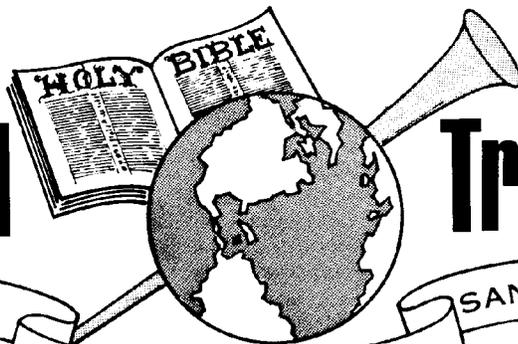


The Gospel



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 Matt. 24:31

SOUNDING FORTH THE SEVENTH AND LAST TRUMPET

Vol. 39 September 2009 No. 9



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?"

Spring 2009 Camp Meeting Report

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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. Not responsible for unsolicited articles or items.

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Vol. 39 September 2009 No. 9

Another Spring Camp Meeting has ended with many victories and blessings for all. It was a time of gathering together with the precious saints of God, of enjoying fellowship, and of feasting on the wonderful Word of God. It was truly beneficial to reverently sit in heavenly places and enjoy taking in the blessings of the Lord. It is no wonder that David said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord" (Psalm 122:1).

One reason for David's gladness was that he was able to commune with his brethren. More importantly, though, was the fact that in God's house the Law came forth to bring help and instruction for the soul. Being taught the ways of God is so vital to all of God's people throughout the world. We all would fall into error without the trumpet sounding forth the Gospel. The law comes out of Zion, the church, the place designed by God for people to hear strong preaching and teaching from His Holy Scriptures. We must do as Paul instructed in Hebrews 10:25, which reads, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

It is difficult to express all that our eyes have seen, our ears have heard, and our hearts have felt during the Spring Camp Meeting. To sum it up in a word, we could say that the meeting was dynamic, but we know that may be inadequate. We can surely report that there was great freedom among the saints as they worshiped the Lord. As the preaching went forth, many saints rose to their feet and

shouted praises to God while others walked the aisles praising the Lord. It was truly a beautiful sight to see the freedom that God gave His people during the meeting. Time after time, our hearts were made to rejoice in the goodness of God. What an encouragement and an uplift it is when the Spirit and the presence of God fill the house!

The highlight of any meeting is to see lost souls humble themselves before God and find salvation. Thank God, we were able to witness ones who had been away from the Lord for a long time find their way back into the arms of a loving Savior. The Spirit of conviction seized many hearts, and down the aisles they came weeping, bowing before the Lord in old-time repentance. What a wonderful scene to look upon! Men and women were praying their way through to the throne of grace. That amply repays the entire work and effort put forth to have a successful meeting!

As we ponder on the Spirit of God and how He manifested Himself in such sweet ways, our thoughts went to the words that God gave the Prophet Joel, saying, "I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh" (Joel 2:28). His Spirit was again poured out, bringing great blessings, instruction, enlightenment, and conviction. When the Spirit of God moves in, it is like the wind that blows: you cannot see it with the natural eye, but you can surely see and feel the effects of His drawing power. He supplied every need to all those who sought His face. Anyone who was needy in soul in our midst and refused to yield surely must have found it difficult to resist.

[continued on page 26]

Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Luke 10:30 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

31 And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32 And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

36 Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

37 And he said, He that showed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

A Soul Going Away From God



Brother Roger L. Decker

The Descent to Jericho

Our Scripture text says a certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his raiment, wounded him, and left him half dead. Along came a certain priest, and when he saw him, he passed by to the other side of the road. Next, along came a Levite. He came close and looked on him, and then passed by on the other side of the road. Later, along came a Samaritan who saw him, went where he was, and

had compassion on him.

The road to Jericho was only about twenty miles long, but it was treacherous, narrow, curvy, and rocky. It was often called the bloody way. Normally individuals did not travel the road to Jericho alone, especially if they were carrying anything of value. Oftentimes they traveled in caravans or convoys, because they knew there was safety in numbers.

I want you to consider the differences in elevation of these two ancient cities. Jerusalem was ap-

proximately twenty-three hundred feet above sea level. On the other hand, Jericho was about seven hundred forty feet below sea level, which was a drop of approximately three thousand forty feet in about twenty miles. Jericho was located near the Dead Sea, where no marine life could live.

The surface of the Dead Sea was about twelve hundred ninety-two feet below the level of the Mediterranean Sea. At its deepest point, it was about thirteen hundred feet deep. The main source of water to

that sea was the Jordan River, which emptied about six million tons of water every twenty-four hours into the sea. Despite this, the sea has never had an outlet. The water has always flowed in but not out, yet that sea has never risen more than ten to fifteen feet. How was that possible? The water evaporated. That sea contains five times more salt than an ocean. That is the reason no marine life has ever lived there.

Ancient Jericho was next to the Dead Sea. This parable portrays so many people today who feel they can leave the church and still prosper with God. Many have left Jerusalem, and they experienced a quick loss of elevation. How quickly people go down when they leave the church and start down the road that seems right. They are heading down to "Jericho." The elevation drops quickly when you leave the body of Christ. How quickly things begin to happen! How quickly the flesh engulfs you when you start down the road to Jericho!

I want to liken Jerusalem to a place of spiritual victory and Jericho to a place of defeat. Many people have traveled the road to Jericho, spiritually speaking, and they have been left half dead. They have left Jerusalem (the church), and started down that winding, treacherous, curvy road of sin, getting involved in things they thought they never would. All along the road to Jericho were thieves and robbers, lying in wait to destroy, to leave travelers wounded and half dead.

Settling for a Lower Elevation

How quickly things change when you leave the safety of the church! Your soul becomes fair game to the devil, and you have no wall of protection. When a lion attacks an antelope, it does not run right in next to the herd. No, it will single out one and get it off alone. However, if that animal would run back into the herd, it would find safety. If that lion gets it out there alone, it is fair game. That is what

the devil wants to do to you. He wants to get you away from the church, out there all by yourself, and then you become fair game for the devil.

A lion might study a herd for a little while, and he will look for one that is wounded or older and not quite as fast. He will look for one that is wandering around, off by itself. Next, he will get as close as he can to it, and all of a sudden, like a roaring lion, seeking one that he may devour, he will spring toward his prey and devour and destroy it. That is the way Satan works.

Like the man in the parable, many individuals think they can make it in life without help. The man in the parable thought he could travel alone. He thought he could handle all the pitfalls that lay ahead. He knew the road was curvy, rocky, and treacherous. He knew that thieves and robbers were often lying in wait, but no doubt he also thought: "I can handle it. It is only twenty miles. I can take care of myself. Usually enough people are traveling that road that someone would see me should I need help."

The priest and the Levite would not help him. Why? There was no help in the Law or in the Prophets. It takes Christ. The Prophets came really close, but there was nothing to bind up the wounds and to put an individual on his feet. It takes the Gospel of Jesus Christ to do that.

The distance from Jerusalem to Jericho was only about twenty miles, but the elevation drop was drastic. People drop to an all-time low, even in their morals, when they leave the church. Their personalities change, their characters change, and their spirits are unpleasant to be around. How quickly these changes take place! You cannot leave the church and still keep the same good, sweet personality that you had when you were there. You cannot leave the church and stay in the same position that you were before. You are going down!

Someone may say, "I can leave

the church and hold my own." Do not try to go against the Word of God, friend. Some people thought they would never do such a thing. When they were in the church, maybe they had a tendency to look down on those who were out in sin and involved in certain things. They might have said, "I would never do anything like that." Well, when you leave the confines of the church, there is a great elevation drop, and you do not know how low you will go. This is serious, friend!

Too many people say: "I will go over to this congregation. If I don't like it, I will go to another congregation." If you do, you are going to do a destructive work on your soul. Remember this: if you are out of sorts in one congregation, you will be out of sorts in every congregation you go to. It is too late in the Gospel Day to play around! John wrote in 1 John 3:8, "He that committeth sin is of the devil." That is still true yet today; it has never changed.

Some people have left the victory they once had. The enemy of souls has gotten them to settle for something less. They were at a great height when they were at Jerusalem, but now they are settling for a lower elevation. Somewhere along the road to Jericho, they have taken up camp, and they are at a lower elevation than when they were in the church.

Some have left the Church of God and have gone down to Babylon. A change takes place before anyone ever settles for something less than the church. When you sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, you cannot go lower and still be in the Kingdom of God. Some people are settling for something less, and instead of making things right, they continue downward on the road to Jericho.

The City of Palms

What was at Jericho? If you study history, you will find that it had rich soil, constant sunshine, and a pleasant climate. Jericho was an

attractive place to settle down. It was called "The City of Palms." Jericho was situated in the Jordan valley. Its well-watered plains attracted Lot when he separated from Abraham, and it has attracted many a soul since then. They have left Jerusalem and started down the road to the well-watered plains.

To what do we liken Jericho? It is likened to something less than real holiness. Also, we liken Jericho to the world. James 4:4 says, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

If you can be around the world and they are never troubled by your presence, something is wrong in your soul. If you have never troubled them and you have spent quite a bit of time with them, could it be that you look the same way they do, and they think that you are one of their own? When you are in the Church of God, you do not look like the world. You get cleaned up, and you are a new creature. First, you get clean on the inside, and then the outside is cleaned up. The earrings and the finger rings will come off. Sisters let the hair grow long, and the skirts cover the knees. The men will get haircuts. You can become a new creature in Christ Jesus. Praise God! When you get in the Kingdom of God, the new Jerusalem, you are a new creature in Christ Jesus.

You can go down to Jericho and live any way you want to live, and the preacher will not bother you. This new Jerusalem came down out of Heaven from God. He is the One who holds the standard in the church. Someone may say, "I don't like it." Well, you are in good shape for Jericho. The people there will welcome you with open arms. They will say: "Come on in, brother. Come on in, sister. We are going to have a soup supper tomorrow night." Well, God has a supper, but it is not a soup supper; it consists of the Word of God. Everyone who is hungry can get up to the table and

eat the things of God.

I like the old-fashioned Bible way. I got saved and was kept under the old-fashioned way. I am against compromise, Babylon, and all these other things. People who have let down are out here trying to play church. The only time they get moved is through a song service. They do not get moved over the Word. Why? There is no Word preached, and they continue in their sins. If you get around where Jesus Christ is, the Word is going to go forth, and it will cause something to happen down inside you. You will become stirred, and you will either say "amen" or "I am the man." Praise God for His goodness!

Some people have left the church to seek a better place to settle down, only to find that the well-watered plains, the nice climate, and the palm trees are not all that they are made up to be. You may say, "I'll go down there and retire. I'll just go down to this Babylonian church and take it easy." Well, that is fine until you have a hard trial and you try to find someone who can really get hold of God. Some of these Doctors of Divinity do not even know who Divinity really is. Divinity does not need a doctor; He has never been sick, and He never will be sick. However, some things make Him sick. What is one thing that makes Him sick? It is lukewarmness.

Seasonal Pleasure

The world has its glitter and glamor and billboards, but it also has heartaches and sadness. "How do I know?" you may ask. I was out there, and so were many others. Most saints know what the world is like. It is like a mirage. You are thirsty, but when you run for a drink of water, it disappears. Nothing there can satisfy your soul. You cannot satisfy the soul with alcohol, tobacco, or drugs. No, no, no! You cannot satisfy the soul with the world. Why? The soul did not come from the world; it came from God. Ecclesiastes 12:7 tells us, "Then shall

the dust return to the earth as it was: [Where does the spirit go?] and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." The soul in every one of us belongs to God, and it is going to go back to Him.

The billboards of the world propagate, "Seasonal pleasure is found here." However, you will find that if you partake of it, you will reap corruption. No doubt, you have seen the picture on billboards of the man riding through "Marlboro country." Well, had he been smart, he would have kept riding and would not have partaken of the cigarettes. The real "Marlboro country" is in a cancer ward somewhere, and those who found pleasure there have their lungs eaten out with cancer.

You might have seen the picture on the billboards of someone taking a drink of alcohol. Sometimes you can find those people who partook of that drink down in an alley somewhere, lying around like an old bum. They have left the high premium alcohol and have gone down to wine or whatever they can get. That is the reaping of sin.

The billboards do not show that side, but they are scattered all along the road to Jericho. It is a treacherous road, and those signs are all there: try this and try that. If smoking cigarettes could really satisfy, you would only have to smoke one, but they cannot satisfy. Therefore, people light up one after another. Once you partake of God, you only have to partake of Him once, and you will be satisfied forever.

The world might have its time of pleasure. People in the world may enjoy their rock 'n' roll while they can, but I thank God that I am on the Rock that will not roll, a Rock that I can stand upon. People might have their time of pleasure, but it is also running over with sorrow and discontentment.

You may ask, "What is your advice?" You need to get in Jerusalem and stay in Jerusalem, the city of the free. The new Jerusalem, which is above, is free, and it is the

mother of us all. Do you want real freedom, so that you can say no to the devil and yes to God? You cannot do that out in the world.

There are four things that the world will do to you, just as it did to this certain man in the parable. First, it will strip you of your raiment, wound you, and then leave you half dead. What a picture of an individual leaving the church and going away from God! The world is as a thief: it will rob you of your spiritual garments. It will change your mind about things that you were once convinced of. If you hang around those who are worldly long enough, you will begin to think: "Maybe I don't have to dress modestly." Well, in the world you do not, but I am not talking about the world. I am talking about the new Jerusalem.

The world will strip away every good thing about you. It will wound you instead of helping you. Life will be continually filled with disappointment. What is one of the big disappointments out in the world? The disappointment that you cannot do what you really want to do. Some people would like to serve God and quit their sinful habits, but they cannot do it, and it is a disappointment to them.

Before I was saved, I tried to quit smoking on my own. I became so disgusted because I was hooked on the cigarettes. I would throw that pack of cigarettes in the trash and say, "I'm not going to touch another one." Oh, what disappointment came when I had to sneak over when no one was looking and pick the pack out of the trash and put it back in my pocket. Friend, you do not have to do that in Jerusalem. The only smoke in Jerusalem is the incense that you offer up to God. That will not destroy you; it will build you up.

Journeying Into a Far Country

I wonder how many people, if they were honest, would to God that they had never left the Church of God. If they were honest, they

would probably say: "That is when I had it really good and life was worth living. That is when I was truly enjoying myself."

The world will bankrupt you spiritually, materially, and physically. Let us look at such an example in the Bible. Luke 15:11-18 reads: "And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

"And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. [Sin will really humiliate you. There was a Jew feeding swine.] And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee."

The prodigal started out by being his own master, but he ended up being a servant, working in a hogpen. He started out as a free spender, but he ended up as a beggar. The world will really applaud you as long as you are a free spender. They will go out of their way to make you feel welcome. After he spent all that he had, he became a beggar. We have it good at Father's house. You have it good at the church. You should not forget that.

What else did the thieves do to the man traveling the road to Jericho? They departed from him, leaving him half dead. The world will give to you as long as you can give to it, but when you have wasted all,

there will not be any outstretched hand like you will find at the church. At the church you will find saints of God who are truly concerned about you. You will not find such concern out in the world. There will be no concern for your soul out in the world. There will be no mercy like you had at the church. The world will depart from you after you have spent all and leave you half dead. You will be alive physically, but dead spiritually. That is what the world will do to you.

There was no help for the poor, wounded man in the Law and the Prophets. All the Law did was expose sin. Likewise, there is no help from false religion. There is no help in the dead, formal teachings of Babylon. If you are in a Babylonian church, as one who loves your soul, you would do well to get out of there and to make haste. The priests and the Levites traveled that road all the time, but what did they lack? They had no mercy or compassion like one could find at Jerusalem. You will not find these attributes on the road to Jericho.

Sometimes people leave the church spiritually, yet they still attend a congregation. In other words, their bodies are there, but their spirits are not in tune with God's Spirit. They just go through a form, but their hearts are not there anymore. If this is your condition, there is hope for you. There is always hope in the Gospel, and there is always hope for you. There is hope for the one who has wandered away, for the one who has drifted, following the currents of this world, for those who are going down in their morals, in their character, and in their personality. There is hope for you! Though the devil has beaten you down, stripped you of all righteousness, and left you wounded and half dead, there is still hope for you. The Gospel always has hope.

The Steps to Recovery

The good Samaritan bound up the man's wounds, poured in the oil

and the wine, set him on his beast, brought him to an inn, and then gave the innkeeper two pence to take care of him until He returned. The Gospel will bind up those wounds that you received at the hands of the devil. God will pour in the oil and the wine (the Word and the Spirit), and He will set you on His beast and bring you to an inn. He will take care of you until He comes again. There is the Gospel! That is what Jesus Christ will do for you!

The Old Testament Prophet Isaiah spoke of this prophecy concerning the Gospel Day and Jesus Christ. He wrote in Isaiah 61:1-3: "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified."

Trees of righteousness are planted by the Lord; they are not wild trees. Where are they planted? They are planted by the water of life. We are trees of righteousness, planted by Almighty God. This is what Jesus did for us. He bound up those wounds, the many sorrows that sin caused, and He put a healing salve on those wounds.

You may ask, "Does God have healing salve?" Jeremiah 8:22 reads, "Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?" The reason is that they did not want to recover. If you want to be recovered, there is a balm in Gilead, a healing salve. Thank God, there is a healing balm that God has given for the healing of

the nations. What is that healing balm? Jesus Christ. What a healing balm! He knows more about you than you will ever know.

We read in Psalm 139:2, "Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off." The darkness and the light are alike to Him. He knows everything that is trying to work in your heart. He knows so much about you. You may ask, "How does He know so much about me?" He is God, and beside Him there is no other. He is your Creator. He created the soul, and He formed the body from the dust of the earth. If Jesus carries, one of these days each of us will lay down the body, and the spirit is going to find its way back to God who gave it.

I remember when He poured in the oil and the wine, which represent the Word and the Spirit, when I came to Jesus Christ. When my wife and I came to God, we did not know anything about serving God. We had dabbled around a little in what we later realized was false religion, but we did not know anything about being born again. When we got under conviction and came to God wounded and brokenhearted, He poured in the oil and the wine (the Word and the Spirit). What happened? When the Word and the Spirit go into your soul, you will stand on your feet for Jesus Christ. You will become a part of an exceedingly great army, going forth conquering and to conquer.

How to Cast Your Burden Upon the Lord

In our Scripture lesson the good Samaritan poured in the oil and the wine and set the man on His own beast. What does that mean? Jesus took our burdens. Jesus said in Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." We read in Psalm 55:22, "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

When we came to Jesus Christ, we came burdened down. Before we came, we did not know how we were going to get rid of those burdens; but after confessing, repenting, and forsaking all sin, those burdens seemed to be a light thing. We cast our burdens upon the Lord, and we walked out just as though we did not have any burdens.

Before I was saved, I can remember that I stood in the back of the church shaking under conviction. The congregation was singing a song of invitation, and I had my head down. The saints were praying. Soon Brother Emerson Wilson came back to me and laid his hand on my shoulder and said, "Brother Decker, is God dealing with your soul?"

I said: "Yes, sir, but not now. I'm not ready yet."

He said, "You never will be ready. It is when God is ready." I stepped out, and down the aisle I went. I did not know much about praying. I did not really know how to pray. One thing I did know was that I was wrong and God was right. I was ready to leave the wrong and come to the right and meet God's conditions. The prayer I said was simply: "God, I can't remember every sin that I have committed, but I have committed a lot of them. You have the record, and whatever it takes to live for you, give it to me, Lord. I want whatever it takes." I found out what it was: He wanted me to give up myself to Him. When I did that, I had victory in my soul. I got up from the altar of prayer with victory in Jesus Christ.

Out in the sun visor of the car was a pack of cigarettes, and it went from there to the trash, and I have never had one since. It was not in my own strength, because I tried in my own strength. It was the power of God; He can do exceeding, abundantly above all that we can think or ask. That was one of my burdens. As I stood there, before I moved to the altar, that was one reason that I was not ready to get saved. I thought, "How am I going to give up to-

bacco?" When I left the altar of prayer, He took that burden. My burdens were lifted at Calvary.

The Wall of Protection

Going back to our Scripture text, the good Samaritan did something else for the man. He not only set him on his own beast, but he took him to an inn and took care of him. When a person gets saved, who is at the inn to take care of him? There are pastors, teachers, evangelists, and the gifts of helps. All these people are at the inn, waiting for him by one Spirit to be baptized.

What is the inn? It represents the Church of God. God does not bring you to any other church but the Church of God. God has never put a soul in a Baptist Church, a Lutheran Church, or a Methodist Church. Some man put you in that. God puts you in the body of Christ, the Church of the Living God. There is only one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one God, and one baptism!

We read in 1 Corinthians 14:33, "For God is not the author of confusion." If there were two churches, would you not be confused? God, who does not promote confusion, made only one church. That way no one should be confused. If there are two or three or thousands of them, there is confusion. Jesus said, "I will build my church," which is singular. The one church is the Church of God. There is no other.

Someone may say, "I don't like it that close." Then you could not have stood Jesus' preaching. There was not a closer preacher ever to set feet on this earth than Jesus Christ. You may inquire, "What about Paul?" Who do you think gave the words to Paul? I am talking about the church that came down out of Heaven from God. It did not come out of Roman Catholicism. No, the Church of God is not a split off; it did not come from the minds of men. It came from God out of Heaven; the church is the new Jerusalem. That is the reason you have to become a new Jew to get in. Those old Jews had to be-

come new Jews to get in this new Jerusalem. Now, one could go to that old Jerusalem, but God is a million miles away from old Jerusalem. He is just a step away from the repentant heart. Praise God for His goodness!

Christ brought us to the church. The church is the body of Christ. The church is the only place qualified to look after you until Jesus comes. That is where He gave the pastors and the instructors and the teachers, not down in Babylon. Why? They are not down in Babylon anymore. There is no help in Babylon. There are no more trumpeters or musicians in Babylon anymore. God put all those gifts in the church. He gave gifts to men who have been born again. Through those gifts the church functions today and will keep functioning until Jesus comes.

Some may say, "The church is falling apart." You may be falling apart, and you may know a few people who have fallen apart, but the gates of hell cannot prevail against the church that Jesus built. He is going to have a kingdom to deliver up to the Father. The question is whether you want to be a part of it. I repeat, the body of Christ is the only place qualified to look after you and me until Jesus comes again. First Corinthians 12:13 states, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

Jesus does not bring us to the inn and leave us. He does not place us in the body of Christ and then turn us loose. In the parable the good Samaritan gave two pence to the host and said "Take care of him." What takes care of you? Jesus Christ poured in the oil and the wine, and then He gave two pence to the church. On the Day of Pentecost, the Spirit of God came. How is the church taken care of? With those two pence, the Word and the Spirit.

First Peter 5:7 reads, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." Where does He care for

you? He cares for you right at the church. You should not go beyond the walls of the church and start down the road to Jericho. Jerusalem had a wall, and that is the reason He called Nehemiah to build it up again. The wall of salvation will protect you, keep you from the world, and keep you from your enemy. If you lose your salvation and start down the road to Jericho, you have lost your protection. You are open prey for the enemy. You need to cast all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Some people have left Jerusalem, and when they left, they left the church. Many people have been surprised at how fast they have gone down. They thought they would step out just a little around the edges. They thought they would never partake of certain things, but all of a sudden, there was a great elevation drop, and down they went. They thought they were going to Jericho, but they ended up in the Dead Sea, where there is no life. They started for that fertile land, the well-watered plain where the heat of the Gospel is not preached.

God has help for those who have left victory and have gone on to defeat. If you have been wounded because of your journey, it is time to lean on the compassion and the mercy of Almighty God. He is able to pour in the oil and the wine and put you in the church, and you will be well taken care of until He comes again. Are you like that certain man in the parable who started on a journey? If you are, remember that thieves and robbers who have climbed up another way are waiting to rob you, and then your soul will become destitute. You need to come to Jesus Christ. You will be so glad that you did.

(Cassette C-3911E)

Philippians 2:1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things

of others.

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of

the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Underlying Principle in the Life of Jesus Christ



Brother E. David Stegmeier

The Standard by Which Christ Lived

When I speak of the underlying principle in the life of Jesus Christ, I mean His main attitude, or the standard by which He lived; in other words, His mind-set, or His way of thinking.

The Book of Philippians was written by the Apostle Paul. He wrote this letter to the church that he had founded in Philippi. The city

was named after Philip of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great. Some great works had been done in that city. We read in Acts, Chapter 16, of the conversion of Lydia, the seller of purple, and her family, and the deliverance of a demon-possessed girl. Also, we read of the conversion of the Philippian jailer and his family.

Paul was writing this letter from a Roman prison, and in this letter he expressed joy in knowing them as

saints. Paul was writing to these precious people, and in essence, it was a letter thanking them for their financial support. However, there were some vital points on which I would like to elaborate. In this letter he brought out some points that I feel are applicable and relevant to our day. First of all, Paul said to be faithful. God is looking for some faithful people. Every pastor is looking for faithful men and women who will be there no matter what to

hold up his hands, to pray for him, and to support him.

Paul said to be moral. The world seems to be getting more immoral all the time. Next, Paul said to be humble. You should have a positive attitude. Do you have a positive attitude? You need to think about it. You should not be so high and mighty that you cannot look at yourself. You have not arrived yet. None of us has arrived. We are still working and striving and laboring to be more like Jesus Christ. No one should think so highly of himself that he cannot take some counsel. Paul said to be humble and to have a positive attitude.

Next, remember what really counts, or is really important, in life. Some people spend so much time and energy and money feeding the flesh that they have little time to feed the spiritual man. Too often the spiritual man lives on junk food. Gossip, ill will, backbiting, and bitterness are all spiritual junk food. Last, but not least, Paul said to be content. Someone may say, "Oh, I would love to move to Arizona. The weather is just right all year round." Paul said in Philippians 4:11, "For I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith [to find fault? No] to be content."

When I entered the military service, I was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and I was miserable. I had to learn to be content. God had to speak to me. Paul said he had to learn that lesson. Sometimes it is a hard lesson to learn. I like to be with people who are content, not with people who are always grumbling and finding fault. That is an ugly disposition. You should be content where God has placed you.

Virtues Found in Christ

It appears that the congregation at Philippi became the dearest of all to Paul. He loved those people. They shared his interests, they took his sufferings as their own, and they assisted him greatly in his ministry;

therefore, they were very precious to him. This congregation helped Paul spiritually, financially, and in every way they could; however, there appeared to be one problem in Philippi. There was some disharmony in the congregation. He exhorted them several times to work out their differences and to be united in one.

Philippians 1:27 says, "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ." This is good exhortation for the home too. The husband and the wife need to get along and work out their differences. Your children will be so glad to get out of the home if you are constantly quarreling and fighting. Our children stayed on and on in our home, and we were glad to have them.

Some people fight and fuss, and their children cannot wait to get out of the home. The father might have such a nasty, ugly attitude that they want to leave as soon as they can. Perhaps the wife and the husband are always after each other, so the children cannot wait to get out of there. Again, Paul said in Philippians 1:27, "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ." If you are a Christian, you ought to act as a Christian should act. You should love your brothers and sisters in the Lord.

In our Scripture reading in Philippians 2:1 we read, "If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies." Paul was enumerating five benefits or virtues that we find in Christ. First, if you are a Christian, you have found consolation in Christ. He has supported you, encouraged you, and stood by you when others forsook you.

Second, you have comfort of love. Christ has loved you, and He still loves you. He even loved you when you were a little naughty. (You need to get rid of naughtiness.) With comfort of love He cheers you up. Third, you have fellowship with the Spirit. You have shared in the

benefits of the Holy Spirit. Isn't it wonderful to have the Holy Spirit living within you, talking to you, whispering in your ear, and directing your footsteps? Bowels are deep love and affection. You have found that in Christ. Each of us has received mercy from God. Some people would have been killed under the Old Testament.

Paul said that since you have received consolation and comfort of love, and you are enjoying fellowship in the Spirit, bowels and mercies, you ought to show those graces and virtues to others. Then he sent them to their brothers and sisters. If you have received mercy, consolation of love, and all these things, then you should show the same virtues to others. You ought to be merciful with others. You should not be too quick to cut someone off. No! God did not do that with you.

Obedient Unto Death

Paul said in Philippians 2:2-3: "Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves." These are powerful verses of Scripture. They were written for us to read slowly, to reflect on them, and next we each should ask God if we are coming short in any way; then let the Lord reply. You should not get up before He tells you where you might be coming short. He wants to tell you, but if you are not careful you will get up and go on your way too soon. He wants to talk to you.

Again, verse 3 reads, "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind. . . ." Sometimes people go to church, listen to the message, and then say, "It's all done. Let's go to a restaurant and have dinner." If someone were to ask them, "What did the pastor preach on?" they would have no idea. The worship services are the most important time

you will spend in a week. Sunday is the first day of the week. You should give God first place. You may say, "I have some important things to deal with at work." They are not as important as what God has for you in the services.

Paul said not to let anything be done through strife or vainglory. If you feel strife, you should drop it. Wife, if there is a problem or an impasse, you should let your husband make the decision, unless it is something that will jeopardize your soul. I have been teaching school for many years, but I still have to acquiesce my will to the will of the superintendent. He is in charge. Likewise, in the home the husband is in charge. A husband needs to be sure that he is obeying God and the pastor. He has absolutely no right to ask his wife to do something if he is not submissive to God through the pastor. Brother, you need to be sure that you are obeying God through the pastor. You are obeying God when you obey a godly pastor. The pastor is in charge.

Again, Philippians 2:4-11 states: "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

In verses 3-4 of the Scripture text, Paul explained what it means to live in harmony. I like harmony in the home and in my congrega-

tion, and I must have harmony and quietness in my classroom in the school.

God wants order, and a real man of God wants order in his home. Paul spelled out how we can have harmony in the church. First, we all must have the same love toward one another without partiality. You should not have cliques and clans and have love only for certain individuals. Paul said to love everyone. Whenever you have people, you have problems. You cannot love God unless you love the brother whom you can see; therefore, you must love without partiality.

Second, we all must be in one accord and united in one spirit. Third, we must have one mind, work toward one common goal, and have the same values. Fourth, we must not do anything through strife or vain glory. In other words, we should not do anything selfishly. Fifth, we each should esteem the other person a little better than ourselves. In other words, you should think of your brother and your sister as being a little more important than you are. Last, you should look upon the problems of others. You should not always be concerned about your own problems. Jesus exemplified this attitude in His ministry.

Have a Servant's Attitude

Verses 6-8 of our Scripture text says even though He was the Son of God, the Creator of this awesome universe, He humbled Himself and became a mere man, and not only a mere man, but a servant. There is a God, and He not only designed this universe but also created it, and then He became a servant.

In Luke 22:27 Jesus said, "I am among you as he that serveth." Do you have a servant's attitude? Christ condescended from His heavenly realm to take upon Himself the likeness of men. He was concerned with the needs of humanity — your needs. He was willing to live as a mere man, to suffer humiliation, and to bleed and die as a penalty for our

sins. We need to cultivate that same mind-set.

Romans 12:16 says, "Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits." Jesus is our model in everything we do. He always put the needs of others first. He looked out for the needs of others before His own needs. First Peter 2:21-22 says: "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth." Christ is our example.

It was the custom of the parents of Jesus to go up to Jerusalem every year to the Feast of the Passover. When they had accomplished their requirements, they started back down the road. The Bible says they traveled for one day's journey. After a day, they looked around for Jesus. "Where is Jesus? Have you seen Him?" They went back to the temple and found Him there asking the religious leaders questions. He was only twelve years of age. His questions and the answers to their questions were astonishing. They wondered who this young man was. His parents searched for Him for three days. We have little record of His youth, but the Bible says after they found Him, He went home with them and was submissive to them. Even though He was God personified, He was submissive as a child. This is a good example for our children.

No doubt, Jesus' parents took the advice of Moses that he wrote in Deuteronomy 6:6-7: "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: [fathers] And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Parent, you should use every opportunity to talk to your children about God. You ought to teach them good

morals, such as honesty.

After the experience that Jesus' parents had with Him in the temple, the Bible says He was subject, or obedient, to His parents and went home with them. This godly attitude of Christ needs to be in every one of us. Again, Philippians 2:8 says, "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death [it does not stop there], even the death of the cross."

Doing the Father's Will

Jesus came into the world for the explicit purpose of doing the Father's will. That was the mind-set, or the principle, that governed His life. Does it govern yours? Is that the principle by which you live every day? Do you want to do the will of God? Too many professing Christians put their will ahead of Christ's. If that is the case with you, then you are not going to walk with Him.

Christ's explicit desire, or will, was to do the Father's will. Jesus said in John 4:34, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." None of us has finished our work. We are still working. We all have a work to do. Another translation of this same Scripture says, "My nourishment, my food, that which sustains me, keeps me going, keeps me alive, is to do Your will, O God, and to finish Your work."

Another translation of Philippians 2:8 reads, "When He appeared in human form, He humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross." The Amplified Bible says, "And after He had appeared in human form He abased and humbled Himself [still further] and carried His obedience to the extreme of death, even the death of [the] cross!" There are those who say, "Do not worry about trivial things." We use a little key to start a huge car. Do you remember when the Challenger exploded? There were some

minor things that caused the destruction of the Challenger. I do not think anything is minor when it comes to God's will.

There are those who would say that we in the Church of God carry our obedience to the extreme. However, Jesus went to the extreme, the furthest point, in giving His life for mankind in obedience to the Father's will. Complete obedience was the underlying principle that governed the life of Jesus Christ. I did not just say obedience, but *complete* obedience. This is the standard of the Church of God today. It is the standard that governed Jesus' life, and it is the standard that governs the life of every true man and woman of God.

Jesus went all the way. Too many people are not willing to take up his or her cross and die out to self. The flesh is still alive in too many cases. The flesh wants to be on display; it is not dead. There is a standard for the hair and a standard for the dress.

When I went into the military service, I did not have long hair, but they sat me down and took it all off in a matter of moments. They did not ask me how I wanted it. If you are in the military, the government owns you. Does Jesus own you? Many people are not willing to die out to worldly ways. Jesus went to the extremity when He laid down His life for the Cross. Do you suppose that He was concerned about going to a hair dresser before He got there? Do you think He was concerned about wearing the right clothes or having His fingernails manicured?

Meekly Follow in His Footsteps

As I look at the world, I see some people who claim to be Christians, and they say no to the flesh here and there. However, Jesus humbled Himself for the Cross. Jesus said in John 14:15, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." There is an important link between

love and obedience. Jesus stressed it. You do not love Him if you do not obey Him. Jesus was obedient to the bitter end, even the death of the Cross. We could equate this form of execution to the electric chair, to dying on the gallows, or to dying in the gas chamber. It is a death reserved only for the very disgraceful or disreputable. This song comes to me often:

*Must Jesus bear the cross alone,
And all the world go free?
No, there's a cross for everyone,
And there's a cross for me.*

*The consecrated cross I'll bear
Till death shall set me free;
And then go home my crown
to wear,
For there's a crown for me.*

*O precious cross! O glorious crown!
O resurrection day!
When Christ the Lord from heav'n
comes down
And bears my soul away.*

Many people are so shallow. Dear one, complete obedience and complete submission is the standard of the church. Obedience is so important to the Church of God. D. S. Warner wrote a song entitled *Obedience*. Church of God hymns are awesome. There are no others like them. There is so much depth of meaning and thought. D. S. Warner wrote:

*By thy blessed Word obeying,
Lord, we prove our love sincere,
For we hear thee gently saying,
"Love will do as well as hear."*

*Feigned hearts [people who
pretend to be Christians]
thy name professing,
Thy commandments cast aside;
But we feel thy great salvation,
And in all thy truth abide.*

*Ev'ry word thy mouth hath spoken
Is essential to our life;
All thy mandates love betoken,
To oppose them is but strife.*

*In thy wisdom, Lord, confiding,
We will follow in thy way;
With thy love in us abiding,
'Tis delightful to obey.*

*Each commandment thou
hast given
Is a waymark on the road,
Leading up from earth to heaven,
To the blessed throne of God.*

*Dear Redeemer, we would hallow,
All thy word [that is what is
different about the Church
of God; we take the whole
Book], so firm and true,
In thy footsteps meekly follow,
Thy commands we love to do.*

How complete is your obedience? Are there some things that you will not do? Jesus obeyed to the extreme. Someone once said, "Christ's death on the Cross is to be reflected in our death to sin." Everything in our lives should destroy sin. We are dead as far as sin is concerned. We no longer respond to its suggestions, and we are no longer answerable to its demands. All of its authority over us is gone.

Are You Walking in Complete Obedience?

Again, Jesus said in John 14:15, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Love and obedience go hand in hand. The underlying principle in the life of Jesus Christ is complete obedience. When I got married, my wife's part of the wedding vows said "to love, honor, and obey." They go hand in hand. I have a wonderful wife, and we have traveled together for a long time, a long way. Sometimes she did not know for sure what God's intent was for us. Several times we have had to make some very important decisions in our lives. She has said to me, "You will have to make that decision."

Amos 3:3 says, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" In other words, you must agree with God 100 percent. My wife and I have had some very grievous

decisions to make. Several times she has said, "You make the decision; I will follow." God has blessed our lives tremendously.

How is it, husband, wife? How are you getting along with your spouse? How are you getting along with your pastor? God has blessed our lives and our ministry, and we are very grateful. I still believe in the old Church of God teachings. They can still build a beautiful congregation. We have not changed.

Psalm 110:3 says, "Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power." We often say that 1 John, Chapter 3, gives us the line of demarcation between God's people and the world. It is drawn where sin is. God's people do not sin; the world sins. There is another line. God's people are a willing people. "In the day of thy power" means in the day of the Holy Ghost. In this day and age, if you are going to walk with God, you have to be 100 percent willing.

If you want to prosper in your life, you have to be 100 percent obedient. You must not quibble over the hair standard. You ought to do what God says and close your mouth. Did Jesus open His mouth when they crucified Him? No, He did not open His mouth to contend against the Father.

Jeremiah 31:31-32 says: "Behold, the days come [in the New Testament time], saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD." The Lord had to take the children of Israel by the hand because He did not have their hearts. There have been people down through time who have come to the worship services because of the crowd, the beautiful facilities, or the food, but their hearts were not really into serving God.

This reminds me of the story that Brother Emerson Wilson used to tell about the daddy who was on the bus. His little boy was standing, so he said, "Son, sit down."

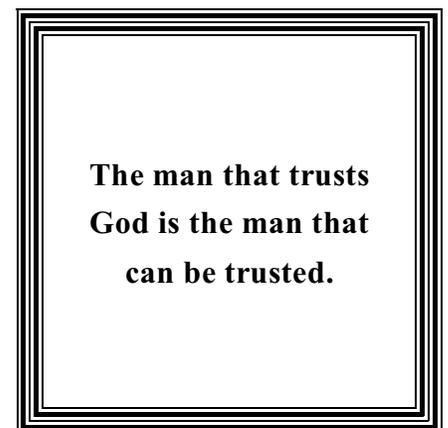
"I want to stand up."

"I said to sit down." So he took off his belt and gave his boy a good whack. The boy sat down, but he said, "Daddy, I'm sitting down, but inside I'm still standing."

I repeat, the difference between the Church of God and the world is complete obedience. Those who claim to be Church of God who are not fully obedient are *not* the Church of God. If you are not fully obedient to God, you are not in the Church of God. Jesus said, in essence, if you love Him you will obey Him. Again, John 14:15 says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

We read in 1 Peter 1:13-16: "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind [focus your thoughts on the Word of God], be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, [Can you say that you are obeying God in every avenue of your life? Young person, children, are you obeying God? Are you obeying the pastor?] not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance. But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

(Compact Disc TR-234M)



Colossians 3:1 *If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.*

2 *Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*

3 *For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.*

4 *When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*

5 *Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which*

is idolatry:

6 *For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:*

7 *In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.*

8 *But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.*

9 *Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;*

10 *And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:*

11 *Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.*

12 *Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;*

13 *Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.*

14 *And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.*

The Clothes That God Requires



Brother C. H. Dickerson

Putting on New Garments

The Apostle Paul made the statement that these last days would be one of the most perilous times in which man has ever lived. We are living in a time when many people are self-righteous. They think, as Revelation 3:17 tells us, that they do not need anything. They say they are rich and have need of nothing. Because people have plenty of material things today, it seems they are bypassing what they really need, and that is God.

We are living in a day when people are greatly educated. Scientists are intelligent enough to put men on the moon and bring them

back again. The weapons of war and all the modern equipment and technology staggers the mind. Nevertheless, in spite of all the goodness that man has, all that man knows, and all that man is able to do, Isaiah said that all man's righteous garments are as filthy rags; they are unclean.

Sometimes when people realize that their spiritual garments, or their self-righteousness, is not good enough, they decide they want something better. They want to put on clean garments and discard the old filthy rags. When people purchase new clothes, they take off the old ones, and that is also true spiritually.

Isaiah 55:7 says, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous

man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isaiah stated that when people come to the place that they realize their condition, there is help for them; but until that time, there is no help. The first thing you have to do before putting on these new garments is this: "Let the wicked forsake his way." When God talks about the wicked, He is speaking of people who have not measured up to His eternal Truth. He said, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD."

We are living in a time when many people have drifted away from

God. Sometimes when a person starts living for God, he comes to a certain place in his experience, and it is a step that he does not want to take. As a result, he goes back into sin. He may try again but not get anywhere. Isaiah said in this Scripture that whenever someone returns, he has to come right back to where he quit. The very thing that caused him to go back into sin is the starting place. If he does not start at that place, he will never get anywhere. Isaiah said to let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return to the Lord, and then God will abundantly pardon him.

The Elect of God

In our Scripture text Paul was talking about the elect. He said in verse 12, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God. . . ." The reason we are the elect is that God chose us. Saint of God, you ought to be shouting happy because you are His child, not because you chose Him, but great God Almighty looked down and saw what He could make of you. It ought to thrill your soul to know that God chose you.

John 15:16 lets us know that God not only chose us, but He ordained that we should bring forth fruit. Also, He wants us to live lives that ensure that our fruit will remain constant so that people can see the fruit and see how beautiful it is to serve God. As a result, they will see their need of God. Today we are living in a time when many people are so up and down in their Christian experiences that some people do not know what is right or what is wrong.

God wants you to get an experience that will keep you daily through the temptations and the trials. Then people can look upon you and know exactly where you stand. God is displeased with people who are up and down so much that people do not know where they stand from one day to another. Jesus said in John 15:16, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring

forth fruit."

Paul wrote in our Scripture text that we must have a change of clothing, figuratively speaking. These clothes that Paul was speaking of are always in style and always fit. In Titus 2:11-12 Paul said: "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world [or the Greek says, 'in this present age']." God has brought this salvation to everyone in every church age: the Ephesian church age, the Smyrna church age, the Pergamas church age, the Thyatiran church age, the Sardis church age, the Philadelphia church age, and the Laodicean church age. He taught in every age that we ought to live soberly, righteously, and godly.

We are living in the most modern age. Christ did not say one good thing about the Laodicean church age. He complimented the other church ages for what they had done or for how they had lived, but when He came to the Laodicean church, He did not give one compliment. Nevertheless, we ought to live soberly, righteously, and godly right in this Laodicean church age. It makes no difference how modern it is, God can still give you an experience that will bear fruit right in the day in which we are living, and you can win souls for God.

Mortifying the Deeds of the Body

When God's people came out of Egyptian bondage, they wore the same shoes and the same clothes for forty years, and they never wore them out. It does not make any difference who you are, where you are, or in what age you are living, living for God is right up to date. Once you get an experience with God, it will be the same as what they had back on the Day of Pentecost. It has not been modernized; it has never changed.

I want you to consider the thought of the old clothes that Paul talked about in our Scripture text. In

verses 5-9 he said: "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection [the lack of control over your feelings, or unregulated feelings], evil concupiscence [which is strong or abnormal desires], and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds."

These are the old clothes that we must put off. He was not talking about the garments that you are physically wearing, but rather the spiritual garments that you must put off if you are going to serve God. He said you have to mortify these things. I will go one step further and say that when you serve God, putting off these things will not be a problem. In other words, you will gladly mortify these members and bring them under control. When people have to be preached to and preached to, and then they say they want to go home and pray about it, that lets me know they do not truly desire to serve God. If they did, they would grab hold of the lifeline and get out of the quagmire of sin.

Paul said to put off these old clothes. You must mortify anger, wrath, malice, and all these various things. Then he stated why, and he also told us how. In Romans 8:13 he said if you live after the flesh, you shall die. He was not talking about physical death, but he was speaking of spiritual death when you do what the flesh wants to do. No matter who you are or how long you have been saved, the flesh is the same after you get saved as it has always been in the sense that it will still crave earthly things. When you get saved, God puts His Spirit on the inside and gives you power so that when the flesh wants to reach out, you can bring it under control.

In 1 Corinthians 9:27 Paul said, "I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a cast-away." My friend, this is still necessary yet today. Many people give up because they think that after they get saved, everything will be easy and they will not have any problems. You will have the same problems you have always had, but you will have power to bring things under control so that you can do what God wants you to do instead of what you want to do. Therefore, Paul said, "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live" (Romans 8:13).

Yielding Yourself to God

Someone may ask, "When do you get the Spirit of God on the inside?" You get the Spirit of God when you get saved; then your spirit is changed. Ezekiel 36:25-27 lets you know that when you get saved, God cleanses you with clean water, and then He takes out the old stony heart and puts in a heart of flesh that can be touched. Then He will put in a new spirit. He said, in so many words, "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to keep My judgments and My commandments." You will do this when you get God's Spirit. Again, you receive God's Spirit when you get saved. After God puts His Spirit in you, you will still be tempted and you will still have trials. However, if you will mortify the deeds of the flesh, you will have eternal life and you will make Heaven your home.

Paul said in Romans 6:12-13: "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God." Verse 16 says, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves

servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" Paul was simply saying that when you get God on the inside, it is up to you to yield yourself to whomever you want.

Whomever you yield yourself to, that is whose child you are. If you yield yourself to the devil, then you are his child. If you yield yourself to God, and through the power of God crucify the flesh, you are a child of God. God tells us throughout His Word that whomever you yield yourself to, you are going to receive a reward, or a payday, for what you have done. Psalm 62:12 says that God "renderest to every man according to his work." Revelation, Chapters 20 and 21, let us know that God will reward us according to the work that we do. We each have the privilege of yielding ourselves to whomever we choose. You do not have to yield yourself to the devil. You can yield yourself to God. The way you live day by day determines what your payday is going to be.

The old clothes do not fit the new creature anymore. When a person gets saved, a change takes place, and it is not just on the inside. Some people say they are saved, but they have not changed on the outside. Whenever you get saved, you are changed on the inside and on the outside. When you get saved, you want to get rid of the unrighteous spirit and the old filthy rags, spiritually speaking.

All Things Become New

Paul told us in 2 Corinthians 5:1-2: "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven." When you get saved, you might be out in some man-made organization, but when you get hold of God, something on the inside groans for the house that is not made with hands—that church

where God is the head, where Christ is the Door, the Foundation, the Teacher, and the Leader. We groan for these things, and we will never be satisfied short of them.

God wants you to get down to business with Him. If you are His child, you will groan for God's eternal Truth. You should not want any falseness of man, but you should want God's eternal Truth. You should not be satisfied with anything else. You should be groaning for it. You do not want to be found naked, spiritually speaking. Jesus said that you cannot sew new cloth in an old garment because it would rend it. In Matthew 9:17 He also said, "Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved." What was He talking about? When you get salvation, it goes into your bottle, so to speak. It would not be long until the new wine (your salvation) would be spoiled unless the outer body is also changed. My friend, you need to clean up the outside and become a new creature all the way through. When you get saved, God wants you to be newly outfitted.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17 Paul said, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away. . . ." When you get saved, you will no longer look at the same things, think upon the same things, do the same things, or keep company with the same people. Before my wife and I got saved, we were running around with people at the dance halls, the beer joints, and such places. When we got saved, God changed us. One night some of those people we were running around with drove up in front of our house to go out again, so I went out and told them that we had gotten saved and did not go to those places any longer. We never had any more dealings with them; we never even saw them again.

Today many people claim to get saved, but they still flirt with the

world, keep company with worldly friends, and enjoy worldly things. When you get the Spirit of God on the inside, and someone else has a worldly spirit, your spirit will be tormented. You cannot enjoy the world when you have the Spirit of God.

Often it is necessary to work with worldly people and to associate with worldly relatives; however, whenever you really get God in your heart and life, you will thank Him for each day when prayer meeting time comes, when Sunday service time comes, and when revival or camp meeting time comes. Why? You can get away from the world and the worldly atmosphere and be with God's people. There is nothing like being with God's people. The greatest place to be is at a camp meeting with good brothers and sisters who come from far and near and have sweet fellowship together. If you claim to be saved, yet you would rather hang around with the world than to be with God's people, you need to get closer to God.

When God saves us we have one desire. Again, 1 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold [this means that you are to take notice and pay attention to what he is saying], all things are become new." What happens when all things become new? He said in verse 18, "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." In other words, when you get saved, God gives you another spirit, and you want to win other people to God.

Today we see all kinds of spirits working, but I still adhere to God's eternal Word. He said when you get saved, all things become new, and God gives us an experience that will draw people's attention. You do not have to go out and say, "Hey, I'm a Christian!" When God saves you, He will change you so much that people will start asking you questions. They will ask you what happened, because

they will be able to see that something has happened and that your desires have changed. The reason they have changed is that you are not concerned about pleasing the flesh anymore, but you want to please God.

When Moses was watching his father-in-law's sheep, he took the sheep to the back side of the mountain. All at once, he saw a sight that he had never seen before. He saw a bush on fire, but it was not consumed. Only God could have done that. As he watched that bush, he decided to go over and see what was going on. When God saw that He had Moses' attention, He spoke to Moses and told him what He wanted him to do. He is going to get people's attention and get a message to them. They may not acknowledge it, but this salvation is what every man and every woman needs.

Unless you put on new garments, you are not going to make Heaven your home. It is not enough to turn over a new leaf. It is not enough to feel that you are as good as someone else, because if you are unsaved, you are not good enough. The Bible says our own righteousness is as filthy rags. I want you to see that when a person is completely changed, it draws the attention of others. This change starts on the inside, and Paul said all things become new. When all things become new, you get a new heart, a new spirit, new desires, and a new mind. The old clothes that you wore pleased man, but the new clothes please God.

Paul said in Colossians 3:12, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies. . . ." He was saying that this work of salvation does not start on the outside and work in, but it has to start on the inside. Your spirit is changed, your will is changed, and your desires are changed. When God talks to your heart, He will cause you to see your need and to see that a change must take place. After you get saved, you will no longer be satisfied with pleasing yourself, but you will want to please God. Your will and your de-

sires will change when God saves your soul, and your spirit will change right then. You will no longer serve the old devil and your flesh, because you want to serve God.

The Works of the Flesh

In Galatians 5:19-21 Paul wrote: "Now the works of the flesh are manifest [in other words, they are obvious; people can see them], which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

Let us consider some of these words. The word *lasciviousness* means to arouse fleshly desires. We are living in a time when both men and women dress to attract, or to tempt, others. Dresses have become short, tight, and low cut. The reason women wear such immodest clothes is to attract attention. The Bible lets you know this is worldly. The very things that happen out in the world can begin to creep in around the church, only in a modified way. Mark it down, if you put on a garment with the thought in mind to attract someone, you will not inherit the Kingdom of God. There are people who claim to have on the new clothes, but the works of the flesh are still being manifested.

Paul mentioned the word *variance*, which is another word for discord. When you see someone running around trying to sow discord among the saints of God, he is not in God's kingdom now, and he is not going to make it to Heaven. God's people are peacemakers. Someone who sows discord is not in the Kingdom of God, and he will not be in the Kingdom of God until he gets another spirit.

Paul also mentioned the word *seditions*, which means separation. Too many try to separate God's

people, but Paul said that "they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." I do not know how much plainer this could be. If you have an old spirit causing you to sow discord, or to bring a separation between God's people, you had better start doing some square business with God, because you are not in the Kingdom of God, and you will not be in His kingdom until you get another spirit.

Jesus made this quite clear in the Sermon on the Mount, when He first started preaching. He said in Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers [not the troublemakers or those who cause division, but the peacemakers]: for they shall be called the children of God." After Paul told us about the old garments, he told us what the new garments are in Galatians 5:19-21. Let us read about what the old garments are and then see how a change takes place. He said: "Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

The Fruit of the Spirit

Paul said in Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love [what a change, from hatred to love], joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." My friend, when you get saved, it is just like raising up a window blind and letting in the daylight. It is a complete turnaround, a complete change: from hatred to love, from being pressed down to having joy, from being short fused to being long-suffering. Salvation changes you all the way through. This is what God wants, and this is what must be to make Heaven your home.

In Ephesians 4:2 Paul said, "With all lowliness and meekness, with

longsuffering, forbearing one another in love." What did Paul mean when he instructed us to forbear one another in love? One thing he meant was that we must learn to get along together. In other words, you need to realize that you have faults the same as everyone else has faults.

Jesus said in Mark 11:25-26: "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses." If someone has ought against you, you must forgive that person, and then forget about it. You should not be lying in wait to get even.

Our Scripture text tells us what to do. We are to put on the garment of kindness. He told us in verse 12, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness. . . ." This garment fits everyone. In Ephesians 4:32 Paul said, "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

We are to put on humility and humbleness of mind. We are not to think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think. We must remember that we are dust. Our minds are the starting point, whether it is good or bad. Paul said in Romans 12:2, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." You are not to pattern yourself after the world.

When Israel came out of Egyptian bondage their clothes lasted for forty years. What a savings it would be for us if we could wear our clothes for forty years! The only thing that has changed about the style today is that the world has changed it. God's style is still the same as it was before the foundation of the world. He set a standard back then, and it has never changed. I think, most of the time, our clothes are not worn out; we simply want something new.

Again, Romans 12:2 tells us, "And be not conformed to this world:

but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." In other words, Paul was saying that it takes a change in order to know God's will. You cannot know God's will until you get this change. When you do, you will know what God would have you to do, and then it is up to you to do it.

In Colossians 3:12 Paul said to be long-suffering and patient. This is a continual growth that all of us need. I believe we could all have more patience and be more long-suffering. When you use what you have, God will give you more.

The Bond of Perfectness

Now I want to come down to the main point of our Scripture text. Paul said in verse 14, "And above all these things, [All these things are necessary. It is necessary for you to change; it is necessary to be kind, to have humbleness of mind, to be meek and long-suffering, to forbear one another, and to forgive one another. If you have a quarrel or a complaint against someone, you must forgive that person. However, above all these things, there is something more important than these.] put on charity." Although these other spiritual garments are necessary, Paul said above all, we must put on charity, or love. Our love must be genuine, or without pretense.

I could pretend many things. For example, I could pretend to have a lot of money in my pocket, but if I should go to the grocery store and do not have any money, it would not do me any good to pretend. The same is true of love. You can pretend that you have love for someone, but it will not show up unless you actually have it. There will come a time when you will need it, and if you do not have it, it will not be there to use. If you do not have love when you need it, you will become bitter. Paul said above all else, put on charity. Again, you must have genuine love. Why is this? It is necessary so that we can

have the bond of perfectness.

Now, we can have all these things that Paul talked about, such as forgiveness for one another, kindness, and humbleness of mind; however, we need something to hold to these things. What must we have? We must have charity. That is what bonds us together. If we have love for the brethren, nothing can separate us, as long as we each have that love. However, if someone lets something creep in, the fellowship will be broken, and the devil will be right there to make the gap bigger and bigger, until it gets so big that it cannot be mended. Why? Because someone failed to keep charity above all else. You might have on the other garments, but unless you have charity, something to hold these other garments on, you will lose them. For example, a brother can dress up, but if he forgets his belt and he moves around very much, he might lose his trousers.

The garments that the Apostle Paul mentioned are necessary. It is necessary to be kind, and it is necessary to have a heart change; but above all these, we must put on charity. Why? Charity, or love, holds us together. The devil wants to separate the people of God, but if we put on charity, it will hold us together.

First Peter 4:8 says, "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins." We all have faults, but if we have charity, or fervent love, it will cover them. In 1 Thessalonians 4:9 Paul said, "But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another." In 1 Timothy 1:5 he wrote, "Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned."

Jesus said in John 13:34-35: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." In John 14:11 Jesus said, ". . . believe me for the very works' sake." You must love for the works' sake. In other words, some-

times you need to bury the hatchet, so to speak, for the very works' sake.

Having Love One to Another

I want you to notice that Jesus said in John 13:35, ". . . if ye have love one to another." In other words, the same current of love is flowing through one saint right into another, just like a string of lights. The same power is going through each one, and it is for the same purpose: to lighten a dark pathway, to beautify, or to show the dangerous hazards. When one bulb is burned out, it affects all the lights, and it leaves a dark spot. Jesus let us know that we need to have love one *to* another, so that it will flow. The same power, or the same Spirit, will keep the love flowing. When someone has allowed his light to burn out, it will leave a vacant place. We must have love one *to* another.

A change of mind must be made to change your direction. In Romans, Chapter 7, in essence, Paul said, "What I want to do, I cannot do; and what I do not want to do, that is what I do." He was miserable. He cried out in Romans 7:24, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Then, in verse 25, he gave the answer: "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Each of us who is saved came to a place in life where we were sick of sin and wanted to change. We were miserable. We lay on our beds at night and wondered what was going to happen to us. Like Paul, we wanted a change. Then one day someone preached a message and the Spirit of God said, "I am here to deliver you!" Now, like Paul, we can say, "Thanks be to God through our Lord Jesus Christ that set us free from a life of sin!" Without the deliverance of a greater power than your own, you are but a candidate for a lost eternity.

Someone said one time that you can watch the way people dress and distinguish where they are from. He said when they are from a cold climate they dress in heavier clothes, but when they come from a warmer climate, they dress in lighter clothes. Then he went on to say that you

could also tell the saints of God, those who are going to Heaven, by the way they dress. You can tell them by their spiritual garments.

Our text of Scripture is definite and distinct. Paul instructed us to put off the old clothes. He did not say, "If you want to." If you make Heaven your home, you *must* put them off. When you put them off, next you must put on the new clothes. Those old garments represent the old man, the old desires, or the old spirit. You cannot put off the old man by yourself. If you could do that, then you would have no need of God. It takes God to help you.

I tried for a long time to quit smoking cigarettes, but I could not do it until the day I bowed at an altar of prayer and God saved my soul. He broke the power of that habit. He gave me the power to clean up my tongue, clean up my mind, and clean up my ears. He will do the same yet today. You must do more than put off the old garment. When you put it off, Jesus said you must be filled up or the devil will come back into your temple and make you worse than you were before (see Matthew 12:43-45).

When you put off the old garment, you must put on the new garment. You must put on love, joy, peace, and all that the Spirit of God gives you. This is a commandment that you must obey if you want to make Heaven your home.

If you are going to make Heaven your home, you must get past man and what others do. This is an individual matter between you and God. You have to put off the old garment, not because you have to, but because you have found something better. Friend, when you find Christ, you find something far better than this old world has to offer. This world cannot even begin to offer anything like serving God. God can set you free, make you happy, and give you joy. You have Someone who can help you, no matter what your problem is. Whether you have sickness, or whatever trouble you might have, God can help you. There is no comparison between serving God and serving the devil. God will help you and strengthen you.

(Cassette C-5043M)

Ezekiel 13:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

2 Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the LORD;

3 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!

4 O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts.

5 Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD.

6 They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word.

7 Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, The LORD saith it; albeit I have not spoken?

8 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have spoken vanity, and seen lies, therefore, behold, I am against you, saith the Lord GOD.

9 And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

10 Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar:

11 Say unto them which daub it with untempered mortar, that it shall fall: there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall rend it.

12 Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, Where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it?

13 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it.

14 So will I break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered mortar, and bring it down to the ground, so that the foundation thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

A False Security



Brother Wayne Hafley

Building With Untempered Mortar

We all like to have security. Many people have security systems in their homes and in their cars. Certainly, we need to have real security in our souls. Today many people have a false sense of security. Our

Scripture text talks about a false security, where one would daub the wall with untempered mortar, another with mortar, and then another with untempered mortar. God said when the storms come, that wall will not stand because it was built out of falsehood. I want real salvation. I do not want anything that has loopholes

in it. I want something that will secure me all the days of my life. Do you?

The Prophet Ezekiel said in our Scripture text that the people had false security. They were trusting in something that did not have any reality in it. Many people are trusting in doctrines that will not take them to

Heaven. They are trusting in a fellowship that does not bring them near to God. I want secure fellowship, and I want a secure message. I do not want anything false. The problem that Israel was having was that people were building a wall that would not stand because the foundation was not solid.

A wall will not stand unless the foundation is solid. The wall of salvation is something that brings protection for us in the midst of this world. I am glad that we have protection and security in God. You will never become deceived if you are honest with yourself and with God. He wants you to build on a solid foundation. You should not want to build on wood, hay, or stubble because the fire will burn them up. However, when you build on silver, gold, and precious stones, spiritually speaking, you will be able to stand the Judgment shock. God wants people who can take the judgment of God right now, and then they will be able to meet God's eternal judgment.

The only true security is in God. There are many falsehoods out in the world today. Many people do not like to hear anyone preach on it or mention it; nevertheless, millions of people in religion are wrong. A minister's job is to cry out against all wrongs, to "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine" (2 Timothy 4:2).

Many people are lost because they refuse to endure sound doctrine. They will not allow their lives to be checked by the plumb line. If you are going to build a wall, you need a plumb line. Furthermore, you need tempered mortar. When the wind and the storms come, untempered mortar will cause the wall to fall. If concrete has too much sand in it, it will come to the top and the wind will blow it away. I want something solid and firm that will hold me through the storms of life. I want to be in something that all the gates of hell cannot destroy. What is that? That is the Church of the Living God.

He said in Matthew 16:18, "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

False Gifts

My friend, people are operating in religion with false gifts. The Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:2, "And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing." We must have charity to love God and to love His truth. If your gift does not show love toward God and does not work in an operation of love to help men and women, it is a false gift.

God is interested in restoring people from a false hope in false religion and allowing them to have the Truth on which to stand. I want you to notice what Ezekiel was talking about. Verse 2 of our Scripture text states, "Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts. . . ." He was talking about false prophets. Men have false security today because of false prophets. The Bible says you can believe a lie and be damned.

God called a Church of God ministry. In Ephesians 4:11-12 we read: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." This is so that we might know how to live and how to act so that we would not have a false hope. God does not have any kind words to say to false prophets. I thank God for God-called, God-sent, God-filled, and God-anointed preachers. I have a love for preachers who will stand and lift up a standard for the Lord and preach God's Word without favor, line upon line, precept upon precept. I do not have any use for cowardly preachers who will not preach the Word of God. I thank God

for men who will stand.

God had something against Israel. He said they "prophesy out of their own hearts." In other words, they follow their own spirit. These prophets that God was against were bringing a false hope to Israel. These prophets had no access to God and no connection with Him. My friend, we need men who have contact with God. Someone may say, "I am in fellowship with this," or "I am in fellowship with that." How much fellowship do you have with God? A man of God must be in contact with God. He has to get his calling and his message from on high.

Our country is in bad shape today because there are religious people who have no access with God. They have no contact with Him. They have no influence with God whatsoever. They are not getting anything from Him. These individuals are like foxes in the desert. The little foxes spoil the vine.

God is against the pastor who scatters and destroys His people. Ezekiel 34:12 lets us know that God's sheep "have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day." Thank God, God came with a true ministry to call them out. Today He is gathering His sheep. The Bible tells us not to give that which is holy to the dogs. Dogs scatter the sheep. There are dogs that will not bark. He was talking about preachers who will not stand in the gap and cry out against sin.

Vain Deceit

Ezekiel also said the prophets in our Scripture text had no vision. Proverbs 29:18 states, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." The major problem of the world, as far as religion is concerned and as far as people getting in contact with God, is false prophets. I believe that the right kind of preaching and the right kind of preacher (one who lives what he preaches and is not afraid to preach the Word of God) would solve many of the problems that we have.

Our security is not in a building; our security is in staying in contact

with God. Jesus said in John 15:5, "Without me ye can do nothing." Many people have lost their contact with God. I know preachers who at one time could prophesy and preach divine revelation, but somewhere along the way, they lost their contact with God. They began to prophesy out of their own hearts and by their own spirit. Zechariah 4:6 lets us know it is "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts." When you lose the anointing of the Spirit of God, you lose the guardianship of the Holy Spirit of God, and you will no longer have security. God is our protection and strong tower. When you back off and fail to measure to God's Word, you will no longer be secure.

Those prophets in our Scripture text had vain deceit; they were fleshly minded, and they prophesied out of their own hearts. They had what they wanted. As a man of God, you will not always get what you want. They had it, in a way, by their own spirit. Our Scripture text says in verse 5, "Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD." They were prophets who would not stand against sin, or against that which was wrong. I have heard some ministers say, "I am not going to preach on this and that." Security for the church is a ministry crying out against all wrong. God is asking the question, "Who will stand up for Me against the evil workers of iniquity? Who will stand in the gap?"

Ezekiel 22:30 says there was a time in Israel when God looked for a man who would stand in the gap, but He said, "I found none." I want you to know that God is still looking for men who are not ashamed of the Gospel and who will stand in the gap and cry out against sin. We are living in a wicked world where falsehood is on the rampage, and we must not be silent about it. As men of God, we must cry out against it. If we do not, we are going to be responsible for losing some of God's people.

How secure is the church today?

It is only as secure as the men of God who preach the Truth. The security is in the ministry. The security of a congregation is in a man of God who will preach the Truth. How secure is your congregation? If your pastor preaches the Truth, you ought to back him 100 percent and shout "amen" when he preaches the Truth. A false minister will deceive you and your children. If he stays long enough, the congregation will go down. I have seen it happen.

Failing to Stand in Unity

Paul said in Acts 20:28-29, when he called the elders together: "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. [Why?] For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock." I believe the security of a Church of God congregation is a man who feeds the church, takes heed to his own self, does not get carried away with some kind of spirit or with his own heart, and does not get carried away in what God has shown him and become proud. I have known of men whom God has used, but because they were lifted up with pride in themselves, God could no longer use them. They put themselves above everyone else. God cannot use men like that. The security for the body of Christ is in the ministry.

Years ago in the movement, when the ministry agreed not to preach on certain issues, the power was taken away, and then the movement went down. When they made an agreement not to preach on this and that, they made an agreement with hell, and their agreement with hell will not stand. We must stay in the Word. We must preach the Word and live the Word. Whenever people cease to preach the Word, they cease to be the church.

The Revelation message was given to the Church of God. Those

who are the servants of righteousness and holiness are the ones who have the message. God is against the man who once preached the Truth but who no longer preaches it. The preachers in our Scripture text would not stand in the gap.

I want to make another point. They not only failed to stand in the gap but also refused to get in the battle. I believe the security for the church is in the ministry standing in unity. There is power in unity, and every man of God needs to stand in the gap and stand in the battle to help everyone fight the battle today. Some men will not get in the battle. We are in the heat of the battle, the battle of Armageddon. We should not be on the back line, but on the front line. In our Scripture text men of God would not stand in the battle. In essence, God said to them, "You are just as guilty as those who are fighting against Me." If you will not fight for victory, God will not give it to you. We must stand in the battle, having on the whole armor.

When a man of God stands for the Truth, the people need to stand with him. We need unity in the Spirit as well as in doctrine. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 1:10, "Now I beseech you, brethren . . . that ye all speak the same thing . . . that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." If you will not back a man of God when he preaches the Truth, then you are not standing in the Spirit. You have another spirit when you will not stand for a man of God who is preaching the Truth. When one preaches the standard of God's Word, the rest of the ministers should stand with him.

There Is Power in Unity

God gave us not only the unity of the spirit but also unity in preaching the same doctrine. The church does not have security when one minister preaches one thing and another minister preaches something else. That is preaching one thing and practicing division. God is against division, and He is against the man

who causes division. Romans 16:17 says, "Mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them." They do not serve our Lord. We need to stand together in the oneness of the doctrine of the Church of God for the security of the church.

I believe when a man of God is preaching and he hits a hard place and the enemy is coming against him with opposing spirits, that is the time for the true ministers to let him know they are with him. When Peter stood up, the rest of the brethren stood up with him. It is one thing to have unity, but it is another to back one another in the battle. We are in the heat of the battle, and we need to stand together.

Unity is security to the church. God hates division. Division is sin, and it works a weakness that will conquer and mess up a congregation and a fellowship. We are to be perfectly joined together in one mind and in one spirit. Division causes schisms in the body of Christ. We are to have not only the security of unity but also the security of the church working together. I like to feel security. Do you? I like to be a part of something that will not betray me. I like to feel that the brethren are behind me. I do not want to be among a pack of wolves, so to speak, and feel as though I am going to be devoured.

We have security in our fellowship with one another. We should not want to bite and devour one another or fight against one another. We need to stand together in unity and work together. Some people say, "I love and appreciate you," but they never want to work with you. That is a false unity! A brother should back up what he says with his actions. If I tell you that I will work with you, I had better do what I say.

I want you to know that there is a unity in the ministry that has an effect upon the congregation. When the people see the ministry working together, it encourages them to stand together. The ministry should al-

ready be in unity, keeping the saints of God in unity.

If you have any differences between you and another brother, you should not get up and take it out on your brother, but you ought to go to him personally. We are to be perfectly joined together, knit together in love, for a purpose and for a cause. Together, we are to lift up a standard and build up the Church of God and gather people in.

Beware of False Prophets

The Bible lets us know in Matthew, Chapter 23, that a false prophet is someone who will bind a heavy burden on you, but he will not live it himself. The scribes and the Pharisees would bind heavy burdens on the people, but they would not lift a hand. As a pastor, what you recommend and command of your people, you and your wife ought to live. You ought to live the standard before you preach the standard. James said to be doers of the Word. You should not bind a heavy burden on anyone until you are ready to bear the burden too.

A pastor and his wife should be examples to the flock in character and in spirit. You need to back them and hold their hands up high. Also, ministers ought to back other ministers who are preaching the Truth. They ought to have some things in common. Ministers ought to be in the place where they can get together, renew their strength, and be able to fast and pray and have fellowship together.

A pastor is to be an example in his dress, in his conduct, in his spirit, in his home life, and with his children. He is to rule well his own household and to keep his children in subjection. If he does not know how to rule his own household, how can he rule the Church of God?

False prophets preach another Jesus. They have a perverted gospel. If a man comes in among us preaching another gospel, the Bible says we are not to bid him Godspeed. We ought to have such unity in the doctrine that if one comes among us and

preaches another doctrine, we ought to be able to correct that individual to rescue him and save him from getting carried away into falsehood. He ought to be able to submit to the rest of the ministry if he is wrong. We need to have a spirit that can be corrected. This will work if we will let it work in our lives. It worked in times past, and it will work in the future. It is the only thing that will.

How can we mark a false prophet? If he commences to turn down the Bible standard—the dress standard, the hair standard, and the doctrine of holiness—and begins to mix with false religion, you can mark him as a false prophet. God said He is against a man who seduces His people. Some people have been seduced by another spirit. The Bible says to beware of such persons.

You have lost your security if you have allowed yourself to be carried about with every wind of doctrine and you are being tossed to and fro. We should not be tossed to and fro with every wind of doctrine. It is good for the heart to be established with grace, settled, and rooted. Church of God, do not be moved from the hope within you. I am giving you something that will give you security. Friend, if you go along with a false prophet and believe his lies, you will go to hell with him. The Bible says if the blind lead the blind, they both will fall into the ditch.

At one time you might have been down in Babylon and then came out. Why did you come out? They did not have anything down there. Their salvation was not real. Thank God, when I came to the Truth, it set me free. This is what was preached by the prophets and the Apostles. Let us stay with it. That is the reason I came out. I did not want to be a partaker of Babylon's sin. When I found the Church of God, I quit allowing myself to be tossed to and fro.

Following a Strange Voice

In Isaiah 8:19-20 we read: "And when they shall say unto you, Seek

unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." You should not seek after the kind that peeps and mutters. He said if they do not speak according to the law and to the testimony of this Book, there is no life in them. He also said if any man speak, let him speak the oracles of God. That means he should speak as God would speak.

There are so many voices out in the religious world. There is the voice of the dragon, the voice of the false prophet, and the voice of the beast. First Corinthians 14:8 says, "For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" When the trumpet is blowing clearly, you will know where you stand. You will know where you are, and you will be able to follow that voice. In John 10:27 Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice." Whose voice are you following? A sound is going out. However, when the sound is clear, and when it has the ring of the Holy Ghost in it, when He lives in a man, it does something on the inside. Then you can say, "I am going to walk in it; it is the Truth of God's Word." John 10:4-5 says: "... for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow."

If you are following a strange voice, you do not have any security in your soul. You are what you hear. Hosea 4:9 says, "Like people, like priest." This is the reason you cannot fool around in Babylon. You will begin to hear their voice, and the first thing you know, you will begin to live as they are living. You will begin to dress as they do and act as they act. How do they act? They fight holiness. People who will not take care of their needs go further away from Truth and become more and more bitter. Their own words betray them, and they become unfaithful. You need to be established in your heart, to be honest, and to walk

straight. I have known of people who have left the Lord, and you cannot count on their word. They do not honor their word.

You do not have any security for your soul when you do wrong and it does not make you feel bad. You have lost contact with the conviction of the Holy Spirit. If you do not have something on the inside that convicts you of wrong, you have a false hope. The Holy Ghost will lead and guide you into all Truth. The Holy Ghost will keep you straight. He will convict you of sin. Some people have lost their convictions. They no longer have any security.

If a minister does not speak according to the Word, do not follow his works. Many people do not have any security because they are listening to the wrong counsel. Where there is no true counsel, the people fall. Even a pastor may sometimes need to get counseling from another pastor concerning a problem. He might even want to call in another pastor to help him. There is nothing wrong with that. However, if you are not careful, you can get the wrong counsel. Many times when an individual begins to get spiritually weak, he will go to the weakest one in the congregation to get counsel. Do you know where you ought to go to get counsel? If you have a godly pastor, you should go to him. You should not run here and there for counsel. If you will not live straight before your pastor, you will not have any security.

Hail Will Sweep Away the Refuge of Lies

The Bible says that you could believe a lie and be damned. Some people have preachers whom they follow. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 3:4, "For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?" You need to follow the Lamb. You ought to follow your pastor as he follows Christ. Some people have their favorite preachers. When it comes to God's men, we should not be a respecter of persons.

We all are equal in the Kingdom of God.

When it comes to helping one another, you ought to do just as much for one minister as you would for another. We are to treat everyone equally. To be a respecter of persons is sin. If the one you are respecting goes wrong, you will have trouble preaching to him. Aaron should have talked to Moses before he made the golden calf.

In our Scripture text the prophets did not speak according to the Word because there was no life in them. Friend, the Bible talks about the Word of God being like a hammer. Jeremiah 23:29 says, "Is not my word like as a fire? . . . and like a hammer? . . ." Isaiah, Chapter 22, speaks of a nail in a sure place. All falsehood ought to be hit with God's hammer and nailed down. God's Word is like a hammer. Carpenters know that when you nail a board down, that securely fastens it and makes the wall secure. Titus 2:1-2 says: "Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober . . ." We must speak sound doctrine until the elders of the church become examples and become solid in the faith.

As ministers, we are to cry out against the spirits in the world. We are in a spiritual battle. Revelation, Chapter 16, lets us know that when the river was dried up, three unclean spirits like frogs came out of the river. We are living in a time when many spirits are floating around, and we need to nail them down.

Notice what Isaiah said in Isaiah 28:16-17: "Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste. Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place." If the church will not pour out judgment on falsehood, it will not have any refuge, and it will not have any security.

When you come to a congregation as a member of the body of Christ, you need to feel secure in the ministry. In other words, you will feel, "The pastor will be honest with my soul. He will not take my money and deceive me. He will do his best to pray and meditate and preach what God would have him to preach for this congregation."

Judgment Preaching

We are to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of perfection. We should not want to cause any friction whatsoever. You need a pastor who will help you, one you can call at any time, one who will take your prayer requests seriously, and one who will do everything in his power to help you to live the Christian life. A pastor is obligated to listen to people's problems, to pray with them, and to help them in every way he can.

I like to be where I feel secure. When I was down in Babylon, I did not feel secure with that pastor. Why? He told me that if he died drunk, he would still go to Heaven. I did not want that kind of pastor, one who tells lies. A true pastor will tell people the truth. He will preach the Word of God. God wants men who are straight shooters. He wants men who will stand in the gap, preach the Word, and let the chips fall where they may, so to speak.

Do you allow your pastor to preach whatever God lays on his heart or is he afraid to preach on certain things because he is afraid he will lose you? You should not be that way. God will hold you accountable, because someone may need help along certain lines, and you could be a hindrance. A man of God is trying to preach to you and save your soul from hell. You need to sit up and listen. Does the pastor feel that he can count on you?

God is ready to do a work. We need an old-fashioned revival, but we have to get together and be of one mind and of one accord, without jealousy, bitterness, hatred, or fault finding. You need to love the Word

of God. Some people sit around and find fault. That is sickening. We are trying to win people to God, and soul winning takes wisdom.

We need a sure foundation and security in the church. There will be times when the pastor has to put judgment on the line. The saints of God ought to love that judgment. Some people will not accept judgment preaching. They like to disregard the pastor and say, "I am my own man; God speaks directly to me." That is a bad spirit. There was a time in Israel when they had no king and every man did what he thought was right in his own eyes. They thought it was all right to worship idols, and they got carried away. You cannot go by your own ideas and your own opinions. You need to consider what God's Word says.

Psalm 94:15 says, "But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it." Judgment needs to be put on false religion. God's ministry is to pour out the vial on false religion.

How Secure Is Your Home?

The church is only as strong as the home. If your home has weakened, you are no better off when you get to church. Our Scripture text talks about God's people being seduced. This happens when there is no security in the home. Godliness in the home is great gain. The Bible says that Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom. How many parents have pitched their tents toward Sodom? There was no security in Sodom for Lot's family. Today people are pitching their tents toward Sodom. We are living in a time parallel to the day of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Many homes have lost their contact with God. People ought to be able to get down on their knees in their homes and get hold of God. Do you still get down on your knees before you go to church and know you have had contact with God? Have you had light and understanding concerning television? You cannot watch ungodly movies and get

your prayers answered. Homosexual themes and ungodly movies are no security for your teenagers. Do you know why so much worldly fashion is moving in? They are seeing it on television.

Are you living the Bible standard? You ought to dress modestly. According to the Bible, women ought to grow their hair long and men should wear their hair short. How secure is your home? Psalm 9:17 says, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." Whenever you pitch your tent toward Sodom, or the world, you will begin to be worldly minded. You will begin to dress as the world does. How should you dress? You ought to dress modestly. The world does not set the pattern for the church; the church should set the pattern for the world. We need to dress godly in modest apparel.

You ought to live right. Too many things are slipping in. Too many parents are letting their teenagers do what they want to do. Today many marriages are ending in divorce. There is a standard for dating and a standard for the home. Matthew 19:6b says, "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." When it comes to marriage, you ought to be sure. You need to be serious about marriage.

Is Your Salvation Up to Date?

When Jesus went to the woman at the well, He was rescuing her from a false security. She was worshipping in the mountain, but she did not know what she worshiped. In John 4:23 Jesus said, ". . . true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him." How did Babylon get started? Babylon got started by rebellious and seducing spirits. Revelation 18:4 says, "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins." Verse 2 says she is a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. The spirit of that thing is against holiness. How secure are you in teaching your children and training

them in the way they should go?

Many backsliders have a false security about them. Some people believe in eternal security no matter how they live. If they did not believe in eternal security, they would do something about their condition. Some believe that as long as they go to church, they are okay. Proverbs 14:14 states, "The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways." The backslider needs to repent. You may think, "I can just start back to church. I don't have to go to the altar; they will accept me." A congregation

may accept you and be friendly, but God will never accept you until you repent. You must repent or perish.

God is ready to gather His wheat and burn the tares. He is ready to stand against all your enemies. You are either for Him or against Him. Matthew 21:44 reads, "And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

If you were to die right now, would you go to Heaven? Are you afraid to die because of the way you

have been living? Will what you have now take you through? If not, you need to repent and make things right. There are some false securities. The idea that it does not matter what kind of attitude you have or how you feel about people will send your soul to hell. Some people who have been saved for forty years or more have lost out with God in the last few years of their lives. Salvation must be an up-to-date experience. You have to keep it up to date.

(Cassette C-3622M)

[Camp Meeting Report—continued from p. 2]

One can truly say that the Lord prepared a bountiful table for us. His table always provides plenty of good things for the hungry souls of men to feast upon. He provided spiritual milk for the newborn babes with honey to sweeten the bitter trials they go through from time to time. There is always an ample supply of spiritual meat to bring strength and health to the mature Christian's life. Our great God provides these things through the preaching of the Gospel. His ministers sound forth the Truth so that we all can grow and mature in faith and spirituality. We thank God for a faithful ministry who care

for souls and guard us from the enemy's attacks.

The end of the camp meeting always brings sadness to our hearts because we know that some people walked away without having surrendered their souls to the Lord. Hopefully God's mercy will continue to follow after them and they will find a secret place somewhere to pray. Another cause for our sadness is that of having to part with those whom we love so dearly. Many miles will separate us until we can once again come together to worship the Lord.

The good fellowship with God's people causes us to want to stay

together and never have to part. These times of refreshing are more needful today than ever before. As the world continues to wax worse and worse, our spirit must be strengthened, nourished, and encouraged by God's eternal Word. May God help each of us to be the light for Christ that He wants us to be in this sin-darkened world. Many souls who are lost in sin long for the pearl of great price that we possess and enjoy. You may be the only one who can reach that hungering soul with the Gospel of Christ. Be faithful, and stand firmly at your post of duty. Your labor of love and sacrifice will not be in vain.

Meeting Announcements

NEWTON, KS

September 4-6

REVIVAL: Church of God, 400 N. Meridian St., Newton, KS 67114

Evangelist: Brother Calvin Foster, Kensett, AR

Service times: Friday & Saturday 7:00 p.m.; Sunday 10:45 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

For further information contact: Pastor Sandy Killfoil, 415 SE 6th St., Newton KS 67114

Telephone: (Home) 316-842-5127; (Church) 316-283-1830

MEDINA, OH

September 7

LABOR DAY MEETING: Church of God, 6745 Wooster Pike, Medina, OH 44256

Service times: 10:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m. A meal will be served by the local congregation.

For further information contact: Pastor Daniel Webster, 92 W. Main St., Seville, OH 44273

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

SUMMERSVILLE, WV

October 11-18

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

Evangelist: Brother Irwin Seshier, Heath, Ohio. Service times: Monday-Friday 7:00 p.m.; Saturday 6:00 p.m.; Sundays 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

For further information contact: Pastor Earl R. Borders at 304-872-4047

Visit our website at www.ChurchofGodSummersvilleWV.com

Spring 2009 Camp Meeting Recordings

Recrd. No.	Date	Message Title	Minister
TR-439M	6-21-09	God's Plan for the Home, Part I	Bro. E. David Stegmeier
TR-440E		The Deception in Sin	Bro. Roger L. Decker
TR-441M	6-22-09	Sowing and Reaping	Bro. Daniel Webster
TR-442A		God's Plan for the Home, Part 2	Bro. E. David Stegmeier
TR-443E		What God Can Do	Bro. Leamon Whitehead
TR-444M	6-23-09	Who Are We?	Bro. Tim Yoder
TR-445A		God's Plan for the Home, Part 3	Bro. E. David Stegmeier
TR-446E		The Experience of Love	Bro. David Watson
TR-447M	6-24-09	Investing and Reinvesting in the Gospel	Bro. Allen Polston
TR-448A		God's Plan for the Home, Part 4	Bro. E. David Stegmeier
TR-449E		The Damsel Rhoda	Bro. Calvin Foster
TR-450M	6-25-09	Ways That People Cut Themselves Off From the Fold	Bro. Paul Prinkey
TR-451A		God's Plan for the Home, Part 5	Bro. E. David Stegmeier
TR-452E		The Christian Protocol	Bro. Calvin Foster
TR-453M	6-26-09	Winning the Race That Is Set Before Us	Bro. Irwin Seshier
TR-454A		God's Plan for the Home, Part 6	Bro. E. David Stegmeier
TR-455E		A Costly Gift	Bro. Calvin Foster
TR-456M	6-27-09	Supporting the Weak	Bro. Roger L. Decker
TR-457A		God's Plan for the Home, Part 7	Bro. E. David Stegmeier
TR-458E		Eternity	Bro. Richard Talbot
TR-459M	6-28-09	Walking With God	Bro. Richard Talbot
TR-460A		God's Plan for the Home, Part 8	Bro. E. David Stegmeier
TR-461E		The Gospel of Glad Tidings	Bro. Paul Prinkey
TM-165	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Songs #1	
TM-166	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Songs #2	
TM-167	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Songs #3	
TM-168	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Songs #4	
TM-169	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Songs #5	
TM-170	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Songs #6	
TM-171	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Songs #7 (Children's Program)	
TM-172	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Songs #8	
	2009	Spring Camp Meeting Choir Songs	
	2009	All Morning Spring Camp Meeting Messages in MP3 Format (1 CD)	
	2009	All Afternoon Spring Camp Meeting Teachings in MP3 Format (1 CD)	
	2009	All Evening Spring Camp Meeting Messages in MP3 Format (1 CD)	
	2009	All Songs for the Spring Camp Meeting in MP3 Format (1 CD)	

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