

May 2017

McInteer Sermon Outlines - Thessalonians, 1

Jim Bill McInteer

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A CHURCH WITH TRIPLETS

I Thess. 1

- I. As an evangelistic congregation you are interested in trying to save the world.
 - A. You know this first of all is the will of God.
 - B. 2ndly you know that you do not convert the lost by force, by money, by popularity--all of this has been tried.
 - C. Rather you convert the lost by teaching them of Jesus.
 1. "And I if I be lifted up"--
 2. "No man can come to me"--(Jn. 6:44-45)
- II. I want us to turn to a church that carried out the mission. It's Thess. now Salonica.
 - A. 2 letters to them.
 - B. We look at the 1st letter and the 1st chapter.
 - C. It's a church with Triplets.
 - D. 1st letter of NT to a missionary church only 1 year old.
- III. The Church with Triplets.
 - A. The first one is the men--each church needs strong leaders a vital part of a glorious past, a present peace, and by grace an inspirational future.
 1. Paul--Saul (wonderful) to Paul (little).
 - a) His wish: grace, peace all from God and Jesus--focus on God.
 - b) A man filled with thanks and expressed it.

- c) Included entire church--"always for you all"--however obscure there was reason for gratitude for everybody in the church.
- d) Leaders were praying men--prayer specific as to needs & people--"those who pray for things in general usually know nothing in particular." (Henry)

2. Silas

- a) Roman citizen.
- b) See men who brought the message.
- c) Lincoln "a man of steel velvet, hard as a rock, soft as a drifting log." (Sandberg)
- d) Endured beatings, prison, mobs.
- e) Name meant God of the woods, but didn't change it when became a Christian.

3. Timotheus

- a) Young
- b) Father a Greek--never said he followed God--as did Eunice and Lois.
- c) Man whose motivation is right.
- d) Not intended to say these men were co-authors, but a mark of friendship and courtesy on Paul's part to acknowledge these who worked with him.

B. 2nd Triplet a description of them: Your work of faith, labor of love and patience of hope--in our Lord and sight of God.

1. Work of Faith
 - a) Active
 - b) Working
 - c) Must tell of our faith
 - d) Continuous
 2. Labor of Love
 - a) For body & soul of man.
 - b) Toilsome, troublesome, laborious toil.
 - c) Labor to strike, hew.
 - d) Love not idle, but employed themselves in heartfelt toil for others.
 3. Patience of Hope
 - a) Open to God's inspection.
 - b) To remain under.
 - c) Accepts the blind alleys with consistent zeal to continue, rules out discouragement.
- C. 3rd Triplet--Gospel's (61X in Paul's writings) entrance to them--not in word only, but in:
1. Power
 - a) More than articulate speech.
 - b) Power of God at work for salvation of men.
 2. In Holy Ghost
 - a) Preach within boundry of Holy Spirit.
 - b) He gives message the power.
 - c) Paul did not originate gospel.
 - d) Note the person involved.

3. Much Assurance

- a) Personal conviction on part of those that preach it.
- b) Deep conviction.

D. 4th Triplet has to do with the reception of the word.

1. Affliction

- a) Choice demanded.
- b) Lay aside what others think of you.
- c) Endured trials. *prevent*
- e) Gospel does not present suffering.

2. Joy

- a) Truth brings delight.
- b) In Christ is happiness.
- c) Fruit of the Spirit.

3. In Holy Ghost

- a) Never so cold and intellectual as divorced from person of God.
- b) Ever within scope of what He teaches.
- c) Received earnest of the spirit.
- d) It's an embodied Gospel.

E. 5th Triplet--the missionary spirit as the word sounded out not only at home but abroad.

1. 1st sounded out the word of the Lord.

- a) Ring out as brass instruments.
- b) Like a trumpet--not timid.
- c) Sounded forth as the sonorous soul stirring blasts a trumpet.
(McGarvey)
- d) Echo that keeps sounding.

2. Macedonia
 - a) 1st of 2 provinces of Greece.
 - b) Northern area.
 3. Archaia
 - a) Southern area.
 - b) Unselfishly shared.
 - c) Examples to all.
 - (1) New lifestyle.
 - (2) Paul one to be copied.
 - (3) Model, mold, impression made by a stroke.
 - (4) Followed Paul as he did Jesus.
 4. Every place--thus see extent of work--hyperbole--work of a church 1 year old!
- F. 6th Triplet: turned from idols; serve the living God, wait for his Son.
1. Turned from Idols.
 - a) Gentiles mostly as not so much a Jewish problem.
 2. Serve Living God.
 - a) Contrasts with deal idol.
 - b) More than turn--now serve.
 - c) Slave is word.
 - d) No negative attitude suffices--there is a positive side to turning.
 3. Wait for His Son from Heaven.
 - a) Not some mystical spirit, but historical person of Jesus.
 - b) He makes the 7th Triplet.
 - (1) Raised
 - (2) Delivered
 - (3) Free from wrath to come.

- c) If Jesus raised, He will return.
- d) If evil exists, it must be punished.
- e) There is a judgement day.

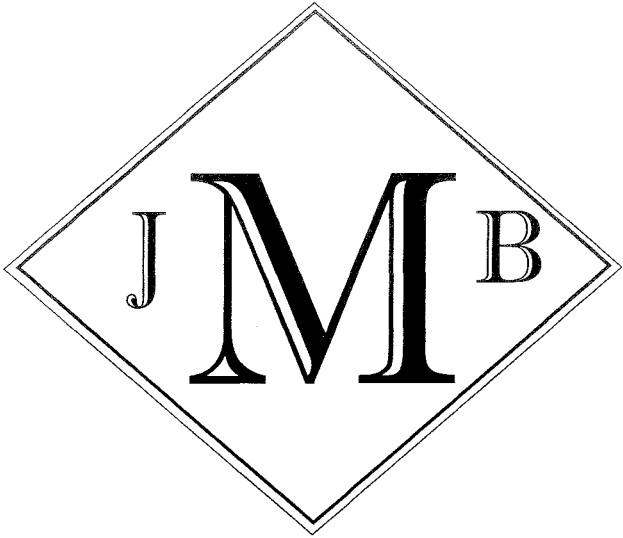
Eph. 5:6

- f) There is a score to settle.

Let no man deceive you with vain words
 (who are anger, unclean, covetous,
 idolater)
 for because of these things cometh the
 WRATH OF GOD upon the children
 of disobedience

Woodson Chapel - 6/7/00

Silver Point - 7/25/00



A PRECIOUS NEIGHBOR

1 Thess. 1

- I. Admittedly this service is difficult for me.
 - A. Many years my neighbor and I don't remember doing a service for such a close tie before.
 - B. She died of the same affliction of my Betty--Clarence and I compared the certain march of deterioration in both.
 - C. But if ever in a service where I feel secure, it's now.
- II. Our introduction.
 - A. It was via Beth lisping "do you love Jesus?" then "do you love kids?"
 - B. Steve's education was painful as haltingly Clarence marched him by our house.
 - C. Kathy took a maturity as we saw construction of added beauty to the house.
 - D. You won't find daughters that took better care of their mother; constant calls and quick visits from Steve.
 - E. All the grandchildren a joy and an accomplishment as Phillip represents.
- III. Long time connection.
 - A. Kepleys at Grace Avenue.
 - B. Warrens at Joseph. Norma Sue at Neely's Bend.
 - 1. Brought them eggs from KY.
 - 2. Painted our house and Willie so careful for his dad.

3. Another Warren, elder, got me to Graymere church.

4. I'm indebted to many generations.

IV. Social Life

A. Supper Club and its trips--saw ever increasing beauty.

B. Constant faithfulness in church.

C. Helpfulness as Clarence could fix anything.

1. Come eat leftovers.

2. Bride at 15.

3. She's answer "Kep".

V. Character

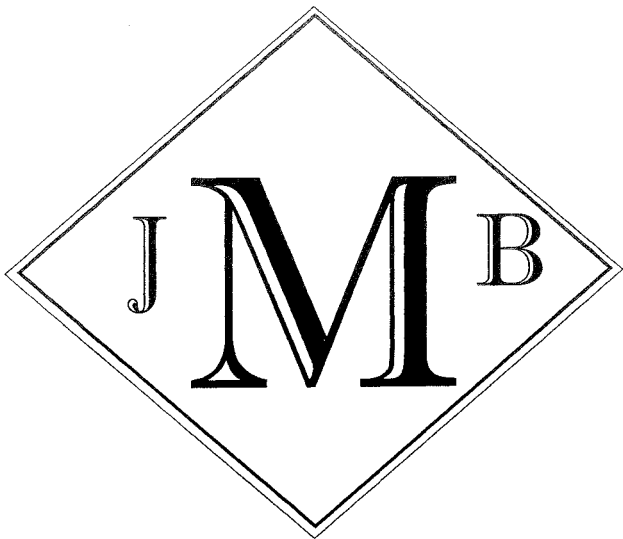
A. Joyful

B. Modest

C. Clean

VI. Now passages from 1 Thess.

Funeral, Mary Belle Kepley - 9/17/04



WHAT ARE THE FIRST WORDS OF THE N. T.?

1 Thess. 1:1-2

I. If I were to ask you what they were, would you quote Matthew or does "in the beginning" pop in your mind?

A. I assume 1 Thess. is older than James.

B. I assume it's Paul's 1st book.

1. AD 50.

2. 20 yrs. after resurrection.

II. Those 1st words: "We give thanks to God always for you all."

A. Thanksgiving.

Gratitude the 1st writing.

Ps. 116:17 "I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving & will call upon the name of the Lord."

1. Thank & always in the present tense, emotion to express.

a.) Samuel Johnson, "Gratitude is a fruit of great cultivation; you do not find it among gross people"

b.) "I have never yet found that what is called gratitude distresses itself by frequent payments" Sir Walter Scott.

c.) Robinson Crusoe card.

d.) Geo. Washington, "It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits & humbly to implore His protection."

e.) Lincoln clip.

- 2. It is shared: "we" - you are not alone in expressing gratitude - Silas & Timothy too.
- 3. It is to God.
 - a.) "To stand on one's legs & prove God's existence is a very different thing from going on one's knees & thanking him!" Soren Kier Kegaard
 - b.) Focus on God.
 - c.) All good from Hlm.
- 4. It's for you all.
 - a.) None so obscure to be w/o reason for thanx.
 - b.) All have worthy qualities.
- 5. Its method - prayer.

B. Gratitude pays big dividends.

- 1. See U of A clip.
- 2. Reasons - faith that works, love that labors, & hope that's patient.

Lipscomb College Chapel 11-24-82
Timothy Hill Children's Ranch Dinner Meeting 1-13-83
Bradford House, Nashville
Mich. Chr. College Chapel 3-30-83
20th Century Christian Luncheon, Pepperdine Lectures 4-21-83

Daniel Defoe had Robinson Crusoe to say, "All our discontents spring from the want of thankfulness for what we have." Coming downstairs one morning an English peer heard the cook grumble, "Oh, if only I had five pounds, wouldn't I be content!" Anxious to see the cook satisfied, the nobleman shortly after handed her a five-pound note. She thanked him profusely. Leaving the room he paused outside the door to hear if she would express gratitude aloud or thank God. Soon as the door was shut, she exclaimed, "Why didn't I say ten?"

"Thanksgiving Messages" - By Leslie B. Flynn - Page 98

SCRAP BOOK THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

X The year that is drawing to its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God ...

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set aside and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. — From the first national Thanksgiving proclamation issued by President ABRAHAM LINCOLN, in October, 1863.

Good News for You

It is important to accept failure as part of the process of growing.

It took Thomas Edison 586 experimental failures to find the right filament for a light bulb.

Admiral Robert Perry spent 23 years in pursuit of the North Pole before he finally reached it—the eighth time.

Many people have written off Winston Churchill's career as a public servant in the 1930's, but Churchill hadn't. He stayed alert and was fully prepared when the opportunity for leadership came his way—at age 66.

Abraham Lincoln died believing for the most part that his life had been a failure. He failed in business in 1831. He was defeated for the state legislature in 1832, and again failed in business in 1833. His sweetheart died in 1835, and he had a nervous breakdown in 1836.

He was defeated in Congress in 1843, and after being elected in 1846, he lost again in 1848. He was defeated for the Senate in 1855, lost out for Vice President in 1856, and was defeated again for the Senate in 1868.

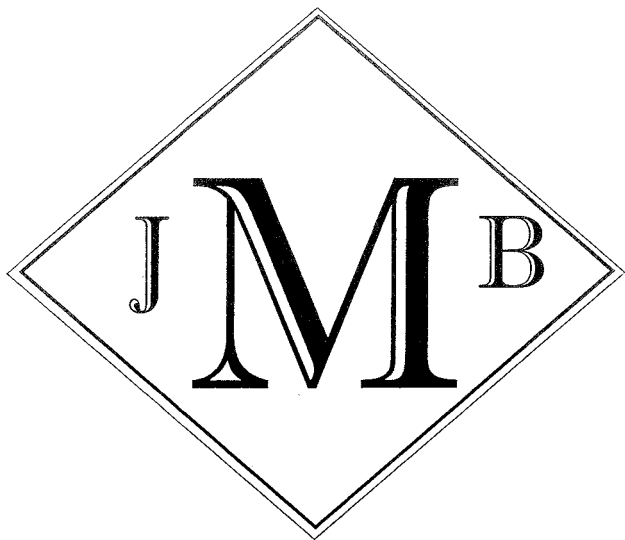
Sen. Hubert Humphrey—as he fought his final struggle against cancer—expressed his own enthusiasm and faith so well:

“The biggest mistake people make is giving up. Adversity is an experience, not a final act. Some people look upon any setback as the end. They are always looking for the benediction rather than the invocation.”

Richard G. Capen, Jr.
Vital Speeches

Gratulate

The University of Alabama has a course to help job-seekers land a job. The feature that has gotten the best results is, each time an applicant returns from an interview, he or she is instructed to write a thank-you letter to the prospective employer. Personnel people report that the letters make a good impression and have led to many a placement.



I'VE HEARD THREE THINGS ABOUT YOU

I Thess. 1:2-4

- I. We hear lots of things about lots of people.
 - A. Paul Brown sends out worlds of good material - said Hoptown lady.
 - B. West End is a thriving church, wrote one last week.
 - C. Now we want to see the report of the Thess. church for it was Paul's prayerful praise of them.
 1. This is the appellate apostle of alliteration as said Walter Cronkite.
- II. About the Thess. Brethren Paul remembered Three Things.
 - A. But 1st some observations.
 1. This was the earliest NT writings.
 - (a) Perhaps AD 49-53.
 - (b) Just 20 yr. after resurrection.
 - (c) Picture of early church.
 2. It shows power of Gospel.
 - (a) It grew where it was not likely.
 - (b) Acts 17:1-9 tells story.
 3. It shows unmixed praise for them.
 - (a) He could rebuke w/o discouraging.
 - (b) He didn't compromise nor beget "I might as well quit" spirit.
 - (c) Barclay, "Eradicate faults by praising virtues."
 4. It was a salute to every one.
 - (a) Paul says "you all".

(b) He's thankful for everybody.

(c) It was a thing of unity.

5. It is our duty to pray for others.

6. It is our duty to say thank you when acts bring joy & thanksgiving.

B. Three things that compose the Triad of Grace.

1. Work of faith.

(a) This is essential.

(b) We serve the invisible.

(c) This work was inspired by faith.

(d) Why do you work as you do: (Barclay)
Afraid of whip.

Hope of gain.

Grim sense of duty.

Inspired by faith.

(e) This faith was ever active & working, prompted by what's in heart.

(f) Shows warmth of heart & practical energy.

(g) We must tell others of our faith.

(h) This was a continuous chain of works
John 6:29

2. Labor of Love.

(a) Real toil - prompted by love.

(b) Love for body & soul of man.

(c) No toil so great as love begotten.

(d) Underscore this labor meant toilsome troublesome effort.

(e) Could we qualify in performing such?

3. Patience of hope. /

(a) Hope gives an endurance.

(b) Hope patiently suffers for it knows what it wants.

(c) This hope was in the sight of God.

(1) Open to His scrutiny.

(2) Not embarrassed to bring it into His presence.

(3) Shows their sincerity.

III. If the Apostle Were Praying for Us Today,
Could He Remember these things about the
Congregation where I Am and because I've
made such a contribution to its work?

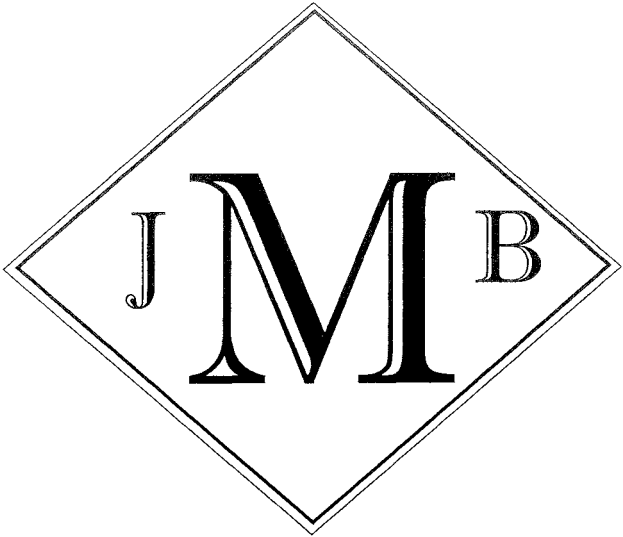
that End 11-15-70

invite everyone to look and see what we have done. But that is always dangerous. And in the spiritual realm it can even be fatal.

Vance Havner tells a delightful story about a frog who decided that he wanted to go north during the summer and south during the winter. But recognizing his physical limitations he knew that he could never make the journey in the time allotted. As he watched the birds fly overhead, he decided that if he could just cultivate the friendship of those friendly birds, he could have airborne transportation to his desired winter and summer destinations. So he persuaded two large birds to allow a string to be stretched between their respective beaks, and let the frog grasp the middle of the string with his own mouth and off they would fly south for the winter. And so they did. But as they traveled over a community where people were standing, looking up and beholding this phenomenon, the frog could not contain his pride when he heard some of the people down below saying, "What a clever idea! I wonder who thought of that?" Without thinking what the results would be, he opened his mouth to say, "I did!" and immediately he lost his grip on the string and went plunging to the earth below.

LOOK WHAT GOD HAS DONE

We do not today say, "Look what we have done." We say, "Look what the Lord has done." We say, "The Lord has built this house." Therefore it has not been built in vain. The Lord has challenged us: He has given us ability; He has given us opportunity; He has opened before us vistas



CHRISTIAN COPYCATS

1 Thess. 1:6

I. In the earliest NT letter, to one of the 1st churches Paul had some interesting instruction.

A. The church was at Thess.

B. The Instruction was 4 fold:

1. You became followers of us.

2. You became followers of the Lord.

3. You Rec. the word in my affliction.

4. Yet you had joy begotten of the Holy Spirit.

1 Thess. 1:6 "And ye became followers of us, and of th

II. Let us see these 4 things.

A. You became followers of us.

1. Better word is imitators - some versions so use.

2. You is most emphatic.

3. Their certainty of conversion did not rest on preachers but one saw a change in their lives.

4. New life must show in way & words.

5. We need models.

1 Cor. 4:16 "I beseech you therefore be ye followers of

1 Cor. 11:1 "Be ye imitators of me, even as I also am

Phil. 3:17 "Br., be ye followers together of me, and n

6. We must be conscious of own integrity & power of example.

7. Whom do we imitate - if we are teachers what will our students be like if they follow us?

B. You became followers of the Lord.

1. All point primarily to Jesus.

2. Part of imitation not in cordial reception of word-Christ not this - but in patient endurance of suffering.

C. You received the Word in much affliction.

- 1. Church receptive to word, yet not crushed by affections.
- 2. Received - welcomed - like guest.

Lu. 10:8 "And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they

Lu. 10:10 "But into whatsoever city ye enter, and they

Heb. 11:31 "By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with

- 3. Word costs to get - it still does.
- 4. Rec. = embrace, welcome.
- 5. They felt full force of persecution affliction - like press grape for wine till it burst asunder, not mild discomfort, but great.
- 6. Gospel does not prevent suffering & affliction.
- 7. Affliction cannot arrest joy.
- 8. Affliction external; joy internal.

D. You have a joy begotten of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. In spite of afflictions your joy proceeds from the HS.

2. Christianity makes no social demands.

3. Joy a fruit of the Spirit.

Gal. 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,

4. It has other qualities.

(a) Connected c the Kingdom.

Rom. 14:17 "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink,

(b) Capable of **increase**.

Acts 5:41 "And they departed from the presence of the council,

(c) Strength of believers.

Neh. 8:10 "Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat and drink,

(d) Needs to be constant.

Phil. 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, rejoice,

(e) Kept if one abides in Christ.

Jn. 15:10-11 "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in me, and my Father will abide in you, and the Father will love you, and I will love you, and I will manifest myself to you.

5. One has asked - which is better - to be sad in prosperity or to rejoice in tribulation?

6. Men persecute - HS inspires joy.

Jn. 16:33 "in the world ye shall have tribulation. but be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world."

Jn. 16:22 "Your joy no man taketh from you."

7. All man's values are transformed by the HS.

8. Joy & pain not natural accompaniment.

9. Our joy must have origin in HS.

Acts 5:41 "And they departed from the presence of the council, and continued to praise God, and to have favour of the people."

10. HS guided & directed work - do we know how?

11. Lipscomb, "HS dwells in word of God as life dwells in seed."

Jn. 6:63 "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I have spoken unto you, they are life."

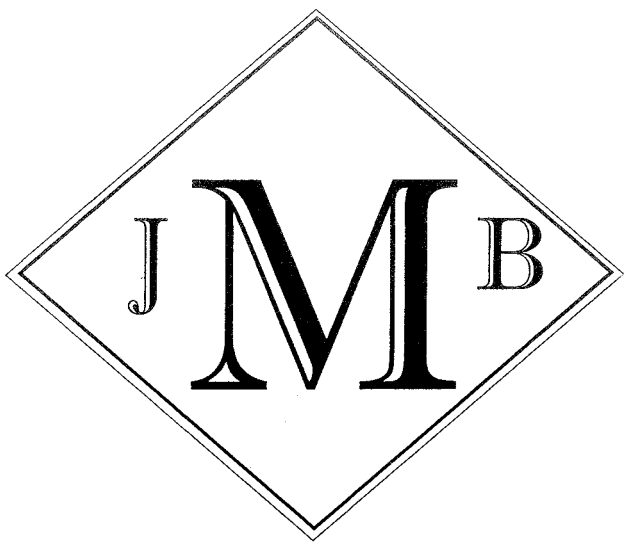
Lu. 8:11 "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God."

2 Cor. 3:6 "Who also hath made us able ministers of the new covenant; not of the letter, but of the spirit; not of death, but of life."

12. Spirit gave life to Adam. Gave life miraculously

on Pentecost - perpetuated it by laws today - so in
Adam, so in the word.

West End 11-17-74



J M B

LET'S READ A CHAPTER

I Thess. 1:1-10

I. The Opening

A. Paul--not called her an apostle.

1. Leadership is vital.

a) Silas--endured cruel treatment--drops out after Corinth, after Barnabas.

b) Timothy - my son in the gospel--stays with Paul to the very end. Endured much.

2. Paul (little).

a) Out of season

b) 20 years after resurrection

c) First epistle

d) Bypassed some cities then Philippi and Therma

B. Church--in God and Christ--equal.

1. One year old

2. Acts 17

3. Called out of idol worship as gospel transforms.

C. Grace and peace

1. Continually granted

2. Value in both

II. For all he's thankful and prays for all.

A. Expresses gratitude

B. Not timid to mention prayer--

"thinking of you."

V-3
w/pleasing 3X in 17th c 1:3 2:13 5:17
elsewhere only Rom 1:9

C. Prayed for specific things.

III. Triple Remembrance

A. Work of faith (ever active and working).

1. Actually did something - work!

B. Labor of love (labor-- toilsome)

C. Steadfastness of hope (*Patience*)

1. Open to scrutiny of God *sheer*

2. Patience to stay under *Daiced*

D. Located in Jesus and God *Steadfastness*

1. Living Lord opposite of dead idol.

2. Everything in God's sight.

3. He chose you.

V-4 Election - 6x in Bible chosen

IV. Salute to gospel - eight times in two epistles.

A. Good news - happy effect.

B. Word (understand it), power, Holy Spirit, conviction, (stay in word).

C. Produces certain types of men.

D. Led you to imitation of "us" and "Lord."

1. What if every Christian was just as I am?

2. Who has led you to imitation?

E. Introduces Brother

1. Of same womb.

2. Beloved by God

*P
K
E
P*

3. Elect--no one ever "elected" into something he did not want.
4. None predestined to damnation.
5. Also introduces joy.
6. Knows affliction and tribulation pressing grape until it bursts asunder.
7. Not mild discomfort but severe.
8. Their work wide-spread--examples to all.
 - a) Wide-spread - *Gone forth*
 - b) Ring out--like trumpet, thunder, clear, not momentary but continuing.
9. Are you one to be copied? - *v-9*
10. Elders examples *Pattern, Model*
- I Pet. 5:3 *Providing to be example to flock*
11. Devotion as slave to master.

V. Lastly he speaks of the return of Christ. *WAIT only here in Bible*

A. Much in this epistle.

1. Today we serve.
2. We also wait for his return.
3. Deliver or wrath.

*Remin/u
certain
ex/peas*

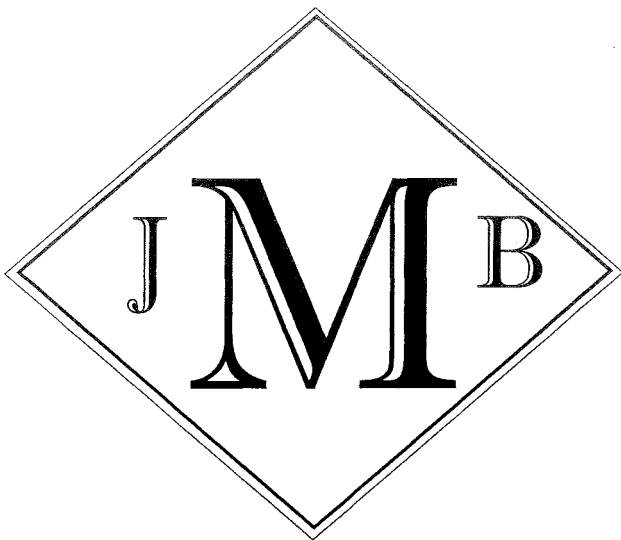
*B. v-8 sounded out (Not come
ex-out echo-board, noise Greatam*

*v-9 show messenger who reports
Enter in = 2 way into - welcome*

FOVER

Wilson Avenue C/C
Tullahoma, TN

7/15/09



THREE TENSES OF CHRISTIANITY

I Thess. 1:8-10

- I. I believe it was Geo. Tipps who 1st called my attention to this progression.
 - A. For all, there are things that are past.
 - B. We each enjoy the present.
 - C. All have some consideration of the future
 - D. The Thess. passage has this too.
 1. Past, "Ye turned to God from I.
 2. Present, "Ye serve the living God.
 3. Future, "Ye wait for His Son.
 4. Shall we discuss the 3 tenses of Christianity.
- II. In the past we were sinners.
 - A. "Ye turned to God from Idols" (V. 9).
 1. For every one of us there was repentance
 - (a) We 1st had faith in God.

Heb. 11:6 "But w/o faith it is
 - (b) We knew the necessity of baptism and even considered it.

Acts 2:38
I Pet. 3:21
Mk. 16:16
 - (c) I had yet to turn & repent.

Acts 17:30 "And the times of this ignorance
 2. Turning marks a change of direction:
 - (a) For a car.
 - (b) For a team.
 - (c) Certainly for a life.

3. It is a thing of adulthood, sober consciousness, & deep conviction.
4. It is the recognition of sin's presence, sin's damnation, & the godly sorrow that says, "I've wandered far away from God, "Just As I Am Thou Wilt Rec."
5. Theirs a proven thing - "showed us wha manner of entering" (V. 9) & "sounded out the word" (V. 8).
 - (a) Faith rolls out like trumpet.
 - (b) Trumpet gave no uncertain sound - you knew.
 - (c) Chr. defied their dangers for their turning was real.
 - (d) It was a unanimous testimony to their faith & piety.
 - (e) Word "shew" is to announce. Both sides - us & you.
 - (f) As Henry says, "The effects of their faith was famous."

B. How do we compare?

III. Presently they serve.

A. Note God is Living & True.

1. It contrasts a dead idol.
2. It contrasts a false way.
3. There is truth - God, church, manner of living.
4. Truth is virile & attainable.

B. Currently they are serving God.

1. This is true source of success.

2. It involves serving man

"As oft as ye do it to one

"Why persecuteth thou me?"

3. They turned in order that they might serve.

C. Is my life showing evidence of service to God.

1. Does country, business, self override?

2. What evidences do I give of service?

IV. For the future, they wait for His Son.

A. It's true Jesus will return.

1. He 2 x said it - what is a man pro.

Matt. 16:27 "For the S. of M. shall con

Jn. 14:3 "Let not your heart be

2. 300 x in N.T.

B. We should await it.

1. Means constant expectation.

2. Means real readiness.

C. Facts about it.

1. He comes from Heaven.

(a) Heaven a plural word in Hebr.

(b) It's conception is manifold,

successive regions & stages, like

many courts leading to the Presence

Chamber of the Most High.

2. Splendor attends return.

Mk. 8:38 "Whosoever.∴ shall be ashamed

Matt. 16:27 "Then shall he reward

works

3. Resurrection proved his claims.

(a) 1st step in Christ glory & pledge of all the rest.

(b) It's the keystone in arch of faith.

(c) It corroborates God's claims.

I Cor. 6:14 "And God hath both raised

I Cor. 15:20 "But now is Christ risen

Rom. 1:4 "Declared to be the Son

D. Jesus is the Eternal Savior.

1. It's either Jesus or wrath to come - we get one or the other.

2. Wrath is on its way.

2 Thess. 1:7-8 "And to you who are

Heb. 7:25 "He is able to save them to u

3. Are we prepared to meet Him?

I Thess. 4:16-18 "For the Lord Himself

I Cor. 15:15 "Behold I shew you

2 Pet. 3:8-9 "The Lord is not slack

Matt. 25:13 "Watch .: for ye know

(a) Every doctrine of gospel will produce some happy effect.

4. Would he deliver you today.

(a) So certain is he to deliver the faithful the H.S. puts it in the present tense!

(b) It's the timeless present participle - "One who is rescuing us."

(c) Jesus - Joshua - Savior rescues all who trust him.

5. Will you come in faith, turning from sin & being baptized for the remission

of them.

Rev. 22:20

These End 11-15-70

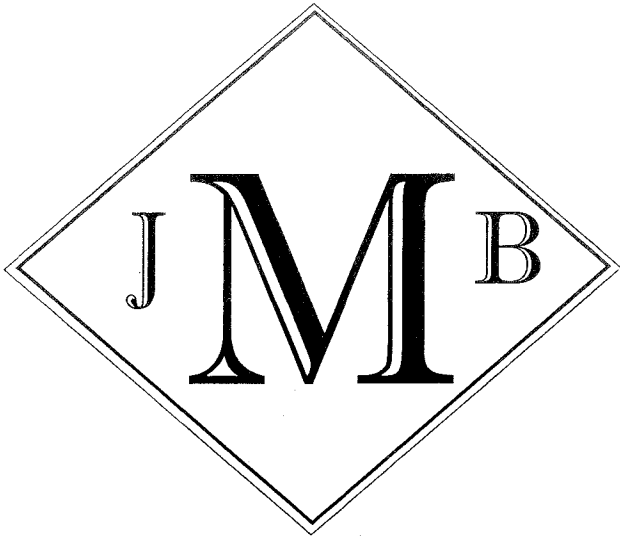
Steven Cagle & Edmth.

West Side Church, Seney, Ark. 1-13-71

Allen Warden Church, Ft. Worth 12-3-70

Galena Park 2-9-71

Florida Ave. Church, Tampa - check of 1-25-71



THE PRICE TAG ON SUCCESS READS

"EFFORT"

I Thess. 2:1-2

I. Don't you wonder how some folks get so much done?

A. The grounds here are lovely.

B. Bulletin, calendar, letters are always yours.

C. Power for Today is on regularly.

D. We've got a visitation work, corresponde Directory, Mission Committee, Bible School - how? They sweat!

E. I believe the price tag of success reads "effort" & that such pursuit is a Biblical principle.

II. Let me cite some.

A. Land of milk & honey.

Numbers 13:27 "Surely it floweth c milk

Nu. 13:28 "Nevertheless the people be strong,

Nu. 13:30 "Let us go up at once . . . well able

B. To Corinthians

I Cor. 16:9 "For a great door & effectual is

I Cor. 16:14 "Let all things be done c charity

2 Cor. 2:12 "I came to preach and a door was

C. I want to study this passage

I Thess. 2:1-2 "For yourselves br. know

III. Paul's method in Thess. - 4 steps

A. Cites indisputable personal knowledge.

1. "For yourselves brethren know"
 - (a) Enemies sought to undermine via slander. Police record - runs from justice. Some minds can dream up every slander.
 - (b) He left hurriedly - doesn't really care for you.
 - (c) Destroy confidence in the messenger & his message will not be heard.
 - (d) But you personally know - don't have to ask others - didn't depend on foreign testimony.
 - (e) Word for "know" is absolute knowledge.
2. Theirs was a personal knowledge that existed among brethren.
 - (a) Word for br. = from the same womb, fellow believers, joined to one another by bond of affection.

John 1:12-13

I Cor. 3:9

- B. Next he enters the certainty of profit from the Gospel.
- v. 1 "Our entrance in unto you that
 1. We came specifically to you.
 2. Our entry not vain.
 - (a) Gospel is not void of reality.
 - (b) Gospel is not void of power.
 - (c) Rather than take something away (we can't afford a preacher - you can't afford not having one!)

Medanics m 2k 300⁰⁰ - Garbyman 11,000⁰⁰ in N³

We brought you something.

(d) Gospel's hands are not empty.

(1) v. 5 shows came in Power, Holy Spirit, & full assurance.

(e) Never say the gospel is useless.

3. One translation uses "has become" - the continuing effects of his visit are good also.

4. Empty preaching makes vain the faith - one follows another, said Lineberry.

C. Hindrances dogged His path.

1. Suffered & shamefully treated.

2. Acts 16:11-40 tells the Philippi story.

(a) Arrest

(b) Drug

(c) Stripped

(d) Beaten c rods (v. 37)

(e) Imprisoned

(f) Stocks

3. Indignity to a Roman citizen but more so to a servant of Christ.

4. Paul was sensitive to personal indignitie

5. Yet none of this stopped him.

6. He had too deep a concern for people to stop.

7. Suppose Paul had withdrawn from Europe & left it to its fate?

(a) No presidential greeting awaiting him following his new continent venture!

8. His present suffering did not abate his zeal.

9. World needs gospel most when it's most opposed to it.

D. The price tag on success reads "effort".

v. 2 "We were bold in our God to speak.

1. Bold

(a) "A divine mission manifested by the courage of the apostle." Erdman

(b) Glory of God must be sought above point of personal consideration.

(c) Chr. is not the religion for cowards.

(d) Word bold used 9x in N.T. like here - open & courageous preaching of gospel

(e) It costs to faithfully serve the Lord but it pays!

2. To speak the gospel of God

(a) Sought to tell the story:

(1) Forthrightly.

(2) In spite of heavy opposition.

(3) In great anguish.

(4) With strenuous exertion.

(5) With profound solicitude.

(b) Spoke so plainly you not only heard but you understood what they said.

(c) Did in agony.

(1) Transliterated word agony from agōnia.

(2) From athletic games where struggle is intense!

(d) God the originator & possessor of Gospel - He is its Author & Object.

3. From whence this courage

v. 2 "We are bold in our God to speak"

(a) Boldness beyond natural courage - had strength in God as source.

(b) Strength came by virtue of union c the Lord.

(c) He gave confidence to speak.

(d) Abiding in Him, felt His power.

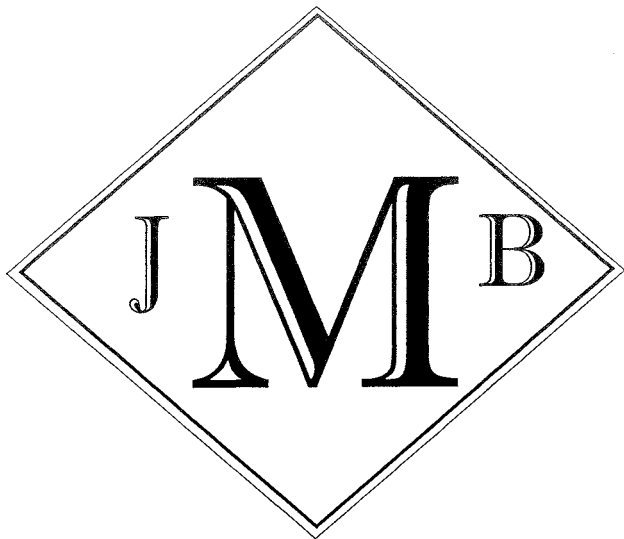
(e) Joshua was made courage when he saw the captain of the host of the Lord

Josh. 5:14

(f) The Lord honored His word

Isa. 55:11

West End 7-27-69



IT IS EXPECTED OF A TRUSTEE THAT--

I Thess. 2:4-

- I. One of the most serious tasks ever committed to man is that he be a trustee.
 - A. He can of a reputation.
 - B. Of an institution.
 - C. Of the gospel. Of course, this is the highest task
- II. Could one believe that so heavy a task would be assigned w/o some requirements & qualifications be cited? Shall we see some? Obvious - C. Coolidge "When you have many people out of work, you have unemployment."
- I Thess. 2:4 - "But as we were allowed of God"
 - A. Our trusteeship is via Providence of God.
 1. God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform.
 2. Many waters wash on our shores to bring us to current status.
 3. V. 3 Not via deceit (error - wanderer - word for planet), nor uncleanliness (not licentious practice nor guile (no effort to fool)).
 - B. Our trusteeship demands action - "even so we speak".
 1. We can be brothers w/o being identical twins remember.
 - C. Our trusteeship must have absolute loyalty to God
 1. Not as pleasing men.
 2. But God which trieth our hearts.
 - a.) God supreme.
 - b.) Approved by testing. It's from word to test metals. Its tense shows it's a testing that keeps

going on.

Rom. 12:2 "And be not conformed to this world but be

Rom. 14:22 "Hast thou faith, have it to thyself before

I Cor. 3:13 "Every man's work shall be made manifest

Eph. 5:10 "Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord

Phil. 1:10 "That ye may approve things that are excell

- c.) Tries heart (Kardia) = centre of all intellectual, moral, emotional part of man. The hidden man known only to God.

(Miner - Light - Day Shift).

D. Our trusteeship must be honest.

1. Not by flattering words.

a.) Verse 3 - not of deceit, uncleanness, or guile.

b.) Life was clean - just like the doctrine.

c.) Some religions grossly sensual - like H. Armstrong

d.) Heywood Brown - Murder truth.

2. Not a cloak of covetousness.

a.) All this could be verified by those to whom he wrote.

b.) Mark Twain, "Few of us can stand prosperity. Another man's, I mean.

c.) Americans gave \$11.68 billion to religious causes '75; increase of almost 1 billion or 7.6% Up from \$10.85 billion. Gave \$26.88 billion to charity - up 6.5% over '74.

3. Not of man's glory & praise.

4. Not of financial burden.

a.) Apostles used as to refer to more than the 12, tho sometimes means 12.

Matt. 10:2 "Now the names of the twelve apostles are

Acts 14:14 "Which when the apostles, - Barnabas

b.) Lit. "able to be c weight" - could have receive support but didn't.

E. But Positively it has qualities.

1. Gentle, as a nurse c children.

a.) With childlike simplicity.

b.) Metaphor of nurse - Mother.

c.) Must exercise tender care.

d.) Same word as parent & physician's treatment.

e.) Gentle - easy to speak to.

(Shoeless Joe Jackson - spell illiterate, triple)

2. Sacrificially - love another more than self.

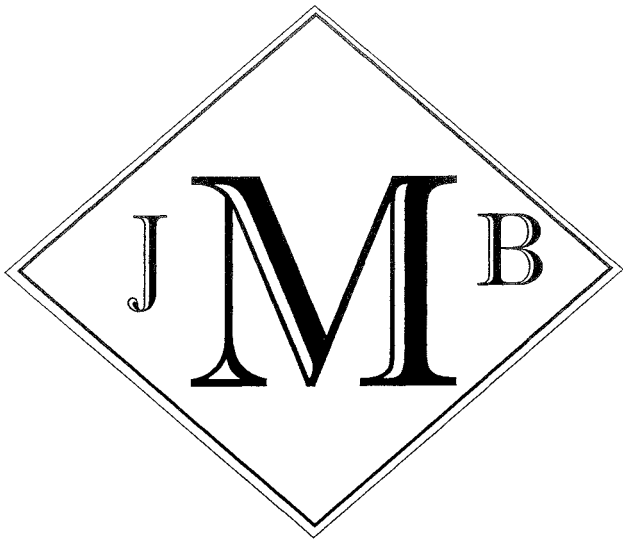
a.) Interested in people, not profit.

b.) Preaching amid hardships they would sacrifice their lives as need be.

c.) Gave both self & message.

d.) Dear to us - dear from agape.

(Daddy, why need all other soldiers).



CHRISTIANS IN THE MARKETPLACE

I Thess. 2:9-10

I. It's a rather startling verse:

I Thess. 2:9 "For ye remember, brethren, our labour at

Acts 18:3 "Because he was of the same craft, he abode

II. Here's the Christian in the Marketplace.

A. Constantly Chr. have to defend themselves from criticism of saint & sinner.

B. See what Paul said to Thess.

1. "Remember, brethren"

a.) Time of recall.

b.) Time of tenderness.

2. Labor & travail.

a.) Two words.

(1) Labor = blow, bruise, wear & tear.

(2) Travail (hardship) = struggle to overcome difficulties. Wearisome labor.

3. Labored.

a.) That's startling!

b.) Cicero (Roman orator and writer, 106-43 B.C.) states that the "general opinion" was as follows: "The callings of hired laborers, and of all that are paid for their mere work and not for their skill, are unworthy of a free man and vulgar; for their wages are given for menial service....All mechanics are engaged in vulgar business; for a workshop can have nothing respectable about it....Commerce, if on a small scale, is to be regarded as vulgar; but if large and rich...it is not so very discreditable"

(De Officiis I.xlii)

c.) Tent maker (Acts 18:3).

d.) Part of Jewish child upbringing to learn a trade.

4. Night & Day.

a.) Way Jew counted time.

b.) Incessant.

c.) Continually.

d.) No 40 hr. wk.

e.) Made up work time when he had to quit to preach.

5. Not chargeable. *how ministered to my needs & to*

a.) No burden on brethren. *them that share a me*

Acts 20:34 "Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hand

I Cor. 4:12 "Labor working c own hands

b.) Not rich at expense of others.

c.) Not chargeable - I work.

d.) If people are to stumble, let it be over the gospel--not my dishonesty or selfishness.

e.) He was not a religious racketeer.

6. Preached the gospel of God!

a.) Holily.

b.) Justly.

c.) Unblamably - we behaved - V. 10.

d.) Was father & mother (V. 7).

C. Does it mean all ought to work at tents?

1. All things are lawful, but all things not expedient (I Cor. 6:12). *to do you service*

2. Paul had wide range of experiences on pay. ↑

2 Cor. 11:8 "I robbed other churches, taking wages of

Phil. 4:15-16 "Now ye Phil. know also that in the be

I Cor. 9:6 "Or I only and Barnabas, have not we power to forbear working

I Cor. 9:9 "Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox

I Cor. 9:11 "If we have sown unto you spiritual things

I Cor. 9:14 "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they

I Tim. 5:18 "The labourer is worthy of his reward.

3. At Thess. it was the single item of self support to offer as evidence his broader concern for Thess.

4. He paid a hi price for his integrity.

III. But what did he see in the Marketplace.

A. Slave trade.

B. Barter over commerce as men drove their bargains.

C. Criticism - labor for slaves & poor; philosophy, art & government for blue bloods.

D. Shrines & Temples to many gods c temple prostitutes as religion & fornication went hand in hand.

E. Not an antiseptic environment nor pious atmospher of prayer meeting where gospel 1st came.

F. Church works at home, on job, in meeting house.

I Thess. 4:7 "For God hath not called us unto unclean

4:9 "Love one another - increase

G. Thus wherever you are carry the "gospel of God."

Thess End 7-20-80.



What a Job

The following office rules were posted in 1872 by the owner of a Boston carriage works as a guide to his white-collar workers.

- Office employees will daily sweep the floors, dust the furniture, shelves and showcases.

- Each day fill lamps, clean chimneys and trim wicks. Wash the windows once a week.

- Each clerk will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's business.

- Make your pens carefully. You may whittle the nibs to your individual taste.

- The office will open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. Men employees will be given an evening off each week for courting purposes, or two if they go to church regularly.

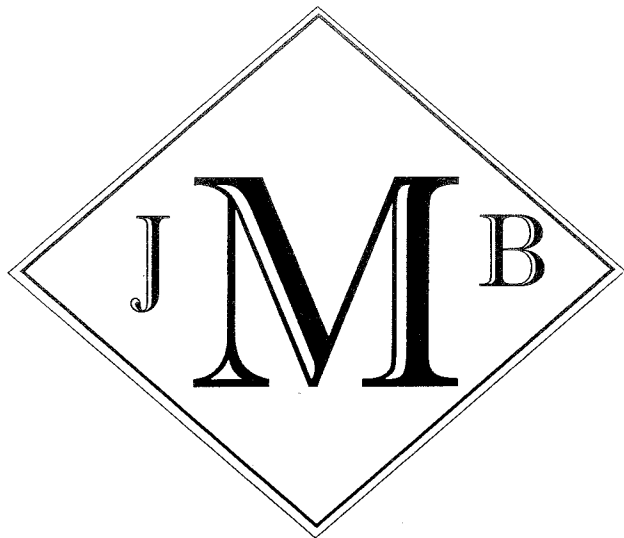
- After an employee has spent 13 hours in the office, he should spend the remaining time reading the Bible and other good books.

- Every employee should lay aside from each pay a goodly part of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years, so that he will not become a burden on society.

- An employee who smokes Spanish cigars, uses liquor in any form, or frequents pool halls or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give us good reason to suspect his worth, intentions and integrity.

- The employee who has performed his labors faithfully and without a fault for five years will be given an increase of five cents per day in his pay, providing profits from business permit it.

— Pacific Telephone Co. Update



LOVE STORY OF A MAN WITH A CHURCH

1 Thess. 2:17-20

- I. Think of the love emphasis:
 - "By this shall all men"--
 - "Now abideth faith, hope, love"--
 - "If you love me, keep"--
 - "Let brotherly love continue" (Heb. 13:1)
 - "Owe no man anything"--
 - "Love the brotherhood"--
 - A. All is well known and recited with ease.
 - B. But do we truly practice?
 - C. Perhaps we can do it better if we see it demonstrated.
- II. So we turn to 1 Thess. 2:17-20 and see Paul's amazing affection expressed to the church at Thess.
 - A. See the affection felt.
 - B. Note the affection expressed.
- III. Love Story of a Man and a Church.
 - A. He stops his earlier presentation to voice his love.
 1. "But we brethren, being taken"
 - a) Shifts to paragraph of great tenderness toward his children in the faith.
 - b) Voices his hopes and fears.
 - c) Love is current.
 - d) To be current must be in contact.
 - e) If we are current we know how to act out our love.
 2. Taken from you.
 - a) Feeling of one bereft of their friends.

- b) Word used of children deprived of their parents.
 - c) Beyond fact of separation is the feeling of loss and deprivation that accompanied it. (Marshall)
 - d) Idea of "torn."
 - e) Made orphans.
 - f) Paul was unwillingly sent away by night to Berea (Acts. 17:1-10).
3. Short time.
- a) We are not always masters of our own time.
 - b) Short = space of an hour.
4. Absent in presence, not in heart.
- a) Heart is
 - (1) Center of personality.
 - (2) Seat of thinking.
 - (3) Seat of feeling.
 - (4) Seat of will.
 - b) Presence--separation with mental anguish accompanying it.
 - c) Away in body only.
5. Love tries to overcome its separation.
- a) Endeavor--not mere longing but tried to do something positive to achieve it.
 - b) Not successful but no lack of will on his part--made great effort repeatedly--"not walk through fire & flood to see and I will tonight if it does not frost."

- c) His prophetic gift did not save him from the discipline of disappointment.
- d) His failure was beyond his ability to change.
- e) Abundantly
 - (1) Every legal try.
 - (2) Wanted--desperate, positive plan.

6. Great Desire to See Their Face.

- a) People need to know we love them.
- b) Don't take anyone for granted--tell them.
- c) Life's short--do it today.

B. Satan can hinder the most tender of plans.

- 1. He is real.
- 2. He is powerful.
- 3. Other names.

1 Thess. 3:5

2 Thess. 3:3

2 Cor. 4:4

2 Thess. 3:5

- 4. Not told how he hindered.
- 5. He'd like us at odds one with another and have our doubts about each other.
(Taxidermist Card)
- 6. He wants us to give up and fall into sin.
(Havner on entertainment)

7. Not everything is God's will.

a) Satan hinders.

b) So does Jesus.

Acts 16:6-7

C. Tell the ones you love what they are to you.

1. Our hope--God will complete what he has begun.

2. Our joy--our delight--our children are the joy of our hearts.

3. Our crown.

a) Ones we are proud to wear, like victors in a game.

b) They were a present fact.

D. Want to see you with Jesus when He comes.

1. You will have won life's battle.

2. First NT usage of parousia, arrival of royalty.

3. Presence, arrival, two words "to be" "present."

4. Paul could not come to them but Jesus could.

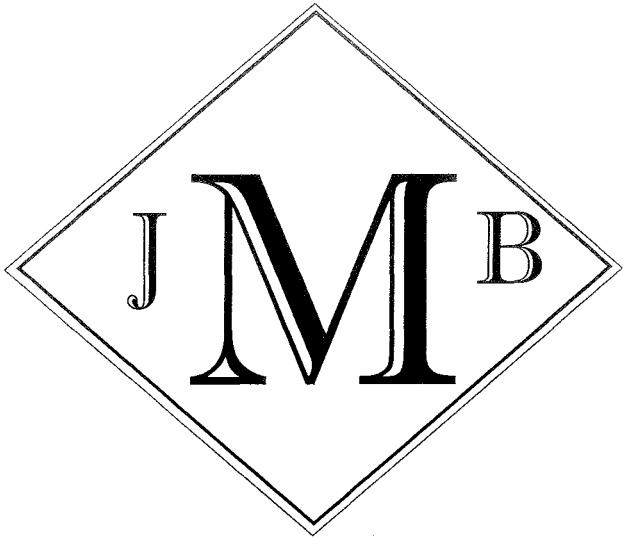
5. Wants to wear a garland of redeemed souls; our glory (praise) and joy (honors from others.)

6. In Heaven we never part.

7. Presenting converts to Christ his ultimate joy.

8. So the Emperor comes!

E. TN School of Preaching-Karns, TN 3/25/96



WHAT'S OUR CHIEF CAUSE OF JOY?

I Thess. 2:17-20

I. What would make you immensely happy, give you joy, afford you glory?

A. Financial success?

B. Children's achievements?

C. Recapture of health and strength for the aged?

II. What about just being with fellow Christians and enjoying their company with Jesus-- now and always?

I Thess 2:17 "But we, brethren, being"

III. Let's study this Text.

A. Written to church in Thess.

This is Barclay's review of the city.

1. Originally it was Thermai or Hot Springs.

2. Always a great harbor.

3. Xerxes used it to invade Europe.

4. 315 BC Cassander rebuilt city and named it Thess. for his wife, daughter of Philip of Macedon, half-sister of Alex. the Great.

5. Free city--200,000--rival of Constantinople.

6. Today Saloniki.

7. Center of trade East & West.

8. Paul there 3 weeks in great success.

9. Paul was hindered in getting back-- word for roadblock intended to stop expedition.

B. Taken away for a short time.

1. Taken

a) Lit. being bereaved of.

- b) Departure was sudden but never ceased to regret his separation from them.
- c) Bereaved--orphan feeling of children deprived of parents.
- d) It would have been useless for Paul to resist the storm--so he left.
- e) Acts 17:5-10 tells this.

C. Short time

- 1. Space of an hour literally.
- 2. Gone about 6 months.
- 3. Note: he did not think so much about eternity he forgot the reality of time.
- 4. Short time compared to the togetherness in the next world.

D. Presence not in heart.

- 1. Away in presence not in heart.
- 2. Beauty of memory.
- 3. They were in his heart.

E. Endeavoring abundantly to see your face with great desire.

- 1. Absence intensified desire to see them.
- 2. Great longing emotionally.
- 3. Esteem was the reason he wanted to see them.
- 4. One of the great spiritual qualities of Paul, he was always thinking of others.
- 5. True Christians delight in the likemindedness of fellow saints.

F. Satan Hindered

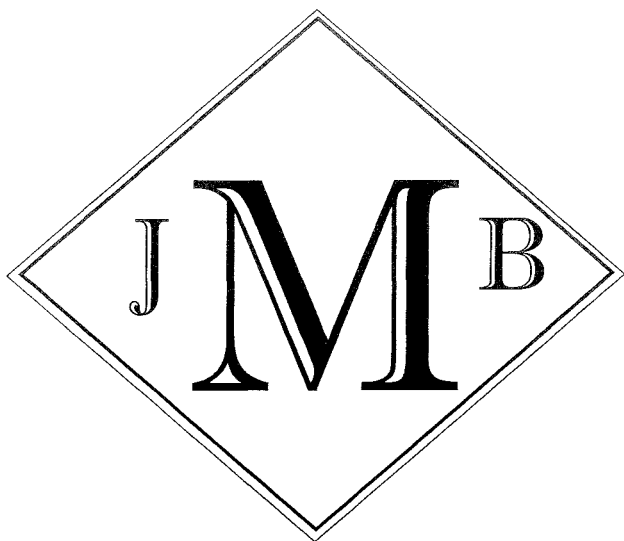
1. Devil is author of hindrances.
2. Paul believed in a personal evil spirit.
3. Satan tries to rob us of the consolations of religion and the sweetness of sympathy.
4. Always remember the ceaseless energy of Satan.
5. He hinders at all times.
6. We are not told what instrumentality he uses.
7. Could do it by laziness, postponement, weak desire.
8. Remember Satan opposed Michael-- he surely will you.
9. All hindrances can be temporary.

IV. In reality what is our hope, joy or crown of rejoicing.

- A. Hope--essential to our existence.
- B. Joy--that which properly thrills-- saving souls.
- C. Crown--our love of the saints.
- D. You in the presence of Jesus.
 1. We hope by preaching the gospel to bring a company with us.
 2. We need to think of favorably influencing one for eternity.
 3. Shows we will know each other in judgement.
 4. Parousia--presence or arrival, from 2 worlds to be present.
 5. Will not be ashamed at the coming of Christ.

1st X
used

6. Hopes to meet them in glory.
7. Joy to recognize them in the final salvation.
8. Our converts are our joy.



"Needs no intro" WHO IS THE DEVIL?

I Thess. 2:17-20

- I. Is God real? I talked to Him this A.M.
- II. Is the Devil real? He talked to me this hour. ^{best Satan}
- III. What can you tell me about the Devil? ^{Advantage -}
 - A. He has a revealing name. ^{2 Cor 2:11 Not ign. of his}
 - 1. Satan = Adversary. ^{1 Pet 5:8}
 - 2. Devil = Deceiver, Slanderer. ^{preserver, being.}
 - B. He is real. ^{3. Evil one Jn 17:15}
 - 1. He's personal. ^{4. Wicked one Matt 13:19}
 - 2. He's pernicious. ^{Satan himself is transformed into}
 - 3. He's pretty - even an angel of light 2 Cor. 11:14
 - 4. He's powerful. ^{Matt 13:19 snatches away word}
 - 5. He's purposeful - wants to destroy me & walk about searching for me. Both Heaven & Hell want me - I must be somebody! ^{Satan put in heart to}
 - C. He's got an understandable personality. ^{lie}
 - 1. He lies & Deceives. ^{2 Cor 11:3 Acts 5:3}
 - 2. Murders. ^{Sepent dejuke devil} ^{subtlety} ^{corrupt - simplicity}
- Jn. 8:44 "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of his will he doeth. He saith also, I am the light of the world: he that walketh in darkness believeth not in the light of the day."
- 3. Tempts. - ^{Travels c speed of That!}
- I Cor. 7:5 "Defraud ye not one the other, except it be in the Lord, as the Lord may prosper, and so will we."
- I Thess. 3:5 "For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent Titus and Iphigenia, that I might see you, and that I might bring you again, unto me."
- I Tim. 3:7 "Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without, that he may be feared of them which are without."
^(or Advocate - witness)
- 4. Accuses. ^{Job 1:9} ^{Doth Job fear God for n.}
- Rev. 12:10 "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come our victory, and the power of our God."
- 5. Powerful ^{Blinding force} ^{the scourer of our br.} ^{scoured de a mite bettered}
- Job 1:6-12 "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them."
~~Job 1:6-12 Now there was a day when the sons of God~~
- 2 Cor. 4:4 "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the eyes of them that believe, lest they should see the light of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."
- Zech. 3:1 "And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan stood at his right hand to tempt him."
- Rev 19:19 "The Beast"

Resist

1 Pet 5:8 - Lion - walks soft - roars when he gets prey.
2 Thess. 2:9 "Even him, whose coming is after the war"

6. Prince.

Eph. 2:2 "Wherein in time past ye walked according to

7. Hinders.

1 Thess. 2:18 "Wherefore we would have come unto you

IV. In our text we find him the Hinderer.

A. Paul says he was hindered by Satan.

1. Define hinder.

a.) Lit. to cut a trench between you & foe.

b.) Lit. to cut in a road. Make it impassable.

c.) Thus to break up the avenue of communication.

2. Who Hinders - SATAN!

a.) He desires to prevent to spread of the gospel.

b.) He thwarts the work of missionaries.

3. How did he hinder Paul?

a.) We are not told.

b.) He uses:

(1) Illness.

2 Cor. 12:7 "And lest I should be exalted above measure"

(2) Local trouble.

(3) Church politics.

c.) Whenever God's work is hindered Satan is there

We don't tho always know the source of our opposition.

d.) Devil uses men to his purpose.

e.) What obstacles has he placed in your path?

(1) Personality?

(2) Fear

(3) Cynicism

(4) Impassive quality.

You may believe in Jesus
but these things can
nullify it.

f.) Let me suggest that we cannot always assess the real events of life. God may be saving us from a worse cause or permitting a temporary triumph of evil so we can be used later to a greater cause.

B. At any rate Devil is not one I want.

C. He can be whipped

1 Jn 4:4 "He that is in you is greater than he

Jam 4:7 "Resist the devil & he will flee

~~the~~ Mt 6:13 "lead us not into tem -
from evil one

1 Jn 3:8 - Son of God manifested that he
might destroy the work of the Devil

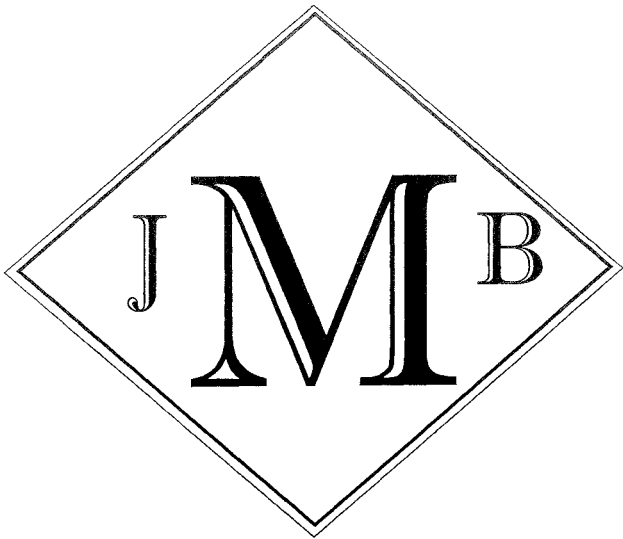
West End 3-20-77

Outtenden Drive, Russellville 3-27-77

out any fear of being observed by God's people.

The Los Angeles Times recently carried a feature story by its religious editor, Dan L. Thrapp, who covered a conclave of notable Southland Theologians. The Rev. James Kallas, author of the recently published, "The Satanward View," was credited with saying:

"I am fully convinced that Satan as an independent personality does not make sense in the 20th Century even though he is at the center of biblical thought" (L.A. Times, Sept. 4, 1966).



WHAT MOVES MEN?

I Thess. 3:1-3

I. I'm sure you've heard the country expressions like:

A. "You couldn't move him with a stick of dynamite."

B. "He's slower than 'lasses and as stubborn as a balky mule."

C. Yes, he may be - but still men move!

1. What moves them? Read poem.

2. Can we use every means?

3. Will I employ some?

II. In seeking to know what moves men, I divide my Bible list into two camps; one good and one bad.

A. First I mention the bad movers of men.

1. Race does.

Acts 21:30 "And all the city was moved

(a) Read 1st 36 verses.

(b) When Paul arrived he presented a problem tho he was a blessing.

(c) Rumors preceded Paul.

(d) Scotch by paying way for 4 men to take Nagirite vow.

(e) Taken in gratitude for some special goodness of God, like getting well.

(f) Abstain from meat 30 da., also wine, let hair grow, bring offerings - ram, lamb, basket of bread, cakes, meat & drink.

- (g) Costly - therefore let a wealthy person underwrite.
- (h) Paul was asked to do this.
- (i) Their heads shaved & hair burned it seems on altar c sacrifice.
- (j) Distasteful no doubt to Paul but he did it.
- (k) Led to disaster - Trophimus was a Gentile - that he was taken into temple.
- (l) Against their way "No man of alien race is to enter w/in the balustrade & fence that goes round the temple, and if anyone is taken in the act, let him know that he has himself to blame for the penalty of death that follows", said an inscription.
- (m) Paul accused of destroying law, insulting chosen people, & defiling the temple.
- (n) Started a lynch movement.
- (o) Rome prevented riot & chained him to two men.

2. Anger surely will

Dan. 8:7 "And he was moved c cholera

- (a) Daniel sees vision of ram c 2 horns.
 - (1) Medes & Persian - one greater than the other (the higher horn).
 - (2) Ram goes N, W, & S - already conquered East. Conquerors all.

- (3) He-goat (Alexander of Greece) comes, fast (touched not the earth), 1 big horn.
- (4) Ran into ram c fury of his power & won.
- (5) Goat horn broken (Alex died young) & 4 horns (generals came).
- (6) Next Mohamed as little horn.
- (7) God's people hurt & sanctuary over run - how long?
- (8) Eventually cleansed.
- (9) If we could foresee changes to be made when we are gone, not so concerned about them now.
- (10) Rt. hand of God in all enterprises - his enemies are His rod.
- (11) God permits what His folks provoke.
- (12) Sin brings desolation.
- (13) Right for God to take privilege from house of those profane it.
- (14) Jesus knows the mind of God - He gives us all knowledge about Him.
- (15) Christ died to cleanse His church.
- (16) Ram smote c anger
- (1) Clip on describe him.

3. Anybody for indignation?

Matt. 20:24 "And when the 10 heard it, they

- (a) See worldly ambitions of the disciples in action.

- (b) Their mother (of James & John) comes c a request.
- (c) Hard to trace the Mary's but their mother seems to have been Jesus mother's sister - therefore cousins.
- (d) Did they want personal success w/o personal sacrifice.
- (e) Greatness has its price - doesn't come by wave of hand but by service.
- (f) Fine the disciples knew Jesus could not be permanently defeated. We are also thankful for their loyalty in staying c Jesus tho shown the cross.
- (g) What is the cup for you - Martyrdom for James (Acts 12:2) - long life of discipleship for John. Not always same!
- (h) Tho disciples exploded, Jesus didn't. He's patient.
- (i) Jesus trusts men.
- (j) World views greatness as one who commands; Jesus as one who serves.
- (k) Greater the service, greater the honor.
- (l) Jesus assessment is "how many people have you helped."
- (m) Jesus served - they looked for a Lion & got a Lamb.
- (n) Jesus gave his life a ransom for many

(o) W/o Jesus we can never get back to God.

4. Sedition does

Ezra 4:15 "That they have moved

- (a) Story of Samaritan opposition to rebuilding Temple.
- (b) They urged Artaxerxes to stop Temple construction.

Read Ezra 4:11-16

(c) They said Temple would dishonor King

- (1) We gild over our opposition to Christ c pretended loyalty to Caesar.
- (2) We need to maintain God's honor since we live in His bounty & in care of His providence.
- (3) We should protect name of God.
- (d) God's people often represented as disloyal.
 - (1) We are taught conversely to obey Kings.
 - (2) World anxious to accept accusation against Chr. & refuse to listen to explanation.
- (e) God's work ceased for a time due to power of enemy & coldness & indifference of His friends.

5. We cite "envy"

Acts 7:9 "And the patriarchs, moved c envy,

- (a) They treated aged ones as Jesus did Jesus.

(b) Bacon "Envy hath no holidays"

"Envy is admiration in despair"

Poor Richard's Almanac

Prov. 14:30 "Rottenness of the bones"

Horace Smith "Envy, punishing ourselves for being inferior to our neighbors"

C. Churchill "He sickened at all triumphs but his own"

Envy like lightening seeks the highest places.

6. Disappoint & Death has

2 Sam. 18:33 "And the King was much moved" *Quiver C. Violent emotion*

Ruth 1:19 "And it came to pass when they

(a) Best of men are not always in good frame - what we over love we are apt to over grieve.

You will notice with 1st letters of words I've spelled a word: Race, Anger, Indignation, Sedition, Envy, Disappointment = RAISED!

Wish End 6-22-69

Wish End 6-29-69

I Laughed at this ONE



The patrol car, notified by radio that there was a street fight going on at Third and Main, raced to the scene. A policeman got out, looked around, saw one man picking himself off the sidewalk.

"You been fighting?" he asked the gentleman.

"I was attacked," the man said.
"I was suddenly attacked."

"Can you describe the guy who hit you?" the policeman asked.

"Describe him?" repeated the victim. "That's what I was doing when he hit me." — C KENNEDY.

A TIME TO STAND

There comes a time when a man must speak
And say the things he feels,
If not, he's nothing more than weak
And his lips are rusty seals.

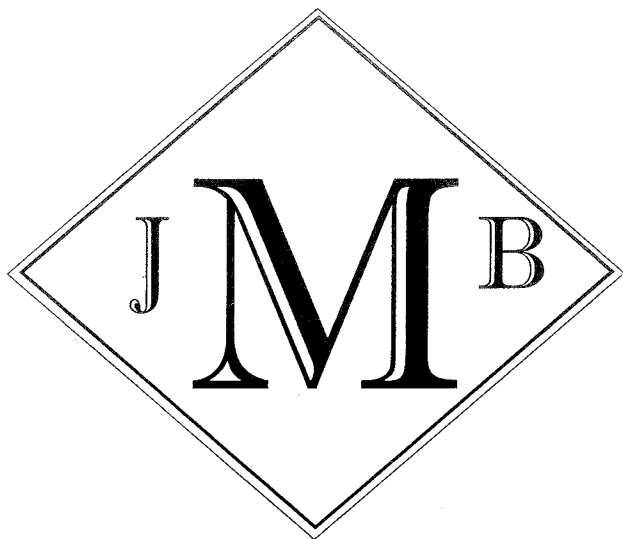
There comes a time when a man must know
What he alone can know.
And shout from the hills to the earth below
And listen to his echo.

A man in silence is not a man
But a toy of the fates.
He can no more control his destiny than
A man who sits and waits.

There comes a time when a man must stand
And let the whole world see
That he is not whatever he was, and
Not what he's going to be.

The time has come for me to stand
Above this earthly grime
And cry that I am more than sand
To be blown by the winds of time.

"Leaves on the Wind" by Phil Jarrett



HOW DO YOU PRAY FOR THE CHURCH?

I Thess. 3:11-13

- I. This lesson embraces 3 parts.
 - A. There will be contrasts.
 - B. There will be similarities.
 - C. There will be apostolic example.
- II. Privately how do you pray for the church?
 - A. Elders, Deacons, Preachers.
 - B. Your S.S. teacher.
 - C. Conversion of certain one.
 - D. Sick? Missionaries?
- III. How Do We Publicly Pray?
 - A. Many of the above.
 - B. Grow.
 - C. Special Programs.
 - D. Building project.
 - E. Missionaries.
- IV. How Did an Apostle in One Prayer?

I Thess. 3:11-13

 - A. Interesting they never prayed for:
 1. A building program.
 2. Staff.
 3. SS or VBS.
 4. Sample prayer.
 - B. What then did they pray for?
 1. Use one of Paul's prayers as an example.
 2. Can we pray for weather, team victory, new seat cushions?
- V. An Apostle's Prayer
 - A. To whom directed? First God.
 1. Himself.
 2. Our Father--remember we are seeing one of Paul's actual prayers--seldom are they given us.

3. Some things are impossible without God but this great power is softened to us by expression "Father."
4. Only God is worthy to be addressed in prayer--not Mary nor the heroes of the faith *or dead saints.*

B. Secondly as God our Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Not a junior partner--all power is his.
2. Note prayer is addressed also to Jesus--all the multiple commentaries I read stress this.
3. Lord Jesus Christ--typical of Paul.
4. Christ shares the prerogatives of deity--(Elwell).
5. Two persons addressed as one.
6. Early church immediately saw Jesus as God.
7. Jesus is singled out as deity. addressed. Thus songs we sing are scriptural.
8. Verb is singular thus Christ is called Lord. *Clear the way for us to come*

C. Direct Our Way Unto You.

1. Guide our steps. (Phillip)
2. Bring us direct. (NEB)
3. Asks God to return them to Thess. and left God to develop the manner of their return.
4. Rome--prosperous journey.
5. It was not exactly answered.

Acts 20:1-2

Speed us on our journey (Knox)

6. Direct

- a) To make straight.
 - b) Remove hinderances. (Woodson)
7. His future guided by the power of God--fully at his disposal.
 8. When we pray we exercise our faith.
 9. Its answers increase our faith.
 10. Let us acknowledge God in all our ways and He will direct our paths.

D. "Next make you to increase and abound in love" *Full to overflowing*

1. Love the crowning virtue.
 - a) Let it increase and overflow.
 - b) No limit to its growth.
2. One toward another.
 - a) To one another. *(See how article)*
 - b) Each member.
 - c) Overflowing, mount.
 - d) Love each member more intently.
3. Toward all men.
 - a) Love reaches beyond just Christians.
 - b) Outsiders feel our love.
4. Self an example--"even as we do toward you." *Wide & full love me*
 - a) Bold statement. *love for you (good deed)*
 - b) Holds himself up as an example.

E. Stablish your hearts.

1. Strengthen your hearts-- (Confraternity)
2. Solid, no flattering. *Confirm*
3. With the heart we make decisions-- more than fleshly organ.

F. Unblamable - *Faultless*

1. Fix heart on what is right.
2. Trials come--still steadfast.
3. Inner strength called for.
4. Without blame.

G. In Holiness

1. Sherrie's granddaughter ~~not~~ cursive writing but incursive. "Teacher said write in cursive."
2. Holy--dedicated to God with His service.
3. Set apart--separated from all that defiles. *w/o fault*
4. Bruce said it implies a state not a process.
5. Consecrated, devoted to the Lord.
6. Maintained even in the pressure of worldly allurements.
7. Love, stability of heart--holiness, watchfulness, are proper expressions of faith.
8. Past--freed by the blood of Christ.
Present--living victoriously.
Future--destiny with God.
9. Our lives open to God's inspection--the Father loves us.
10. Hearts made firm so that we can stand before God holy & faultless.

H. Think of the Second Coming

1. This purifies us.
2. Who are those who come with Him?
 - a) Angels? Says Saints.

- b) Some already with Him, He brings them to join with you in that glorious reunion in the skies--join departed believers.
- c) Glorious company.

VI. Is this the way you pray?

Brentwood Hills Bible Class - 3/5/00

New Concord, KY (BC) - 4/16/00

Adairville, KY (BC) - 4/30/00

Smithville, TN (BC) - 5/7/00

Berry's Chapel - 6/18/00

Frances Norton funeral (assisted Mark & Mike Brumley in the service, leading the prayers)

W. Nashville Heights BC - 5/2/01

Sparta, TN BC - 5/3/01

I asked God to take away my pride.

God said "No",

It is not for me to take away, but for you
to give it up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.

God said "No,"

Her spirit was whole, her body was only
temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.

God said "No,"

Patience is a byproduct of tribulations;
it isn't granted, it is earned.

I asked God to give me happiness.

God said "No,"

I give you blessings, happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain.

God said "No,"

Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares
and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow.

God said "No,"

You must grow on your own, but I will prune
you to make you fruitful.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life.

God said "No,"

I will give you life so that you may enjoy
all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as
much as he loves me.

God said...Ahhhh, finally you have the idea!

THE POPE

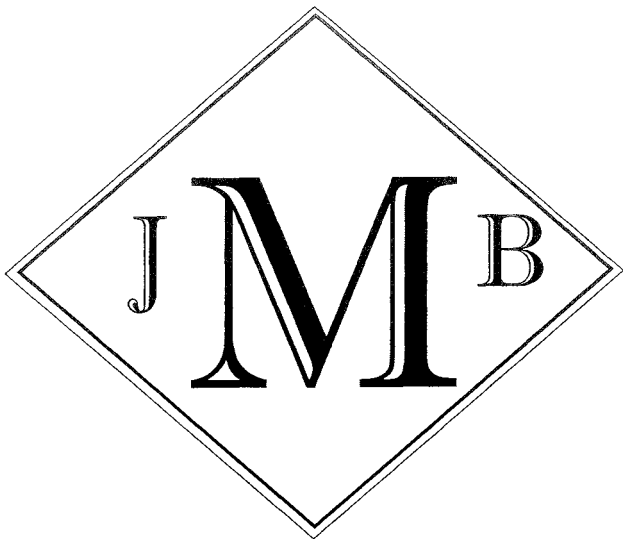
Many Greeks Praying Against John Paul II Visit

THE “TWO-HORNED GROTESQUE MONSTER,” the “devil in disguise.” Not the talk you expect to hear about the Pope from your parish priest. Not unless you’re in Greece, where Christian Orthodox clergy are hell-bent on canceling **POPE JOHN PAUL II’s** first papal visit next week. Protests by zealots—who blame Roman Catholic Crusaders for sacking Constantinople, seat of the Orthodox Byzantine Empire, in 1204—will probably not deter John Paul when he starts a biblical pilgrimage that will continue to Syria and Malta, following in the footsteps of St. Paul. The Pope was invited by Greek President **COSTIS STEPHANOPOULOS**, and some believe



Pope John Paul at the Vatican

the invitation was a jab at Archbishop Christodoulos, who recently roused demonstrators to protest state plans to scrap religious affiliation from state ID cards. Faced with possible international humiliation, Christodoulos grudgingly agreed not to block the Pope’s visit “as head of state” but ruled out a joint liturgy with John Paul. —**By Anthee Carassava/Athens**



WHAT DIFFERENCE DO YOU SEE IN ME?

I Thess. 4:1-2

I. Sometimes compliments can be deceiving: we haven't been complimented, we have been fossilized!

A. "He's the same ol' George he always was."

1. Dependable.

2. Friendly.

3. Success has not gone to his head.

4. Money's made him no different.

B. "You haven't changed one bit."

1. Gracious earlier--even now.

2. Neat--still are.

3. Thoughtful.

C. All this is well and good but where is spiritual growth?

1. Is 3X a week attendance enough?

2. Is giving 10% or less sufficient?

3. Praying before meals?

D. But where is life taking on new meaning?

1. Private study translated into deeper commitment.

2. Songs & worship have a deeper hue.

3. Am I preserving the status quo--another name for stagnation.

4. Let's go back to the NT's first book and see the challenge presented.

II. The Call to Become Better Than I Am.

A. Earlier Paul spoke of:

1. Election.

2. Power of the gospel.

3. Preaching, faith, suffering.

4. Prayer & Love.

Chair compliment

B. But with these great themes he now brings repeated emphasis to personal growth.

I Thess. 4:1 "Furthermore then we beseech"

1. Furthermore.

a) Finally.

b) Not a conclusion to round off a letter. (Elwell)

c) Rather a transition: "as for the rest."

d) Paul Harvey's Page 2.

2. Beseech you brethren.

a) Asking as a personal favor.

b) Wants to see individual effort.

c) Brethren--tender thought.

d) By Lord Jesus.

(1) He is in command.

(2) We seek to please Him.

(3) It's His word we follow.

(4) Apostles speak by His authority.

(5) "When we become Christians everything is suddenly exposed to Christ." (Ogilvie)

(6) This thought will be advanced a bit later.

e) Exhort--strongly insist.

C. Challenge Earlier Given.

1. Received--as he had earlier instructed them.

2. How ye ought to walk & please God.

a) God is not timid in telling us what He wants.

Frank Grist 1988

- b) Never charge Him with "I don't know what it takes to please Him"--we do!
3. "Paul reinforced his instructions, knowing they'd be tempted to follow ranks of men who indulge in impurities." (Macknight)
 4. Paul never wrote a letter without appealing for Christian conduct that magnifies Jesus and pleases God. (Jenson)
 5. Ought--teeth here.
 6. Walk--the Christian manner.
 7. "Not how to talk but how to walk--talking well without living well will never get us to Heaven." (Henry)
 8. Design of the gospel is to teach us how to live.
 9. Supreme desire--to please God every moment.
 10. This is our obligation.
- D. Now the Stinger "Abound More & More."
1. Are my attitudes the same as they were before I accepted Christ?
 2. Am I personally aware of growth--examine self at table, think through our private prayers.
 3. Not only "Keep on" but do still better.
 4. Healthy living is not static but dynamic.
 5. Some are "immobilized on dead center, resisting growth at every turn." (Ogilvie)

6. We are committed to grow--God is never finished with us.
7. We are called to be obviously different--and it shows!
8. We sing "Finish then thy new creation"; "More and More Like Jesus."
9. There are no bounds to the graces, so there should be none to the exercise of these graces. (Clark)
10. Life is marked by either growth or decay. (Hogg & Vine)
11. Not only persevere to the end but grow better!
12. O.T. passages as well as NT.

Exo. 19:5 "Now therefore if ye will obey my voice"

Deut. 7:6 "The Lord thy God hath chosen thee to"

Eph. 4:15 "But speaking the truth in love"

2 Thess. 1:3 "Your faith groweth...love, ea., abounds"

1 Peter 2:2 "Desire sincere milk of the word"

III. This is No Pick & Choose Matter

A. Commandments Given.

1. Same word for military order.

2. Military metaphor stressing their authoritative nature as coming by Jesus.

3. Rules of conduct not esoteric ideas to take or leave but were by the authority of Jesus.

4. Not situation ethics.

B. Commandments came from Lord Jesus.

1. He has the right to speak.

2. We have the duty to hear & heed.

3. We have no right to teach any other.

*Meyer's
Ans in low
Wile her's
Can't
remember
name*

IV. Question: Am I Growing?

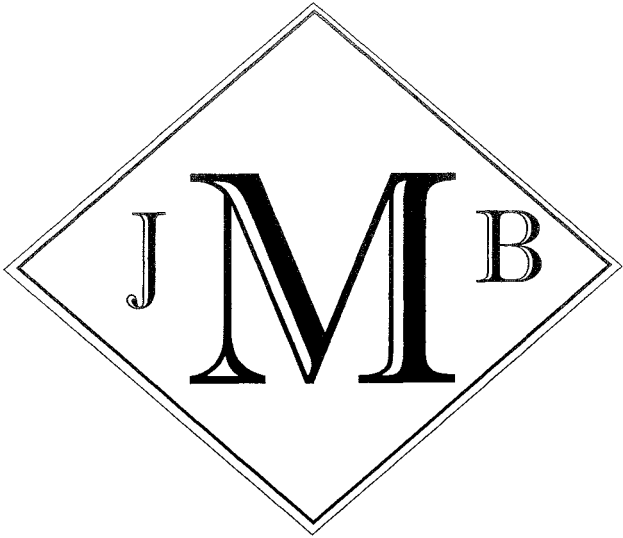
Philo Road, Urbana, IL - 10/8/95

Fit to Print

AFTER Sen. Lee S. Overman died in office, a Democratic primary was held in North Carolina to name a candidate for the unexpired remainder of his term. Several persons, including politician Frank Grist, qualified as candidates in this primary. For some reason, an editorial writer of the Greensboro *Daily News* had taken a strong dislike to Frank. He wrote a scathing editorial against his candidacy in which he said that "Frank Grist is not qualified to be a dogcatcher."

On the advice of his attorney, Frank sent a telegram to the *News* threatening a libel suit against it unless it retracted the editorial. The editorial writer wrote a second editorial, which added insult to injury. It stated, in effect, that the *News* did not wish to be sued and for that reason would retract its statement that Frank Grist was not fit to be a dogcatcher. It added, in substance, that in order to make its retraction complete, the *News* would say that "Frank Grist is fit to be a dogcatcher, but instead of running for that office he is seeking the post of United States Senator."

—Adapted from *Humor of a Country Lawyer* by Sam J. Ervin, Jr.
(University of North Carolina Press)



WITHIN THE BEDROOM WALLS

I Thess. 4:1-8

- I. The God I serve is a very intimate God-- His Word even enters the bedroom of every Christian couple.
- II. He has issued a clarion call and no compromises with our times can discount it.
- III. Though sexual relations are proper only in marriage, still this intimate relationship has some safeguard that refuses to allow animalistic behavior. Let's review Paul's Thess. message.
1 Thess. 4:1-8 (READ)
- IV. Via Introduction
 - A. He writes to correct any misunderstanding about 2nd coming of Jesus.
 - B. He will later speak about brotherly love. (v9-10)
 - C. Then addresses deligence in secular work. (v11-12)
 - D. But he cannot divorce himself from an appeal to high morals (even as the man could not preaching on baptism as Gen. 1 brings him to his subject).
- V. Delicacy with which he deals with his subject---(as I feel insecure when preachers tell their marital escapes over and over again).
 - A. 1st evidence of sensitivities are seen in:
 1. Furthermore.
 - a) ASV Finally.
 - b) Strange when there is a lot more to follow.

2. Beseech you.
 - a) Calmly addresses folk who realize the propriety of complying.
 - b) Ask, request (tho it is a hard ball command of God!)
3. Brethren--fellow Christians.
4. Exhort--believe you are already in the walk--just encouragement to do more.
5. By the Lord Jesus
 - a) Authority of the Lord behind this.
 - b) Not an apostolic hobby.
6. Received of us how ye ought to walk.
 - a) You already know what I'm going to say.
 - b) Walk is progress--way to describe Christianity.
 - c) Means to please God.
7. Abound more and more.
 - a) Continue in earnest progress.
 - b) No accusation they are misbehaving--but we all can do better.
 - c) No consure for disobeying--they are complying but encouragement to do more.
 - d) Give them a little pep pill!
8. From Jesus (again), the will of God.
 - a) 1st key word--3 things.
 - (1) Belong to God.
 - (2) Set apart.
 - (3) Live for His glory.

b) Sanctification--entire scope of holiness of life.

B. Now he is ready to present the commandment!

VI. The Demand

A. Abstain from fornication

1. Married couples?
2. Fornication embraces all sexual improprieties.
3. Completely abstain!
4. 1st century Christians had their battle with sex.
5. Refers to all sexual relations outside of marriage.
6. He will establish proper restraints within marriage.
 - a) Passion of desire--thus wife feels used.
 - b) Breach of marriage contract.
 - c) Applies to every one of you.
 - d) Knows there are occasionally sins.

B. Possess Vessel With Sanctification and Honor.

1. Vessel
 - a) Wife
 - b) Instrument for someone else's purpose--kitchen tool.
 - c) Take, acquired.
2. In sanctification and holiness.
 - a) Does not exclude sexual activities in marriage.
 - b) Take--keep on acquiring--live with--sense of cultivating wife's pleasure.

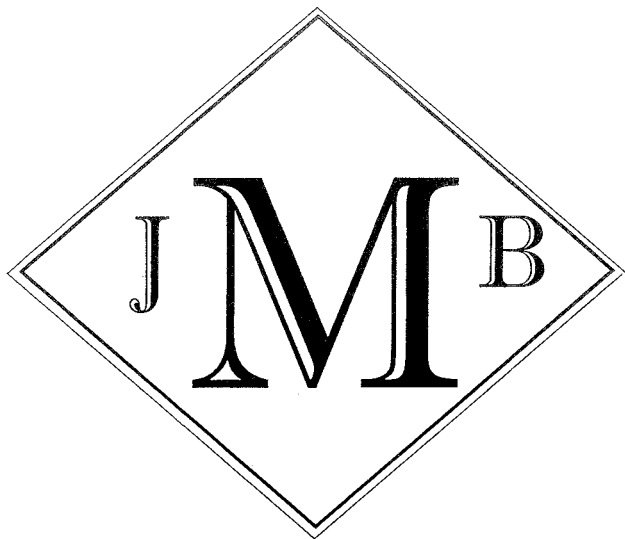
- c) Don't strain the relationship nor selfishly satisfy self. That's what whoredom is.
- 3. Not with lusts of concupiscence.
 - a) Passion of overwhelming feeling.
 - b) Marriage not designed to inflame but conquer natural desires.
 - c) Lose the dignity of self rule.
- 4. Gentiles that know not God--their guiding principle is lust and self.
- C. No man go beyond and defraud his brother.
 - 1. Is this business or bedroom?
 - 2. Honor others in respect.
 - 3. Love his sister more than a sex instrument. She's not a married "mistress."
 - 4. To have relationships with a woman outside of marriage robs brother of what later will be his.
- D. Lord will avenge.

Ps. 94:1

- 1. Further punishment of all sins.
- 2. More than Aids.
- E. Your Calling
 - 1. It is by God, to Him.
 - 2. Starting point of Christian life.
 - 3. Note what standard God has called you to.
 - 4. Called through the gospel.
 - 5. Called to holiness not uncleanness.
 - 6. May dislike the preacher who tells you, but it is of God!

7. Lose God and Holy Spirit by disobedience, presence of Spirit, man reverts to himself.
8. Receive the spirit of the instruction-- they are God given!

Antioch - 12/28/97



FORNICATION IS A HORRIBLE SIN

I Thess. 4:3-8

- I. We live in an enlightened society.
 - A. No temples with 1000 prostitutes.
 - B. No Demosthenes who wrote, "We keep prostitutes for pleasure; we keep mistresses for the day-to-day needs of the body. We keep wives for the begetting of children & for the faithful guardianship of our homes."
 - C. No unlearning of life we and ancestors always followed making divorce possible for "some matter of shame."
 - 1.) What constituted "shame"?
 - 2.) Some said only adultery.
 - 3.) **Other:** too much salt in food; walk in public c head uncovered; talking c men in the street; speaking disrespectively of husbands parents; talking too loud.
 - 4.) Rome went 125 yrs. w/o any divorce then it broke loose.
 - D. But shockingly as Lipscomb wrote now "Our purity challenged by impurities all about us."
 - E. I want to restress God's will on moral purity: fornication in particular.

I Thess. 4:3-8 "For this is the will of God even

II. These Points Are Obvious.

- A. "This is the will of God" - V. 3.
 1. We must know purity is God's law.
 2. V. 1 "Ye have rec. of us how ye ought to walk & to please God."

- 3. It will refer to "any matter" (V. 6) but stresses here fornication.
- 4. Flatfootedly, it is the command of God that we be holy.
- 5. Christianity is the supreme champion of purity & the guardian of the home.
- 6. If we allow it to be less or weakened, it's nothing

B. God wants my sanctification.

- 1. Defined primarily it means separation from evil; and secondarily concentrated toward God.
 - 2. It is purity of life - "cease to do evil, learn to do well." (Barnes)
 - 3. It uses a word which allows growth in holiness too
- Heb. 12:14 "Follow peace c all men & holiness
 Rom. 6:19 "So now yield your members servants to R.

C. Abstain from Fornication (V. 3).

- 1. There is a negative aspect to Christianity - some things we are for & some against.
- 2. He uses a word of present tense & thus shows we are abstaining right now.
- 3. From = off, away from, clear cut break.
- 4. Fornication = illicit sexual intercourse - swing, shack, make out, swap - whatever!!
- 5. "Affairs" are serious.
- 6. Our body & soul are joined, thus our body affects our soul.

D. Know How to Possess His Vessel in Sanctification (V. 4).

- 1. Hardest part of paragraph to interpret.
- 2. Does vessel mean self or wife in the issue.

- (a) Everyone is not married but everyone obligated to purity, so it must mean his body.
 - (b) But it stresses to know "how", thus assumes you can acquire a wife & if you have one, this is the way to act.
 - (c) But not just a standard for man - woman too has duty.
 - (d) We don't possess or acquire a body - always have one.
 - (e) Wife is called a vessel.
- 1 Pet. 3:7 "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them as
- (f) Body is a vessel too.
- 2 Cor. 4:7 "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels
- (g) One or the other - body or wife - is synonym for vessel - but know your body is temple of Holy Spirit & your wife is a gift of God to be constantly wooed & never treated as an object of lust or satisfaction; therefore, behave yourself!

E. Not in Lust of Concupiscence (V. 5).

1. In passion of love only one woman is to be desired - his wife!
2. All must govern desires - this knocks "I couldn't help it - I was swept away" into a cocked hat!
3. Lust = passion; he lost the dignity of self control. It means "ungovernable desire."
4. Man surrenders to passions.
5. Don't debase or pollute body - honor it as the noble work of God.

F. Related to Our Knowing God.

1. To know or not know God affects our personal relations.
2. Close connection between ethics & religion.
3. Heathen didn't know God.

Jer. 10:25 "Pour out thy fury upon the heathen that kr

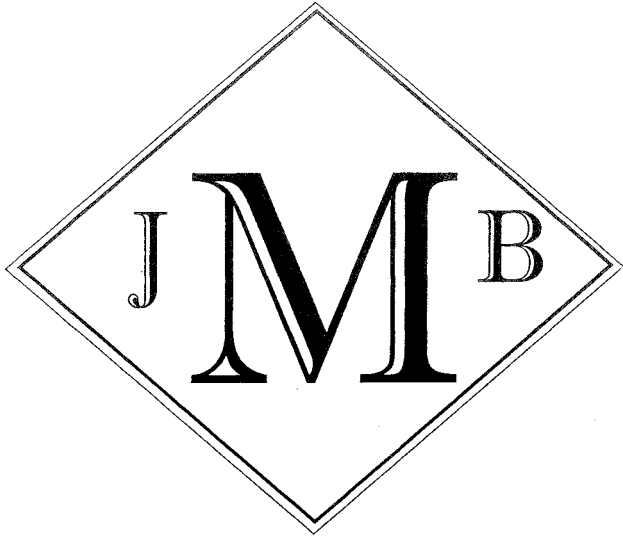
Ps. 79:6 "Pour out thy wrath upon the heathen that ha

4. We won't listen & learn from other religions then.
5. Paul has in mind not an innocent ignorance but a willful one.
6. You can see why some today want to get rid of knowledge of God.
7. Calling on name shows a vital religion, not a theoretical knowledge of God!

Review

- A. Holiness is the Will of God
- B. God wants my Sanctification
- C. Avoid formalism
- D. Properly Possess Vessel
- E. Not in haste
- F. All Related to our Knowledge of God

Wash End 9-21-75



FORNICATION IS THE WORST KIND OF CHEATING

I Thess. 4:3-8

I. These verses clearly tell some matters.

- A. It is the will of God that I be holy.
- B. God demands my sanctification.
- C. I absolutely must abstain from fornication.
- D. Every one must know how to possess his own vessel
- E. I must not engage in the lust of concupiscence.
- F. My behavior is related to my knowledge of God.

II. Today we add to this superstructure these points:

- A. Fornication is Transgression.
- B. Fornication is the worst kind of cheating.
- C. God requires holiness in all matters.
- D. God avenges all who disregard His will.

III. Shall we examine each point.

A. Fornication is transgression.

V. 6 "That no man go beyond --

1. To transgress is to go beyond.
2. Beyond = to make to go over a wall; overpass.

2 Jn. 9 "Whosoever transgresseth & abideth not in the

3. Fornication is fudging beyond prescribed bounds.

B. Fornication is the worst kind of cheating.

V. 6 "That no man ... defraud his brother in any matt

1. If I engage in sexual impurity, I cheat against you.

2. Your adultery defrauds your brother of his conjugal rights. *(we think of Mothers & Sisters usually)*

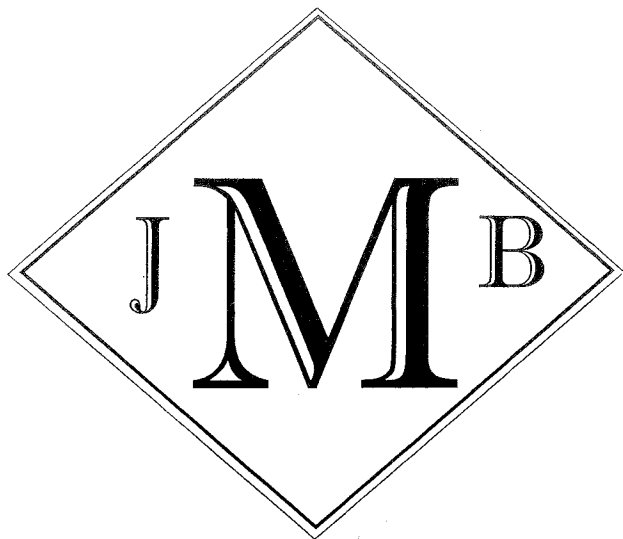
3. This means to take advantage - "to over-reach" a brother.

4. Defraud = to have more than another; to take advantage; to cheat.

Ps 119:59 "I bow myself to young men of vain senses w²g 2.

5. Christianity does not take advantage of another.
- C. Christianity is consistently fair in all matters.
- V. 6 "Defraud not his brother in any matter: because
 1. Margin "In the matter" - covers both specific & generals.
 2. It refers to all attempts to defraud.
 3. Christian doesn't cheat anywhere.
 4. At Tupelo they told me of a Mennonite and a car purchase.
- D. God Avenges All Who Disregard His Will.
- V. 6 "Because that the Lord is the avenger of all such
 1. Looming over human behavior is the judgment of God.
 2. God will judge.
- Gal. 6:7-8 "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for
- Col. 3:6 "For which things' sake the wrath of God com
 3. God is one who satisfies justice.
 4. Paul had earlier "forewarned" them.
 5. To testify to solidly affirm.
 6. Let everyone know he will not escape paying the penalty here & hereafter: VD & hell!

West End 9-28-75



SANCTIFICATION OR FORNICATION:
WILL OF GOD OR WILL OF MAN

I Thess. 4:3-8

I. Without doubt I live in a wild time.

II. Without doubt the lines of difference for some are blurred.

A. There is the will of God, the purpose, the ideal, the excepted.

B. There is the will of man, bending to every conceivable vice and sin.

C. For each of us--which standard shall it be?

1. I'll present what God said.

2. I'll ask all of us to follow what He demands.

3. I'll find this in I Thess. 4:3-8.

4. Certain there is more but there never can be less!

III. For this is the will of God: (and immediately Paul tells us what it is).

A. Sanctification

1. God has chosen us for himself.

2. We are the Bride of Christ.

3. He has set us apart and his desire of us is holiness.

4. We must, regardless of the times, make every effort to become what He wants us to be.

B. Abstain from Fornication.

1. Sex plays such a role today.
2. People at Thess. took fornication as a matter of course.
3. If we got a letter relative to our most prevalent evil, what would be named today?
4. Graeco--Roman world put fornication with the ethical indifference of food and drink.
5. Pagan temples had large staffs of prostitutes.
6. "We keep prostitutes for pleasure
We keep mistresses for day to day
needs of the body
We keep wives for begetting of
children & for the faith-
ful guardianship of our
homes." (Demosthenes)
7. Divorce was easy:
Ruin husband's meal.
Raise her voice loud enough to be
heard by neighbors.
8. It was a man's world--women had no rights and little or no dignity.
9. Gentiles condemned adultery only in case of childbearing wife as it would wrong her husband not to know the paternity of her children.
10. Now revolutionary comes new teaching on sacredness of marriage & reverence for family.
11. Impure person cannot bring to the marriage that virginity which is the other's due morally.

- C. Possess his vessel in sanctification and honor.
1. Compliments point just made.
 2. What is vessel?
 - a) Control of body or
 - b) Acquired wife.
 3. Most say body as it "contains" soul and spirit.
 4. Restrain and self-control is demanded.
 5. Present tense shows this is continually employed.
 6. Body to rise again--so honor it.
- D. Avoid Lust of concupiscence.
1. That's passion.
 2. Heathen better translation than Gentiles.
 3. Such action shows no relationship with God--shame of our presidents, actors, entertainers.
- E. None go beyond & defraud his brother in any matter.
1. Go beyond signifies bold and violent leaping over, breaking through fixed boundaries.
 2. Defraud--overreach, take advantage of.
 3. Brother
 - a) Could be any fellowman.
 - b) Do not cheat him by taking his wife.
 - c) Brother love, clan love, love enjoyed by members of a family.

- d) "It is incredible to see the fervor with which the people of that religion help each other in their wants. They spare nothing their first legislator (Jesus) has put it into their hearts that they are all brethren." (Lucian A.D. 120-200)
- e) So brother enhances the enormity of the crime.

- 4. Lord is the avenger and the apostles have warned.
- 5. Bruce said 3 reasons for purity:
 - a) Divine Judgement--now and later.
 - b) God's purpose in calling man is a moral one.
 - c) Impurity contemptuously ignores his indwelling Spirit whom God continually gives (timeless present) to the believers.

F. God's Call--holiness, not uncleanness.

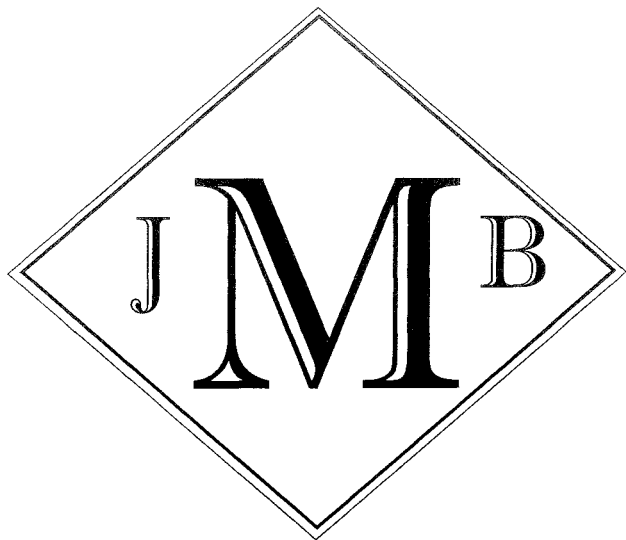
- 1. Calls man to honesty, holiness, new quality of integrity.
- 2. Body of redeemed to be used for holiness.
- 3. To do opposite is to despise God.

Lu. 10:16

- 4. He "sets at naught" God's will.
- 5. More we love Christ, the more we are able to care for fellow believers.
- 6. Members of the church will not take unfair advantage of each other.
- 7. Who wants to be guilty of despising God?

G. You have the gift of the Holy Spirit.

1. "Holy Spirit dwells in the heart of every Christian--uncleanness and Holy Spirit cannot dwell in us at the same time." (DeHoff)
2. Spirit came when we were baptized.
3. Also shows inspiration of the letter.
4. Giving of Holy Spirit marks the end to which you were called.



A DUTY YOU ALREADY KNOW

I Thess. 4:9-12

- I. This passage has strange things in it.
 - A. First it tells you a duty to do that you already know and are doing it.
 - B. Then it tells you to do more of it as though what you are doing is not enough.
 - C. It uses words that have a meaning not ordinarily assigned them.
 1. Study
 2. Quiet
 3. Honestly
 - D. It uses words almost exclusively here:
 1. Brotherly love
 2. Taught of God
- II. From this passage we learn much about Love.
 - A. Christianity champions "Brotherly Love".
 1. There is a sweet fellowship in a family where all are brothers.
 2. Term "brotherly love" though is seldom used.

Rom. 12:10

3. Philadelphia
4. Love as Christian to Christian--
closer than all mankind.
5. "He's a member of the church" vs
"he's my brother."
6. We have a common Faith
" Brother
" Interest
- B. About this Paul did not need to instruct them--they already know the duty.

1. They are God taught.
2. Odd compound.
3. O.T. taught love.

Lev. 19:18

4. Love expresses itself, but not told how here.

C. This love is proud.

1. Loved those in Macadonia.
2. Reaches out everywhere.
3. Not limited to those nearby.

D. This love you will know is to increase--
"more and more."

1. Not static--it grows.
2. We are to do better than we are doing.
3. No matter how far you have come you can still do more.
4. More love always a potential.
5. Duty thoroughly understood.

III. Now we move to enlarged and altered definitions.

A. Study to be Quiet.

1. Study
 - a) Be ambitious.
 - b) Used for idea of earnest striving.
 - c) Oxymoron--be ambitious not to be ambitious.
2. Quiet
 - a) Not a command to be silent, but warned against fanaticism.
 - b) Avoid unrest, live in peace.
 - c) Guard against restlessness.
 - d) Use restraint.
 - e) Satan is busy to disquiet & agitate us.

B. Do Your Own Business

1. Best way to be calm is to go about daily tasks.
2. Though we are concerned about each other be no busybody--mind your own business.
3. Don't let looking for the return of Christ make you neglectful of daily duties.
4. True Christian faithfully performs his worldly duties--boss not necessary to watch him to keep on job--Carthage clock never stolen.
5. Guard against meddling.
6. Philosophy: don't want the world with a fence around it vs all I ever wanted was the property that joined mine.
7. Do your own business and let others alone.

C. Work With Your Own Hands

1. Both Jesus and Paul did this.
2. Some so religious and absorbed in it forgot to work and you had to support them.
3. Many thought slaves do the manual labor.
4. Does this mean early church was blue collar?--if so, it's good.

Lu. 12:35

5. Do we teach our own children the value of work and provide for themselves?

6. Do we work--thus a contribution to society?
7. Religion does not make men idle or beggars.
8. "Does your daddy preach or work for a living?"
9. Work brings respect and independency.
10. Christianity does not lead to sloth or poverty.
11. "If ye can't be holy at our work, it is not worth taking the trouble to be holy at other times." (Denney)

Eph. 4:28

12. Saints must not neglect daily duties and be dependent on outsiders.
 12. It's commanded.
- D. Walk Honestly Toward Those Without.
1. Walk a manner of action.
 2. Honestly
 - a) Becomingly--bring no discredit.
 - b) Honorably, decent, respectful.
 - c) Seemly, Becomingly
 3. Without
 - a) Some within.
 - b) Some without--irrespective of world's liberality--some are lost. Society does not accept this-- "we are all brothers" is their compromising cry.
 - c) World judges Christians according to the discharge of their duties--not their psalm singing.
 - d) Remember though you will not please everybody.

- e) Our daily deportment can win the respect of outsiders--those not in the family.
 - f) Need winsome conduct.
 - g) Know for a certainty you are watched.
 - h) Be considerate of their opinions.
- E. Lack Nothing *Be dependent on no body*
1. Let no wrongdoing be charged *RSV* against you.
 2. Do not beg from others your welfare.
 3. Religion does not make men idle or beggars.
 4. Note the importance of industry and individual responsibility.
 5. Mendicancy *mendicant* is degrading.

Madison Street Bible Class - 3/1/00

Charlotte Ave. & Church St. BC - 3/8/00

Madison Ladies Bible Class - 3/13/00

LaVergne Bible Class - 3/15/00

Brentwood Hills BC - 3/26/00

New Union BC - 3/31/00

Joelton (BC) - 6/11/00

Berry's Chapel - 6/11/00

Locust Grove, KY (BC) - 6/25/00

Hillsboro - 7/16/00

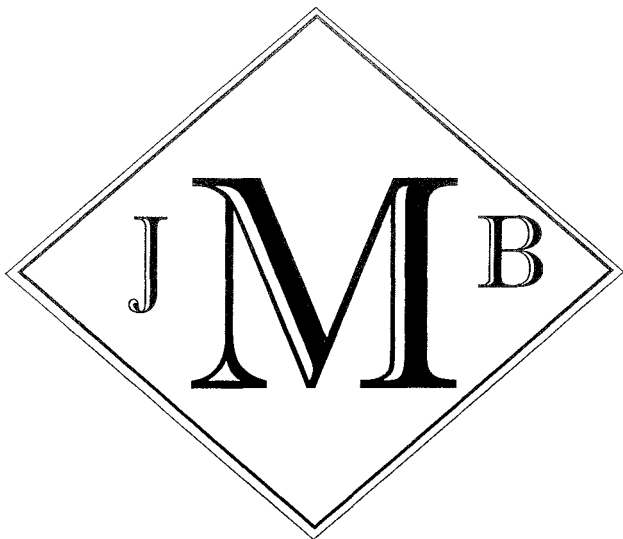
Silver Point - 7/26/00

Walter Hill, Murfreesboro, TN - 7/30/00 (BC)

Beltline, Decatur, AL - 7/30/00

Harpeth Hills - 8/9/00

Riverwood (BC) - 9/10/00



MY HOPE FOR TOMORROW

I Thess. 4:14

I. Paul has just said he does not want us distressed as those that have no hope.

A. Out of Christ - no hope.

B. In Christ - Comfort & Peace.

C. Can we see what he is saying.

I Thess. 4:14 "For if we believe that Jesus died and re

II. The Truth to Be Believed.

A. Knowing, Believing, Accepting Truth has a practical consequence for the Believer.

B. Parade's Coming.

1. Some got tired of waiting for it.

2. No believer dead or alive will miss it.

3. Our future hope not on speculation but firm confidence.

C. We believe that Jesus died.

1. Cardinal fact of the gospel.

Rom. 4:25 "Who was delivered for our offences, and v

I Pet. 3:18 "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins

2. Jesus = God saves!

3. Facts:

a.) Jesus must be God.

b.) Jesus must be man.

c.) Jesus must die substitutionary death.

d.) Jesus must make full satisfaction before God's throne.

e.) Diety, sinless humanity, expiatory death all necessary for my salvation.

4. Above all possible & only so thru Jesus.

5. Death used up all its power to put Jesus to death
6. His body took the sting, formed a vaccine - we no longer have to die.

D. He Rose.

1. 1st mention in all literature of the Resurrection of Jesus.
2. 20 yrs. after event - cardinal doctrine of primitive Chr.
3. We don't guess about what God can do - but cite what He has done.
4. Resurrection often cited.

Acts 2:24 "Whom God raised up, having loosed the p

Rom. 1:4 "And declared **to be the** Son of God with pow

I Cor. 15:4 "And that he was buried, and that he rose

Heb. 1:3 "Who being the brightness of his glory, and

Eph. 1:18-23 "The eyes of your understanding being e

5. Only here does Paul speak of resurrection as Jesus own act. Contrast c Rom. 6:4-6.

I Cor. 15:23 "But every man in his own order: Christ t

I Cor. 15:3-4 "For I delivered unto you first of all the

Acts 17:3 "Opening and alleging, that Christ must ne

E. Those That Slept are Brought.

1. Thots on sleep (Cemetery - sleeping place).
 - a.) Implies rest & later awakening.
 - b.) Death called sleep.

Matt. 27:52 "And the graves were opened; and many

Acts 7:60 "And he kneeled down, and cried with a lo

I Cor. 15:6 "After that, he was seen of above five hu

Rev. 14:13 "And I heard a voice from heaven saying t

- c.) Soul's awake to next world, asleep to this one.

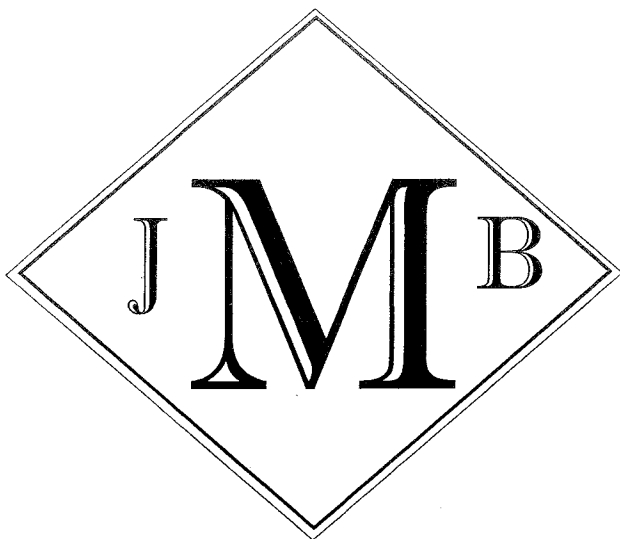
2. Bring c Him.

- a.) Work of Jesus ensures believers are always c Him.
- b.) Jesus is not lord of corpses.
- c.) All this possible thru Jesus.
- d.) Between Jesus & a Christian a union nothing can break - independent of time & overpasses death.
- e.) Whatever happens to head of body also happens to members. We are raised.
- f.) On "Bringing"
 - (1) Does it mean God will bring the righteous from Heaven to earth to bejudged?
 - (2) Rather, it means He's bringing the righteous into Heaven.

Heb. 2:10 "For it became him, for whom are all thing

Jn. 14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I

*Guy Dinning Funeral 2-26-78
West End Med. Ladies Bible class*



THE RETURN OF CHRIST

1 Thess. 4:13-18

I. What leads you to think about the Return of Christ?

A. Events?

B. Prayers?

C. Preaching? *Lord's Supper?*

D. What if you that dying before His return might make you miss its glory? Well, some did.

I Thess. 4:13 "But I would not have you to be ignorant"

II. Christians are not Promised Immunity, But are promised solutions.

A. Christian's cry!

1. From pain.

2. Disappointment.

3. Reverses.

4. Sorrow.

B. Christians die!

1. But they do in hope!

(a) Contrast this tombstone: "I was not, I became I am not, I care not."

(b) Sorrow for Chr. is alleviated by belief that the departed saint is happy - This alone makes Christianity worthwhile!

(c) At times we even weep for friends when death is their gain.

2. Paul decrys ignorance.

(a) Knowing & believing truth has a practical consequence for the believer.

(b) Ignorance is lamentable, therefore dispel it.

(c) Sorrow for dead Chr. can be obscured in hope.

C. State of the Dead.

1. He speaks of it as "sleep."

- (a) I realize my sleep is temporary - I expect to awaken!
- (b) I expect it to show restful effect & be of temporary nature.
- (c) My family doesn't cry when I go to sleep - they rejoice! *Tipton-Porter "Don't wake my Ozky"*
- (d) Scriptures say that from time to time saints fall asleep - idea of repetition shown.
- (e) Gentle slumber - hope to reawaken.
- (f) Cemetery = sleeping place.

2. Jesus transformed death to sleep.

- (a) Laid to rest by the Lord.
- (b) Afraid to die?
- (c) Heathen made great show of emotions at death - wail & cut self.

sketch (d) Euphemism for death ^{*Raises*} whole man - "Lazarus, come forth."

(e) You are not sorrowing as those who have no hope.

D. My Belief Affects My Actions.

V. 14 "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again"

- 1. We certainly do believe - it's a reality - basis of our hope.
- 2. We = companions - I'm not in this alone.
- 3. I believe in Jesus!
 - (a) Jesus = God save.
 - (b) Facts I must accept:
 - (1) Jesus is God, Diety.
 - (2) Jesus is man, sinless.
 - (3) Jesus died a substitutionary death.

(4) Jesus made full satisfaction before God's throne
Expiatory death.

III. There is Power in the Resurrection.

A. Cardinal to Gospel - Jesus died.

Rom. 4:25 "Who was delivered for our offences, and w

Eph. 5:25 "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ

1 Pet. 3:18 "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins,

B. Cardinal to Gospel - He Arose.

Quickened

Acts 2:24 "Whom God hath raised up, having loosed th

Rom. 1:4 "And declared to be the Son of God with pow

1 Cor. 15:3-4 "For I delivered unto you 1st & 2^d

Heb. 1:3 "Who being the brightness of his glory, and t

C. Cardinal to Gospel - I'm United C Christ.

1. Whatever He has, He shares!

2. Events are relivable.

Eph. 1:18-23 "The eyes of your understanding being er

1 Cor. 15:23 "But every man in his own order: Christ th

1 Cor. 15:3-4 "For I delivered unto you first of all that

3. Between Jesus & man there is a union nothing can

break - it is independent of time, it survives

death!

4. Victory is possible thru Jesus.

5. His death & resurrection earns this esteem c God.

6. Whatever happens to head of the body, happens

to members of the body!

Suffered & Risen again

Acts 17:3 "Opening and alleging, that Christ must nee

7. Work of Jesus insures believers they are always c

Him.

8. Jesus is not the Lord of corpses.

IV. The Lord Promises to Return to Complete His Work.

A. It involves all of us personally.

1. Death affects the individual - the 2nd coming the whole of humanity.
2. Grace does not forbid nor does Christianity extinguish our natural affections.
3. Rather it puts the pieces of the puzzle in place.

B. The Word is Dependable.

1. It is our foundation.
2. It is our authority.
3. We are not told how apostles became conscious of supernatural inspiration.

Acts 18:9 "Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by

I Cor. 7:10 "And unto the married I command, yet not

Gal. 1:12 "For I neither received it of man, neither w

Eph. 3:3-12 "How that by revelation he made known t

4. Direct claim for plenary inspiration - by way of divine revelation.

Matt. 24:34-35 "Verily I say unto you, This generatio

V. Events Accompanying the 2nd Coming.

A. The Lord Himself Shall Descend.

1. He's now in Heaven.

Acts 7:55 "But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looke

Heb. 1:3 "Who being the brightness of his glory, and

2. He comes actually & visibly.

Matt. 24:30 "And then shall appear the sign of the So

3. It marks the end.

Phil. 3:20-21 "For our conversation is in heaven; from

B. He's Accompanied.

1. With a shout.

(a) Used only here.

- (b) Call of an officer to troops. It is an address to a distinctive company.
- (c) Lipscomb says heard & understood only by saints.
- (d) Not inarticulate sound like thunder but articulated voice of Christ.

Jn. 5:28-29 "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming"

Jn. 11:43 "And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice"

- (e) Shout of a military commander that denotes urgency. *Time's No more - TRU = TRU*

- (f) Cry of excitement. *8-27th too*

- (g) Barnes says Lord didn't make it - only attended c it.

- (h) Wesley, "As a commander arouses his sleeping soldiers, the Lord calls us, his dead."

2. With the Voice of the Archangel.

- (a) Name not given.
- (b) Angels have a part to play.

Matt. 24:31 "And he shall send his angels with a great voice"

3. With the trump of God.

- (a) It's the last one. *Behold I show you a mystery*

I Cor. 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye"

- (b) Used in OT times.

4. With the Clouds.

Matt. 24:30 "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man"

26:64 "Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless"

Mk. 13:26 "And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds"

Lu. 14:62 "And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man"

Rev. 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him"

(a) Clouds lend their ethereal drapery to form the curtain of this glorious meeting.

(b) He ascended in them.

Acts 1:9 "And when he had spoken these things, while

(c) Returns in them. *they beheld - he was taken up*

Rev. 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye

(d) **They** are his chariots.

Ps. 104:8 "They go up by the mountains; they go down

Dan. 7:18 "But the saints of the most High shall take t

C. The Dead in Christ Shall Rise 1st.

1. Things take place in an instant.

I Cor. 15:51-52 "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We sh

Matt. 24:27 "For as the lightning cometh out of the ec

Lu. 17:24 "For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of

2. Dead have priority over living.

2 Cor. 5:8 "We are confident, I say, and willing rath

Phil. 1:23 "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a

3. Dead are raised. *desire to depart & 2 be c Christ*

(a) Extent of physical transformation not told Thess.

(b) Was Corinthians.

I Cor. 15:

(c) One whole generation never die but be transtate as Enoch was.

4. How does he raise the dead & also bring them with Him?

(a) Are they in two places at once?

(b) Dead ones are c Christ.

Lu. 23:43 "And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto

Phil. 1:21 "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is g

1:23 "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a

- (c) Bodies will be resurrected before living saints are changed.
- (d) Dead rise is plural word so all dead rise - good & bad.
- (e) Does he bring souls to unite c new bodies.
- (f) Didn't bring bodies but spirits of just men made perfect.

5. "Then" - how many resurrections.

- (a) Succession in time.
- (b) Afterward.
- (c) Next.
- (d) In order. *like Barber's cut? Bzskin Robins?*
- (e) Succession denoted so close to exclude idea of a long interval.

John 5:28-29 "Marvel not at this: for the hour is comi

- (f) No reference to 1st resurrection but only in opposition to "then" of V. 17.

D. Alive are Caught Up.

1. Alive & Remain are Caught.

- (a) Caught = snatch, forcible & sudden seizure.
- (b) Together = full association.

2. Meet the Lord in the Air.

- (a) Meet = to welcome a great person on his arrival. No hint as to how long we remain in air.
- (b) Will our bodies be such we have power of locomotion from place to place?
- (c) Nothing said about return to earth - Remains at a distance.
- (d) Comes to end as saints are snatched away.
- Thru c spaceship Earth

(e) Time element shows orderly occurrence.

(f) Could earth contain all sainted dead?

3. So shall we ever be c the Lord.

(a) To forever be c Him is everything.

(b) Man that doesn't rejoice at being forever c the Lord best re-examine his faith.

(c) Wherever He is, we are always there.

Jn. 12:26 "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and

14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will

VI. Time for Comfort & Decision.

A. Jesus draws - here & hereafter.

Jn. 12:32 "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will

Jn. 10:28-29 "And I give unto them eternal life: and they

B. Out of Christ -

1. No hope.

Eph. 2:12 "That at that time ye were without Christ, being

2. Others - not in church.

3. No heathen writings contain such hope.

C. Decision.

1. Are we ready

2. Only Chr. has hope.

Jn. 11:25 "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: whosoever believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: yea, whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"

3. We need to mutually encourage.

4. Why fear judgment if descending Judge is also your redeemer & friend?

5. Augustine said God left this day in doubt to give meaning to all other days.

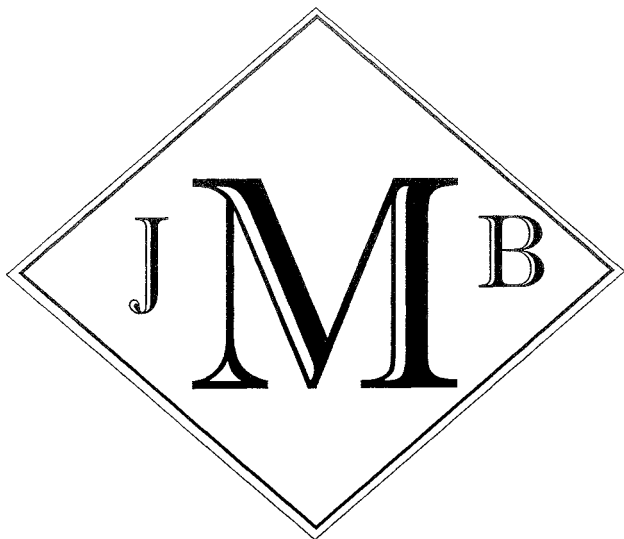
West End 11-8-75

South Grove 7-17-81
Dodge City, Kans., 11-20-75
Mid-South Training for
Service Series, Memphis
Calico, 3-15-81

THE RETURN OF CHRIST

9.

Neely's Bend (BC) - 3/31/02
Smithville, TN - 4/7/02



THAT COMING DAY

I Thess. 4:15-18

I. We now reach the climax of Paul's teaching on 2nd coming.

A. It's authentic (V. 15).

1. "This we say by the Word of the Lord".

2. This the foundation.

3. Word is authoritative.

4. We don't know how apostles became conscious of supernatural inspiration.

Acts 18:9 - Vision.

I Cor. 7:10 Command - Not I

Gal. 1:12 Rev.

Eph. 3:3 Rev.

5. Word claims divine revelation.

6. We bank on this authority.

B. Status Time Wise of Dead & Living to the Return of Christ.

1. The living, remaining, earth dwelling saints.

a.) Time will go on as usual.

b.) Men will be on the earth when Jesus returns.

2. Them which are asleep.

a.) Good way to speak of death = cemetery = sleeping place.

b.) Dead will have priority over living.

2 Cor. 5:8 "Willing to be absent

Phil. 1:23 "For I am in a strait

c.) Dead ones are c Christ.

Lu. 23:43 "Today shalt thou be c me

Phil. 1:21 "For me to live is Christ

d.) At second coming bodies will be resurrected before living saints are changed.

(1) Time element not as important as the fact it would be an orderly occurrence.

(2) Bring souls to united c Bodies?

(3) Doesn't bring bodies but spirits of just men made perfect - some say.

e.) We will not get before another in this journey.

f.) We must die in subjugation to Christ.

g.) Resurrection 1st before return.

h.) Prevent = precede in K.J.V.

II. The Return.

A. It shall be the Lord Himself.

1. Does not send another.

2. Openly comes.

3. Lord now in Heaven.

Acts 7:55 Saw the glory of the Lord & Jesus.

Heb. 1:3 "Who being the brightness of his glory, and

4. Actual, visible return.

B. Sounds.

1. With a shout.

a.) Used only here.

b.) Like military commands denotes urgency.

c.) Cry of excitement, urging.

d.) Lord didn't make shout - only attended to it.

e.) Like a commander arousing sleeping soldiers; the Lord calls up the dead.

f.) Like shout soldiers make to encourage one another.

g.) Command of one in authority - a call - a summons like in battle.

h.) Used of officer to troop - address to a distinctive company - not universal nor indiscriminate. Heard by saints.

2. Voice of the archangel.

a.) Angels interested in all about Christ.

b.) Messengers happy over his return.

c.) Do not know the time of it.

d.) John proclaimed 1st coming - angels 2nd. They were at his birth saying; not singing.

Matt. 24:31 "And he shall send his angels with a great

Heb. 1:14 "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent for

3. Trump of God.

a.) Not inarticulate sound like thunder but articulate voice of Christ.

Jn. 5:28-29 "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming

Jn. 11:43 "And when he thus had spoken, he cried with

b.) Last trump.

I Cor. 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye

c.) End one.

Phil. 3:20-21 "For our conversation is in heaven; from

C. Dead in Christ Shall Rise.

1. Word is plural - then why not both dead good & evil to rise?

Jn. 5:28-29 "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming

D. Alive Caught up c Them in the Clouds to Meet the Lord in the Air.

1. Then

(a) Succession in time.

(b) Afterward, next, in order.

(c) Succession denoted so close to exclude idea of a long interval.

2. Caught.

(a) Snatch.

(b) Forcible sudden seizure.

(c) Jesus draws.

Jn. 12:32 "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

Jn. 10:28-29 "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man snatch them out of my hand."

(d) Extent of physical transformation not told.

(e) Caught up in great number.

3. Clouds associated c return.

Matt. 24:30 "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man."

26:64 "Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless, I say unto thee, Hereafter thou shalt see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of the Father, and coming with the clouds of heaven."

Mk. 13:26 "And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

Lu. 14:62 "And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of the Father, and coming with the clouds of heaven."

Rev. 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they which pierced him: and of the nations shall they be vexed, and they shall wail because of him: and they shall be vexed because of him."

(a) Clouds lend their ethereal draping to form the

curtain of this glorious meeting.

(b) Clouds received him up 1st time.

Acts 1:9-11 "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight: and as they looked steadfastly towards heaven, he went up, and the cloud covered him: and, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said unto them, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye here looking up into heaven? Jesus himself is gone up into heaven, but he will come again in the same manner as ye saw him go up into heaven."

Ps. 104:8 "They go up by the mountains; they go down into the valleys, to the place which we have appointed for them, because they have so done."

Dan. 7:18 "But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and shall possess the kingdom forever and ever."

Matt. 24:30 "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man."

Heb. 13:1 "Let brotherly love continue."

4. Air.

a.) Nothing said about Lord returning to earth.

b.) Earth comes to an end after saints snatched away.

c.) Meet = welcome of a great person on his arrival.

d.) Remains a distance from the earth.

e.) Earth not big enuf to contain all the resurrected dead.

f.) No hint as to how long they remain in air - long enuf to complete the judgement.

g.) Seat fixed somewhere in air so all could see him

h.) Some say wicked raised in corruptible bodies & no change in living wicked.

I Cor. 15:22 "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ

23 "But every man in his own order: Christ first

48 "As is the earthy, such are they also that

49 "And as we have borne the image of the

Phil. 3:21 "Who shall change our vile body, that it may

Dan. 12:3 "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness

Matt. 13:43 "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun

Lu. 20:36 "Neither can they die any more: for they are

Rom. 8:19 "For the earnest expectation of the creature

21 "Because the creature itself also shall be delivered

I Cor. 15:50 "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and

i.) Say wicked stay on earth & are burned up.

Rev. 21:8 "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the

2 Thess. 1:7 "And to you who are troubled rest with us

k.) Those who made bodies their gods are raised

that way only to see them perish.

l.) We know little about nature of resurrected body

m.) All takes place in an instance.

I Cor. 15:51-52 "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall

Matt. 24:27 "For as the lightning cometh out of the east

Lu. 17:24 "For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the

5. Ever be c the Lord.

- a.) Anyone who does not rejoice in this needs to re-examine his faith.
 - b.) Only Chr. knows hope of life.
- Jn. 11:25 "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection,
- c.) Why fear judgement if descending Judge is also your redeemer & friend?
 - d.) Wherever it is, we are always c the Lord.
- Jn. 12:26 "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and
14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will
e.) Together = full association, endless fellowship.
- f.) This is everything.
- g.) In this scene all of us personally involved.

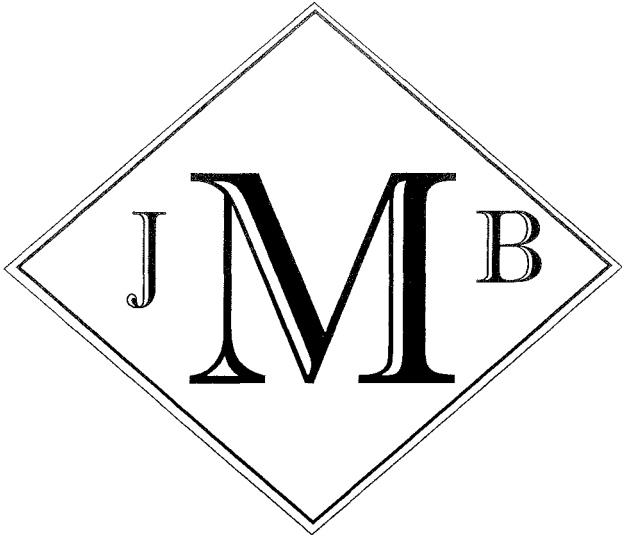
6. Comfort one another.

 - a.) Need to mutually encourage.
 - b.) No heathen writings have hope like this.

7. Closing qts.

 - a.) Are we ready for death or 2nd coming?
 - b.) Is there a 2nd chance?
 - c.) What better news can we share?

West End Med. Ladies Bible Class 3-8-78



THE RELATIONSHIP NECESSARY OF THE CHURCH TO HER ELDERS

I Thess. 5:12-13

- I. In this Thess. paragraph we have 3 relationships:
 - A. To those over us.
 - B. To those equal to us.
 - C. To those beneath us.

II. Today we study the relationship of the church to the elders & vice versa.

I Thess. 5:12-13 "And we beseech you, brethren, to

A. "And we beseech you, Brethren."

1. 1st New Test. letter remember.

2. Shows very simple organization of early church.

(a) No clergy or laity.

(b) Tho different stations are recognized, it's still brethren. *From Apostles to Apostates still Brethren*

(c) Each church c its own elders & each eldership under the Lord.

3. "Beseech" is interesting. Word of deep emotion.

B. To know them that labor among you.

1. Define know.

(a) Know their true character.

(b) Knowing such to respect their worth.

(c) In the church we are acquainted & we need enough elders to see that we are known.

(d) Not cold or indifferent to them.

(e) Be personally acquainted--he's your confidant & counsellor.

(f) Do not regard him as a stranger.

2. 3 terms describe elders work.

(a) Labor among you.

(b) Over you.

(c) Admonish you.

C. An elder "labors."

1. It means "wearisome toil."

2. Not a title of honor but self denying work.

3. All labor, however--not just elders.

4. He labors & leads. Lead comes from "those who stand in front."

5. Leadership necessary, else we fail.

Ps. 105:15 "Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do

6. Word for labor is one that means continuous action.

D. Over you.

1. Church must have leaders.

2. Doesn't identify who this "over you" describes.

3. Means to preside, superintend.

4. Same word used in:

1 Tim. 3:4 "One that ruleth well his own house, havin

5 "(For if a man know not how to rule his own

12 "Let the deacons be the husbands of one wi

1 Tim. 5:17 "Let the elders that rule well be counted v

5. Elders do this work.

Acts 20:17 "And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and

Titus 1:5 "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou

Phil. 1:1 "Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus C

6. His work, however, can never relieve me of mine


7. His authority is solely "in the Lord."

(a) Shows nature of their appointment.

(b) Shows they are to give guidance.

(c) Shows they are subject to Jesus.

(d) Orders come from Him--this limits their authority--they are not a legislative body.

8. Remember  chain of command limits humblest saint his access to God tho.

E. Admonish you.

1. Means "Those who do not keep rank."

2. Soldier out of step throws whole army in disarray

3. It's a strong word - they put us in mind, warn.

4. Lipscomb says it's a severe word, tells me rightly what's expected of me.

5. Means to put sense in heads of people.

6. He gives brotherly warning & counsel.

7. We see elders duties:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----|--------------|
| (a) Rule | | (a) Tilling |
| (b) Teach | or | (b) Leading |
| (c) Care for the people | | (c) Training |

F. The led are to love the leaders.

V. 13 "And to esteem them very highly

1. Interesting words:

- (a) Esteem.
- (b) Very highly.
- (c) Love.

2. Esteem.

3. Very highly.

- (a) From over - out of - measure.
- (b) Overflow abounds.
- (c) Very strong word.

4. Love - why?

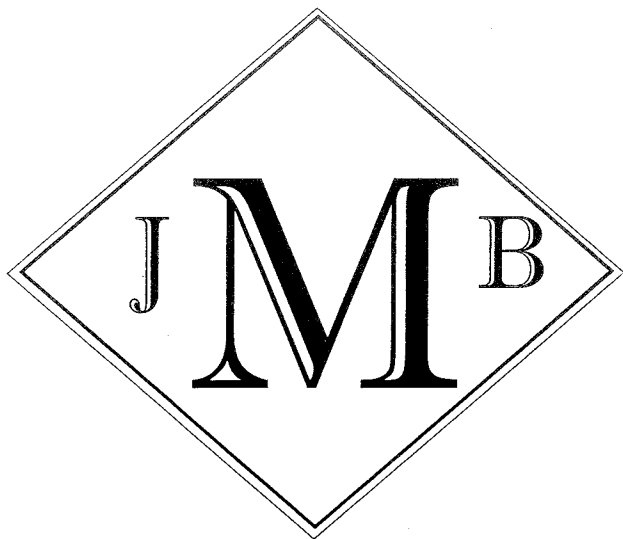
- (a) Love them not because of the office but because of the work they do.

- (b) Love them because they work & they are trying to save me from ruin.
- (c) Their work injures no man - helps all.
- (d) We are to esteem - obey - honor.
- (e) But they've earned it! Not sentiment but justly due them.
- (f) Blackwelder, "Character & service win love not their official position."
- (g) "Because of work's sake" is reason for our love - it's in accusative case.

G. And be at peace among yourselves.

- 1. Love governs all our relationship.
- 2. Peace is cultivated.
- 3. Discord must not be sown between leader & follower.

West End 6-9-74



THE EXAMPLE OF GOODNESS

I Thess. 5:16-

- I. For those of us outside the family, what was the first thought of memory relative to Lutie C. Allen you had when you learned of her passing?
 - A. My mind was flooded with good things - joy, goodness, delightfulness being in the ascendancy.
 - B. Joy and patience had to be it when you think of the two mischievous boys she reared!
 1. It fits her character--she rightfully could have been Elizabeth as well as Lutie--a name I never heard worn except by her.
 2. When she named that second son Chancellor I was also bewildered until I knew why as she was the daughter of William Leander and Susie--8/15/10.
 - a) Granddaughter of William Floyd C. who fought in the Georgia Regiment, Co.A under Robert E. Lee from 1861 to a part of Lee's 30,000 at Appomattox April '65.
 - b) To that granddad devoted.
- II. These were some of the loves of her life--Stanley Allen first always.

- A. Met in a South Carolina boarding house.
- B. Married 10/19/35 - same day and month of her passing. Clyde Hale and West End.
- C. He served as deacon and elder after birth of Stan and Chance.
 - 1. Stan for his dad.
 - 2. Chance for his mother, surely not call him Lutie???
- D. Nashville since 1944.
 - 1. Jennie Allen with insurance.
 - 2. Margaret Allen, teacher and librarian.
 - 3. Loved her boys even if they burned the family barn.
- E. Half-sister Allen and church.
 - 1. Sunday School and VBS as well as PTA.
 - 2. Elder's wife--openness of Stanley--hate to be a preacher, never paid more than least paid elder.
 - 3. Hedge trimming brought death at driveway.
 - 4. Twin caskets at West End--widow since 1975.
 - 5. Traveled overseas.
 - 6. Singer at hospital vs. moan.
- F. Service
 - 1. Never betrayed a confidence.
 - 2. Never faulted a decision.

3. Never gave room for criticism.
4. Never complained about life's load.

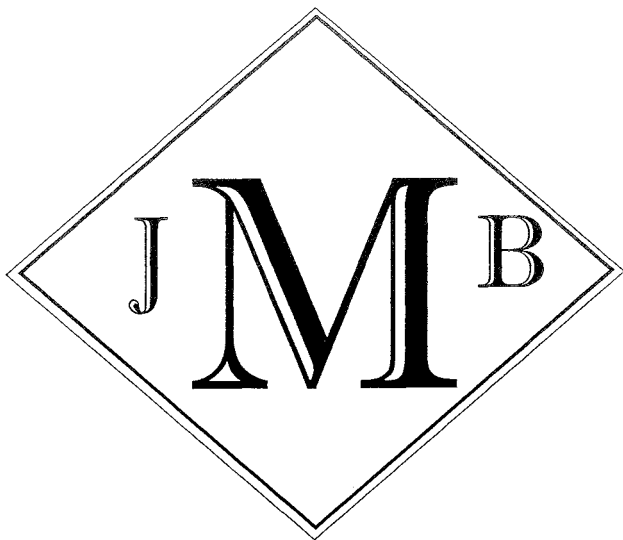
III. If God's grace enveloped anyone, surely
Lutie.

A. Her part. I Thess. 5:16-18

1. V-16 Rejoice evermore.
2. V-17 Pray without ceasing.
3. V-18 In everything give thanks.
This is the will of God in
Christ.

B. God's part.

1. V-23 Sanctify you wholly.
2. V-23 Whole spirit, soul, body
preserved.
3. V-23 Blameless unto the coming
of our Lord Jesus Christ.
4. V-24 Faithful is he that called
you who also will do it.



THREE STANDING ORDERS OF THE CHURCH

I Thess. 5:16-18

I. Christ ought to make a difference in our lives.

A. Paul's 1st letter to Thess. sought to show this.

B. He gave them in closing his letter 3 duties.

I Thess. 5:16-18 "Rejoice evermore. Pray w/o ceasing"

1. Sharp staccato commands.

2. Who doesn't need to obey

II. Rejoice Evermore.

A. Attitude of Life.

1. Not dependent on outward circumstances else how could Paul ever rejoice?

2. Our joy is in the Lord & of Him.

Phil. 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I

Jn. 17:13 "And now come I to thee; and these things

3. It is a gift of God. *have my joy fulfilled in themselves*
Rom. 15:13 "Now the God of hope fill you with joy

4. A mark of the Kingdom.

Rom. 14:17 "For the Kingdom of God is not meat

5. Fruit of the Spirit.

Gal. 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy

6. Not a giddy job

2) Pilot - Good & Bad - We're lost, but making ^{good time}

b) DR. on leave

III. Pray w/o ceasing. - Walt Disney clip

A. What does this mean?

1. Have regular or constant season of prayer?

- 2. Have regular spirit of prayer
- 3. What are enemies of prayer ?

- (a) Gaiety.
- (b) Vanity.
- (c) Self effeciency.
- (d) Reading.
- (e) Late hours.
- (f) Company.

4. Man can't pray all the time but he can realize constantly God's presence.

5. Prayer helps you:

- (a) Overcome temptation.
Mk. 14:38 "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter int
- (b) Keep heart.
Lu. 18:1 "And he spake a parable unto them to t

6. Like rejoicing, prayer too is unending.

Matt. 7:7-8 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek

7. Sin not to pray.

I Sam. 12:23 "Moreover as for me, God forbid that I s

Ps. 65:2 "O thou that answereth prayer" - God's name

III. In Every Thing Give Thanks.

A. Gratitude is necessary.

- 1. Can you always see something for which you are thankful ?
- 2. It's God's will we be grateful.
- 3. Is ingratitude a sin ?

Rom. 1:21 "Because that, when they knew God, they

- 4. We can thank God in adversity that it's not always that way.

IV. These things are the will of God. *to do thy will*
 Heb. 10:7 "Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volun
 Rom. 12:2 "And be not conformed to this world: b
 Jn. 4:34 "Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to d
 Jn. 17:4 "I have glorified thee on the earth: I h

A. They are in Christ.

- 1. Christ - Anointed - *Anointed*
- 2. Jesus - God saves.

B. Christ gives the dynamic to carry out His (God's) will.

Next End 6-9-74

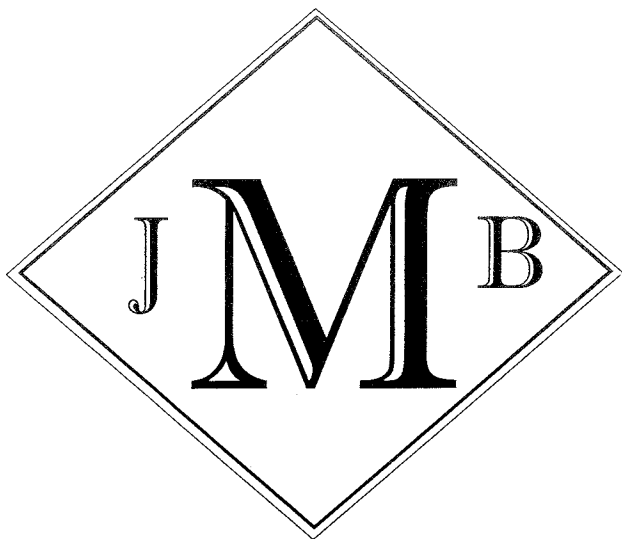
”

A prayer implies a promise as well as a request; at the highest level, prayer not only is supplication for strength and guidance, but also becomes an affirmation of life and thus a reverent praise of God. —
WALT DISNEY

Page 243

A noted dr has listed

several emotions which produce disease in human beings. Heading the list is fear, followed by frustration, rage, resentment, hatred, jealousy, envy, self-centeredness, and ambition. The one and only antidote that can save men from these ... is love.
— *Cadle Call.*



A WAY THAT'S RIGHT AND CAN'T BE
WRONG I Thess. 5:21

- I. Repeatedly we hear used the expression "The distinctiveness of our plea."
 - A. This alone says some.
 1. The plea is not universally advanced.
 2. There is something different in it from that heard elsewhere.
 3. Our is equated with church of Christ.
 4. It takes such compulsion it is a plea!
 - B. Yet how would identify it? What is it that is distinctively different?
 1. Jesse Sewell said it like this, "Let other be right, let others be wrong; the church of Christ presents a plea that is right and cannot be wrong."
 2. How could 2 million folk be right and laugh at one man in Rome for saying he always is?
 3. Then it isn't in the people but in the standard that "Infallibility" is found.
 4. Thus the distinct plea--take the Bible
 - (a) Melvin Wise said here in a sermon 4 kinds of authority:
 - (1) Voice of the church--RC
 - (2) Voice of ecclestical decisions of men (delegates at conferences)
 - (3) Voice of conscience

2/
(4) Voice of Christ and His word
Matt. 28:18 *"All power is given unto me"*
Heb. 1:1-3 *"Do what I say, not what I look like"*
I Cor. 14:37 "Let him acknowledge the
Isa. 8:20 "To the law and to the test
I Pet. 4:11 "If any man speak let him

II. Does the Bible welcome this type of respect? *test, is sure* *convict*
Ps. 19:7 "The law of Jehovah is perfect, rest
Rom. 1:16 "I am not ashamed of the
Jn. 17:20 "Neither pray I for these alone
Jn. 20:31 "But these are written
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Jn. 8:31-32 "If ye abide in my word, then
James 1:21 "Receive with meekness the
II Tim. 3:16-17 *"All scripture is given by*

A. The Bible is God's Word'

1. All divine teaching is there
2. "All people can't understand it alike"
 - (a) Did God intend them to?
 - (b) If He does intend--did He fail in His purpose
 - (c) If above is true is the Bible truly a "revelation"?

B. Should we reject any encroachment?

1. Clip on Supreme Court and Prayer.

III. Will this principle work? Let's try it?

A. Can we unite on a name?

1. Nothing in a name?

(a) To Methodist "I will not call you a Baptist" --OK?

(b) True visa versa

(c) To both "I will not call you a Christian" offended --name is something

(d) Old lady shouted "Glory to Beelzebub when heard nothing in a name

(e) What if we took saint, disciple, Christian --all Bible names would be right or wrong?

B. Try it with baptism

Mk. 16:16 "He that believeth and is baptised

Heb. 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible

Lu. 24:46-47 "And he said unto them, thus it

Lu. 13:3 "I tell you nay, but, except ye repent

Acts 17:30 "And at the times of this ignorance

Matt. 28:19 "Go ye therefore, and preach

Matt. 28:20 "Teaching them to observe all

Rom. 6:3-4 "Know ye not that so many of us

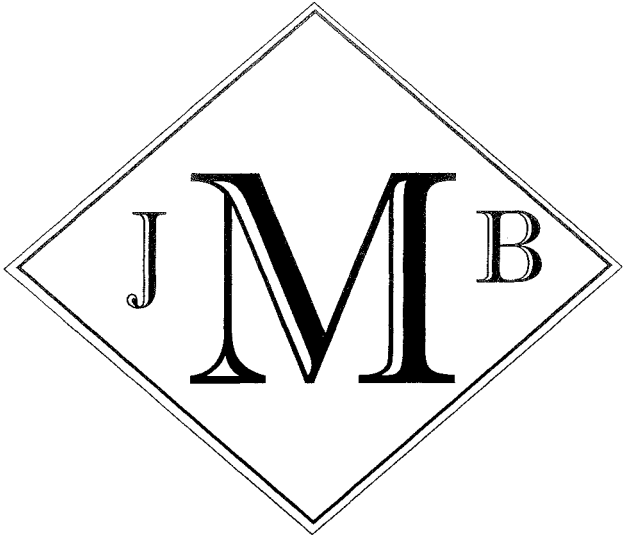
Col. 2:12 "Buried with him in baptism where

1. Do you know any verse in the Bible about baptism not in some way related to salvation?

2. Time clip on baptism.

x/ IV. It seems to me to be a safe course to ask folk to just follow the Bible trusting the grace of God.

West End 7/14/68



WHEN WE COME DOWN THE MOUNTAIN

1 Thess. 5:14-22

- I. We have glowing experiences at retreats, encampments, lectureships, and seminars - but what happens when we come down off the mountain?
 - A. Sag?
 - B. All others inferior?
 - C. Slumber til next year?
- II. No - let's in a practical way go to the day to day tasks.
Face Real World - Grave adv. #1
- III. I Thess. 5 assigns some blessed duties - we examine some.
 - A. Warn them that are Unruly.
 1. Wherever I am be aware of God and live in His knowledgeable presence.
 2. All the earlier gifts may be electrifying but I have a constant sober responsibility to behave myself and expect the same of you.
 3. This passage says every Christian is to warn each other Christian who lives contrary to gospel.
 - a) Do you feel a responsibility for your fellow Christians?
 - b) Are not all shepherds?

 - c) Can army function if ranks are broken?" Tell about Bill Wade being exposed by line because he opposed liquor.

- d) "Warn" a word of continual, perpetual action - you are to continually do it.
- e) Ward calls it "persuasion with authority."
(Fishing trip - fish like all that beer?) - #1 1/4

B. Comfort Feeble Minded

1. Define

- a) Dispirited
- b) Downcast
- c) Fainthearted
- d) Little souled
- e) Quitters
- f) Forsaken wife of Isa. 54:6 same as fainthearted - almost given up!

2. Comfort

- a) Encourage
- b) Console

3. Church has crew and sometimes just passengers - along for the ride.

C. Support the Weak

1. Support

- a) Keep close to.
- b) Church members not at their posts give bad impression to those without - especially if they are asking for service rather than giving it.
Neil translates "put your arm around the weak."

- c) Help best given in personal interest.
- d) Don't let one suffer alone -
Delia Hall wants sunshine.

2. Weak

a) Defined

- (1) Strengthless
- (2) Uncertain

b) Why?

- (1) Morally - tempted to impurity.
- (2) Ignorance of word.
- (3) Betrayed by man.
(Bridge Tournament - #1 1/2)
- (4) Over scrupulous.
- (5) Fail to see liberties in Christ.
- (6) Lack courage to face criticism.
- (7) Dread persecution.
- (8) Could fail.

Rom 15:1 "Now we that are strong"

- (9) What did rest of army do? #2

D. Patient Toward All Men

- 1. You've a fund of experiences which should be the property of the church (Barnes)
- 2. Be "long spirited".
- 3. Clip on lady & fishing - #3.

E. Render no Evil - Follow All Good

- 1. Render - pay back.
 - a) No vengeance - coals of fire.

1 Pet. 2:21-23

- b) Pay in different coin.

2. Evil - the active opposition of good - not just bad - but effort to make you do evil.
3. Protect self but inflict no harm on others.
4. Universal rule - to those in & out of church. Gas 87¢ - #4
5. Retaliation & resentment out!
 - a) Clip on Tranquilizers - #5
 - b) Lost purse \$600 - #6
6. We cannot do what harms others.
7. Good
 - a) Note ever - always!

- Acts. 10:38 - Went about doing
- b) Follow - pursue earnestly.
 - c) Robertson "Keep up the chase after good."
 - d) Always - no exceptions.
 - e) Spirit of peace that helps another to fuller life.
 - f) Call boy friend to hang up - #7

F. Rejoice, Pray, Thank, Quench Not
(Shoe salesman) - #8

G. Despise not Prophesying

1. Right after Quench Not
 - a) Don't put out the fire.
 - b) Don't extinguish the Spirit.
 - c) Stir up - cause to burn -
2 Tim. 1:6
 - d) No man has more religion than he intends to.

2. Prophesying

a) Preaching

(1) What's more important.

(2) This is constant - set forth God's truth in the church.

(3) Nothing has the power of preaching.

(4) If truth preached, it helps every hearer.

b) Love the forthteller.

3. Prove

a) Test like assayer

b) Christianity does not discourage reason.

c) Free inquiry - appeal to reason.

d) No matter who says it - examine it.

e) House Protected by Poverty.

4. Hold - hold down, firmly.

a) Embrace - hold fast.

b) Don't throw away.

c) Hold - no matter who opposes.

5. 4 imperatives: admonish, encourage, hold, be patient.

6. Follow Jesus

1 Cor. 11:1 "Be ye followers of me as I"

Fireside Chats, Blue Ridge Encampment-6/23/88

120 In Memoriam

MEMORIAL DAY

Mon., May 30th

One day a year is set aside to pay tribute to the memory of the departed - Memorial Day. This year, honor your deceased loved ones with a special In Memoriam Tribute in The Tennessean & Nashville Banner Classified sections.

To be a part of our Memorial Day Tribute, please call us with your special message.

Our offices are open Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Deadline for this section is Wednesday, May 25th, 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$2.00 per square line.

CLASSIFIED: 254-1031

125 Cemetery Lots

HERMITAGE MEMORIAL GARDENS— Choice lots in Good Shepherd, in center of Gardens. \$400 each. 459-7484.

WOODLAWN— Garden of Prophecy, great location, quiet neighbors, close to shopping, 4 graves, lot 53-D. \$650 each. Call today. 832-7270. Great gift! Avoid the holiday rush!

WOODLAWN— Companion crypts (2), \$900 credit toward caskets. Save \$1,000. \$3500. 373-4971

3 GRAVE LOTS—MT. OLIVE
Garden Of The Gospel
\$1000 for all 3. 876-2091

A puzzled small girl watched a party of anglers putting off in their boat. "But, mummy," she asked, "do the fishes like all that beer?" — *Ideas For Better Living*, Citizens & Southern National Bank.

Vol. 52, No. 22

It is well known that tournament bridge is a fiercely competitive game and that sometimes there are difficult flareups between partners. At a nat'l tournament in the West there was an outburst when the partners happened to be husband and wife, and it ended with the man abruptly walking away from the table. An opponent turned to the man's partner and asked: "Is that your husband?"

He received the immediate reply: "Of course it is. You don't think I'd be living in sin with a man like that, do you?" — *American Opinion*, 10-69.

The proud father was telling his young son of his many adventures and battles and escapades during the great war. The boy listened with great interest and increasing awe. Finally he managed to ask: "But what did the rest of the army do?"

c

#12

A wife was telling her neighbor about her fishing trip with her husband. "I did everything wrong on the trip. I talked too loud, made too much noise, I used the wrong bait, I reeled in too soon, and I caught more fish than he did."

i

#13
Blue Ridge

Quote

March 9.

A house in National City, Calif.
This House Is Protected By Poverty — Nothing Worth Stealing.

As the "trusty" was about to leave, the warden called him back into the office.

"Smitty," he said, "I've been in charge of this prison for ten years and I think it calls for a celebration. What kind of a party do you think the boys would like?"

Smitty's reply was instantaneous.

"Open house, sir," he said. — F G KERNAN.

#14

m

A motorist saw a sign on a service station, "Last chance for 28c gas. State line one mile." He stopped, had his tank filled, then asked: "How much is gas across the line?" "Twenty-two cents," replied the attendant. — HERBERT V PROCHNOW and HERBERT V PROCHNOW JR, *The Successful Toastmaster* (Harper & Row).

n

“ ”

At the conclusion of a two-year foundation study, the safety expert told his findings: “There may be some uncertainties in a few areas,” he reported, “but one thing is proved conclusively — automobiles are not afraid of people.” — *Wall St Jnl.*

b

“ ”

Miss Blink: “So you’ve given up taking tranquilizers?”

Miss Blank: “Yes, I found myself being pleasant to people I shouldn’t even speak to.” — *Cheer.*

c

Page 234 *Quote* _____

YOU CAN USE

Janowitz was living it up at a senior citizens’ dance when he discovered he had lost his wallet containing \$600. #6

“Excuse me,” he announced, standing on a chair, “but I lost my wallet with \$600 in it. To the person who finds it, I will give \$50.”

A voice from the rear shouted, “I’ll give \$75.”

d *Also Kidney*

#18

X

The young girl smiled sweetly at the long line as she stepped into the phone booth. "Don't worry," she said, "I just want to hang up on him."

#17

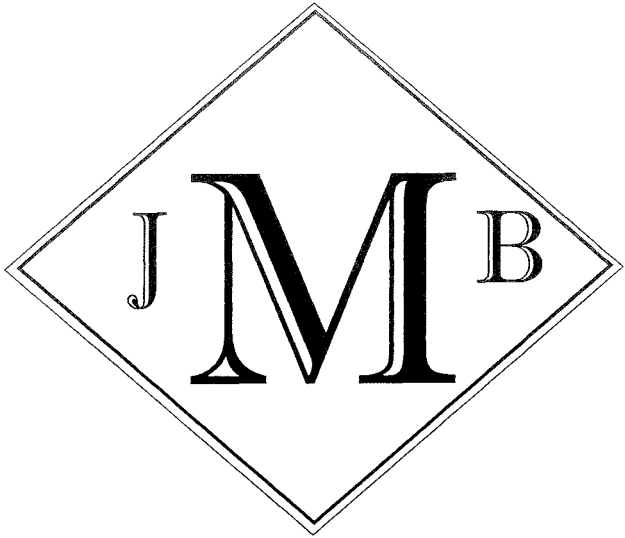
A True Salesman!

A woman walked into the shoe store, tried on a dozen pair of shoes without finding a proper fit. Finally the bored salesman told her: "Madam, we cannot fit you because one of your feet is larger than the other."

The woman stalked out of the store without buying.

In the next store, the fitting proved equally difficult. Finally the smiling assistant explained: "Madam, did you know that one of your feet is smaller than the other?"

The woman left the store happily with three new pair of shoes under her arm.



SANCTIFIED - BLAMELESS

1 Thess. 5:23

1. After giving many instructions - 18 in the last listing Paul then turns to prayer.

A. God is addressed.

B. God is the source of Peace.

1. He's source of all power.

2. Peace frequently use.

Rom. 15:33 "Now the God of peace be with you all."

16:20 "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan"

Phil. 4:9 "Those things, which ye have both learned,"

2 Cor. 13:11 "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect"

2 Thess. 3:16 "Now the Lord of peace himself give you"

Col. 3:15 "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts"

3. God seeks to build a community on this earth that follows His laws.

C. God can sanctify wholly.

1. Purify internally by reformation of soul.

2. Holy Spirit does not eradicate or suppress but in habits.

3. God does it thru the word.

a.) Elects 1 Pet. 1:2.

b.) Christ quickens Rom. 6:11.

c.) HS sanctifies Rom. 15:16.

4. Process seen in perspective & so contemplates as a complete one.

5. You is plural - includes every reader.

D. He Can Preserve You Blameless.

1. It's the whole man - earlier he'd wanted to be "wholly sanctified."

- a.) Thru out - end to end - nothing escapes.
 - b.) Thru & thru - whole, rare word.
2. Every aspect of life is under His control.
3. Speaks of body, soul, & spirit. Trichotomist?
- a.) Soul = seat of affection, desire, emotion, will.
 - 1.) Rational & immortal psyche.
 - 2.) Mind.
 - b.) Body = tabernacle of soul.
 - 1.) Man's material & immaterial.
 - 2.) 3 parts to whole personality.
 - 3.) Animal life.
 - 4.) Physical.
 - c.) Spirit.
 - 1.) Spirit gives God conscienceness.
 - 2.) Soul gives self conscienceness.
 - 3.) Body gives sense conscienceness.
 - 4.) Highest nature, conscience, responsibility, unaffected by death.
 - 5.) Like God man's a trinity.
 - 6.) Spiritual.
 - 7.) Lipscomb says Bible makes no distinction between soul & spirit.
4. Blameless.
- a.) No cause of censure.
 - b.) No guilt for ostrich to leave eggs unattended - they are not accountable.
 - c.) For man to do so would involve guilt.
- Heb. 13:18 "Pray for us: for we trust we have a good

