



"Fear thou not: for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strength thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10).

The People Need The Warning, God Needs The Watchman

The preacher has become a dumb dog. The Scripture declares that when a man is a prophet of God and refuses to bark when he sees sin in the church, it is because he has become a dumb dog. His eyes are full of adultery. The Bible says they have a form of godliness to the extent that they will sing "Nearer My God to Thee," they'll preach that Jesus has all power in heaven and earth, but when it comes to manifesting it in their life, they deny the power. Read II Timothy 3:5-7 as follows: **"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."**

I aim to give you what the Lord is saying to prevent you from going off and saying I said it. Have you ever seen a dummy in the window of a dry goods store? Well that is a form of a woman, but without life. Some preachers are like that dummy, having the form, but no power, no life, no substance. A silly woman is one you can easily flatter, and then use her to work for you. In the world the men who hang around these women are called "lovers." These women support them. Some preachers are in the same category -- lovers. When these women bring them money, they say, "Thank you, daughter; God bless you!" And the women can do anything they want to; these preachers don't "bark".

The preacher is a watchman, placed there to watch over the flock. Now if he sees sin creeping in to overcome a young girl or a mother, something that will lead them astray, he is supposed to "bark," to warn them. He is supposed to tell the young girl to watch. If she ignores him, he is supposed to get in the pulpit and "bark" -- tell the people publicly of the horror and penalty of such a sin, and warn them to avoid it by watching and praying.

The preacher has lost his vision. That is why the church is cold. His eyes have become full of good-looking women. When you get your eyes off God, there is nothing else to see but a good-looking woman.

Of this type of preacher, the Lord says they are blind. Read Isaiah 56:9-12 as follows: **"All ye beasts of the field, come to devour, yea, all ye beasts in the forest. His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, everyone for his gain, from his quarter. Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant."**

Now you get your Bible and read this for yourself. You don't know it is in there. I recall one night that a woman who heard me preach said to a friend next to her. "He isn't preaching out of the Bible like our preacher uses." My Bible is the Holy Bible. If you have a Holy Bible in your church and in your home, it reads like this one does. The trouble is, your preacher doesn't read that part to you. And you don't read it yourself. You just use it to record births and deaths that occur in the family.

(Continued on Page 2)



The blood of Jesus Christ was not shed in vain.

Everybody who has a clean body hasn't a clean mind. You can clean your body with soap and water, but you can clean your mind with the Word of God.

Keep your mind on God and He'll relieve your burdens.

God know His business; if you mind yours, you and He can do business together.

You look awful when you have once been a Christian and go back and handle the filthy things you've been condemning.

The devil has helped you do wrong. Now God can help you do right.

The devil can preach, pray and shout, but he can't live right.

The enemy doesn't care what it costs to kill a man; we don't care what it costs to save one.

You've got to pray for your enemy because he is blind.

What shall we fear as long as God is near?

You can't fool God---I don't care how smart you are.

No matter what your condition is, God can give you relief.

"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.

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The "Happy Am I" Radio Preacher's Message

The People Need The Warning, God Needs The Watchman

(Continued from Page 1)

They get so tied up themselves that when they see someone else tied up like they are, they can't bark. A prophet is supposed to be a watchman, but when they get their eyes full of adultery, they get blind. The Lord is making the picture, not me. I'm only hanging it on the wall so you can see it. I know it is true what the Lord says about these preachers getting together and drinking. In my youth I saw it happen. Isn't that awful?

Because of such conditions, the love of many has waxed cold. The people have no light. God set up the true prophet in Ezekiel 3:17-21 as follows. **"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. Again, when a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul."**

Unless the folks are warned by the preacher, they will go wrong. Folks must be led. They must be taught. They must be watched over. They must be governed. And that is the business of the preacher. Take the police off the street and enforce no law to rule the folks, and you'll have a mess in town. The preacher is supposed to stand up in righteousness before the congregation until that light of his will shine in the midst of them and cause them to worship the Ideal which represents God. For this purpose, God has sent the preacher to the "house of Israel" which means the people of God, the people who worship God. When He said "warn them from me," He meant, He would tell the preacher to tell the people, and he is to speak only the words of the Lord.

I'm going to deliver my soul. I'm going to tell you when you are wrong. I'm going to tell you what God says for you to do. And after I tell you, you can



Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux,
founder

do to suit yourself. But I've saved myself by warning you. Isn't God as equal as you. What do you do to the guard placed on duty who falls asleep at his post? You shoot him! Yes, that is what you do! He is likely to cause the entire army to be destroyed by the enemy. When a preacher lies down and sleeps on the job, and fails to warn the people, the devil can come in on you and you can be destroyed. You won't be able to keep your husband. He won't be able to keep his wife straight. The children will rise up against the parents and turn out to be little devils. No light, no guide! The church is the light of the world, and when you put the light out, folks grope in darkness.

On the other hand, God also requires the preacher to warn the righteous and watch for him to keep him from going back. You hear people say, I've been converted forty years. I remember when my dungeon shook and my chains fell off. But can they remember when the chains came back on because of their sin? Can they remember when they went back to that dirt, that filth? Now why did you go? Because you weren't warned. No one helped to guide you. God holds the preacher responsible, and if he doesn't warn you and guide you, though you die in your sin, God will require your blood at his hand.

I'm giving you warning. I'm saving my own soul, I'm not going to let it be charged against me if you go to hell. Whenever I preach, I'm going to tell you what God says. I'm going to tell you that God says the soul that sins shall die, whether you're in the church or in the gutter. I'm not going to deceive you, and I'm not going to let your blood be on my garment. I'm going to bark. You see, now, where I am standing.

These other preachers are saying nobody can live above sin. I have found that it is easier to live above sin than to live in sin. It is easier to take care of one woman than try to take care of two or three. I found out that it is easier and better to

live sober than be a drunkard. I found out it is better to work and earn your food if you're not able to have more than beans to eat, than to get meals dishonestly and have turkey every meal. The meal of beans honestly obtained can be eaten in peace, but with the turkey, you'd jump every time someone came to your door. If a real hard knock came on the door, you'd put the turkey under the bed before you'd answer the door. Beans taste better eaten in the quiet of your home than in jail.

It is foolish for folks to say you can't live above sin. It is the sweetest life. It makes you honorable and respectable. It doesn't make you an angel, but don't speak of angels as though they are so much better. Angels sinned and were cast out of heaven.

The Scriptures give you a description of the false prophet as he appears in your midst that you might not be deceived. Read Matthew 7:15-20 as follows: **"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."**

A false person will make people with whom he deals false. If you are under a false instructor, you'll be getting instructions that will make you like your teacher. How then can you be right? If I were a false prophet, these people who follow me would be false. They would be talking about holiness, but would be doing everything but holiness. I am crying against false prophets. Don't let a man moan and hum and make a monkey out of you; and make you think you are right when you know you are doing wrong. I'm trying to warn you. You can do to suit yourself, but if you are talking about God, be straight.

God is not against you because you are a sinner. You were born a sinner. But sin is against you, and God wants you to have that knowledge and get you out of sin. He invites you to forsake your sin and live a righteous life, and thereby be free and happy. Sin will make you miserable. Sin corrupts your mind and body, and makes you wish sometimes that you had not been born. But righteousness exalts. The path of the just shines brighter and brighter. May God bless you.

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

Dear Elders and Staff,
God bless you. **"Remove not the ancient landmark, Which thy fathers have set"** (Proverbs 22:28).
Ivy Canady
Williamsburg, VA

The following persons found the correct answer:

La-Freda F. Ogburn
South Hill, VA

Ernestine Parrish
Chase City, VA

Iola B. Pulliam
Boydton, VA

Gladys Ricks
Fort Washington, MD

Harriet Roberts
Kinston, NC

Fred T. Robertson
Clover, VA

Beatrice D. Russell
Boydton, VA

Rosa L. Stone
Brodnax, VA

Mildred Taylor
Chase City, VA

Ruth S. Venable
Newport News, VA

Hester Shaw
Columbus, OH

Thigpen, Joyce
Rocky Mount, NC

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Rockford, IL

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Bronx, NY

Martha Jenkins
Vanceboro, NC

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Linda Johnson
Brooklyn, NY

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Brodnax, VA

Bernice Lambert
South Hill, VA

Laura B. Maddux
Kenbridge, VA

Noah Myers
Bronx, NY

Barbara Newby
South Hill, VA

No. 968

BOOK	CHAPTER	VERSE	WORD	ANSWER
1. Psalm	78	3	1	_____
2. Philippians	4	8	40	_____
3. Isaiah	39	6	28	_____
4. Hebrews	9	15	4	_____
5. Genesis	48	15	10	_____
6. Jude	1	5	20	_____
7. St. Mark	14	64	14	_____
8. Hosea	4	6	39	_____
9. Nehemiah	2	5	33	_____
10. Hebrews	6	10	20	_____
11. I Samuel	28	6	14	_____
12. Malachi	4	6	20	_____
13. Joel	2	28	31	_____
14. Proverbs	22	28	6	_____
15. II Peter	3	4	20	_____
16. Acts	11	14	3	_____
17. Genesis	7	4	21	_____
18. Titus	3	2	6	_____
19. Ecclesiastes	8	17	28	_____
20. Revelation	21	3	29	_____
21. James	2	8	15	_____
22. Proverbs	23	7	2	_____
23. Amos	2	4	37	_____
24. Ephesians	6	4	3	_____
25. Isaiah	65	7	14	_____
26. II Peter	1	9	16	_____
27. Psalm	39	12	2	_____
28. Zephaniah	3	9	19	_____
29. Romans	15	8	13	_____
30. I Kings	18	21	26	_____

QUOTE WHERE PASSAGE IS FOUND

.....

PRINT FULL NAME.....

YOUR COMPLETE ADDRESS.....

.....

Answers to last Month's Puzzle

"And he said unto me, Son of man. I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day" (Ezekiel 2:3).

TIME IS RUNNING OUT?

I knelt to pray, but not for long,
I had too much to do;
Must hurry off, must get to work,
For bills would soon be due.

And so I said a hurried prayer
Jumped up from off my knees;
My Christian duty now was done,
My soul would be at ease.

All through the day I had not time
To speak a word of cheer,
No time to speak of Christ to friends;
They'd laugh at me, I feared.

"No time, no time, too much to do",
That was my constant cry;
No time to give to those in need...
My soul believed the lie.

But then I had a fearful dream,
Which I could ne'er forget;
I saw myself approach God's throne
That was in judgement set.

And when before the Lord I came,
I stood with downcast eyes,
For in His hands He held a book,
It was the BOOK OF LIFE.

God looked in His BOOK and said,
"Your name I cannot find,
I once was going to write it down,
But never found the time".

Author Unknown

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY SERVICES**

5:30 AM..... Sunrise Prayer Service
9:15 AM..... Sunday School
11:15 AM..... Morning Service
6:00 PM..... Young People's Union

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
WRGM 940 AM

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

Washington, DC
WFAA-1220 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

THE HISTORY OF CHOIR DAY

"It will never work." "This is absurd!" These were some of the comments expressed to Sister Reba Walker forty-eight years ago when she proposed the idea of one mass choir singing in unison in a choir stand designed for fewer people. At that time, it was a novel idea; however, since its inception, the idea has been utilized in our sister churches and in our community.

Previous participants on Choir Day have been from Baltimore, Md., Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, PA., New York City, Lothian, Md., Richmond, Va., and Kinston, N.C. We will always remember the performance of the late Sister Esther Sligh from the Baltimore Church of God. Our local artists have also played a major role in this program.

Most importantly, the Spoken Word has been delivered by many outstanding ministers throughout these forty-eight years. A few would be Elder Michael Clayton, General Overseer, Philadelphia, PA.; Pastor Emeritus Artos Martin, Richmond, VA.; Elder Tommy Smith, Associate Minister, Hampton, VA.; Pastor Derek Hawkins, Lothian, MD.; the Honorable Reverend Dr. Nathan Butler, Sr., The Righteous Church of God, Southeast Washington, D.C.; Pastor George Hawkins, Jr., High Calling Ministries, Upper Marlboro, MD.; and this year, the Honorable Bishop Dr. Daniel Russell, Jr., New Life Deliverance Temple, Saint Helena Island, South Carolina. We have been truly blessed with the manna from Heaven in the excellent delivery of the Word of God.

The Lord has been faithful and provided Sister Walker with saved, dedicated young people who are willing to carry on this great work: Elder Joel Smith and the "Fantastic Five" - Brother Dominique Johnson, Brother Titus Sapp, Sister Sonya Smalls, Brother Christopher Smith and Brother Joshua Smith.

All praise and all honor to our Lord and Savior for having given the idea for this great outreach to Sister Reba Walker. Congratulations to her for the outstanding work which she has done and may He continue to bless her in all of her future endeavors. To God Be the Glory!



Sister Reba Walker



Elder Joel Smith, Sr.



Brother Dominique Johnson



Brother Titus Sapp



Sister Sonya Smalls



Brother Joshua Smith



Brother Christopher Smith



GOD'S WILL CHOIR
CHURCH OF GOD - NEWPORT NEWS AND HAMPTON, VA

Mrs. Michaux's Gospel Message to All

WISDOM

“DOETH not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?” (Proverbs 8:1) **“Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee”**(Proverbs 9:8). **“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding”**(Proverbs 9:10). **“Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth”** (Proverbs 27:2).

“A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool’s wrath is heavier than them both” (Proverbs 27:3). **“Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him”** (Proverbs 26:12). **“An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression”** (Proverbs 29:22).

“WINE is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise”(Proverbs 20:1). **“He...said unto me...keep my commandments, and live”** **“Say unto wisdom, Thou art my sister; ... (Proverbs 7:4) That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from thee stranger which flattereth with her words. For at the window of my house I looked through my casement, And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths a young man void of understanding, Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house, In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night: And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart. So she caught him, and kissed him, and with an impudent face said unto him, came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee. Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: ... With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life”** Proverbs 7:4,5,6,8,11,13,15,18,21-23).

“A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing. For she sitteth at the door of her house,... To call passengers who go right on their ways (Proverbs 9:13-15):

“Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither; and as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him, Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell (Proverbs 9:16-18).”

THE ALPHABET OF WISDOM

(A)ccumulate knowledge while you are still conscious, for its light means leadership and makes life desirable.

(B)e studious and persevering in all to which you aspire in life, and Father Time will wheel it to your door.

(C)onsort not with Satan, lest you linger in his inferno.

(D)ivine intelligence is turned in upon them who seek its light.

(E)verything in life has its bright



Mrs. Mary E. Michaux, co-founder

and gloomy aspects.

(F)ill your soul with wisdom and you will, like the tide, rise above ordinary levels.

(G)ather all your savings, and you will become a stockholder.

(H)ealth begets wealth; do not abuse it.

(I)dleness destroys both home and happiness; work against it.

(J)ealousy always causes troubles and scandal; guard against it.

(K)ee pace with progress, and your affairs will prosper.

(L)earn to be above reproach and win friends.

(M)an’s true relationship to his Maker bids him clothe himself in celestial light..

(N)urse good thoughts toward your neighbors, and you will be a credit to the community.

(O)ne must have a mixture of good and bad fortune in order to appreciate all the good things of life.

(P)rovidence helps those who dwell in her consciousness.

(Q)uarrels undermine health, peace, and happiness; hence it behooves one to avoid them.

(R)emove all that is offensive to your good taste or morality and you will be worthy of commendation.

(S)itting at a window, looking at the falling snow, does not fill one’s cellar with coal.

(T)oday is the time for good deeds, for tomorrow may be too late.

(V)alue anything useful or estimable if you expect others to value you.

(W)hen little results from much effort, keep on ploughing until success is attained.

(X)ylophones’ rhythmic sounds are the best remedies for ill harmonies.

(Y)outh is blind, but it can still be taught to walk in the light.

(Z)ero man is a live ghost, always seen hunting in the background.

OPEN AIR CAMPAIGN AT NEWPORT NEWS

Concerning our great campaign on the old camp ground which is one of the most inspiring meetings that has been held here. The camp grounds are located on the Chesapeake Bay, near the Norfolk ferry landing, and surely we are

enjoying one rich blessing after another. It has been such a pleasure to have with us Elder Bentley from New York City, and without flattery we can truthfully say, did not our hearts burn within while he talked with us by the way, and certainly I cannot find words sufficiently to express to you the greatness of this noble man of God, which I esteem to equal the Apostle Paul, from every angle.

At our noonday devotional and Bible Class it was marvelous to hear the words of wisdom that fell from his lips and also the wonderful messages each evening. Still God has some men of God in the earth even though they are few and far between. Truly, if one is whole-hearted in serving God there is real joy and pleasure, for I am happy in the way and enjoying the trip. For salvation is enjoyed and not endured. For things that you have to endure you would rather not have them. You may have a new suit of clothes - or dress - or an automobile - and so on and if you cannot enjoy them, then you have to endure them, and so you would be happier without them. So we just love to have things that we can enjoy.

I have talked with people who say if you get religion what are we going to do for pleasure? They say it will cut off all of my pleasures. I will agree to this extent that there is no pleasure in the religions of today for you can possess them and practice the same things you did before, hence there is no pleasure. For one becomes hypocritical and you cannot enjoy one thing if you are the other. Whereas if you plunge into the fountain that was opened to the house of David for all sin and uncleanness and get a big dose of salvation, it will work all of the devil out of us. Then we have heaven here. Then the wife will make it pleasant for husband--husband for the wife--parent for children--children for parents--that makes the world worth while living in.

Speaking of the camp ground where we are each Sunday evening, and each evening in the week, we are on the dear old spot on the corner of 19th Street and Jefferson Avenue, under the tent on the very spot where we held our first meeting in the year of 1917, which, in that meeting, God gave us over 150 souls with which we established the gospel association and since that time this gospel has spread from coast to coast and even to foreign countries. During this series of meetings approximately 60 souls have been gathered in. I am so happy to say that while being invited to Elder J. A. Handy’s Tabernacle in Norfolk, Virginia Friday of last week, I had the opportunity to speak to approximately 200 children, after which when we made the altar call to know who wanted to consecrate their lives to God 53 came forward and took the stand. When the youngest one of these children who was almost 5 years of age, was asked if she wished to be free from sin her reply was yes, we then asked her what was living free from sin, and her reply then was doing right.

That reminded me of the passage of scripture that says that a little child shall lead them. It is no wonder Jesus said suffer little children to come unto me and

(Continued on Page 12)

~ ORDINATION SERVICE ~

The elders and deacons pictured were ordained on November 26, 2017 at the Gospel Spreading Church of God - Newport News, Virginia.

Also ordained posthomoosly was Deacon Adison Powell, Jr. of Washington, DC.



Seated and Standing from left to right:

DEACON NORMAN WALSH
BALTIMORE, MD

DEACON DELANO GIBSON
NEW YORK, NY

DEACON ERIK SMITH
WASHINGTON, DC

DEACON DAVID STURDIVANT
WASHINGTON, DC

ELDER TOMMY SMITH
HAMPTON, VA

ELDER TIMOTHY TAYLOR
WASHINGTON, DC

ELDER WAVERLY CHARITY
NEWPORT NEWS, VA



50th ANNUAL CHOIR DAY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018
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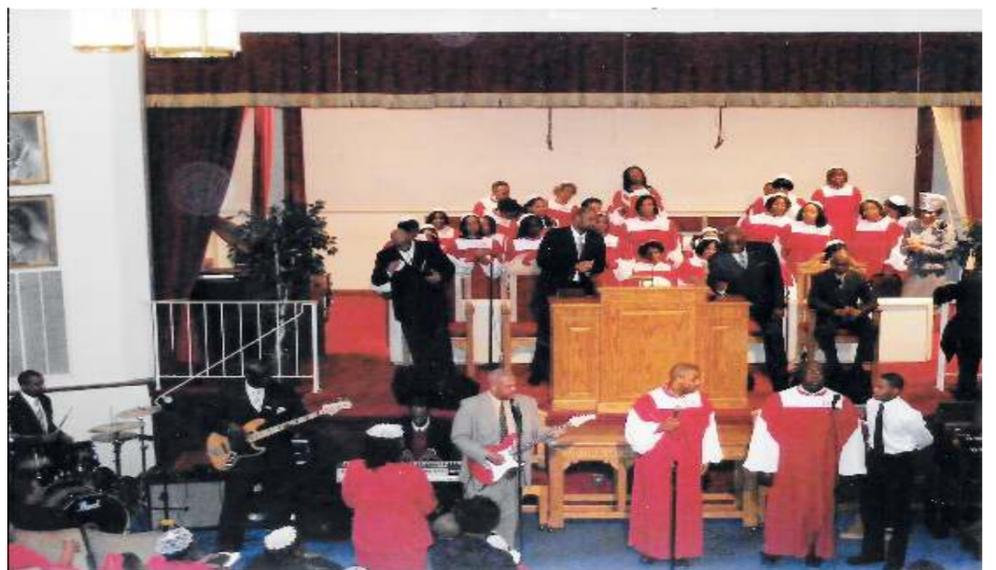
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Gospel News and Views

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).

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

AND NOW A FEW WORDS FROM OUR YOUTH

Question 1. Who do you most admire? Who are some of the persons that you love most?

I admire my Grandfather because he treats me very nice; [for example] he always buys pancakes for me.

By Malachi, Age 13
Lanover



I love my mom because she loves me and she cooks for me too! We love each other. We have a bond that nothing can break. I love her just like I love Jesus.

By Nathaniel, Age 10
Lanham



I admire my mom because she is a hard working single mother who is raising three children while going through college to get her degree. I am so proud of her. She is my role model.

By Nya, Age 12
Lanham



I admire my dad. He takes care of my brothers and me. He gets us what we want and need. He has a good job that [allows him] to provide for us. I want to be just like him.

By Nkyron, Age 14
Lanham



I admire my mother because she does good things for me. She always encourages me to follow my dream of being a great dancer.

By A'maia, Age 10
Washington, D.C.



I love and admire my grandmother, Amanda. She is kind and generous. She is a very caring person who loves me and often goes beyond the call of duty of show it. Thank you for allowing me to honor her by telling you about her.

By Chuniqua, Age 13
Hyattsville

Question 2: How do you define love? Or what does God's love mean to you?

Love is an expression of your feelings for something or someone.

By John Paul, Age 15
Mitchellville



Love means "I love you!" It means something special. It means something good!

MEMORY VERSES

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation (Psalm 91: 14-16).

Valentine's Day or Saint Valentine's Day is a holiday celebrated on February 14. It is a day on which many express their love for each other by sending cards, flowers, or chocolates. The holiday is named for a Christian known as Valentine, a Roman physician and priest, who lived during the early days of the Christian church. Allegedly, the Roman Emperor, Claudius, was having difficulty recruiting soldiers because he believed the men did not want to leave their loved ones or families to serve in the military. To encourage their enlistment, the Emperor issued a decree cancelling all marriages and engagements in Rome. Valentine defied the Emperor's decree and performed secret marriages of Christian believers. For this alleged offense, Valentine was arrested, tried in court, found guilty, and executed for preaching and practicing the teachings of Jesus Christ. Valentine's death demonstrated his love for the Lord Jesus Christ and caused others to name a day recognizing that devotion.

This month, as we celebrate Valentine's Day and present our loved ones with tokens of our affection, may we remember that true love was created and defined by God. While Valentine was only one of the martyrs of the Christian faith, may we remember the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who was crucified for our sins. He arose from the dead after three days. Now, He lives in Heaven, where He constantly intercedes with the Father on our behalf. One day, He will return for all who believe and trust Him as their Lord and Savior. I hope we will remember to let Him know how much we love Him by obeying His Word every day.

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

"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (St. Matthew 22:37-39).

By Elijah, Age 6,
Hyattsville



Love is something that God created in order for us to bond.
Love is a very powerful emotion. For example, I love God!

By Jasmine, Age 15
Landover



Valentine's Day With Jesus

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Jesus does not send perfume
To linger in the air
Instead He sends salvation, sweet
To show how much He cares.

He doesn't bring me candy hearts
In boxes of delight
Instead He always lets me know
I'm precious in His sight.

He doesn't send out pretty cards
Trimmed in shades of red
Instead He gave His life for me
His precious blood was shed.

He doesn't hand out fancy gifts
Like we would send to mother
Instead He sends a message clear
To always love each other.

He doesn't give me teddy bears
That whimper, "please be mine"
Instead He gave His heart to me
I wear it all the time.

He doesn't give me roses, pink
For all the world to see
Instead He gave eternal life
That's good enough for me!

Things to do to express love for others:

Make care packages for foster families. In the church bulletin, ask kids (of all ages) to bring donations for care packages. This could be new, wrapped toothbrushes, hairbrushes, shampoo and body washes. Also ask for small toys, coloring books and crayons. Once acquired, stuff them into shoeboxes and deliver them to local foster families. (You may have to do some contact work beforehand.)

Bring bibles for kids or anyone who does not have one. Parents and kids should bring bibles and distribute them in the community. To ensure that everyone can participate, those who can should consider bringing extra bibles for distribution.

Sponsor a pizza party—for someone else! It could be sponsored for a party for a local scout group, a class, or even a class of seniors.

Create an appreciation basket for the pastor and his wife. You could run wild with the Valentine's Day theme and put a basket together for both. Scented candles, chocolates and little knick-knacks make great little gifts.

Happy Valentine's Day

ANSWERS TO HOLY BIBLE QUIZ

Find the scripture references relating to God's loving, good and merciful attributes.

1. "For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee". – (Psalm 86:5)
2. "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." – (I John 4:8)

3. "O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him." – (Psa;Im 34:8)
4. "O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever." – (I Chronicles 16:34)
5. "Also unto thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work." – (Psalm 62:12)
6. "They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness." – (Psalm 145:7)
7. "It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not." – (Lamentations 3:22)

ANSWERS TO JANUARY FILL-IN THE BLANKS

1. I will **delight** myself in thy **statutes**; I will not **forget** thy **word** - (Psalm 119:16).
2. But the **meek** shall **inherit** the **earth**; and shall **delight** themselves in the **abundance** of **peace** - (Psalm 37:11).
3. Let thy **tender mercies** come unto me, that I may **live**: for thy **law** is my **delight** - (Psalm 119:77).
4. I have **longed** for thy **salvation**, O LORD; and thy **law** is my **delight** - (Psalm 119:174).
5. I **delight** to do thy **will**, O my God: yea, thy **law** is within my **heart** - (Psalm 40:8).
6. The **sacrifice** of the **wicked** is an **abomination** to the LORD: but the **prayer** of the **upright** is his **delight** - (Proverbs 15:8).
7. **Delight** thyself also in the **LORD**; and he shall **give** thee the **desires** of thine **heart** - (Psalm 37:4).

FEBRUARY HOLY BIBLE QUIZ

1. What did God's grace bring to mankind?
2. What are we to deny and how are we to live?
3. What should believers be looking for?
4. Why did Christ give Himself for us?
5. What were believers to be subject to?
6. What appeared to man while yet in his sin?
7. How does God in His mercy save us?

FEBRUARY FILL-IN THE BLANKS

1. I WILL _____ of _____ and _____: unto thee, O LORD, will I _____.
2. The LORD is _____ and _____, slow to _____, and plenteous in _____.
3. Let us therefore _____ unto the _____ of _____, that we may _____ and _____ to _____ in time of need.
4. The _____, O LORD, is full of thy _____: _____ me thy _____.
5. By _____ and _____ iniquity is _____: and by the _____ of the LORD men _____ from _____.
6. God be _____ unto us, and _____ us; and _____ his _____ to _____ upon us;
7. Surely _____ and _____ shall _____ me all the _____ of my _____: and I will _____ in the _____ of the _____ for ever.

Sunday School Lessons for the Month of February

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 5 – February 4, 2018
SUBJECT: Faith Without Works Is Dead

GOLDEN TEXT: “Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone”(James 2:17).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: James 2:14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,
16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?

22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?

23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?

26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

LESSON DISCUSSION

In this week’s lesson, James raises two questions concerning faith. Can a believer have faith without having works? To explain this situation, he expounded on the example of a believer who was poverty stricken. This indigent person was confronted by a believer who put forth no effort to assist, but rather advised the person in need not to worry because God would provide for him. Since the believer failed to give him at least some of the things he needed, he not only portrayed dead faith, but also demonstrated faith that was not sincere (See James 2:17).

Works of kindness do not guarantee salvation, but do substantiate love, and imply that the giver is a true believer in Jesus. Accepting Jesus as your personal Savior is not enough. You prove your salvation by deeds you perform for others. By so doing, you are also planting seeds of righteousness that you will reap over and over and over (See Galatians 6:7).

Using other examples, James explained how Abraham offered up his only son Isaac as a sacrifice to prove that he loved God.

Saying that he loved God was not enough, but by his works not only did he show his faith in God, but it was credited to him as righteousness. In return, he was called the friend of God (See II Chronicles 20:7; Isaiah 41:8). James also mentioned Rahab the harlot who protected the spies who searched out Jericho. She believed in the God of Israel, and acted on her beliefs. Consequently, during the raid, God spared her and her household (See James 2:25). Faith in God without works is dead, just as a body without breath in it is dead.

Saying that we believe God is not enough. Good deeds are not enough to confirm salvation. Faith and works go hand in hand. Faith in God without works is dead, just as the body without breath is dead.

LESSON 6 – February 11, 2018
SUBJECT: A Disciplined Faith

GOLDEN TEXT: “But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison” (James 3:8).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: James 3:1 My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.

2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

3 Behold, we put bits in the horses’ mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.

4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.

5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

7 For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:

8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.

10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

LESSON DISCUSSION

The apostle James wanted to explain the importance of believers not offending others by the words they speak. Perfection involves seasoning words before they leave our lips. The tongue is a small member of the body, but it can cause so much damage if it is not controlled. Just as the bit in the horse’s mouth is small, it controls the horse’s movements. James also explained that the rudder on a ship is small, yet it controls the direction a ship must take.

When improperly used, the tongue is described as a fire, corrupting and tarnishing the user, affecting those who listen. Every kind of animal is controlled or tamed by mankind, but the human tongue is uncontrollable and full of evil. Believers

should not speak words of blessing and cursings. Just as a fountain cannot give out sweet and bitter water, nor a tree give off figs and olives, believers must be likewise concerning the words they speak. Our spirit is represented by our words and our soul is represented by our deeds.

Our spirit is represented by our words. Our soul is represented by our deeds. People who harbor anger and hostility are often known for provoking trouble. Remember **“A SOFT answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger”** (Proverbs 15:1).

LESSON 7 – February 18, 2018

SUBJECT: Faithful Disciples

GOLDEN TEXT: “But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up” (Acts 9:40).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: Acts 9:36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

37 And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber.

38 And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them.

39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

40 But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

41 And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.

42 And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord.

43 And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner.

LESSON DISCUSSION

Today’s lesson is based on a certain believer named Tabitha, or Dorcas, known for good works to others in her community. She became sick and died. Many people were saddened by her passing.

Disciples in Joppa heard that the Apostle Peter was in the area. Two of them were dispatched to find him. When they did, they hurriedly returned with him. Upon his arrival, Peter was confronted by widows weeping over the dead woman stretched out in the upper chamber. As evidence of the type of person she was, they showed Peter some of the clothing she made while she was alive.

Closely following the example Jesus set when He raised Jairus’ daughter from the dead (See St. Mark 5:35-42), Peter put everyone out of the chamber, then, kneeling in prayer, he afterwards rose up and said “Tabitha, arise.” Lifting her by the hand from her deathbed, he called for the saints and widows to return, and presented her to them alive.

This act of raising Dorcas from the dead was published throughout all of Joppa, and it caused many to believe in the Lord. As Peter held faithfully to the things Jesus taught, we, as faithful Believers can also experience astonishing results from our prayers.

LESSON 8 – February 25, 2018

SUBJECT: The Good Fight of Faith

GOLDEN TEXT: “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses” (I Timothy 6:12).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: I Timothy 6:11-21 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

15 Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.

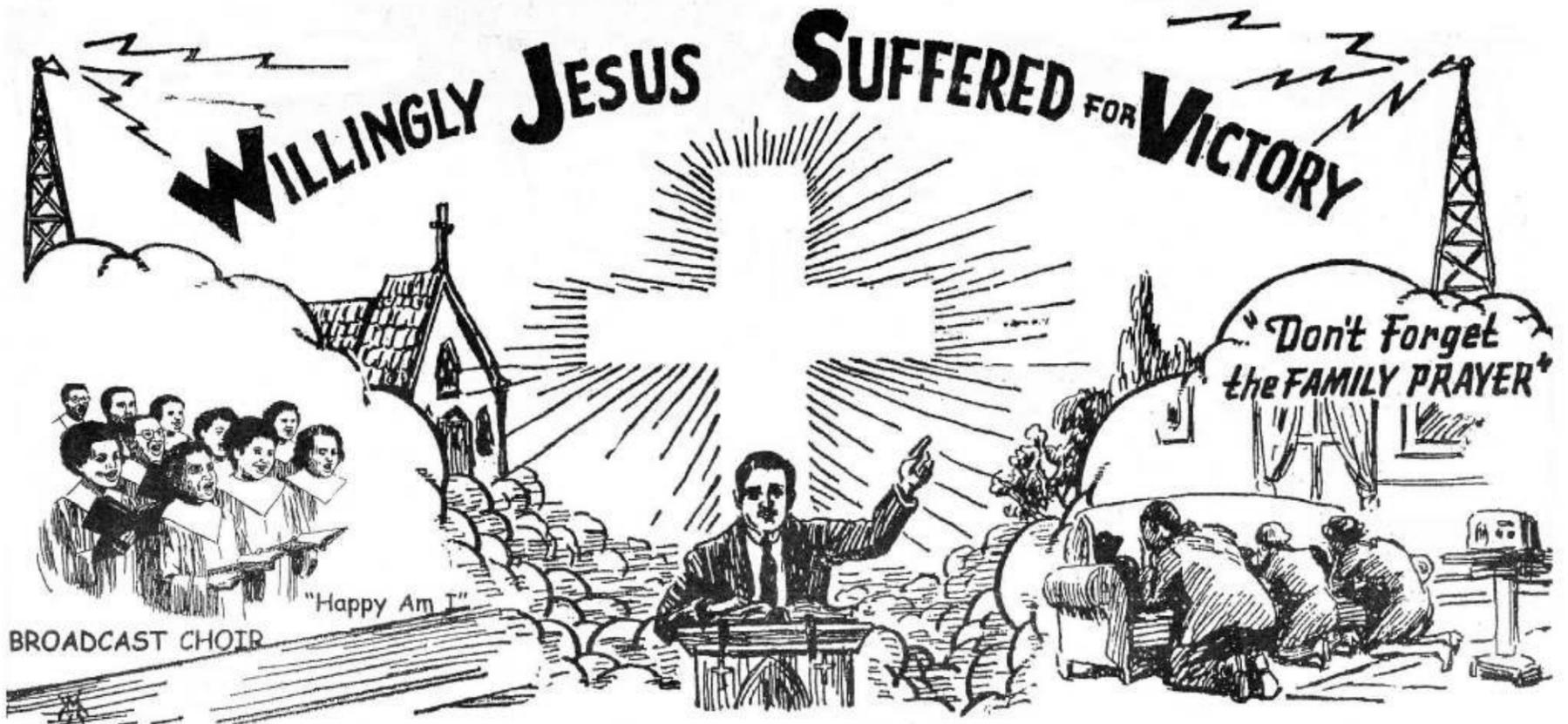
LESSON DISCUSSION

Timothy was Paul’s trusted companion and assistant in his efforts of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ. As an associate of Paul, Timothy suffered many things as a result of serving Christ. In this lesson, Paul encourages Timothy not to focus on trusting in riches of the world. As a believer, Paul admonished him to follow righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience and meekness, qualities and characteristics that guarantee eternal life.

Fighting the good fight of faith means retaining confidence in God regardless of the circumstances, and doing so in the sight of onlookers (See I Timothy 6:12b). Reminding Timothy of how Jesus stood blameless before Pilot, and how He was treated like a criminal, he, too, must also be found *‘without spot and unrebukable’* (See I Timothy 6:14) until He returns.

Paul wanted Timothy to warn the rich not to feel that they were better than others, but that they should use their wealth to benefit others who were in need. By so doing, they may lay up treasures in heaven as they seek to obtain eternal life. In teaching Timothy to guard these eternal truths in his heart, we are reminded of the Scripture in St. Matthew 6:21, **“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”**

As we walk with Christ, we will find ourselves facing challenging situations that nonbelievers find difficult to endure primarily because they do not possess the Spirit of God. We must be careful not to allow our wealth to blind us from obtaining spiritual attributes needed for obtaining eternal life.



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

WISDOM (Continued from Page 5)

forbid them not for such is the kingdom of heaven, and may God help the elderly ones to be as wise as this little child. We cannot fail to mention our great home gathering on the 4th of July. There was quite a large number of saints and many friends present to enjoy the day with us. Many of them said it was marvelous to see the quiet, enjoyable way the saints move around, even though we were on the historical James River, near the National Memorial Farm.

There was no nude, immodesty running in and out of the water—drinking or smoking. There was a table that seats 600 people on which lay the usual Smithfield ham, roast and fried chicken, deviled eggs, salads, hot roasting ears of corn which were boiled on the ground, freezers of ice cream, cakes and beverages, which was enjoyed by all. So may God help all nationality to look away from all earthly cares for there is real joy in serving God whole-heartedly.

THE WAY OF THE TRANSGRESSOR IS HARD

"... **I have sinned, in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.**" These are the words of a troubled Judas. But listen to the unsympathetic reply he received from the chief priests and elders: "**What is that to us? see thou to that**" (St. Matthew 27:4). The cold indifference of the chief priests and elders to the bitter remorse of Judas is an excellent example of the way in which the devil ultimately treats his servants.

The tragedy of Judas stands out as an example of the tragedy which overtakes every sinner whom salvation never reaches or who as Judas, resists salvation. To every unsaved sinner will surely come the day of remorse when it will be too late. Our Lord made our sin His business to the extent of paying the price with His own precious blood. He shows no cold indifference to the sinner who turns to Him and says out of the depth of a troubled heart, "Lord I have sinned". Of such, He tenderly says: "thy sins be forgiven; go in peace and sin no more" (See St. John 8:11). May God bless each of you is my prayer.

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