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Making A Difference

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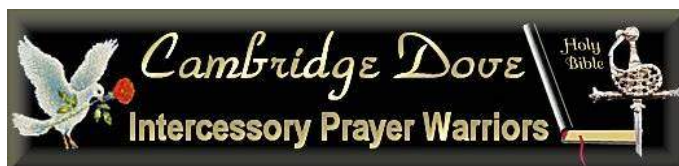
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**The rich rule over the poor,
and the borrower is servant to the lender.**

Proverbs 22:7

GREETINGS and BLESSINGS TO ALL OUR READERS

Whether you are reading your very first "Making a Difference" or you have been a member of the Beloved King Ministries' flock for some time, I extend a special welcome to you and hope that you are uplifted by the inspirational contributions sent from all around the world for us to share. Be you are a regular correspondent or a passive reader who has enjoyed receiving our magazine each month I want you to know that you are prayed for every single day. I love every single one of you and praise God for you.

I want to take this opportunity to express my personal thanks to **all** the Spirit-filled folk who have taken the time and effort to share items with us and especially to those dear people who have given of their personal harvest to help this ministry financially. If YOU have something that

you believe is worth sharing, please take a moment to send it to us.

I pray that God will abundantly bless you, that your prayers and petitions to Him will be heard and that you and those most dear to you will experience the touch of the Holy Spirit as never before. Where understanding has been difficult, I pray that the clouds of darkness will be lifted and that the full light of Jesus will shine through so that His truth shall prevail in wonderful new ways.

I pray especially for those of you who are sick or infirm or distressed. May the Lord's compassion uplift you to new heights because, by His stripes, you HAVE BEEN healed. In the name of Jesus, I banish Satan and his lying servants, masquerading as angels of righteousness, from the lives of everyone who reads this magazine.

David R Holt

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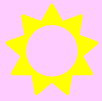
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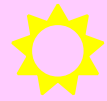
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The First Easter

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GUEST EDITORIAL



The Blood Covenant of Jesus Christ

By Hannah Ruth

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(All texts are quoted from the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible unless otherwise stated.)

An article titled *Redemption in Christ Jesus* (borrowed from a Christadelphians' leaflet) states: *It should be noted that the commonly used word "atonement" is not a Bible word. It is not a translation of the original Hebrew word "kaphar" but is an English word that was added to our Bibles as an 'interpolation'. The word "atonement" was coined in the thirteenth century by Catholic theologians who were presenting a lot of sermons about being "at one" with God. The term, "at one", became "atone" from which the noun "atonement" developed. This English word at-one-ment is supposed to represent reconciliation between God and man but it does not in any way describe the true meaning of the Hebrew word "kaphar" which means, "to cover". Nor does it carry the 'divine favour' or 'grace' concept that the true Bible word "reconciliation" carries.*

The *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary* offers further keen insight on "atonement" and other words relative to the subject, as per the following excerpts:

- **Atonement:** *katallage, translated "atonement" in the KJV of Romans 5:11, signifies, not "atonement," but "reconciliation," as in the RV. ... (The explanation of this English word as being "at-one-ment" is entirely fanciful) is frequently found in the OT. ... The corresponding NT words are hilasmos, "propitiation," 1 John 2:2; 4:10, and hilaste rion, Romans 3:25; Hebrews 9:5, "mercy-seat," the covering of the Ark of the Covenant. These describe the means (in and through the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ, in His death on the Cross by the shedding of His blood in His vicarious sacrifice for sin) by which God shows mercy to sinners.*
- **Reconciliation:** *... "To change from enmity to friendship, to reconcile." With regard to the relationship between God and man, the use of this and connected words shows that primarily "reconciliation" is what God accomplishes, exercising His grace towards sinful man on the ground of the death of Christ in propitiatory sacrifice under the judgment due to sin, 2 Corinthians 5:19 ... The KJV rendering "atonement" is incorrect. Atonement is the offering itself of Christ under Divine judgment upon sin. We do not receive atonement. What we do receive is the result, namely, "reconciliation."*
- **Propitiation:** *Through the "propitiatory" sacrifice of Christ, he who believes upon Him is by God's own act delivered from justly deserved wrath, and comes under the covenant of grace. Never is God said to be reconciled, a fact itself indicative that the enmity exists on man's part alone, and that it is man who needs to be reconciled to God, and not God to man. God is always the same and, since He is Himself immutable, His relative attitude does change towards those who change. He can act differently towards those who come to Him by faith, and solely on the ground of the "propitiatory" sacrifice of Christ, not because He has changed, but because He ever acts according to His unchanging righteousness. The expiatory work of the Cross is therefore the means whereby the barrier which sin interposes between God and man is broken down. By the giving up of His sinless life sacrificially, Christ annuls the power of sin to separate between God and the believer.*

The above definitions are helpful for viewing Scripture with sound perspective, keeping in context the meanings intended. Commencing Romans 8:7-8 we read, **The carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.** One need only look around to verify the truth of this matter. Planet earth is terminally ill and grossly displeasing to the pristine Creator of all that was once considered **very good (Genesis 1:31)**. Sin has so contaminated this world that the only possible redress is complete annihilation ([Revelation 21:1-8](#)). Total destruction! But God, who is love ([1 John 4:8](#)), said of His people, **Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee (Isaiah 49:15)**. From the moment man fell into sin, God ushered in His plan for salvation, designed **to seek and to save that which was lost (Luke 19:10)**. A Redeemer would come, through Whom the serpent, in due time, would be crushed under conquering power of a holy risen Saviour. **God's Kingdom would inevitably prevail (Genesis 3:15; Daniel 2:44)**. It is only by God's grace and mercy can we, **according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness (1 John 3:13)**.

The Kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost (Romans 14:17). Kingdom access is restricted to those made righteous by placing faith in Christ the Redeemer, **for He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21)**. Righteousness results in the **peace of God, which passeth all understanding (Philippians 4:7)**, which in turn leads to **joy unspeakable (1 Peter 1:8)**. But first thing first: extirpation of sin! However, **without shedding of blood is no remission of sins (Hebrews 9:22)**. Blood must be spilt; there was no other way.

God deemed that only a sacrificial “Lamb”, pure and undefiled, was worthy to take **away the sin of the world** (John 1:29). God alone is infallibly pure (Revelation 5:3); therefore He Himself was willing to bear our sins by incarnating as flesh and blood that part of Himself known as **the Word** (John 1:1-4). In order to maintain pureness of breed, a child by Divine nature would be conceived not of man, nor from the womb of a woman already known of man. It came to pass, an elect virgin, Mary, **found favour with God** (Luke 1:30). An angel appearing said unto her: **thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call His name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest** (vs. 31-22). Naturally Mary enquired, **How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?** And the angel answered and said unto her, **The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God** (vs. 34-35). Thus, Christ the Messiah was born into the world, **and the darkness comprehended it not** (John 1:5). He was **by wicked hands crucified and slain** (Acts 2:23), and is now **sat down on the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting till His enemies be made His footstool** (Hebrews 10:12-13).

For a *balanced* view of spiritual progress, it is needful to embrace three fundamental elements constituting Biblical Christianity, these being: *faith, law, and liberty*. Exercising faith in Christ as *Saviour* leads to recognition of His right to be *Lord* over the believer’s life (John 3:30). Reverence for law ensues through diligent study of God’s Word (1 John 5:3), granting submissive adherents liberty from demonic strangleholds of sin (James 4:7). All three particulars, though profound in their own right, dovetail in with each other for forming the picture in full:

- **Faith:** In days of old, Law and order was handed down via Moses, as a type of **schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith** (Galatians 3:24). Calvary enabled repentant sinners to receive cleansing from all unrighteousness by the power of the blood operative through bona-fide faith - a condition most essential to salvation, personalizing Divine covenant based on Christ alone (Mark 16:16). For **without faith it is impossible to please Him** (Hebrews 11:6). **As many as received Him** (the Son of God), **to them gave He power to become the sons of God** (i.e. joint heirs in Christ – Galatians 3:29), **even to them that believe on His name** (John 1:12), **for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved** (Acts 4:12). The people enquired of Jesus how they might work their way into favour with God. Jesus replied, **This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent** (John 6:29). True belief in the Son causes one to repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance (Acts 26:20). Faith-based works automatically result from genuine conversion. **By Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses** (13:39). That does not mean salvation proffers open license to sin - quite the contrary! It causes one to introspectively keep God’s laws out of a loving heart of gratitude. **We should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter** (Romans 7:6). One becomes motivated to do that which is right *as unto the Lord*, rather than *as unto the Law*.
- **Law:** God’s *testimony* (the Ten Commandments) was written by God’s own finger upon tablets of stone (Deuteronomy 5:22; 10:4). It is this testimony that prohibits polytheism, idolatry, blasphemy, profaning the Sabbath, dishonour to parents, murder, adultery, stealing, lying, and covetousness. Increasingly God’s Commandments fall by the way (2 Thessalonians 2:3); a direct result of modern media, the State, and carnal Christendom in-appropriating heavenly laws in salutation of the prophesied times in which we live (2 Timothy 3:1-7). Jesus spoke plainly in saying, **Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven** (Matthew 5:17-19). In misguided quests to seize upon blood-bought liberty at no cost to self, a growing number of “Christians” repudiate Law instead of Biblically scrutinizing the issue with all due care. Conservative study reveals beyond a doubt, the Lord changes not (Malachi 3:6). Salvation itself is unequivocally free, a gift bestowed upon penitent man as a seal of God’s unmerited favour. New covenant *improves* the Ten Commandments from rigid *legalism* to better substance reflecting the bondservant’s *heart*. **Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah ... this is the covenant ... I will put My laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to Me a people** (Hebrews 8:8,10). Godly decrees no longer dictate to stiff-necked, rebellious people. Rather, those born of the Spirit eagerly receive God’s laws upon their hearts, enabling seasoned growth via leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13). Scripture pleads the standard by which to measure truth so as to know the genuine article when stacked against Satan’s many counterfeits. For good reason John warned, **Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world** (1 John 4:1). Christian faith must be based - not on law - but on the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the One whom by Himself **purged our sins** (Hebrews 1:3; Romans 3:28, 31). His fiat from the cross remains unchanged by time: **It is finished** (John 19:30).
- **Liberty:** Compelled to establish the concept of “grace”, Paul stated with conviction, **All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not ... why is my liberty judged of another man’s conscience?** (1 Corinthians 10:23, 29). Many Church patrons bore a burden tending to legalistic dogma; ignorant of the fact Christ’s atonement did away with *superficial* observation of law. Paul was gifted to differentiate between things of a temporal nature (Mosaic law) and things that remain (God’s testimony now transferred to the heart of the believer). Christ’s sacrifice made atonement **once for all** (Hebrews 10:10),

blotting out the handwriting of ordinances (NOT the Ten Commandments) that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out the way, nailing it to His cross (Colossians 2:14). The moral code of law benefits mankind (Deuteronomy 6:24), being no wise “contrary” to our well-being, yet libertines insist Colossians 2:14 spells total abolition of Law. Paul said, law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin (Romans 7:14). Law opens blinded eyes to recognize sin for what it is: I had not known sin, but by the law (Romans 7:7). **The law entered, that the offence might abound (i.e. become exposed). But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: that as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 5:20-21).** Were governing bodies less caught up today with dying to the Law (as opposed to Paul’s dying daily to his flesh – 1 Corinthians 15:31), this world would not now be expediting sure destruction (Jon 3:8-10). Toleration of sin is abomination to God, repeatedly proven by the fact He gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator...for this cause God gave them up unto vile affections (Romans 1:24, 25, 26). Depravity of mind is not liberty! Of a truth: Law itself will not set you free, but rather, looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). Jesus proclaimed the Spirit of the Lord as being upon Him to preach the Gospel to the poor...heal the brokenhearted...preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind...set at liberty them that are bruised, etc (Luke 4:18). So that sin-enslaved mortals might be freed from sin, Jesus humbled Himself greatly in that He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). Such love! (See John 15:12-13). Serious Christians are able to take confidence knowing there is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (Romans 8:1-4).

Christ’s agony was in order that we might be reconciled to the Father - not to the world or its ecumenical mask of alliance. Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God (James 4:4). Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me (John 14:6). Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me (15:4). Every good and perfect gift is from above (James 1:17 NIV), however Satan, the master of counterfeit, has a plan to pervert. Jesus, always sound of speech, said, Every plant, which My heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up (Matthew 15:13). Scripture promises only he that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be His God, and he shall be My son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death (Revelation 21:7-8). When tempted to spurn God’s laws in favour for taking the easy road out, think very carefully, for broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat (Matthew 7:13). This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith (1 John 5:3). Be assured that yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him (Hebrews 10:37-38).

Our Lord has done all there is necessary for redeeming fallen man, but the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time (Revelation 12:12). Just as God is a Spirit (John 4:24), so too Satan dwells within the spirit realm. This means he and his demons are forced to operate through hands and minds of various life forms in a bid to thwart God’s plan to salvage for Himself a chosen people. Prophesying end time trouble, Jesus warned, There shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect (Matthew 24:24). Compromise runs rife in religion today, the vast majority bowing the knee to fear of man; aggressively shunning the One they ought to obey (Acts 5:29). God would say to you who have an ear to hear, Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of (Isaiah 2:22)? Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men (1 Corinthians 7:23), for how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation (Hebrews 2:3)?

To be added to Hannah Ruth’s mailing list, please write to her at hrministries@hotmail.com.

Quote of the Month

*The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending;
and have the two as close together as possible.*

~George Burns~

Food For Thought

Doing the Wrong Thing Well

BROTHER AARON'S PASTORAL NUGGETS

Shared by Jolene

In their book *Spiritual Leadership* Henry and Richard Blackabee quote Warren Bennis as saying, *I often observe people in top positions doing the wrong things well.* They go on to say: *The question for most leaders is not whether they are busy, but whether they are busy doing the right things. Good activities subtly but brazenly crowd out the most important.*

One of the greatest problems facing Christianity and society today is our tendency to busy ourselves doing the wrong things. Most of us are busier than ever before. Our lives are brimming over with activity. However, the question that begs an answer is: *Are we busy doing the right things?* All too often we major on minors. We allow "good things" to take the place of "best things." And what's scary is we've become very good at doing the wrong things well!

Now, it should be noted that doing the "wrong thing" doesn't necessarily mean you're doing a "bad thing." It simply means you're not doing the one thing that God has called and anointed you to do. You're not doing what you're passionate about.

Recently, during one of my sermons, I made the statement that the quickest route to revival in most of our churches would be to have a "quitting service." During this service every member would resign the jobs they are doing in the church for which they have not been called by God to do, nor are they passionate about. Needless to say, that raised some eyebrows! But I was serious. The truth of the matter is that we have too many people in too many churches that have learned to do the wrong things well. Some are teaching when that's not their calling or passion. Some are singing in the choir; some are leading the men and women's groups; some are working with youth groups; some are serving as deacons, and some are even serving as the pastor --- and it is not their calling or passion.

Now, my point here is not that people should quit doing everything for Jesus. My point is they should stop doing what they have not been called by God to do and are not passionate about, identify what they are called and passionate about ---AND START DOING THAT!

When I served as a pastor, the most dreaded time of year for me, bar none, was when it was time to form the Nominating Committee and select officers for the coming year. I hated it with a passion! Invariably, the Nominating Committee would agonize over who would fill the ministry positions for the coming year, only to have some dear, well-meaning saint of God reply, when asked whether or not they would take a certain position for the coming year, "Weeelllll --- if nobody else will ---- I guess I will!" Man! It was like fingernails scraping a blackboard when I heard this. I finally wised-up and started announcing from the pulpit that when asked by the Nominating Committee to serve, if they came back with any answer other than, "Yes. I've prayed about this and this is what God wants me to do for the coming year and I'm excited about it and looking forward to it" then they would not be allowed to serve in that position. I didn't care how talented they were. I didn't care how long they had been doing it. I didn't care if we had to stop a ministry. I purposed in my heart that we would not allow people to serve in areas where God had not called them to serve, and they were not passionate about serving. Guess what? When we started fleshing-out this principal, God used it to usher in revival and church growth!!! (And by-the-way, in the "for what it's worth department," being talented in a certain area doesn't necessarily constitute a calling from God. And not being talented in a certain area doesn't necessarily preclude you from serving. To my knowledge, David didn't take a course in Giant Killing 101, but he was anointed of God to serve --- and he was successful!)

The story of Deborah and Barak in the fourth chapter of the book of Judges illustrates my point well. Let me paraphrase it for you: Deborah was the Judge of Israel. She called Barak to her headquarters and asked him had not God already been speaking to him about leading the troops into battle to defeat Sisera, the Captain of Jabin's army. Barak rightfully equates the anointing of God upon Deborah as a guarantee for victory. He tells her that if she will go with him into battle (she's not a warrior) he will go, but if she won't go with him, he won't go. Deborah agrees to go with him but tells him because of his actions, he won't get the glory for winning the battle. God will give that glory to a woman. They go into battle; the rain falls; the river floods; Sisera has to abandon his chariots; he flees and hides in the tent of Jael, and when he goes to sleep, she (Jael) drives a tent stake through his temple. Thus, a woman got credit for the victory. Imagine that, the last thing that went through Sisera's mind was --- a stake! (Bad joke!!! Bad joke!!!)

The point is this: Barak did the wrong thing very well. In fact, he did it well enough to be included in the Hall of Faith in Hebrews. But here is the question that begs an answer: *How much more could God have used Barak*

had he operated within his anointing instead on Deborah's? God had called and anointed him to lead the troops. He didn't need Deborah on the battlefield. Here is my point: The only way we can be pleasing to God is to operate in the calling, giftedness and anointing that He has given us --- not somebody else's. We may do ten thousand other things well, but if we fail to do what we were placed here on earth to do, is God pleased?

When we operate outside the anointing God has given us, it doesn't matter how talented, organized, or efficient we are, nor does it matter how well we do the job. The truth of the matter is that we can be the worlds best at something, but if we're not anointed to do it, we're simply doing the wrong thing well!

When we make our entrance into heaven, I don't think we'll hear God say: *You did the wrong thing well --- but welcome anyway my good and faithful servant.* Nope! Don't think we'll hear that. God's accolades come by doing the right thing well.

I suppose the only thing worse that doing the wrong thing well is doing the right thing poorly. But, that's another column for another day.

Unpardonable Sin

By David Holt

Much has been preached and written about "the unpardonable sin" referred to in Matthew 12:31 and I believe that a lot of what has been said has misled many people into a false and very dangerous sense of security. So let's examine how the Bible records what Jesus said in detail and in context. I will use Matthew's account here but much the same message can also be read in Mark 3:28, 29 and Luke 12:8-10.

Matthew wrote: Then they brought Him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. All the people were astonished and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"

But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebub, the prince of demons that this fellow drives out demons."

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? And if I drive out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

"Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can rob his house.

"He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me scatters. And so I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come. (Matthew 12:30-32)

Here we see that Jesus was speaking in response to the Pharisees' accusations that He had driven out demons [healed people] by the power of Beelzebub [Satan] and thereby attributed the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan. Thus the unpardonable sin was their deliberate refusal to acknowledge the power of the Holy Spirit as manifested in Jesus' miracles.

It is impossible to be neutral when it comes to Jesus. That is why He said, "He who is not with me is against me." If you don't acknowledge Jesus as your Saviour, you have, in effect, taken the other side by default whether you openly support Satan or not. Actually, not many people do support or even acknowledge Satan openly and, in fact, many don't even believe he exists. But that doesn't mean he doesn't! Those same people don't acknowledge that Jesus exists either and THAT is where they are "against" Him.

In this passage we see that Jesus said that all blasphemy including anyone speaking against Him would be forgiven and this is where preachers and writers have misled people. The way they present

this leaves people with the idea that they can say and do what they like – no matter how “un-Christian” it is – and they will be forgiven without fear of punishment but this simply is NOT what Jesus was saying – or, to be more correct, it is not ALL of what Jesus was saying.

In Luke 13:1-5 we read the following: **Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”**

Twice in this passage, Jesus warns that, **UNLESS YOU REPENT**, you will perish. As Paul wrote, **“ALL have sinned and fallen short of God’s glory”** [that is, the glory that God intended for His creation] (Romans 3:23), and so no one is immune from Satan’s traps. The point is that when a true Christian sins, he realizes it and immediately feels remorse, sincerely asks for forgiveness and receives it. The keys are **REPENTANCE** and a resolve not to repeat the offence. In the King James Bible 1 John 3:4 identifies “sin” as “the transgression of the Law” and, in the NIV, simply, “lawlessness.” So, if you have ever had God’s Laws explained to you and purposely elected to break any of them, you have forfeited God’s forgiveness. As John also wrote, **“The man who says ‘I know Him’ and does not do as He commanded is a liar and the truth is not in him.”** (1 John 2:4). In other words, if a person has deliberately chosen disobedience, regardless of what he may SAY, that person doesn’t really know Jesus at all!

In Old Testament times, when a person broke any of the Law (the Ten Commandments), he **SHOULD** have been stoned to death—for the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23)—but, in His infinite mercy, God established a plan whereby the sinner could “transfer” his guilt to a flawless lamb that died in his place. This is what is referred to as “the Old Covenant.” However, the people soon took this “sin transfer” plan for granted and, once they had “paid” the prescribed price for their transgression of the Law, went right back and repeated their sins. In fact, the richer a person was [that is, the more lambs he owned], the easier it was to sin and not worry about the cost! (Maybe that’s why Jesus said **“It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.”** – Matthew 19:24)

Clearly, the plan wasn’t working. The Old Covenant had to be replaced by a better one which is why Hebrews 8:7 tells us, **“For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another.”** The better one was Jesus Christ. Unlike the sacrificial lambs of old, there is **ONLY ONE** Jesus. **Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: “Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—I have come to do your will, O God.’”**

First he said, “Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them” (although the law required them to be made). **Then he said, “Here I am, I have come to do your will.”** He sets aside the first to establish the second. **And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (Hebrews 10:8-10)**

Did you get that? **ONCE FOR ALL!** That is why Hebrews 10:26 warns us that **if we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left!** Jesus has paid the ultimate price for the salvation of EVERYONE. It is a free gift. You cannot buy it and He cannot do it again! To deliberately continue to break the Law when you have learned it is to thumb your nose at Jesus. The key word here is “deliberately.” There’s no way you’re going to avoid breaking Divine Law from time to time—most of do it every day! The point is whether we do it as an honest mistake or whether we do it with full (as the law courts would say) “knowledge aforethought”—in other words, knowing that we are going to break a law **BEFORE** we actually do so but going right ahead and breaking it anyway! There’s a popular saying that people use when they embark on some ill-advised path in the full knowledge of what they are doing—**“to hell with the consequences!”** Little do they realize that, if that path involves deliberately breaking God’s Law, that’s **EXACTLY** what the consequences will be!

Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see (Hebrews 9:1) and so, **by faith alone**, we look forward to a perfect life in Jesus’ kingdom after He returns. We cannot earn that. However—and this is the “cruncher”—we **CAN** forfeit it. Contrary to what many preachers teach, it isn’t a foregone conclusion. Speaking to a rich young Jew, Jesus said, **“If you want to enter life, OBEY THE COMMANDMENTS.”** (Matthew 19:17). “If” is only a little word but it is one of the most significant words in the Bible. When “if” precedes a statement, everything that follows it is conditional. For example, Jesus **DIDN’T** say, “If you believe in me, I am the way, the truth and the life.” He **IS** the way, the truth and the life – whether you believe it or not! Do you see the point here? Whilst the **PROVISION** of salvation is

absolutely unconditional, the RECEIPT of it is very definitely conditional. Read Jesus' words again. The antithesis to His words is, "If you DON'T want to enter life, don't (bother to) obey the commandments." No one—including Jesus—is going to drag you screaming and protesting into His kingdom! Notice also how He said, "If you WANT TO enter life." Oh yes! HE wants you there but only if YOU want to BE there.

As I have gone through life, I have realized that there are many who really don't want to be there! If you are a Christian, that may seem incredible to you—like, HOW could ANYONE NOT want to go to heaven? You only have to read the "promo" in Revelation 21 to ardently want to be there! Yet, very sadly, there are lots of people who simply wouldn't like the lifestyle! No booze—no pornography—no homosexuality—no punch-ups—to name but a few! They see heaven (Jesus' kingdom) as a dead boring place. Such people have never known or appreciated true love. Being nice to people is against their nature and so the love of paradise wouldn't please them at all! (Well, actually, in many cases, it would but, right now, they just don't know it! But that's another topic!)

It could be said that the only people who can deliberately blaspheme the Holy Spirit are "religious" people—that is, people who openly profess to be "believers" or, as John put it, people who say 'I know Him.' Remember, when Jesus referred to the 'unpardonable sin,' He was speaking to the religious leaders of the day—the Pharisees. Their sin was deliberately refusing to acknowledge the power of the Holy Spirit through Jesus and thus refusing to acknowledge HIM (as the promised Messiah). These were deeply religious men who thought they knew more than the Son of God—the One who their predecessors had actually referred to AS "Almighty God" in their holy writings, the Tanach (the Old Testament).

Notwithstanding my previous paragraph, of course non-Christians (that is, not only people of other beliefs but also atheists) CAN blaspheme the Holy Spirit even if it is by simply refusing to acknowledge His existence but the difference is that those people have not accepted—or WANTED to accept—God's gracious and glorious gift of salvation and so NONE of their sins have been forgiven simply because they haven't ASKED for forgiveness!

And herein lies the explanation. Forgiveness is something that God freely gives to all who first repent and then ask for it in the name of Jesus. Whilst it isn't handed out like candy to children (remember, sincere repentance is a prerequisite), it IS freely available. Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is an open refusal to accept God's gift of grace through Jesus Christ. How can THAT be forgiven when the culprit doesn't acknowledge Him? God the Father is overseeing all of creation throughout the universe and Jesus is serving in the heavenly sanctuary (see Hebrews 8:2) and so anyone who rejects the Holy Spirit separates him or herself from the only power that links him to Jesus and to God the Father.

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, He said, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

"All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me. (John 14:23-31)

Even Jesus acknowledged Satan as "the prince of this world"! Doesn't that bother you? After all, YOU live here! By inference, Revelation 12:12 tells us that there are other civilizations in the universe that are watching earthly developments with acute interest. "Therefore rejoice you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury because he knows that his time is short." Yes folks, much as you probably don't want to read it, we live in Hell right now! Satan's only domain is Planet Earth. The word domain is derived from "dominion" which signifies the territory of a ruler and is itself a derivative of the verb to dominate. Remember how, when God created Adam and Eve, He gave them dominion over the earth (Genesis 1:29, 30). When they disobeyed their Creator and chose to believe Satan's great lie, Adam and Eve handed that dominion over to Satan and, from that moment on, he became—just as Jesus said—the prince of this world.

The Bible has some dire warnings about what Satan will do during the final days before his final demise—which, remember, he KNOWS is coming. Before Jesus finally returns to redeem His faithful and

stalwart followers, Satan the dragon will empower his two beasts to perform amazing miracles that many people will attribute to Jesus. In Revelation 13, we read how the first beast is given so much power by the dragon (Satan) that people will actually worship Satan in the belief that they are worshiping Jesus. This will be because they failed to study and understand the scriptural prophecies. Space doesn't allow the reproduction of the whole of chapter 13 but I strongly admonish everyone reading this to spend as much time as possible studying it. But for now just take a look at this: And he [the beast] performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men. Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. (Revelation 13:13, 14). Make no mistake friends, in the final days of Planet Earth millions will be seduced by those miracles. Will you be one of them? I pray to God in Jesus' name that you won't!

As I have written, the only way to escape Satan's terrible deceptions will be to know the Scriptures inside out. If some preacher comes to your town performing great and wonderful miracles in the name of Jesus, minutely check EVERYTHING he or she says. As long-time supporters of Beloved King Ministries will know, I have always maintained that one of the easiest and most obvious signs of Satan's impostors is how they keep the fourth commandment. Some readers have accused me of being 'one-sighted' in my promotion of the true Sabbath of the Bible but that is ONLY the way it may appear. As Jesus' brother, James wrote, "Whoever keeps the whole Law and yet stumbles at one point is guilty of breaking all of it." (James 2:10). ALL the commandments are equally significant. The only reason I may appear to labour the fourth commandment is because it is the one that is most easy to see being deliberately broken. If you see that, avoid the preacher who does it like the plague because, at the end, he will do you more harm than any plague the world has ever seen.

Long before He came to earth as a human, Jesus told the prophet Hosea, "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the Law of your God, I will also ignore your children." (Hosea 4:6). If you're thinking that doesn't apply to you because you aren't a priest, this is what Revelation 20:6 says, "Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years."

Acknowledge the power of the Holy Spirit by refusing to have anything to do with apostate and lying preachers NOW. Tomorrow may be too late **because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him** (Matthew 24:44) and when He comes, not everyone who says to Him, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only those who have done the will of His Father who is in heaven. Many will say to Him on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then He will tell them plainly, "I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!" (See Matthew 7:21-23).

Surely those must be the most terrifying words in the whole Bible and Jesus said that MANY will hear them! Isn't that reason enough to make every effort you can to acquire as much scriptural knowledge as you possibly can while you can?

If serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. (Joshua 24:15)

"So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him."

"It Is Written" presents

THE APPEARING

A statistical examination of how world events point to Jesus' soon return and how you can be ready.



The Sherry Walter Message

The Searcher of EVERY Heart

He is the searcher of the heart;
He knows of its intentions;
He knows the secret things hidden within;
He understands the imaginations of thoughts.
Man cannot see within a heart, O but God can.
He rejects the lukewarm, hypocrites and Judases;
He knows of all who have forgotten Him.
Who have stretched out their hands to serve strange Gods;
Putting man or hand made idols before Him?
He sees all of the Idolatry acts;
He sees all unrepentant sins;
He sees the detestable things that His church has put its hands in.
O, nothing is hidden from Him;
He searches and He knows;
He has a full knowledge of all men.
O the heart is deceitful and wicked;
The Lord searches the heart and tries the reins.
He will give every man according to his ways;
According to the fruit of their doings.
He knows the thoughts that come into minds; yes every thought.
He knows the real from the false;
He knows every motive, plot and plan.
He knows the faithful heart from the betraying heart;
The honest heart from the wicked heart.
He judges every single heart;
He will not overlook one! No not one!
He knows His true disciples from the impostors.
O! He lays open the heart and exposes the character of man.
What will he find dwelling within
When He does open heart surgery upon you O Christian?
A hypocrite, liar, cheat, backbiter?
Pride, haughtiness, unforgiveness?
Selfishness, envy, strife, dissention?
Anger, resentment, jealousy?
A heart lacking love for thy brethren?
O, he knows every feeling, every thought, every desire.
What will he find in your heart today?
What roots will he find bound in the heart that were never dealt with?
It is time to uproot and pluck out everything that would not please Him.
If this is not done willingly it will be done forcefully!
Judgment begins at the house of God!
Disobedient children are disciplined by God.
Everyone in the Body of Christ proclaims they are saved;
Yet, the bible declares many shall be cast into hellfire,
Including those who falsely claim to be Christians.
There is a big difference between true disciples of Jesus Christ who are doers of the word
And the imitators who reveal only religious acts.

One is an obedient servant unto God or one is not.
There is no in-between.

Phoney hypocrites are devoted unto self alone.
There is no Holy Spirit indwelling within them.

All sinners and backsliders must repent and return unto God now!
The Holy Ghost is bringing severe conviction and judgment upon the hearts of men.
The LORD is discerning the hearts of every man in this evil generation
Who do not have God in all their thoughts and who do not live holy lives.

Work out your own salvation in fear and trembling!

Fear the Lord thy God generation of Vipers!

He is a consuming fire!

He is coming with Vengeance;

O and He will repay!

Repent and turn from all wicked ways,

Seek the Lord Jesus Christ!

Tomorrow may be too late!

For I am afraid that when I come to visit you I won't like what I find, and then you won't like my response. I am afraid that I will find quarrelling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfishness, backstabbing, gossip, conceit, and disorderly behaviour.

2 Cor 12:20



MAILBOX



Ecumenism

Dear David,

I want to thank you for opening my eyes. You are the only preacher that I have yet encountered that isn't afraid to "tear down powers and principalities" without fear of reprisals. During my 74 years, I have attended many different churches and listened to numerous sermons promoting "inter-denominational unity" and I have never been entirely comfortable with them. As you have shown USING THE BIBLE, most of those preachers teach lies anyway and so it seems to me that the unity they seek is a unity of apostasy! Why would I want to be part of that?

You're right my brother, the Scriptures are NOT hard to understand. The point is that not too many people read them – preferring to accept whatever their church teaches. Had it not been for you challenging me to actually check out what you have written against the Word of God, I would still be stuck in a life-sapping mire of denominational and traditional lies. I will be actively promoting your book and your web site to whoever will listen.

God bless you and Beloved King Ministries.

Bernard K.

Dear Bernard,

As I read this email, I immediately thought of Jesus' words that there will be more joy in heaven over one soul saved than over 99 that cannot be saved. I am certainly not the only preacher that isn't afraid to tear down false preachers though. I encourage you to visit sites like Doug Batchelor's [Amazing Facts](#) and others like it. One thing that sincere Christians try to do is what Jesus asked them to do and love their neighbour and I believe that, in many cases, their interpretation of that command is somewhat lukewarm. Is it "love" to simply accept false doctrines under some guise of "tolerance"? I believe not—which is why I am not afraid to expose them. Do we do God a service by accepting or condoning unscriptural doctrines? How can we?

Bernard, I'm sad to say that your email is by far in the minority. I have dearly-loved friends who persist in vilifying me for what I preach and teach and, were it not for Jesus' own words in His beatitudes, "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you,"

Brother, the truth is sometimes just too hard for some people to accept. Be thankful that you aren't one of them!

On behalf of our God, I thank you for your support. Don't flinch or waver when the going gets tough. The Bible tells you that it will! You will shed tears of anguish over loved ones who accuse you of everything from intolerance to "legalism" but, to God, every one of those tears will be a diamond for your crown! DRH

MOMENTS TO CONSIDER

*Shared by Harvey and June Schneider,
Servant Soldier Ministries*

The Outhouse and the Cherry Tree

By Dr. Harvey Schneider

Some years ago a farmer assembled his four sons in the barn and asked, "Someone pushed our outhouse into the river. I believe it was one of you. I want the person who did it to voluntarily raise their hand."

None of the four boys raised their hand.

The father went on, "Do you remember the story of George Washington? When he was a boy he cut down a cherry tree in his backyard. When his father asked who did it he admitted it was he. George Washington's father did not punish him for telling the truth. Please be truthful. Which of you pushed over the outhouse into the river?"

The second oldest son immediately raised his hand.

The father grabbed his arm and walked him to the woodshed, where he gave him a thrashing.

After the beating the wailing young man asked, "Father, George Washington was not punished for telling the truth. Why was I??"

The father looked him in the eye and responded, "When George cut down the tree his father was not in it."

+++++

When a person sins, it is against the father and punishment is required. Death is a result of the original sin. The Bible tells us that only two men escaped the first death, Enoch and Elijah. In general, "The wages of sin is death!"

Jesus declared Himself to be, "The Way, the Truth, and the Life." He also said that to those that continue in His Word, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:32)

The truth is that Jesus pardons, saves, each person who accepts Him as Lord and Saviour from the second death so they will be able to spend eternity with Him, His Father, and the Holy Spirit in heaven.

Those who do not accept Jesus' death as God's way to settle their debt of sin have a place of eternal damnation waiting for them.

The final truth is that you are a sinner. Have you taken a moment to confess to God that you are a sinner and accepted Jesus as your Lord and Saviour? If so you are under grace and can look forward to an eternity to praise and worship the Trinity.

If you have not given Jesus your life you are headed for the Lake of Fire after the final judgment. That can be changed by confessing, "Father, I am a sinner. Jesus be my Lord and Saviour."

As a child of God, prayer is like calling home every day.

REPENT-FOLLOW-PRAY

*By John Naberhaus
Shared by Julie Sanders*

REPENT-FOLLOW-PRAY are not just words used by Christians to define and shape their belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. But these three words are used to understand what baptism does to the person who wants to enter into the community that believes in the death, resurrection and eternal life in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. And that He came as God-man to suffer and die on the Roman cross for all the sins of the world, past, present and future.

REPENT, is the saying and doing "NO" to sin in the Christian's life. Many people say that they repent of their sins but truly they do not. They don't really try to quit their lifestyles. Saying and doing are two different things. A Christian must know the difference and be a doer.

Most of your and my physical world is filled with opportunities to sin. Sins that, if we commit them, we are to repent to God and then ask His forgiveness and His help to overcome all our sins.

Sin is like a road that is very wide and easy to drive and stay on but once on, it is extremely hard to exit. The *sin* road is paved with everyone's good intentions: The intention is to do "the right thing" when one is ready to get around to it.

The *sin* road has several gadgets and billboards along the way to attract our attention. These gadgets and billboards are to entice people to sin. They are advertised as being good for humans if they partake of their fruits.

These enticements can be utilized for good in the world but most are used for pure secular reasons. These devices are mostly electronic in nature such as computers, music players, DVD players, computer games, televisions and the like. Many of the devices convince individuals of the need to satisfy his or her want.

These gadgets in themselves may appear to be wholesome but also have their downside. The downside of the gadgets includes opening one's self to tainted, spiritual and physically unhealthy lifestyles that appeal to one's wants: A lifestyle that can lead to pornography, harmful fantasies and other debacle travesties.

However, the *sin* road that has many appealing things and advertisements that tempt us to sin also has a few exits along the way that are heavily grown over and hard to identify. You have to almost come to a complete stop to exit and make a sharp "RIGHT TURN."

If you do see the exit sign, the sign also points to "REPENTANCE" as you make the turn and proceed along the narrow road marked by the "FOLLOW" signs. This narrow road has many on-ramps leading back to the busy road of *sin*. We need to continually "PRAY" along the way. Pray that you will stay on this straight and narrow road until it arrives at a glorious city called "HEAVEN".

The person wanting to become a Christian must first make repentance for his or her sins to the Almighty God. Repentance is one's turning away from the sins now being committed and then confessing them all to God.

These are the sins that you have committed in the past and to the present. Then you must ask for His forgiveness. God is always faithful to forgive one's sins, no matter how terrible they are.

Confessing and asking for forgiveness can be painful when you ask God for Him to bring all your sins to remembrance. Repentance may also mean going to someone you don't like and asking for his or her forgiveness. No one ever said it would be easy did they?

Repentance means turning from the things that cause you to sin. It may mean that you can no longer be around some of your friends and even some family members that cause you to sin. You can love them and pray for them but if they draw you toward sin then you don't need to interact with them because they'll cause you to sin again and again.

The FOLLOW signs continually mark the narrow road to HEAVEN. Yet, there still are many exits along the way that lead you back to the main road, the *sin* road.

BUSYNESS has numerous exits along the way too. They all lead back to the main drag as well. Many preachers and other church workers have been seen taking these exits. I'm told they are easily mistaken for the FOLLOW sign. I know I've taken one a time or two.

There are so many different signboards along this narrow way. THIS IS THE WAY TO HEAVEN MADE EASY is seen on many billboards. HEAVEN WITHOUT PRAYER is on other signs. CHRIST IS AT THE NEXT EXIT; TURN NOW is a popular sign. In many cases, the alluring techniques are very convincing. All advertisements have one thing in common. They try to get you to turn at the next exit.

I notice there are only exit signs along this straight and narrow road. So far I haven't seen any ON ramps either. I guess one must have to go back to the main road to try to get on this road again and turn at the TURN RIGHT/REPENT sign.

As I go farther and farther along this road it gets rougher and rougher and the signboards change too. PRIDE AND GREED NEXT EXIT and FAITH WITHOUT WORKS are at many of the exits.

I start to notice several rest stops along the way too. They are filled with many people and mostly older people. I guess they got tired of the journey and needed to rest for awhile. I notice many appear as if they had been there for some time as I've seen many tents at the campsites.

I've detected when I first got on this road there was a sign that said to stay tuned in to the GRACE station for information all along your way. I took the advice and did just that. I found J.C. is the Announcer. As long as I listened to His Word, I felt safe along the passage.

Whenever I let my thoughts wander and quit listening to Him then the cares of the world would creep in. So I try to listen to the GRACE station as much as I can.

At the SELFISHNESS exit ramps there are several accidents. It appears that many run into each other trying to get off the ramp in a rush: Seemed like many good people are in trouble there too. Some appeared familiar to me also. I've taken that exit and almost had an accident as well.

As I go further, the road is narrower now than before and rougher. The billboards are fewer too. The exit signs are less frequent but the rest stops are more frequent than usual. People seem to be having some form of camp meeting for their own particular group. Some rest stops have busloads of people unloading only to have many heading for the nearest exit.

Finally I arrive at the HEAVEN gate. ONLY ONE SOUL AT A TIME PLEASE the sign reads. To the right is a second sign and I read, WORKERS USE THE EXPRESS ENTRANCE. SHOW WORKS PLEASE.

Well, the rest is left to your imagination. Did you make the RIGHT TURN? Maybe you took an exit and had to start over a time or two. I know I have. No matter how many times you to start over HEAVEN is always there waiting for you at the end.

I find if you stay tuned to the GRACE station with J.C. as its announcer the time passes much faster and you don't notice the distractions along the way. J.C. is all the time encouraging us to PRAY and to help others along the way.

The GRACE station has its repair and tow trucks stationed along the way too. I've had to use them a number of times myself. It doesn't take much looking and seeking to find an emergency phone station and help either. The phones are used to make a call and ask for a repair or tow truck for assistance. In a short time, a stranded soul is always fixed up and then on his or her way again.

REPENT-FOLLOW-PRAY is the Christian's way to HEAVEN. For many, it is a long process of starting over again and again. Jesus Christ i.e. J.C. is there for you at the start of the TURN RIGHT and will help you start over and over again on your road to HEAVEN. All you have to do is stay tuned in to Him and follow His DIRECTIONS.

Satan maintains his billboards and gadgets along the route to HEAVEN too. It is to try to confuse and trap us in our daily lives. Satan hopes we will have to start over several times. However, God always has His repair and tow trucks out and has Jesus Christ, i.e. J.C. to keep our minds and hearts on God by listening to the His GRACE station and His Son's voice.

The choice is yours, listen to Satan and his lies and spend a lot of time on the road of disobedience and perdition or follow on the straight and narrow path to HEAVEN.

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If you enjoy what these talented folk have created, their names and contact information are on the pages.

So why not sign their guest books and add an encouraging comment.

If you have any difficulty opening links please see the instructions on the last page of this magazine.

* Indicates the site includes music

POEMS

[An Easter Prayer](#) *

[His Love](#) *

[In the Master's Hands](#) *

SONG

[You Raise Me Up](#) *

MESSAGES

[Tears of Life](#) *

[The Largest Musical Instrument in the World](#) *

Shared by Rowena Ker, this is not a Christian web site but it is still amazing!

"God's Deal With YOU"

By David Rex Holt BA

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God's Deal With YOU will inspire you to draw closer to God while challenging you to examine where you stand in obedience to God's Word. What did Jesus mean when he said, "If you want to enter life, obey the commandments?" What is spiritual warfare? What is faith? What kind of praise does God desire? These questions and more are some of the issues that are addressed in God's Deal With YOU. This book will challenge you in ways that no other book can. You will be challenged in areas you never even thought of. The truths shared in this book are straight from the Word of God. Reading this book has helped me to understand what obeying God really means. The Scriptures came to life in ways I never thought possible! If you want to be challenged in your walk with God and if you are ready to truly examine your heart then this book is for you!

Yvette Burleigh

Grandpa's Hands

Shared by Nancy Wall

Grandpa, some ninety plus years, sat feebly on the patio bench. He didn't move, just sat with his head down staring at his hands. When I sat down beside him he didn't acknowledge my presence and the longer I sat I wondered if he was OK. Finally, not really wanting to disturb him but wanting to check on him at the same time, I asked him if he was OK.

He raised his head and looked at me and smiled. "Yes, I'm fine, thank you for asking," he said in a clear strong voice. "I didn't mean to disturb you, Grandpa, but you were just sitting here staring at your hands and I wanted to make sure you were OK," I explained to him. "Have you ever looked at your hands," he asked. "I mean really looked at your hands?"

I slowly opened my hands and stared down at them. I turned them over, palms up and then palms down. No, I guess I had never really looked at my hands as I tried to figure out the point he was making.

Grandpa smiled and related this story: Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout

your years. These hands, though wrinkled, shrivelled and weak have been the tools I have used all my life to reach out and grab and embrace life. They braced and caught my fall when as a toddler I crashed upon the floor. They put food in my mouth and clothes on my back. As a child my Mother taught me to fold them in prayer. They tied my shoes and pulled on my boots. They held my rifle and wiped my tears when I went off to war. They have been dirty, scraped and raw, swollen and bent. Decorated with my wedding band they showed the world that I was married and loved someone special. They were uneasy and clumsy when I tried to hold my newborn son. They wrote the letters home and trembled and shook when I buried my Parents and Spouse and walked my Daughter down the aisle.

Yet, they were strong and sure when I dug my buddy out of a foxhole and lifted a plough off of my best friend's foot.

They have held children, consoled neighbours, and shook in fists of anger when I didn't understand. They have covered my face, combed my hair, and washed and

cleansed the rest of my body. They have been sticky and wet, bent and broken, dried and raw. And to this day when not much of anything else of me works real well these hands hold me up, lay me down, and again continue to fold in prayer. These hands are the mark of where I've been and the ruggedness of my life. But more importantly it will be these hands that God will reach out and take when he leads me home. And with my hands He will lift me to His side and there I will use these hands to touch the face of Christ."

I will never look at my hands the same again. But I remember God reached out and took my Grandpa's hands and led him home.

When my hands are hurt or sore or when I stroke the face of my children and wife I think of Grandpa. I know he has been stroked and caressed and held by the hands of God. I, too, want to touch the face of God and feel His hands upon my face. When you receive this, say a prayer for the person who sent it to you and watch God's answer to prayer work in your life.

Let's continue praying for one another.

**God is not what people want Him to be or try to make Him.
He's God.**

Another beautiful example of Cheryl Curtis'

God Today Devotionals

To view the following devotional in its beautifully artworked original (in English or Spanish), click [here](#).

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near. (Isaiah 56:6)

Today, there seems to be many people who believe in God, yet keep him at a distance. They want him available to call on in times of distress in their lives, but when things are going good, they are devoted to their success, their pleasures, and themselves. They place God in the closet in case of an emergency but for the most part, they do not consider

Him an essential part of their daily lives. Their hearts do not feel or express appreciation for all that God is and has done. The fact that He sent His Son to die for their sins fades in the backdrop of their lives. That is until crisis enters in. The truth is we may not see tomorrow. Because of the love and mercy of God, there are many deathbed conversions, but the

fact remains that no one has the guarantee that they will be given that opportunity. The momentary pleasures of this life cannot compare to eternity. The choices we make in this life determine where and how we will spend the rest of forever. We simply cannot afford to take it all for granted.

DEVOTIONALS

If you enjoy stimulating, succinct and scripturally sound devotionals, I highly recommend that you have a look at the following web sites where you can read some past messages and enrol for the regular mailings.

[God Today - Daily Word](#)

(Click ARCHIVE at the top left)

[Life Changing Love](#)

A verse of Scripture for your soul and a smile for your spirit.

[Share A Prayer](#)

A short daily prayer, succinct, sincere and tastefully presented.

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

[Amazing Facts](#)

Reaching the world with God's end-time message

By Doug Batchelor

[The Advent Message](#)

The TRUTH, the whole TRUTH and nothing but the TRUTH

By Brent Winfield

[CC's Christian Corner](#)

Christian love from the heart of a wife and mother

By Yvette Burleigh

[The Philosopher's Pearl](#)

Some thought provoking ideas for sceptics

TO BRING A SMILE

A cheerful heart is good medicine
(Proverbs 17:22a)

TO ALL THE KIDS WHO SURVIVED

the 1930's 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's!!

Shared by Malta O'Gorman

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they were pregnant.
They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes.
Then after that trauma, we were put to sleep on our tummies in baby cribs covered with bright coloured lead-based paints.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets

And when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets, not to mention, the risks we took hitchhiking.
As infants & children, we would ride in cars with no car seats, booster seats, seat belts or air bags.

Riding in the back of a pick up on a warm day was always a special treat.

We drank water from the garden hose and NOT from a bottle.

We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and NO ONE actually died from this.
We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank Kool-Aid made with sugar, but we weren't overweight because WE WERE ALWAYS OUTSIDE PLAYING!

We would leave home in the morning after the chores were done and play all day,
as long as we were back when the streetlights came on

(Or out in the country where there were no street light just be home at dusk).

No one was able to reach us all day. And we were O.K.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times, we learned to solve the problem.

We did not have Playstations, Nintendo's, X-boxes, no video games at all,
no 150 channels on cable, no video movies or DVD's, no surround-sound or CD's,
no cell phones, no personal computers, no Internet or chat rooms.....

WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!

We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents.

We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.

We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, (and didn't grow up to be murderers nor join any gangs).

We made up games with sticks and tennis balls and, although we were told it would happen,
we did not put out very many eyes.

We rode horses, bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell,
or just walked in and talked to them!

Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team.

Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!!

If we got in trouble at school we got our butts paddled and when we go home we got another paddling.
The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!

These generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever!

The past 50 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas.

We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned

HOW TO DEAL WITH IT ALL!

If YOU are one of them ... CONGRATULATIONS!

You might want to share this with others who have had the luck to grow up as kids, before the lawyers and the government regulated so much of our lives for our own good.

And while you are at it, forward it to your kids so they will know how brave (and lucky) their parents were.

Kind of makes you want to run through the house with scissors, doesn't it?!

And before 1970, we played out side at recess when the wind chill was less than 32F.

We also played tackle football on paved streets without helmets and pads.

Announcement in a church bulletin

For the word of God is quick and powerful... piercing even to the dividing asunder of soup and spirit.

Notable Headlines from the Past

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges

AGEING

I don't know how I got over the hill
without ever getting to the top!

A SERIES OF AMUSING QUIPS SHARED BY NANCY WALL

Think About It!

A Steven Wright Gem shared by Nancy Wall

I almost had a psychic girlfriend but she left me
before we met.

AND,

TO BRING A TEAR

Maybe of joy - maybe of sadness

The Day the Angels Cried

*By Dianna Zionsdawn
Shared by Sherry Walter*

They watched as He walked up Calvary Mountain...
They watched as cruel men whipped Him...
They watched as men slapped Him and mocked Him...

Oh how they wanted to fly to be by His Side...
To end the mockery... to stop the shame...
And ease His pain....
But the Father said... Stay...
And they obeyed...
And they wept...

They watched as their Master was being crucified...
They watched as the nails pierced His Hands and feet...

They shuddered and sighed...
For they longed to fly, to be by His Side...
To end the mockery... And ease His pain....

But the Father said... Stay...
And they obeyed...
And they wept.

They watched as He hung there on the Cross,
In shame and agony...
They stood amazed when they heard Him say....
Father forgive them, for they know not what they do...
And when at last with His dying breath He said...
It is finished....
They cried.....

For they longed to fly, to be by His Side...
To end the mockery... And ease His pain....
But the Father said... Stay...
And they obeyed...
And they wept.

The Pastor and the Cage

Shared by Beth Robertson

There once was a man named George Thomas, pastor in a small New England town. One Easter Sunday morning he came to the Church carrying a rusty, bent, old bird cage, and set it by the pulpit. Eyebrows were raised and, as if in response, Pastor Thomas began to speak..."I was walking through town yesterday when I saw a young boy coming toward me swinging this bird cage. On the bottom of the cage were three little wild birds, shivering with cold and fright. I stopped the lad and asked, "What you got there, son?" "Just some old birds," came the reply.

"What are you gonna do with them?" I asked.

"Take 'em home and have fun with 'em," he answered. "I'm gonna tease 'em and pull out their feathers to make 'em fight. I'm gonna have a real good time" "But you'll get tired of those birds sooner or later. What will you do?"

"Oh, I got some cats," said the little boy. "They like birds. I'll take 'em to them."

The pastor was silent for a moment. "How much do you want for those birds, son?"

"Huh????!! Why, you don't want them birds, mister. They're just plain old field birds. They don't sing. They ain't even pretty!"

"How much?" the pastor asked again.

The boy sized up the pastor as if he were crazy and said, "\$10?"

The pastor reached in his pocket and took out a ten dollar bill. He placed it in the boy's hand. In a flash, the boy was gone.

The pastor picked up the cage and gently carried it to the end of the alley where there was a tree and a grassy spot. Setting the cage down, he opened the door, and by softly tapping the bars persuaded the birds out, setting them free.

Well, that explained the empty bird cage on the pulpit, and then the pastor began to tell this story.

One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting. "Yes, sir, I just caught the world full of people down there. Set me a trap, used bait I knew they couldn't resist. Got 'em all!"

"What are you going to do with them?" Jesus asked.

Satan replied, "Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other, how to hate and abuse each other, how to drink and smoke and curse. I'm gonna teach them how to invent guns and bombs and kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!"

"And what will you do when you get done with them?" Jesus asked. "Oh, I'll kill 'em," Satan glared proudly. "How much do you want for them?" Jesus asked.

"Oh, you don't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, you'll take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you. You don't want those people!!"

"How much?" He asked again.

Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your blood, tears and your life."

Jesus said, "DONE!"

Then He paid the price.

The pastor picked up the cage he opened the door and he walked from the pulpit.

NO TIME

Shared by Beth Robertson

I knelt to pray but not for long,
I had too much to do.
I had to hurry and get to work
For bills would soon be due.
So I knelt and said a hurried prayer,
and jumped up off my knees.
My Christian duty was now done
My soul could rest at ease.

All day long I had no time
to spread a word of cheer.
No time to speak of Christ to friends,
They'd laugh at me I'd fear.
No time, no time, too much to do,
That was my constant cry,
No time to give to souls in need
But at last the time, the time to die.

I went before the Lord, I came,
I stood with downcast eyes.
For in his hands God held a book;
It was the book of life.
God looked into his book and said
"Your name I cannot find.
I once was going to write it down...
But never found the time"



This month we continue the serialisation of David Holt's booklet,

Did Jesus Tell Lies?

It is subtitled "A Children's Story for Adults" because, even though it IS really a children's story, there are lots of adults who need to hear it too. So why don't you ask your parents to read each episode aloud when the whole family are together and then you can all talk about it and share your own answers to the question that is the title.

Chapter Four

Now you'd think that having very wise laws that Jesus Himself had given to them would help the people to live much better lives wouldn't you? After all, with written rules to tell them what to do and what not to do, they couldn't say they didn't know could they? But, believe it or not, they just went right ahead and broke them! In the Bible there is a special word for breaking the commandments. That word is "sin."

Much later on, Jesus had a very special friend named John who actually wrote, "Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is the transgression of the law." So there isn't any doubt what it means. Another loyal servant of Jesus named Paul also wrote that the wages of sin is death.

Because Adam gave up his rule of the earth to Satan, that meant that he gave up all his descendants to Satan too so that everyone who has ever been born has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. And you remember that Jesus said, if Adam and Eve disobeyed Him, they would die. Now we know that Jesus didn't lie about that because everyone who wasn't born in the last 120 years has died haven't they?

After Moses and the people wandered around in the desert for 40 years, the children of the Israelite people who had left Egypt with Moses eventually found the beautiful land that Jesus had promised to them and they settled there. But out of the millions that had actually left Egypt in the beginning only two were allowed to go into the Promised Land because all the others thought that Jesus had lied when He promised it. Even Moses wasn't allowed to go in because he thought Jesus lied when He told him that He would make water come out of the rock. Moses hit the rock with his stick so that the people thought that he had done it rather than knowing that it was Jesus who had done it.

After Jesus had given the Ten Commandments to Moses He also told him how the people who were really sorry when they broke the law could pay their "fines." You remember that the penalty for breaking the law was death and so, when they broke the law, by rights, the sinners should have been executed but once again, because He loved his people and is so merciful, Jesus even gave them a way to escape the death penalty. What He did was tell them that they could take a perfect lamb to the portable temple He had Moses make and there, the priest could kill the lamb in the sinner's place. This was called a sacrifice.

But even when they had a lovely home to call their own, where they could worship their Creator as He wanted them to, they still sinned and disobeyed the Ten Commandments. Even though the very first one said that they must never have any other God some of them built altars and worshiped other false gods that they made out of gold and wood and other things. Soon the sinful people were 'paying their fines' with lambs and then going straight back to their sinning again!

There are lots more stories in the Bible about people who didn't believe what Jesus told them and you can read those for yourself. For example, there was a guy called Gideon who told Jesus that he thought His messenger had lied to him three times. But, of course he hadn't and when Gideon eventually believed him, he went on to be a great leader in Israel! There are also some wonderful stories about great people who DID believe what Jesus said even though they made mistakes occasionally. Generally speaking though, things got worse and worse.

So DID Jesus lie to His people? Have a talk about what happened and see what the grown-ups think. Next month we'll have a look at some more people who thought Jesus lied to them.

"What does love mean?"

A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds.

Susanne Belosev

shares some of their answers. They were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined.

"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other."

Karl - age 5

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Do you have any questions?

Do you have any suggestions?

Do you have any ideas?

Do you have any revelations?

YOU DO!

Then why not visit a great Christian forum site where YOU can post your very own thoughts, opinions and ideas as well as post questions where everyone visiting the forum can offer their answers?

Click below to visit this great web site where YOUR comments are important.

WFC Christian Forums

By the way, just because this site is owned and operated by a great Christian teenager, it's NOT just for young people.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

So, whether you are 9 or 90, why not take a while to visit right now and register as a contributor?

THE BKM PLEDGE

As our long-time readers know, I have always thought of "Making A Difference" and Beloved King Ministries as OURS and not as "mine."

Without YOU, this ministry is nothing.

It is the loyal and loving support of our readers who readily share the stories, jokes and testimonies that they write or find that ensures that there will be a magazine each month.

"Making A Difference" will always be free to anyone who enjoys it. But that doesn't mean it costs nothing to produce and distribute.

I AND THE BKM TEAM PLEDGE TO PRAY FOR EVERYONE ON THE BKM MAILING LIST EVERY DAY

I PLEDGE TO DO ALL WITHIN MY GOD-GIVEN POWER TO BRING DOWN AND DESTROY SATAN'S COUNTERFEIT DECEPTIONS THAT ARE BEGUILING GOD'S SINCERE AND BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN.

THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS YOU CAN BECOME MORE INVOLVED

WE NEED - PRAYER PARTNERS

If you would like to partner someone in regular prayer sessions through a mutually convenient Internet medium

PLEASE WRITE TO US

Tell us a little bit about yourself, your own spiritual needs as well as how knowing Jesus has changed your life and the sort of person you would like to partner.

WE NEED - REGULAR FINANCIAL PLEDGES FOR AS LITTLE AS FIFTY CENTS A WEEK

(That's twenty-six dollars a year!)

YOU CAN BECOME A PARTNER IN THIS MINISTRY AND MAKE A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE

TEN PERCENT OF ALL PARTNERSHIP DONATIONS IS GIVEN TO HELP STRUGGLING MINISTRIES AND OUTREACH PROGRAMMES IN THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES

Email your pledge NOW and send all donations to:

Beloved King Ministries, 1 Pinehaven, 176 Ewing Road, Woodridge, Queensland 4114, Australia. (Please make all checks payable to D.R. Holt since the Australian banks won't accept anything else!)

Jesus said,

"Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured unto you." (Luke 6:38)

AND

WE NEED - YOUR PRAYERS

SATAN DOESN'T LIKE WHAT THIS MINISTRY IS DOING! WE ARE A THREAT TO HIM! SO PLEASE ASK GOD, IN JESUS' NAME, TO SURROUND US WITH GUARDIAN ANGELS.

God bless you all.

David R Holt

PRAYER

Father God, Once again this month, we are reminded of just how much you gave to make it possible for us to be with you for all eternity. In our churches we will hear messages of love and sacrifice – the sacrifice of your own Son who took on human form so that He could experience everything that we experience in the way of temptation. Yet He never succumbed to those temptations – even when He could have saved Himself from not only the agony of physical torture and death but, much, much worse, the terrible agony of separation from you, His beloved father. Throughout eternity, there have only ever been three days and three nights that Jesus and You were separated. Father, those of us who have loved in our earthly lives and been parted from our loved ones have known and experienced that agony. When that parting has been by death, our pain has seemed interminable but we can only imagine how you must have felt as your Son laid on that cold stone slab whilst you rested on those Sabbath days.

But we also have Jesus' promise that He WILL return to raise up those who have followed his advice to keep His Law. Father, I pray that, where people who sincerely love you and want to serve you in truth have been deceived by Satan's lying servants masquerading as angels of light, you will send your Holy Spirit to drive away the clouds of deception and take each one by the hand into the glorious light of understanding.

Father, please don't let one of us demean or diminish the amazing grace by which you accepted the human life of your own sinless Son as the substitute for our sinful souls. This Easter, let each one of us contemplate Jesus' words, "If you will enter life, keep the commandments" and prepare ourselves for His soon return when we shall all be together for an eternity of life where there will be no crying or pain, where there will be no more sinful lawlessness. I pray this in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

OPENING LINKS

Some readers have emailed us to say that clicking the hyperlinks in "Making A Difference" doesn't work. I don't know why that is but one easy way to get the addresses and access the websites is as follows:

1. Highlight the title using your mouse (it doesn't matter if you highlight the music asterisk too - it will still work).
2. With the title highlighted, click "Insert" on the menu bar at the top of your screen. This will give you a drop menu.
3. On the drop menu, click "Hyperlink." This will open a window titled "Edit Hyperlink."
4. Highlight the html address in the window labelled, "Type the file or web page name."
5. Copy the address by pressing Control and C together.
6. Close the "Edit Hyperlink" window by clicking the cancel button.
7. Then open your web browser (Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator).
8. Place the cursor in the "Address" window at the top (or, if you already have an address in there, just highlight it).
9. Press Control and V together. That will copy the URL into the window.
10. Press Enter and the page will open.

I have done the above and it took just 23 seconds from step 1 to seeing the web page so, as you can see, it isn't really as hard as the ten steps make it seem!

If this magazine has been forwarded to you by a friend and you would like to be added to our regular mailing list please click [here](#) and, if you are too busy to write anything else, just type **PLEASE ADD TO MAILING LIST** in the subject box and your name(s) in the body of the email. Also, if the email address that you want the magazine sent to is different from the one you send the request from, please type that in the body of the email too.

Also, if your name is incomplete in the recipients list (i.e.: first or surname only or email address only),

because our address book is now so big, please help us by letting us know your full name so that the lists can be updated and duplication is minimised. For this please type **UPDATE** in the subject box. Thank you so much for your help in this.

On the other hand, if "Making A Difference" has been sent to you in error and you have not enjoyed reading it and would like to be removed from the mailing list, please accept our apologies and click [here](#) and type **UNSUBSCRIBE** in the subject box and the email address to be unsubscribed in the body of the email.