

"For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee" (Psalm 86: 5).



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOSPEL SPREADING CHURCH OF GOD

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NOT FOR SALE

THE FOOL HATH SAID IN HIS HEART, "THERE IS NO GOD"

My precious ones, I don't want you to forget that Jesus loves you. This fact has been a theme of Mrs. Michaux for more than twenty years. She wrote a Tract entitled, "Don't Forget That Jesus Loves You," many years ago. Hundreds of thousands of these Tracts have been given throughout America. They've been passed out in hospitals, yes, many of them, among the sick and the maimed. They have certainly inspired every reader. Mrs. Michaux continues from time to time to sing the song of the same title that it may be stamped in your heart again and again. If ever there was a time when the world needed someone to love them, it is now.

Everyone is taking all they can get from one another and leaving you with nothing. Only Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the Great GIVER. If you do not receive the GIFT of ETERNAL LIFE, you'll lose all that you may have gained. God's Son offers this GIFT to you. He offers it not only to you, but to everyone, regardless of their position or condition. The Lord says, "Come", to those who are in the alleys, byways, or on the heights; all may come. "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and you shall find rest for your soul." SOUL REST is what the whole world needs today. They are trying to figure or find it at the meetings of the UN, in every capitol of all parts of the world, how to bring men together and have love one for the other. Men are so selfish, corrupt, and evil that they become fools.

In Psalms the 14th Chapter, we read: **"THE fool hath said in his heart, There is no God."** People have come to the point that they are deluded in their minds and are saying, "there isn't any God." They're saying this because of the deceit that is in the hearts of men and because of the contrary attitudes that are among people all over the world.

GOD means GOVERNMENT, GOD means RULE, and GOD means RIGHTEOUSNESS. Wherever there is rule, government or control, God is represented and God alone. Man doesn't have anything to do with the sun, the moon or the stars, neither the winds nor the waves, but at the voice of God, everything moves, as it did in the beginning. The sun rises in the East and sets in the West; it never gets mixed up, by staying over in the West until the next morning. It always rises in the East. Every tide ebbs and flows according to God's plan. They're under God's control. The seasons of the year come and go at God's command. People talk about the weather, but they can't control it; it is God's business. When a man steps out and says, "There isn't any God," he has a reasonable excuse, if he looks at it from the outside, but from the inside, there is something that makes him know that there is a God.

The Context reads as follows, in Romans the first Chapter and the 20th Verse: **"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:"** The Scriptures declare that they are without excuse and no matter who they are or where they come from, they are fools, if they say there is no God. God reveals Himself within them. The power of man fails. Hitler was a great power, but he disappeared. Mussolini was a great power, but he's gone, too. They are not the only ones, other great men who had breath in their nostrils have died. They come, they go, but God's power still rolls on. You can see it day by day and night by night.

(Continued on Page 2)



Whatever takes place in the earth, God suffers it to be for a purpose.

We can stand on the Word of Jesus and be sure that we are safe.

The secret of your strength lies in your obedience to God.

Your spirit is represented by your words, and your soul is represented by your deeds.

More precious than gold is the saving of your soul.

Folks know that God is still alive when the people of God sing His praise.

A smile to a person heavily burdened is like sunshine to a drooping plant.

Sin is the only thing that one needs to be saved from in this world.

Regardless of what your sin is, God will forgive you if you forsake the sin.

If you want a shelter in time of storm, fear God in time of peace.

God wants you to serve Him because you love Him, not because you are afraid of Him.

Deny yourself to please God.

If you seek riches, you will forget God. But if you seek God, He will add riches.

"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 FOOL HATH SAID IN HIS HEART, "THERE IS NO GOD"

(Continued from Page 1)

Now for your learning and understanding, the Word of God says, that the heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork. In the 19th Division of the Psalm, you will find the story, which reads as follows: **"THE heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth his handywork."** It's not the hand of man that bedecks the sky with the sun, the moon and the stars; it is the hand of God. You can look around many places and see the works of the hands of men. You see electric lights on street corners, steamboats, in houses, etc. -- that is the work of man. But, when you look above at the moon and stars that shine by night, and at the sun that shines by day, you know and understand that their being there is not the work of a man. So, the Word of God makes us see the glory of God, and the glory of God is represented by the works that glorify Him.

The handiwork of man makes him great. If a man has no works, he is no good. He must do something for men to talk about him, see and know him. If you don't do anything, no one knows anything about you. They don't see nor do they hear about you, but on the other hand, if you have works, they are known. Therefore, if you know anyone other than God Almighty who has done any of the works that you see in the sky, please tell me about it. "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmaments sheweth His handiwork." If any man says, "there is no God", I join in with the Word of God to say, "He is a FOOL".

No matter how sin may be rampant, how corrupt man may be, how far they may be from God, God still lives and rules on His Throne. Therefore, the Scriptures go on further to say: **"Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge."** Whenever the day breaks in the morning, it is talking about the power of God that brings it. Whenever the shadows cover the earth and men fall asleep, it represents a knowledge of God, who has started the day in which man works and a night during which time man rests. It is a knowledge beyond your comprehension, a knowledge too big, too broad and too high for your little understanding. So, don't argue against God, you little 'ant', walking upon the face of God's earth, eating God's crumbs. Look up and say, "Glory to God in the Highest."

The Scriptures say **"There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard."** There is no place anywhere on earth where men speak any kind of language where the voice of day and night is not heard. The works of men 'talk', so do the works of our God; for day and night speak on every side. Hear now the words of God: **"Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world..."** The things that day and night manifest, of God's power, speaketh to the end of the world. **"...In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race."** You know how the bridegroom comes out; he comes out of his chamber spic and span, looking clean and neat, ready to shine for his



Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux,
founder

bride. The sun looks like a bridegroom coming out with joy when it comes up in the morning. Its face is not dark; there are no shadows around the edges; there is nothing hanging to him; he outshines everything that the world has ever lit up. You might be a little lightning bug, but you can't shine when the sun shines. You must close your wings and go under a weed because God's work is being manifested. I am so glad that the sun rejoices when it gets up in the morning.

I am talking about the glory and the work of God. I am not talking about a little old bulb that burns out, and when it does, you must put another one in its place. You've never seen anyone put another sun in the sky, have you? I don't care what you say, if you don't believe that there is a God, you are a fool.

The sun rises in the morning as a strong man coming out to run a race with leaps and bounds. When the sun starts, it doesn't break its speed. He makes it in time; nothing gets in his way; nothing hinders him and though the clouds may overshadow his face; he moves on. The storms may rise, but yet the sun moves on. Rains may pour and snows may fall, but the sun, the handiwork of God, moves on. Don't forget it brother, the Word of the Lord tells you that the sun wins a race wherever he goes.

The Bible also says in the 19th Psalm, the 6th Verse, these words: **"His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof."** Nothing in this world can hide from the heat of the sun. The little seeds that are planted in the earth can feel the effect of the sun's heat. When the seeds feel this heat they begin to sprout, bud, and blossom, a little later on they produce food for the hungry. Everything gets heat from the sun; nothing can hide from the heat of it. The heat from the sun is hid in your body, in the woods, in the rocks, in the rivers, in the trees and in plants. God Almighty has ordained that it should be and though we can't see the heat, we can surely feel it. I am declaring to you this morning that God is able to do all things.

He speaks here in the 7th Verse of the 19th Division of Psalms, saying, **"The**

law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul..." Now, if you don't believe that the sun and the moon are the works of God's hand, then let God have a little to do with you, and you'll soon find out that when God gives you a Law to walk after and you keep it, that Law will be perfect in your life. The Law of God, when taken into the heart, will convert the life of any man. No matter how bad, how mean, how vile, or how corrupt one may have been, his life will be turned around, when the Law of God is hid in his heart. The God of all grace has a law that perfects men. We can have all the legislation we desire here on earth, but the more we legislate, the worse men get. The laws that men make don't go far, but if you let the Law of God seep down into your heart and let it take control, it will convert your soul. The Word of the Lord says that **"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple."** I don't care how big a fool you are, if you take in the Law of God and follow it, that is, *not to change the law of God to what you think it should be, but do as the law says*, you will be made to know that God is in the law and that the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart. If you keep the statutes of God, you will be as happy as Elder Michaux. You won't go around with a hung-down head or a listless tread and a burdened heart. The man who doesn't have the joy of the Lord in his soul doesn't understand that God has a LAW that rejoices the heart.

The Scriptures also tell us that the commandments of the Lord are pure; enlightening the eyes. People won't be able to fool you, cheat or flatter you, because the commandments of the Lord will enlighten you. Your face will shine so brightly and you will understand as clearly that you will know for yourself when people are trying to deceive you.

Not only will the Law of God do that, my precious ones, but the fear of God will make you clean. When a man comes to God, the first thing he does, is to take a bath and put on some clean clothes. I've seen too many of them before they found God; they were lying around in dirt and filth. When they heard the Word of God and the commandments of God, they came up out of the mire and dirt. They were washed clean by the Word of God. After you come to God you are made intelligent. He sets you on high and commands that no man call you "common" or "unclean" because the Lord has done the job.

"The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether." Whenever God passes judgment against you, you may start out against it if you want to, but don't tell me there isn't a God. Man's end will be just as God says it will be, according to what he has done. He may have all the armies, tanks, airplanes and submarines at his command, but after he reaches a certain point, his glory will fade away and leave him with nothing but his empty hands, if God has passed judgment against him.

(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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Renee Beranger
Queens Village, NY
*****</p> <p>Marion Carthan
Huntingtown, MD
*****</p> <p>Margrette Doswell
Newport News, VA
*****</p> <p>Annette Gibbs
Alberta, VA
*****</p> <p>Laurette Graham
South Hill, VA
*****</p> <p>Patricia Griffith
Bronx, NY
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Vanceboro, NC
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*****</p> <p>Saraya Johnson
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*****</p> <p>Lucy M. Jones
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*****</p> <p>Bernice Lambert
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Midlothian, VA
*****</p> <p>Ruth Venable
Newport News, VA
*****</p> <p>Mattie Walker
Snow Hill, NC
*****</p> <p>Honorie Whittle
South Hill, VA
*****</p> |
|---|---|

No. 974

BOOK	CHAPTER	VERSE	WORD	ANSWER
1. Jude	1	9	27	
2. Psalm	23	1	2	
3. St. Matthew	1	20	38	_____
4. James	1	19	12	_____
5. Malachi	2	2	13	_____
6. Colossians	3	8	9	_____
7. Proverbs	2	5	10	_____
8. St. Matthew	22	36	5	_____
9. Genesis	2	4	16	_____
10. I Corinthians	4	20	12	_____
11. Acts	4	33	16	_____
12. Amos	3	7	5	_____
13. Isaiah	40	26	40	_____
14. Genesis	3	24	10	_____
15. Numbers	1	54	9	_____
16. Job	10	14	12	_____
17. Exodus	3	4	3	_____
18. II Chronicles	7	14	23	_____
19. Isaiah	28	2	2	_____
20. Philemon	1	20	11	_____
21. Colossians	1	21	17	_____
22. Ezra	1	3	10	_____
23. St. John	14	6	8	_____
24. Romans	8	39	22	_____
25. Deuteronomy	1	10	15	_____
26. Proverbs	10	25	3	_____
27. I Peter	3	22	6	_____
28. Acts	26	18	39	_____
29. Ezekiel	3	12	2	_____
30. St. Mark	4	37	6	_____
31. Psalm	58	9	19	_____
32. Obadiah	1	21	11	_____
33. Revelation	1	7	5	_____
34. I John	5	19	6	_____
35. Romans	4	8	3	_____
36. St. Luke	10	11	4	_____
37. II Timothy	1	8	6	_____
38. Micah	1	2	25	_____
39. Hebrews	12	13	7	_____

QUOTE WHERE PASSAGE IS FOUND

.....

PRINT FULL NAME.....

YOUR COMPLETE ADDRESS.....

.....

Answers to last Month's Puzzle

"Then said I unto them. Ye see the distress that we are in. how Jerusalem lieth waste. and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach" (Nehemiah 2:17).



Outdoor Service Viewers

Continued on Page 6



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THE TEN DAY FAST
July 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, July 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 21st 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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Tel. 843-814-4618

ORDER OF WORSHIP SUNDAY SERVICES

- 5:30 AM..... Sunrise Prayer Service
- 9:45 AM..... Sunday School
- 11:45 AM..... Morning Service
- 8:00 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 WFQM—910 AM
- Sunday..... 8:30 AM-9:00 AM
- Monday..... 6:30 PM-7:00 PM
- Tuesday..... 6:30 PM-7:00 PM
- Washington, DC WTAX—1220 AM
- Sunday..... 1:00 AM - 1:30 AM
3:30 PM - 3:50 PM
9:00 PM - 9:30 PM
- Monday..... 1:30 AM - 1:50 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

WISDOM PROMISES SAFETY

A Warning To Young People

My subject today is on wisdom and is directed to the young people who I find have such a small degree of wisdom. I am going to direct your attention to the Word of God concerning wisdom, for His Word reveals how important wisdom is and also the many things a person is able to do who has this gift from God. You will also see how this gift can be acquired and how necessary it is to seek it. Let us turn to the first chapter of the Proverbs.

PROVERBS FIRST CHAPTER:

"THE proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

"A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels: To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

"My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause: Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit: We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil: Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:

"My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path: For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood. Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird. And they lay wait for their own blood, they lurk privily for their own lives.

"So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof. Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying, How long ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

"Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel and would none of my reproof:

"I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a



Mrs. Mary E. Michaux, co-founder

whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

"They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil."

PROVERBS SECOND CHAPTER

"MY son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding. If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

"For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints. Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.

"When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; Who leave the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness; Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked; Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:

"To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which

flattereth with her words; Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God. For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead.

"None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life. That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous. For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it. But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it."

PROVERBS THIRD CHAPTER: First to Tenth Verse inclusive.

"My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

THEN VERSES 32 THROUGH 35

"For the froward is abomination to the LORD: but his secret is with the righteous. The curse of the LORD is in the house of the wicked; but he blesseth the habitation of the just. Surely he scorneth the scorners: but he giveth grace unto the lowly. The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools."

PROVERBS SIXTH CHAPTER: Verses 20 to 29 inclusive.

"My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.

"For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.

"Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in

(Continued on Page 9)

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Thursday - July 12th

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Sunday - July 15th

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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.

MEMORY VERSES

"...Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1: 9b).

The word courage has various definitions based on its users. A commonly used definition of courage is the mental or moral strength to venture, preserve, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty. For non-Christians, courage is often used to describe someone whose lifestyle defies Biblical teaching. On the other hand, Christians use the word courage to describe someone whose lifestyle models Biblical principles. Biblical courage is also defined as the ability to do something brave out of a motivation of the heart. However, the Bible talks about what motivates the heart to produce courage. The Bible addresses these motivations as either being good or bad. Good courage always relies upon the supernatural power of God to strengthen and motivate believers to be courageous children of God (See Romans 5:3-5). Bad courage relies on human abilities and motivates the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and pride (See I John 2:16). As Believers, we should always seek to inspire others to demonstrate the type of courage that will please God. As the late evangelist and preacher, Dr. Oliver Green, used to pray, "Lord, help me, today, to do the things that I will be glad that I did when I stand before you in the Judgment."

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

"Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD" (Psalm 31: 24).

Comments by our Youth:

Young people describe the meaning of the word *bravery* and identify persons who either have embodied or are currently modeling it

Being brave means standing up for yourself. Jesus was brave when he died on the cross.

Malayah, Age 7
Washington, D.C.



Being brave means not being scared. Jesus was brave because He stood up for His disciples.

By Kelvin, Jr., Age 13
Washington, D.C.



Being brave means being strong and being unafraid. My mom is brave. She is not scared of anything!

By Jada, Age 7
New Carrollton



Being brave means doing something that you would not usually do when you have to do it. Daniel was brave because he believed that God would stay with him in the lion's den.

My mom is brave because she does a lot with the little that she has.

By Cameron, Age 13
Washington, D.C.



Being brave means "stepping up" when no one else will and doing what needs to be done. Being brave means having that kind of courage. David was brave when he stood up to Goliath when nobody else would.

By Chanelle, Age 11
Washington, D.C.



Being brave means to protect people. Some of my friends are brave because they try to protect me.

Jesus was brave because He was not afraid to die on the cross.

By Nathaniel, Age 10
Lanham



Being brave means to be strong and to protect people. Daniel was brave because even though he was put into the lion's den, he knew that God would protect him.

My mom is brave because she went back to school although she was afraid to do so. She returned and is doing very well.

By Nya, Age 13
Lanham



Being brave means being fearless. Bravery means being able to overcome your fears. Noah was brave because he believed God and built the ark as God instructed.

By N'Kyron, Age 14
Lanham



Internet Safety Reminders

Remember

- Not** to provide personal information, such as Social Security Numbers, account numbers, passwords, school names, school mascots, etc.
- Watch** out for "free" stuff. Free games, ring tones, or other

downloads can hide malware, so do not download anything without your parent or guardian's permission.

- **Do use** strong email passwords and protect them. The longer the password, the harder it is to crack. Personal information: your login name, common words, or adjacent keys on the keyboard are not safe passwords.
- **Do not share** your passwords with friends.

Be Strong and Take Courage

By Don Moen

**Be strong and take courage
Do not fear or be dismayed
For the Lord will go before you**

**And His light will show the way
Be strong and take courage
Do not fear or be dismayed
For the one who lives within you
Will be strong in you today**

**Why don't you give him all of your fears
Why don't you let him wipe all of your tears
He knows, He's been through pain before
And He knows all that you've been looking for**

**So, be strong and take courage
Do not fear or be dismayed
For the Lord will go before you
And His light will show the way
Be Strong and take courage
Do not fear or be dismayed**

**For the one who lives within you
Will be strong in you today**

**Nothing can take you out of his hand
Nothing can face you that you can't command**

**I know that you will always be
In His love, in His power you will be free!**

**So, be strong and take courage
Do not fear or be dismayed
For the Lord will go before you
And His light will show the way
Be Strong and take courage
Do not fear or be dismayed**

**For the one who lives within you
Will be strong in you today**

ANSWER TO JUNE HOLY BIBLE QUIZ

1. Who wrote a brief letter, called himself "the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James?"
(Jude – **Jude 1**)
2. Why did he write his letter?
(The letter was written to exhort believers to uphold the faith – **Jude 1:3**)
3. Against what kind of impostors did the writer warn the church?
(False believers – **Jude 4**)
4. How can believers build themselves up in their faith?
(Believers are to: (1) build their lives upon the solid ground of their holy faith; (2) pray in the Holy Spirit; (3) keep themselves in God's love; and (4) be "looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life" - **Jude 20-21**).
5. How is the Holy Spirit related to our prayer life?
(Believers who are filled with the Spirit pray in His will – **Ephesians 5:18-20; 6:18** and can trust Him to convey their prayers to the Father even when they do not know how to pray – **Romans 8:26-27**).
6. How did Jude encourage his readers at the end of his letter?
(The believers were told that God "is able to keep you from falling" and "to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy" – **Jude 24**).
7. What kind of God did the writer portray in his doxology?
(God is portrayed as "the only wise God" - **Jude 25**).

ANSWERS TO JUNE FILL-IN THE BLANKS

1. 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** (**Psalm 84:11**).

2. But he giveth more **grace**. Wherefore he saith, **God** resisteth the **proud**, but giveth **grace** unto the **humble** (**James 4:6**).
3. Surely he **scorneth** the **scorners**: but he giveth **grace** unto the **lowly** (**Proverbs 3:34**).
4. 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**).
5. Being **justified** freely by his **grace** through the **redemption** that is in **Christ Jesus** (**Romans 3:24**).
6. For ye know the **grace** of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, that, though he was **rich**, yet for your **sakes** he became **poor**, that ye through his **poverty** might be **rich** (**II Corinthians 8:9**).
7. But **grow** in **grace**, and in the **knowledge** of our **Lord** and **Saviour Jesus Christ**. To him be **glory** both **now** and for **ever**. Amen (**II Peter 3:18**).

JULY HOLY BIBLE QUIZ

1. What are the three main divisions of the book of Revelation?
2. Who are the two groups of worshipers in Revelation 4?
3. The four beasts are similar to the creatures in what Old Testament books?
4. What do these four living beings look like?
5. How do the twenty-four elders express their worship?
6. Why do the elders declare God to be worthy of worship?
7. How can we give the Lord the worship He deserves?

JULY FILL-IN THE BLANKS

1. I will _____ in thy _____, and have _____ unto thy _____.
2. Make me to _____ the way of thy _____: so shall I _____ of thy _____.
3. Behold, I have _____ after thy _____: _____ me in thy _____.
4. And I will _____ at _____; for I _____ thy _____.
5. I am a _____ of all them that _____ thee, and of them that _____ thy _____.
6. I have _____ thy _____ and thy _____: for all my _____ are _____.
7. Consider how I _____ thy _____: _____ me, O LORD, _____ to thy _____.

WISDOM PROMISES SAFETY

(Continued from Page 5)

to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent."

* * * *

My friends, you must know that wisdom cannot be obtained in institutions of learning, as so many people believe. No, not wisdom! You may obtain knowledge from your universities, but not wisdom which is the ability to judge soundly and deal wisely. This is a gift which must come from God. The wisdom of the world consists mainly of the learning that comes through instructions you receive in schools and colleges, and from reading books written by men. But this wisdom does not teach the importance of being Godly. According to James 3:15: it is earthly, sensual, and devilish.

But the wisdom that is a gift from God, that comes from God to endow those who are blessed is first pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. May you seek this wisdom is my prayer.

Sunday School Lessons for the Month of July

The lessons for this month were reviewed by Sister Marilyne R. Gibson. She serves as Sunday School Superintendent at the Gospel Spreading Church of God in New York.



LESSON 25: July 1, 2018

SUBJECT: Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

GOLDEN TEXT: “Shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?” (St. Matthew 18:33).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: St. Matthew 18:21 Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

22 Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

23 Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

31 So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

32 Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:

33 Shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?

34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

LESSON DISCUSSION

This lesson in forgiveness was derived from a question Peter posed to Jesus. “How many times should I forgive an individual?” (paraphrased) This question introduced a numerical element. Jesus’ response eradicated the element of score keeping.

In the parable related by Jesus, a certain king forgave a massive debt owed him by a servant. The debt would have been virtually impossible to repay. The king was moved with compassion in forgiving the debt. This same forgiven servant was owed a lesser debt by a fellow servant. When this coworker asked for patience in repaying the debt, neither compassion nor consideration was extended, instead he was thrown into prison. The fellow servants went to the king and related what had been done. The king was wroth with anger upon hearing this story. The unforgiving servant was cast into prison.

This parable extends far beyond the debt of repayment of finances. We all had a debt of sin before God. Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” Christ has forgiven us an enormous debt of sin. We in turn must forgive others in sincerity, and not hold others as hostages to us.

LESSON 26: July 8, 2018

SUBJECT: Jesus Criticizes Unjust Leaders

GOLDEN TEXT: “Saying The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not” (St. Matthew 23:2-3).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: St. Mathew 23:1 Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples.

2 Saying The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat:

3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

4 For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,

6 And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues,

7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.

8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

9 And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

10 Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.

11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

13 But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

14 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows’ houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

16 Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor!

17 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold?

18 And, Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty.

19 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift?

20 Whoso therefore shall swear by the altar, sweareth by it, and by all things thereon.

21 And whoso shall swear by the temple, sweareth by it, and by him that dwelleth therein.

22 And he that shall swear by heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon.

23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

24 Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.

26 Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men’s bones, and of all uncleanness.

28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

29 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous,

30 And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.

31 Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets.

32 Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers.

33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

34 Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city:

35 That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

36 Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.

37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

LESSON DISCUSSION

The events and teachings for this lesson took place during Passion Week. Jesus spoke in response to His critics who questioned His authority. During this particular week approximately two and a half million people were in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. Multitudes had been attracted to Jesus throughout His ministry. The scribes and Pharisees in their positions were scholars who interpreted the law given by God to Moses. In interpreting the law, they added their traditions and regulations. Man’s traditions are never equal to the Word of God, neither supersede it. As Jesus taught, the scribes and Pharisees saw Him as a threat to their teachings.

Jesus taught the multitudes and in particular His disciples to respect authority, and to respect interpretation of the Law of Moses. Jesus exposed the Pharisees' principle of "do as I say, but not as I do." They were to have respect for authority, but were tainted by hypocrisy. They placed burdens upon men to keep their traditions.

Jesus taught that we should not diminish our focus on the law that was given, but focus more on the weightier matters. We must continue to focus on keeping our spiritual condition in a heart health status. Salvation is an inside job.

LESSON 27: July 15, 2018
SUBJECT: The Widow and the Unjust Judge

GOLDEN TEXT: "And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?" (St. Luke 18:7).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: St. Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

2 Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:

3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;

5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

LESSON DISCUSSION

At the onset of this parable Jesus states that the foundation of the believers' life is prayer. The judge in this parable was self-centered with no regard for righteous standards in decisions he rendered. He did not judge God's people by the Law of Moses.

A widow came before the unjust judge asking to be avenged of an adversary. Widows in that day were open prey to be taken advantage of. The judge disregarded her pleas, yet the widow was persistent in coming often before the judge. Her persistence wearied the judge and broke him down to render a decision in the widow's favor.

God, the righteous Judge has persistent patience with us. We, as believers should be consistent and persistent in our prayer life. God answers according to His timetable. Wait on the Lord, be of good courage while waiting, for He shall strengthen you (See Psalm 27:14).

LESSON 28: July 22, 2018
SUBJECT: Entering God's Kingdom

GOLDEN TEXT: "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able" (St. Luke 13:24).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: St. Matthew 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

St. Luke 13:22 And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.

23 Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,

24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

26 Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.

27 But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

29 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.

30 And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

LESSON DISCUSSION

When embarking upon a journey or trip, well planned preparation is essential. Jesus went through cities and villages teaching so that believers would be well prepared for entering "God's Kingdom." As Jesus traveled toward Jerusalem through the territory of Perez, there were many teaching opportunities. On one such occasion, the question posed to Jesus was, (St. Luke 13:23a) "...are there few that be saved?" It was not in the number that will be saved, but in the determination and persistence to stop sinning and enter the strait gate. It would take planned preparation.

Jesus further related that citizens of the kingdom are likened to individuals seeking entrance to a house that has been closed at the end of the day. The master of the house has closed (shut) the door, as those outside plead to be let in. They knew of Jesus, but did not pursue a knowledge of the kingdom He came to establish.

In sincerity we must fully embrace and follow the will of God. In our spiritual walk with Christ, we don't want to be denied entrance to the Kingdom, standing on the outside, knocking. Having a personal active relationship with God through obedience is a part of the standard of judgment for kingdom entrance. Entrance into the kingdom will be all inclusive. Kingdom preparation is essential.

LESSON 22: July 29, 2018
SUBJECT: Parable of the Great Dinner

GOLDEN TEXT: "So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind" (St. Luke 14:21).

PRINTED SCRIPTURE TEXT: St. Luke 14:15 And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God.

16 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:

17 And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.

18 And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.

19 And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.

20 And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.

21 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.

22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.

23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

24 For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

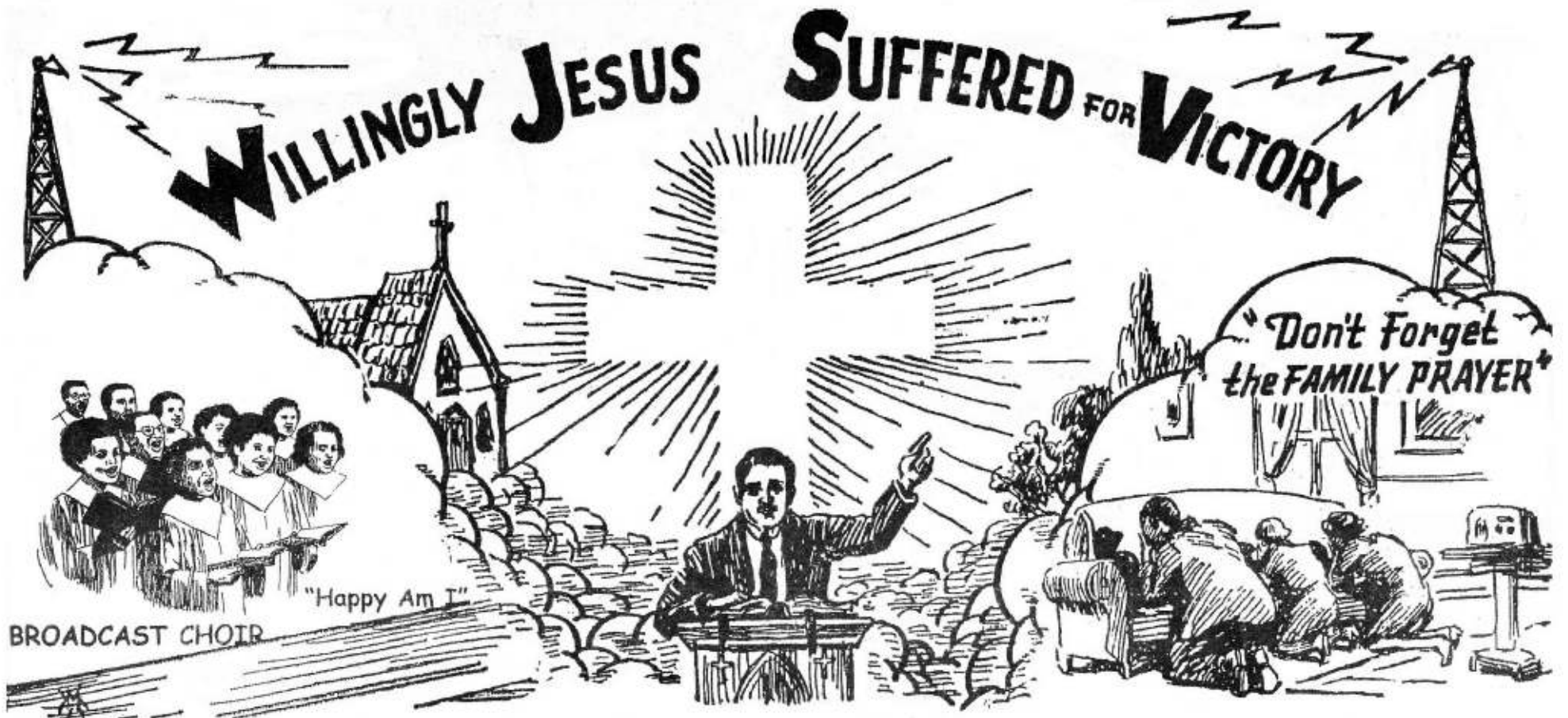
LESSON DISCUSSION

Jesus was invited to dine in many homes in His travels. On one such occasion He related the parable of the Great Dinner. During the course of Jesus' visit He spoke of those who should be invited to such dinners. The hosts should include the outcasts and neglected.

A certain man sent invitations to a great number of people. After great preparation, the supper was ready and a servant was sent to extend the second invitation. Surprisingly, those who had been invited, gave excuses as to why they were now rejecting the invitation and could not attend. The excuses included the purchase of land, purchase of five yoke of oxen to be tested and the last one said that he had married a wife. These are just that, "excuses."

Upon hearing of the rejections to his invitation, the upset host orders the servant to go into the streets and lanes of the city to invite the poor, the maimed, the halt and the blind. There was still room for more to attend. The host further extended the invitation to those in the highways and hedges. The servant was to compel them to come.

In the spiritual context many have given "excuses" for rejecting the invitation to God's eternal feast. God has presented the invitation to His kingdom to the Jews first. The invitation to the Great Kingdom Dinner is all inclusive - to Gentiles and all nations whom Jesus came to save.



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 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)

**THE FOOL HATH SAID IN HIS HEART,
 "THERE IS NO GOD"** (Continued from Page2)

Then he stands before God realizing that not only are the judgments of God just, but also sure. Don't forget this my precious ones, the judgments of the Lord are just and sure, also more to be desired than silver or gold. Don't run around trying to get money, silver or gold brother. Get the commandments of God in your heart and mind, then you'll find that no matter what comes against you, it can't overcome you. The wealth of the world can't stop you, for with God's Word within, you'll go through just as sure as your name is what it is. **His words are more to be desired than fine gold; sweeter are the commandments of God than honey in the honeycomb.** The servant of God is told that, in keeping the commandments of God, there are great rewards. Brother, I'm happy because I've found this to be true. So I'm warning you to obey the Lord and not let Him come back and find you with your works undone.

Now listen! The Gospel of the Son of God is the power of God unto salvation to every man that believeth. Therefore, you are commanded in the Word of God to believe it. It was the Apostle Paul who cried out in Romans 1:16 and said, **"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation, to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek"**. It is also for anyone else who wishes to believe it. But hear! The Gospel does something else brother, it makes you understand God as never before. You will find these words in the 16th-19th Verses of the same chapter of Romans: **"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven..."** I don't care who you are or who says there is no God, there is somebody against living in Sin, and all unrighteousness. It certainly is not man because he is naturally bad. The Bible says: **"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and all unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them."** God shows man everything that he should know about Him: **"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."** They are fools because they don't believe that there is a God. I have great joy because I believe.

May God bless you to believe. Amen.

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