

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

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14).



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOSPEL SPREADING CHURCH OF GOD

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NOT FOR SALE

THE FALL AND REDEMPTION OF MAN

THE DEVIL, GOD'S ENEMY, LEADS MAN ASTRAY, BUT HE IS BROUGHT BACK INTO FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

I want to straighten out the misunderstanding that many people have had regarding death. I want to enlighten you and bring you to the truth. Many have believed that death, in taking loved ones, was an agent of 'God', that God sent death to take a provider of bread away from a family, or a beloved wife from her husband. I want to show you from the Bible that this impression is wrong.

Some people believe the Bible is the word of men because men wrote it. If you read the Bible carefully, you can see it is not the word of men for it is not in accord with the spirit of men. Is it the spirit of men to turn the other cheek? Yet the Bible says: "... **whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.**" St. Matthew 5:39. Are these the words of men --- "**Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest?**" St. Matthew 11:28 Do men invite people to bring their troubles to them? The Bible is the Word of God, written by men inspired by the Spirit of God, men to whom God revealed His truth.

Let us read I Corinthians 15:24-26 as follows: "**Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.**"

Jesus now sits at the right hand of God and will be there until every enemy is subdued. When death is destroyed, then the last enemy will have been conquered.

In Hosea 13:14 we find these words: "**I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plaques; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.**"

God speaks here and says that He'll ransom those who put their trust in Him. Is that the language of man? Can man redeem from death? No, none but God.

GOD IS NOT A DESTROYER

Some have asked, why not take some worthless person if death must come? Some such would be better off dead and surely the world would be better off without worthless folks who do nothing to aid in the progress and development of the world. But I say unto you, that God is not a destroyer, but a Savior, a giver of life. God loves the world. Can you destroy that which you love? He so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life. See St. John 3:16.

In I John 4:7-8 we get a picture of God. Read: "**Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.**"

If you see anyone who does not love, he is not of God. You should even love your enemies. I can't see how a man can love a woman and then shoot her. I can't see how a man can love a woman and then beat her. It just doesn't fit in. Anything you love you'll pet. Far be it from you to kill that which you love.

It is not God Who destroys man. It is man's sins. Let a man drink when God says no drunkard can have eternal life. If a man will choose to drink, it is not God's fault because he dies. If he would avoid death, he should not drink. It is the thing you do that destroys you. When God made the penalty of death it wasn't because He intended to send man to hell, but because He wanted to test man's devotion for Him. And besides, you don't want the company of a drunkard. How could God stand one in heaven? We don't even want them in Washington.

(Continued on Page 2)



Follow men who follow God. When they step out of line, you keep on following God.

You cannot fool God's people; they know when you know God.

Those who do deeds of kindness will never be forgotten.

Unless your foundation is sound, it won't stand---build on God.

Don't turn your back on Jesus to be anybody's friend.

When you have given yourself to God, don't take yourself back.

If He gave His Son to save you, why wouldn't He give other things to encourage you?

When you give freely to God, you give more than the one who gives grudgingly, in spite of the amount.

You must love to the extent that you give rather than take.

God's government is a holy government, and its citizens are saints.

What I like about God is that He sticketh closer than a brother.

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Contributions are \$8.00

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THE FALL AND REDEMPTION OF MAN

THE DEVIL, GOD'S ENEMY, LEADS MAN ASTRAY, BUT HE IS BROUGHT BACK INTO FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

(Continued from Page 1)

Let us suppose you have several bottles on the shelf of your medicine cabinet and in the midst of them you have a bottle of iodine. Your little child has access to this cabinet. You would warn the child by saying, "Dear, don't touch that bottle in the middle with the skull and two bones on it because in the day you drink it you shall surely die." Now suppose the child should move all the other bottles aside and drink the iodine and die! You would not be at fault because you surely warned it.

MAN PICKS HIS OWN FATE

God created man with the freedom of will and He won't take that away. He has given man a nose, eyes, etc., to be used for his comfort and convenience. God won't take them away from him as members of his body even through man abuses them. He is not like man to take away or change around at every whim. He tells you before hand, if you do certain things what you must expect as a consequence. If you do them, what He has said will happen and it is your fault, not His. He has arranged His plan in wisdom and the foundation of it is life, eternal life.

Now we'll see how death came, Read Romans 5:12 as follows: **"Wherefore, as by one man, sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."**

We see that the sentence of death was passed because of sin. While we did not participate in the first sin, we were in the loins of Adam who did sin, and thereby we became subject to death through Adam's transgression. Sin entered through one man and by one man it shall be carried away.

Man brings death through his sins. Lucifer was driven from heaven because his heart was lifted up and he had grown rebellious. Read Ezekiel 28:14-17 as follows. **"Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou has walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise, they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore, will I cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou has corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee."**

Man was driven from the Garden of Eden because God feared that he would put forth his hand and eat of the fruit of the tree of life. If this had happened, he wouldn't have died according to the Word of God. The devil was cast out of heaven into the earth. Someone said the devil was in hell; he is in Washington. Read Revelation



Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux,
founder, Church of God

12:9-13 as follows: **"And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him ... he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child."**

He started on Eve, and he's been working on women ever since.

DEVIL REACHES WOMAN THROUGH HER PET

Read Genesis 3:1-7 as follows: **"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: ... For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."**

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her: And he did eat. ... And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons."

The serpent was Eve's pet. The devil can easily reach you by getting in your pet. His spirit got into the woman's pet and spoke to her through it. He never comes in the form of the devil, such as man pictures him with a long red tail and two horns in his head and a pitch fork in his hand. He'd probably frighten you away from him if he did. He comes like a friend,,, in the form of a friend, with the voice of a friend, and the attention and sympathy and interest of a friend. Eve's

pet was close to her. Therefore, he could get close to her through it.

In those days animals spoke. It wasn't strange to hear them. At our own zoo, there is a crow that talks. And we know of the parrot's speaking ability. Eve listened to the serpent, her pet, as it talked to persuade her. It told her that the fruit would make her wise as gods and if a woman believes that anything will make her wise, she'll want it. Her curiosity is easily aroused and when once it is aroused, she is going to find out what she wants to know. You bring a package home and give it to her saying: "Now, Darling, keep this for me until I come back at noon, but DON'T OPEN IT!". She'll lock it up because you told her to take care of it. But at eleven o'clock she'll get it again and feel it and ask the question again, "I wonder what is in that package." Then she'll pinch a piece of the wrapper and find that there is another wrapper under the first. Then she'll say, "I don't care what he says, I'm going to find out what is in this package." This is due to her curiosity.

HELL CREATED FOR SPIRITS, NOT MAN: SO, MAN'S REDEMPTION IS PROVIDED FOR

God put the forbidden tree there to test man's fidelity. He wanted man to live, but He wanted him to prove himself deserving of God's favor by being absolutely true to God through his own will.

Angels are spirit beings who are not subject to death as man is. Hell which shall be formed in the earth was conceived for spirits, not for man. Man becoming subject to death was driven out of the Garden so he could not put forth his hand and eat of the tree of life and life after he had been condemned to die.

When Lucifer, who was familiar with God's plan concerning the creation because he had been in the secret council with God when they agreed to make man, saw that man had been man, he set to work to lead him wrong so as to bring him into condemnation and thereby interfere with God's aim to give man eternal life.

The devil rules the earth. He is prince of the air. He has pretty much his own way in the earth. Man was subject to death after the devil took advantage of him and made him sin. Nevertheless, God worked out a plan to redeem him. Read Romans 5:17 as follows: **"For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) Therefore as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous."**

One man brought death into the

(Continued on Page 3)

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

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No. 1031

BOOK	CHAPTER	VERSE	WORD	ANSWER
1. Revelation	22	17	1	_____
2. St. John	3	15	2	_____
3. Psalm	12	3	13	_____
4. Exodus	33	11	11	_____
5. Joshua	6	10	22	_____
6. II Samuel	12	13	9	_____
7. Zechariah	6	12	8	_____
8. Ezekiel	8	6	6	_____
9. St. John	7	18	4	_____
10. Genesis	1	27	4	_____
11. Job	33	14	10	_____
12. I Timothy	4	1	12	_____
13. Nehemiah	7	3	12	_____
14. Isaiah	33	24	17	_____
15. Acts	2	25	5	_____
16. I Samuel	9	27	28	_____
17. Romans	10	13	2	_____
18. Proverbs	12	18	4	_____
19. Numbers	35	30	23	_____
20. Jeremiah	29	25	3	_____
21. Isaiah	1	4	26	_____
22. II Peter	1	21	27	_____
23. Judges	6	31	32	_____
24. Leviticus	18	30	2	_____
25. Hebrews	12	5	17	_____
26. II Kings	22	17	31	_____
27. St. Mark	4	12	30	_____
28. Psalm	18	30	25	_____
29. II Chronicles	1	11	27	_____
30. I Chronicles	27	24	26	_____
31. Exodus	8	32	7	_____
32. Ecclesiastes	3	11	15	_____
33. Genesis	9	11	9	_____
34. Deuteronomy	9	18	33	_____
35. St. Luke	6	45	6	_____
36. Jeremiah	10	12	13	_____
37. Ezekiel	10	5	11	_____
38. Ephesians	1	21	29	_____

QUOTE WHERE PASSAGE IS FOUND

.....

PRINT FULL NAME.....

YOUR COMPLETE ADDRESS.....

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Answers to Last Month's Puzzle

"O LORD God of Israel, thou art righteous: for we remain yet escaped, as it is this day: behold we are therefore thee in our trespasses: for we cannot stand before thee because of this" (Ezra 9:15).

THE FALL AND REDEMPTION OF MAN...

(Continued from Page 2)

world. By one life came. In Hebrews 2:9-14 we find these words: **"But we see Jesus who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: For which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren. Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil."**

THROUGH CHRIST, MAN MAY NOW LIVE

As angels can't be subject to death, as has been pointed out, Christ was made a man that He might be subject to all things as man is, and yet not be a part thereof. By being a man, He died that the law, which God made and could not change, might be fulfilled. He worked out every plan beautifully. Sin is the power of death. The devil got Adam to sin. The devil knew, having been in the council, that to sin is to die.

Love God because He loves you. Christ has the key to death and hell. He said, **"All power is given in my hand."** St. Matthew 28:18b. He died that we might live. **"I came that ye might have life and that ye might have it more abundantly."** See St. John 10:10b. He said, When Lazarus, his beloved friend, slept the sleep of death, He was notified and went to raise up His friend the sister of the dead friend was concerned because Christ was late in coming. She feared that she would not see her brother again until the day of resurrection. But Christ said, **"I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."** St. John 11:25,26. God giveth life through Jesus Christ.

God has nothing to do with death. It came through sin which man committed through his own free will. Death is an enemy of God. He intended that man should live forever and sent His son to restore to man the inheritance of eternal life. In Him, death is swallowed up in victory. Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-57 as follows: **"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality. ... then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory? ... The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."**

Comfort one another with these words. May God bless you.

THE SPRING 2022 - SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

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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 sanctimonious. The period of Prayer, Meditation, Worship and Fasting represents serious time spent with the Lord. During this time of consecration, the Believer afflicts the body while seeking to gain strength for the inner man.

From Friday, April 7th through Sunday, April 16, 2023, Gospel Spreading Church engages in a Solemn Assembly. COVID-19 guidelines suggest radical change in corporate worship. Modern technology such as webinars and smart phones replace regular church gatherings. Gospel Spreading Church members presently engage in the worship experience while sheltering in place.

Praise God for His faithfulness. In life we sometimes find ourselves in difficulties that help us 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 Bible days, when people of God found themselves facing insurmountable odds, they called on God. For example, Queen Esther called the people to prayer and fasting (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 demons out of the child, Jesus informed them of the necessity of prayer and fasting. **“Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting”** (St. Matthew 17:21).

The procedure for corporate prayer and fasting is outlined in Joel 2:15-17. In these worship services every detail is given. Everyone from the greatest to the least is to be accounted for. The people are gathered, the congregation is to be cleansed/sanctified. 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 prayer and fasting were practices in the Old Testament, and the New Testament, they are important elements in worshipping God in this 21st century. Isaiah truly cried aloud and spared not. He 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, during the solemn assembly, special prayers are offered for the President of the United States, his staff, members of the U.S. Congress, judges of the earth and the Armed Forces. Second Chronicles 7:14: **“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: **“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 Gospel Spreading Church in this venture - praying and fasting. **“...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much”** (James 5:16b). **“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth: (St. John 4:24).**

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ORDER OF WORSHIP SUNDAY SERVICES

5:30 AM..... Sunrise Prayer Service
9:45 AM..... Sunday School
11:45 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

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WTJZ 1270 AM, WHEK 1650 AM
Online: Google "Praise 104.9 Virginia"

Sunday..... 5:30 PM-6:00 PM

Mrs. Michaux's Gospel Message to All

God Is Greatly To Be Praised

All nations should praise God as His word says in Psalm 117. **"O PRAISE the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth forever. Praise ye the LORD."**

Godliness has promises of this life and the future life. Psalm 112: **"PRAISE ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth forever. Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous. A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion. Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD. His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies. He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour. The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish."**

Praise God for His excellency. Psalm 113: **"PRAISE ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD. Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD's name is to be praised. The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. Who is like unto the LORD our God, who dwelleth on high. Who humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven, and in the earth! He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill; That he may set him with princes, even with the princes of his people. He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD."**

God is to be praised for His glorious works. Psalm 111: **"PRAISE ye the LORD, I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation. The works of the LORD are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein. His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth forever. He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.**



Mrs. Mary E. Michaux,
co-founder, Church of God

He hath given meat unto them that fear him: he will ever be mindful of his covenant. He hath shewed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen. The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness. He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name. **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth forever."**

How good it is to trust in God. Psalm 118: **"O GIVE thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: because his mercy endureth forever. Let Israel now say, that his mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Aaron now say, that his mercy endureth forever. Let them now that fear the LORD say, that his mercy endureth forever. I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, and set me in a large place. The LORD is on my side: I will not fear: what can man do unto me? The LORD taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see my desire upon them that hate me. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes. All nations compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD will I destroy them. They compassed me about; yea, they compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them. They compassed me about like bees; they are quenched as the fire of thorns: for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them. Thou hast thrust sore at me that I might fall: but the LORD helped me. The LORD is my strength and song, and is become my salvation. The**

voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly. The right hand of the LORD is exalted: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD. The LORD hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death. Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the LORD: This gate of the LORD, into which the righteous shall enter. I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation. The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity. Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD. God is the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar. Thou art my God, and I will praise thee: thou art my God, I will exalt thee. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever."

Prayers, praises and professions of obedience are found in Psalm 119, verses 1-16. **"BLESSED are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways. Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently. O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes! Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments. I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments. I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly. Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes. With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth. I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches. I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways. I will delight myself in thy statutes: ... I will not forget thy word."**

Praise the Lord! May God bless you in my prayer.

A BEAUTIFUL LOVE STORY

God's love may be illustrated in St. John 3:16, **For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.** Just think, After the fall of Adam, men committed sin for which had to be atoned. Precious animals were sacrificed in atonement for sin. The standard for perfect sacrifice was a male without blemish. When God saw no human being to fit the bill, Jesus volunteered for the task. In heaven He was the Word of God. **The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, ...** St. John 1:14a.

Jesus left heaven, came to earth to die **“Just for me, just for me. Jesus came and did it just for me. Upon the cross my Savior died. The Lamb was crucified. Showed us love that this world has never known. Oh, what love divine, Truer love you'll never find/ O that we might live. Love came and died alone.”** Words and music by Donnie McClurkin.

Jesus spent time agonizing with God in the garden of Gethsemane on the night before His crucifixion. **But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.** Romans 5:8.

Jesus' body was delivered to Joseph of Arimathaea who wrapped it in clean linen cloth, laid it in his own new tomb and rolled a great stone to its door. See St. Matthew 27:27:57-60. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead. When Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to the tomb, they were startled by an angel saying: **Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.** St. Matthew 28:1-6.

The love story does not end there. Jesus appeared to His disciples and said, **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and in Samaria, and in the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up: and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven, behold two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.** Acts 1:8-11

After commissioning His disciples, **Jesus lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.** St. Luke 24:50b, 51.

Truly, although Jesus ascended to heaven, He is our soon coming King. Soon and very soon, we are going to see the king. Soon and very soon, we are going to see the king. Soon and very soon we are going to see the king. Halleluia, halleluia, we are going to see the king! .

SOON AND VERY SOON

Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Hallelujah, hallelujah,
We're going to see the king

No more cryin there,
We are going to see the King
No more cryin there,
We are going to see the King
No more cryin there,
We are going to see the King
Hallelujah, hallelujah,
We're going to see the King

Should there be any rivers we must cross
Should there be any mountains we must climb
God will supply all the strength that we need
Give us strength till we reach the other side.

We have come from every nation, God knows each of us by name.

Jesus shed[took] his blood and he washed my sins.

He washed them all away.

Yes, there are some of us who have laid down our lives but we

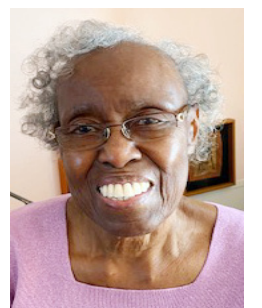
All shall live again on the other side... soon and very soon.

Hallelujah, halleljuah

We're going to see the King!

Songwriter: Andrae Crouch

Dr. Almeta Stokes
Washington,DC
Church of God



A BEAUTIFUL LOVE STORY

(Continued from Page 6)



Jesus praying in Gethesemane



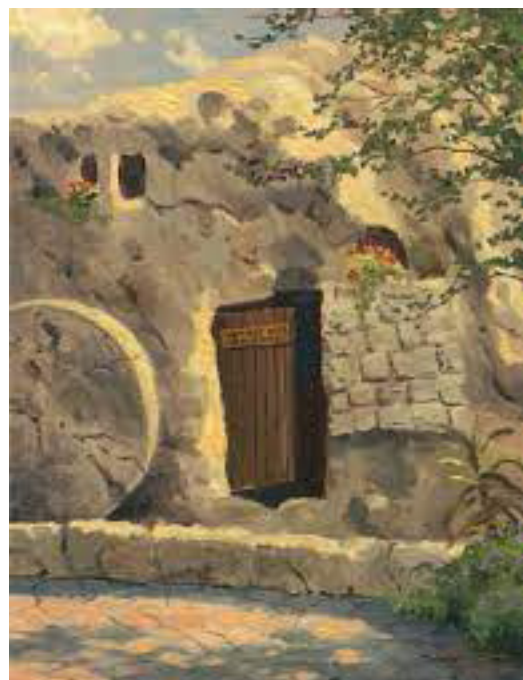
Jesus carries the cross



Jesus was crucified between two thieves.



Jesus died at sunset.



Garden Tomb



He is not here.



Ascension of Jesus

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)



Noah, Age 4

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

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

Christians recognize **Good Friday** as the day Jesus was crucified. At sundown, Jesus' dead body was taken down from the cross, wrapped in new cloth, and placed in a borrowed tomb that was sealed and guarded by a group of Roman soldiers. Three days later, **Easter Sunday** morning, He arose from the dead. "**Come, see**" was an angel's invitation (St. Matthew 28:6) at the grave. That morning, an angel had already "**rolled back the stone from the door**" (v. 2) of the tomb, not to let Christ out, but to let the world in to see the empty tomb.

Today, the invitation for the resurrection is the same, "**Come, see.**" Come, see the miracle, power, and truth of Christ's resurrection, *and believe it.* Christ's resurrection demonstrated that He paid the price for all our sins at the Cross (See Romans 4:25). The work of salvation is complete! If you trust that Christ died for your sins and rose again, then you are saved from all your sins and have the gift of eternal life (See I Corinthians 5:3-4; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 1:13; 2:8-9). Amen! Amen! Amen!

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

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (St. Matthew 28:19)."

Young People Respond to the Question:

"What is the relationship between Good Friday and Easter Sunday?"

Jesus chose to save humanity by dying on the cross on Good Friday. Three days later, He was resurrected on Easter Sunday.

By Joshua, Age 13
Midlothian



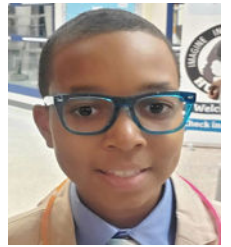
Good Friday was when Jesus died for our sins. Easter was when Jesus was raised up victoriously from the grave by God the Father. No one but Jesus could save us. He became a man so He could make our relationship with God right again. No one or thing could do that. Jesus had no sin. God accepted His sacrifice as payment for all sin.

By Makari, Age 14
Washington, D.C.



The relationship between Good Friday and Easter is similar because both have to do with Jesus. They are different because Good Friday celebrates Jesus' dying on the cross for our sins. Easter celebrates Jesus' resurrection.

By Noah, Age 10
Midlothian



The relationship between Good Friday and Easter is that one is the day Jesus was killed and the other is the day that Jesus was raised by God. He was killed for all our sins.

By Malayah, Age 11
Washington, D.C.



Easter is when we hunt for lambs [a game].

By Koryn, Age 4
Hampton



I hunt for the little lambs.

By Kylie, Age 2
Hampton



Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins.

By Kendrick, Age 6
Hampton

Both holidays have to do with Jesus. He died on the cross to save us from our sins and then He rose from the dead. That is what both holidays mean to me.

By Elijah, Age 12
Laurel



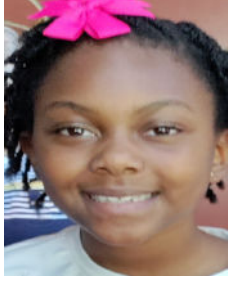
Jesus died on Friday and we celebrate Easter on Sunday so we can go to heaven.

By Ravvone, Age 6
Hampton



Soldiers put Jesus on a cross and He died on Friday. Then they put Him in a cave and when they came back to get Him on Sunday, He was gone.

By Reese, Age 10
Hampton



Jesus died on the cross for our sins. Then He came back to life and now He is in heaven.

By Noah, Age 4
Bowie

Jesus died and was buried on Good Friday. On Easter Sunday, God got Him up from the grave.

By Navayah, Age 7
Harford County



Jesus died on the cross on Good Friday. He rose from the dead on Easter Sunday.

By Bella, Age 8
Laurel



The relationship between Easter and Christ is simple: Easter is the day of Jesus Christ's resurrection.

By Nathaniel, Age 15
Baltimore



Easter is a happy time because Jesus rose again.

By Aubrey, Age 7
Hampton



Good Friday is the day that Jesus was crucified while Easter is the day that Jesus was resurrected from the tomb.

By Nya, Age 17
Baltimore



Easter is Jesus' second birthday.

By Andrew, Age 6
Hampton



Good Friday commemorates Jesus Christ's crucifixion. For me, Easter Sunday commemorates Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead.

By N'Kyrion, Age 19
Baltimore



ANSWERS TO MARCH HOLY BIBLE QUIZ

1. Who was chosen to be the successor to Elijah?
(**Elisha** - II Kings 2:1).
2. What was Elisha's response when Elijah asked him to tarry in Bethel and Jericho?
(**"As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee"** - II Kings 2:2-6).
3. What River did they have to cross?
(**Jordan** - II Kings 2:7).
4. How did they get across?
(**Elijah took his cloak and struck the waters and they parted, then the two men went over on dry ground** - II Kings 2:8).
5. What request did Elisha make of Elijah?
(**He asked for a double portion of Elijah's spirit** - II Kings 2:9).
6. What did Elijah say to this request?
(**If Elisha saw him as God took him up in Heaven, then that would be a sign that God was going to grant his request** - II King 2:10).
7. What did Elisha see when Elijah was taken away?
(**He saw the fiery chariot and horses, and the whirlwind take Elijah away** - II Kings 2:11).

ANSWERS TO MARCH FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. Beloved, **believe** not every **spirit**, but try the **spirits** whether they are of **God**: because many false prophets are gone out into the world (**I John 4:1**).
2. Beloved, let us **love** one another: for **love** is of God; and every one that **loveth** is born of God, and **knoweth** God (**I John 4:7**).
3. He that **loveth** not **knoweth** not God; for God is **love** (**I John 4:8**).
4. Herein is **love**, not that we **loved** God, but that he **loved** us, and sent his **Son** to be the propitiation for our **sins** (**I John 4:10**).
5. Beloved, if God so **loved** us, we ought also to **love** one another (**I John 4:11**).
6. We **love** him, because he first **loved** us (**I John 4:19**).
7. And this **commandment** have we from him, That he who **loveth** God **love** his brother also (**I John 4:21**).

Sunday School Lessons for the Month of April

The lessons for this month were reviewed by Sister Audrey Morris. She serves as the Washington, DC Church of God Sunday School teacher of Women's Class.



LESSON 14 – April 2, 2023 SUBJECT: Crucified for Sinners

GOLDEN TEXT: “And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world” (1 John 4:14).

PRINTED TEXT: St. Matthew 27:38 Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.

39 And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads,

40 And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.

41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,

42 He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.

43 He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.

44 The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth.

45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

47 Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias.

48 And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink.

49 The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him.

50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

52 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God

LESSON DISCUSSION

St. Matthew 27:38 - 54 describes the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, which is a significant event. The passage begins by stating that two robbers were also crucified alongside Jesus. The soldiers then placed the sign above Jesus' head that read “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” The chief priest and scribes, along with the crowd, mocked and taunted Jesus. They challenged Him to save Himself if He truly were the Son of God.

At noon, darkness fell upon the land lasting for three hours, and Jesus cried out “... **Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?**” This utterance fulfilled Psalm 22:1 and showed Jesus' humanity as He experienced the pain of separation from His Father. Some of the bystanders misunderstood and thought He was calling for Elijah. Jesus cried out with a loud voice and said, “**It is finished:**” St. John 19:30. He then breathed His last breath.

At that moment, the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. Clearly, God did the tearing. This action symbolized the end of the separation between God and man. The earth shook, rocks split, and tombs were open. Many bodies of holy people who had died were raised to life. The centurion in charge of Jesus' crucifixion, upon witnessing all these events declared Jesus was indeed the Son of God.

LESSON 15 – April 9, 2023 SUBJECT: Risen from the Dead

GOLDEN TEXT: “Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you” (St. John 20:19).

PRINTED TEXT: St. John 20:1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the LORD out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.

3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.

4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.

5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.

6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie,

7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself.

8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.

9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.

10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my LORD, and I know not where they have laid him.

14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the LORD, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD.

LESSON DISCUSSION

The events of Jesus' resurrection and the reactions of His disciples are discussed in John 20:1-10; 19-20. Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb early in the morning to find the stone had been removed from the entrance. The tomb was empty. Mary ran to tell Peter and John, who then ran to the tomb to see for themselves. They found the burial clothes, including the cloth that had covered Jesus' head. The cloth was folded neatly and placed separately from the other linen.

Later that evening, Jesus appeared to the disciples, who were gathered in a locked room for fear of the Jews. Jesus greeted them with the words, “**Peace be with you,**” St. John 20:19b, he then showed them His hands and side. The disciples rejoiced upon seeing the Lord. Thomas, who was not present at that time, doubted the testimony of the resurrection. When Jesus appeared to Thomas, He invited him to touch His wounds. After that experience, Thomas believed.

The disciples rejoiced upon seeing the Lord, and Jesus commissioned them to go and spread the news of His resurrection. This passage highlights the significance of the disciples' commission to spread the news of Jesus' resurrection. This has been carried on by believers throughout history.

LESSON 16 – April 16, 2023
SUBJECT: Proofs of the Resurrection

GOLDEN TEXT: “And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me” (St. Luke 24:44).

PRINTED TEXT: St. Luke 24:36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.

41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.

43 And he took it, and did eat before them.

44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:

53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

LESSON DISCUSSION

This passage begins with Jesus entering the room where His disciples were gathered. He greeted them by saying, “Peace be with you.” St. Luke 24:36b. The disciples were startled, thinking they were seeing a ghost. Jesus reassured them that He was alive and not a ghost. He showed them His hands, feet, and wounds from the crucifixion. He desired that know He was indeed the same Jesus Who had been crucified. He then ate fish in their presence to show that He was not a spirit, but has a physical body.

Jesus then led them out to Bethany where He blessed them, after which He was taken up into heaven. The disciples worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, continually praising God in the temple.

This experience highlights the mission of the disciples to proclaim the gospel and implies the need for repentance and forgiveness of sin. The ascension of Jesus into heaven marks the end of His earthly ministry and the beginning of the spread of the gospel message to all nations.

LESSON 17 – April 23, 2023
SUBJECT: The Bread of Life

GOLDEN TEXT: “And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst” (St. John 6:35).

PRINTED TEXT: St. John 6:22 The day following, when the people which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was none other boat there, save that one whereinto his disciples were entered, and that Jesus went not with his disciples into the boat, but that his disciples were gone away alone; **23 (Howbeit there came other boats from Tiberias nigh unto the place where they did eat bread, after that the Lord had given thanks:)**

24 When the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, neither his disciples, they also took shipping, and came to Capernaum, seeking for Jesus.

25 And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither?

26 Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.

27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

28 Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

30 They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?

31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.

32 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.

35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

LESSON DISCUSSION

This lesson recounts a conversation between Jesus and the crowd that had been miraculously fed with five loaves of bread and two fish. The crowd found Jesus on the other side of the sea and questioned Him about when He arrived. Jesus responded by telling them that they were seeking Him for the physical satisfaction of their hunger and engaged them to seek true nourishment that comes from believing in Him.

Jesus explained that He is the bread of life and whosoever comes to Him will never hunger or thirst again. He explained that as bread sustains physical life, He sustains eternal life. Jesus emphasized the importance of faith in Him saying that no one could come to Him unless granted by the Father. Jesus reminds the crowd that their physical needs are temporary. He offers a more lasting and meaningful sustenance. He explains that He has been sent by God to offer eternal life. And the way to receive it is to believe in Him. He alone can provide true fulfillment. St. John 6:22-35 is a powerful reminder of the centrality of faith in Jesus as the key to eternal life.

LESSON 18 – April 30, 2023
SUBJECT: The Light of the World

GOLDEN TEXT: “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (St. John 8:12).

PRINTED TEXT: St. John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

13 The Pharisees therefore said unto him, Thou bearest record of thyself; thy record is not true.

14 Jesus answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, yet my record is true: for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go.

15 Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.

16 And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.

17 It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true.

18 I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.

19 Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also.

20 These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come.

12:44 Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me.

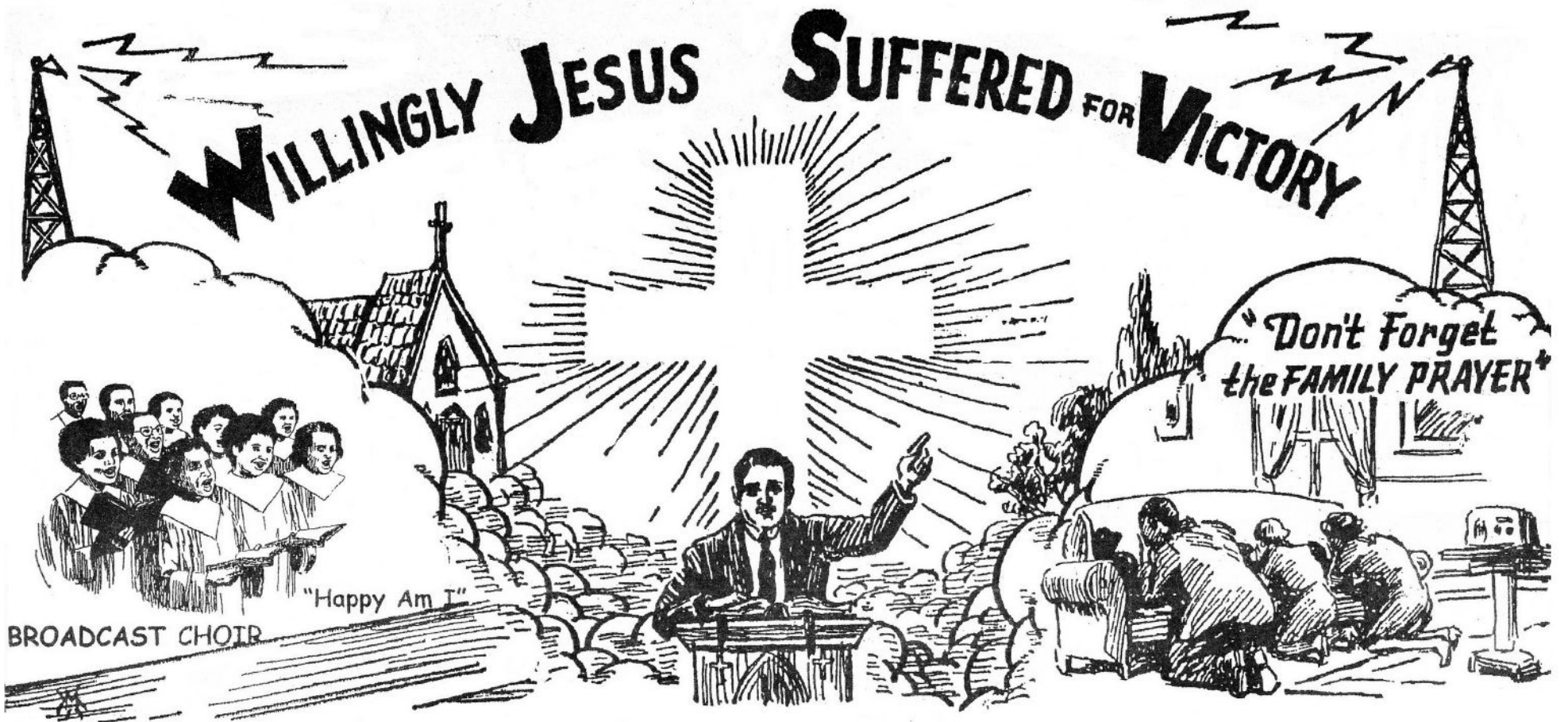
45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.

46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

LESSON DISCUSSION

These passages emphasize Jesus as the light of the world. St. John 8:12, Jesus declares, “I am the light of the world. Whosoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” He is speaking to a group of people who are questioning His authority. He uses the metaphor of light to illustrate the clarity and truth He brings to their lives. St. John 12:44-46, Jesus once again speaks of Himself as the light saying, “... He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. ... I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me, should not abide in darkness.”

These passages highlight the importance of following Jesus and His teachings. They bring clarity and truth to our lives. They also emphasize the unity between Jesus and God the Father, illustrating the divine nature of Christ. The metaphor of light suggests that without Jesus, we are in darkness and lack direction. With Him, we have a clear path to follow. These passages affirm the centrality of Christ to the Christian faith and the importance of seeking His light in our lives. Those who follow Him will have access to eternal life.



Prayer Answered

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

CALLING ALL YOUTH (Continued from Page 9)

APRIL HOLY BIBLE QUIZ

1. What did the soldiers place on Jesus' head?
2. Who helped Jesus carry His cross?
3. Where was Jesus crucified?
4. Who were crucified with Jesus?
5. What event occurred in the temple when Jesus died on the cross?
6. Who buried Jesus in his own new tomb?
7. How did Jesus' enemies make sure no one would steal His body from the tomb?

APRIL FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. Thou wilt _____ him in perfect _____, whose _____ is _____ on thee: because he _____ in thee.
2. Let him eschew (avoid) _____ and do _____; let him seek _____, and _____ it.
3. The LORD will give _____ unto his people; the LORD will _____ his people with _____.
4. _____ I leave with you, my _____ I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your _____ be _____, neither let it be _____.
5. Therefore being justified by _____, we have _____ with God through our _____:
6. Now the Lord of _____ himself give you _____ always by all means. The _____ be with you all.
7. And let the _____ of God _____ in your _____, to the which also ye are called in one _____; and be ye _____.

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