible Word Puzzle

No. 971

BOOK	CHAPTER	VERSE	WORD	ANSWER
1. Job	27	6	1	-----
2. Psalm	4	5	5	-----
3. Revelation	19	8	21	_____
4. Obadiah	1	15	8	_____
5. Zechariah	8	8	19	_____
6. Psalm	25	5	16	_____
7. Zephaniah	1	14	7	-----
8. Exodus	9	29	11	_____
9. Colossians	1	6	15	_____
10. Hebrews	10	22	22	_____
11. Revelation	22	16	5	-----
12. Deuteronomy	33	27	12	-----
13. Joshua	23	16	29	_____
14. II Timothy	4	8	17	_____
15. Romans	13	11	4	_____
16. Nehemiah	7	5	18	_____
17. II Corinthians	6	2	14	-----
18. Jeremiah	31	10	15	_____
19. Genesis	15	4	13	_____
20. Proverbs	20	22	9	_____
21. Amos	9	4	27	_____
22. Genesis	31	42	19	_____
23. St. Mark	13	28	15	-----
24. Ezekiel	39	6	7	-----
25. Psalm	18	2	4	_____
26. I Peter	4	1	12	_____
27. Ezekiel	30	25	17	_____
28. Daniel	11	22	9	_____
29. Nahum	1	7	18	_____

QUOTE WHERE PASSAGE IS FOUND

.....

PRINT FULL NAME.....

YOUR COMPLETE ADDRESS.....

.....

### Answers to last Month's Puzzle

"Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me" (Isaiah 43:10).

- |   |  |
|---|--|
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|---|--|

### CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

#### WORD OF LIFE MINISTRY

12th ANNIVERSARY

**Sunday, April 29, 2018**

2014 Reynolds Avenue

North Charleston, SC

10:00 AM

Dwayne C. Hamilton - Pastor

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**HAPPY NEWS (234-860)**

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**THE TEN DAY FAST**  
**April 6-15, 2018**

Every three months the Gospel Spreading Church of God conducts a Ten Day Fasting and Praying Revival. At the conclusion of this revival, a prayer and praise service will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2018 in the churches listed in the schedule below.

Fasting is a vital aspect of true worship. It is not a time for feasting, fun, pious acting, or bowing to one's self to appear to be sanctimonious. Fasting is a serious time spent with the Lord. Fasting is a time to afflict the outer man (the flesh) while we earnestly seek to draw closer to the Lord. Fasting is a time when we desire to slay the carnal man in order to become more spiritual.

In life we sometimes find ourselves in difficulties and recognize the fact that we need God to work out our situations. Problems are no strangers to us. Life's situations are not always understood and may be very hard to unravel. In the Bible days when people of God found themselves facing insurmountable odds they called on God. For example, Queen Esther called the people to fasting and prayer (See Esther 4:16). The city of Nineveh was called to fasting and prayer (See Jonah 3:5). When the disciples were unable to cast the demons out of the child, Jesus informed them of the necessity of fasting and prayer. **"Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting"** (St. Matthew 17:21).

The procedure for corporate fasting and praying is outlined in Joel 2:15-17. In these worship services every detail is given. Everyone from the greatest to the smallest is to be accounted for. The people are gathered, the congregation is to be cleansed. The elders, children, nursing babies, bride, bridegroom, priests, ministers of the Lord are to be assembled. No one is left out.

Just as the prophet Joel explains corporate prayer and fasting, the prophet Isaiah exhorts the church to fast individually. **"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh"** (Isaiah 58:6,7)?

Corporate and individual prayer and fasting are often major factors in true worship. We receive great things from the Lord when we obey His instructions regarding how to worship. **"Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward"** (Isaiah 58:8).

Just as fasting and prayer were practices in the Old Testament, and the New Testament, they are important elements in worshiping God in this 21<sup>st</sup> century. Isaiah truly cried aloud and spared not and declared unto us what is the acceptable fast unto the Lord. We should not withhold good when we have such an opportunity.

Jesus taught His followers how to conduct themselves when in prayer and fasting. He said, **"But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly"** (St. Matthew 6:17, 18).

We also follow the exhortation found in I Timothy 2:1-4: **"I EXHORT therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."** In this regard, special prayers will be offered for the President of the United States, his staff, members of the U.S. Congress, and the Armed Forces. II Chronicles 7:14. It reads on this wise: **"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."** As a nation, and as individuals, we need to turn from our wicked ways. If this is done, God will heal our land.

We are living in a time of trouble, such as never was since there has been a nation. However, we can always find comfort in the Scriptures. Psalm 84:11 informs us on this wise: **"For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."** Regardless of the circumstances, God will honor His Word, if we will obey Him to the letter. **"For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us"** (II Corinthians 1:20).

Readers of HAPPY NEWS are invited to join us in this period of praying and fasting. **"...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much"** (James 5:16b). If you are unable to attend these services, please join us in spirit. **"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth"** (St. John 4:24).

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**SUNDAY SERVICES**

5:30 AM..... Sunrise Prayer Service  
9:45 AM..... Sundry School  
11:45 AM..... Morning Service  
6:00 PM..... Young People's Thion

**WEEKDAY SERVICES**

8:00 PM..... Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
Washington, DC..... Tuesday

**PURITY CLUB**

7:00 PM Tuesday..... Baltimore, MD  
8:00 PM Thursday..... Newport News, VA


**RADIO BROADCASTS**

Newport News, VA  
WJGM—910 AM

Sunday..... 8:30 AM-9:30 AM  
Monday..... 6:30 PM-7:00 PM  
Tuesday..... 6:30 PM-7:00 PM

Washington, DC  
WFAX 1240 AM

Sunday..... 1:00 AM - 1:30 AM  
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM  
9:00 PM - 9:30 PM  
Monday..... 1:00 AM - 1:30 AM  
Saturday..... 11:00 AM-11:30 AM

GOSPEL SPREADING CHURCH Pastor, Elder James Johnson, Sr. 1915 Jefferson Avenue Newport News, VA 23607 757-247-5451 8:00 - 10:00 PM	CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Elder Marshall (Jamie) Green, Jr. 4310 Edmondson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21229 410-233-2385 11:30 AM	CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Elder Walter D. Roman, Sr. 2030 Georgia Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001 202-387-6419 12:00 NOON
CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Bishop Michael A. Clayton, Sr. Harlem YMCA 180 W. 135th Street New York, NY 10030 11:00 AM	CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Elder Michael A. Clayton, Sr. Bishop/General Overseer 4105 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19104 215-386-5051 11:00 AM	CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Elder Derek Hawkins, Sr. 1228 Marlboro Road Lothian, MD 20711 301-627-4214 8:00 PM - 12:30 AM
CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Elder Matthew Thompson, Sr. 4322 North Avenue Richmond, VA 23222 804-321-4610 8:00 PM - 12:00 AM	CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Elder Marshall (Jamie) Green, Jr. 4655 Priestland Road Union Bridge, MD 21791 410-775-2167 11:00 AM	CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Elder Jeffrey Turner 528 Martin Luther King Blvd. Kinston, NC 28501 (252) 522-3799 11:00 AM
WORD OF LIFE MINISTRY Pastor, Elder Dwayne Hamilton 2014 Reynolds Avenue N. Charleston, SC 29419 (843) 849-1616 10:00 AM	CHURCH OF GOD Pastor, Elder James S. Woods, Sr. 300 Lincoln Street Hampton, VA 23669 (757) 723-6746 12:00 Noon	

# Mrs. Michaux's Gospel Message to All

## A LETTER TO THE CHURCH

Unto the Church of God at Newport News, Virginia, Hampton, Virginia, Edenborn, Pennsylvania, Washington, D. C., Baltimore, Maryland, New York, New York, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Mercy unto you and peace and love be multiplied. I have been thinking of you ever since I last saw you, and to those of you who are faithful in the Lord and obedient, I commend you for your faithfulness and obedience.

It has been our life for approximately 20 years, after God having called you through us, rising early and going late... not failing to declare the whole council, teaching you love, faithfulness and obedience; and seeing that it has been prophesied, that in the latter days, some would depart from the faith giving heed to seducing spirits. And, also I am still reminding you too, that God has said in His Word, **"And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many will wax cold"** (St. Matthew 24:12). But truly, if that should be the case of you people, you will have absolutely no excuse; and seeing that to be the case with you: for the nearer the end, the more faithful you should be. And instead of getting careless and unconcerned and forsaking the assembling of yourselves, the Word has said, that we should assemble more often as we see the Day fast approaching. And the love that I have for you all constrains me to write to stir up your pure minds by the way of remembrance of the things that God has said, and we have preached and taught them to you.

Now, Saints, I have endeavored to be an example from every angle in faithfulness and service to the very best of my knowledge and ability; and God has always anointed someone's eyes, and they can see better for the people than they can see for themselves. And knowing that we can see things that you cannot see, it is your part to be obedient.

Now, when God spoke to Abraham, he moved at God's command. Also, when God sent Jonah to Nineveh to cry against the sins of that city, the king left his throne and called the people down in sackcloth and ashes, that God might turn away His wrath; and He is just the same today.

Now you have often heard us say, that God called America to her knees, and America paid no attention; and truly, the wrath of God cometh upon the children of disobedience. And for the last three years, you have also heard me say that God called the Church of God to her knees. And of course, the Church of God is all people who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior, and are living a sin free life: For after all, we are the church, not wood, brick, nor stone. But God hath said in His written Word **"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, ...? and if any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy"** (I Corinthians 3:16-17);

So since God is calling His people everywhere, and you are a small group of them, I hope, truly, you are answering the call. For if you obey God, it will go well with you, and He will not withhold any blessing from you. But if you rebel and refuse, it will not go well with you. So, I am sure, dear Saints; since when God calls, you are going to meet Somebody when you are going to meet Him at the "Sweet Hour of Prayer," that ONE far superior to us meeting each other. We should be very proud of the invitation and respond, for if we hold back from Him, He will hold back from us. And if we be willing and obedient, according to His Word, we shall eat the good of the land. For, we



Mrs. Mary E. Michaux, co-founder

find in days back, when God called men to battle, He would first tell them what to do, and those that would obey, honor and serve Him, would always win the victory. For nothing brings war but sin and disobedience.

Now, you may read for your learning II Chronicles 20th Chapter, which reads as follows: **"IT came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle. Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazon-tamar, which is Engedi. And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.**

**And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD. And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court. And said, O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee? Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever? And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying, If when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house), and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.**

**"And now, behold the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldst not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not; Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit. O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.**

**"And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their**

**wives, and their children. Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation; And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.**

**"To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.**

**"And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD. And the Levites of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high. And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.**

**"And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth forever. And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten. For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, everyone helped to destroy another.**

**"And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped. And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much. And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berachah: for there they blessed the LORD: therefore the name of the same place was called, The valley of Berachah, unto this day.**

**"Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in the forefront of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies. And they came to Jerusalem with psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the LORD.**

(Continued on Page 11)

**50th CHOIR DAY CELEBRATION**

GOSPEL SPREADING CHURCH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018

300 LINCOLN STREET

HAMPTON, VA

Theme:

**Fight On**

Ephesians 6:12-13

All praise and honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for having given the idea, for great outreach, to Sister Reba Wilker. She and her sister Sister Ruth Robinson worked tirelessly with Choir Day. We also honor today, her daughter Sister Avis Jones, her granddaughter, Sister Kristen and Sister Mary Scott.



**Combined Choir**  
Sister Barbara Thomas  
Directress Combined Choir  
Percussionist - Christopher Smith



Sister Mary Scott



Sister Ruth Robinson



Spiritual Voices  
Baltimore, MD  
Sister Evelyn France  
Directress

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God's Chosen Voices  
Elder Joel Smith  
Sister Alice Smith



Sister Reba Naomi Grant Walker  
**Choir Day Founder**



Sister Avis Jones



Sister Kristen Jones



Speaker  
Assistant Bishop and Pastor -  
Baltimore, MD and Union Bridge, MD  
Elder Marshall James Green, Jr.



Master and Mistress of Ceremony  
Elder Waverly and Sister Nikey Charity

## Gospel News and Views

# Calling All Youth

*"And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord;  
and great shall be the peace of thy children.  
In righteousness shalt thou be established:  
thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou  
shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not  
come near thee."*

(Isaiah 54:13,14)



CALLING ALL YOUTH is featured each month to encourage our youth of all ages to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We solicit your comments, questions and answers on any topic listed on our Youth Page. Your response may be printed the following month provided space is available and it is received before the next publication goes to press. It is our desire "That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace" (Psalm 144:12).

Please mail your letters to:  
Happy News Publishing Co.  
2030 Georgia Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3087

All letters should be postmarked by the tenth of the month. Thank you and may God bless you always.

### MEMORY VERSES

**"...The angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay"** (St. Matthew 28: 5-6).

Over 2000 years ago, our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ arose from the dead. The resurrected Christ was seen by all but one (Judas, who betrayed Christ) of his disciples. Even one, who doubted His resurrection, was invited to examine his hands and sides that still bore the imprints of the nails and sword that had pierced his flesh. This resurrected Christ walked around his old neighborhood visiting, eating, and leading worship services with his old friends for the next 40 days. At the end of this time, He ascended or returned to His Father and Heaven where He still lives to intercede for all who love him—us—His friends, if we do what he tells us to do.

On earth, one of the best visible proofs of His resurrection remains the empty tomb. No body or skeletal remains are there. Thus, there is no need for a monument denoting the spot where he once lay. All other world leaders remain buried someplace and none of them has been seen or heard from since their deaths.

Christians, as the world calls the followers of Christ, and Saints as the Lord calls them, have the only leader who was resurrected from the dead. His birth, life, death, and resurrection were predicted and are a fulfillment of Biblical prophecy. Since these predictions were fulfilled, we know that he will fulfill His next promise to return for His saints. Until his return, the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) helps us live victoriously in this present world. Jesus continually watches over us and cares for all of our needs. For now, we, his children celebrate the bodily resurrection of our Savior and Lord. In the words of minister and hymn writer, Alfred Henry Ackley: *I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today. I know that he is living whatever men may say. I see His hand of mercy; I hear His voice of cheer. And just the time I need Him, He's always near. He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and He talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives,. He lives within my heart.*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**"...Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen"** (St. Matthew 6:9-13).

### LET US PRAY THIS PRAYER AT NOON

**"...Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God"** (Joel 2:17b)?

### COMMANDMENT SECTION

**"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. And hereby know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him (1John 3:18)."**

### And Now a Word from Our Children

**Question: Why do we celebrate Easter? Or what does Easter mean to you?**

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, three days after he died on the cross for our sins. He did all of this because he loves us.

Hannah  
Age 15  
Hampsted



I love Easter! That is the day that I celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead. He was crucified for my sins. Now that He lives, I know that my sins are forgiven and that I will live with Him forever.

Rodney  
Age 15  
Baltimore



On Easter, we go to church to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. He died on the cross so that we can be saved from our sins. On Easter Monday, we also celebrate Jesus' [third] appearance to his disciples after his resurrection by attending a fish fry. Because He lives, I know that I will too!

Faith  
Age 18  
Hampsted



I love Jesus because He is the best!!! I love Jesus because he is strong and He died for my sins and woke up three days later. And that's why He is the best! "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (St. John 3:16)."

David  
Age 10  
Capitol Heights



I celebrate Easter because of the love that Jesus showed me by coming to earth, dying on the cross and rising from the dead to save me from my sins.

Diamond,  
Age 17  
Baltimore



Easter is a celebration of Jesus' rising from the grave after three days. He went to heaven and now He is on the right hand of God.

By Kayla  
Age 18  
Upper Marlboro



Three days after He died and was buried in Joseph's tomb, Jesus rose from the dead. Mary visited the tomb where there had been a rock over it, but Jesus was not there. An angel was watching.

By Hannah  
Age 17  
Upper Marlboro

Easter is when Jesus died on the cross for our sins. He arose from the dead and took the keys from the devil.

By Rachael  
Age 16  
Upper Marlboro



### EASTER TRIVIA

**What is the significance of the Easter eggs and the Easter Bunny?**

There is no story in the Bible about an Easter Bunny. Neither is there a passage about young children painting eggs or hunting for baskets overflowing with Easter goodies. Real rabbits certainly do not lay eggs.



While spring once symbolized new life and eggs symbolized fertility in ancient times, Easter eggs came to represent Jesus' emergence from the tomb and the resurrection. Nevertheless, associating the egg with the resurrection came about during the 15<sup>th</sup> century as Roman Catholicism became the dominant religion in Germany. The first Easter Bunny legend was documented in the 1500s. By 1680, the first story about a rabbit laying eggs and hiding them in a garden was published. The legends of the Easter eggs and the bunny were brought to the United States in the 1700s, when German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania Dutch country, according to the Center for Children's Literature and Culture.

The tradition of making nests for the rabbit to lay its eggs in soon followed. Eventually, nests became decorated baskets and colorful eggs were swapped for candy, treats and other small gifts.

While Easter isn't at all about Easter bunnies and Easter eggs as such, these things are nice to have at Easter time. So enjoy the chocolate bunnies and Easter eggs at Easter time, but don't forget that the real celebration of Easter!

### Easter Joy

By Joanna Fuchs

[www.poemsource.com](http://www.poemsource.com)

Jesus came to earth,  
To show us how to live,  
How to put others first,  
How to love and how to give.

Then He set about His work,  
That God sent Him to do;  
He took our punishment on Himself;  
He made us clean and new.

He could have saved Himself,  
Calling angels from above,  
But He chose to pay our price for sin;  
He paid it out of love.

Our Lord died on Good Friday,  
But the cross did not destroy  
His resurrection on Easter morn  
That fills our hearts with joy.

Now we know our earthly death,  
Like His, is just a rest.  
We'll be forever with Him  
In heaven, where life is best.

So we live our lives for Jesus,  
Think of Him in all we do.  
Thank you Savior; Thank you Lord.  
Help us love like you!

### ANSWERS TO THE MARCH HOLY BIBLE QUIZ

1. What does Paul say of the grace of our Lord?  
(The grace of our Lord is exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus **(I Timothy 1:14)**.)
2. What saying is worthy of all acceptance?  
(Jesus came to seek and save sinners **(I Timothy 1:15)**.)
3. What is good and acceptable in the sight of God?  
("Supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men" **(I Timothy 2:1-3)**.)
4. What is God's yearning for all people?  
(God longs for everyone to be saved and come into the knowledge of truth - **I Timothy 2:4**.)
5. Who is the people's only mediator before God?  
(Jesus Christ - **I Timothy 2:5**.)
6. What was Timothy to follow after?  
("Righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience and meekness" - **I Timothy 6:11**.)
7. What warfare are we to engage in?  
(The "good fight of faith" **(I Timothy 6:12)**. The equipment for all engagements with the enemy is described in **Ephesians 6:10-18**.)

### ANSWERS TO THE MARCH FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. And the **Word** was made **flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we **beheld** his **glory**, the **glory** as of the only begotten of the **Father**.) full of **grace** and **truth** **(St. John 1:14)**.
2. O **LORD** our **Lord**, how excellent is thy **name** in all the **earth**! who hast **set** thy **glory** above the **heavens** **(Psalm 8:1)**.
3. And one cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy**, is the LORD of hosts: the whole **earth** is **full** of his **glory** **(Isaiah 6:3)**. And then shall they see the **Son** of **man** coming in a **cloud** with **power** and great **glory**

**(St. Luke 21:27)**.

4. Thou art **worthy**, O Lord, to receive **glory** and **honour** and **power**: for thou hast **created** all things, and for thy **pleasure** they are and were **created** **(Revelation 4:11)**.
5. When the **Son** of **man** shall come in his **glory**, and all the **holy angels** with him, then shall he **sit** upon the **throne** of his **glory** **(St. Matthew 25:31)**:
6. And the city had no need of the **sun**, neither of the **moon**, to **shine** in it: for the **glory** of **God** did **lighten** it, and the **Lamb** is the **light** thereof **(Revelation 21:23)**.

### APRIL HOLY BIBLE QUIZ

1. How did God speak to His people in the past?
2. How does that differ from how He speaks now?
3. Whom did God appoint as heir to all things and what did He create through Him?
4. Who is the "brightness" of God's glory? What New Testament Scripture is similar to this statement?
5. What did God say of Christ's throne? What Old Testament Scripture is similar to this verse?
6. What did Christ love and hate?
7. The earth and the heavens will perish, but what is said of the Creator?

### APRIL FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, doing \_\_\_\_\_?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ unto the LORD, O ye \_\_\_\_\_ of his, and \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_.
3. God \_\_\_\_\_ over the \_\_\_\_\_: God \_\_\_\_\_ upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ ye the \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ at his \_\_\_\_\_; for he is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. There is \_\_\_\_\_ as the LORD: for there is \_\_\_\_\_ beside \_\_\_\_\_: neither is there \_\_\_\_\_ like our \_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ unto the LORD the \_\_\_\_\_ due unto his \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_, and come before him: \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. In that day shall there be \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ shall be like the \_\_\_\_\_ before the \_\_\_\_\_.



# Sunday School Lessons for the Month of April

The lessons for this month were reviewed by Elder David Green. He was a teacher of the junior boys class between 1994 and 2000 at the Church of God Sunday School, Newport News, VA.



LESSON 13 – April 1, 2018  
SUBJECT: He Has Risen

**GOLDEN TEXT:** “Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon”(St. Luke 24:34).

**PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT:** St. Luke 24:1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

**2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.**

**3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.**

**4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:**

**5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?**

**6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,**

**7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.**

**8 And they remembered his words,**

**9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.**

**10 It was Mary Magdalene and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.**

**11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.**

**12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.**

**13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. And they talked together of all these things which had happened.**

**15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.**

**16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.**

**17 And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?**

**18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?**

**19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:**

**20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.**

**21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.**

**22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;**

**23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.**

**24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.**

**25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:**

**26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?**

**27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.**

**28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.**

**29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.**

**30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.**

**31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.**

**32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?**

**33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,**

**34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.**

**35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.**

## LESSON DISCUSSION

After the crucifixion of Jesus, His body was taken down from the cross by Joseph of Arimathea, wrapped in linen and laid in a tomb. (See St. Luke 23:50-53). Some of the women of Galilee witnessed His burial and returned to their

homes to prepare spices to anoint His body. These women did not return until after the sabbath to anoint His body (See St. Luke 23:56).

Early in the morning of the day following the sabbath, these women returned to find the stone rolled away and Jesus' body missing. Two men (*angels*) standing nearby said, “*Why seek ye the living among the dead?*” After the men reminded them of the purpose of Christ's death and resurrection, the women rushed back to the eleven Apostles and reported what they had witnessed. Some disciples did not believe the report, but Peter rushed down to the tomb and examined the linen clothes that were left behind.

At around the same time, two disciples leaving Jerusalem were discussing the crucifixion when Jesus walked up behind them unaware (See St. Luke 24:13-29). Jesus entered their conversation speaking of Himself using the Scriptures as reference. When they reached the city of Emmaus, they invited Him in for a meal. He blessed the bread, broke and distributed it to those who were gathered. When they recognized Who He was, He vanished out of their sight. Overjoyed, the two men immediately rushed back to Jerusalem (seven miles away) to publish the good news of their risen Savior.

This is one of my favorite Easter lessons in the Holy Bible. It portrays the resurrection of Christ as the basis for our faith and hope of everlasting life.

LESSON 14: April 8, 2018

SUBJECT: Appearance of the Risen Lord

**GOLDEN TEXT:** “Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon”(St. John 21:12).

**PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT:** St. John 21 After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he himself.

**2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.**

**3 Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.**

**4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.**

**5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.**

**6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.**

**7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.**

**8 And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes.**

**9 As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.**

**10 Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.**

**11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.**

**12 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.**

**13 Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise.**

**14 This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.**

## LESSON DISCUSSION

During the third appearance of Christ following His resurrection, there were seven disciples in a boat fishing on the Sea of Tiberias. Peter was the leader of the group which remained in the water all night and caught no fish (See St. John 21:3). As Jesus stood upon the shore when morning arrived, He called to the men about their catch. The men who did not recognize their Lord at that point, told Him they had caught nothing. He, therefore, instructed them to cast their net on the right side of the boat. When they did, it netted a bounty of one hundred fifty-three fish which they could not pull into their small vessel.

At that point, John, who was also on the ship, recognized Jesus. When Peter recognized Jesus, he put on his coat and jumped in the water, swam to shore to meet His Lord. The men drew the fish to shore, sat with Jesus, ate fish and bread, and talked with Him.

Jesus is in heaven seated at the right hand of the Father. We look forward to His soon coming back for us. We must remember that regardless of the challenges we face on earth, His presence is always with those who follow Him.

LESSON 15: April 15, 2018

SUBJECT: Follow Me

**GOLDEN TEXT:** “So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs”(St. John 21:15).

**PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT:** St. John 14:15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith

unto him, Feed my lambs.

**16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.**

17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

**18 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not.**

19 This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

**20 Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee?**

21 Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do?

**22 Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.**

23 Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee

**24 This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true.**

25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

#### LESSON DISCUSSION

After assuring the disciples that He was alive, Jesus focused His attention on Peter, who had in the past, denied Him three times (See St. John 21: 15-17). In response to Jesus' questions, Peter firmly responded that he loved Him. Jesus had enough confidence in Peter to bestow upon him the leadership responsibility of spreading the gospel.

Jesus also spoke of the death Peter would suffer in carrying out His mission (See St. John 21: 18-19). At this point, Peter was concerned about the Apostle John's destiny. Jesus wanted Peter to concentrate on Him, not on John's life and death. According to Jesus, it was none of Peter's concern whether John remained alive until His return (See St. John 21: 20-23).

This lesson is a record of one of the many events that took place during Jesus' time on the earth. John states that if every event about Jesus were recorded, the books would not be able to contain it all (See St. John 21:25).

This lesson teaches us today that we must never question how God intends to use us, in comparison with others, as we spread news of His plan of salvation. We must trust Him that we will be able to handle the task assigned to us.

**LESSON 16:** April 22, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** The Lord God Almighty

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created".

**PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT:** Revelation 4:1-6,8-11

After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

**2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.**

3 And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

**4 And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.**

5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

**6 And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.**

8 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, LORD God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

9 And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,

10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

#### LESSON DISCUSSION

On the Isle of Patmos, John, in a heavenly vision, saw God sitting on the throne. Since no man can see God and live as He proclaimed to Moses (See Exodus 33:20) God represented Himself by the appearance Jasper and Sardine, displaying His beauty and majesty (See Revelation 4:2-3).

In his vision, John also saw twenty-four crowned elders sitting on thrones, and seven lamps burning before the throne of God. The lamps represented the seven Spirits of God (See Revelation 4:5). Also around God's throne were four beasts with six wings each full of eyes who glorified God day and night, declaring

God as Holy and Almighty. They were thanking and honoring Him forever (See Revelation 4:6-9). The twenty-four elders then joined in the worship, casting their crowns before the Lord Jesus, saying that He is worthy of all glory, honor, power and the creator of all things.

We must remember that all living things were created to worship and glorify God. That number includes you and me.

**LESSON 17 :** April 29, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** Blessing, Glory, and Honor Forever

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing".

**PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT:** Revelation 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

7 And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.

8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

14 And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

Everlasting honor and praise are not only going to be lavished upon God, but also upon Jesus Christ, the Lamb Who was slain at Calvary for our sins. In John's vision, he saw the Lamb take a book from God's right hand that was "written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals." (Revelation 5:1b).

We are not told what was written in the book. According to Revelation 5:2,3, an angel asked, "Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?" After searching heaven, earth and under the earth, there was none found who qualified. (See Revelation 5:3b).

Then came the Lamb, Jesus, Who took the book. The four beasts and twenty-four elders fell down before Him, worshipping Him for the plan of redemption He established through His death (See Revelation 5:9). Although angels could not be redeemed because they were created by God in heaven, a numerous host of angels praised the Lamb. They said that every creature in heaven, earth, and the sea, should honor and glorify God and the Lamb forever and ever (See Revelation 5:13a).

Believers today are truly blessed to receive redemption from sin through God and the Lamb that was slaughtered. Believers may have genuine salvation and everlasting life.

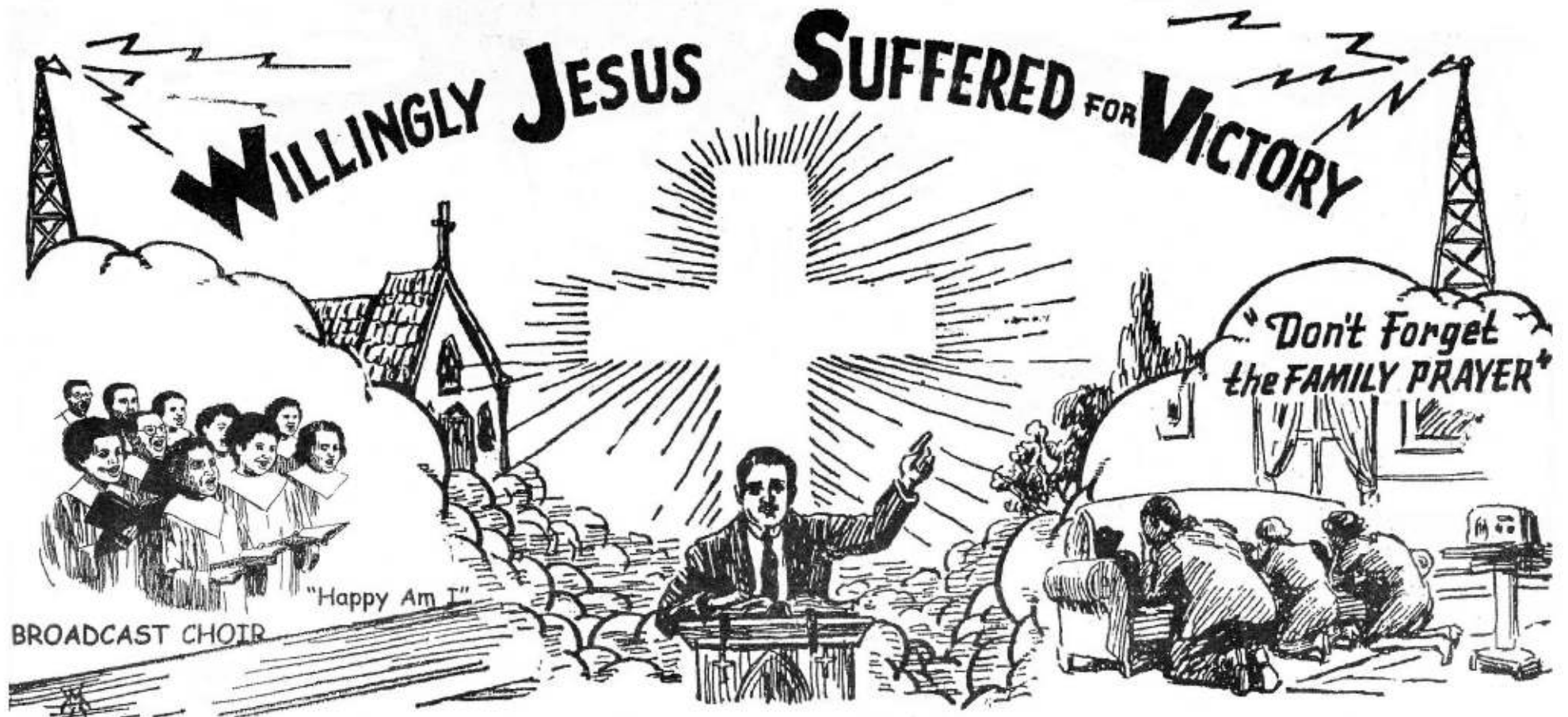
## A LETTER TO THE CHURCH

(Continued from Page 5)

**"And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries, when they had heard that the LORD fought against the enemies of Israel. So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round about. And Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah: he was thirty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi. And he walked in the way of Asa his father, and departed not from it, doing that which was right in the sight of the Lord.**

**"Howbeit the high places were not taken away: for as yet the people had not prepared their hearts unto the God of their fathers. Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of Jehu the son of Hanani, who is mentioned in the book of the kings of Israel. And after this did Jehoshaphat king of Judah join himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly: And he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish: and they made the ships in Eziongaber. Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Because thou hast joined thyself with Ahaziah, the LORD hath broken thy works. And the ships were broken, that they were not able to go to Tarshish."**

May God bless you. It pays to serve Jesus.



TUNE INTO WFAX RADIO 1220 AM

Saturday 11:00 - 11:30 AM

Sunday 3:00 - 3:30 PM

Sunday 9:00 - 9:30 PM

## Prayer Answered

"...I Am The Lord That Healeth Thee" (Exodus 15:26)

## WHY DID JUDAS BETRAY JESUS

(Continued from Page 2)

would be done. God knew that every man and woman would not accept the Gospel preached by Christ.

The worst **sin** in all the world is the **sin of unbelief**. I don't want anyone to believe in me; I want you to believe in God. My works will cause you to believe in God. If I should talk about God and my works don't measure up to my talk, then your faith in God, whom I represent will be weak. Anyone who has been in close connection with my wife and I, know us; they cannot spot our lives. None of those who really know us can deny that fact. It is not because of anything that we have done by our power; it is Christ in us. Now if you don't believe in God and His power after hearing the testimony of those who know us, then I can only say to you, It is not the Elder, but if you don't believe in the Elder, believe him for the works—the **righteous works**—which he has done by the help of God. Jesus said, "If you don't believe that I am the Son of God, believe me for my works' sake."

A tree is not known by its leaves alone; it is known by the fruit that it bears. Once a tree by the wayside looked like a fig tree to Jesus because of its leaves, branches, and height. When Jesus went over to the place where it stood, He found that there were no figs on it. It happened to be the time of the year that the tree should have been bearing fruit, which it did not have, so Jesus cursed the tree and it died. The tree was of no value; it was not a fig tree because it had no figs on it; it was a tree of leaves and branches. The only time that a tree can be called a fig tree or an apple tree is when the tree bears its fruit. You can talk all you want to but if you don't live right, you don't have any fruit. You may be sitting in the Amen Corner, on the Deacon's Seat or in the choir, but if your life doesn't bear witness with your talk, you are just a dead tree.

The prophecy declared that the bishopric of Judas would be given to another because he had fallen from his position. You will find that in the 20th Verse of the 1st Chapter of Acts. Judas was as honest and sincere as any of the other Apostles were when he started, but he failed to watch and pray, therefore, he entered into temptation and covetousness took control of him. You can be as earnest and sincere as you know how to be when you start with God, but the race is not given to the swift nor to the strong but to him that proves faithful and endureth to the end. Now you can play around and enjoy the pleasures of the world for a season; get a wife, a man or a woman, or have a good time, but what will it profit you if you gain the whole world and lose your soul.

Judas was no worse than any other murderer though he betrayed the Son of God; for he that hateth is a murderer. The thing that caused Judas to fall so quickly was that he was halted between two opinions. He sat around and played the part of a deceitful person. Judas became angry that night that Jesus exposed him. The Scriptures say that the devil entered into him. Sometimes if you are exposed before a crowd you will become hardened against the person who has exposed you, and you'll say, "I'll fix him." Judas was angry and went out to betray Jesus. He did just as some of you do when you get angry with some one else; you go away and tell anything you know that may hurt them. The devil gets into you so big that you can't control yourself. The righteous man or woman will tell you about your sins in order to help you as Jesus told Judas. Judas should have said, "Yes, Master, I have been planning with the Chief Priest and Elders to betray you but will you please forgive me and pray that I may not be the one?" But Judas had become hardened; He had come to the place that the least thing caused him to harden his heart and stiffen his neck.

In 1st Corinthians, 6th Chapter, 9th, 10th, and 11th Verses, you will be made to know that you don't have to be lost because you are a vile sinner. Let the Word of God wash and cleanse you, then you will no longer be a sinner. Here, read these verses: "**Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.**" The Scriptures says also "**And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.**" You are washed because you have allowed the Word of God to cleanse you by washing out of your mind the filthy program which was there. Whenever a person succeeds in taking something out of your mind which you intended to do or say, which was not right, that person has washed your mind. The Bible is the Word of God and you are washed with the Word. By believing what the Bible tells you is wrong and breaking off your **sins with righteousness**, then your mind is washed from unclean things. Therefore the Bible says, "Such were some of you but now you are washed by the Word."

When God cleanses you, He takes you out from the dirty crowd and sets you apart and among clean people, which means that He has sanctified you. To be sanctified means to be set apart. It can be compared with the sanctifying of your dishes after each meal. To cleanse or to sanctify your dishes, you place them in a dishpan with water, get a box of Duz—you've heard about Duz over the radio—"The Duz that does everything." No matter what you are, whether you are a liar, drunkard, whoremonger or fornicator, the Word of God (the Bible, God's Duz) will wash you clean; for it does everything.

You can sit under the Word of God and be a Judas if you want to, but you will reap your reward. A Judas is a deceitful person who makes out he is with you and yet he is not. You don't have to be a hypocrite because those who sit beside you are, although they hear the Word of God and do not accept nor walk in the light of it. You know what you do with your dishes after you wash them, you set them apart from the rest of the dirty dishes because they are sanctified. You place them in the China Press; for you could not use them until they were sanctified. No one wants to eat out of dirty dishes. Is that right? Now God will not use you until He cleanses and sanctifies you. God must cleanse you of all the filthiness of the flesh, then set you apart to await His call for service. There is no need to call upon a man who is dirty to send him after another dirty man. There is one thing sure, a dirty person will know you when you are dirty. You may sit here and not accept the truth but I must tell you that you will see Judas; for his home (HELL) will be your home.

So my precious ones, the Word of the Lord is right. Don't be deceitful, let God wash, sanctify, and set you apart. He says that no matter how dirty you have been He will justify you, and when He does, no one will be able to condemn you because condemnation comes from within. No matter what you may say about a person who has been cleansed by the Word of God, they will say to you, "It is not what I used to be, it is what I am today." The Spirit of God will bear witness with your spirit that you are a child of God.

While Jesus was dying on the cross, He prayed for Judas, the centurion who pierced Him and all who took part in His crucifixion. One of the thieves that was crucified with Jesus believed in Him; He was saved right then and there. The centurion who pierced Him also believed after seeing God veiled the sun and shake the earth with a quake, burst open the graves of the saints in Jerusalem, and rent the Veil in the temple. Before that time no one was allowed to go behind the Veil of the temple into the Holy of Holiest but the Chief Priest, who went there to burn incense and pray for the sins of the people. The people always worshipped outside of the Veil, but the priest went behind it. So when Jesus died, God made it known by the renting of the Veil of the temple that no one would have to come to God for you anymore because you would be able to go to Him for yourself.

If Judas had only believed that Christ forgave him for his sin which he committed by betraying Jesus, there would have been no need for him to return to the Chief Priest and Elders saying, "I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood." For they were as guilty in the sight of God for the death of Jesus as Judas was.

If you are a Judas today and your conscience is condemning you because of some sin that you have committed, do not hang yourself as Judas did; for you do not have to be a Son of Perdition. Only believe that Jesus today sits on the right hand of God to forgive you of your sins as He did the thief on the cross, and the man who pierced Him. The Scriptures have said and they are true, that all manner of sin shall be forgiven men except the blasphemy of the Holy Ghost.

May God bless you! Amen.