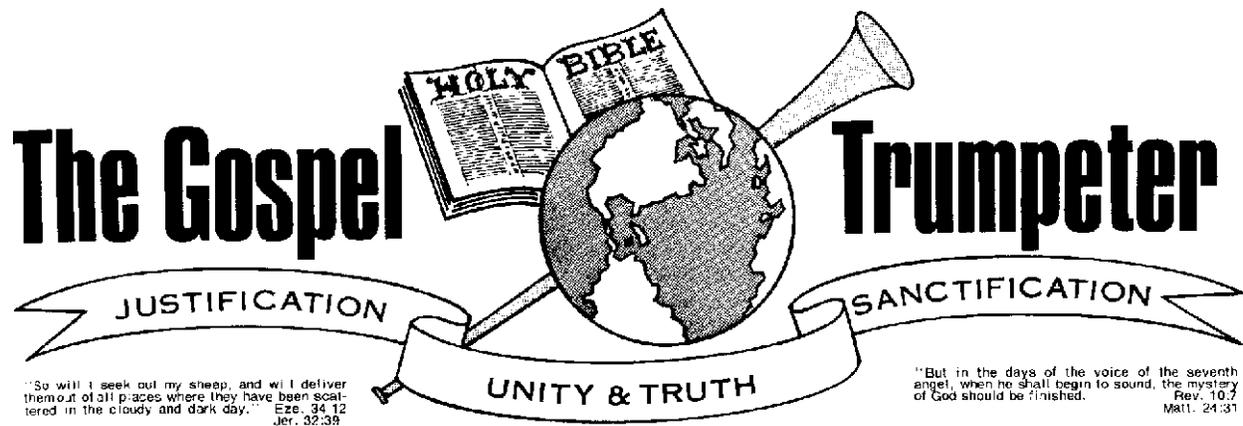


# The Gospel Trumpeter



JUSTIFICATION

SANCTIFICATION

UNITY & TRUTH

"So will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day." Eze. 34:12 Jer. 32:39

"But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished." Rev. 10:7 Mal. 2:13

SOUNDING FORTH THE SEVENTH AND LAST TRUMPET

Vol. 38 July 2009 No. 7



Church of God Tabernacle in Newark, Ohio

*"I was glad when they said unto me,  
Let us go into the house of the Lord."*

*Psalm 122:1*

---

"For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound,  
who shall prepare himself to the battle?"

---

# Guest Editorial

## THE GOSPEL TRUMPETER USPS #871620

Periodicals postage paid at the post office in Newark,  
Ohio 43055.

POSTMAN, send form 3579 to the printer:

THE GOSPEL TRUMPETER  
675 N. Cedar Street  
Newark, Ohio 43055

This periodical carries no subscription price;  
however, it is partially maintained through the gifts  
and offerings of its readers, with the balance of the  
expenses being paid by the local congregation.

PRAYER: If you need prayer, please phone or write:

Roger Decker, Pastor  
83 Decrow Ave.  
Newark, OH 43055

Email: [pastor@church-of-god-online.com](mailto:pastor@church-of-god-online.com)  
Phone: 740-344-2543 or 1-888-730-0461  
Fax: 740-344-4737  
Print Shop Phone: 740-345-1312

---

This monthly religious journal is published for the benefit of the  
Church of God universally. It is our supreme purpose to reach  
the world for Christ through the printed page. Our burden is to  
reveal the truth of God's Word to all mankind, to expose sin  
and error, war against apostasy, and to eradicate the  
longstanding traditions of men that have no biblical  
foundations.

---

Brother Roger L. Decker ..... Editor  
Workers Too Numerous to Mention

---

### THE CHURCH OF GOD BELIEVES IN:

A personal God (John 4:24)  
A divine Christ (John 1:1, 14)  
An infallibly inspired Bible (2 Tim. 3:16-17)  
Salvation from sin (Matt. 1:21)  
The new birth (John 3:3, 5-7)  
A holy life (Luke 1:73-75; Titus 2:12)  
Sanctification (1 Thess. 5:23)  
Unity of God's people (John 17:21, Eph. 4)  
Divine, physical healing (James 5:14-16)  
The ordinances (Matt. 28:19-20; John 13;  
1 Cor. 11:23, 34)  
Eternal life (Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43)  
The Trinity (1 John 5:7, 8)

### SOME SPIRITUAL FACTS PERTAINING TO THE CHURCH

Jesus organized it (Matt. 16:18)  
On a good foundation (Eph. 2:20; 1 Cor. 3:11)  
Christ governs it (Eph. 1:22-23; Isa. 9:6)  
God admits members (1 Cor. 12:13-18)  
Sin puts you out of it (Rom. 11:22; Ex. 32:33)  
The saved only are members (John 15:2-6)  
Membership is offered to all (Rev. 22:17)  
Final rewards (Rev. 20:12-15; 21:3-4; 22:14)  
Bible name of the Church (Acts 20:28;  
Gal. 1:13; John 17:11)

---

We reserve the right to edit and/or decline any material  
for any reason. We are not responsible for unsolicited  
articles or items.

---

### CONTENTS

When a Nation Turns From God. . . . .	3
When God's Wrath Refuses to Wait. . . . .	8
Especially for Young People. . . . .	14
Don't Let Sin Be Your Ruin. . . . .	15
Eat of the Old Corn. . . . .	20
Meeting Announcements. . . . .	27

---

Vol. 39 July 2009 No. 7

---

"Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end."

Hebrews 3:12-14

## Unbelief

Our Scripture text exhorts us to "Take heed," lest we fall into a condition of unbelief, as many others have. I want to remind you that none of us has it made! There is always the possibility of losing out with God. We may be saved today and be in good spiritual condition, but that can change if we fail to watch and stay alert. Others have lost out, and it can happen to us also. There is an enemy who is ever seeking an opportunity to turn the child of God away from righteous living.

You need to take heed to yourself, be serious, be sober, and be diligent about the things of God and your soul. Why? Because you could become faint in your mind and think that serving God is too difficult. You must beware of becoming weary in the battle for Truth and right, thus entertaining the thought of laying down the armor. Consider the pitfalls that so many have fallen into, thereby losing out with God. You must realize that one day this life will come to an end. This race will soon be over, and only those who have been faithful to God, who have stood firm, and who have endured to the end will obtain the final reward—Heaven.

The Old Testament contains many examples of the children of Israel failing and going back on the Lord. Oftentimes they provoked Him to anger with their unbelief. They refused to believe

that He would carry them through and supply all their needs. When in the wilderness, the Israelites complained and murmured against God and His man, Moses. They complained of having no food to eat, so God sent manna from heaven, but that soon became distasteful. They murmured and complained because they had no water to drink, so God sent forth water from the Rock. When the Israelites came to the place of entering Canaan land as God had promised, they did not believe He would destroy the giants who lived there. Their unbelief caused them to send spies to seek out the land. God's wrath was stirred to the degree that He said in Hebrews 3:11, "They shall not enter into my rest."

Unbelief working in the heart stirs the wrath of God. There is no sound reason for anyone not to believe God. The Lord performed many mighty miracles before their eyes, and He is still doing great things today. Yet some people grow careless in their souls because things do not go the way they think they should, or because God does not answer as quickly as they feel He should, they are ready to give up on God. A desire to turn back to the old life of sin seems to overtake them. Entertaining the thought of turning back to the old sinful life and the things from which

[continued on page 13]

*Proverbs 14:34 Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.*



# When a Nation Turns From God

*Brother Roger L. Decker*

## **A Nation Founded Upon Righteous Principles**

This month as a nation we will be celebrating the signing of one of the most historical documents this country has ever known, the Declaration of Independence. It was first signed on July 4, 1776, in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This Fourth of July marks two hundred thirty-three years since that day. Three main men drew up the article: Thomas Jefferson was the author, with the help of John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. It marked the birth of a nation, and this nation was destined for world leadership under the direction of Almighty God.

There should be no doubt in people's minds that God has richly blessed this nation. Why? Because of the righteous principles upon which it was founded. Those men did not have the light or the understanding that we have today, but they walked in what Truth they had and applied those righteous principles to their lives and to their families. For that reason God richly blessed them.

At that time there were thirteen colonies represented by fifty-six congressmen who signed the document. Today we have four hundred thirty-five members of the House, one hundred Senators, and three branches of the federal government. With all the government that

we have, it seems like the government is in almost everything we do anymore, yet sin keeps growing and growing. In a nation that was blessed with so much, it seems that the morals have dropped to a lower ebb than ever before.

With all the laws that have been written, not one of them can deliver a man or a woman from sin. One bill that some attempted to pass into law in Congress outlaws speaking against homosexuality. Should it pass, one could no longer use Romans, Chapter 1, and 1 Corinthians, Chapter 6, anymore without being in violation of that law. Violations would be subject to fines and imprisonment. I am not saying that

bill will make it through Congress, but that is a start. It might come to the place where some of us have to go to jail if that bill ever passes. Why? Because we must obey God rather than men. We have never faced anything like that, but it might come to that, and it is probably coming to that quicker than what we might think. All they have to do is keep ramming it in there, and one of these days it might slip through, just as the atheists finally got God out of the schools. I want you to be aware that certain things are creeping in unawares.

Some members of Congress introduce a bill that seems way out in left field with the thought that it may get knocked down, but they will fine-tune it and try to ram it through again. Meanwhile, they will take polls to find out what people's feelings are concerning that subject. We have a beautiful country. I would rather live in the United States than any place else. I do not want to be negative against the government. The United States is still the best place to live. We still have some freedoms that we can enjoy.

This country was founded on righteous principles, but sinful men have gotten in the government. Men who are openly gay have been voted into government offices, and they work to pass such laws. If enough of those individuals are elected to government offices, they can slip those bills through. The next thing you know, they will become laws before people even know what hit them.

### **The Price of Freedom**

The signers of the original document pledged their lives, their honor, and their fortunes to the new country. Although this document declared the United States of America separate from England, the colonists of that day had to fight against the British before they were recognized as an independent nation. Had the nation failed, they knew what would have lay ahead of them: they would have been tried as

traitors and would have faced the hangman's noose. Their lives, their homes, their families, and the failure of the nation were on the line.

Those men were not bums off the street who had no desire to live. They were not pirates or crooks. They were men of means and comfort, and they were used to living in luxury. Many of them owned plantations and were very wealthy with servants who prepared their meals every day and who labored in their fields. They were wealthy landowners who were very prosperous and well-respected in their communities. Yet, something about those men was different from the average citizen. They considered liberty much more important than the security, the ease, and the comfort that they enjoyed, so much that they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and even their honor to see it come to pass.

When men signed the Declaration of Independence, they might as well have signed it in their own blood. Of the fifty-six men who signed this document, five were captured by the British and tortured until they died, twelve of them had their homes ransacked or looted or burned or overtaken by the enemy, two of them lost their sons in the army, one had sons captured by the British, and nine of them died from hardship or by the enemy's bullets. They paid a tremendous price for that which we enjoy today. God help us to be thankful for the liberty for which those men laid down their lives.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of and which no other people enjoy." We are privileged to live in a nation established on God-given principles, and it is a great honor that we still owe to Almighty God. I tell the Lord how much I appreciate it and how much I appreciate being able to have the freedom to come and go as we please. I realize that we are losing many of our freedoms, but we still

have the privilege of being able to study the Word of God and to preach the Gospel. In many countries people cannot openly do that.

### **Sin Is a Disgrace to Any People**

Proverbs 14:32-34 states: "The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death. Wisdom resteth in the heart of him that hath understanding; but that which is in the midst of fools is made known. Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach [or a disgrace] to any people." The wicked is driven away in his wickedness. He does not leave life cheerfully. He has no hope in the other world, but the righteous man has hope in his death; he rejoices to depart and to be with Christ. To him death is gain. He is not reluctant to go; he flies to the call of God. God's approval is on righteousness. God loves righteousness.

When a nation or an individual forsakes righteousness and no longer acknowledges the God of creation, a drastic turn will take place. When a family, a congregation, a city, or a nation turns from righteousness, it will go down. As it goes down, it is almost like a snowball rolling down a mountain—it just gets bigger and bigger. When an individual turns from righteousness, he will start down the road that leads away from God, away from His commandments, away from His Word, and away from His holiness. Finally, he will end up in the region of the lost.

Psalms 9:17 reads, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." They will be turned into hell. America has gotten to the place where God is not even allowed in sporting events, schools, and government buildings; but He is allowed in the prisons. Isn't that amazing? You can worship God whenever you want in prison. You can take whatever religion you want. The government has to supply

religion for inmates in the prisons. They hand them New Testaments; but we are forbidden to take them in the schools, because God is not allowed in the schools.

Men have begun to tamper with God's absolutes. Atheists are even challenging the Pledge of Allegiance. Ninety percent of the people are against removing the phrase "In God we trust" from our money and against removing the phrase "one nation under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance, but the judges and lawmakers often listen to the 10 percent. What do they do? They know that somewhere an activist judge will put his stamp of approval on it. Activist judges have been appointed in nearly every state. They have begun to tolerate what they would not condone at one time. That which was never right is now sometimes deemed right, depending on the situation. The separation of right and wrong has become blurred. These things that affect the nation also affect the church.

### **Woe to Those Who Call Evil Good and Good Evil**

The separation of right and wrong has divided many in the church today. The division has become blurred concerning what is right and what is wrong. People question this and question that, looking for loopholes so they can be more like the world. Nevertheless, God still has a standard. When it comes to the outward standard, God wants all His people to dress modestly, regardless of their age. Modesty is the Bible standard of the Church of God.

First Peter 2:11 says, "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul." There are some things that the Word of God does not pinpoint. Sometimes people will say, "Show me that in the Bible." You cannot actually read in the Bible, "Thou shall not smoke a cigarette," but there is

another witness besides the Word, and that is the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God will be true to each and every soul. God built something within each individual that lets him or her know right from wrong, and that is called a conscience.

Before I knew right from wrong, as far as the Bible was concerned, there were some things that I knew from my conscience. I knew better than to steal from my father. I did not have to hear that preached; I knew that was wrong. God puts a conscience in every individual. The Spirit of God will be true to every soul.

The people of America have looked for loopholes, and they have found those loopholes in the court system. Through the courts they have loosed a flood of sin upon our nation. We live in a nation where babies can be murdered under the protection of the law. Exodus 20:13 states, "Thou shalt not kill." America's judgment of right and wrong has been distorted. Over a million babies yearly have their lives taken from them.

Isaiah 5:20-24 reads: "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him! Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel."

### **The Gradual Decay of Moral Values**

Judges 17:6 says, "In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right

in his own eyes." There is a great danger of doing what is right in your own eyes. Your eyes can become accustomed to the darkness around you. Proverbs 4:19 tells us, "The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble." Romans 1:21 says, "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."

When people leave the godly principles set down by the King of kings, then ungodly men and women will push their agenda to the forefront. Righteousness exalts a nation. Regardless of who passes laws permitting mass murder, it will never get past the will of God. Millions of dollars are spent on AIDS, and politicians who want their names in lights: "Send this much money to this country and that amount to that country." AIDS is primarily a behavioral problem. What is the sad part? It is passed down to innocent children.

Spiritual darkness is weaving its way through the high places of our country. America is leaving that which made her the land of the free because she has laid aside the principles of God's Word. There has been a gradual decay in moral values and family values. Marriage has been discredited to the place where couples actually live together before marriage, and that is wrong. It is sinful to live with someone and not be married.

Sisters and brothers in the Lord must be careful of getting into an automobile alone together. I am not talking about married couples. I am talking about single sisters and brothers or married sisters and brothers who are married to someone else. It allows room for the devil to work, and the devil will take advantage.

Hebrews 13:4 says, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." To engage in sexual relations before

marriage is sin. If you are involved in that, you are a sinner, and you are not under the blessings of God; you are under the wrath of God. It is difficult anymore to get young people to keep themselves pure for marriage. (In the Old Testament if they were not pure, they were killed.) The next thing they know, that which was done in secret will be brought out in the open. Then a child is on the way because they overstepped.

God knows that too many times repentance is not with godly sorrow. In the Old Testament in the days of King Saul, there was no godly sorrow in his life. That was the difference between Saul and David. Saul overstepped, and then he wanted to go right back to what he was doing before, but God rejected him.

To live together before marriage is sin, and to live together after you have been divorced is sin. You may say, "Well, we are still married in the eyes of God." No, you are not! You are divorced in the eyes of God and in the eyes of everyone else.

### **Behavior Becoming to Godliness**

The feminist movement is in opposition to the wife submitting to the husband. Those in this movement feel that a woman should go to college and become career oriented, but that is in direct opposition to the Word of God. Titus 2:1-5 reads: "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." What are the aged women to teach the younger woman? They are to teach the younger women to love their husbands and to be keep-

ers at home, not keepers of the home. This is what the Bible says.

Many times the love of money takes ones beyond their common sense. They buy things that they know they cannot pay for. What suffers when they do that? The work of God does. A woman who is continually gone must neglect her family. Her home becomes a mess, her children are unkempt, and the children get involved in things that they should not be involved in. A Church of God woman knows how to take care of a home, how to keep the house clean, how to put a meal on the table, how to do the laundry, and how to make the beds. She does not gallivant all over the neighborhood.

Paul ended verse 5 by saying, ". . . that the word of God be not blasphemed." There are always enemies of the Gospel who are quick to spot any imperfections of those who profess. If they see Christians living an irregular life, they are quick to point it out. Look at what our nation is today because people are not following the Apostle's advice. Children are not supposed to be raised by day care centers. The home should be a haven for children. Mothers were not meant to be career-minded. I know there are some exceptions, but I must preach the Bible standard, and God will work out all the exceptions.

Psalm 11 says this: "In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain? For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart. If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do? The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men. The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

"Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup. For the righ-

teous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright." The Psalmist asked, "What can the righteous do?" The answer is, they can find the Lord in the same place He always is. God is in His holy temple. He is going to remain the same, and He still loves the same thing He has always loved: righteousness.

### **Where Has the Letdown Been in Our Nation**

If God is the same, and He is still found in the same place and He still loves the same thing, what is the problem? How did all of this become as it is now? Revelation 8:1 says, "And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour." There has been a letdown in the pulpits across the land in crying out against wrong. Sin is no longer considered to be sin. When there is silence in the pulpit, it spreads to the pews. Next, the fear of God is lifted.

Psalm 119:11 states, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." The church has always been a buffer against wrong, but when the church mixes right and wrong, there is nothing to withstand evil. The church has always set the pattern for the world, but when the church mixes with the world, there is no buffer against sin. The Word of God must not be taken lightly. God commands and demands 100 percent obedience. You cannot be a child of God and continually disobey Him.

The Fourth of July is an outstanding date to remember in our nation, but I like to think about another nation that came into existence that we need to remember, and it is pointed out in the Word of God. In Isaiah 66:8 we read, "Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." When was this

Scripture to be fulfilled? On the Day of Pentecost a holy nation was brought into existence. There have been battles ever since that day. Saint, there has been a battle every single day to get you and me out of that holy nation.

First Peter 2:9 reads, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." The light of the Gospel is marvellous light! Like the nation we live in on this earth, we have to battle the enemy of our souls, but we must not give in. Just like the men who founded this great nation of ours, we, too, must never give up. We must ever press onward and

upward to our final rewards.

Let us take a lesson from those men who signed the Declaration of Independence. They did not give up even though it cost some of them their lives, their homes, their families, and their wealth. Church, we are in a battle of right against wrong, holiness against sin, and we should never give up, never give in, never let down. We belong to a holy nation, and our Captain has never lost a battle. Isn't that wonderful? He has never had to retreat or throw up His hands in defeat. Never! Our Captain is victorious! We are in an everlasting kingdom that will never be destroyed.

We must not give in. God will be for us if we will hold to that which is right. It is not a time to go

astray, but rather a time to crouch up closer to the Lord. Again, our Scripture text in Proverbs 14:34 reads, "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach [or a disgrace] to any people." Just as many people have let down on the righteous principles upon which this nation was founded, many in the church have left the paths of righteousness and are seeking another way. May God help us to stand firmly on the principles of God's eternal Word. If you are defeated, you need to talk to the Captain. He will tell you what you did wrong, and He will tell you how you can avoid letting that happen again.

*(Compact Disc TR-104E)*

2

## Online Newsletter

Have you had the opportunity to visit one of our websites? We continue to add new content each month. You can add your e-mail address to our mailing list at: [GodsAcresEnews.com](http://GodsAcresEnews.com)



## Online Audio Messages

Audio messages from revivals and camp meetings are being added to the website! Revelation audio messages are also being added.

Be sure to check the "study helps page."

**[GodsAcres.org](http://GodsAcres.org) • [GospelTrumpeter.com](http://GospelTrumpeter.com) • [ChurchofGodYouth.com](http://ChurchofGodYouth.com)**

# When God's Wrath Refuses to Wait



*Brother Larry Dishman*

## **Time Is Running Out**

There are two subjects to which we cannot do justice. First, I do not believe that a man of God can do justice to the subject of love, because God's love exceeds human knowledge. No man can explain the love of God. One song that best describes the love of God says: "*Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made, Were every stalk on earth a quill, And every man a scribe by trade; To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry; Nor could the scroll contain the whole, Tho' stretched from sky to sky.*"

The second subject to which we cannot do justice is God's wrath. It is beyond human comprehension. In God's dealings with many nations, His promises of blessings and His warnings of judgment are conditional. Judgment may be averted

even at the eleventh hour through repentance, but blessings can be forfeited by disobedience. We have record of the goodness of God and the severity of God in both the Old and the New Testaments.

Over and over in the Bible, sin reached a point where God's wrath refused to wait. We are living in the last days. If you ever intend to make Heaven your home, you had better get down to business with God now, because time is running out. Hebrews 1:1-2 reads: "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son."

Again, we are reminded that we are living in the last days in 1 John 2:18, which reads, "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby

we know that it is the last time." In 1 Peter 1:20 we read, "Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you."

In Hebrews 9:26 we are reminded that we are living in the last days, and the end of the world is approaching. The writer said, "For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." As we look at the condition that our world is in and how people are going further and further away from God, it seems that men have lost the fear of God.

We cannot help but be reminded of what Christ said in Luke 12:54-56: "And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There

cometh a shower; and so it is. And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass. Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?"

Certainly this is the condition of our religious world. Sinners and even many professing Christians all around us are unable to discern this time when God's wrath refuses to wait. Romans 11:22 reads, "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God." Psalm 76:7 reads, "Thou, even thou, art to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?" Psalm 90:11 says, "Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath."

### **The Wrath of God**

We read in Jeremiah 3:5a, "Will he reserve his anger for ever?" This is something that you need to think about. Friend, will God reserve His anger forever? God is angry with America, and He is angry concerning the sins that are going on in our world. Second Chronicles 36:16 says, "But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy."

Job 36:18 says, "Because there is wrath, beware lest he take thee away with his stroke: then a great ransom cannot deliver thee." Ezra 8:22 reads, "The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him." Do you understand what this means? If you have forsaken the Lord, His power and His wrath are against you. Now, we have a hard time imagining God's wrath against sin because we have never seen the fullness of God's wrath unleashed upon it. Here upon this earth, His wrath is always tempered with mercy. However, there is nothing to protect or insulate people doomed to hell from the unreserved, unre-

strained judgment of God against sin.

God does not throw temper tantrums. His anger against sin is built into His very nature. Therefore, God's displeasure can reach a boiling point when sin reaches an intolerable level. Friend, if you will be honest, you will have to agree that in America sin has reached an intolerable level. There comes a time when an individual as well as a nation can exhaust the mercy of God. You can read in the Bible the account of what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah when God had His fill of their sin.

God's fierce wrath against sin is as much a reflection of His character as His love. The wrath of God is not a popular subject, and I do not necessarily enjoy preaching about it; however, if I did not warn people about the judgment of God, I would be like a fireman who failed to warn people about a fire. Romans 1:18 says, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness."

Romans 2:5 reads, "But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God." Sinner friend, if you are living in sin, this Scripture lets you know that you can store up wrath against yourself as you continue to sin and refuse the mercy of God.

### **Moral Looseness**

I want to mention three instances in the Bible where God's wrath refused to wait. First, God's wrath refused to wait in Noah's day. The Bible says in Genesis 6:2, "That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose." Do you realize that in the western world, America has been a leader in teenage pregnancy? I want you to think about that. Millions of girls are infected with social dis-

eases. Millions of sex magazines are read monthly. Pornography is a multi-billion dollar business in our day. Babies born out of wedlock are increasing by a large percentage. The public schools are not speaking out against illicit sex, but they teach students how to avoid disease and how to keep from getting caught. We are living in a day when babies are having babies. The good moral standards that have stood the test for years and years are quickly crumbling all around us.

Volumes of obscene literature, together with television programs, are enticing to the unlawful lust and passion, and it is gaining tremendous momentum in the day and time in which we are living. Men, women, boys, and girls are losing their integrity; they are losing their virtue and their sense of direction. The sad thing about it is that our young people are being sidetracked into believing that love is an emotional self-gratification of one's physical desires. God will never sanction such unholy practices.

A flood of moral looseness has so blighted and undermined the American people. Hollywood's most talented people entice men and women into sin by taking that which is foolish, vile, and empty and making it appealing to a deceived generation.

Genesis 6:11 states, "The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence." Crime is on the increase in America. A shocking crime wave is sweeping our nation, and crime has planted the seed of fear in the hearts of the American people. No one is safe anymore. Your neighborhood is no longer safe, and it is no longer safe at the airports. The schools are no longer safe. America is a world leader in violence and crime. Genesis 6:12 declares, "And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth."

Friend, this time in Genesis is parallel to the day in which we are living. All flesh has corrupted its

way upon the earth. God's wrath refused to wait in the days of Noah. God could not tolerate it anymore. First Peter 3:20 reads, "Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water." Notice that the Bible says "when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah." I believe the only reason that God has not already come and put an end to this world is due to His longsuffering. God is good, gracious, and loving. He is a wonderful God, but there will come a time when God's wrath will refuse to wait. I believe with all my heart that we are approaching that time.

### **"Judgment Is Coming"**

Noah was a faithful preacher. In reproving the world of the wickedness in his day, he warned the world that judgment was coming. I can imagine in my mind that every time Noah drove a nail into the ark, he was saying, "Judgment is coming. Judgment is coming. You had better get right with God. You had better get into the ark because judgment is coming." Friend, it was a day of sin just as today. It is hard to get people's attention because the god of this world has so blinded the minds of the American people. The fountains of the deep were opened in Noah's day, and the windows of Heaven were unstopped. I want you to know that God's way is perfect both in judgment and in mercy to make sure that none escape the judgment of God.

The highest mountain and the highest tree of that day was overflowed. No doubt, some thought they could get to the top of a mountain or climb to the top of a tree to escape the judgment of God, but the waters kept coming, and finally they were forced to die. Possibly some began to cling to the ark, hoping that it would be their safety. Perhaps some even tried to climb on

top of the ark, but eventually they were forced to die. Friend, there is no place on earth so high or so low where men can get out of reach of the judgment of God.

The water that covered everything and demolished all the buildings was the same water that bore up the ark. No doubt when the rain began to fall, they were reminded of the words of the faithful man of God who warned them, but the door of the ark was shut! Oh, sinner friend, backslider, you had better get into the ark, spiritually speaking, while the door is still open. There is coming a day when the door of grace will be shut, and then it will be too late to pray.

Friend, though hand join hand, the wicked shall not go unpunished. Genesis 7:16 says, "The LORD shut him [Noah] in." At that moment in time, all those millions of people were cut off from hope of admittance. Soon God will shut the door of mercy, and once the door of mercy is shut, my friend, it will never be unbarred again.

The fate of those millions of people is recorded in Genesis 7:21, which states, "And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man." The results are terrifying when God's wrath refuses to wait.

You may ask, "What was going on at that time?" Luke 17:27 tells us, "They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all." Our nation is also a world leader in divorce. I want you to think about that, friend.

### **An Example to Those Who Live Ungodly**

The second time when God's wrath refused to wait was when God sent judgment upon Sodom and Gomorrah. Genesis 13:13 reads, "But the men of Sodom were wicked

and sinners before the LORD exceedingly." Genesis 19:24-25 states: "Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground."

Notice that the Bible says in 2 Peter 2:6, "And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly."

No doubt, on that fateful day in Sodom and Gomorrah, the sun rose bright and clear, promising a fair day, but quickly a storm arose which was not from natural causes. This was destruction from God Almighty. It was a strange judgment that never had been experienced before and never has it happened like that since. Fire and brimstone rained down upon them, and a horrible tempest was the portion of their cup. Brimstone was scattered upon their habitation and fire burned those people.

According to the Bible and according to historians, it was a judgment that laid all to waste. It overthrew the cities and destroyed all the inhabitants of the plain so that nothing could even grow upon the ground. It was utter ruin and irreparable. That valley, which was once fruitful, remains to this day the Dead Sea. It is called the Salt Sea, and it has no living creature in it. It was a punishment because of the sin that was going on in those cities.

I want you to think for a moment concerning Sodom and Gomorrah. They had no Bible, no preachers, no tracts, no prayer meetings, and no churches; yet they perished. How, then, could God spare America from His wrath? We have millions of Bibles, thousands of churches, and endless preachers, yet abominable sins prevail. Friend, America has already fallen and gone into slavery and her people are fettered at this very moment with

the chains of self-forged and self-chosen moral anarchy. America is in need of a great revival. As the church, we must plead for a revival. If we do not have a revival, we are going to perish. It is either Pentecost or holocaust. It is either revival or the wrath of God. If there ever was a need for a far-sweeping, spiritual awakening, the time is now.

### **Revival or Ruin**

While the modern Sodomites are coming out of the closets, many professing Christians are running into the closets because they do not want to clean up their lives. A diabolical stream of corruption seems to be flowing from the White House down to the schoolhouse, and even into the church house. Our nation has so immersed itself into political policies that people have forgotten the Bible basics. Friend, our nation has sacrificed what is right on the altar of what is politically correct.

Psalm 107:27 states, "They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end." Wickedness like a flood is likely to drown our world. It already appears to be above the tops of the mountains and has almost swallowed up every living thing. The youth, the middle aged, and even the old aged have been nearly carried away with this flood of iniquity. Sin is swallowing up our nation and bringing its inhabitants to spiritual and eternal ruin.

America is intoxicated with the deadly poison of sin. You know I am telling you the truth. Even so, I would rather live in the United States of America than any other place that I know of. I have been in other countries, but we must face the facts. The foundation of this country is becoming more and more rotten. God will bless or curse a nation according to the course it takes. This nation is under the displeasure of God. The downfall of every nation or people has always been sin.

With integrity abounding and love waxing cold, many evils are being manifested. I am talking about fornication. Do you know what the Bible says? Hebrews 13:4 states, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." We may be living in a time when things have changed, but God's Word has not changed. Adultery, divorce, remarriage, and sodomy are on the rise. Adult and juvenile delinquency is rapidly increasing and becoming widely prevalent. All these and many other sins are hastening the return of our Lord.

Today a flood is upon the inhabitants of the earth. Friend, it is not a flood of water but a flood of immorality, materialism, worldliness, and Christian apostasy. The human race is once again bringing destruction upon itself just as in the days of Noah and the days of Sodom and Gomorrah. Even our smallest cities are alive with impurity. The streets are a river of devilry, drunkenness, divorce, darkness, death, damnation, and despair. There has never been a more serious hour in this troubled world. Our only hope of survival is to have a revival; it is either revival or ruin. True revival can change the moral climate of a nation.

The increasing crime wave adds up to a frightening total. Many schools are a potential danger. Since so many young people are brought together, the abuse of narcotics and liquor is a curse to our nation. Friend, the Bible still says in Proverbs 20:1, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

As I mentioned earlier, our nation is a world leader in abortion, which is murder. How does God feel about a nation that crusades to save birds and animals while it kills millions of unborn babies? My friend, God is taking notice, and He is angry! How long is God's wrath going to be withheld? It cannot be

held back much longer.

We read in 2 Timothy 3:1-5: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

This nation has been ruined with man-made religion. We are cursed with many different man-made doctrines. Was there ever such an evil hour? This is a time of blight and plight, but the good news is that revivals have come in times like these! The outstanding need of our day is a spiritual revival in the body of Christ.

I believe that every true man of God is heartsick and grieved over the worldliness that is trying to slip into the church, grieved at the blindness of those who profess Christianity, grieved at the corruption around the church (not *in* the church), grieved at the tolerance for sin, and grieved at the prayerlessness. Soon God's wrath will refuse to wait any longer.

### **A Night of Terror**

Another instance when God's wrath refused to wait was when it fell on Belshazzar. King Belshazzar planned a great party in Babylon. The great banquet hall was filled with his princes, his lords, his wives, and his concubines. It was party time in Babylon, but suddenly the party was interrupted. God put an end to it. Oh, how America is partying. America parties to live, and she lives to party. However, one of these days, at an unexpected hour, God will step in and put an end to the party.

When the handwriting appeared on the wall, the party was over for

Belshazzar. Even though God was not invited to that party, He came unexpectedly. The same hour that Belshazzar drank from the sacred vessels, the fingers of a man's hand began to write on the wall. Immediately the mood changed from feasting and fun to fear, from revelry to remorse. It was turned from a night of triumph to a night of terror. Sinful pleasure is the way of death because it sears the conscience. It intoxicates and ripens the soul for ruin.

You may wonder why the wrath of God fell upon Belshazzar. It was because he knew better, according to the Scriptures. He knew that he was doing wrong. He profaned the vessels of God's house by using the utensils of His sanctuary as instruments of iniquity. They praised the gods of gold and silver, which hear not, see not, and know nothing. Belshazzar had no right to use those vessels that were dedicated to God. It was bad enough to bring those vessels to Babylon, but when Belshazzar took those vessels that had been sanctified and used for the Master's service and poured wine in them, it ripened Babylon's ruin. Wine flowed freely, leading to irreverence and shame.

In my mind's eye I can see the king elevated as those vessels were being passed around. There was much singing, dancing, and laughter, but all of a sudden the king saw a man's hand writing on the wall. His knees began to smite against each other, his whole body began to tremble, and his countenance changed. Fear came upon the party like a whirlwind. In essence, that hand wrote of the doom of Babylon and Belshazzar upon the wall near the candlestick so that all might see it. The king saw the hand that wrote, but he could not see the Person whose hand it was, and that made the situation even more frightening.

King Belshazzar's thoughts troubled him, and his guilty conscience bothered him. He did not know what the writing said, but he did not have any reason to expect

good news from Heaven. He knew by the way that he had been living that it was bad news.

### **The Wages of Sin**

Friend, God can quickly awaken the most secure and cause the hardest and the stoutest sinner to begin to tremble. How would you react if you should lie down at night and suddenly the fingers of a man's hand were to appear in your bedroom and begin to write something on the wall? How have you been living? Would you expect good news from Heaven or would you be like Belshazzar? Would your conscience appall you? Would your knees begin to tremble? If you are not saved, you would be in a fearful condition.

That night while Belshazzar's heart was still intoxicated with wine, the besiegers broke into the city and Belshazzar was slain. This is typical of the end of a sinner's life. Sinner friend, you can revel, party, laugh, and do what you want to do as you sow your wild oats. You can find some pleasure in sin, but the end is going to come, and the wages of sin is death.

King Belshazzar had exhausted the mercies of God. The very night that he was warned was the very night that he was slain. The gods that he had been worshiping that night were not the God who judged him. Belshazzar knew of King Nebuchadnezzar's example and had heard of his warning. King Belshazzar had invested his life in the things that pass away and failed to prepare for eternity; he faced eternity empty handed. He had time for pleasure and time for business, but he had no time for God. No doubt, when that party began that night, death was the furthest thing from his mind. Even as they were pouring wine into those vessels and people were dancing and the music was playing, death was not on his mind; but death was on its way to his address.

My friend, death is on its way to

your house. It may not appear so, but death is on your trail. It pays to be ready. There is terror in facing death unprepared to meet God. Hebrews 10:31 reads, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." The wrath and judgment of a king would be terrible, but the wrath of God is far more terrible than the imagination can comprehend. In this present life God blends mercy with judgment; but on the Judgment Day, mercy will retire and wrath will be unmitigated.

The human mind cannot fathom judgment without mercy, but that is how it will be on Judgment Day. You may exhaust the mercies of God. However, when God gets ready to pour out judgment, there is no place high enough or low enough to escape it. Sinner friend, eventually sin will catch up with you, just as it did Belshazzar. God prefers mercy over judgment, but there is a point when judgment refuses to wait.

### **Don't Wait Until It Is Too Late!**

About a year ago I was called upon to go and see a young man who was in jail. God helped me to talk to him about his soul and about the need of getting saved. I spoke to him about the Judgment, eternity, and preparing to meet God. The entire time that I sat there and talked to him, he sat there with a smirky grin on his face.

I encouraged him to come to church when he got out of jail. I remember the Sunday morning that he came to church. God sent a message, and conviction was strong, but he refused to yield his life to God. He went deeper and deeper in sin. I often make this statement: sin will take you further than you want to go, it will keep you longer than you want to stay, and it will cost you more than you want to pay.

This young man kept living the same way he had been living: he was using drugs and drinking alcohol, going deeper and deeper in

sin. He started threatening to kill himself, and some time later he went into the garage, removed all his clothes, poured gasoline in a bucket and drenched his clothes in the gasoline. Next, he put his clothes back on, went outside and struck a match, and went up in flames. He was conscious about forty-five minutes before he sank into unconsciousness. They called me to the hospital to the burn unit. He did not look like a human being. It was so sad and so pitiful to see him lying there in an unconscious condition with his body so swollen. I preached his funeral, and that was one of the saddest funerals that I have ever had to preach.

I am sure most of you would say, "I would never do anything like that." No doubt there was a time in his life when he did not think he

would do such a thing as that. If you are not saved, you are preparing the fuel that will burn forever. You have a choice, just as that young man had a choice. When you choose sin, you are choosing the wages of sin, and the wages of sin is death. Your life could end at any time. I believe that the court of Heaven is weighing America in the balance. America will soon be called to give an account for the filth that she has embraced and for the covenant with God that she has forsaken. Judgment is about to come! America has sinned, and she is in trouble with God. Again, our Scripture text says, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."

I encourage you, sinner friend, backslider, to come to Jesus, who endured the penalty of sin while He

was upon the Cross. Those who place their faith in the Son of God are delivered from the wrath to come. Romans 5:9 says, "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him." You might have been raised in a Christian home and know better than to live the way you are living. You know that the things you are doing are wrong. How long do you think God's wrath is going to be withheld? You can exhaust the mercies of God, my friend, even though you are a young person. While the door of mercy is still open, while Christ's blood still avails, you had better find a place to pray. Time is running out! Someday it will be too late to pray. Do not wait until it is too late to pray.

*(Compact Disc TR-040E)*

---

[Guest Editorial—continued from page 2] one was once delivered arouses God's displeasure. Unless those thoughts are quickly cast aside, one may find himself in serious trouble with the Lord. Jesus stated in Luke 9:62, "No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Days of temptation can be times of great danger. God will allow every person to be tested and proven to see what is truly in the heart. This testing time is a good opportunity for each one to see what is really motivating his or her life. Is it a true love for God and His way? Do you just follow Him for the many blessings that you can receive? Deuteronomy 8:2 reads, "And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldst keep his commandments, or no."

The danger in temptation is the possibility of becoming disgruntled and actually thinking that the old life was a better way to live, a time when you had more pleasure and

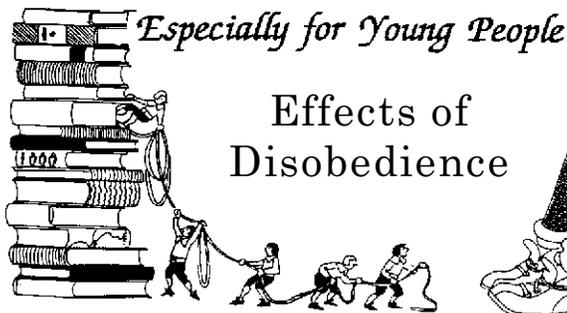
things went better. That is the way Israel thought when they faced the hardships they encountered. They began accusing God of mistreating them and making their way hard. They also accused Moses of bringing them to the wilderness just so that God could destroy them. Undoubtedly, those accusations hurt God and stirred His wrath. The Scripture verifies the fact that Israel's unbelief and disobedience to follow God in faith prevented them from ever gaining the rest He promised.

This same condition is falling on mankind today. Some people grumble over the way God chooses to lead them. Others dislike the way God requires them to live and conduct themselves. They reject His standard and His man. This is dangerous! What happened to the Israelites can happen yet today. God wants a willing and an obedient people to serve Him. If you will do things God's way, you will be blessed, and you will prosper in your soul. In Isaiah 1:19-20 we read: "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the

sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it."

Friend, if you allow an evil heart of unbelief to take hold of you and remain, you will end up departing from the Lord, even as old Israel did. It would be well for each of us to take heed to the Word of God and believe it. That which has been sent to be a blessing and a guide through this life can become a curse that destroys if disbelieved. You can overcome all doubts and unbelief through faith. You must reject any thought of ever turning away from God and going back to the old life. You should never allow Satan to entertain you with the thought that you had it better when you were living in sin. The Christian life is the best life to live here, and the only one that will assure you entrance into Heaven. Regardless of the trials, the persecutions, the upsets, the misfortunes, the afflictions, and the frustrations that come your way, the Christ-filled life is by far the best and the only way for man to live. There is nothing to go back to!

Selected



*The following affecting narrative was related by a father to his son as a warning, from his own bitter experience of resisting a mother's love and counsel.*

What agony was on my mother's face when all that she had said and suffered failed to move me. She rose to go home, and I followed at a distance. She spoke to me no more until she reached her own door.

"It is school time now," she said. "Go, my son, and once more let me beseech you to think upon what I have said."

"I won't go to school," I said.

She looked astonished at my boldness, but replied firmly: You certainly will, Alfred! I command you!"

"I will not," I said.

"One of two things you must do, Alfred. Either go to school this minute or I will lock you up in your room and keep you there until you promise implicit obedience to my wishes in the future."

"I dare you to do it," I said. "You can't get me upstairs."

"Alfred, choose now," said my mother, who laid her hand upon my arm." She trembled violently and was deadly pale.

"If you touch me, I will kick you!" said I in a fearful rage. God knows I knew not what I said.

"Will you go, Alfred?"

"No," I replied, but I quailed beneath her eyes.

"Then follow me," she said as she grasped my arm firmly. I raised my foot—O my son, hear me—I raised my foot and kicked her, my sainted mother! How my head reels as the torrent of memory rushes over me. I kicked my mother, a

feeble woman. She staggered back a few steps and leaned against the wall. She did not look at me.

"O Heavenly Father," she cried, "forgive him."

The gardener, just then passing the door and seeing my mother pale and almost unable to support herself, came in.

"Take this boy upstairs and lock him in his room," she said, and turned from me. She gave me a look of agony, mingled with intense love from a tender heart that was broken.

In a moment I found myself a prisoner in my room. I thought for a moment I would fling myself from the open window, but I felt that I was afraid to die.

The pale face of my mother haunted me. I flung myself on my bed and fell asleep. Just at twilight, I heard footsteps approach my door. It was my sister.

"What shall I tell Mother for you?" she asked.

"Nothing," I replied.

"Oh, Alfred, for all our sakes, say that you are sorry. She longs to forgive you."

I would not answer. I heard her footsteps slowly retreating and flung myself on the bed to pass a wretched night.

Another footstep, slower and more feeble than my sister's, disturbed me. "Alfred, my son, shall I come in?" she asked.

I cannot tell what influence made me speak adverse to my feelings. The gentle voice of my mother, that thrilled me, melted the ice from my heart, and I longed to throw myself upon her neck; but I did not. My words gave the lie to my heart when I said that I was not

sorry. I heard her withdraw and groan. I longed to call her back, but I did not.

Later I was awakened from an uneasy slumber by hearing my name called loudly, and my sister stood by my bedside: "Get up, Alfred! Don't wait a minute. Get up and come with me. Mother is dying!"

I thought I was yet dreaming, but I got up mechanically and followed my sister. On the bed, pale as marble, lay my mother. She was not yet undressed. She had thrown herself upon the bed to rest, and rising again to go to me, she was seized with heart failure and borne to her room. I cannot tell you my agony as I looked upon her. My remorse was tenfold more bitter from the thought that she would never know it. I believed myself to be her murderer. I fell on the bed beside her, but I could not weep. My heart burned within me, and my brain was on fire. My sister threw her arms around me and wept in silence. Suddenly we saw a motion of Mother's hand; her eyes unclosed. She had recovered consciousness, but not her speech.

"Mother! Mother!" I shrieked, "Say only that you forgive me!"

She could not speak, but her hand pressed mine. She looked upon me, and lifting her thin, white hands, she clasped my own within them, and cast her eyes upward. She moved her lips in prayer, and thus died. I remained kneeling beside that dear form until my sister removed me, but the joy of my youth had left me forever.

Boys who spurn a mother's counsel, who are ashamed to own that they are wrong, who think it manly to resist her authority or yield to her influence, beware! One act of disobedience can cause a blot that a lifetime cannot wipe out. Wrong actions and wrong words make wounds that leave their scars.

Be warned! You must subdue the first rising of temper and give not utterance to the bitter thought. Shun the fearful effects of disobedience. Lay not up for yourselves sad memories for future years.

Selected

*Jeremiah 1:5 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.*

*6 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.*

*7 But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I*

*command thee thou shalt speak.*

*8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.*

# Don't Let Sin Be Your Ruin



*Brother Charles W. Ferguson*

## **Sin Brings Bondage**

In my opinion Jeremiah was the most unpopular Prophet that God had in the Old Testament. God sent Jeremiah to Israel to tell them of their sins. The Jews hated him because he would not prophesy smooth things to them like they wanted to hear. He told them of the destruction of Jerusalem and of the seventy-year captivity under Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon. Had it not been for God's divine protection upon Jeremiah, the Jews would have killed him. Today sometimes people do not want to hear the things that God wants them to hear about their sins and their lifestyles.

Jeremiah 27:1-9 reads: "In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Thus saith the LORD to me; Make thee bonds and yokes, and put them upon thy neck, And send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the Ammonites, and to the king of Tyrus, and to the king of Zidon, by the hand of the messengers which come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah; And command them to say unto their masters, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Thus shall ye say unto your masters; I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground,

by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me.

"And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him. And all nations shall serve him, and his son, and his son's son, until the very time of his land come: and then many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of him. And it shall come to pass, that the nation and kingdom which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation will I

punish, saith the LORD, with the sword, and with the famine, and with the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand. Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon."

### **The False Prophet Lies**

Dear one, in that day many false prophets were around just as in the day in which we live. False prophets have a way of being very bold. You might think by the way they speak and by the boldness with which they speak that they have been sent from God, but that is not so.

Jeremiah 28:1-17 states: "And it came to pass the same year, in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year, and in the fifth month, that Hananiah the son of Azur the prophet, which was of Gibeon, spake unto me in the house of the LORD, in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon. Within two full years will I bring again into this place all the vessels of the LORD'S house, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place, and carried them to Babylon: And I will bring again to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, with all the captives of Judah, that went into Babylon, saith the LORD: for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.

"Then the prophet Jeremiah said unto the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests, and in the presence of all the people that stood in the house of the LORD, Even the prophet Jeremiah said, Amen: the LORD do so: the LORD perform thy words which thou hast prophesied, to bring again the vessels of the LORD'S house, and all that is carried away captive, from Babylon into this place. [Certainly we can say amen to

anything that is good, regardless of who says it, if it is really good. Jeremiah said he wished that what the prophet was saying would be true, that the people would be delivered and all these things would come back to Jerusalem and that all would be well. Verse 6 says that 'Even the prophet Jeremiah said, Amen!']

"Nevertheless [in other words, in spite of all he had said] hear thou now this word that I speak in thine ears, and in the ears of all the people; The prophets that have been before me and before thee of old prophesied both against many countries, and against great kingdoms, of war, and of evil, and of pestilence. The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the LORD hath truly sent him.

"Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from off the prophet Jeremiah's neck, and brake it [Jeremiah had a yoke of wood, and he was able to break it]. And Hananiah spake in the presence of all the people, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years. And the prophet Jeremiah went his way. Then the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah the prophet, after that Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying, Go and tell Hananiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Thou hast broken the yokes of wood; but thou shalt make for them yokes of iron. For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; I have put a yoke of iron upon the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him: and I have given him the beasts of the field also.

"Then said the prophet Jeremiah unto Hananiah the prophet, Hear now, Hananiah; The LORD hath not sent thee; but thou makest this people to trust in a lie. Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will cast

thee from off the face of the earth: this year thou shalt die, because thou hast taught rebellion against the LORD. So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month."

### **Accepting Bad Advice**

The things that happened to Israel did not happen overnight; it was a process of time. Likewise, today nothing happens to us overnight. A man does not backslide overnight, but backsliding occurs over a process of time. He begins to think upon things that he should not be thinking on, and step by step, he loses out with God. Israel was the same way. They became stiffnecked. Under King David and under his son Solomon, they prospered fairly well, but then Solomon's son took over and the elders came and told him, "Your father's hand was heavy upon the people. If you will lighten the load that your father Solomon put on this people, they will cleave to you with all their hearts, but if you do not, it will not work that way." He did not take the advice of the elders. He turned to his own generation, to the younger people with whom he had grown up and asked them what their counsel was.

In essence, they said, "You tell Israel this when they come to you in three days to get the answer as to what you are going to do: your father's hand was heavy, but your little finger will be heavier than your father's hand. Tell them that he chastised them with whips, but you will chastise them with scorpions."

When Israel came to him, he gave them the counsel of the young men, and ten tribes departed and became the country of Samaria. Almost immediately, when they became the country of Samaria, they began to deteriorate in sin. King after king came, and they became more and more sinful. Finally, God brought Assyria against Samaria, and they took the people of Samaria away and scattered them across the then-known world. They took the

Assyrians and put them in Samaria in their place.

In the meantime Israel, or Judah and Benjamin, the two tribes that were left, began to do the same thing. Gradually they began to deteriorate and worship idols. They continued on the downward trend until they came to the place that God said, "I will let you go into Babylon for seventy years." The scene that we broke into in the Scripture reading was as the two tribes were being carried away into Babylon. First, they carried away the elite of the people and the king; then they carried away the rest of the treasures and a good number of the people who were left.

### "Anoint Thine Eyes With Eyesalve That Thou Mayest See"

I would like to make a comparison of that day to the day in which we live. Revelation 3:14-22 reads: "And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also over-

came, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

There were seven churches of Asia. Of the seven churches of Asia that John spoke of in the Book of Revelation, beginning with the very first one at Ephesus, even in that early day, the people had departed from the faith. They had left their first love for God. There were only two that did not need to repent. He told the other five to repent.

The seven churches of Asia picture the seven dispensations of time in the Gospel Day. It also portrays seven different spiritual conditions in the Gospel dispensation. The church of the Laodiceans represents our present age. The church world in general is in total chaos. In this age in which we live is much sleepiness, lethargy, compromise, and passiveness, but God still has a people. He has always had a people. We live in a day when the church world in general has deteriorated to the place where the things taking place are unbelievable, but God still has a people today.

John wrote in 1 John 5:19, "And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness." This world is growing more and more wicked, just as Israel in the old days. As the days and months and years passed, the people departed further and further from God.

Today America and much of the world believes that Israel is God's people. Our government has pumped billions upon billions of dollars into that economy. To help you to get an idea of how much a billion dollars is, someone equated it this way: if you were to save \$1,000 a day, it would take you 2,700 years to save a billion dollars. That would take you back to the time when the pyramids were built in Egypt.

Our government is pouring billions of dollars into something that is absolutely useless, because people think that Israel is God's people. According to the Bible, they

are no longer God's people. I read something some time ago that would certainly let me know that they are not God's people, if I did not know otherwise. One thing that plagues their nation is the immorality of their young women. They are notorious for their immorality. God's people are not immoral. If they were truly God's people, they would not have that condition. Our world is morally deteriorating.

### Drifting Away From Godly Principles

I read a book by one of the early-morning brethren. The name of it was, "The Christian Church—Its Rise and Progress." It was a very good book. The writer of the book occasionally used the word *catholic*. The word *catholic* merely means "universal." The Roman church adopted the word *catholic*, but it is not universal. The Church of God is universal. The Roman church never was universal. It is not universal now, and it will never be universal.

Do you know what a diocese of the Roman Catholic Church is? It is a set territory under the jurisdiction of a Roman priest. Over one diocese, they had a bishop who got drunk and ran over someone and killed him. The law had to track him down like a rabid dog, and they finally convicted him. They gave him a terribly light sentence. He merely had to do community service. Do you know what his community service was? If someone got in trouble, the judge sent him down to that bishop so that he could counsel that person and tell him how to be good. I am just telling you this to show you what some of the church world is like today.

I want to mention a few things that are going on in our world. Who would have ever thought that the morals of this country would have deteriorated to the degree that people would pass a law for sodomite marriages? Today the media and other people are glossing it over. They call that kind of lifestyle "gay"

to lessen the shame and the disgrace of it, to make it blend in, as if it is okay if you decide to live that way; but it is not all right. It is hard to believe that our government and our judges that sit on the bench to judge the law and to pass down the sentences could ever get to the place where they could put their approval on it and make it lawful for sodomite people to marry and be a legal marriage. In reality, the law of marriage was established as being between one man and one woman in the council halls of eternity, and it has never changed. How the morals of our country are deteriorating!

Today things are happening right before our eyes that fifty years ago was totally unacceptable, yet many people think absolutely nothing about these things now. I see people who claim to be Christians who are doing things today that, when I was saved forty-seven years ago, not a pastor in this country would have condoned. These changes happened so gradually that we do not even see it when it happens. It is a gradual drifting away from the set principles of God.

There are many sodomite churches across our country. The people who sit in the pews are sodomites, and the preachers are sodomites. Not many preachers want to say anything against them or preach against them. Not long ago a preacher in Canada preached against certain sins, and the government stopped him from doing that. He was told that he could not preach against sodomy. It would not surprise me if one day we do not find ourselves up against the same law here in the United States. May God help us.

The immorality of the American people in general is deteriorating at a great rate. I see young mothers and young daughters who are not clothed decently enough to be in the public, yet people do not think too much about it. It is a trend, and nearly everyone accepts it. They say, "Well, that's the way it is today." May God help us. There is a lack of

modesty among the people of America. Not many years ago, the country of Mexico protested because of the immodest dress of the American women who came south of the border to shop, but today their voices are silent because many of their own women now dress the same way. Through the medium of television, the whole world has come to think almost alike along that line.

I am just pointing out that there is a drift in our country that many people do not see. When I went to school there was no such thing as a dress code. We did not need one then. The boys dressed like boys, and the girls dressed like girls, and they were modest. We did not need fences around the schools to keep out the pedophiles and the drug peddlers. Now nearly every school in this country is surrounded by a fence. Some schools also have armed guards at the gates and metal detectors to detect knives, guns, or whatever could be used as a weapon. Who would have thought that we would have ever needed armed guards at our school buildings? May God help us.

### **"He That Taketh Warning Shall Deliver His Soul"**

We have entered a time when the pastors have a greater responsibility than ever before. Ezekiel 33:1-6 reads: "Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman: If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people; Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul. But if the watchman see the

sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand."

Church of God pastors have a major problem to deal with in the day in which we live. When Solomon's son conferred with the older heads, and they told him, in so many words, "If you will lighten the load of this people, they will cleave to you with all their hearts, but if you do not, they will revolt." He took the advice of the younger people; therefore, the ten tribes revolted.

You cannot put an old head on a young person, but at least you can put some restrictions there to hold them in check. In many cases, if you want things to go astray, then listen to a younger generation. It is not that I have anything against younger generations. I love them all. However, older people are usually a little wiser. Not all older people are wise, but they should be. If the king had taken the advice of the older people, things would have gone well. He took the advice of the wrong ones.

Let us return to the Book of Revelation concerning the church at Laodicea. The word *Laodicea* means "people." Today the church world, in general, has truly come down to the level of the people, but thank God, not all the churches of this world have come down. John wrote in Revelation 3:15-16: "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." The story of "Pilgrim's Progress" is a story that encourages people not to be lukewarm, but to be on fire for God and to hold steady for God.

### **Set Your Face Like a Flint**

In Isaiah 50:7 the Prophet Isaiah said, "For the Lord GOD will help

me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed." Dear one, if you do not set your face like a flint to serve God, if there is the slightest doubt that you are going to serve God, the devil will take you away. If you are not 100 percent sold on serving God, a day will come when you will leave the service of God. Isaiah said, "Therefore have I set my face like a flint." God told Jeremiah one time to go and tell the people what He said. The Lord said, in essence, "They will not hear you, but I want you to tell them anyway." Whether people hear or not, I would rather hear godly pastors and listen to them. What a responsibility we pastors have!

Some people are habitually late for church. If you start at seven o'clock, they are late. If you change the time and start at 7:15, they are still late. It is due to a spiritual condition that is working on them. If you were to show up at work fifteen minutes late every day for a week, you would be out of a job; therefore, you make sure that you are on time. However, people can be late going to the house of God and think that God is going to put up with it.

Adam and Eve had one commandment. The Lord said the day that they ate of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they would surely die. As far as I know, that is the only commandment they had, and they only disobeyed one commandment and they were out. Today people disobey the Bible commandments of the church of the New Testament and think that God is going to overlook their disobedience, but He is not going to overlook it. To be disobedient in one thing is to be disobedient in all. May God help us in the day in which we live to be obedient and not to be lukewarm in our experience with God. We should be on fire spiritually to serve God and to serve Him consistently, day after day, every day of our lives. We need to be all that God would have

us to be.

Dear one, you need to take care of things, lest you offend God and lose your soul. He said in Revelation 3:18-20: "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire [meaning a true experience], that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock."

I think oftentimes of verse 20. He wrote this to the seven churches of Asia, but Jesus said, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock." If you are unsaved, Jesus is standing and knocking on your heart's door, asking very humbly if He can come in. He is saying, "If you will open the door, I will come in," but you must open the door or He will not come in. He will not force His way into your life. In Revelation 3:20-21 He said: "If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne."

Dear one, I hope the thoughts that I have brought will stir you to

think about the pressure the world is bringing on the church, to try to get us not to walk in the light of what God has given us. The devil does not want us to walk in the light. He wants us to be lukewarm and unconcerned about things and to accept them as they are. May God help us to be all that He would have us to be and to love and serve Him with all our hearts.

On April 18, 1961, about 5:30 in the afternoon, my little sweetheart wife and I gave our hearts to God. I told him, "Lord, if you will save me, I will serve You all the days of my life." It never crossed my mind to say, "If everything goes all right, Lord, I will serve you." I made no stipulations whatsoever, except to say, "Lord, if you save me, I will serve You all the days of my life." There came a time when He took my little companion home to Heaven, but that did not change my dedication to Him. May God help us to mean what we say and to say what we mean when it comes to serving God and to serve Him with all our hearts. To only partially serve Him is no good. It will not work, and it is unacceptable to God.

*(Compact Disc TR-273M)*

**“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.”**

**Proverbs 3:5-7**

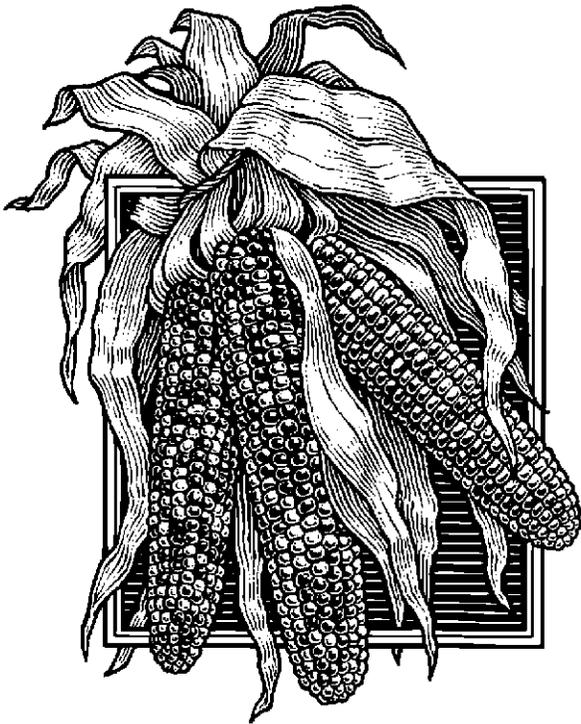
Joshua 5:10 And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho.

11 And they did eat of the old corn

of the land on the morrow after the passover, unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day.

12 And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old

corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.



# Eat of the Old Corn

*Brother Earl R. Borders*

## Teaching By Types

As we begin to consider this passage of Scripture text, we can see where the Exodus from Egypt, the trek through the wilderness, and the wandering ended. The children of Israel entered into the land of Canaan, and everything changed. (Once you arrive in the land of Canaan, everything will change. Life will never be what it was prior to your reaching Canaan.) One change recorded is in verse 11 which says, "They did eat of the old corn of the land." Verse 12 tells us, "And the manna ceased."

These verses serve as valuable lessons in type. The Apostle Paul

said in Romans 15:4, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime [he was referring to the Old Testament Scriptures] were written for our learning." Much of the style incorporated in the Old Testament is teaching by types.

In 1 Corinthians, Chapter 10, the Apostle Paul set forth a great deal of the events that occurred in the famed Exodus. He began in verse 1 at the crossing of the Red Sea and went through many occurrences that transpired during the Exodus, and then in verse 11 he said, "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." The

word that our English renders as "ensamples" in the original Greek is the word *tupos*, which means "a type." Webster's Dictionary defines the word *type* as "a person, a thing, or an event that represents or symbolizes another, especially another that is to come." As we view our Scripture text in Joshua, it is rich in typical language. It holds forth many valuable truths incorporated in type.

Let us view the background and the types. In the Scriptures Abraham is considered as Jesus styled him in Luke 16:24, as Father Abraham. According to Genesis 22:12 Abraham was instructed to take his only son, whom he loved, and offer him

as a sacrifice. Hebrews 11:19 lets us know that in his heart he slew him, and that in a figure he was raised from the dead. This is a vivid type of our Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, His only Son whom He loved and whom He offered as a sacrifice. He was slain and raised again. After Isaac was raised (in a figure), later his father sent a servant (a type of the Holy Spirit), to go and secure a bride for his son. From this marriage came Jacob, who had twelve sons, and from them came forth a great nation. Abraham is a type of the Father. Jacob is a type of Christ, and his twelve sons are a picture of the twelve Apostles. We can see a great picture and type unfolding in the commencement of this plan of salvation and the Gospel Day. These types do not end merely with the commencement of this Gospel Day, but they go further.

The children of Israel began in Canaan. I want to lay a foundation for our study so that we can place it prophetically, and then we will look at it practically. Genesis 37:1 says, "And Jacob dwelt in the land where in his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan." Jacob's name was changed to Israel. Genesis 32:28 reads, "And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel." Although Israel began in Canaan, something happened. While these twelve sons of Jacob were in Canaan, Genesis 41:56 tells us, "And the famine was over all the face of the earth."

We see a very detailed portrayal of the institution of the plan of salvation and the Gospel Day that succeeds it. What we see is an exact type of what happened in the Gospel Day. God the Father started out with an only Son whom He loved, and He offered Him as a sacrifice. His heart allowed His Son to be slain, but the Son was resurrected. Later the Holy Spirit secured the Son a bride, and they enjoy the blessings of the land that God ordained for them to enjoy: the morning-time Church of the Living God. Just as Jacob had twelve sons

that fostered a nation, so Christ had twelve Apostles who went forth with the Apostles' doctrine, and the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. They were enjoying the riches of Canaan in the morning-time church, but just as in the type, so it is in the antitype: there began to be a famine in the land.

### **Failing to Heed the Warning**

In Amos 8:11 the Prophet Amos said, "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land [here is the antitype], not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD." The morning glory was very short lived. Jude's Epistle was penned in A.D. 66, a mere thirty-three years after the Day of Pentecost. In Jude, verses 3-4, Jude said: "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered [past tense] unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares . . . ungodly men. . . ." He went on to expose the conditions that were bringing about a morning-time apostasy.

Isaiah wrote prophetically in Isaiah 63:18, "The people of thy holiness have possessed it but a little while: our adversaries have trodden down thy sanctuary." When Paul preached to the Ephesian brethren (the last time he would see their faces), in Acts, Chapter 20, he told them to take heed. Sad to say, some of them did not. Some people still will not take heed today. No matter how faithful the man of God is to them, they still will not take heed, but they will face it at the Judgment because a true man of God warned them.

Acts 20:28-29 states: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he

hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock." How do you know whether or not one is a wolf? When he does not care about the flock and his own selfish interest is more important than the flock, that is the earmark of a wolf. Verse 30 continues, "Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."

Going back in the type, God's people left Canaan because of the famine, and they went down to Egypt. In time, they were in bondage. They were in a kingdom under one man's control (Pharaoh). That is a type of the scheme of events portrayed in the Dark Ages. After God's people went into that famine condition, they fell under a system dominated by one man, the office of the Pope of Rome. For 1,260 years they were under Roman domination. (I do not speak against persons, but against systems that hinder the work of God.) The children of Israel were in Egyptian bondage. You must bear in mind that types can represent more than one thing. There are many applications of types.

When God's people left Canaan because of the famine, they went into a land where they ended up in bondage. Whenever you leave the place where God wants you, the land that flows with milk and honey, nothing is left but bondage. No matter what it calls itself or how it dresses itself up, it is bondage. You cannot leave Truth and go anywhere but into bondage.

Finally, the children of Israel left the bondage of a system controlled by one man. Then, because of disobedience, unbelief, and the flesh, they wandered in the wilderness for forty long years, which is a type of the cloudy day, the Protestant era. Though they were being led, they were not accomplishing a great deal. You can study their journey on a map, and you will find that much of their wanderings were just going in

circles. That is exactly the way false religion does. It will never lead you to the promised land. It will lead you around in vain, futile efforts, and when you get done, you will not be better than when you started.

### **Being Dominated by the Flesh and by Unbelief**

In our Scripture text the children of Israel had crossed over Jordan and had come back to Canaan. Joshua 3:17 reads, "And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan." After they spent four hundred thirty years in Egypt and forty years in the wilderness, they returned to Canaan, a type of the evening-time church.

In our Scripture text we see a portrayal in type of the evening-time church. Let us consider some of the truths and lessons incorporated in this text. First, notice that as long as they were wandering in the wilderness, they were not enjoying the blessings of Canaan. Also, there was only one reason they wandered in the wilderness, and that was due to their unbelief. Every sectarian organization was founded because of someone's unbelief, because they stopped on Truth.

The children of Israel could have been brought into Canaan right at Kadesh-Barnea, after a very short journey. The only thing that precluded them and prevented them was their own unbelief. God did not have to bring Truth back in sequential types of manners or gradually over a period of time. He could have restored it all at once if the people would have taken it. However, unbelief raised up in the hearts of the people. Hebrews 3:8-9 tells us: "Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years."

Verse 11 says, "So I swear in my

wrath, They shall not enter into my rest." Why? Verse 19 states, "So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief." As long as they were dominated by the flesh and by unbelief, they were unable to enjoy the benefits of Canaan. That same type of following the flesh, being dominated by the flesh, and unbelief is what has given rise to every sectarian organization.

The Apostle Paul set forth the works of the flesh. In Galatians 5:19-20 he said: "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies [the Emphatic Greek Diaglott says 'sects']." Sectism was formed as a work of the flesh. In reality, every sectarian organization, biblically speaking, is heresy, because it is based on the flesh, and people who have unbelieving hearts and who have departed from the Living God. While the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they could not enjoy the benefits of Canaan. Unbelief will rob people of the blessings and the benefits that the Lord has for them. I took you through the progression so that you could get the appropriate prophetic time setting.

Our Scripture text is a type portraying the evening-time church, which is the time in which you and I are privileged to live. Joshua 5:10 says, "And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal." What does this reveal? They did not go back across the Jordan River. They stayed in Canaan. When you come out of Babylon and take a stand for Truth, you need to stay in Canaan. You do not need to go back down to Babylon for anything. You do not need a Babel stone.

When God brings you out of Babylon, He does so for one reason, and that is to bring you in. Some people who have gotten out have never gotten in. How can you tell that they have never gotten in? They are not Church of God; they are

"Church of Gad." You never know where they are going to land. Jeremiah 2:36 says, "Why gaddest thou about so?" You need to light somewhere. Deuteronomy 6:23 states, "And he brought us out from thence [why], that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore unto our fathers." God does not just call you out, but He calls you out to call you in. When He calls you in, it is not through a revolving door so that you can go in and out. He wants you to stay in.

I think some people read John 10:9 where Jesus said, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he . . . shall go in and out, and find pasture." They seem to think that means in and out the door. However, it means in the door and out to the pasture. God brought us out so that He might bring us in. The children of Israel did not run back across the Jordan, and we do not need to run back down to Babylon.

### **The Unleavened Bread of Sincerity**

Verse 10 of our Scripture text reads, "And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover." Remember, we are dealing in types. In Exodus, Chapter 12, you will find that their Passover was a lamb. In 1 Corinthians, Chapter 5, you will find that our Passover is the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. First Corinthians 5:7-8 says: "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: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." They kept the Passover.

Our Scripture text tells us in verse 11 that they partook of unleavened cakes. You just read in 1 Corinthians 5:8 that Christ is our Passover and that we are to keep the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. My friend, we are to keep this unleavened bread,

but it must be kept in sincerity and in truth.

We need to look closer at what the word *sincerity* means. The word *sincerity* in 1 Corinthians 5:8 comes from the Greek word *eilikrineia*, and its root word is *eilikrines*, which means "the sun's rays; judged by sunlight." This tells us that our sincerity is judged by the light that we see. You may say, "Oh, he is really sincere." Is he walking in all the light that he sees? That is what real sincerity is. If he does less than he sees, he is not really walking in sincerity.

One of the great struggles in this evening time is that people are not truly keeping the Passover. They are not feasting on Jesus Christ with the unleavened bread of sincerity because they are not truly walking in what light they see. It is not what you do not see and do not understand that can get you into trouble, but rather it is what you *do* see and what you *do* understand and do not do.

In John 9:40-41 we read: "And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth." Why? Because you are not doing what you see.

In Matthew, Chapter 11, Jesus told the people that it would be more tolerable for Sodom in the Day of Judgment (a city that He wiped off the face of the earth) than for Capernaum, which was His adopted home town where His base of operations was after He commenced His ministry. Why did He say that? He said it because if the works had been done in Sodom that were done in Capernaum, it would have continued to this day. Capernaum had greater light, but the people did not walk in the light; therefore, they will receive greater condemnation.

Light brings responsibility. You may think, "I'll stay home from church and then I won't know." If you are willingly ignorant, it will be

credited to you just as if you knew it. In Matthew 11:23 Jesus said, "And thou, Capernaum which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day."

You must realize that doing less than you see in truth is leaven, or corruption. In Luke 12:1 Jesus said, "Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy." Hypocrisy is saying one thing and doing another and not walking in what light you have; that is leaven.

### **Walking in Honesty and Purity**

I want you to notice that Paul coupled sincerity with truth in 1 Corinthians 5:8. The word here for *truth* is the Greek word *aletheia*, which comes from the root *alethes*, which means "true as not concealing." A better word to use is honesty. If you are going to serve God, you must be honest. You have to be honest with yourself, with God, and with the message of Truth. You know what you see and what you understand.

When Jesus told the parable of the sower, only one type of ground was suitable ground for yielding good fruit. It was an honest heart. Luke 8:15 says, "But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it." Honesty is the only thing you can build on. Psalm 51:6 reads, "Behold, thou desirest truth [or we could say honesty] in the inward parts." You are not going to get anywhere with God unless you are honest. Why? Hebrews 4:13 tells us, "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." God sees all things whether you will admit it or not.

My friend, you know what you see and you know what you understand. You know what the Lord has shown you, and if you walk in less than you see, you will risk deceiving

yourself. James 1:22 says, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

Why is it necessary to partake of this unleavened bread of Christ our Passover with sincerity, to keep pace with the light that you see and to be truly honest in your inward parts? As soon as the children of Israel crossed over into Canaan, they were facing Jericho. Likewise, you are going to face some enemies, and they are going to be strong enemies. History tells us that Jericho was a virtually impregnable walled fortress. Some historians say the walls were so wide that they could run two or three chariots abreast on the tops of the walls.

We found in verse 10 of our Scripture lesson, "And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho." They were getting ready to face an enemy. If you are not walking in the light and maintaining honesty in your inward parts, you will be defeated by the enemy. You will not be able to defeat the foe. The power comes with the purity. If the purity is not there, the power will not be there.

### **"Ask for the Old Paths"**

The children of Israel were getting ready to face a strong enemy, so the first thing they did was to keep the Passover. They partook of Christ. Our Scripture text says in verse 11, "And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the passover, unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day."

How are you going to keep the unleavened cakes? How can you do as 1 Corinthians 5:8 instructs and keep the feast "with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth?" How can you walk in the sunlight that you see so that you can be judged appropriately by walking in the light? How can you live in an open and honest manner? How can you face the foes that lie ahead with

determination, resolve, and victory? It tells you in verse 11 that "they did eat of the old corn." You must eat what God provides in Canaan.

When the children of Israel crossed into Canaan, their diet changed. They had eaten manna for forty years. No matter how long you have been in sectism and no matter what you have been eating, when you cross over into Canaan, your diet will change. You will not eat what you ate before, because God has something better. He wants you to "eat of the old corn." You must eat what God provides in Canaan.

Jeremiah 6:16 says, "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." Do you want to know why there is so much restlessness today? Many people are not walking in the old paths. That is the reason some people are shifting and shuffling and moving. Over our land, many are rising up, just as in Jeremiah's day, and saying, "We will not walk therein." If you will eat the old corn and walk in the old paths, you will find rest for your soul.

People are bouncing from pillar to post because their souls are not at rest. There is a deficiency. The lack is due to their not walking in the light that they have, and they are not being honest. They are hoping that they can find an easier way, but there is not an easier way. It is either the old paths or the path of destruction. Jesus told those churches in Revelation to repent or else. We must eat what God produces in Canaan.

### What Is the Old Corn?

I want you to notice that our Scripture text says in verse 12 that "the manna ceased." Once they arrived in Canaan, what God had provided in the wilderness ceased. Why? They were in a different place and in a different position. The saints are in a totally different position than those wandering in

Babylon. If you want your feast to be as 1 Corinthians 5:8 designates as unleavened, you have to do as our Scripture text declares in verse 11 and "eat of the old corn of the land." This was food that was produced in Canaan, not imported from Babylon.

Let us look at this old corn. Why was it called "old corn"? The Hebrew word is *abur*, and it means "kept over," used only for stored grain. What does this tell us? This was not new corn standing in a field, but that which had been stored. This is a type of the evening time. These truths are not new. They have been kept and stored, and we are just coming back to the light of the morning. God is opening the storehouse and saying, in so many words: "I was wondering when you were going to come back. Here it is. It is all ready. Eat until you are full."

Before we go to anything new, the Lord wants to make sure that we eat of the old corn, or the seasoned corn. The seasoned Truth is what makes seasoned, strong saints. Have you ever wondered why so many people are weak spiritually? Too many are on milk diets. Someone may say, "Well, they need to eat." What do you give a pig to fatten it up? You give it corn. You need to eat of the old corn. It will make you fat and flourishing in the things of God.

Let us first look at the corn prophetically, and then practically. First, it is sweet corn. Mark 4:26 says, "And he said, So is the kingdom of God [or the church of God], as if a man should cast seed into the ground." Luke 8:11 tells us the seed is the Word of God. Here we are taking a progression right through the Gospel Day again. When He said, "A man should cast seed," He was referring to the morning time. Mark 4:27-28 reads: "And should sleep [that is a picture of the morning-time apostasy], and rise night and day [speaking of the cloudy day], and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself [we are coming back to resto-

ration now]; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear." Prophetically, here is a progression of the Gospel Day.

Verse 28 says "first the blade." That was when the Lutheran era had the message of Romans 1:17, "The just shall live by faith," and the dark papal night was broken. Light broke at last on a dark landscape. Next, it says "then the ear." That was the Wesleyan movement, which brought holiness back to the forefront. Then it says "the full corn in the ear." Here we are brought to the evening time. Notice that it says "the full corn in the ear." There are many kernels, but there is only one ear. Likewise, there are many members, but there is only one body. There is the full corn, but just one ear. There is only one Church of the Living God.

As soon as the full corn and ear got there, "when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come" (Mark 4:29). Let us look at this closely. What does the sickle do? It separates the corn from the earth. In other words, it separates the corn from its surroundings. Let us look at the practical rather than the prophetic. The sickle will separate and loose the corn from what holds it; it will separate it from the world. What is the picture? If you eat of the old corn, that which has been kept, the stored Truth, it will separate you from the world and from worldly surroundings. It will separate you from earthly religion, its ideas and practices, and it will keep you in Canaan with the strength to face your opponents and enemies.

Too many people want to try to be one of the portions of the full ear, but they do not want the sickle to take them out of the field. Jesus said in Matthew 13:38 that the field is the world. As soon as the full corn developed, He put in the sickle. Revelation, Chapter 14, shows you where the sickle was put in. Then a reaping and a harvest occurred.

When you become a part of this one ear, the body of Christ, and par-

take of this old corn, the sickle, or the Word of God, will separate you from the world. It will separate you from being affected by worldly surroundings and from earthly religion, ideas, and practices. It will keep you in Canaan, keep you nourished, keep you strong, and enable you to take strong enemies, just as the Israelites fought and defeated Jericho. This is the reason the enemy wants to wean you away from the "old corn." Sadly, he is getting a job done over our land.

### **What Does The Old Corn Consist Of?**

Mark 4:28 calls the old corn "full corn," and full corn has many kernels. What are some of these kernels? What are some things that will separate you from the world and strengthen you to face the enemy? Isaiah 62:10 tells us, "Go through, go through the gates; [Why did he say it twice? He said it once to get you out the gates of Babylon and the second time to get you to enter the gates of Zion. He brought you out so that He might bring you in.] prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; [What is the highway? Isaiah, Chapter 35, says it is the highway of holiness. Remember, the power is where the purity is. It is the ministry's responsibility to cast up the highway. How do they do that?] gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people." God still wants a standard lifted up. When the standard is not lifted up, the highway will not be so apparent and the holiness will not be clear. There will be stones that people will make and stumble over. They would not stumble over some things if the ministry held the standard clearer. For example, you would not have to be concerned about certain images in your mind if you did not have a television in your house. The reason you are struggling in your mind is that you have a stone that is causing you to stumble. You have not adhered to the standard, and that is affecting

your holiness.

Psalms 101:2 says, "I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart." You may say, "What I do in my house is my business." No, it is God's business. Furthermore, it is the man of God's business, God's people's business, and even the world's business. You are not an island to yourself, and neither am I. What you do affects others.

Verse 3 reads, "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes." You may say, "If something comes on the screen that I should not see, I will just turn it off." By then, you have already seen it. What are you going to do with the Scripture that says to abstain from all appearance of evil? If someone sees a television in your house, they do not know what you are watching. This is old corn. This is not something new, but the highway is not getting cast up as it should. Many are not facing their enemies as they should. Why? Because they are not insulating themselves. They are not doing those things that enhance holiness.

Deuteronomy 7:26 says, "Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it." You are what you eat. What you feed your mind is going to have an impact on you. As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. If you feast on the television, it is going to affect your thinking and it certainly will affect your spirituality.

### **Obedience to the Standard**

Isaiah 62:6 says, "I have set watchmen upon thy walls." I say this with love and kindness, but in too many places today, they have an overlooker. God did not call overlookers; He called overseers. He said, "I have set watchmen upon thy walls." One responsibility of the watchman is found in the latter part of verse 10, which reads, "Lift up a standard for the people." The watchmen are to lift up a standard, but the

people are to uphold it. This is old corn. This will separate you from the world and protect you from the enemy.

Jeremiah 4:21 asks, "How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?" One question answers the other. You will only see the standard as long as the trumpet is sounding it out. If the ministry becomes silent on the standard, it will not be long until it falls by the wayside. If you quit weeding a garden for a while, it will be overtaken by the weeds. Jeremiah posed a sobering question. We will only see the standard as long as we hear the message.

The Lord is still vitally interested in how we dress, how we wear our hair, where we go, what we partake of, and how we act. The Bible still teaches that you must wear modest apparel. God's people are not supposed to be as a window shade, following the fashions up and down. I am still talking about the old corn. A saint ought to be able to raise her hand and praise God without others having to cover their eyes. Someone praising God should not make someone else have to pray, "O God, help me." If a blouse is too low when you lean over, it is not modest. If a skirt is too high in the hemline, it is not modest.

I am talking about that which will enhance holiness, that which casts up the highway so that we can have purity and be victorious in the face of every foe. One reason too many people are not more victorious over their foes is that there is not enough purity. It is still a shame for a man to have long hair, and it is still a glory for a woman to have long hair. That is still in the Bible. God is vitally interested in every aspect of our lives.

Let us find out what some other kernels of this corn are. When you get around Canaan, you will hear about Babylon, and she will be threshed. Look at how the children of Israel were victorious over Jericho. What a wondrous feat that was! Yet they never had to lift a

weapon to bring down the walls. Their obedience brought the walls down. My friend, you need to make certain that you are living in complete obedience to all the light that you know. You should not throw the old corn out for some cheap substitute. It will not get the job done.

### Shining as Lights

Psalm 87:2-4 says: "The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God [He was speaking here of the church]. Selah, I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon." When you get where the city of God is, you will hear about Babylon. The word *Babylon* means "confusion." You will hear about religious confusion because God does not want His people to be confused. God is not the author of confusion, and He never gave His Word to bring confusion to people. When it is rightly divided, it will not bring confusion. It brings confusion when another spirit enters in.

Jeremiah 51:33 says, "For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; The daughter of Babylon is like a threshingfloor, it is time to thresh her." When you get where the Truth is, it is going to thresh Babylon and empty out all the wheat. In other words, God will call the saints out of her. The Lord wants every honest heart out of Babylon. When Jesus splits the clouds, not one saint will be left in Babylon.

Jeremiah 51:2 says, "And will send unto Babylon fanners, that shall fan her, and shall empty her land." In Matthew 3:12 John the Baptist was prophesying about Christ and said, "Whose fan is in his hand." What is in Christ's hand? Revelation, Chapter 1, tells us it is the seven stars, or the ministry. That is who the fanners are, and that is who God uses to thresh Babylon.

Revelation, Chapter 18, tells you that when Jesus Christ comes, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride will not be heard

anymore. Honest hearts will still come to the light. In John 3:21 Jesus said, "But he that doeth truth cometh to the light." The way the honest hearts see the light is by seeing a people eating and making this old corn a part of them by keeping the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. The way that they see the light is by a people walking in the light and shining as lights.

Philippians 2:15-16 says: "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, [Here is a people that have holiness lifted up in their lives. They are holding a standard and being cautious concerning how they live, where they go, and what they do.] in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life." How do people see the Word? They see it through the saints shining forth in the way we live.

The enemy will tell you, "How you dress is not important; you are just going to run downtown." On the contrary, how you dress is important because the Word is what you are to manifest. As you go forth, the world may never read the Bible bound in leather, but they will read it bound in flesh. As a saint, you are to shine forth as a light, holding forth the light of life.

### Have You Lost Your Vision?

We must never lose our vision of Babylon or of the church. This is another old piece of corn that we must cherish. Psalm 137:5-6 says: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy." We need to make certain that we keep our eyes anointed with eye salve so that we keep a fresh vision of the church. This is the old corn that we must have if we are to remain in Canaan and have victory over our foes. This is essential.

Returning to our Scripture lesson, I want you to notice what occurred after the children of Israel entered Canaan. After they partook of the Passover and ate of the old corn of the land, notice what it says in Joshua 5:13-14a: "And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come." What is the picture here? Christ came on the scene. When does the presence of Christ come on the scene? When we cross over into Canaan land and leave sectism behind and eat the old corn (we take the full corn and eat the Little Book), the presence of Christ appears.

Many places over our land do not enjoy the presence of Christ. They do not receive divine revelation, and they cannot defeat the enemy. Why? They have quit eating the old corn, and Christ is no longer on the scene. His presence did not appear in the midst until after they partook of the old corn. Hebrews 2:9-10 shows us that this was a pre-Christian era appearance of Christ. This was Christ, the Captain of our salvation who appeared to Joshua after the people ate of the old corn. He only appears where there is a people who will eat the old corn.

Too many have new and better ways, supposedly. There is just one problem: they do not have the presence of God in their midst. They have the name over the door, and they still have many of the teachings, but when you walk in and sit down, you almost feel like going out and taking the sign down and putting up "Ichabod," which means, "the glory has departed." The only way that a place is truly the Church of God is if God is there.

Friend, if you lose the presence of God, you have lost everything. There are conditions to produce the

presence of God. I repeat, He will only appear where there is a people who will eat of the old corn. We need the presence of God individually and collectively. To have His presence, we must walk in the light. We must be honest and eat of the old corn. There are many more kernels of this corn than what I could talk about; but in closing, I ask you, When was the last time you were in an ordinance service? When was the last time you washed the saints' feet? People will pay lip

service, but these things have slid away from them. Whatever corner you cut is the one that has the power in it. I am not trying to be hurtful, I am standing in defense of the Gospel.

To have the presence of Christ, certain conditions must be met. What is the attitude of your heart? God demands obedience to His Word. My friend, to have the presence of Christ, you must walk in the light, be honest, eat of the old corn, including the kernels of the stan-

dard, stand against the world, separate from Babylon, and have a clear vision of the church.

Isaiah 1:19 says, "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land." This old corn is good. It will still produce if you will take hold of it. It will still produce a strong experience. Eating of the old corn is what God provides in Canaan, and it will give you victory and power and nourishment.

*(Compact Disc TR-092M)*

# Meeting Announcements

## **SUMMERSVILLE, WV**

July 3-5

**REVIVAL:** The Church of God, 74 Armstrong Road, Summersville, WV

Evangelist: Brother Samuel Oree, Jr. Detroit, Michigan

Service times: Friday 7:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

For further information contact: Pastor Earl R. Borders @ telephone:

304-872-4047. Visit our website at: [www.ChurchofGodSummersvilleWV.com](http://www.ChurchofGodSummersvilleWV.com)

## **MECHANICSBURG, IN**

July 13-19

**REVIVAL:** Church of God, Mechanicsburg, IN

Evangelist: Brother Earl R. Borders. Preaching will be on the Revelation.

Service times: Sunday 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.; Monday-Saturday 7:00 p.m.

For further information contact: Pastor Allen Polston, 2020 Ralph St,

New Castle, IN 47362

Telephone: 765-521-8284 or visit our website @ [www.churchofgodindiana.com](http://www.churchofgodindiana.com)

## **NEWARK, OH**

August 2-9

**CAMP MEETING:** The Church of God, 675 N. Cedar St., Newark, OH 43055

Three services daily: 10:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. The first service begins Sunday morning. The afternoon service will be a teaching service.

For lodging reservation, please call Bro. & Sis. Bush at 740-345-1213

For further information contact: Pastor Roger Decker, 83 DeCrow Ave.,

Newark, OH 43055. Telephone: 740-344-2543

## **MEDINA, OH**

September 7

**LABOR DAY MEETING:** The Church of God, 6745 Wooster Pike,

Medina, OH 44256. Service times: 10:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

For further information contact: Pastor Daniel Webster, 92 W. Main St.,

Seville, OH 44273

Telephone: (Home) 330-435-6490 or (Church) 330-725-5993

Postman send form 3579 to:

# *The Gospel Trumpeter*

675 N. Cedar Street  
Newark, Ohio 43055 U.S.A.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID  
AT THE POST OFFICE IN  
NEWARK, OH 43055  
USPS # 871620



REQUEST FOR NEW SUBSCRIPTION, CHANGE OF  
ADDRESS, OR CANCELLATION

**NEW SUBSCRIPTION:** To receive *The Gospel Trumpeter*, we need your complete name and mailing address, including country.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** If you have moved or if your name or address is incorrect, please notify us as soon as possible.

**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION:** If you no longer wish to receive *The Gospel Trumpeter*, please contact us using one of the methods below.

**YOU MAY CONTACT US BY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:**

**Mail:** *The Gospel Trumpeter* 675 N. Cedar Street, Newark, OH 43055 USA

**E-mail:** [subscribe@gospeltrumpeter.com](mailto:subscribe@gospeltrumpeter.com)      **Telephone:** (740) 345-1312

(Please Print or Type)

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **COUNTRY:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate box below, and for changes or cancellations return this entire page with the old address.

- Subscription     Incorrect spelling of name or address  
 Change of address     Cancellation