

SAVED FROM SIN

**(FROM THE INSPIRED SERMONS OF
ALONZO F. KILGORE)**



Volume XII

©
Copyright, 2013 by
Elder Alonzo F. Kilgore

All rights reserved

SAVED FROM SIN
(VOLUME XII)

CONTENTS

ABOUT THE AUTHOR ----- **2**

FOREWORD ----- **4**

INTRODUCTION ----- **5**

Take Heed To The Warnings Of God ----- 5

Those Who Believe The Word Of God Shall Be Saved ----- 5

When Are You Under Grace? ----- 6

Everybody Will Live Again ----- 7

Believe The Word Of God ----- 7

CHAPTER I: THE HOLY SCRIPTURES ----- **9**

The Scriptures ----- 10

The Scriptures Were Given By God For The Benefit Of Man ----- 10

Be Not Slow Of Heart To Believe The Scriptures ----- 11

The Scriptures Were Written By Man But Dictated By God ----- 12

The Scriptures Are Against The Devil And Self ----- 13

The Word Of God ----- 13

Lean On The Word Of God ----- 14

You Can Defeat The Devil With The Sword Of The Spirit ----- 14

When You Don't Know The Scriptures You Can Err
From The Plan Of Salvation ----- 15

There Is Power In The Word Of God ----- 15

The Gospel Will Upgrade Your Way Of Thinking ----- 16

CHAPTER II: THE HOPE OF HEAVEN ----- 17

Will You Be Able To Enter The Gates Of Heaven? ----- 18

What Will Happen When Jesus Returns ----- 19

Jesus Defeated Death ----- 19

Jesus Is Coming Quickly ----- 20

Only Born Again Believers Will Be Ready When Jesus Comes ----- 20

When You Hear The Trumpet Sound Be Ready ----- 20

What Will Your Record Reveal On The Day Of The Lord? ----- 21

Another Great Storm Is Soon Coming ----- 21

God Will Give You What You Enjoy ----- 22

The Culture Of Heaven Is The Opposite Of The
Culture Of The Earth ----- 22

If You Are Saved You Have No Idea What God Has
Prepared For You In Heaven ----- 23

The Unity Between Heaven And The Earth ----- 24

A Heavenly Mansion ----- 24

CHAPTER III: WHAT IS SIN? ----- 27

Sin Is A Slow Killer Of Man ----- 28

Problems Are In The World Because Of Man's
Disobedience To God ----- 28

Sin Is The Works Of The Devil ----- 28

If God Spared Not The Angels That Sinned Neither
Will He Spare Humans Who Desire To Sin Continuously ----- 29

Sin Is A Transgression Of The Law Of God -----	30
Sin Loves An Ignorant Person -----	31
Let Every Man Have His Own Wife And Flee Fornication -----	31
You Can Obtain Victory Over Sin -----	32
It Is Your Belief In The Word Of God That Leads To Salvation -----	33
The Flesh And The Spirit Are Contrary To One Another -----	33
Sin Brings About Corruption -----	34
Where There Are Divisions, Strife, And Envy, There Is Also Carnality -----	35
God Warns His People Against Idolatry -----	36
Jesus Wants To Destroy The Works Of The Devil -----	36
The Privilege To Exercise Authority Over Others Must Come From God -----	37
They Fell From Grace -----	37
Sin And Religion Is Vain -----	38
A Sinner Will Not Be Able To Enter The Gates Of Heaven -----	38
Sinners' Names Will Not Be Found In The Book Of Life -----	39
Godly Repentance -----	40
CHAPTER IV: SALVATION: GENERAL TOPICS -----	41
Are You Sure That You Want Eternal Life? -----	42
The Last Chance To Be Saved -----	42
Today Is The Day Of Salvation -----	42
God's Plan -----	43

God's Offer -----	44
The Greatest Character That Ever Lived -----	44
Christ Is The Way To God -----	45
Sermons That You Hear Should Be Related To The Conditions Of Your Personal Life -----	45
If You Love God You Will Keep His Commandments -----	46
The Truth Is Not Compatible With A Sinner -----	46
God Is Everywhere -----	47
Do You Have Room For Jesus In Your Life? -----	47
The Stone That The Builders Rejected Will Be Sin-Free -----	48
You Must Get To Know God -----	49
Everybody Needs Jesus -----	49
Help Must Come From The God Of Heaven -----	50
Holiness -----	50
God's People Are Not Ordinary But Holy -----	51
How To Live Free From Sin -----	51
Walk With God -----	52
God Is Light -----	52
If We Have Fellowship With Christ We Should Be Walking In The Light -----	53
Obedience To God Makes You One With Jesus -----	54
The Lamb Of God Took Away The Power Of Death Brought By Adam -----	54
Good Is More Powerful Than Evil -----	55
Baptism Of Water Is Essential -----	56

Redemption Will Be For The Soul And Body -----	56
Life More Abundantly -----	57
An Acceptable Sacrifice -----	58
Your Salvation Must Be According To The Scriptures -----	58
God Is Just And Very Fair -----	59
Are You Under Grace -----	60
God Is Calling Us To Salvation To Save Us From Hell -----	60
Are You Trying To Find Jesus Among Your Kinfolk? -----	61
You Can Only Help Unserved Relatives By Being An Example -----	61
Do You Think You Want Jesus To Come To Your Church? -----	62
Not Many High Class Folk Will Be Saved -----	62
He Had A Good Defense But He Didn't Want To Thwart The Plan Of God -----	63
We Are Witnesses To His Resurrection -----	65
The Light Of Christ -----	65
There Is Power In The Blood -----	66
He Opened Not His Mouth To Defend Himself -----	66
Jesus Is The Way To God -----	67
Purge Out The Old Leaven That Ye May Be A New Lump -----	67
Covetousness -----	68
God Will Help You To Live Free From Sin -----	69
A Highway To God -----	69
You Must Forsake Your Ways To Get Help From God -----	70
God Is Not Partial To One Person Over Another -----	70

God Is Real To An Obedient Child -----	71
The Pharaoh Of Egypt Was Defeated By His Own Efforts -----	71
A Good And Honest Mind Must Be The Receiver Of The Word Of God -----	72
God Deals With Questions In The Mind Before We Ask -----	72
God Will Make Provisions For The Righteous Person -----	73
God Keeps A Record On The Deeds Of Man -----	73
Calvary -----	74
Almost Thou Persuadest Me To Be A Christian -----	75
Your Obedience To God Is For Your Benefit -----	76
Do Good Deeds -----	76
There Is A Record Kept In Heaven On Everybody -----	76
The Way You Live Today Will Determine How Your Last Days Will Be -----	77
The Spiritual Versus The Physical Body -----	77
Would You Recognize God If You Saw Him? -----	78
God Judges Righteously -----	79
Your Soul Is Your Life -----	80
You Shall Know The Truth And The Truth Shall Make You Free -----	80
The Judgment Of God Will First Take Place In The Hearts Of Those Who Fail To Repent -----	81
If Our Minds Condemn Us God Is Greater Than Our Minds And Can Remove The Condemnation -----	81
You Will Set Your Own Social Agenda For Your Life -----	82
You Are Only Right When You Do Right -----	83

The Lion Hath Roared Who Will Not Fear? -----	83
Trouble Is Not Always Seen In Its Early Stages -----	84
A Time Of Trouble -----	84
Job Said “Though He Slay Me I Will Trust Him” -----	85
If You Are Saved Your Enemies May Be Of Your Own Household -----	85
Yield Not To Temptations Because Yielding Is Sin -----	86
God Works In A Mysterious Way -----	86
God Knows How To Deliver The Righteous Out Of Temptations -----	87
Wisdom And Spiritual Maturity Come As A Result Of Trouble -----	87
God Will Arrange For The World To Chastise Those Whom He Will Save -----	88
Nothing Has Power To Separate You From The Love Of God -----	88
You Are Separated Unto The Gospel Of Christ When You Are Saved -----	89
You Are Justified By Faith -----	90
Your Faith Must Come Before Your Understanding -----	90
It Is By Your Faith And Obedience That You Will Receive The Promises Of God -----	90
The Government Of Heaven -----	91
Michael Versus The Sub-Ruler Who Was Satan -----	92
A Haughty Spirit Goes Before a Fall -----	93
Try The Spirit To See Whether It Be Of God -----	93
Perfection Comes From God -----	94

We Can Obtain Mercy From God In Jesus' Name -----	94
Most People Don't Know How To Pray -----	95
Ask In Jesus' Name -----	95
Zacharias Learned The Hard Way That God Heareth Prayers -----	96
Prayer And Humility -----	96
Take Time Out For Prayer -----	97
If Your Life Is Pleasing To God You Can Pray -----	98
Don't Ask Amiss -----	98
Don't Pray As A Hypocrite Prays -----	99
The Reward Will Come Openly To A Saint And Not At All To A Hypocrite -----	100
We Need The Holy Spirit To Make Intercession For Our Infirmities -----	100
Jesus' Peace Is Not As The World Gives Peace -----	101
Work In The Channels Of Your Gift -----	102
Watch For The Devil -----	102
The Soul -----	103
God Has No Pleasure In The Death Of The Wicked -----	104
A Time Of Trouble -----	104
The Voice Of Jesus -----	105
God's Promises -----	106
If You Are Saved You Should Honor God -----	106
The People Of The World Must Learn To Love God -----	107
Praise The Lord -----	107

The Goodness Of God -----	108
True Happiness Is A Product Of Love -----	108
Hate Must Be Destroyed In The Lives Of Saved People -----	108

CHAPTER V: BEING BORN AGAIN ----- 111

To Be Born Again Is The Only Hope For Mankind -----	112
The Spirit And The Word Give You The New-Birth -----	112
A New Mind Means That You Have Been Born Again -----	112
More About Your Mind -----	113
A New Child Of God -----	114
The Second Birth Is A Better Offer Than Our First Birth -----	114
The Second Birth Will Entitle You To Be In The First Resurrection -----	115
Spiritual Sight -----	115
The Spirit Of God Gives You Access To God -----	116
The Spirit Of God Only Occupies The Hearts Of People -----	117

CHAPTER VI: SALVATION: SPECIAL TOPICS ----- 119

Hold On To God -----	120
What Makes A Successful President -----	120
The Kind Of Leader The People Of A Nation Gets Depends On The Kind Of People They Are -----	121
The Choice Is Made By God -----	121
God Is Interested In The Welfare Of The People Who Desire To Obey Him -----	122
Marriage Is Honorable In All -----	122

A Divorce Is Only Acceptable In The Eyes Of God When Adultery Has Been Committed -----	122
The Carnal Mind Will Not Obey The Law Of Marriage -----	124
Children Are A Reward To Parents -----	124
Do You Understand The Purpose For Communion? -----	125
Watch Money - It Has Power -----	126

**CHAPTER VII: TRUE AND FALSE PASTORS
AND PREACHERS ----- 127**

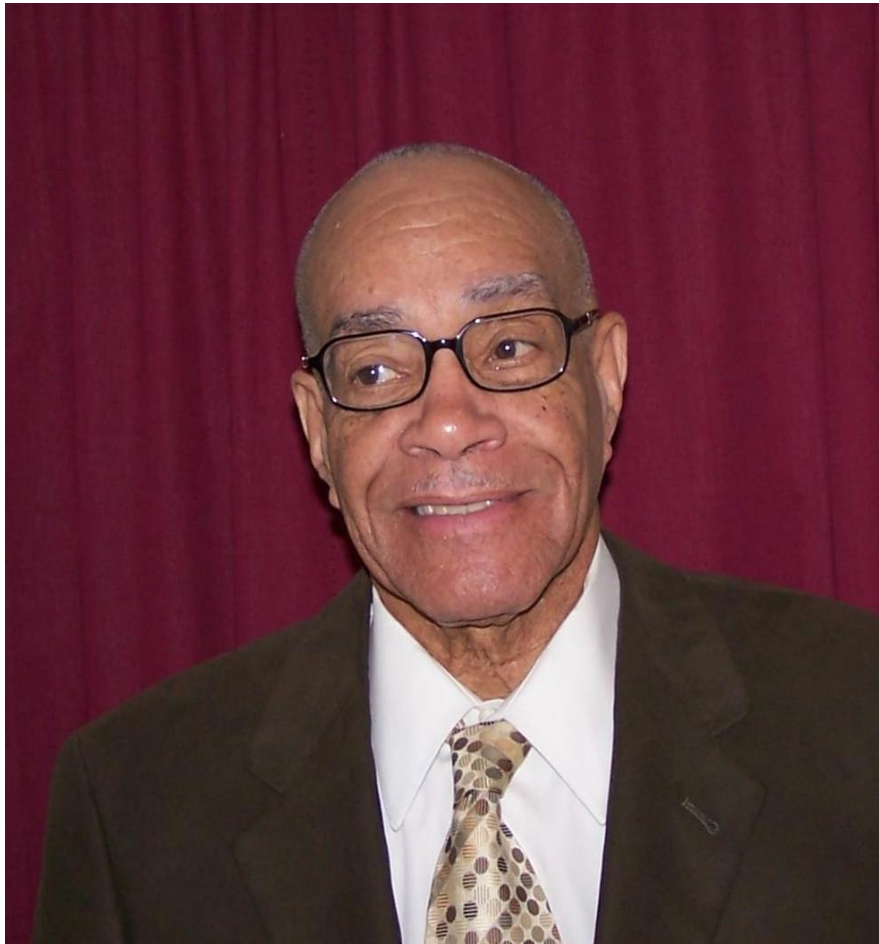
True Pastors And Preachers:

A True Pastor -----	128
The Messages From God Are Sent By The Spirit Of God -----	128
A Minister Cannot Correctly Preach What He Cannot Live -----	129
The Prophets -----	129
Paul's Trial And Conversion -----	130

False Pastors And Preachers:

Your Pastor Should Be At War Against Sin -----	132
Beware Of The Secret Life Of Your Pastor -----	132
The Mind Of Christ -----	133
An Adulterated Gospel -----	133
The Devil Can Deceive The Ignorant Person -----	133

AFTERWORD ----- 135



ELDER ALONZO F. KILGORE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – ALONZO F. KILGORE

Alonzo Freeman Kilgore was born on November 29, 1941 in Badin North Carolina. He was the second of three children born to Harold and Tommie Kilgore. Young Alonzo and his family moved to Baltimore Maryland in 1942. Alonzo received a grade school education in the Baltimore County Public Schools. Through the earnest efforts of his parents, Alonzo's educational training continued at the University of Maryland, where he received a degree in Education. In September 1966, Alonzo became employed as an elementary school teacher with the Baltimore City Public School system.

In 1971, Alonzo had a vision. In this vision, he saw a bright light, and heard a voice speaking to him, telling him to go and help someone. Not understanding the meaning of the vision, Alonzo was troubled. Alonzo often spoke to his wife concerning the vision and indicated to her that he believed he would be required to help people in the future.

In November 1976, Alonzo's wife, Annette, who had received Christ into her life some three years prior, began to notice a change in her husband's way of living. She noticed that he began to separate himself from his well-loved social crowd. He began to withdraw from other worldly habits, such as using profanity, gambling, and liquor drinking.

In about January 1977, Alonzo began to attend church services with his family. He also took an interest in reading the Bible and other religious literature. In March 1977, a miraculous change occurred in the life of Alonzo Kilgore. His dear wife relates to us the event of his spiritual conversion:

“It happened on a Thursday, the tenth day of March 1977, at about 10:45 p.m. Alonzo was watching one of Billy Graham's revival service programs on television. The sermon topic was “Is Your Name Written on the Lamb's Book of Life?” After listening to this sermon, Alonzo realized that in order for his name to be written on the Lamb's Book of Life, he would have to receive Jesus Christ into his life, and be saved from sin. When the call was made for people to come to Jesus Christ to be saved, Sporty, as Alonzo was called at the time, immediately jumped up from the bed where we were sitting, he went to the television and with outstretched arms accepted the Lord Jesus Christ into his heart. I immediately received the witness in my heart that God had saved my husband and filled him with the Holy Spirit. God had truly performed a miracle right before my eyes. From that night to

this day, Alonzo Kilgore has been a changed man. His entire family can witness to the fact that he has truly been born again”

On March 14, 1977, Alonzo Kilgore became a member of the church where his wife and children were members. In July 1977, Alonzo Kilgore was called by God into the ministry. He now understands that the light which he saw, and the voice which he heard in his vision of 1970 was the Lord telling him that one day he would be called to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, so that others could receive spiritual help and be saved from their sins. In February 1980, Elder Alonzo Kilgore was led by God to resign his job of fourteen years with the Baltimore City Public System, that he might give himself and his time totally to the ministry of the word of God.

Elder Alonzo Kilgore has proven to be a true minister and servant sent by God. The scripture teaches in Romans chapter 10, verse 15, “And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”

Elder Alonzo Kilgore is currently Pastor of The Church of God, Gospel of Peace Association, located at 33 Gopa Haven Drive in Brevard, North Carolina. The members of his congregation daily thank God for sending them such a pastor. Both Elder Kilgore and his wife, Annette Kilgore are dedicated to helping and serving others and ministering the word of God, that others may receive the light of Christ and be “saved from sin”.

*Note: The Church of God, Gospel of Peace Association
33 Gopa Haven Drive – Brevard, NC 28712
PO Box 1346 – Pisgah Forest, NC 28768*

*Email Address: thechurchofgodgopa@hotmail.com
Visit us on the Web at www.thecoggopa.org*

Foreword

“Today is the day of salvation”. This is what the word of God teaches us. This is the time to be delivered from a life of sinful practices. Today we are living in the “grace age”, the period of time that God has given men and women to be saved through a God sent, Holy Ghost filled preacher, in preparation for the Day of Judgment.

Elder Kilgore is a true witness for Christ because he has experienced salvation according to the scriptures. The information contained in his series of books, “Saved from Sin”, will guide you into the correct path of salvation that you may be saved from sin before the grace age ends.

INTRODUCTION

Take Heed To The Warnings Of God:

During the time that Jesus was sent to the earth, shepherds were considered to be of a low social class. God sent an angel to proclaim the coming of Christ to a group of shepherds who were keeping watch over their flock at night.

God always notifies the people of the world when He is getting ready to do something that will have an effect upon them. God sends notice to the people of the world by an angel, or a prophet. The messages from God will always give the people ample time to change their course and correct their lives, so that they will have a chance to escape the terror of the warning that God will send upon the earth. If people fail to take heed to the warnings, it will be by their choice that the destruction will come upon them.

It will be good for the people of the earth that they do not fail to hear God's warning, and recognize the one He sends. When people fail to hear the messenger, they will fail to hear God.

Those Who Believe The Word Of God Shall Be Saved:

God is love, and He has granted grace to the world informing us of what the end to a life of sin really will be. When a person takes in God's warning, the person will be able to see and understand that sin corrupts the mind and destroys the body and soul. If a person continues in their disobedience to God, what the person does will kill them. Sin creates a process of self-destruction in a person's life.

After Christ came, He took the listeners back to the Holy Scriptures given of God by The Holy Ghost. Holy men who spoke by means of the scriptures were moved by God to tell men the results of sin. The law given by God to Moses was the beginning of man's knowledge of what would happen if he continued in sin. Prophets were then raised up and inspired of God to cry night and day warning men who disregarded the Law of Moses.

The prophets did not make new laws, but simply continued to remind the disobedient and wayward that if they continued to disregard the law, God would surely bring sad consequences. In some instances, the messages of the prophets were heeded, and many were saved through the judgment of God that guided them

to safety because of their obedience. Yet multitudes hardened their hearts, and stiffened their necks and boldly defied the warnings of the prophets.

Many of the Jews outwardly kept the words of the law as frontlets between their eyes; they wrote them on the doorposts of their homes and on the gates. Although they recited them to their children, they failed to keep the significant truths that the law contained. Therefore, in taking their minds back to all that Moses and the prophets said, Christ called them fools and slow of heart to believe.

In spite of man's pride and conceit through the ages, it is clear that every word of God revealed through Moses is true and faithful. Many ancient prophecies have been fulfilled in letter and spirit. Today any honest person with an impartial spirit and an open mind can take the words of God contained in the law and the prophets and put them to an acid test, and will see that they can be believed. Nevertheless, man's belief or man's unbelief will not alter the force of the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience; but those who believe, the Lord has promised shall be saved and those who believe not shall be damned.

When Are You Under Grace?

The word of God makes a connection with the spirit that you possess. If you have a carnal (sinful) spirit, and the word of God teaches against your sinful practices, it will touch a nerve in you. You will then respond in one of two ways. You might reject the word of God, or you might reject your sinful practices. If you reject your sinful practices, it will lead you to repent.

When you repent, you get God's attention, and God will grant you an additional repentance from heaven. The word of God will also give you a purification process. The word and the Holy Spirit will work together to purify your mind, and your sinful nature, allowing the life of Jesus Christ to impregnate your nature. You will then take on a divine nature, which will produce the fruit of the Holy Spirit. When this happens, your life will be dominated by the righteousness of God. You will then be able to walk in the Spirit of God on a daily basis.

To walk in the Spirit means to live by the direction and control of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit would have given you the new birth. You will then be able to mortify, or discipline the desires of your former sinful nature, and sin will have no more rule over you. At this point in your conversion, you will no longer be condemned under the law of God, nor man; you will be under grace.

Everybody Will Live Again:

God did not create us to die, but to live. Humans are dying because of sin, and God had nothing to do with sin. Because God did not plan for humans to die, He is going to abolish death. Whether we are saved or not saved, we are all going to live again. If you choose to repent of your sins and obey God's word, you will live again with God in heaven. If you choose to continue in your life of sin and fail to repent, you will live again with the damned in a lake of fire and brimstone.

Believe The Word Of God:

In the book of II Peter 3:9-10, it teaches us that the final end of all things will come to those who disobey God. The entire world in which we have sinned and marred the glory of God shall come to an end. The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also, and the works that are therein shall be burned up. But God who created the earth shall re-create it. The word of God must be believed without doubt.



CHAPTER I

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Subject: The Scriptures:

When you learn the Holy Scriptures, you will find that they are able to make you wise. When you don't have wisdom to guide you through life, you will create your own problems. Wisdom gives you good discretion over issues in life, helping you to make better choices.

All scripture is given by the inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine to help you in life. When you live according to the teachings of the scriptures, you will be living in the presence of God. When you first start out with the scriptures guiding you, you must first accept the reproof and correction that the scriptures give. When you were living without the guidance of the scriptures, you were most likely not doing things the best way, which created problems in life.

The scriptures were given by God to make life easier for you. God's way for you is better than your way. The scriptures will thoroughly furnish you unto all good works, that you may avoid hazards in life that caused problems. It is what you do that brings troubles to your life. When you do things according to the scriptures, you will have some trouble, but it will be minimal. The way that you follow the scriptures will help you to correct problems.

Now remember, when you follow the scriptures, they will completely furnish you with knowledge on how to go through life. Now the scriptures were not given just for you to go to some church, and quote them in a testimony or to sing with them in songs; they were given for you to live by.

The scriptures were not given for any private or personal interpretation. God will interpret the scriptures for you; you don't have to figure out what they mean. The scriptures will clearly show you what you are doing wrong, and how to do it right. What you don't understand in the scriptures is not for you to understand. God does not honor your ambition to know a lot, but He honors your ambition to live right.

The reason the world is divided today into religious denominations is that men have tried to interpret the scriptures to suit themselves. There is only one basic meaning that the scriptures teach; that is for men and women to turn from their sins. If Adam had not sinned, there would be no need for the scriptures.

Subject: The Scriptures Were Given By God For The Benefit Of Man:

It is important that the people of the earth know that God ruleth in the kingdoms of the earth as well as the kingdom of heaven. If the conduct of the people of a nation is pleasing to God, God will give such a nation a good ruler for

the best interest of the people. If the people of a nation follow wicked devices, and sinful practices, then God will give the rulership of the nation to an evil leader.

The stories in the Bible were not written for entertainment, but that we might know the way God will do things today based upon the conduct of the people of a nation in past times in comparison with the conduct of the present day generation. Everything that is written in this book (Bible) was given by inspiration of God so that man might be instructed in righteousness, and be taught how to do the things that God is pleased with.

Subject: Be Not Slow Of Heart To Believe The Scriptures:

God, through the Holy Scriptures, has given us a thorough outline of His plan for creating this world and placing man in charge. The scriptures outline the work of redemption and the final judgment when the works of man will be judged according to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In spite of the erroneous claim that the world is millions of years old, and is capable of lasting for ages to come, time will soon end. The resources of the earth were only given by God for a limited period of time. Such resources cannot be continuously replenished by man indefinitely because of greed. God will not continue to resupply the needs of man because of his sins. Time will end before the forces of nature are spent. Time will end after the gospel has been preached throughout the world for a witness so that no human being will be able to stand before God and say that he or she has never heard the gospel.

The end of time means the end of this world or judgment day. This means the end of springtime, summer, winter, and fall. Now the end for some people comes every second of the day. There will nevertheless be an end for everybody at the same time. The world is getting worse every day, and people are more wicked. Men are merciless, cold blooded, and without honor or justice. Children do not stand a chance of surviving in the world, because of broken families and being born out of wedlock. Even nature is not compatible with human existence, putting out earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and forest fires.

The conditions on earth have changed so radically that human life cannot long be sustained since the world is so different now from what it was when God created man and placed him in the peaceful setting of the Garden of Eden. All these changes are due to the fact that man has made sin such a habitual way of living that it deceitfully satisfies his cravings for life.

Man seeks to gratify sinful desires rather than to allow Christ to correct such cravings. Man fails to believe all that is written in the scriptures. Jesus said that they are fools, slow of heart to believe the scriptures. Listen to St. Luke 24:25-27:

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

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

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

Jesus noted certain prophecies regarding His own coming and ministry, but many failed to understand and accept the message of the prophet. Like people of today, they preferred giving attendance to false religious teachings just as the people of Jesus' day gave more attention to the priests and Levites who had translated the scriptures in a misleading and confusing language. If man fails to accept the instructions in the gospel of Jesus Christ, he will do that which will cause him to destroy himself.

Subject: The Scriptures Were Written By Man But Dictated By God:

Everything that is written in the Bible was given by the inspiration of God so that men might be instructed in righteousness. God gave the Holy Scriptures by His Spirit. The scriptures were not given by the will of man. Though man wrote the scriptures, God dictated them by His Spirit. The scriptures were given that man might be perfect.

If a person follows the principles of righteousness as are taught in the scriptures, the power in the word of God will make them perfect. The scriptures were given as a guide to govern and to direct man that he might be thoroughly furnished unto every good work.

Subject: The Scriptures Are Against The Devil And Self:

A group of saved people should be ruled by the principles of righteousness that are taught in the Bible. This means that they would do what the Lord says in their assembly and in their personal lives. This means that the preachers, the deacons, the choir members, and all are ruled by the Bible.

Now, there are two main opposers of what the Bible teaches, one is the devil and the other is self. Both are mortal enemies of what the Bible teaches. Self is as hard to conquer as the devil, but those who desire to be saved will fight constantly to conquer both. Such people will find that the Bible is a great help, because it is against both self and the devil. The Bible teaches how to crucify self, and how to overcome the devil. The devil likes to spoil family structures and bring reproach to social relations among people by tempting them to commit fornication and have children out of wedlock. This is sin; when you put forth an effort to live above sin, God will give you the Holy Spirit to help you.

Subject: The Word Of God (St. John 1:1-2):

In the kingdom of heaven, Jesus was referred to as the word of God. The word was with God in the beginning and was the begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth (St. John 1:14). Whenever the word of God speaks on earth, it speaks the truth, and if a person decides to believe the word of God, grace will cause the person to receive it.

You cannot receive the true teachings of the word of God unless grace helps you. Grace is implemented by the Holy Spirit. Without grace, the truth can be perverted into a false religious teaching. Today we have many false religious teachings that have changed the truth of God's word simply because grace was not given to help the truth of God to be activated into the lives of those who heard it.

The word came down from heaven in the form of a human body and dwelt among the people, and many beheld His glory as of the only begotten Son of God who was filled with grace. Jesus told people the truth concerning His next appearance, and all who believe that He will return again are receiving assistance from the grace of God. So that the believer will be ready when Jesus returns, the grace of God is teaching them to deny ungodliness, worldly lusts, and how to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world (Titus 2:11-12).

Those who have not received grace believe that you can only live righteously, soberly, and godly in heaven after Jesus comes to take them to heaven.

Such people have failed to believe that the grace of God must bring salvation while they are living in this present world in order to enter the kingdom of heaven.

Subject: Lean On The Word Of God:

When you obey God, you can lean upon the promises in His word. The word of God will be the rod and staff for those who obey His word. When you have God's word to support you, you will fear no evil and God will lead you through green pastures. Green pastures are places of comfort and consolation. When your heart is right, your life is in the presence of God. When evil does not condemn you, the evils of the world will have no power against you, and you don't have to worry about anything.

The people in this world who don't walk in the statutes of God should worry because in the world they will have trouble. When you obey the word of God, you can call upon Him when you have trouble and He will deliver you. When your mind is bound close to God by means of His Holy Spirit, in the very darkest hour there will be no fear.

Subject: You Can Defeat The Devil With The Sword Of The Spirit (Ephesians 6:14):

Satan is the enemy of mankind. The Bible is the only weapon that can be used to fight Satan. The Bible is called the sword of the Spirit. This means that it has power to cut the devil back and hold him under check. You have to be fully equipped with knowledge of the word of God in order to be able to use it as the sword of the Spirit against the devil. When you are not equipped with the sword of the Spirit against the devil, you will lose the battle. You must be shod with the preparation of the gospel, which means you must know the word of God.

Satan cannot trespass what the word of God teaches against him. Satan's destiny is locked in on what the word teaches his end will be. You must do as the word of God teaches to defeat the devil, because he has no power against the word of God. When you have the word of God in your mind, and the sword of the Spirit, you can go ahead and fight the devil.

Subject: When You Don't Know The Scriptures You Can Err From The Plan Of Salvation:

If you don't have knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, your pastor could deceive you, and cause you to err from the plan of salvation. You must learn the scriptures for yourself, and not depend on sermons from your pastor to get you into heaven. It could be that your pastor's knowledge of the scriptures is erroneous. Listen to St. Matthew 22:29:

Verse 29 - Jesus answered and said unto them, *Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.*

When you don't know the scriptures, you will err from the plan of salvation. You can only learn the power of God when you have knowledge of the scriptures. Ignorance of the scriptures leaves you vulnerable to deceit and exploitation of some false preacher. If you learn the scriptures properly, you will also learn that some preachers are the most dishonest personnel in society. A false preacher is the only person that Jesus taught the people to beware of in St. Matthew 7:15.

When you don't have knowledge about something, you are easily misled by the false person. Have you ever heard a dishonest insurance salesman teach about what an insurance policy has to offer? You must learn the Holy Scriptures if you desire to be saved. You must learn about the power of God; the power of God saves you from sin.

In St. John 1:12 it teaches that as many as received Jesus Christ, He gave them power to become the sons of God. When you are born again, you are filled with the Holy Ghost that gives you power to live free from sin. Jesus taught that after the Holy Ghost comes you shall receive power from God (Acts 1:8). The Holy Ghost indwells the human nature and gives the person power to live above the power of the sinful nature.

Subject: There Is Power In The Word Of God:

The world was created by the power that is found in the word of God. There is more power in the word of God than you can imagine. If you obey the word of God, it will be at your assistance when you need something. Man could only know God through His word, so God made His word flesh, and named His word Jesus.

Not only did the word of God create the universe, but it can also give those who receive it and believe it power to keep them out of sin. Sin is no match for the

power in God's word. When Mary the mother of Jesus believed the word that was sent from God by the angel Gabriel, it changed the course of nature, and brought forth Jesus. Jesus then became the word of God in human form. The word was made flesh that the people of the earth might know that the word of God in the flesh can keep the flesh living above sin.

Jesus went to the cross and died because He was flesh carrying the word of God in His body, but the word of God in Him could never die, and the power of the word resurrected Jesus in a new body. Jesus used the word to testify of this resurrection before He was crucified, and the power in the word honored His testimony.

Subject: The Gospel Will Upgrade Your Way Of Thinking:

The purpose of the gospel of Jesus Christ is to get God in your mind. Unless you get God in your mind, the devil will fool you by means of the way you think. If you let the word of God come into your mind, it will undermine the thoughts from the devil. The word of God will discredit the devil's devices to the extent that they will not influence your actions. The word of God will help you to clearly see whether such thoughts are of God, or the devil. The word will down grade your vain imagination and bring your way of thinking up to a level of holiness so that your fellowship with God will cause you to live a life that is acceptable to God.

CHAPTER II

THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

Subject: Will You Be Able To Enter The Gates Of Heaven?

When you are saved you don't die, you fall asleep in Jesus. Listen to I Thessalonians 4:16:

Verse 16 - For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.

The dead in Christ are not dead as an unsaved person. The dead in Christ have entered into a rest in paradise, in which Abraham is the overseer. Upon Jesus' return, the dead will get up when they hear the voice of Jesus. This will be the first resurrection (St. John 5:28-29). Those who will be a part of this resurrection are those who were born again while they lived in this present world (Titus 2:11-13).

If your religious teachings label you as being a sinner while you live in this present world, you will not be a part of the resurrection of the saints who were saved from sinful practices (I Peter 4:18). When the saints enter the kingdom of heaven, all who are labeled as sinners will be found outside of the gates of heaven, and not allowed to enter. When you are born again, your name is written in the book of life, which will entitle you to enter the gates of heaven. Listen to Revelations 21:27:

Verse 27 - And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Listen to Revelations 22:14-15:

Verse 14 - Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Verse 15 - For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

Subject: What Will Happen When Jesus Returns:

When you are born again your life will produce fruit unto holiness. This will be the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22). You will then be made free from sin to become a servant of God. As a result of receiving the new birth from God, it will enable you to obey the teachings of the word of God. You will then produce fruit unto holiness, and the things that you do will be pure, clean, and holy and at the end of your life on earth, you will receive eternal life with God and Christ.

After you are born again, you can live a righteous life just as you lived a sinful life before you were born again. If you die before Jesus returns, you will enter paradise for a peaceful rest until Jesus returns. Jesus will return for the first resurrection, and all who are dead in Christ will be resurrected to meet Him. Those who are saved and still living will be resurrected after the dead in Christ, and be caught up together to meet Jesus in the air and afterwards go to see God. This will be the first time the saved people will see God and from this event, they will spend eternity with God, and the heavenly host. This event will be inclusive of saints all through the ages who will meet the saved people who are presently living when Jesus returns.

Subject: Jesus Defeated Death:

No matter how wealthy and successful you are in this present world, death is a major threat to you. If you don't have a remedy for death, your success in this world will give you short-term happiness. Your hope in the things of this life will fade when you think that death can come any day. Jesus has a solution for death. If we die in Christ, we will live again receiving life more abundantly. Eternal life in Christ far exceeds what a limited life in this present world has to offer.

Jesus went to Calvary and conquered death, and power in heaven and earth was given to Him. If a person obeys Jesus' gospel, He will bless the person to receive life more abundantly. Jesus will make such a person a joint heir with Him in His Father's kingdom.

The scriptures teach that when Jesus shall descend from heaven with the voice of the archangel and the trump of God, the dead in Christ will rise first, and all who obey Him who are yet living shall be changed. They will come from all quarters of the earth to go back with Jesus. The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, and everything that dwells in it is under God's supreme authority. God

has prepared heavenly blessings for all who will be a part of this glorious resurrection. Death will have no more threat in God's holy kingdom.

Subject: Jesus Is Coming Quickly:

Now when Jesus returns to the earth for His people, He will be upon the people of the earth before they can see Him. He will come quickly. Can you imagine how quick you can blink your eye? That is how quickly Jesus will come and retrieve the saved people.

Jesus will change the saved people physically, and gather them in the air so quickly that the unsaved will not know what has happened. The scriptures teach that in a moment in the twinkling of an eye the dead in Christ will get up first, and those who are saved and living afterwards will follow. All this will be done quickly (I Corinthians 15:51-52) (I Thessalonians 4:16-18).

Subject: Only Born Again Believers Will Be Ready When Jesus Comes:

Multitudes will be ashamed in the presence of the Lord when He returns for the saved people. The presence of Jesus Christ upon His second appearance will be so powerful that sinners and unbelievers will not be able to stand in His presence. Jesus will return in such an hour that the sinners and unsaved will not be expecting Him. The unsaved will not be looking for Jesus; they will be looking for more worldly pleasures. Only born again believers are looking for Jesus, and they will be ready when He appears. Born again believers will have their vessels (bodies) filled with oil (Holy Spirit) and will be ready when Jesus comes.

Subject: When You Hear The Trumpet Sound Be Ready:

Upon Jesus' return to administer the first resurrection, an angel of the Lord will sound the trumpet and the saved people will hear it and get up. Those who have fallen asleep in Christ shall awake to see Christ as He is, for God has planned that the grave should not destroy, nor retain His people. Those who were saved by grace will see Christ face to face, because they are precious in the sight of God.

God has prolonged Jesus' return and keeps the door of opportunity open that whosoever will, might come to God.

Time can be prolonged or lengthened now, but eternity cannot be, because eternity is infinite, or endless. When you finish your life in time, you will enter eternity; therefore, please don't reject the plan, and mercy of God. It is the will of God that all should come to repentance, and be saved. The Spirit of God sends preachers of the gospel to give warning to the people of the earth to repent and believe the gospel, because the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

The souls of human beings are precious to God, and God would not leave the souls of humans in the grip of sin without providing a way for them to be liberated. However, humans must willingly accept God's offer.

Subject: What Will Your Record Reveal On The Day Of The Lord?

The message to born again believers from Jesus when He returns will be "well done, good and faithful servants" (Matthew 25:21). Goodness and faithfulness are the top qualities that will bring "well done" from Christ in the day of rewards for the saved. Goodness is that state of excellence glorified in the gospel, and faithfulness is that grand thing called trust-worthiness. We shall all stand before the Lord giving an account for the deeds that we have done while living on the earth whether we have done good or evil. What will your record reveal?

Subject: Another Great Storm Is Soon Coming:

New York and New Jersey just experienced a disaster from a great storm. There is another storm coming that the word of God declares shall come upon all the nations of the earth.

The Bible teaches that this will be a storm of flashing lightning, with fire and brimstone falling to destroy those who failed to get saved. Those who are saved will be gone from the earth. They will be enjoying a new home in heaven. God is giving everybody a chance to be saved, and to be taken out of the earth before this great storm comes. God is inviting everybody to come into God's house for safety from the storm.

Subject: God Will Give You What You Enjoy:

God does not force anybody to obey Him. God gives people what they want. If a person lies down at night with a mind to commit sin, God will see to it that they wake up with the same mind. God will not make you a saint while you sleep, and allow you to wake up the next day and be unhappy because you are righteous and holy. If you die living the life of a sinner, God will see to it that you spend eternity with sinners in a place called hell.

Whatever you enjoy in this world God will see to it that you will have it throughout eternity. If you desire to live a righteous life around righteous people in this world, God will allow you to spend eternity with righteous people in the kingdom of heaven.

Subject: The Culture Of Heaven Is The Opposite Of The Culture Of The Earth:

Jesus is the greatest and most powerful person in the universe. Greatness in God's kingdom is gentleness and humility. The culture of the kingdom of heaven is the opposite of the culture on earth. When God sent Jesus to the earth, God put Jesus in the family of a carpenter, with a virgin who was espoused to the carpenter to be the mother of Jesus.

God did not allow Jesus to be born in a family of a monarch. The way Jesus was presented to the world was in the spirit of the way that people of the earth could be saved. The social spirit of those who are willing to accept Jesus must be a poor spirit or not of the high class, social spirits of the world. Listen to St. Matthew 5:3:

Verse 3 - *Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

The reference to the poor in spirit means those who are not in the uppermost classes of the people in that day. The same reference applies today. To be rich in spirit means to be noble or of a higher social class. To be poor in spirit means to be meek or lowly in spirit. Listen to St. Matthew 5:5:

Verse 5 - *Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.*

The spirit of Jesus' presentation to the world is the same spirit by which others will be saved and presented to God in heaven. Not many high-class folk are going to be saved. Listen to I Corinthians 1:26-29:

Verse 26 - For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.

Folk who are conceited, wise, and smart because of high positions of this world will be confused in trying to understand the plan of God, and will not be saved.

Verse 27 - But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

Verse 28 - And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

Verse 29 - That no flesh should glory in his presence.

Subject: If You Are Saved You Have No Idea What God Has Prepared For You In Heaven:

You will have to suffer from time to time before you go to heaven, but you shouldn't complain, because the blessings that God is going to give those who are saved after they get to heaven cannot be compared to what little suffering they will have experienced in this life. Listen to Romans 8:18:

Verse 18 - For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

The blessings of God are a mystery that has not yet been revealed to those who will go to heaven. Listen to I Corinthians 2:7-9:

Verse 7 - But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery,

even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

Verse 8 - Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

This means God has prepared blessings in heaven before the foundation of the world unto the glory of all will be saved.

Verse 9 - But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

If you are saved, you have no idea of the blessings and joy that God has prepared for you when you get to heaven.

Subject: The Unity Between Heaven And The Earth:

The day will soon come when Christ will return in the clouds to the earth, and heaven and earth will be united in a New Jerusalem where the will of God will be done in the new earth as it is in heaven. When we are born of the Spirit of God, we are being made ready to be in full accord with the kingdom of heaven. We can start this process today by giving our hearts to God, and in return, the Spirit of God will give us the new birth. As you continue to hear the word of God, it will strengthen, settle, establish, and make you perfect in righteousness. When this process takes place in your life the joy and peace you get from the word of God is more desirable to a true child of God than anything the world could offer you.

Subject: A Heavenly Mansion:

Everybody wants a better home. God has promised a home in His kingdom. These earthly houses shall be dissolved in the fullness of time, because their construction is temporary and the materials used cannot last long, therefore we

would be wise to seek another home to live in which Christ has gone to prepare for us. This will be a mansion in heaven and will last throughout eternity. With this knowledge we cannot be contented with this earthly tabernacle; and it pleases God that we are concerned to the extent that we remain restless in this body until we are delivered (St. John 14:2-3) (II Corinthians 5:1-2).



CHAPTER III
WHAT IS SIN?

Subject: Sin Is A Slow Killer Of Man:

Sin is the cause of death, because sin destroys life. Sin separates man from God, because God hates sin, and cannot have it in His presence. God remains a distance out of sight from the sinner, but lingers in the shadows in forbearance, hopeful that man will repent and turn from sin.

If a person desires to continue in sin, they will be separated from God. While in sin, man commits acts that are against his welfare and health. Sin is a progressively slow and unnoticeable killing process. Unless we are taught how sin kills us, we will not be able to identify its deceiving, destructive process.

Subject: Problems Are In The World Because Of Man's Disobedience To God:

Man is a very intelligent creature who has learned to master the things in his environment. Man has been able to master most everything except love. He has failed to allow love to have free course in the world which results to murders and wars. God's command to man is that they love one another. To learn to love is to learn the will of God.

Man has failed to take in the lesson that Jesus came to teach us. Jesus was sent by God to teach us the principles of the kingdom of heaven. These principles are found in St. Matthew 5th chapter. These principles were given to us that we might know the will of God, and that we might know how love can have a positive effect upon our living conditions. It is God's will that man enjoys life on earth, and that he later receives eternal life in God's kingdom.

God put a tree in the Garden of Eden that was to serve as a line of demarcation between God and man. God had given man everything to enjoy, but the one thing He wanted man to do was to obey Him that he might continue to enjoy life. The Lord knew that the moment man went contrary to His commandments he would create problems for himself. Today problems are everywhere in the world because of man's disobedience to God.

Subject: Sin Is The Works Of The Devil:

Listen to this scripture in the book of I John Chapter 3. Verse 9:

Verse 9 - Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

Now I am not going to interpret that scripture, because it interprets itself. When you are born again, you are born of God. After you are born of God, God lives in you by means of His Spirit. When God lives in you, He controls your life. God does not commit sin, so when He lives in you, you will not commit sin.

If you say that you are born again, and still commit sin, you are saying that God is a sinner, because when you are born again, you are born of God. Now who is making a mistake, you, or the Bible? You cannot call God a liar.

When you say you are born again, you are giving yourself a lot of religion. However, after you say that you are still a sinner, you are giving your religion to the devil, because the devil is the origin of sin. You can't be born again and have the devil in your life at the same time; the devil is the originator of sin. Listen to I John 3:8:

Verse 8 - He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

You can't be born of God and of the devil at the same time. If you are a sinner, you are a product of the devil. This means that Jesus was sent to destroy the works of the devil in your life, which is sin. When you have sin in your life, you are the enemy of God and Jesus. Under these conditions, Jesus was sent to destroy your church works as well as your sinful works, because such works are of the devil.

Subject: If God Spared Not The Angels That Sinned Neither Will He Spare Humans Who Desire To Sin Continuously:

God is not going to spare anybody who continues to live in sin. Listen to II Peter 2:4:

Verse 4 - For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

This scripture teaches that God will not be merciful to sinners. God is going to deal with humans who continue to be sinners just as He plans to deal with rebellious angels. Satan and all rebellious angels were kicked out of heaven to be prepared for hell. Humans have a chance to repent, but if they fail to take advantage of this opportunity, they will be cast into hell along with rebellious angels and Satan.

God has no pleasure in sin, and he will not allow sinners to dwell in His company. If God is casting angels that sinned out of heaven, how do humans who fail to repent, and who continue to practice sin expect to get into heaven? Angels were initially created as spiritual beings to dwell in heaven, but the day that they rebelled against God, He cast them out.

Sin has ruined the whole world, and if we let it stay in place, it will ruin that place. Under no conditions will God allow sin in heaven. Make no mistake, if you die with sin in your life, it will be with you throughout eternity. God has no program to deliver humans from sin after they die. You must be delivered from a life of sin while you live. After God saves you from sin, you must be tried and proven by going through temptations of the devil to prove that you are saved from sin.

Not only did God make an example of angels that sinned, but also He didn't spare the old world during Noah's time. Listen to II Peter 2:5:

Verse 5 - And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly.

Death will not purge you of your sins and make you fit to live with God. Your purging must occur while you live.

Subject: Sin Is A Transgression Of The Law Of God:

Sin is a transgression of the law of God. Law is a rule given to govern the actions of men and women. When a person refuses to be subject to the law of God, they will then become transgressors, or violators of the law. Such violators will be labeled by the law of God as sinners. When you become a sinner, your name is written in the book of the condemned. Unless such a person repents of his or her sins, and receives Jesus Christ, who will give them grace to live above the condemnation of the law, they will be judged as a sinner falling under condemnation of the law.

Subject: Sin Loves An Ignorant Person:

God loves sinners because they are taken capture against their will and deceived. Jesus is the only one who can lead you out of captivity of sin. When you don't have an understanding about the captivity and deception that sin can hold you in, there is no chance for you to be saved. When God is going to save a person, He opens the eyes of their understanding and reveals the sinful tactics of the devil. The person will then plainly see what sin can do to the ignorant person. Sin loves to keep a person ignorant so that it can destroy them at will.

When your pastor feeds you erroneous knowledge concerning sin, such knowledge increases your ignorance about sin, making you more vulnerable to deception. One of the most effective tactics of warfare that military forces use against their enemies is deception. When they can fool the enemies, the enemies can be defeated. The devil uses tactics of deception for those who practice sin, and a false pastor is the general of the devil's forces who deceives the people with vain sermons that give no knowledge of the tactics and deceptions of sinful practices.

Subject: Let Every Man Have His Own Wife And Flee Fornication:

Fornication means to have sexual intercourse without being married to the person you are having sex with. Fornication is a sin. Marriage between those of the same sex is also fornication. Marriage is only above sin when it is between male and female. Fornication is the lust of the flesh in operation. The word flesh means ungodly and sinful desires, whether such desires are committed physically or mentally.

The lust of the flesh is the cause of most of the trouble we have in the world today. The lust of the flesh can take place in any social aspect of society. It can take place in churches or any social gathering. The lust of the flesh is the very core of all sins that are committed. When a person desires to commit sin, the lust of the flesh will compel them to make provisions for such desires.

God is not against a man and a woman coming together, but it is only acceptable to God in marriage. God created the woman to be a beautiful creature for a man to enjoy. God has caused an abundance of women to be born since the days of Eve so that every man may have his own wife. Today there is an ample amount of women available for every man to have his own wife. There is no need for any man to take another man's wife. God has caused an abundance of women

to be born into the world so that every man may find a mate. Man has the choice of the kind of wife he desires.

No matter how much God does for the convenience of men and women, the devil will try to interject fornication to cause men and women to sin against God. Among every social and religious group, the devil tries to get men and women together in an ungodly way. If they are in a church, the devil can have them singing, shouting, and preaching together along with committing fornication and adultery. This means the devil is getting them together in the flesh, and when he gets them together in the flesh, there is no chance for them to be together in the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit will not be present among any religious worshipers if desires to commit fornication, adultery, or homosexual acts are in the minds and purposes of those who assemble.

Subject: You Can Obtain Victory Over Sin:

I am an enemy of sin. I speak very boldly against sin because it has made the lives of people very miserable. Sin is so deceiving that it is difficult to see the damage that it does until it is finish. When I speak against sin, I am not speaking against the people who are victims of sin, because they can be separated from sin. The devil is the administrator of sin; and it is through the deceitfulness of sin that the devil can maintain his presence in the lives of people. When a person has sinful desires, such desires are of the devil that has a place in their life.

When we are born into this world, we are born into a spiritual war. A spiritual war is not a war of flesh and blood with guns and artillery. It is a war against wrong or evil, a war against wicked spirits that occupy the minds of people. God is a Spirit. God is a power for right. The devil is a spirit being, and he is a power for whatever is wrong. The devil's purpose is to capture everybody that he can and bring them under subjection to evil.

For those who give their lives to Jesus Christ the devil will have no power over them. You can do this by surrendering your will to do good, and God will give you the Holy Spirit to help. The strength of the human nature is not strong enough to overcome the devil's power, but the Holy Spirit is sufficient for the task.

Subject: It Is Your Belief In The Word Of God That Leads To Salvation:

God is willing to help a sinner if a sinner is willing to be helped. God's help for a sinner is to deliver the sinner from sin to righteousness. The moment a sinner believes that he or she can be righteous, God will count his belief as righteousness, and afterward help the sinner to live righteously. If a sinner believes that he or she can be perfect, God will give the person credit for being perfect based upon his or her belief. A sinner's faith in God will initiate salvation for his life to be acceptable to God.

A sinner must believe from his or her heart that God will make them righteous. Listen to Romans 10:10:

Verse 10 - For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness;
and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

It is a sinner's belief in his heart that will lead him to righteousness. Afterwards, he can testify with his mouth that he is saved.

Subject: The Flesh And The Spirit Are Contrary To One Another:

A spirit is stronger than your will to do things. If you have the spirit of the devil, which is a sinful spirit, you will not be able to do right just because you know what is right. You can only do right when you have power to do right over the power of the flesh, which leads you to do wrong. Only the Holy Spirit can give you power over the flesh. The flesh lusteth against righteousness. This means it gives you lustful desires to do wrong. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, it overpowers the desires of the flesh, which sets you free from doing wrong.

The Holy Spirit and the flesh are contrary to one another, and they will not abide in your life together. If you are doing some things right and some things wrong, it means that you are not born again, and you do not have the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit comes into your life, it removes the desires to please the flesh, and the works of the flesh are eliminated. Listen to Galatians 5:17:

Verse 17 - For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit
against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to
the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

This means you can't do right if you don't have the Spirit of God. You will be able to know that you don't have the Spirit of God, because you will see the works of the flesh in your life. They will be manifested to you. Listen to Galatians 5:19-21:

- Verse 19 - Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,
- Verse 20 - Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,
- Verse 21 - Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Now when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you will not see the works of the flesh in your life. You will only see the fruit of the Spirit, because the Spirit and the works of the flesh will not abide in your life at the same time. Listen to Galatians 5:22-25:

- Verse 22 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
- Verse 23 - Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
- Verse 24 - And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.
- Verse 25 - If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Subject: Sin Brings About Corruption:

If God doesn't save you from sin, you will be a worse sinner as you get older than what you were when you were younger. Sin is a corruptible state of existence. When a person is a sinner, they are like spoiled food. They will continue to get worse until they are dead. Death is the final stage of any living

thing that is corruptible. Death is the finality of something that went bad. Sin first corrupts the spirit and ways of a person, which means it will cause them to do bad, sinful acts. Sin later spreads its corruption to the physical body of the person causing them to get sick and eventually die.

When Jesus saves a person, He stops the corruption process in the person's mind, though their body will continue to have some afflictions. After Jesus returns for the first resurrection, He will completely change the saved person's corruptible body into an incorruptible body to prepare the person for a life in an incorruptible kingdom, because flesh and blood, which is corruptible, cannot live in an incorruptible environment. Listen to I Corinthians 15:50:

Verse 50 - Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

In order to go into the kingdom of God, your body must be changed from a corruptible body to an incorruptible body. This process only takes place for those who are born again, and have received an incorruptible mind. When your mind is incorruptible, you will have a sin-free life. Sin causes corruption and death. So then, your incorruptible life must start with a sin-free life in order for you to receive an incorruptible body upon Jesus' return.

The incorruptible body will defeat death for the saved people. Listen to I Corinthians 15:54:

Verse 54 - So when 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.

Subject: Where There Are Divisions, Strife And Envy, There Is Also Carnality:

When you have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ and worshipping with others who are saved, the Spirit of God will dwell among such worshippers when they assemble. If there is envy, strife, and divisions among the worshippers, this means the Spirit is not present and such people are not saved. Christ is not the minister of divisions, but unity; such worshippers are carnal and not spiritual. Listen to I Corinthians 3:3:

Verse 3 - For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

To be carnal means they are yet in their sins.

Subject: God Warns His People Against Idolatry:

The Bible has the answer to every question that confronts us today. Though many passages of scripture were written in regard to situations many centuries ago, they can also answer questions today. Elijah, the man of God in the day of King Ahab, spoke these words in I Kings 18:21, which reads as follows:

Verse 21 - And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. and the people answered him not a word.

People today have idols that they worship just as the people of Elijah's day. They had drifted into idolatry through the influence of Jezebel, a very wicked heathen woman who had great influence over the Jewish king, Ahab. When people become enthusiastic over their idols, they will forget about the true and holy God who has blessed them.

The Jews under the rulership of King Ahab had forgotten about how God brought them into the Promised Land and had blessed them. Therefore, God sent Elijah to them to warn them that the judgments of the Lord would fall upon them if they did not immediately turn from idolatry. Today, these same passages of scripture are a warning to those who are worshiping idols in a different form. Anything that has more importance in a person's life than God is an idol.

Subject: Jesus Wants To Destroy The Works Of The Devil (I John 3:8):

The purpose of the gospel of Jesus Christ is to destroy the works of the devil in the minds of men and women. When the works of the devil are destroyed, the Holy Spirit will build up a standard of righteousness in the minds of men and

women that will give them the ability to resist the temptations of the devil. When this happens, Jesus will be with those who receive Him. Jesus will live in them and the works of the devil will have no place in those that Jesus abides in. Jesus prayed this prayer to His Father while He was on the earth. Listen to St. John 17:24:

Verse 24 - *Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.*

Subject: The Privilege To Exercise Authority Over Others Must Come From God (Genesis 3:5-6):

After the devil seduced Eve to eat the fruit of the forbidden tree, which she gave also to Adam while they were in the beautiful Garden of Eden, they lost dominion over the animals and the earth. Today when a person fails to obey God, they will lose control over their spouses and children. Only God can give subordinate members of a family the mind to obey those in authority.

Unless a ruler of a nation obeys God, such a ruler will lose rulership and authority over those in the nation. You must have love for God to maintain your obedience to Him. When your love for God is not what it should be, your obedience will not endure. Because of Eve's lack of love for God, she dropped her relationship with God for the first thing that excited her.

Adam loved his wife more than he loved God, and he would have rather died with her than to live with God without her. Adam and Eve lost their rulership of the earth and relationship with God because of their lack of love for God. They fell from grace because they had very little regard for the grace of God. Today when people don't have much regard for God's love, they will fail to obtain grace.

Subject: They Fell From Grace:

When Adam and Eve fell from grace, the devil gained control of man and acquired rulership over the earth. Spiritually man has been in a sad condition up to this present day. When the earth became cursed man had to toil long and hard to produce food that would only give man a limited life on earth.

While man was in the Garden of Eden, life was pleasant, and convenient with no sicknesses or indications that he would die. Man was his own boss and had authority over every living thing, and he could have lived forever without any inconvenient disruptions. Seeing that things were so pleasant and convenient for man's eternal comfort, man decided to become a fool and sin.

Today God gives man complete knowledge of the wages of sin, which is death. If man decides he wants to play the fool and commit sin, then death will be his reward.

Subject: Sin And Religion Is Vain:

After the fall of Adam and Eve, the devil began to tempt and lead man further away from God. To be a continuous sinner will cause man to be so far from God that a man will think sin is acceptable to God. When a man practices sin, and attempts to worship God in some church, it is because he thinks that sin is acceptable to God along with his worship services.

No religious rituals that a worshiper can practice along with sin in his or her life will be accepted by God. A sin practicing church worshiper is a deceived worshiper. Today men have become thieves, fornicators, adulterers, covetous, liars, murderers, and given unto violence and they believe that they are saved while they commit such acts. When man desires to fulfill the lusts of the flesh, and his sinful desires, he will die right along with his vain religious teaching.

Subject: A Sinner Will Not Be Able To Enter The Gates Of Heaven:

Only the Holy Spirit in a person can allow the person to receive and agree with the teachings of the word of God. When you don't have the Holy Spirit, many principles of righteousness that are taught in the scriptures may not settle so well with your way of thinking. Listen to St. John 9:31:

Verse 31 - Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

A person who doesn't have the Spirit of God will come up with some private interpretation of that scripture. God does not acknowledge a sinner's religious ways. A sinner is alienated from God. God only acknowledges a righteous person who is saved from the practice of sin. Listen to Psalm 34:15:

Verse 15 - The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

The Lord listens to the prayers of a righteous person, and He watches over a righteous person. God does not watch over a sinner. If you are a sinner, anything can happen to you and you will not get help from God. Sinners are not a part of the family of God. A church going sinner does not get God's attention when a crisis comes into his or her life.

Sin is a wall of partition between God and man. Jesus was sent to abolish the wall of partition by removing sin from the lives of those who receive Him. When sin is in a person's life, they don't have access to God. God is holy and sin is unholy. Sin is the enemy of God, and God will not permit a sinner to enter into the kingdom of heaven. All sinners will be found outside of heaven when the world comes to an end. Listen to Revelations 22:14-15:

Verse 14 - Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

No sinners will be able to enter the gates of heaven.

Verse 15 - For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whore-mongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

Subject: Sinners' Names Will Not Be Found In The Book Of Life:

Sinners are transgressors of the law of God. They are those who don't obey the commandments of God. Those who break the laws of God are separated from those who obey God's laws. The lawbreakers' names are put in a different book by God from those who obey the laws of God. In the judgment of the last days, those who are sinners or lawbreakers will be judged by the sins that they committed that were recorded against them.

There will be the book of life for the saved people, and another book for sinners or the unsaved. Revelations 20:12 and 15 read as follows:

Verse 12 - And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

Everybody who is not written in the book of life will be judged by the records kept against them in the book of the condemned.

Verse 15 - And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Subject: Godly Repentance:

To repent means to be sorry, but godly repentance is different. You can only be forgiven of your sins by God when your repentance is godly. When you are sorry with godly repentance, it must come from your heart. God does not pay a lot of attention to words from the mouth unless they are motivated by intentions of the heart.

When your repentance is godly, you will have no intentions in your heart to repeat the sinful acts ever again. With godly repentance, you must regret that you committed sin and be so moved with contrition or self-reproach over your sins that every desire to commit sin again will be completely removed from you.

Along with an outward turn from the physical practice of sin, it must be influenced by an inward conviction that makes it genuine. This should not be just a formal change from bad to good, but it should be a spiritual revolution against sin. With this approach to God, you will get His attention and He will grant you an additional repentance from heaven.

CHAPTER IV

**SALVATION:
GENERAL TOPICS**

Subject: Are You Sure That You Want Eternal Life?

Eternal life is what you want, though you may not be so interested in it at this present time, because of the pleasures that will distract life that God offers. There are many who will come to the realization of what God is offering when they are on their sick beds with a life threatening sickness. It is possible that they can get saved under such conditions, but I would recommend accepting God's offer while you are doing well. Your heart (mind) is deceitful, and the things you think that you want will oftentimes have to be proven by testing and trials before you can know that you want it. So is it also with wanting eternal life.

You cannot be sure you want eternal life because you are on your sick bed. If God were to restore your health you might return back to a life of sin again, which never crossed your mind while you were sick. So then, it is better to learn that you want eternal life while you are healthy and are able to reject a life of sin to live a life of righteousness. Then when it comes time for you to leave, you will have a good record of living right to support your desire for eternal life.

Subject: The Last Chance To Be Saved:

I am engaged day and night in business for the Lord, endeavoring to allow God to use me to help destroy the works of the devil, by exposing his works that people might not be deceived.

The devil uses sin to keep people burdened, and unhappy. Sin is of the devil. When a person commits sin, the devil is working in them to destroy them (I John 3:8-9). Whenever a person repents of their sins, they are getting the devil out of their life. Their repentance must be followed by the power of God. We are trying to help people to know that this is the last gospel, which they must either accept or lose the last chance to find salvation.

Subject: Today Is The Day Of Salvation:

There may be things in your personal life that seem to be very important that have your interest, and being saved may not be your present concern. My admonishment to those who have not yet received Jesus Christ is to get right with God now. You cannot depend upon time in the future. The present time is all you are given. Thinking that you have time in the future can be deceiving.

Jesus wants to save your soul today. Today is the day of salvation; tomorrow is not promised. Things in the world that attract your interest are not substantial. The world is broken. There are no sure promises that the world has to offer. Everybody today needs to be thinking about where he or she will spend eternity. Life is a journey that only Jesus can give you a true hope on how it will end in this present world. You should take full advantage of each day that you are living here and commit your life to God. You can't make a decision on accepting Christ into your life after it ends. You have to do it while you are living.

Subject: God's Plan:

God loved us so much that He didn't want us to perish because we were sinners, so God had to find a means by which we could be corrected from the condition that was brought upon us by Adam. The very Son of God was found to be the only person who was qualified to take on the correction process. Jesus chose to leave a blessed heavenly habitation and to come to the earth as a sacrifice for the sins of the world. He did not take on the nature of angels, which would have prevented Him from suffering, but He took on the seed of Abraham, which was Isaac.

Isaac was a very humble son of Abraham who was willing to obey anything His father asked of him. It was love that moved God to send His Son, and it was love that moved Jesus to accept the will of His Father to come to the earth in the form of a human being and endure the suffering, humiliation, and agony attending to the mission that He was sent to perform. Jesus took on a human body because He wanted to feel the burdens of life, and face the consequences of sin in order to show us how to triumph.

For thirty-three years, Jesus lived under conditions just as those that we face today, only He did not let conditions lead Him into sin. He did not let them prevent Him from loving His enemies. He did not let them make Him misjudge, accuse, or seek revenge against those who hated and abused Him. Jesus was not tempted by fame, money, or even by power to do wrong in the sight of God or to compromise His stand to destroy His usefulness as the Messiah. This was all God's plan. It was God's plan that His Son take on the nature of men so that He might be an acceptable sacrifice for the sins of the world.

Subject: God's Offer:

Jesus is the Son of God, who was given as a sacrifice to redeem us from our sinful ways through His death, that He might turn us to God to receive salvation. We have received forgiveness of our sins according to the riches of His grace. God did this for us as an expression of His love. God's love has no limits, because He is rich in mercy and grace.

It is God's plan to destroy this sin cursed world, but He is first offering everybody who wants to be saved a chance to be delivered because of His love for the world. Such people that are saved are not accepted by God as prisoners, but as guests in His kingdom. God is creating a new heaven and a new earth for His new guests. He will give all of His guests free power from His Spirit to live righteously throughout eternity. If you think the world can make you a better offer than God is making, then you will have the privilege to stay in a world of sin, but I am going to take God's offer.

Subject: The Greatest Character That Ever Lived:

Though Jesus is the greatest character that ever lived, you must become acquainted with Him to be able to follow His teaching. The character of Jesus is portrayed in His gospel. All power in the universe has been given to Jesus, but listen to His attitude towards those who were contrary to His teaching in St. Luke 23:34:

Verse 34 - Then said Jesus, *Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.*

Jesus had no hate, or desire for vengeance against those who were His adversaries. Jesus took what His adversaries did against Him and used it for them to acquire victory over their sins. Listen to Isaiah 53:5:

Verse 5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Jesus brought salvation to man based upon the worst treatment that man could give Him. The death that man gave to Jesus was the means by which man could be delivered from his own death.

Subject: Christ Is The Way To God:

When you don't have a hope, you don't have any motivation for life. Everybody must have a hope whether it is material or spiritual. When your hope is built upon what God has to offer you, it will not disappoint you. Jesus is the way to fulfill your hope to God. Jesus offers three things to give you hope for getting to see God, the way, the truth, and the life.

The gospel of Jesus Christ teaches the truth and if you don't find the truth, you can't find the right way. When you don't find the truth, you can't find the life that God is offering. When you are trying to find the way to eternal life, you will have to follow the footsteps of Jesus. Jesus is able to save to the uttermost those that come to God by Him. We can get to God by Christ because God made Jesus an example. Jesus was sent for one purpose and that was to save us from sin. When you are saved from sin, you are on your way to God.

Subject: Sermons That You Hear Should Be Related To The Conditions Of Your Personal Life:

What you learn in church should help you in your personal life. What good is going to church to sing, shout, and testify and you return home to the same problems that people have who don't go to church. Church folk should have a different life than non-church folk, if they are taught against sin. There are many sermons that you can hear in church, but if they are not teaching you about your sins, you will very quickly forget such sermons. If a sermon is being preached about fornication, and how you can have a child out of wedlock, you will remember that sermon when your boyfriend or girlfriend gives you a call.

When sermons are related to things in your life that will give problems, they will come to your remembrance when situations in your life are related to the sermons. It is problems of life that you are concerned about, because you can't enjoy life when you have problems. Committing adultery or fornication cannot give lasting pleasure when you have to worry about paying bills and raising a child

without the assistance of a spouse. When a sermon is preached to bring these conditions to your attention, you will remember such a sermon.

Subject: If You Love God You Will Keep His Commandments:

God teaches everybody who walks in His statutes and obeys His commandments that He is ready to hear their prayer and keep every promise that He has made to them. Jesus teaches that if you love God you will obey His commandments. When a person sins, it means that they don't love God. Listen to St. John 14:15:

Verse 15 - *If ye love me, keep my commandments.*

Sinners don't keep God's commandments; that is what makes them sinners. A religious teaching that fails to help a person keep God's commandments is of no profit for salvation. The Bible is a book of instructions given by God that people might know what they should do to be saved. It is of no profit to have a religious teaching that teaches contrary to the principles in the Bible.

Subject: The Truth Is Not Compatible With A Sinner:

The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord, and to depart from evil means you have an understanding. To fear God means to respect His commandments. To depart from evil means to stop committing sin. The devil is the spirit of evil and God is the spirit of good. God always works the opposite of the devil. Light is the opposite of darkness, and a saved person is the opposite of a sinner.

When God comes into the life of an individual, sin goes out. Sin cannot abide where God lives. When a group of religious folk sits under a preacher who tells them they cannot help from sinning, they are cursed. When God saves you, He will lead you to a preacher that will teach you how to live free from sin. The power of God can keep you from a life of sin if you believe it. If you are committed to a life of sin, you will get angry when you hear the truth. The truth is not compatible with a sinner's way of thinking.

Subject: God Is Everywhere:

Churches are full of people who believe that you can be saved and be a sinner at the same time. They will say that we are all sinners. You cannot correctly call a person a sinner unless you see them commit sin. Church folk can speculate on some things in life, but they cannot correctly speculate on the afterlife. The Holy Spirit has to give us specific instructions on how to be prepared for life after death.

Death is nothing to dread, but it is something to prepare for. We don't have to speculate on where God is, or how He does things. God is not just in heaven, He is everywhere. God's Spirit is on the earth though His habitation is in heaven. You can find God in your home if you stop committing sin. If your church members are sinners, God is not in your church.

If you know God, you have to know Him in every walk of life, on your job, on the street, and in your business dealings. You can't put God in one place. He fills space everywhere. If the teachings of your church are under the influence of the Holy Spirit, you can receive instruction about God when you assemble, but God will only be in your assembly by means of a Holy Ghost sent preacher.

Those who are saved should assemble to tell each other about how they found God, and what He has done in their lives. When they go to an assembly to bear witness of what God has done for them, they will be carrying God to the assembly. God goes everywhere with those that He has saved, because He loves to keep His people. Salvation is a continuous fellowship with God everywhere you go.

God does not go with church folk who go to commit adultery, or to the liquor store to buy liquor, lottery tickets, or cigarettes. People can take such habits home, and go to church with these cravings, but God will not be with them. God only goes with those who have clean bodies or temples for Him to dwell in.

Subject: Do You Have Room For Jesus In Your Life?

The world is busy today as it was in ancient Bethlehem when Jesus was born. When Jesus was born, many people were too busy to receive Jesus, and it is the same way today. Folk of today do not have time for Jesus. In Bethlehem, they did not have room for Jesus in the inn. Today they don't have room for Jesus in their lives. Listen to St. Luke 2:3-7:

Verse 3 - And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

- Verse 4 - And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)
- Verse 5 - To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
- Verse 6 - And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
- Verse 7 - And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

It may be difficult to accept the fact that Jesus has never been wanted by most people. We have never wanted Jesus, but God so loved the world that he did not give us what we wanted. He gave us what we needed. If we are going to be saved, we need Jesus whether we want Jesus or not.

Subject: The Stone That The Builders Rejected Will Be Sin-Free:

You can think you love God, but you have to know God to find out that He is alive. Only the intercessor can help you to know God. The intercessor is the Holy Spirit that teaches you about the reality of God. When you don't know God, you cannot enjoy living in His presence.

When the intercessor teaches you about God, it also teaches how to recognize God. God is holy and He lives in everybody that is partaker of His holiness. God is love and God is life. Now, when you are taught how to recognize God, you will be able to identify God in the people that are socially rejected for being partakers of God's holiness.

You must understand that God is not readily accepted by most people. God is holy, which means He is sin-free. When you see people living a sin-free life then that is God living in them. Nobody can live a sin-free life unless God is living in the person. People who live sin-free are not socially accepted by the mass majority. They are like the stone that the builders rejected, but they will eventually become the head of the corner (Psalm 118:22).

While the laborers were building the temple in Jerusalem, they noticed among the stones one that was odd and peculiar in shape and size. As it seemed to be a misfit, they discarded it and it was thrown on the rubbish pile. Finally, as the building neared completion, and the stones were fitted in place, it was discovered that this peculiar stone, which had been rejected was needed to fill in an important opening at the top of the building. So they searched for the odd shaped stone and finally someone remembered that an oddly shaped stone had been thrown among the rubbish. The cry was then made saying, “The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner” (St. Mark 12:10).

God will manifest Himself to the world in a mysterious way. You must know what to look for to find God. God doesn't place value on prominence, popularity, fame, recognition, and the important secular classes of religion. God is sin-free, and when you are looking for God, you might have to find the stone that the builders rejected. However, you can be assured that it will be sin-free.

Subject: You Must Get To Know God:

You cannot serve God unless you acquire an understanding of what He accepts. You must know God to serve Him. When God perceives that you want to get to know Him and maintain a continuous relationship with Him, He will save you and give you His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will teach you about God and give you access to God for the remainder of your life on earth. It will give you a binding fellowship with God. You will then learn that God is the most powerful and important person in the universe. God will then become your most important friend. When you have the Spirit of God, you will have power from God to lift up a standard of righteousness against your enemies when they are against you.

Subject: Everybody Needs Jesus:

The well-to-do people of the world think that Jesus is fine for common folk, but leaders of nations and rich folk need Jesus also. The reason that we have so much trouble in the world today is because leaders of nations and folk with wealth don't have Jesus, and this has a troublesome effect upon the common people of the world. When rich folk don't have Jesus, they will ignore the needs of poor folk. When heads of state don't have Jesus, they will make laws to benefit the rich folk.

When a person is rich and prominent, they will become a god to all who have less than they do, unless they have Jesus to give them spiritual sight. If you are wealthy and prominent, and you don't have spiritual sight, your wealth can blind you, causing you not to be able to see the world spiritually. Only the Holy Spirit can give you spiritual sight. Spiritual sight helps you to be empathetic to the conditions of those who have less than you have.

Subject: Help Must Come From The God Of Heaven:

You cannot go to church on Sunday and honor God unless you have respect for God. Respect for God is confirmed when His word is obeyed. When you disobey God's word and go to church to honor God, such honor is a mockery to God. Some may think that they can get help from other prominent people of the nation by honoring them. You can only get help from other people when God broadens their capacity to help you. A wise person realizes that he or she is dependent upon God, and must first have the help of God before they can get help from others.

Men are in derision because they have been made to believe by the gods of this world that they don't need the help of the God of heaven. In order to accomplish anything successfully today, we must receive help from the God of heaven.

Subject: Holiness:

If you die before Jesus returns, you want to die holy. Holiness is very powerful. Holiness does not expire because your physical body expires. Holiness is everlasting. When you die holy, holiness will protect you from the terrors of death. Holiness will secure your soul to rest in the presence of God, because God is holy. God will not allow the terrors of death to trespass the boundaries of holiness for those who live holy while in this world. Holiness carries firm securities of God that will comfort the tired souls of those who labored, suffered, sacrificed, and endured persecutions for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Many things in this life will fail you, but if you retain holiness while living here, it will surely retain your soul when you leave here.

Subject: God's People Are Not Ordinary But Holy:

A church organization cannot make you right. Only the Spirit of God can make you right. When the Spirit of God makes you right, you will do right. You are only right when you do right. When the Spirit of God makes you right, you are born again of a right Spirit.

On the day of Pentecost, God sent the Holy Spirit to the earth to make those who desired, to be righteous. Prior to the day of Pentecost, the world was alienated from God and knew not God. It was God's mercy that brought us into a covenant, or an agreement with Him. Some may break their part of the agreement and not accept God's offer, but God will never break His part, because He is rich in mercy. God loved us when we were sinners living contrary to His will.

When we are saved, we are quickened (revived) from sin and dead works of the flesh, and made alive and brought together by our faith in Christ. It is not by going to church that we are saved, or anything we do in a church, but by grace. God has by means of His Holy Spirit given everyone who believed in the teachings of Jesus Christ the same mind and same spirit. He gives it to those of every race or ethnic origin.

Therefore, if you have God's Spirit, you will love everybody. You won't see the color of a person's skin or their social class, intelligence or poverty. You will see their faithfulness, honesty, love, and obedience. You will recognize God's Spirit in another person whenever you see him or her. Such a person will not be ordinary, but holy. God's Spirit is not ordinary. When you get with such a person, and begin to talk about the things of God, it will become a heavenly place in Christ Jesus.

Subject: How To Live Free From Sin:

When God gives a command and that command is not obeyed by you; you become a sinner. In order to be above the condemnation of a sinner, you must obey God's commandment when it applies to your life. You cannot follow Christ your way; you must follow the way He instructs. Everything that God tells you to do, He tells you how to do it. Your blessings come when you do it like He tells you. If you obey, He will help you when obedience becomes difficult. God will supply the ability and strength so that your obedience will be continuous.

When I first started out with the Lord, I didn't see how a person could live without committing sin. Sin was the only way to live that I was familiar with. After I learned what sins were and decided I would put forth an effort to live each

day and not commit sin, I found that I was getting extra help. As I went along, my desires to commit sin became repulsive to me and I set my mind to avoid and not do anything that was related to sin and social endeavors that I had one time enjoyed. I canceled such things from my life and the desires to live righteous became stronger. Later I learned that God was giving me free power from the Holy Spirit to avoid and to live without getting involved in sinful practices.

I learned the scriptures that taught what sins were and I memorized the scriptures and kept them up front in my mind as I went through my daily life. After practicing this through the years, I can testify that it is possible to live in this present world free from sin with the Holy Spirit to help you. Every day I figure how to do what I have to do the right way. As I go along with this mind the Lord shows me how, and now it is easy. I would now rather endure whatever it takes to treat people right than the eternal consequences of treating them wrong.

Subject: Walk With God:

Did you know that you can walk with God while you live in this present world? You can walk with God by faith. You don't have to see God to walk with God. All you need is knowledge of what God requires you to obey. When you learn the will of God and obey His commandments, this means you are walking with God. When you learn to walk with God by faith, God will bless you continuously.

There was a man in the Bible who walked with God, and God took him to heaven (Genesis 5:24). Everybody who learns to walk with God will one day be taken to heaven as Enoch was taken. Enoch walked with God and one day he was found no more. God took him to heaven and Enoch is there now.

God puts examples in the Bible for us so that we can have a hope. If you have the Holy Spirit, it will help you to believe what is in the Bible. It is difficult to believe some things in the Bible unless you have the Holy Spirit to help you. You walk with God by having faith in His word. When you have faith in God's word, you will obey His word and God will keep every promise that He has made to you.

Subject: God Is Light:

You are never too old to get saved. God saved Abraham when he was 99 years old. You can be too conceited to get saved, but not too old. Some older

people allow conceit to be a part of their aging process, but if they can avoid conceit and acquire a level of humility, they can be saved.

When Abraham was 99 years old, God appeared to him in a vision. God can reveal Himself to us in visions. A vision is a concept in the mind that is not seen by the eye. The mind will acquire a visible perception of what is given to it so that you can comprehend the idea. You can walk with God in a vision, and not by seeing Him with your eyes. When you are given a vision of God, you can receive an understanding of how to obey His word. A vision of God means that you have acquired an understanding of the will of God. This means you are walking in the light of God's word.

God is light, or an understanding that is given to you. If you walk in the light as He is in the light, then you will have fellowship with God. Jesus is the word of life who brings the light of God to us. When you receive Jesus Christ into your life, He will give you an understanding of what God requires for you to be saved. God sent Jesus into the world in the flesh that the world might receive life in Christ, and be saved.

Subject: If We Have Fellowship With Christ We Should Be Walking In The Light:

When you walk in the light you are walking in the counsel of God, and you will have fellowship with other saved people who are walking in the light. If you are in a church and you see contentions, emulation, malice, disagreements, strife, debates, and variance, such members are not walking in the light of God because there is no fellowship in such. In order for there to be fellowship among the worshippers in the light of Christ, there must be peace, love, joy, goodness, humility, gentleness, faith, longsuffering and unity. Listen to I John 1:6-7:

Verse 6 - If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not the truth.

Verse 7 - But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Subject: Obedience To God Makes You One With Jesus:

When you obey the gospel of Jesus Christ, you become one with Christ. God will save anybody who becomes one with Christ. It is God's plan that all who live righteously in obedience to the teachings of Jesus will live with Him and God throughout eternity.

When you become one with Christ, you will be living in a heavenly place. First, you will be living in a heavenly place in the Spirit here on earth, and later you will be living in a heavenly place in God's kingdom. God has promised that one day He shall make those who obey Him one with Himself and Jesus to enjoy all things in eternity.

If you are saved, your salvation was predestined by God. You may not have learned about it until the day that God saved you, but God knew about you before the foundation of the world. Listen to Ephesians 1:4-5:

Verse 4 - According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Verse 5 - Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.

For those who are saved, God planned that they be holy, because He predestinated them and adopted them as His children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His will.

You are not saved by the will of your parents or your pastor, but by God's will to the praise and glory of God. God chose you before the foundation of the world to bestow His grace and favor upon you. God used His Son Jesus to give us a new birth after His life, and adopted us into His family. God made us acceptable through Jesus Christ, the beloved Son of God. When we obey Jesus' gospel, we become one with Christ and we are accepted by God.

Subject: The Lamb Of God Took Away The Power Of Death Brought By Adam:

As a sinner, a man will find himself spiritually dead. To be spiritually dead means to be eternally separated from God. John the Baptist brought the only

solution for spiritual death and that is repentance. Unless a man repents with a godly repentance, he will surely perish. Godly repentance means to turn from sin with the intent of never practicing sin again.

Just as God no longer communed with Adam in the cool of the day, God will not commune with man today if he continues to practice sin. God has power over every living soul, and God informs us that all souls belong to Him and the soul that sins shall die. If a man decides that he wants to discontinue a life of sin, God has provided a plan that man's soul can be saved. God searched the heavens and the earth to find a sacrifice to redeem man from sin, and He decided to take His word, which was His only begotten Son and send it to the earth as a Lamb of God to be an acceptable sacrifice for the sins of man.

The Lamb would be a sacrifice that would have power to take away the sin of the world, which was the eating of the forbidden fruit by Adam. Adam's sin brought death to all men, and the Lamb of God would bring life everlasting to all who would receive Jesus Christ.

Subject: Good Is More Powerful Than Evil:

God manifested Jesus to the world that the power of God might be demonstrated to the people of the world. The people of the earth were not knowledgeable of God's power, so God made arrangements to introduce Himself to the world by sending Jesus. God's power was revealed in His love for the world. Christ having knowledge of God's love said to the world while dying on the cross "Father forgive them that mock me: Forgive them that jeer me: Forgive them that say and do all manner of evil against me". The power of God's love was not only demonstrated, but was also activated when many were saved. If there had been one speck of self in Christ, such love could not have reached the people for those who were to be saved. False love would have caused all who later came to Christ to be lost. The love of God is proven to be true when those who accepted Christ acquired true salvation, but the perfect Son of God overcame evil with good, and the people who received Him learned how to overcome evil with good also.

Today all who are saved have learned that the great secret to life in Christ is to know how to overcome evil. They have learned that you can only overcome evil by forgiving with a pure heart and without reservations for those who do evil to you. They have learned that they cannot carry in their hearts embers of resentment for what their opposers have done to them. They must not allow injury to their feelings or pride to grow because that would destroy their ability to forgive, and cause them to seek revenge. Such people must always remember that God

who rules the heaven and the earth is the avenger of every evil deed, and will allow their own evil deeds to judge them. Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

Subject: Baptism Of Water Is Essential:

God gave John the command to go and preach repentance to the world, and when they show fruit indicating that they have repented, baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. This was essential because Jesus who shall redeem men from their sins shall be buried and shall be raised again. So, their baptism will be a symbol of the burial and resurrection of Jesus. When you are baptized by being submerged under water, you commemorate the death and resurrection of Christ who endured this experience for your sins. By baptism of water, you are then buried with Christ by showing that Christ has buried your old sinful life. Your baptism of water is a testimony that Christ has done this for you. Your testimony will be supported by the new life free from sin that you will live. Your old life was buried with Christ. Listen to Romans 6:4:

Verse 4 - Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

This symbol can only represent what Christ has done for you by a burial in water whereby the entire body is submerged and brought to the surface again. This is the only type of baptism that God will recognize. As you go down under the water in the likeness of Christ's death, you will come forth above the water in the likeness of His resurrection. Baptism of water must be accompanied by repentance and forsaking your sins. You should be so sorry for your sins that you will turn away from such sinful practices never to go back to a life of sin again.

Subject: Redemption Will Be For The Soul And Body:

Everybody who has received Jesus Christ as their personal savior has experienced redemption of their souls. Upon Jesus' return to the earth the second

time, He will change their corruptible bodies into incorruptible bodies, which will give them immortal bodies to live with their immortal souls in God's kingdom.

In order for the process of salvation to work, a man or woman must deny themselves of the things in life that please the flesh. The flesh is the sinful desires that are in the corruptible bodies. Flesh and blood will be no good for a spiritual life in God's kingdom. It must first be rejected by those who want to be saved before God will give them an incorruptible body to live in heaven.

If in any way a person attempts to come to Christ and enjoy the sinful pleasures of their flesh and blood body, they will be rejected. It is necessary that a person denies him or herself and suffer in the flesh before God will save the person. If we want to be saved, we must follow the example that Christ demonstrated. Listen to I Peter 4:1-4:

Verse 1 - Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

Verse 2 - That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

Verse 3 - For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

Verse 4 - Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you.

Subject: Life More Abundantly (St. John 10:10):

No matter what you think your priorities are, there is nothing that you love more than life. Life is a gift from God. Nothing in the world can make you happier than the gifts that God gives you. Your soul is the life of your existence. It is your mind. Only God can keep you in your right mind, because it is His gift to you. When God saves you, He saves your soul and causes your mind to obey Him.

Humans love their lives no matter what conditions their bodies are in. Life is what God gave you to enjoy. All that you acquire in this world will be worth nothing if you die and your soul or life is not saved. When you are saved, your life will be perpetuated into eternity where it will experience a greater, more abundant life than it enjoyed in this world. When people are not saved, they don't know the value of life, and they take it for granted. To lose your life without Christ being in your life will profit you nothing (St. Matthew 16:26).

Subject: An Acceptable Sacrifice:

It is of the Lord's mercy that we were not consumed, being born in sin. God has granted us the opportunity to be saved by extending grace to the people of the earth. God is good and we should praise and thank Him continuously for a chance to be saved. God died the death that we deserved to die to grant us a chance to obtain eternal life. God incarnated himself into a human body and called the name Jesus, so that such a body would be subject to death.

This was the only acceptable process for human's who were sinners to be reconciled to God. The death of Jesus Christ, who was God in the second person of His trinity, was the only means by which we could be saved without God compromising His holiness for sinners. Under no conditions could sinners enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, God made arrangements so that the death of Jesus Christ had to be a death without fault or charges against Jesus to be an acceptable price for our sins.

We who are saved were bought with a price that only Jesus was qualified to pay. God's love for us moved Him to prepare such a plan for the salvation of sinners who actually deserved to go to hell along with the rebellious angels of Satan.

Subject: Your Salvation Must Be According To The Scriptures:

Your purpose for listening to the word of God being preached should be because you desire to learn more about God. If what you are hearing being taught in your church has not taught you more about God, the teachings of your church are not an asset towards you acquiring salvation. You are not saved by the knowledge of the word, but you are saved according to the knowledge of the word of God. If your church is not teaching according to the scriptures, you won't know

if you are saved or not. You are saved by grace, but grace must be in line with the teachings of the scriptures.

In order for Jesus' crucifixion to be accurate and effective, it had to be done according to the scriptures. Listen to I Corinthians 15:3-4:

Verse 3 - For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

Verse 4 - And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

The scriptures are a confirmation of the authenticity of your salvation. It is very important that each person who is saved have knowledge of the scriptures to confirm their salvation.

Subject: God Is Just And Very Fair:

God has made humans as different as leaves on trees; no two leaves have the exact same shape. Every human differs. They have different ways and different fingerprints. When a person is a sinner, they have different sins that they enjoy. Some enjoy adultery, fornication, drinking alcoholic beverages and others enjoy being dishonest in business dealings. There are some who only have one sin; yet it won't help them because if they offend in one point, they are guilty of breaking the whole law of God. Listen to James 2:10:

Verse 10 - For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

People have different ways of doing things. Notwithstanding, the reward for unrighteousness is the same whether it is for committing one sin, or many sins. The reward for righteousness, whether you start today, or last year is the same, which is eternal life. God is just and more than fair. The person who gets saved a day before Jesus comes will get the same reward that the person gets who was saved 50 years ago.

Subject: Are You Under Grace?

God is very much interested in what goes on in His creation. The earth has had trouble because of the first man's disobedience to God. Prior to Adam's falling from grace, God came down and talked to Adam in the Garden of Eden. Adam was like the angels in heaven, which were created under grace. To be under grace means to be saved from the law of sin and death.

Humans of the earth were born in sin, because Adam fell from grace. When you are born in sin, you are not under grace, but you are condemned under the law of sin and death. This brings the sentence of death upon you. Angels who presently live in heaven do not have to die, because they are not under the law, but they are under grace.

When God saves you, He delivers you from the condemnation of the law, and brings you under grace. When you are under grace, though your physical body might die, your soul will be saved, which will entitle you to a new body when Jesus returns to administer the first resurrection.

Subject: God Is Calling Us To Salvation To Save Us From Hell:

Make no mistake, there is nowhere on this side of hell that you will be able to retreat to if you are not saved from sin. There is no place called purgatory, or place of neutrality where you can back track to if you die as a sinner. Don't let any preacher fool you; there is no middle ground of restoration for the unsaved after they die. If a preacher teaches you this, tell him to die and let the doctors pronounce him dead and watch to see if he will come back from the dead and tell you about purgatory. Jesus came back from the dead and told us what to expect, and the Holy Spirit in us bears witness to Jesus' testimony.

Now, you have to be either a saint or a sinner. Sinners who fail to repent and receive the new birth in Christ will go to a place called hell, with no chance of returning after they get there. No gospel will be preached in hell, and no repentance will be honored. God does not send anybody to hell; those who go will go with the love of God. They will go by their own choice. God offers everybody a chance to repent while he or she lives in this world.

God is love and He gave His son that we might be redeemed. God sent the Holy Spirit to give us the new birth after we repent of our sins. All who accept Jesus Christ, God will lift them from condemnation to justification. For those who enter hell it will be because they rejected the love of God and decided that the pleasures of sin were better than what God offered in Christ. Today everybody has

an invitation to go to heaven. God is calling us to righteousness to make us saints. God can make a saint of any sinner, regardless of their sinful conditions.

Subject: Are You Trying To Find Jesus Among Your Kinfolk?

When you are trying to find Jesus, He may not be found among your kinfolk. The examples in past times can be applied to conditions of our present day. When Christ was 12 years old, He was being sought by His parents who had gone a distance from Jerusalem before they missed Him. They had supposed that Jesus was in the caravan with other members of the family, but they finally discovered that He didn't hang around His relatives. When they went back to Jerusalem where they had previously gone in celebration of an established Jewish custom, they found young Jesus in the temple among the wise men answering and asking questions concerning the law.

Many people today are looking for Jesus to be among their kinfolk. Listen to St. Matthew 10:34-36:

Verse 34 - *Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.*

Verse 35 - *For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.*

Verse 36 - *And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.*

Now, there are some who might want to be Baptist or Methodist because their parents were Baptist or Methodist, but if they want to be saved, they will have to be sin-free.

Subject: You Can Only Help Unsaved Relatives By Being An Example:

When God called Abraham and gave him instructions on what to do, Abraham believed God and obeyed his instructions. Abraham was instructed to put Hagar the bondmaid and Ishmael his son out of his house, and to leave the land

of Ur. Abraham and Sarah his wife went to Canaan as God had directed them. Abraham had to separate from his kindred.

You too, must separate spiritually from your unsaved relatives if they are not living right. Your joy must be in the Lord and not being associated with those who enjoy sinful pleasures. You must be an example for your unsaved kinfolk if you want to help them to be saved. Abraham left his parents also, because he knew that they were not worshipers of God, because they worshiped idols. Therefore, Abraham was willing to forsake his kindred that he might obey the God of heaven.

Subject: Do You Think You Want Jesus To Come To Your Church?

People are confused about where to find Jesus. They build churches on almost every corner in some cities, and they think that Jesus will come there. People are deceived by the lack of knowledge. If Jesus would come to the average church in our society, the people would drive Him out.

Jesus would disturb their social clicks, break up their card parties, tell those who are shacking up to get married, forbid their liquor drinking, tell the gays to go straight, tell all adulterers and fornicators to repent and have sex only with their wives. He would tell everybody to stop smoking cigarettes, and using profanity. Jesus would tell them that no envy, strife, malice, hatred, emulations, variance, or liars would be allowed into the kingdom of heaven. Do you think such church folk would invite Jesus back again?

Subject: Not Many High Class Folk Will Be Saved:

God has nothing against a natural born sinner because their birth in sin is not their fault. Jesus spent more time with sinners than He did with church folk. It is not likely that a church sinner will be saved because they have justified themselves by deceitful religious principles that cannot lead them to God. If a religious teaching condones your sins, such a teaching has been composed by the devil. It does not matter how influential a religious sect's social status is, if sin is included such a religious sect will be demoted to damnation in the judgment. When intellectual minds and influential social statuses are not under the influence of the Holy Spirit, such minds can be deceived by their intellect.

God does not call many noble or intellectual folk to be saved unless they are willing to suffer to the extent that their suffering will reduce their intellect to its lowest terms. Only suffering can control and properly regulate the intellect of men to the extent that the Holy Spirit will save and use them. Such suffering was first demonstrated by Moses who was a Prince in the Egyptian Kingdom. After God called him, he was reduced socially to a shepherd after living in the land of Midian for 40 years being taught by a shepherd named Jethro who was his father-in-law.

Later another fellow who was very intellectual as a high ranked Roman Officer was demoted, and stripped of his rank to be used as an apostle of Jesus Christ whose name was Paul. Paul wrote the following principles about noble and mighty men in regard to salvation in Jesus Christ. Listen to I Corinthians 1:19:

Verse 19 - For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

Paul taught that after the wisdom or intellect of the prudent person, it is by their wisdom that they won't know God. Listen to I Corinthians 1:26:

Verse 26 – For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.

This means that not many socially- high class, intellectual people will be saved.

Subject: He Had A Good Defense But He Didn't Want To Thwart The Plan Of God (Isaiah 53: 7-10):

Though Isaiah lived hundreds of years before Christ came, he speaks as though he was a faithful witness at Jesus' trial. Isaiah reported on all the facts and evidence that was introduced at the trial. The substance of Isaiah's report is informing us that Jesus was treated brutally and cruelly for no just reason, that He had a good defense and was innocent of any wrong, yet He never spoke a word to defend Himself.

Christ did not challenge His accusers or demand a right to be heard as Paul did. This was not because He had no defense, but because the scriptures as prophesied by Isaiah had to be fulfilled in every phase of His life, which stated "Yet, He opened not His mouth". Isaiah prophesied and honored Christ's

crucifixion. Christ honored Isaiah's prophecy that the scriptures might be fulfilled. Any statement that Christ might have made in defense of Himself would have resulted to His acquittal and release, and this would have indeed thwarted the plans of God.

Without making any statement at all, Christ would have been released if Pilate had been a man of courage. Pilate liked Christ and acted more like his attorney than his judge. Pilate frankly admitted that he found no fault in Christ.

Pilate was a Roman Governor who did not believe in God. The only charge they had against Christ was that He had blasphemed the name of the Lord under their law by doing so, He was guilty and should die (Leviticus 24:16). The Jewish law said that such should be stoned to death, but the Jews were not authorized to execute anyone while under Roman rulership (St. John 18:31). Christ had previously taught His disciples that His execution would be according to Roman law (St. John 12:32-33). This revelation startled and confused the people who wanted to believe He was the Messiah, and understood that Christ should live forever.

The teachings of Christ concerning Him and the plan of salvation were all in keeping with the plan of God, but it was difficult for the people to understand at that time. Those who believed Christ were willing to accept what He taught. Others were constantly pressing their charge of blasphemy, and Christ was constantly making a good defense of the charge. They picked up stones to stone Him, and Christ would respond by saying "*Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me*"? (St. John 10:31-32). They answered, we don't stone you for good works, but for blasphemy, and because you, being a man, make yourself God. Jesus then quoted scriptures which they were familiar with, and challenged them to accept Him as God's Son because of the works of God which no man but Christ could do (St. John 10:33-38).

Christ's defense was His proof that every important incident in His life, from His birth in Bethlehem to His death, burial, and resurrection, was described in vivid detail in their law. They had read every passage at one time or another, and knew them by heart; but declined to check them against the events in His life because they did not want to accept a man of His lowly state as their Messiah.

Moreover, their conception of His mission was erroneous. They wanted a Messiah who would organize a great army that would drive out the Roman army and restore the kingdom of David in Jerusalem and Palestine. Christ told them plainly that He would fight if His kingdom was a worldly kingdom, but His kingdom was a spiritual kingdom, which would conquer the world in a different manner.

Subject: We Are Witnesses To His Resurrection:

All that was done against Christ could not change His opinion about the power of God to make Him overcome evil with good. Christ found extra power within Him while dying on the cross to help His love for His enemies to be victorious over hate. Those who crucified Him put forth every effort to destroy the power of His love to keep it from becoming effective, but Christ never resented their acts of evil. When He was reviled, He reviled not again. When He was threatened, He threatened not again. When He was judged wrongfully, He stood and took the judgment knowing that there was one above them all who judged righteously, who would not let Him be hurt by evil judgments of men.

The righteousness of Christ is like a good seed planted in rich soil. It will come forth. It will produce the fruit of righteousness. You cannot annul nor bury the seed of righteousness. After three days, my Savior came forth by the power of God. He is presently in heaven sitting on the right hand of God giving help and grace to all who are willing to receive Him.

Though they took Christ, crucified Him, and buried Him, He arose on the third day. Today He has risen in everybody's life who has accepted Him as their savior. Those of us who are saved can bear witness to His resurrection, because there is power within us that gives us victory when we are persecuted, mistreated, and reviled. We can also forgive as Christ forgave with a pure heart.

Subject: The Light Of Christ:

Evil things that are done in secret can fool those who do them. Everything that is done in secret will be revealed by the light of righteousness. Folk who do evil things in secret do not understand how such things will ever be discovered. God has a day when He is going to reveal everything that is evil by the gospel of Jesus Christ. The light of Christ is the light of men that shineth in darkness, and the person who does evil has no idea how their deeds will be manifested. Listen to St. John 1:5:

Verse 5 - And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

Subject: There Is Power In The Blood:

God reveals His plan to the world in symbols, or examples of what He plans to do before it comes to pass. The symbol of Jesus' crucifixion was set in motion long ago during Moses' day before it took place on Calvary. A lamb was used as an example of the most important event that was to take place on Calvary, where thieves and robbers were sent to die for their criminal offenses.

A lamb is an innocent creature that never harms anybody or any other animal. When a person sheds the blood of a lamb, they would have shed innocent blood. Jesus' advent on Calvary was made known to the world by means of the innocent blood of a lamb during Moses' day, which was put on the doorposts of the children of Israel so that the death angel would pass over them. God used the blood of the lamb as a sign of those who were innocent of any wrong acts in Egypt. The blood of the lamb was the only means by which the children of Israel could be exempted from destruction.

The blood of the lamb during Moses' day was a symbol of how God would ordain power to cleanse anybody from sin after Jesus shed His blood on Calvary. Jesus' sacrifice and blood that was shed on Calvary was in the spirit of the blood of the lambs that were placed on the doorposts of the children of Israel who were in bondage in Egypt.

Just as the blood on the doorposts in Egypt saved the children of Israel, the blood of Jesus Christ was shed on Calvary to save everybody who believed and obeyed the gospel of Jesus Christ. There is power in the blood.

Subject: He Opened Not His Mouth To Defend Himself:

Isaiah prophesied of Jesus' crucifixion hundreds of years before the event took place. The substance of Isaiah's report was that Jesus would be treated brutally and cruelly for no just reason. In addition, Jesus would have a good defense, but He would not speak to defend himself against false accusations.

Jesus' trial before Pilate was in keeping with the will of God. At the time of Jesus' trial, only God knew the importance of His unjust crucifixion. All those who were involved and witnessed Jesus' crucifixion had no idea that it was a sacrifice being made by God for the sins of the world. God could not kill His own Son, so He made arrangements and set the stage so that the ignorance of the hypocrite Jews and Romans could do the job for Him. Jesus knowing the plan and will of God based upon what Isaiah prophesied did not open His mouth to defend himself in fear that it would interfere with the plan of God.

Christ knew that His crucifixion had to be in line with what the scriptures prophesied, so He did not challenge His accusers nor demand a right to be heard as Paul did at his trial before Agrippa. Had Christ defended Himself, the power in His words would have given Him a sure acquittal, and this would have thwarted the plan of God for salvation to be given to the world. Salvation for the world could only come by a sacrifice from God, and Jesus was the only one who was qualified to make such a sacrifice.

Subject: Jesus Is The Way To God:

Jesus is the only one who can get you to see God. You will never see God unless Jesus leads you to God. Jesus extends an invitation to all saying, “Whosoever will, let him come and partake of the waters of life freely”. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus is able to save to the uttermost those that come to God by Him (Hebrews 7:25). We can get to God by Jesus, because God made Jesus an example on how to get us to heaven. If we follow Jesus’ example, it will take us safely to God. The way to God is the way of the truth, and only Jesus has the truth. No lie or false religious teaching can get you to God. You must know the truth as Jesus teaches it, and the truth will make you free from sin. When you are free from sin, you are on your way to God.

Subject: Purge Out The Old Leaven That Ye May Be A New Lump (I Corinthians 5:7):

Sacrifices that were made under the law that Moses taught were sacrifices for sins. Under Moses’ leadership as long as a person could bring sacrifices to the tabernacle for their sins, it was acceptable. These were sacrifices from the flock of the Israelites. Only the sacrifice of a human being who was sin-free would carry power to take away sins. Jesus was the only one who was qualified to be such a sacrifice.

After Jesus appeared on the scene, many of the Jews wanted to continue to make sacrifices that were permitted under Moses’ law so that they could continue to enjoy sins. Such religious practices under Moses’ law were later referred to by the apostle Paul as being leaven that had caused an increase of sinful practices

among the Jews through the centuries, because they were able to make sacrifices from the blood of bulls and goats for their sins.

Therefore, the apostle was sent by God to update the religious practices of the Jews to receive salvation as a result of Jesus' sacrifice on Calvary to a level of grace that would have power to remove sins from the lives of those who believed Jesus' teaching. Therefore, the apostle Paul taught that it was necessary to purge out the old leaven, or old religious practices that tolerated sin so that those who would be saved would be a new lump or new creature in Christ and be unleavened or sin-free. Christ would then be their Passover who was sacrificed for those who desired to be saved. Listen to I Corinthians 5:7:

Verse 7 - Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Subject: Covetousness:

While Jesus was on the earth, Satan, the prince and ruler of this world, tempted Him. God does not rule the world. It is ruled by the fallen angel whose name is Lucifer or the devil, which means adversary. If God were ruling the world, there would be no evil on earth. God created the world that man (Adam) might rule it, but Adam relinquished his rulership to Satan when he sinned.

Satan was the appointed cherub who rebelled against God in heaven and he was kicked out of heaven. Satan took rulership of the earth from Adam by means of deception. Out of different generations, God will save a remnant that will be in the world, and not under the influence of Satan. They will be subject to God in all they do. They will not follow the things that the average person does. They will follow God's commandments to make peace and holiness.

Satan will rule the world through covetousness. Covetousness causes murders, wars, and dishonesty among the people of the earth, but not among the remnant of God. The devil thought that he could deceive Jesus with greed and covetousness by showing Him all the kingdoms of this world and giving Him rulership over them. Jesus was tempted at every point as we are, and did not yield. Many people today have accepted the propositions of Satan, and have chosen to follow his wicked devices just to get possession of the things of this world to satisfy their covetous desires (St. Matthew 4:10).

Subject: God Will Help You To Live Free From Sin:

Many people believe there is something that they must do to be able to live right. We are not able to live right by human efforts alone. God will account us as a righteous person simply because we believe in His power to keep us living right. It is our belief in God's power to help us live right that God honors. The evidence of our belief is when we put forth an effort to obey Him. When doing wrong puts pressure on you, you can call on God for help and He will deliver you.

God knows when you don't want to commit sin, so He is on standby to help you during the time of temptation. Each victory that you acquire over temptations to commit sin will help you to win another. As you go along with a mind to live right, God will give you the Holy Spirit to help you. The thing that causes people to fail when it comes to doing right is that they have been fooled by seeing so many members of churches and hearing preachers who continue to fight against God, by telling them that they cannot live without committing sin. Any preacher or church going Christian who tells you that is an enemy of God.

Subject: A Highway To God:

In directing us to God, the prophet Isaiah said, "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness..." (Isaiah 35:8). The way of holiness means a way of liberation from sin. It means a way that is just, right, and without partiality. Today we live in a world of influence; oftentimes when you don't know important people, you can't get very far. This is because the world is partial. The way that Isaiah is teaching is without partiality, and all you need to get in the way that leads to God is to be sin-free. It doesn't matter how unimportant you are, when you are sin-free, it will lead you to God.

You cannot be holy and a sinner at the same time. You must leave one to acquire the other. Sin and holiness are directly opposite. When you are on the highway to holiness, it is an elevated way of righteousness that leads you from a low life of sin. The way of holiness is free from envy, strife, adultery, fornication, lying, stealing, being drunk, and hating one another. Holiness is an atmosphere of peace, joy, contentment, love, and being easily entreated. When you acquire these spiritual qualities, you are on a highway that takes you to God.

Subject: You Must Forsake Your Ways To Get Help From God:

You have to be careful of your way of thinking, because it may seem right to you all the time. It is good to measure your way of thinking with the word of God. In order to do this, you must have knowledge of the word of God. When you don't have knowledge of the word of God, your way of thinking can go on a rampage. We are never wrong in our own eyes, but the wisdom of God is more exact than our wisdom. Now most folk will seek for advice when they get in trouble, but as long as they seem to be successful, they will follow their own way of thinking.

God wants to reveal Himself to us, and help us, but it is necessary that we deny ourselves of our way of thinking in order to receive God's help. God's way of helping will have conflict with our ways. Listen to Isaiah 55:8-9 and 7:

Verse 8 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways saith the Lord.

Verse 9 - For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

So listen to what God gives us instructions to do in Verse 7:

Verse 7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Subject: God Is Not Partial To One Person Over Another:

The gospel of Jesus Christ means glad tidings, and good news. The gospel gives promises from God to anybody who obeys what it teaches. There are some people in this life who can get favors from prominent people because of their professional positions. However, God will do the same thing for anybody who obeys His word regardless of their prominence, and position that they hold.

In order to get assistance from God, you must be honest, pure, and upright. If you have these qualities, it is important to understand God's word so that God will acknowledge you.

Subject: God Is Real To An Obedient Child:

You can acquire an accurate knowledge of the reality of God when your life is free from sin. God loves everybody and He is always ready to reveal Himself to those who walk uprightly and speak the truth. God doesn't come near to people who are surrounded with sin. You must be sanctified from sin in order to have fellowship with God. God is against sin. As long as you commit sin, there is a great gulf between you and God, which keeps you from reaching Him. God does not hear the prayers of a sinner. He will only hear the prayers of a righteous person (St. John 9:31) (I Peter 3:12).

When God begins to dwell with you, He will educate you on the reality of His existence. Deep mysteries about God will be given to your understanding to enrich your knowledge of His ways of doing things. When you don't have the correct knowledge of God, you will be easily led to worship in some false religious teaching. Through the correct knowledge, you will be able to follow God into the path of righteousness. You will also learn that most secular churches today are following erroneous religious teachings that allow for provisions of the flesh. Their teachings permit them to live in sin.

God is a realistic and active God that will help those who obey Him. When you obey God, you should see the works of God in your life. God is not a God that will abandon you during the time of trouble. God will help you through life when you are faithful and true. An obedient child of God will always be aware of the presence of God, who though is not visible to the natural eye, is so real when you need comfort, or deliverance and companionship.

Subject: The Pharaoh Of Egypt Was Defeated By His Own Efforts:

When God sent Moses into Egypt to deliver the children of Israel, God wanted Israel to realize that no matter how powerful the Pharaoh's army was, He could deliver them. When God is working for you, there is no power on earth that can overcome your stand with God.

God gave Moses instructions on what to do in Egypt and the children of Israel were delivered from bondage. When you obey God's instructions, the forces of evil are helpless against your stand. The Pharaoh used everything he had in Egypt to hold the children of Israel in bondage. It was by means of his own efforts that he was defeated and the children of Israel were delivered.

Subject: A Good And Honest Mind Must Be The Receiver Of The Word Of God:

If you listen to the word of God being preached by a Holy Ghost sent preacher with a good and honest heart, the Holy Ghost will carry the word of God that the preacher is preaching into your mind and implant it. The word of God makes contact with a good and honest heart (mind).

If you listen to a preacher that was not sent by the Holy Ghost preach, such preacher is a false preacher, and he can preach to you for a hundred years and you won't be saved. The Holy Ghost is a carrier of the word of God, and it will only use the preacher that it has taught to preach the gospel.

When the Holy Ghost is using a preacher, it is necessary that the listeners have an honest and good mind to receive the word. Listen to St. Luke 8:15:

Verse 15 - *But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.*

Now the word of God can be presented to the listeners by voice, or in written form. When the listeners receive the word with an honest and good mind, it will implant itself in their minds and develop a new mind. A new mind is the new birth in Christ. This means the listeners can be born again by receiving the word of God.

When the mind has been renewed, the physical functions of the listeners' lives will be changed also. They will then take on a life of righteous deeds that will be contrary to the previous life of sinful deeds. The power of the Holy Spirit will then lead the listeners to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ for the remainder of their life on earth.

Subject: God Deals With Questions In The Mind Before We Ask:

When the angel Gabriel appeared unto Mary bringing her a message from God introducing the plan for the salvation of man, when Mary saw the angel standing in her doorway, she was troubled at his message, and she wondered in her mind, what is this man, a stranger to me, talking about? When Gabriel presented the message to Mary, he presented it according to what was in her mind and not in answer to what she said. Luke 1:29 reads:

Verse 29 - And when she saw him, she was troubled at his

saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

The angel answered the question that was in Mary's mind by saying "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God". The foreknowledge of God deals with questions in the mind before they are asked and God gives the answer according to His foreknowledge.

Subject: God Will Make Provisions For The Righteous Person:

When folk who go to church are not prospering and are having a difficult time trying to make ends meet to have provisions for their families, it is because they are not properly honoring God. This could be because they are in an incorrect religious teaching or attending a church in which the Holy Spirit is not ministering. Those who honor God properly are blessed. A righteous person will never be forsaken by God, nor will their seed beg for bread. Listen to Psalm 37:25-26 and 28:

Verse 25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

A righteous person will be merciful to the needy, and will be in a position to lend, and the children of the righteous person will be blessed.

Verse 26 - He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed.

A righteous person is a saint for whom God makes preparations forever.

Verse 28 - For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

Subject: God Keeps A Record On The Deeds Of Man:

When you are saved, God places you on a course. The course will require that the person obey God to stay on it. When the person does the things that the

course teaches, they will be established in the channels of blessings. Blessings and prosperity will be all along the way. Not everybody will be blessed alike; they will be blessed according to their abilities.

Now a person who starts on the course and does not stay on it will receive blessings for as long as they are on the course, but when they disobey, their blessings will be cut off. God allows His sun to shine on the just as well as the unjust. God gives the same knowledge to all men. God is a God of equity, and a just God. If a person stays in the right path, they will receive blessings. If they start on the path and get off, the blessings will be cut off. God records everything that people of the earth do. Listen to Malachi 3:16:

Verse 16 - Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.

Subject: Calvary:

Prior to Jesus being born into the world, God put in the hearts of prophets to tell the world that a virgin would conceive, and bring forth a Son whose name would be called Jesus, and that He would save His people from their sins. Throughout the Old Testament, you can learn about the prophecy of the coming of Christ. The scriptures teach that Jesus would bind up the broken hearts, and deliver man from the power of sin, so that man could live by the grace of God without committing sin.

No matter how vile a sinner a person has been, the death of Jesus can save him from going back to a life of sin. Before Jesus came, man could not be justified nor have a clear conscience of sins by making sacrifices of the blood of bulls and goats. Listen to Hebrews 10:12:

Verse 12 - But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God.

Jesus is not dying anymore for the sins of man, simply because some desire to continue in a life of sin. The power of God is sufficient not only to save, but also to keep those who believe and receive Jesus Christ.

The blood of Jesus was commissioned and empowered by God as a cleansing fountain for the sins of those who believe it. Such a cleansing process sanctifies a sinner by faith in the blood of Jesus. Such a person will separate from practicing what sinners practice. When you believe that God can sanctify and cleanse you by the blood of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit overshadows you and gives you the new birth.

Jesus died on Calvary outside of the place of worship where the Jews practiced hypocrisy in the synagogues. God established a fountain on Calvary and filled it with the blood of Jesus Christ where sinners were sent to die. On Calvary, sinners could plunge beneath the flood of the blood of Jesus Christ, and lose all their guilt and condemnation from their sins.

**Subject: “Almost Thou Persuadest Me To Be A Christian”
(Acts 26:28):**

King Agrippa was the ruler in Rome during the days that the followers of Christ endured such great persecutions for their faithfulness to the teachings of Christ. Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, who had been recently converted by Christ was brought before Agrippa for a hearing because of his stand for the teachings of Christ. It was against the law in those days for any of the Jews or gentiles to support and follow a religious teaching unless it was in accord with the rules of Roman and Jewish laws.

The gospel of Jesus far exceeded the teachings of the law that the Jews were following, and included many principles of righteousness that were not in the law. So, Paul was brought before King Agrippa to give his testimony of why he was in support of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul’s hearing was very unusual being that he had at one time been a persecutor of those who followed the teachings of Christ.

Paul had been in prison and had appealed his case until he was brought into the presence of Agrippa to be heard. While Paul expounded upon the truth, and hope of the new movement to follow Christ, Agrippa, who was not a Christian or believer in God, told Paul after listening to his testimony that he had almost convinced him (Agrippa) to be a Christian.

A true testimony of Christ carries more power than anyone can believe, and is able to persuade an infidel to be saved. If a person’s conversion to Christ is true, then their testimony is true, and the Spirit of God will cause such a testimony to make contact with the minds of the unsaved. If the unsaved accepts the testimony, they can be converted and persuaded to be saved.

Subject: Your Obedience To God Is For Your Benefit:

You enter into a righteous life by obeying God. Your obedience to God does not benefit God, but it is for your benefit. When we become righteous, we are counted worthy of the inheritance of the saints, and we will meet Jesus when He comes. In the meantime, while you are living on the earth and you encounter adversity you can fall on your knees and pray. You can tell God just what the conditions are, and ask Him for deliverance. In your hour of temptation you can pray for help, and God will hear you if you have been obedient. When Jesus helps you, He gives you strength to resist temptations that makes you stronger than your temptations. When this happens, you will be able to go through your temptations and not yield.

Subject: Do Good Deeds:

God has knowledge of everything that each person on the earth has done. All the works of man will be brought forth in the judgment of the last days if the person does not get saved. When you become saved, God blots out your sinful deeds, and only keeps records of your good deeds.

If you fail to get saved and you have some good and sinful deeds, you will not get credit for your good deeds and you will be judged according to your evil deeds. So, when you get saved, you must live so that your deeds will be accepted by God. Listen to II Corinthians 5:9-10:

Verse 9 - Wherefore we labour, that , whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

Verse 10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Subject: There Is A Record Kept In Heaven On Everybody:

God has promised to deliver everyone who is standing in the holy place and has his or her name on the book of life. The holy place is obedience to God's

word. There is a record kept in heaven of those who obey and those who don't. The scriptures teach that the names of those who fail to obey will be blotted out of the book of life because when they were first born they were placed in the book of life. The only way they can get their names back in the book of life is when they have been born again. When a person repents and obeys God, God will give the person the new birth and place their name back into the book of life. God rewards everybody for his or her obedience with eternal life in His kingdom and later an inheritance of the new earth after this world ends.

Jesus is going to renovate this earth and create a new paradise here similar to what Adam had, and everybody who is born again will enjoy a mansion in heaven, and a paradise on earth. God has promised to make us heirs and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ. The kingdoms of this world will be turned over to Jesus, when God has given us our new bodies, which shall be fashioned like unto Jesus' glorious body given after His resurrection. The Garden of Eden shall be restored in this present world.

Subject: The Way You Live Today Will Determine How Your Last Days Will Be:

When Jacob was blessing his 12 sons, Jacob called unto his sons and said, "Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days" (Genesis 49:1). Jacob first began to tell his sons what their dispositions were, and what the conditions of their lives would later be because of their present dispositions. Jacob was telling them what they would be in life by what they had done.

The things you do in the former days of your life determine what the conditions of your life will be in the latter days. Jacob measured the last days of his son's lives by what they did while they lived. He told every one of them what his aim was to be, and how their lives would conclude.

Subject: The Spiritual Versus The Physical Body:

It takes hard testing for you to learn that your heart is right with God. Your heart is your mind. You have two hearts; you have a spiritual heart, which is your mind, and you have a biological heart, which is the organ that pumps blood for your body. Your spiritual heart works for your spiritual life so that your soul will

live eternally after your physical body returns to the dust. Your biological heart works for your physical body for your life on earth. Your biological heart is of the earth, because it is earthy. Your spiritual heart works for you to acquire eternal life in heaven because it is from God and is heavenly. Your spiritual heart is a gift from God, whereas your physical or biological heart that pumps blood is a gift from your parents.

Your physical heart is for the life of your physical body, but your spiritual heart is for the life of your spiritual body, there is a natural physical body, and there is a spiritual body. When you get saved your spiritual body will go to heaven, and your physical body will return to the dust of the earth. If you don't get saved, your physical body will return to the earth, and your spiritual body will go to hell. Listen to I Corinthians 15:44, and 49-50:

Verse 44 - It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

Our life began on earth with the image of the earthy body, if we get saved, we shall later bear the image of our heavenly body in the kingdom of heaven, because our flesh and blood bodies are not compatible with life in the kingdom of heaven because flesh and blood is corruptible and cannot live in an incorruptible kingdom.

Verse 49 - And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Verse 50 - Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

Subject: Would You Recognize God If You Saw Him?

It is through hearing the word of God that we are born again by the Spirit of God. Listen to I Peter 1:23:

Verse 23 - Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

You don't get the second birth by praying, speaking in unknown tongues, or falling on the floor. You can do all these things and go home to drink liquor and commit fornication. Church folk can do the above things, and be so far from God that they won't know Him when He's introduced to them.

When most church folk during Jesus' day met Him, they did not know that they were being introduced to God. It is the same way today. Christ was God in human flesh who was sent to the world that the people might know God. Today when a person gets saved a part of God lives in them, and if anybody wants to meet God, they will have to meet God in those that He saved. God lives in His people by means of His Spirit and His word.

The deeds of Christ testified that He was the Son of God, and the second part of God. Saved people must by their works show that God lives in them. Today people don't recognize God because they don't know what to look for.

Subject: God Judges Righteously:

Your countenance and facial expression does not always have to be a reflection of what is in your mind. You can hide what is in your mind from people that you encounter; but you can't hide it from God. God knows us and understands us. God knows what our thoughts are, and He knows the intent of our minds. God knows when a person is planning to steal something, or to do a kind deed for someone. Now thoughts are not always intentions and can be separated from the intents. When you have good intentions to do good deeds, God gives you credit for the deeds even when you are not able to carry them out. If you have bad intentions and are not able to carry them out, God will judge you for bad deeds that you never did.

The courts of law can only judge you for criminal acts that you commit; but God will judge you for the intent of your heart. You can think about committing adultery with a woman, with a desire to do it and never have the chance to do it. However, God will judge you as an adulterer, because of your thoughts and desires. Listen to St. Matthew 5: 27-28:

Verse 27 - *Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, thou shalt not commit adultery.*

Verse 28 - *But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.*

God judges righteously and is able to discern the intent of the heart.
Hebrews 4:12:

Verse 12 - For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Subject: Your Soul Is Your Life:

Your soul is your mind. It is the life of your body. When God saves you, He saves your soul, and gives new life to your soul. Your soul will then have experienced a new life by a process of regeneration. Regeneration is a new work of the Holy Spirit, which will change the biological make up of humans. The regeneration process will upgrade the life of your soul to a level of righteousness that will be above the level of unrighteousness in which you were first born.

The prophet Isaiah refers to such a process as a 'highway' or 'elevated' way of righteousness to a level of holiness that is acceptable to God. When your soul is saved, it gives new, righteous orders to your body members causing them to do right. When your soul is purified, your life and its entire operations are purified. When your soul has been renewed in righteousness, then your life will be righteous.

Subject: You Shall Know The Truth And The Truth Shall Make You Free:

The truth only comes from Jesus Christ. Now you may know the truth about how much money is in your bank account, but the basic knowledge of the truth gives you information on where your soul will spend eternity. This knowledge was brought to the earth by Jesus Christ.

Prior to Jesus' appearance, the truth was concealed from the people of the earth by the power of darkness (Satan). The very essence of the truth is given in the gospel of Jesus Christ. When you don't have knowledge of what the gospel teaches, you don't know the truth, and such ignorance of the truth will hold you in

bondage of sin. When you know the truth and obey the truth, the truth will make you free from sin.

Subject: The Judgment Of God Will First Take Place In The Hearts Of Those Who Fail To Repent:

When your heart is pure with good intentions and your hands are clean, God accepts you. This means your mind must be undefiled, free from malice, hate, envy, covetousness and emulations, then you can please God. If your mind is not free from these sins, and you desire to be free, God will help you. If you try to hide iniquities in your mind, God will reject you and later judge you according to the secrets of your mind that you never physically carried out. Listen to Romans 2:16:

Verse 16 - In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

God is very fair in allowing His judgment to take place first in the hearts of men while they live in this world giving them a chance to repent. God puts His law in the hearts of every person allowing their conscience to judge and to bear witness, causing their thoughts to condemn them. This gives them a chance to turn from such thoughts and seek God for redemption. Romans 2:14-15:

Verse 14 - For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves.

Verse 15 - Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.

Subject: If Our Minds Condemn Us, God Is Greater Than Our Minds And Can Remove The Condemnation:

If you want God to help you to purify your mind, then don't carry anything in your mind that you are not willing to turn over to God, and let God handle it for

you. Remember if your mind condemns you, God is greater than your mind and knows all things, and is able to remove the condemnation. Listen to I John 3:19-22:

Verse 19 - And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.

Verse 20 - For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

Verse 21 - Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

Verse 22 - And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

Subject: You Will Set Your Own Social Agenda For Your Life:

The fruit of your life is that which you produce. Nobody produces the fruit of your life but you, no matter how much you are involved with other people. You produce fruit from the seeds you sow in life or the things that you do. If you have an indignant attitude, you will only have associates in life that are like you. Folk with good attitudes won't like your company. If you drink liquor, your associates will be liquor drinkers. If you commit fornication or adultery, your associates will be fornicators or adulterers. If you commit crimes and break the law of the land, your associates will be inmates in the state prison.

Whatever comes to you in life comes as a result of the kind of person you choose to be. God has so programmed the lives of humans so that they will reap what they sow. Life is so fixed by God so that the things you desire to do will determine the kind of environment and fellow associates you will have. If you decide to accept Jesus Christ into your life to be a righteous person, you will attract other righteous people as associates. Unrighteous people don't like to associate with righteous people.

Subject: You Are Only Right When You Do Right:

You can think righteous and talk righteous; but in order for you to know if you are righteous is to watch the way you are living. You must watch yourself to see if the way you are living is in line with the way the word of God teaches that a righteous person should live. You can believe many things about yourself, but it is only what you see yourself doing right that determines whether or not you are right. It is possible to think right, talk right, and imagine that you are right, but if you see yourself do wrong, it means you are not right. Listen to I John 3:7:

Verse 7 - Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

Subject: The Lion Hath Roared Who Will Not Fear?

The Lord will do nothing to the people of the earth unless He warns them first. When God warns the people of the earth, He does it by means of a God sent preacher or prophet. If you know a God sent preacher, you can learn from the preacher what God will do in the near future. Listen to Amos 3:7:

Verse 7 - Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

A preacher sent by God will have a sin-free life, and his messages will carry warnings to the people of the earth from God. Such a preacher or prophet's messages will be like a lion that roars in the jungle. A lion does not give an encouraging roar in the jungle. It is more or less a message to let all other animals in the area know that danger is coming.

A preacher sent from God will not give flattering sermons to make people shout and be joyous if they are not saved. Such a preacher will let them know that danger is on the way if they are not saved. Listen to Amos 3:8:

Verse 8 - The lion hath roared, who will not fear? The Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy?

Subject: Trouble Is Not Always Seen In Its Early Stages:

We may not be having trouble presently, but we need help. It may not be raining, but when a storm is in the forecast, you need an umbrella. The word of God sends out a forecast of future events that may not be visible when the forecast is sent out. You cannot accurately judge the events of the future by present day appearances. The word of God gives us warnings of future events that may be dangerous, and it teaches us how to be prepared for such events.

Wickedness and rumors of wars are so preeminent now that it takes all the space on the front pages of the newspapers. The good that is done in the world is presented as being less sensational and is not given much attention. People are not moved by good deeds because it is not as dramatic as evil. Have you ever seen a movie with all good deeds? When sins are in the world, there will be a day of reckoning. The person who does that which is true and right will be on the better side of God's future dealings with the world.

God sent Jesus into the world to show us the way to the better side of God's plan. Those who believe in the teachings of Jesus Christ, and have accepted them to be the doctrine from God may be counted on to walk in the light of the direction that Christ leads.

Subject: A Time Of Trouble:

There is a time of trouble right now in the present world, such as never was, and the only thing that can keep you happy is to trust in God and believe that His word is true. If you are saved, you must believe that the people of God shall be delivered. Everybody who is born again has his or her name written in the book of life. Such people were revealed to Daniel as those who will be delivered, and given shelter from the destruction when the world begins to end. We will know that the end is near because there will be a time of trouble just before the end.

Saved people are looking for the day that God will bring peace to the earth. This will be brought to the new earth. When God sent Jesus Christ into the world to teach men righteousness, angels ushered Him in, and presented Him to the shepherds upon the hills of the plains of Judea. When they did, they sang, "Peace on earth, good will toward men". That's what Jesus came to bring.

**Subject: Job Said “Though He Slay Me I Will Trust Him”
(Job 13:15):**

If you are serious about being saved, God will suffer you to be tried. The trying of your faith in God is more precious than gold (I Peter 1:7). No matter what you value in life, your faith in God is the most precious thing. If you are a beginner, you will sometimes question God. You might ask, “Why does this have to happen to me after I have obeyed God”? God said to the devil that Job was a righteous man (Job 1:6). Job knew his hands were clean when the devil began to work on him, but in his own mind he questioned God.

Though God chastened Job, Job never charged God foolishly. You have no right to question God. The clay has no privilege to question the potter. So, Job went down to the lowest level of suffering, but God kept His hand open. At the end of Job’s suffering, the Lord said to those who were supposed to be Job’s friends and who accused Job of being a sinner that Job should pray for them.

After God completed his conversation with Job, Job bowed his head and said, “Now I humble myself in the dust. Who am I to contend with God? Job concluded by saying, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust him in him” (Job 13:15).

Subject: If You Are Saved Your Enemies May Be Of Your Own Household:

When you have been born again, your new way of life may not be agreeable with your relatives and friends who are not born again. Salvation in Jesus Christ will oftentimes cause your friend and relatives not to accept you. When Jesus comes into your life, He does not bring peace between the saved person and the unsaved. Listen to St. Matthew 10:34-35:

Verse 34 - *Think not that I am come to send peace on earth:
I came not to send peace, but a sword.*

Verse 35 - *For I am come to set a man at variance against
his father, and the daughter against her mother,
and the daughter in law against her mother in law.*

True salvation in Jesus means that the unsaved are going to be against your way of life.

Subject: Yield Not To Temptations Because Yielding Is Sin:

Temptations are good for us, though they don't come from God. It is by temptations that we are perfected in holiness and prepared for the spiritual life in heaven. The first victory that we get over temptations makes us strong for the second. Temptations are tests to try our obedience. They are presented by the devil in the appearance of something that would give us pleasure, prosperity, satisfaction, and success. However, there will be an ungodly compromise to acquire such when sin is present.

The Holy Spirit will warn us and clearly illustrate the substance and danger if we yield to the presentation. Now the devil knows that temptations are good for the saved person if they overcome, but he dishes them out with the chance that we might not overcome.

You will be able to identify a temptation by the help of the Holy Spirit, because it will be something that you will have a taste for. You cannot be tempted to do something that you have no appetite for and the devil knows this. Now, the act will be sinful or something forbidden that God's word instructs against, and you know you cannot do and maintain your standing with God.

When you are saved, the flesh is kept under control by the power of the Holy Spirit. When the temptation is presented, it will be an inducement to satisfy the flesh contrary to what the Holy Spirit teaches you against. The purpose of the temptation is to nourish and strengthen the flesh to cause the carnal nature to resist the Holy Spirit. Keep in mind that the Holy Spirit will not work for you contrary to your will for it to work. Your choice will always have priority over the works of the Holy Spirit in your life.

There is such a war and contrast between the Holy Spirit and the human flesh that they can never be reconciled. You will never be able to maintain the assistance of the Holy Spirit in your life and satisfy the desires of the flesh at the same time. Now the Holy Spirit is more powerful than the desires of the flesh, but it will not assist you contrary to your will. If you desire to be saved, God will give you the Holy Spirit that will consume the desires of the flesh, bringing such desires under subjection to your will to obey God's word.

Subject: God Works In A Mysterious Way:

When the decree was sent down for Daniel to be cast into the lion's den, God allowed the decree to be put into effect. There are no intimidations that can threaten a child of God from which God cannot deliver His child. God fights in a

mysterious way. He fights in such a way that everybody involved will see that this is the Lord's doing, and that it is marvelous in the eyes of those who witness it.

Rather than for God to go to war against the king and soldiers of Babylon, God decided to take away the appetite of the lions so that when Daniel landed in the den, the lions lost their appetite. You can never tell how God is going to do something. Though Daniel was helpless lying in the midst of the lions, they were not hungry and had no desire to bother Daniel.

When the Pharaoh of Egypt thought that he had the advantage over the children of Israel, and that Moses was helpless to deliver them, God took the wind, backed up the Red Sea, and allowed the children of Israel to walk over on dry land. He released the wind after they had crossed, and the enemies of Israel whom they saw that day, they saw no more.

Subject: God Knows How To Deliver The Righteous Out Of Temptations:

No matter what problems are in your life, if you obey God's word He knows how to deliver you from your problems. You have to consider that your only hope is in the Lord, and not turn away from God to seek help from some other source. When a child of God is being persecuted or hindered by an unjust person the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and reserve the unjust unto the Day of Judgment to be punished. When an unjust person persecutes a saved person, vengeance against the unjust comes from God.

We who are saved may sometimes wonder why the Lord won't punish the wicked person now. God sees how the wicked will hinder the righteous person by working for the devil. He sees how much trouble the wicked are causing those who are struggling to promote the gospel of Christ. God will not stop them now, but He will reserve the Day of Judgment for the wicked. The righteous person must put their faith in God. The same God that delivered the righteous in past times is standing by to deliver the righteous today.

Subject: Wisdom And Spiritual Maturity Come As A Result Of Trouble:

Wisdom and spiritual maturity come from experience that is acquired as a result of your obedience to God. If you haven't acquired much experience

resulting from your obedience to God, though you may be 40 or 50 years old, you are like a child in the eyes of God.

When you are confronted with situations that are threatening because of your obedience to God, and you choose to do evil rather than to obey, your experiences won't be of any profit towards your spiritual growth. Spiritual growth comes to those who obey God in spite of the difficulties that are brought upon them. So many people fear trouble. Man has no knowledge without trouble. Many people who are supposed to be your friend will leave you in the time of trouble. When you need help, you will find that your so-called friends that talked the most are not so helpful.

Subject: God Will Arrange For The World To Chastise Those Whom He Will Save:

It is the nature of an unsaved man to do what he is told not to do. Even young children get angry when they are told by their parents to do something that they don't want to do. Humans are cursed by sin to be rebellious and to disobey God's commandments. God in His merciful way will allow a person that He is going to save to first be chastened by the sins in their lives. He will allow the world to humiliate them. Whom the Lord loves, He chastens.

After God sets the stage for the world to beat the person, He will then show the person that they can be liberated from the world, and the doors of salvation will be shown to the person who turns to God for relief. God will then correct the person for His pleasure, and the person will receive salvation. They will acquire happiness in the Lord that they might be a partaker of His holiness. Everyone who endures chastisement from the world that was arranged by God shall be adopted on high, and live forever (Hebrews 12:6-7).

Subject: Nothing Has Power To Separate You From The Love Of God:

When you are truly born again, nothing has power to separate you from the love of God (Romans 8:38-39). A born again believer has the power of heaven behind him to withstand any opposition that the forces of evil can bring against him or her.

There was a man who persecuted The Church of God and made havoc of those who were following Christ. Many years afterward, he made a stand for Christ after he was converted. He then began to reap from some of the evil things that he had done prior to his conversion. So he had to conclude within himself that since the things which he had sown were his own works coming back to him thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold, he would not let anything separate him from the love of God.

As you start to live a saved life in Christ, though you are living a righteous life today, yesterday will meet you tomorrow, and it will be your sorrow. However, if you remain in fellowship with God, joy will overwhelm your sorrow, and you will be able to say as the Apostle Paul said, "For I am persuaded, that neither life, nor death, nor anything shall separate me from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord".

Subject: You Are Separated Unto The Gospel Of Christ When You Are Saved:

You should be willing to allow God to inspect your life at any time. This is the way that everybody who wants to be saved should live. You cannot live a life that God will approve of if you worship or associate with people who live contrary to the teachings of the word of God. Your life must be sanctified or set apart from those who live contrary to what the word of God teaches. You can work with them and do business with them, but you should not worship or participate in social activities with such people.

When you are not sanctified, you are not saved. It is the Holy Spirit that sanctifies you by changing your desires to not be a part of social or religious services with those who are not sanctified. When you are born again, the Holy Spirit causes you to lose your attraction for activities and social programs of the world. The new birth in Christ gives you a new appetite for things of life that are holy and acceptable unto God. You would then be presented before God as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2). Sanctification means that your life is separated unto the gospel of Christ. Listen to Romans 1:1:

Verse 1 - Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God.

Subject: You Are Justified By Faith:

The promises of God are expressions of His favor and grace. Jesus didn't owe us anything when He died on the cross for us. God redeemed us when we were lost, by the death of His Son on the cross. Man is justified by his faith or belief in God, and is brought into favor with God. The moment you say that you believe you can live free from sin, and are willing to start, God justifies you. It doesn't matter how vile a sinner you were, God counts your faith in Him as righteousness. Listen to Romans 4:5:

Verse 5 - But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him
justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for
righteousness.

Subject: Your Faith Must Come Before Your Understanding:

When Jesus taught concerning the plan of salvation, He spoke of spiritual things in a physical language in order to simplify His message to the people. In order to understand Jesus' teaching, it was necessary to surrender your already established religious knowledge, because Jesus' teachings were not compatible with what has already been taught concerning salvation.

To be a receiver of Jesus' teaching, one must not try to understand everything; they must believe some things. When you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, you will be born of God, and the understanding will follow your faith.

**Subject: It Is By Your Faith And Obedience That You Will
Receive The Promises Of God:**

If you believe what God's word promises you, after obeying His word, it is by your faith that you will get what He promises. The promises of God are a sure covenant between man and God. God under no conditions will break His promises to those who obey Him. When a person disobeys God, the agreement becomes of non-effect. It must be by faith that an obedient servant keeps the agreement with God. When you obey God, you would have upheld your part in the covenant.

The only thing that can keep you trusting and believing God's word is your faith in the word. Your faith will help you to believe the word is true. You must hide your mind in the promises of God to see God at work in your life.

Subject: The Government Of Heaven:

High-minded, proud people do not like the spirit of humility. Jesus came to introduce the government of heaven in a humble and gentle spirit. Jesus did not come in the position of a monarch or king. He did not ride upon a chariot; He rode upon the foal of an ass. This resulted to the high-minded people of the earth rejecting him. The ways and traditions of the kingdom of heaven are just the opposite of the ways of this world.

Satan was the anointed cherub who was very much familiar with the government of heaven, and when he was cast out of heaven, he came to the earth and set up kingdoms that were just the opposite of the way the government of heaven is. Satan is directly contrary to God's holiness and His ways because he rejected and rebelled against the system of the kingdom of heaven. Today unless the people of the earth are taught about the ways of heaven, they will be under the influence of Satan when they follow these worldly ways of operation.

Satan wanted to be a high ranked angel and not be under subjection to God, so he decided to set up another kingdom on the north side of heaven, but his proposition was rejected and he was cast out of heaven. Today the spirit of Satan is in anybody who does not like to honor a God established system of government such as we have in America. Listen to Isaiah 14:12-15:

Verse 12 - How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Verse 13 - For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

Verse 14 - I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Verse 15 - Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

This spirit of pride and high-mindedness the devil brought to the earth. Those who have ambitions of this type are of the devil. When Christ came to the earth, He came as the Lamb of God, representing the Spirit of God's kingdom. When Christ saves a person, they will be delivered from the spirit of Satan and take on a gentle, kind, humble, and lowly spirit just like little sheep will follow their shepherd.

Subject: Michael Versus The Sub-Ruler Who Was Satan:

The holiness and power of God will always be superior to the power of Satan and the evil forces of darkness. Michael was an angel created by God for spiritual warfare against forces of evil. The scriptures describe Michael as the great Prince, which standeth for the children of thy people. Michael was the angel who led the forces that cast Satan out of heaven. Lucifer was the first created angel to inhabit heaven, and he was called the son of morning. At one time, Satan guarded the throne of God and God made Satan a sub-ruler. When Satan rebelled against God's commandment, God commanded Michael to cast him out and this is when war was first started in heaven. Revelation 12:7-8:

Verse 7 - And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels.

Verse 8 - And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

Satan was called Lucifer and the dragon; he was cast off the planet called heaven into space and he fell here on the earth. Since he has been here, he has deceived man and caused wars on the earth. God created man to obey Him. Man can only have fellowship with God when he obeys God. If man doesn't obey God, he will fall into the hands of Satan who causes man to disobey God continuously. The devil is the enemy of God, and he is trying to destroy the glory of God who is man. However, God has planned whereby every man who will obey God will be with God throughout eternity. If a man or woman is willing to suffer to obey God, God has promised that though they may die, they will live again.

Subject: A Haughty Spirit Goes Before a Fall:

If you have more talent, skills, or professional ability than another person has, you should use what ability you have to assist the person who has less skills than you have. Under these conditions, your assisting of the other person will prevent you from acquiring pride and a haughty spirit. Pride and a haughty spirit set your bounds for destruction. Listen to Proverbs 16:18:

Verse 18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Satan was an angel created to serve in heaven, but he became proud and set out to be a god of heaven rather than an angelic servant of God. He walked amid the stones of fire, and was perfect as an angelic servant. There was no sin in Satan until he became lifted up in pride. You cannot become proud without lifting yourself above the other person. God does not desire that we lift ourselves above the other person, but that we serve or assist the other person if we have more assets or abilities to assist.

God wants the gift that He has given us to be used to teach the other person so that they can be equal with us. Satan is no longer in heaven, because he experienced a fall after being lifted up in pride.

Subject: Try The Spirit To See Whether It Be Of God:

People love to have authority over other people that they have to deal with. A haughty spirit goes just before a fall. It is better to have a spirit of humility and God will help a person who is lowly in spirit, even if they are a leader over others. A good leader can have a humble spirit, and God will lead such a leader. A high-minded person is repulsive to God. God will not work with a high-minded spirit.

When some people get a little honor, they want to get above themselves. There are many spirits in different administrations of our nation, but a godly person will be careful of spirits that they follow and evaluate such a spirit to see whether it is of God, or of the devil. Remember Satan, who once had an administration in heaven, and he became high minded and was later cast out. A haughty spirit will surely fall. Every saved person should try a spirit to see whether it be of God before he or she follows it.

Subject: Perfection Comes From God:

When God gives you a command to do something, He has also decided to help you do it. We are limited in our abilities to obey many of the commandments of God, but if we are willing to obey, God will help us. Nobody can be perfect in obeying God's commandments unless God helps you to obey. God has to call you to be perfect.

Your belief in perfection is your part of being perfect. God's part is helping us to live perfect. When you believe God will help you to do it, God counts your belief as righteousness. God has to help you to be saved. Your repentance of your sins is evidence that you believe you can live free from sin.

The moment that Abraham believed that he could be perfect and did what God had commanded him to do, God counted it unto him as righteousness. God makes the same promise to us. He says that if we believe we can be perfect, we will do what He commands and because of our belief, He will help us to obey His commands.

Subject: We Can Obtain Mercy From God In Jesus' Name:

Whatever a person knows about life they had to be taught. If you are not taught righteousness, you'll never know the way of righteousness. If your pastor doesn't teach you righteousness, you will never be born again, because you are born again of the word of God. You are not born again by praying; you are born again by hearing and obeying the word of God. God is not sympathetic to your disobedience, and He cannot be touched with emotions and feelings of infirmities. The sadness of your life's conditions does not reach God. God is reached only by your repentance or the turning away from your sins. God is just and is moved by obedience. When we obey, we get His favor. If we disobey, we get His disfavor. The quality and mercy for the repenting sinner is found in Christ who is a mediator between God and man to intercede for us when we need pity and help with our repentance.

Christ was made flesh for the purpose of dwelling among men to suffer in the flesh that He might be truly qualified from this standpoint to intercede for us. As Christ was victorious over the flesh, God assured Him that whatever we asked in His name, God would grant for Jesus sake. Knowing all about our weaknesses, our temptations, our difficulties, our afflictions and being a loving, understanding, and sympathetic Savior, Christ eagerly intercedes when the Father would be

unsympathetic and merciless. So we invoke the mercy of the Father when we ask for help in Jesus' name.

Subject: Most People Don't Know How To Pray:

Very few people know how to pray. You have to be taught how to pray after you get saved. An unsaved person cannot establish a line of communication to God. When you are born again of the Spirit of God, the Spirit has to assist you on how to pray. Actually, the Spirit of God prays for a saved person.

God is very particular about whose prayers He will listen to. If you don't have the Spirit of God making intercession to God for you in prayer, you would be like a person being tried in a court of law without a lawyer. Your case has to be presented to the judge and jury according to what the law allows them to accept. If you don't know the law, you won't be able to communicate with the judge and the jury. So is it also with presenting prayers to God. The Holy Spirit knows what prayers God will hear; often times, those who are praying don't know. Therefore, the Spirit of God will present your prayers to God according to what God will consider.

Subject: Ask In Jesus' Name:

When you pray and don't get an answer, it means you are not asking in accord with the word of God. The word of God teaches that when we pray, we must ask in Jesus' name (St. John 14:14-15). When you ask in Jesus' name, you are asking according to what He teaches. Jesus does not teach how to be selfish. This means when you pray, you should pray for somebody other than yourself.

If you pray for your own personal gain, and prosperity, your prayers will not be answered. However, if you pray for blessings that will benefit somebody other than yourself, you are asking in Jesus' name, because this is what He teaches. If you ask in Jesus' name, you will do with the blessing what He tells you to do with it. The Lord will not withhold a blessing from you if you ask for it in His name, but He knows your heart. He knows if you have covetousness or selfishness in your heart.

Subject: Zacharias Learned The Hard Way That God Heareth Prayers:

John the Baptist was the forerunner of Jesus Christ and was ordained by God to be a holy person who had a special work to perform for God. John was especially endowed by the Holy Spirit before he was born. The Lord named him before he was born (Luke 1:13-17). He had to go before Jesus Christ and preach the gospel of the kingdom to make the path straight for the Lord, so he had to be prepared for the mission. John was sent by God in answer to the prayer of his father, who had asked God to open the womb of Elizabeth his wife and John's mother, since she was barren and was also up in age, that she might bear a son. God revealed the details of John's endowment before he was born and before he was formed in the womb. The endowment of John was indeed sensational.

John's father was by far too unbelieving, so God had to afflict him. It is not a good thing to ask God for something and not believe that He will give it to you. Zacharias had been praying for God to give him a son, and when the angel brought the message to him that God was going to answer his prayer, Zacharias did not believe the angel. Today man's ignorance and disbelief are of a greater magnitude, and his afflictions are likewise greater. Zacharias learned the hard way that God heareth prayers.

God gave the whole record of John's life before he was born and after his birth to John's father, Zacharias. God told him his wife would become pregnant. He told him that it would be a boy, and would be named John. He told him John would be filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb. He told Zacharias that many would rejoice at John's birth, indicating the mood of the people who were not even related to them. He told him of John's habits and of his relationship to God, all before John was born. The record concerning Jesus Christ was the same. Before Joseph and Mary were married, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and told him his wife was pregnant with a male child, who would be called Jesus. His name and mission were given in detail, and Christ was yet to be born. God knows the same information on those who are not yet born today. God knows everything before it happens.

Subject: Prayer And Humility:

After you are born again, humility will occupy your soul. When you humble yourself before God, He declares that He will send His Spirit to be with the person who is humble and contrite that He might lift the person's burden. When such a

person prays, God will send His Spirit to them to convict and convince them that obedience to His word is the best way.

When you obey God's word, you become righteous and God hears the righteous person's prayer. A righteous person prays from the depths of his or her heart with sincerity, asking God's blessings upon them and their associates. God has promised that one day He shall bring to an end this sinful world. Many people of different generations have believed in God and have looked forward to Jesus' return. The promise of Jesus' return is found in II Peter 3:12-13:

Verse 12 - Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

Verse 13 - Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

The born again person is looking for the day of the Lord to be a part of the new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Subject: Take Time Out For Prayer:

If you are truly born again, you have a weapon at your availability called prayer. This weapon can give you victory against any opposition, or test that confronts you. If you have clean hands, and a pure heart, God will strengthen your hands for whatever opposition you are confronted with from your enemy. In order for prayer to be an effective means of security and confidence you must obey God and believe in prayer. If you take a little time out for prayer during the day, you will accomplish a lot more than what you would accomplish talking to people. It is better to spend more time talking to God than people. Each person who is born again should have a secret place where he or she can get out of the way of other people, and have a quiet talk with Jesus. Jesus is better company for you than anybody you know.

You should pray without ceasing. Prayer can be unuttered by means of meditation, a groan, or gesture to God. It is where your mind is that enables you to pray. If your mind is in touch with God and you need assistance or strength, God will respond to your needs by means of your attention being given to Him. Prayer

does not always have to be formal or presented with eloquence in a proper arrangement.

When your life is sin free and your interest is in God, He can perceive your needs and desires, and will respond to you accordingly. Most folk can't get help from God through prayer because they are interested in everything other than God. It is your fellowship with God that gets your prayers answered. If you take time out for God, He will take time to help you.

Subject: If Your Life Is Pleasing To God You Can Pray:

If your life is pleasing to God, you can reach Him in an emergency. In order to please God, your life must be sin-free, and you must be dependent upon God. You cannot please God if you feel that you can get along without Him when things are going good, and you call on Him in an emergency. God must be your main source of help under all conditions. When you are obedient and dependent upon God, you can reach Him in prayer. God will then respond to a humble heart and hear the message that you convey. When you pray being filled with the Holy Spirit, the Spirit will carry your message to God. You must not just pray when you have a crisis or an urgent need; your prayer must be a part of your daily communication with God.

You qualify to pray when you are born again. Your righteous life is your qualification to pray. When you are filled with the Spirit, many things will come to you in life without you asking, because the Holy Spirit will beseech God on your behalf for things that you did not have knowledge to ask for.

Subject: Don't Ask Amiss:

After that you start to live right, then you must watch and pray so that you won't enter into temptations. Temptations will come, but you must choose not to enter into temptations to commit sin. Temptations are designed by the devil to entice you to commit sin, so that it will be your choice. If you watch and pray, you will have no need to fear temptations. Along with prayer, you should have faith in God and He will take you over safely.

If you believe in God, you should trust in God. Along with your obedience, you can ask God for help, and He will give it to you. When you start to live right, it is the will of God that you continue to live right. At his point in your salvation,

you should seek to know the will of God and ask according to His will. It is God's will that you be saved, whatever you ask for according to God's will, God will give it to you.

Now you can't ask contrary to His will if you keep His commandments. When you ask according to God's commandments, you are not asking amiss, or for selfish and covetous purposes. James 4:3 reads as follows:

Verse 3 - Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

God commands us not to lust. If we ask according to His will, whatever we ask will be granted, but if we fail to keep His commandments, and ask, we will be asking amiss. We will ask for it and miss, because we ask that we might receive that which we ask for to be used to satisfy our own personal selfishness and greed. However, if we have no lust or greed, God has promised to supply according to our needs.

Subject: Don't Pray As A Hypocrite Prays:

A child of God should live everyday so that he or she is always prepared to pray. They should be qualified to lift their minds towards heaven and start talking to God. Though God is the most important person in the universe, a child of God does not have to make an appointment to talk to God. There is no secretary, ambassador or personal representative that you have to make arrangements with or to see first, before you can talk to God. A sin-free life opens the line of communication between God and His child.

The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous and His ears are always open unto their prayers (I Peter 3:12). God is impressed by the simplicity, humility, purity, and integrity of a child of God. When prayers are presented in this spirit, God will hear the prayers. It is important that a child of God learn what God will accept in their prayers. They should also learn what God will not hear in their prayers.

The prayers of church going hypocrites will be completely ignored by God. Hypocrites love to be heard by other people when they pray more so than God. Thus, they pray to impress their fellow church members. In their private lives, they don't pray at all. They love to pray standing in churches to be seen of men, and whatever satisfaction they get from such prayers is all they will get.

Hypocrites pray with the express intention to fool you. They are church folk who like to be seen, praised, honored, and respected as one that is faithful, good, and one who stands high in the esteem of the people. They like to be one who is looked upon as an example and model Christian by others. They could care less as to how God sees them, because God is not a reality to them. The reality of their religion goes no further than their display of hypocrisy in a church.

So, please learn the style of a hypocrite and don't pray as a hypocrite, because it is a waste of time. Hypocrites get their rewards from the praises that they get from their fellow, misguided members who worship with them. There is no peace within such people that is inspired by a reality that God is pleased. There is no joy within them that is produced by the Holy Spirit of God. These rewards are for the righteous, and are withheld from hypocrites.

Subject: The Reward Will Come Openly To A Saint And Not At All To A Hypocrite:

Your prayer should be a petition to God, and not a show to the world. God does not acknowledge a public demonstration of prayer, or religious rituals when they are done for this purpose. God can discern the purpose of religious demonstrations better than people can. He can tell when religious practicals like to attract attention and He can tell when they are sincere. Sincerity comes from the heart of a person, but religious show-offs come from the carnal nature.

Since your prayer is a conversation between you and God, in case there is an inclination on your part to be seen of men, Jesus says, go into your secret closet and carefully close the door before you start your prayer, and God will see the spirit that directs your prayer. He is quick to discern that you are either a saint or a hypocrite. The reward will come either openly or not at all (St. Matthew 6:6).

Subject: We Need The Holy Spirit To Make Intercession For Our Infirmities (Romans 8:26):

When you present your prayers to God, you are not making a request that God is not already knowledgeable of. God knows what you are going to ask for before you ask. If your request is one that God approves of, He has already decided to grant your request before you ask. Your prayer is simply a means of honoring and worshiping God. It is your means of showing respect to God. God is

not convinced by your prayers to grant your petition. He is convinced by your obedience, humility, and spiritual conduct that have been a habitual part of your life, and He answers your prayer before you make your request.

When you are saved, your life is directed by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the coordinator of your life and your needs. The Holy Spirit knows more about what you need than you know, and it is in continuous negotiation and communication with God making intercession for your needs and desires. When you are saved, the Holy Spirit serves as a counselor between you and God. Humans don't know how to communicate with God, or what the will of God is for their lives. The Holy Spirit has such knowledge, and it presents your situation to God in your best interest.

So then, God is fully informed, not only of the condition that moves you to pray, but also of the motive behind your prayer, and what the Spirit is presenting to Him for you. You don't have to try to impress God when you pray by way of your eloquent speech and proper diction. He has already decided to answer your prayer if your life meets the qualifications of an obedient child of God. Your prayer was brought in touch with God by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit has composed your petition to include those things that are proper and needful for you to have. Such things are not in your mind to ask for on some occasions, though you need them. In addition, what you are built up to ask for might be harmful to you, or may not be according to God's will.

No power but the Holy Spirit can list the things you need to pray for and present them to God. The Holy Spirit will transmit your desires or requests in a language that God is familiar with and delights in hearing. Only the Holy Spirit can do this for you. Our infirmities that the Holy Spirit helps us with are not our sins or our mistakes. When we are saved, we have no sins, and mistakes are not charged against us if they are corrected. Our infirmities are unnecessary things that the devil puts in our prayers to take our minds off God when we are praying. Our infirmities include our inability to master the language that God will respond to. So then, we need the Holy Spirit to help our infirmities (Romans 8:26).

Subject: Jesus' Peace Is Not As The World Gives Peace:

The Christmas season is for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Christ was sent into the world over nineteen hundred years ago to bring peace. Nations all over the world will be celebrating Jesus, and they are at war while they celebrate.

Jesus doesn't give peace as the world gives it. Jesus gives peace to us by means of the Holy Spirit. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you will also be filled with the fruits of the Spirit, and peace is among the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). When Jesus gives you peace, it dwells in your heart and the world all-around you can be in confusion, but it will not disturb your peace.

When the peace of God is in your heart or mind, nothing has power to remove it. Life without peace from God is not worth living. When you are born again, you can let your request be made known to God through supplication and prayer and the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall keep your heart and mind through Jesus Christ. Peace must come from within you. It must be planted in you by the Holy Spirit. If you don't have peace within you, the least bit of confusion will disrupt your life.

Subject: Work In The Channels Of Your Gift:

If you want to be successful in the world, learn to work in the field of the gift that you are given. When you have a gift to do special things in life, nobody will be able to do the job like you can do it. God gives gifts to every man and woman who is born into the world. The gift is for the purpose to do something in building, promoting, and preserving the works of the Lord that were started in the creation. Some people were born with gifts for special work. For those who work in the channels that they fit into, by reason of the gift that is given them by God, success in life will be inevitable.

Subject: Watch For The Devil:

Many people don't believe that the devil exists, because he doesn't manifest himself in physical form. The Bible teaches about the devil from Genesis to Revelations. It teaches how the devil got into the world, and how he is going to leave. It is important for everybody who wants to be saved to know about the devil, because he is an adversary of man and God that is preventing many souls from being saved. The devil at one time enjoyed living in heaven, but he was thrown out, because of his rebellion against God.

Today, a rebellious person against the teaching of the scriptures has the spirit of the devil in them. Unless they repent, they will never get into heaven. The Bible brings us knowledge of how we can get into the kingdom of heaven, but it

must be obeyed. The devil uses conceit to keep people from accepting the principles of righteousness as the Bible teaches.

When a person thinks that he or she knows better than what the Bible teaches, such an attitude does not come from the person, but it comes from the devil. This is the same way the devil was in heaven. He thought he knew more than God did yet he has no place in heaven today. When you are trying to be saved, you must watch for the devil, not with your eyes, but with the knowledge of God's word.

Subject: The Soul:

God speaks to the soul and not the body. God speaks for the life of the soul, because the life of the body will go back to the dust. The soul is the heart or the spiritual part of a person. It is the mind that gives orders to the body. If the soul does not give righteous orders for the body members to obey, the body members will cause the soul to go to hell after the body goes back to the dust. Your body has temporary assistance on earth, but your soul has permanent assistance. A sin practicing body can cause a soul to be lost. For this purpose when God saves you, He saves your soul, and your soul will receive power from the Holy Spirit to make your body members obey God.

When you walk in the statutes of God and keep His commandments, your soul will never die; it will be given a new body to live in heaven with God throughout eternity. Your new body will be eternal, whereas your first body was temporary. When you become saved, the life of God occupies your soul, whereas before you were saved, the life of Adam occupied your soul. God is not going to hold Adam responsible if your soul is not saved. It is up to you to accept Jesus Christ to be saved. You will be responsible for where your soul spends eternity.

The word of God teaches that the soul that sins shall die. This means it will die eternally. The death of the soul will eternally separate you from God, just as the death of your body separates you from your loved ones. The soul lives on, but the body will die, and go back to the dust from whence it came.

If you accept Jesus Christ into your life, the soul will be saved, but if you fail to receive Christ, you would have made your choice to live under condemnation throughout eternity. The death of the soul is not eradication of its existence, but continuous torment.

Subject: God Has No Pleasure In The Death Of The Wicked:

When you turn from your sins and live righteous before God, He does not remember your sins anymore. Listen to Ezekiel 18:21-22:

Verse 21 - But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

Verse 22 - All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live.

No matter how many sins you have committed, they shall not be mentioned against you in the judgment. Your record will be cleared of all of your sins. It will be in your righteousness that you will receive eternal life.

God gets no pleasure at all that the wicked person shall die. Their death will be by their own choice. It is God's desire that the sinner should turn from his wickedness and live. On the other hand, if a righteous person turns from his or her righteousness and committeth sin, and doeth according to what the wicked man is doing, God will not remember his or her righteousness anymore. None of his righteous ways shall be remembered and he will be judged according to the wickedness that he has done. Listen to Ezekiel 18:24:

Verse 24 - But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.

Subject: A Time Of Trouble:

Do you know the signs of Jesus' coming back to the earth? The disciples of Jesus Christ asked Him a question concerning the signs of His coming. The question was put in the disciples mind by God so that the people of different

generations would know the answer. The Bible was written by Holy men of God in which God put questions in their minds, and as they asked the questions, the answers were brought by angels.

The answer to the questions that Jesus' disciples asked had already been answered in Daniel 12:1 prior to their coming on the scene. The answer was that a sign of Jesus' return would be a time of trouble such as the world had never experienced before. Listen to Daniel 12:1:

Verse 1 - And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

Subject: The Voice Of Jesus:

Human beings are precious to God, but He can't save them contrary to the way His word teaches that they have to be saved. God is going to love human beings who do not get saved all the way to hell, because their sins can't stop Him from loving them. People of the earth are so valuable to God that He is not willing that anybody perish. God sent His Son to bring men and women of the earth up to a standard of holiness so that they could be saved. However, most people have rejected the plan of salvation, and the offer that God has made.

God cannot force humans to be saved; they must choose to accept His offer. Though humans are precious in the sight of God, most will nevertheless be lost by their own choice. God did not make man to be lost; He desired that man live forever. After sin and death entered the life cycle of humans, God provided a way for humans to be saved by imparting His immortality to those who believe and obey the gospel. Therefore, though many will be lost, some can be saved and live again with God.

So then, the man who dies after accepting God's immortality is not dead for real; he is merely asleep, waiting to be awakened by the voice of God. When the appointed time arrives, God will call, and he will awake and get up. Everyone who is asleep in Christ will be awakened at the first resurrection to answer the voice of God. Listen to St. John 5:24-25 and 28-29:

Verse 24 - *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my*

word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Verse 25 - *Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.*

Verse 28 - *Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice.*

Verse 29 - *And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.*

Subject: God's Promises:

Whenever God makes a promise to us, He will fulfill His promises if we believe it. The promises of God are expressions of His favor and grace. God redeemed us when we were lost by the death of His Son, because He promised He would do this for us. God always keeps His promises. When we obey God, His promises will come to pass in our lives. Evidence that you believe God's promises is that you will obey Him. To obey God is to turn from your sins. When a person stops doing every sin that they can stop, God will help the person with the sins that are difficult, because He promised that He would.

God knows when you don't want to sin so He will tell you what to do to escape the temptation to sin. When you do what He tells you to do, you will find extra power to help you not to yield to the temptation. Each time that you escape the temptation to sin, you will receive strength that will help you to escape the next temptation. God would have given you the Holy Spirit to assist and strengthen you against temptations to sin.

Subject: If You Are Saved You Should Honor God:

If you are saved, your love for God will motivate you to honor God. When you are saved, God will be the most important person in our life. Those who never

have time to honor God are honoring other things in life that are more important to them. A saved person will give most of their time, interest, and life's agenda to honoring God. They will get together with others who are saved and sing, testify, and praise God, and God will hear such praises of honor. Those who love God will meet often to invoke the blessings of God upon them. All that God expects from a saved person is honor for Him.

Subject: The People Of The World Must Learn To Love God:

All unrighteousness is sin, but when you are born of God, you don't commit sin. When you are born of God, God lives in you, and God does not commit sin. God is gracious and good. God loves the people of the earth, but many must learn to love God by associating with those who love God. You can't get anywhere fooling with church going hypocrites. God is willing to save anybody who comes to Him if they turn from their hypocrisy and repent of their sins.

Peter was a backslider. He walked with Christ and stayed with Him for three years, but Peter thought he knew better than the Lord did. Many people who go to church think that way today. In order to receive help from God you must show God that you want to walk in the righteous way. If you show God that, He will help you to be saved. God will strengthen, establish, and settle you in righteousness.

Subject: Praise The Lord (Psalm 33:1):

If you don't receive a spirit that makes you praise God, you are not saved. When you are born again, it means that you are filled with the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit demands you to praise God. You cannot possess the Spirit of God and not praise God. When you fail to praise God, you have no connection with God. Praise is comely for the upright in heart (Psalm 33:1).

When you love a person, you will talk about them and praise them. You will say nice things about people that you love. God demands praise from everything that He created. The sun, the moon, the stars, mountains, hills, and rivers were created by God and they give praise to His name. If you fail to praise God, you will never be a part of His blessed eternal habitation for those who will praise Him.

Subject: The Goodness Of God:

Nobody is good without God being in them. What makes a person good is God in the person. God can make unsaved people do good deeds, but it would be God's goodness. When you get saved, God's goodness will dominate your life. God uses saved people as distributors of His goodness. Jesus would not allow the people to call Him good; He gave the credit to God. God's goodness is universal. It is spread abroad by the Holy Ghost. God's goodness went to Calvary so that every human being would have a right to eternal life in His kingdom.

Subject: True Happiness Is A Product Of Love:

There is nothing in the world that can make you happy but love. Thrills and pleasures are not the result of happiness. You can obtain thrills and pleasures from illegal drugs, and alcoholic beverages, and later be sick from a hangover. Happiness is a product of love. You will be happy when you obey God's commandments. Your obedience to God is the result of your love for God.

The purpose of love is to help somebody. God's purpose for sending Jesus to the earth was because He loved the world. So then, those who will receive Jesus will receive eternal life in God's kingdom where they will be happy. People who hate others do it because they are ignorant, and have no knowledge of the fact that hate does not produce happiness. God has ordained that when people hate one another they will suffer. The only relief from their suffering will be to love one another. If you show love to a person who hates you, they will suffer for their hatred against you unless they turn to love. God does not have to assist us against those who hate us, because their hate will destroy them. Hate will make a person sick unto death.

Subject: Hate Must Be Destroyed In The Lives Of Saved People:

You cannot hate anybody and expect to be saved (I John 3:15). Hatred must be destroyed in the lives of those who want to be saved. When the Spirit of God is introduced, you will willingly reject the spirit of hatred. You cannot hate your enemies and be accepted by God. Listen to Romans 12:20-21:

Verse 20 - Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

Verse 21 - Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

The sin of hatred has brought upon the human race so much weakness and so many disorders between ethnic groups and nations of the earth that each generation is revealed to be weaker or more wicked than any previous generation.



CHAPTER V
BEING BORN AGAIN

Subject: To Be Born Again Is The Only Hope For Mankind:

The only hope for mankind to escape the wages and the curse of sin is to be born again. Death is the wages for sin. The first man Adam cursed the human family by his disobedience to God, because he was the progenitor of all men. The same Adam who disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden is you and I until we are born again. When we are born again, Christ replaces Adam in man. God only acknowledges two men; the first was Adam who sinned, and the second was Christ who replaces Adam by taking away sin. When you are born again, the first Adam dies and Christ will become alive in all who receive him. The new birth in Christ is a spiritual birth that changes the minds of men. The mind is changed by the word of God.

Subject: The Spirit And The Word Give You The New-Birth:

When you are born again you will experience a second birth that will be of the word of God. The word of God brings the Spirit of God into your mind. It is by the power of the word and the Holy Spirit that you will receive the new birth in Christ. Words are spirits; if you listen to a person talk, they can change your mind if you believe their words. If you hear the gospel of Jesus Christ preached and believe it, you can be born again by the power in the word. It is by your faith that you are saved. If you believe that God can keep you living each day above sin because of your faith in him, He will do it.

Subject: A New Mind Means That You Have Been Born Again:

Your mind is a wonderful part of your life. Your mind is your soul, or your spiritual heart. Your mind is a gift from God that is an everlasting part of your existence. Your mind cannot be destroyed, as your body can be destroyed. Your mind is very powerful, and is a carrier of your emotions, such as love, hate, malice, envy, goodness, humility, conceit, or faith. When you are born again of the Spirit of God, the Spirit of God gives you a new righteous mind and sins such as hate, malice, envy, strife, and conceit, will be removed from your mind, and they will not influence your emotions. Love, joy, peace, goodness, humility, faith, and kindness will influence your mind.

Today when God saves a person, He saves their mind, and the saved mind will cause the body to do good before God. When your mind is not saved, your body members don't stand a chance to do good. Salvation in Jesus Christ means to be renewed in the spirit of your mind by the Holy Spirit. Listen to Ephesians 4:21-24:

Verse 21 - If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus:

Verse 22 - That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

Verse 23 - And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

When your mind has been renewed by the Holy Spirit, it means that you have been born again. God only gives the new birth to your mind; you will then receive a new body when Jesus returns. When you have a new mind, you will be a new man or woman with the power of the Holy Spirit guiding you through life. This means you are a new creature in Christ, created in righteousness and true holiness.

Verse 24 - And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Subject: More About Your Mind:

When you are born again, you are filled with the Holy Spirit that will keep your mind on the Lord and in continuous fellowship with the Lord. You will not desire to do anything that will disrupt your fellowship with the Lord, and the peace that He gives your mind (Ephesians 2:14-18). Your thoughts will be generated by the Holy Spirit, and will be holy and acceptable to God.

The Holy Spirit will be your intercessor, giving you continuous access to God in prayer and spiritual guidance showing you things that will be profitable for your salvation in Christ (Ephesians 2:18). Listen to Isaiah 26:3:

Verse 3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Subject: A New Child Of God:

You can become a child of God by being born again of the Spirit of God. God is the Father of all who are born of His Spirit, which will be the second birth. The Spirit of God will take us out of the authority of the spirit of the devil, and give us a membership in God's family. When this happens, our names will be written in the book of life. The only way that you can receive a membership in God's family is by experiencing the second birth by the Spirit of God. You are born of the Spirit of God by the word of God.

The word of God that Jesus taught is one in administration with the Spirit. They work together to adopt those who believe the word into the family of God. If a person hears the word of God and does not believe it, they will receive no assistance from the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God is only attracted to those who hear and receive the word with a believing heart that desires to obey the word.

When the word of God is preached by those ministers that God sends to preach it, everybody who receives the word receives the power of the Spirit to give them the new birth. The Spirit of the word will cause the word to enter the person's mind. The word along with the Spirit will establish the new birth in Christ in them, and will destroy every desire to participate in worldly things, and bring the flesh under subjection to the will of the Spirit of God completely, and disable the works of the flesh.

After receiving the Spirit of God, you will become God's child, because you were born of His Spirit by receiving His word, which changed your mind from a carnal mind to a spiritual mind.

Subject: The Second Birth Is A Better Offer Than Our First Birth:

God sent Jesus into the world that we might be born again. We know that we were born once because we are alive and our parents told us about it. Jesus was sent by God to tell us about a second birth, and that He could give us this second birth if we obeyed His gospel. Jesus taught that this new birth would be a spiritual birth unlike the first birth that we received from our parents. This new birth would be a birth that would give us a righteous life.

The first birth that we received from our parents was a fleshly birth, which gave us a sinful life, but the birth that Jesus would give would replace the fleshly birth with overwhelming power to live righteous. Our first birth was given to us by the power of the sinful nature, which later would reward us with death.

However, the birth that Jesus is offering would be by the power of the Holy Spirit, which would offer us eternal life.

The birth that Jesus offers would redeem us from death, because our sins brought this punishment upon us. However, Jesus' offer will have power to remove our sins and lift the condemnation allowing us to be justified before God. In order for us to be beneficiaries of the birth that Jesus is offering, we must receive Jesus into our lives, and He will give us power to become the sons of God.

Subject: The Second Birth Will Entitle You To Be In The First Resurrection:

You cannot obey the word of God and not be blessed. I obey the word of God, and I am blessed. If you are saved, you must be able to identify two people that have lived in your one body. You must be able to see the new creature that has replaced the old creature. This means you have experienced the second birth. The second birth would be a spiritual birth of a righteous life. Your first birth was a natural birth of sin. The spiritual birth should replace the natural birth. The natural birth was of flesh and blood, but the spiritual birth was of the Holy Spirit. The natural birth caused you to disobey God, but the spiritual birth gave you power to obey God. You cannot obey God unless He gives you power to obey. The power to obey God comes by the Holy Spirit that He gives to those who repent of their sins.

After you experience the second birth, which is a righteous birth, you will be certified to be in the first resurrection. The first resurrection will be only for those who have experienced the second birth. Little children will also be a part of the first resurrection. They will not need the second birth, because they are too young to be accountable for their sins.

Any mature person who practices sin will not be a part of the first resurrection. Such people will be in the second resurrection, which will take place a thousand years later. The second resurrection will be for the unsaved. The unsaved will be judged after this resurrection and the execution of judgment will take place for their eternal destiny, which will be in a lake of fire and brimstone.

Subject: Spiritual Sight:

Words that God uses to convey a message to the people can have different meanings from the language of people. Oftentimes God's words have to be

revealed in order to be understood. God does not reveal His messages to everybody, but to those that are given spiritual sight, or the ability to perceive. Spiritual perception allows a person to understand the word of God. God gives power to the spiritual eye so that the person can apply the knowledge of the word of God to situations in life to make life easier. Those who don't have spiritual eyes are considered as being spiritually blind, and are in darkness, not able to understand the word of God.

If a pastor of a church is spiritually blind, it means the entire congregation is walking in darkness. When you walk in darkness, it means that you don't understand right from wrong, according to God's standard of right and wrong. People who are spiritually blind can read the Bible and follow erroneous principles of righteousness.

When a person has a carnal (sinful mind), they are spiritually blind. In order to acquire spiritual sight, a person must receive a spiritual mind, which is given by the Holy Spirit. When you are born again, you are filled with the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit gives you spiritual sight. Spiritual sight will enable you to follow the teaching of the word of God correctly.

Subject: The Spirit Of God Gives You Access To God:

If you desire to know about God, He will not hide the knowledge of His word from you. The first thing you must do is to repent, or stop committing sin. God will not communicate with a sinner. You must be a worshiper of God, and do His will and the Holy Spirit will establish a line of communication between you and God. After you repent, you will become a righteous person. The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and God will hear your prayer and respond to your request. God watches over a righteous person, and He will help them throughout their life on earth.

If you are a sinner, you will not get help from God. When God helps you, He opens your eyes so that you can better understand spiritual things. After you receive spiritual sight, you will be able to live in the Spirit. This means you are filled with the Spirit, or born again.

When you walk in the Spirit, your discretion will become keen and you will be able to identify things in life that will please God, and the things that will displease God. When you do things that please God, this gives you a binding relationship with God. You will then have continuous access to God by means of His Spirit.

Subject: The Spirit Of God Only Occupies The Hearts Of People:

Now changing churches won't change you; you must have a change of heart to be saved. Jesus wants to save your soul, and a church can't do that for you. God commissioned the Holy Spirit to regenerate your soul from a low level of carnality to a higher level of righteousness. The Holy Spirit doesn't come into a church unless the people bring it in by means of a new heart. The Spirit of God only occupies minds of people and not church buildings. So you can change churches every Sunday, but unless the Spirit of God is in your heart, you will come short of salvation in Jesus Christ.



CHAPTER VI

**SALVATION:
SPECIAL TOPICS**

Subject: Hold On To God:

It is not good for a nation to become prosperous and forget God. When a nation becomes proud, it is against God, because the word of God teaches against pride. Prosperity with pride will eventually bring a nation down. Pride of a nation causes hypocrisy to be in the worship services of church folk, resulting to infidelity being in their relationship with God.

God can only be honored and worshipped in the spirit of humility. If we fail to humble ourselves and turn our hearts toward God, the terrors of this age will consume us. If a nation is to survive, God requires that we submit ourselves to His will. Many people in our nation have submitted themselves to money. We have our minds on money. When you put your trust in money to the extent that you allow it to be your God, then your silver and gold are cankered, and the rust of it shall be a witness against you.

If we don't turn to God, our judgment will become warped, and we will become so greedy for filthy lucre that we will go down in shame. However, a rainbow is appearing for those who hold on to God's name, in the midst of a nation that forgets God. God will never allow His people who are faithful and true to go down with the wicked. When you obey God, you will have all you need in this present world to go through life honestly and uprightly. Except your purpose in life be constructed around the righteousness of Christ, your hope will be vain, and your prosperity will not last.

Subject: What Makes A Successful President:

In order for the people of a nation to get help from God, the government of their nation must be in accord and in harmony with the government of heaven. The government of heaven operates in the spirit of holiness. Holiness is sometimes difficult to understand, so God sent Jesus to the earth to give the people of the earth an understanding of how holiness operates.

Holiness is first, and foremost unselfish. God's holiness was extended to the earth in a very unselfish way. Though the people of the earth are derived from a culture of sin, God extended His holiness to the earth by blessing the earth with the necessary resources for survival. The air that we breathe, the water that we drink, the food that we eat, and regulation of seasonal climates are all given to the earth because God is unselfish.

When the government makes laws for the people of a nation, the laws must be made for the purpose of extending more benefits to the people rather than for

government officials. If this is done properly, and in the interest of the people under consideration, then the government of such a nation will be in harmony with the government of heaven. This is why Franklin D. Roosevelt was such a successful president.

Subject: The Kind Of Leader The People Of A Nation Gets Depends On The Kind Of People They Are:

God does not necessarily give the rulership of a nation to a good man. If the people of the nation have been wicked, then God will give the people an evil leader. When the nation of Israel rejected Samuel the prophet as being their leader and decided that they wanted a king like other nations, God gave them King Saul. King Saul led the nation of Israel to have heavy tax burdens, and led them to one defeat after the other from their enemies. When an evil leader gets the rulership of a nation it is because God wants the people to suffer.

Subject: The Choice Is Made By God:

King Saul was the first King of Israel. When Saul got to the place where he thought his way was best, and God didn't have to be obeyed in everything that he wanted to do, Saul became defiant of God's rule and established his own way of doing things. So, God rejected Saul and prepared to set up another king who was David. It was from the sons of Jesse that God had planned to raise up another man to rule in Saul's place.

When God wants a ruler for the people of a nation, He seeks and finds whom He desires and puts him up to rule. When the ruler rejects God's commandments, God rejects him and raises up another ruler. We may think that we are electing a president for our nation, but unless our choice is God's choice, the man will be rejected.

Whether most people realize it or not God rules the minds of every person on earth, and God can make the people vote for who He chooses to be the president. Such people will think that they are making their own choice for president, but God can rule their minds without them realizing it. A candidate for president would be wise to please God more so than the people since God has power to install them more than the people do.

Subject: God Is Interested In The Welfare Of The People Who Desire To Obey Him:

Good people, may I say to you that God ruleth in the kingdom of men and He setteth up over it whom He pleases, directing their course to the end that His common purpose might develop and materialize to the good of the people. When a man is raised up to rule over a nation, if he doesn't watch the devil, he will make him think that he wants to rule the world and will start wars as Hitler did. However, all world leaders who fail to adhere to the words that God commands will come down from their positions of rulership, and be replaced. God is interested in the welfare of the people who desire to obey Him. The leaders that are set up to rule such people must be interested in the welfare of the people also.

Subject: Marriage Is Honorable In All (Hebrews 13:4):

Not only does God approve of marriage, but also Jesus performed His first miracle at a wedding in Cana of Galilee in approval of marriage. When a couple, male and female, is married, the bed is undefiled. When they have a child, the offspring is legitimate in the eyes of God. The bed refers to the privacy that is common to the relationship of man and wife. When they are married, their private life is not defiled. They are respected by the neighbors, the community, and the church. It is not indecent for them to be together in public or in private. So the apostle teaches in Hebrew 13:4 that the bed is undefiled.

On the other hand, if a couple takes on a relationship by living together and having sex together and are not married, the apostles refer to such people as whoremongers and adulterers. They will be judged by God as violators of the seventh commandment found in Exodus 20:14. This commandment teaches, "Thou shalt not commit adultery". The foundation of a civilized society as ordained by divine order is the institution of marriage, consisting of husband, wife, (male and female), and later children.

Subject: A Divorce Is Only Acceptable In The Eyes Of God When Adultery Has Been Committed (St. Matthew 19:7-9):

When Jesus began His ministry on earth to teach and instruct the people so that they could learn the will of God, He met a religious sect known as the

Pharisees who withstood Him on many principles that He was teaching. The Pharisees sought to dispute and confound Jesus, and to destroy His influence with the people.

On the subject concerning divorce in St. Matthew 5:31, Jesus taught that men should not divorce their wives except for the sin of adultery (fornication). This principle was not consistent with what Moses taught, which permitted men to get a divorce for any reason (Deuteronomy 24:1). Jesus was sent to fulfill the law by giving grace to help those who wanted to follow the updated versions of the law.

So, the Pharisees used an outdated version of the law for their personal purposes. The Pharisees did not want to change any customs that would be against their purposes and conveniences. No doubt, the Pharisees had discussed this question in their synagogues. They had most likely concluded that they would support Moses on this point, as they were the sect who followed the law implicitly. The Pharisees did not desire that the law be changed in any point, as they were the sect that considered the law to be the very substance of their salvation. Paul taught that in following the law, the Pharisees were blameless. So they challenged Christ to state definitely whether or not it would be lawful under the doctrine that He was teaching for a man to divorce his wife as the Jews had been doing for any purpose since the days of Moses.

Christ made it very plain that He had not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it, and that certain parts of the law were incomplete and needed further updating. Reasons for getting a divorce came under this fulfillment. Listen to St. Matthew 19:7-9:

Verse 7 - They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?

Verse 8 - He saith unto them, *Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.*

Verse 9 - *And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery” and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.*

Jesus is teaching that the only acceptable reason for getting a divorce is when fornication or adultery is committed. If a couple gets a divorce for any reason other than adultery, this means their second marriage will be considered as

an act of adultery, because the former marriage is still legitimate until adultery is committed. A divorce in the eyes of God is only acceptable when adultery has been committed.

Subject: The Carnal Mind Will Not Obey The Law Of Marriage:

Marriage is an honorable institution that was set up by God. When a male and a female get married, they are honoring God. Marriage is recognized by God for all people, especially those who want to live righteously and want to be saved. Marriage is a holy ceremony that unites a man and a woman, giving them certain duties, and privileges that empowers them to reproduce children.

People celebrate marriage with rejoicing, and the community looks upon it as a vital institution that keeps the community respectable and dignified. Marriage is the only means of keeping the human body honorable and undefiled during sexual relations. Without marriage, sexual relations would defile the body removing the status of holiness from those involved. So, God ordained marriage to keep the body holy and acceptable for the purpose of producing children.

Marriage unites husband and wife as being one person. The body of the woman after marriage belongs to the man, and the body of the man belongs to the woman. Marriage cannot be annulled for any reason other than adultery (St. Matthew 19:8-9). Those who are unsaved with carnal minds are not subject to the law of God, and for almost any reason, they will break the unity of marriage. Such people cannot receive the commandment of God.

Subject: Children Are A Reward To Parents:

Children are a gift from God. God plans the future of a child before the child is born. It is the duty of the mother to train the child and direct it in the path of its gift and God will do the directing afterwards.

The birth of a child is a gift to its parents. Every child is born into the world for a purpose. When parents fail to work with God, they allow God's purpose for the child to be defeated. If parents work with God by properly training their child, the purpose for which the child was born will be fulfilled.

God is favored towards children. Every child that is born is named by God, and its name is placed in the book of life. Children are born saved. They don't have to be born again to be saved, because God does not charge children for being

sinners. A child does not become a sinner until he or she is old enough to know right from wrong, and does wrong.

The primary population of the kingdom of heaven will consist of angels and children. Some children may be destroyed while they are young or by contraception before they are born, but their names will be in the book of life and their names will be called in the great Day of Judgment. When a mother has a mind to care for her child as God's word teaches, such a mother has found favor with God, and her child will be a blessing to her and others. Children are a heritage from the Lord and a reward to parents (Psalm 127:3). The value of a child cannot be estimated. Nothing on earth can be acquired that is more valuable as a child.

Subject: Do You Understand The Purpose For Communion?

When you take communion honoring the blood and the broken body of Jesus Christ, you should take it with a sin-free life. Communion service is given to honor two Passovers. The first was when the death angel passed over the children of Israel under Moses' leadership prior to being delivered out of Egypt. The second will be a Passover that God will honor for all who have accepted Jesus to escape the destruction that God is going to send to the earth after Jesus returns to take the saved people to heaven.

If you take communion and practice sin, you are taking it unworthily, which will make you guilty as one who crucified Jesus. Listen to I Corinthians 11:27-30:

Verse 27 - Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

Verse 28 - But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

Verse 29 - For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Verse 30 - For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

Subject: Watch Money - It Has Power:

You have to watch the power in money. Money has power that many people are not aware of. If you don't watch money, it will make you fall in love with it. When you fall in love with money, it will give you orders that you will be compelled to obey. It will tell you to lie, steal, cheat, gamble, and make you kill for it.

Judas was the treasurer for Jesus' ministry and money made him betray Jesus, and afterward he hung himself. Money made Judas doubt that Jesus would really be crucified. He sat with the other disciples and listened to the teachings of Jesus, but he did not believe.

Money made Judas believe that he would profit by betraying Christ. When Pilate condemned Christ, Judas then realized that what he thought would not happen, had happened, and he was sorry. When Judas saw that Jesus was really going to be crucified, he told the chief priest and elders to take the money because it was a curse to him, but it was too late. Money had already accomplished its purpose on Judas. Judas took the moneybag, threw it at their feet, and he went out and hung himself.

CHAPTER VII
TRUE AND FALSE
PASTORS AND PREACHERS

TRUE PASTORS AND PREACHERS:

Subject: A True Pastor:

A true pastor is sent by God. This means such a pastor was born into the world for God's purpose. He did not become a pastor by coincident, or for a professional career. A true pastor's life was programmed by God before He was born. God planned the ministry of a true pastor before his conception in his mother's womb. God knew about the purpose and ministry of a true pastor before his parents knew him. Listen to Jeremiah 1:4-5:

Verse 4 - Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

Verse 5 - Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee;
and before thou camest forth out of the womb
I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet
unto the nations.

True pastors are filled and commissioned by the Holy Spirit to carry nothing but messages from God to the people.

A true pastor is a shepherd who will feed the people the knowledge of the word of God for their salvation. He is only concerned about the people being saved from sin. A true pastor carries messages from the mind of God. His messages are not products of his own mind, but God's mind.

The true pastor's messages carry the very substance of what a person must hear to be saved. When a person believes the messages that a true pastor gives, the Holy Spirit will implant the word of God in their mind. The life of the listeners is in the messages of a true pastor.

Subject: The Messages From God Are Sent By The Spirit Of God:

God speaks to the people of different generations through holy men that He has filled with His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit makes a person holy. To be holy means to be sin free. It means that the person lives above sinful practices that most people do. Such practices would be adultery, fornication, hatred, malice, homosexuality, theft, lying, variance, sedition, covetousness, envy, and strife.

If your pastor is a holy man, it means that God speaks through him, and you should accept the instructions that he gives. The prophecies of the Bible came by the Holy Ghost when God overshadowed holy men with His Spirit before they spoke. The holy men were doing the talking, but the Holy Ghost dictated to them what they should speak. The same Spirit that overshadowed the holy men to speak the words of the Lord is waiting to overshadow the listeners of the words that are spoken.

It is not possible to hear the words of holy men unless you are assisted by the Spirit that is speaking through them. The Spirit of God sends messages from God by holy men, and it is on standby to help a mind that is willing to hear and to receive the message. A mind that is willing to hear the message of God is like good soil that a farmer plants a seed in, and later will bring forth fruit. This is the kind of mind that the messages coming from holy men will give salvation to when the mind hears the word of God.

Subject: A Minister Cannot Correctly Preach What He Cannot Live:

The teachings of the scriptures can only be enforced and correctly taught by a minister who has been saved according to the scriptures. If a preacher has not been saved, he cannot believe, nor teach salvation according to the scriptures. This is because the teachings of the scriptures will be contrary to his natural tendencies and way of living.

The teaching of the scriptures is against the sinful nature of humans that are not born again. A person cannot believe the principles of righteousness taught in the scriptures unless these principles are a part of their way of living. A minister can only preach the principles of righteousness when the power of the Holy Spirit is making him able to live according to the scriptures.

Subject: The Prophets:

History gives us the record of past events; we know about present events because of what others or we have witnessed, but only the Lord knows the future. God saw that it was necessary that we have warnings of certain events of the future, so He sent prophets in different generations to warn the people. The prophets primarily were sent by God to warn the people about the end of the world, and about what would befall them if they continued in sin.

A present day prophet will give the same warnings that the prophets gave in past times. Such prophets today will speak in simplicity giving a profound and clear message so that people today will understand how to prepare themselves for the coming events. The prophets will give safety measures for the people to know how to avoid calamities, and inform them on what to expect if they fail to take heed. If at any time during your life you hear the warnings of God by means of His prophets, you would have found favor with God. After hearing such warnings, you should be careful to take heed and to resist an evil mind of unbelief. Listen to Hebrews 3:12:

Verse 12 - Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

Those who take heed and obey the words of the prophet will enter into a rest at the end of this life that has been prepared for God's people. Listen to Hebrews 4:3:

Verse 3 - For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

Just as God rested on the 7th day after creating the world, those who obey God, and are born again will enter into the rest that God is presently enjoying with His heavenly host. Listen to Hebrews 4:1:

Verse 1 - Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

Subject: Paul's Trial And Conversion:

When the Apostle Paul went before Agrippa to be tried, the same crowd that had Christ crucified was working diligently to have Paul killed. However, they did not have any substantial charge against Paul that was punishable by death, and what they did have, they couldn't really prove (Acts 25:7). Nevertheless, they would have succeeded except for the fact that Paul was born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, which made him a Roman citizen (Acts 22:3). Festus, in presenting Paul's case to King Agrippa, stated that the complaint against Paul was based on the

superstition of the Jews concerning Jesus, which was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive (Acts 25:19).

After hearing Paul's story and considering that the Jews really had no substantial charge against Paul, Festus was ready to release Paul. However, since Paul, a Roman citizen of Jewish nationality, had appealed to Augustus Caesar, they had no alternative but to send him to Rome, to retain Paul in custody at Rome.

In Paul's defense before King Agrippa, Paul told the whole story of his persecution of the saints believing he was right. Paul explained how he understood and was devoted to the Jewish laws, and how the doctrine of Christianity as he saw it was blasphemous. He admitted that it was he who held the coats of the mob that stoned Stephen, and thereafter becoming zealous in persecuting and destroying this strange religious sect that believed in the teachings of Jesus Christ.

However, later Paul was on his way to Damascus with legal authority to break up a little group there and bring them to Jerusalem for trial. Then Paul witnessed a miracle from heaven; the Lord stopped him in the way, and revealed to him in a dramatic and sensational demonstration that he was really against the works of God by persecuting the saints.

Paul was then converted, and having obtained help from God, he continued from that day witnessing both to the small and great. He was teaching nothing other than what the prophets and Moses said should come, that is that Christ should suffer, and that He should be the first that should rise from the dead, and show light unto the people, and to the Gentiles (Acts 26:22-23). The story of Paul's conversion was not believed by Festus who said much learning made Paul lose his mind. However, King Agrippa was affected a little differently; He was almost converted (Acts 26:28).

FALSE PASTORS AND PREACHERS:

Subject: Your Pastor Should Be At War Against Sin:

It is the duty of your pastor to feed you knowledge that will save you, if you desire to be saved. If your pastor tells you that you can't live above the practice of sin, then what is he teaching you to save you from? Sin is the only danger to the human race that will prevent humans from obtaining eternal life. The failure of a pastor to teach against sin means that he is a supporter of sin, and Satan. Sin is our only enemy that Satan uses to destroy our souls.

When pastors fail to teach the people against sin, rather than for the people to repent, they will go to social gatherings to cultivate sin. They will go to night clubs, drink liquor and commit fornication and adultery to strengthen and support sin. Sin must be undermined in order for people to reject it. A pastor cannot be a neutral bystander when sin is in action; he must go to war against sin so that some people can be saved.

Subject: Beware Of The Secret Life Of Your Pastor:

To get an understanding of something means to be able to use a source of information for your benefit. What good is an automobile if you don't have information on how to start it? If you follow a person who understands the word of God, you can watch how the person conducts him or herself and get an understanding of how to obey the word of God.

Good examples can improve your understanding. When a preacher sent by God teaches you the word of the Lord, his purpose is to establish your mind in the knowledge through examples of the words that he teaches. If a preacher has a secret or private life that his followers don't know about, he cannot be a good example of how to follow the word of God. A preacher's life should be an open book for his followers to see how he lives. Jesus was an example of how to live righteously so that the people could see the living form of the word of God that He was teaching. Your pastor's life should be the living form of the word of God that He is preaching.

Subject: The Mind Of Christ:

Most preachers don't preach the way that I preach. I preach the word of God without mixing it with opinions from my mind. When the word of God is mixed with opinions from the mind of a preacher, such a preacher would be adulterating the word of God. When the word of God is adulterated, it is made spiritually unclean; it is desecrated. Such desecration of the word takes away the power to save the listeners.

Desecration of the word is done by false preachers who are ministers of Satan. Their purpose is to deceive the listeners, and cause them to believe erroneous principles that do not bring salvation. The true gospel is given to a preacher by the Holy Spirit; it is the mind of Christ and not the mind of the preacher. The Holy Spirit uses the mind of the preacher to convey messages from God to the listeners.

Subject: An Adulterated Gospel:

Today men are going to college and religious seminaries to learn how to preach the gospel like students go to learn to be physicians and lawyers. You cannot acquire the ability to preach by going to institutions of higher learning. You must be born again, and called by God to preach the true unadulterated gospel.

Every sermon that is being preached in churches today is not the true gospel. The word of God must be implanted in a preacher's mind by the Holy Spirit before he can preach the true gospel. A preacher can only preach what he has been taught. If he is taught an adulterated gospel, that is all he will be able to preach.

Subject: The Devil Can Deceive The Ignorant Person:

When Moses presented himself before the Pharaoh of Egypt, all the miracles that God gave Moses to work were presented to the Pharaoh bringing plagues upon Egypt. There were in the land of Egypt those who worked divinations. They were sorcerers and magicians. Whenever God is doing a work, the devil will always have false demonstrators there to divert the attention of the people from the true works of God.

There were those in Egypt at that time that by the power of the devil were able to do the same thing that Moses did with his rod. The devil is an imitator, and is wonderful in the eyes of those whom he can deceive. The devil can use false preachers to deceive people just as he used sorcerers and magicians during Moses' day. Unless people are taught the true works of God done by a preacher sent from God, they will not be able to discern the devil's works of deceit from the true works of God.

Afterword

As we close another volume of Saved from Sin. It is hoped that you have been further enlightened about God's plan for the salvation of man, and that you desire to be saved according to the teachings of the Scriptures.

Remember, today is the day of salvation! Tomorrow may be too late! Please don't reject the plan of salvation, and the mercy of God. It is the will of God that all should come to repentance, and that all should be saved.



