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McInteer Sermon Outlines - Timothy, 2

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FROM START TO FINISH:
MESSAGE IS THE SAME--LIFE!

2 Timothy 1:1-2

- I. In our day of change--men change parties, change wives, change jobs, change allegiances--isn't it great to see one who stuck it out from start to finish.
 - A. Not only was Paul a faithful Christian to the very last--
 - B. So also was his message unchanged--Life!
 1. It is a fragrant note in the opening of his last letter.
 2. It's informative to us as to what is the purpose of the gospel.
 3. So we examine his salutation of his last letter.
- II. See 1st the writer: Paul.
 - A. Custom to place name at start of letter--we at close.
 1. Last addressed to Timothy.
 2. Surely nothing could bring Timothy more joy than to hear from Paul.
 3. Wonderful farewell letter begins with his name.
 4. We've come to feel we know Paul, huh? His traits familiar to you.
 5. Word of God will not spread if preacher despised--keep the name clean.
 - B. An Apostle.
 1. It intimates authority.
 2. It bespeaks dignity.
 3. In face of death he remembers he's the chosen vessel.

FDR ok
Hopkins

4. Moule points out how Christianity develops men to the full. Sainthood under Hindus is the dropping of manhood.
5. Barclay points out:
To Paul his apostleship an honor.
To Paul his apostleship a responsibility.
To Paul his apostleship a privilege.
6. "Once more, old & worn out, close to the grave, in persecutor's final grasp, he calls himself his old title and rests all his weariness on it."
(Moule)
7. He's an apostle to the end--no more governing, church planting, just farewell and die.
8. Final title brings serene dignity.
9. Of Jesus Christ:
 - a) No association equal to this.
 - b) No task so noble as bringing one to Jesus.
 - c) No emphasis equally--he'll say it 3 times in 2 verses.

C. Apostle by the Will of God.

1. His by divine call.
2. God called the apostles.
3. Typical of him to so ascribe his apostleship.
4. His not by:
Printed verse
 - a) Will of men.
 - b) Nor by other apostles.
 - c) Nor his own will.
 - d) Nor via personal merit.

- 5. "Will" from word desire which comes from one's emotional nature.
- 6. "Apart from any work or merit on his own God chose him for the work, it was the sovereign will which chose him as an apostle." (D. Lipscomb)
- 7. It's a settled fact, Paul belongs to another; therefore, decisions are easily made.
- 8. He knew he was of Christ thus free from fatigue of personal ambition.

D. The purpose--the promise of Life which is in Christ Jesus.

- 1. Gist of gospel--Promise of Life.
- 2. In Christ is life indeed & that is real life.
- 3. He wanted to carry out this great blessing in human salvation--one of reasons we respect doctors--life!
- 4. His task: make promise known & invite men to share it.
- 5. This promise would add nerve to Timothy.
- 6. This was the end for which his office was given him. Promise of life was end of all previous commands & promises God had made.
- 8. In a day of death Paul talks about life.
- 9. Man becomes immortal with God!
- 10. Gospel is life in Jesus.
- 11. "For the Promise of Life" his motto.

Carnivals tell us here →

Go back men vs preachers (Wesleyan style)

In the long run men hit only what they aim at. Henry & Thoreau

12. Whole purpose: to make known, publish abroad the promise of eternal life.
13. Under threat of death he writes about life--one that knows no end.

E. It's in Christ Jesus.

1. Life is in the person of the Redeemer, it's revealed to man which through the Redeemer is offered to the sinner. *Prove quote*
2. Definitely it's in Christ.
3. It's yet to be in its fullness.
4. It's found nowhere else except in Christ.
5. All spiritual life is only in Christ--the more closely we live in him, the richer life becomes.
6. Other apostles speak of Jesus Christ.
 - a) Jesus personal name.
 - b) Christ official title.
 - c) We use both in our confession.
7. Paul, unlike others, saw Christ first, later as Jesus.
8. Irrespective of combination Jesus is divine--more than mere man.
9. We must remember we are linked to Jesus and act like it--our acts must honor his cause.
10. N.T. writer could not move, think or feel without Jesus.

III. Like you, he wanted this for one in particular.

A. Timothy, dearly beloved son.

1. Element of the personal note.
 2. Wants him strong, faithful, encouraged.
 3. Fatherly feeling equal to which is highest in his nature.
 4. "My true child."
 5. Wants him to know he has confidence in him.
- B. Grace, Mercy, Peace.
1. Powerful wish. *→ Pretzels 354*
 2. Grace to one unworthy.
 3. Grace is not law; therefore, expressed in promises. Only God (not Satan) pays as he promises.
 4. Mercy
 - a) Needed for one exposed to suffering.
 - b) This peculiar to Paul's last letters.
 - c) As we grow older we see more the need. Life exists only because of mercy.
 5. Peace - *Napoleon com*
 - a) Comes as a result of being graciously dealt with.
 - b) So sweet & serene.
- C. Found in God & Christ. *Dostoyevsky*
1. Christ is the dispenser of blessings in the Father's House.
 2. There is enough for all. *→ Michelangelo*
 3. They are by Christ, not Moses. *St. Paul*
 4. Suppose you just found this book-- never seen before--yet the frequent mention of Jesus--what would you think?

5. Christ vital to all.

Highland Church, Columbia, TN (BC) - 12/19/93

"It's God that's worrying me. That's the only thing that's worrying me. What if He doesn't exist? What if Rakitin's right--that it's an idea made up by men? Then, if He doesn't exist, man is the chief of the earth, of the universe. Magnificent! Only how is he going to be good without God? That's the question."

--Fyodor Dostoyevsky,
THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV

From PRAYING WITH THE KGB, by Philip Yancey
Chapter Three

"Do you know what astounds me most about the world? It is the impotence of force to establish anything.....In the end, the sword is always conquered by the mind. "

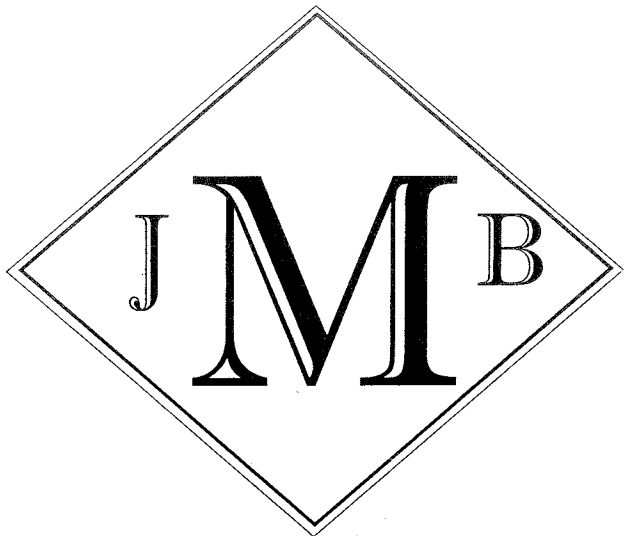
---Napoleon

From PRAYING WITH THE KGB, by Philip Yancey
Chapter Seven

"If you meet with difficulties in your work, or suddenly doubt your abilities, think of him - of Stalin - and you will find the confidence you need. If you feel tired in an hour when you should not, think of him - of Stalin - and your work will go well. If you are seeking a correct decision, think of him - of Stalin - and you will find that direction."

---Pravda, February 17, 1950

From PRAYING WITH THE KGB, by Philip Yancey
Chapter Eight



AT LEAST THREE GENERATIONS

II Timothy 1:3-5

I. How secure are we with our children?

- A. Are they Christians? *Judges 2:10 these*
- B. Are they faithful? *cross 2nd or 3rd gen. after them who do believe get the*
- C. Can I do anything about it? *hard, never get*

II. May I tell you the story of three generations of faith? II Timothy 1:3-5 *the worlds which he*

- A. Paul's last letter. *had done for Israel.*
- B. To his favorite--Timothy.
- C. Crucial time in lives of both as threat of death & persecution for both Paul and Timothy.
- D. Let's see how Paul handled it.

III. After the salutation, we study his opening paragraph.

- A. Begins with prayer. *Also I stand for something*
 - 1. If you want your loved ones faithful pray for them and tell them so.
 - 2. "I thank God." *Need Models*
 - a) Often opened with thanksgiving.
 - b) Wants Timothy to know he wants to see him.
 - c) Grateful to God for such a Son.
 - d) "Is it a rare thing to thank God you are able to pray for others?" (Clark)

B. Cites his service.

1. Serve from forefathers--word for worship. *With the devotion of the*

- a) Religious devotion. *for fathers*
- b) "I serve" good motto--do we plan our day so God will be served?

"I intended a devotion of participation"

*Contrast
C. Orlando
Report*

*Women
Co. High*

2. Forefathers

- a) ~~To them he owes much and states it's so.~~
- b) ~~Are we afraid to thank them?~~
- c) ~~Are we baptized for the dead?~~
- d) ~~Paul had served from childhood.~~
- e) ~~Does not allow one to condemn the ancestry & tradition of the Hebrew fathers.~~ *Make card*

3. With pure conscience.

- a) ~~Conscience is a creature of education. N.T. is standard of righteousness.~~
- b) ~~Be pure (Acts 23:1).~~
- c) ~~Conscience is the judgement we pronounce on our own conduct by putting ourselves in the place of the bystanders. (Adam Smith)~~
- d) ~~"Trust that man in nothing who has not a conscience about everything." (B.I.)~~

C. Tells more of prayers.

- 1. ~~Not so absorbed in his own imprisonment he forgets to pray for Timothy.~~
- 2. ~~How much have we prayed for others?~~
- 3. ~~Night & day.~~
 - a) ~~Unweariedly.~~
 - b) ~~Morning & evening good time for devotional.~~
 - c) ~~Early ask for guidance~~
Later ~~say thanks for having it.~~

D. Wants to see Timothy.

1. Both faith & friendship precious.
2. Yearning for one he misses.
3. Blessing to maintain a friendship though separated by time & distance.
4. Why in dying do we want to see friends?
5. Homesick yearning--boy at camp was homesick. *Here sick*
6. Longing.

2 Cor. 5:2 *For in this we groan*

Rom. 1:11 *For I long to see you that I may impart*

Phil. 1:8 *My day yearning exceedingly that we*

I Thess. 3:9-10 *might see your face*

E. Remember Tears

1. Evidence of love--soldier with tender heart.
2. Their love gives the world a matchless letter. (Erdman)
3. When were the tears? *Eph. Elders camp*
 - a) Was it Acts 20:37? *-38 & Milesius*
 - b) Or do we just not know?
 - c) In ~~Christ there is room for a~~ tear.
 - d) Called the blood of the wounds of the soul.

F. Turn to Joy.

1. He'd be lifted up to see a man of faith.
2. Young can really help the aged.

IV. The 3 Generations.

A. I Call to Remembrance.

1. Called in some MMS.

Gamet of Emotions

- 2. Had an event just suggested it?
- 3. Some reminded came in his cell?
- 4. Do we live so people have a good memory of us?

B. Unfeigned faith--Sincere. *to answer from under funder*

- 1. Hypocrite--play a role. *get*
- 2. Used mask to do it.
- 3. Unfeigned--genuine. *Sin either put thru sieve*
- 4. Faith *be undiluted*
 - a) Submission to God--complete trust.
 - b) Depend on Him.
 - c) Love for Him.
 - d) Accept what God reveals. It reached a climax in Jesus being revealed.
 - e) Do we neglect it? Jonah grieved when gourd vine withered, not when his faith was destroyed.
 - f) Faith not of the same measure in every man.
- 5. Dwelt *"lives" some translation*
 - a) Implies they continued in it.
 - b) Faith has a settled home.
 - c) It resides.
- 6. 1st Grandmother Lois--GK mamme--like mama. *Met at mystic Arts 16/3*
 - a) Only grandmother of N.T.
 - b) Lois only here.
 - c) Great to have a godly heritage but continue your own development.
 - d) Their piety puts them in Holy Writ.

so nice, wish I'd met you earlier

- e) Faith can be communicated.
- f) Note responsibility of parents & grandparents.
- g) This is Christian education of untold worth.
- h) Are we passing it on--not by doubts, absence, criticism, laziness.

*On top
you put
these
anyone
stay inside*

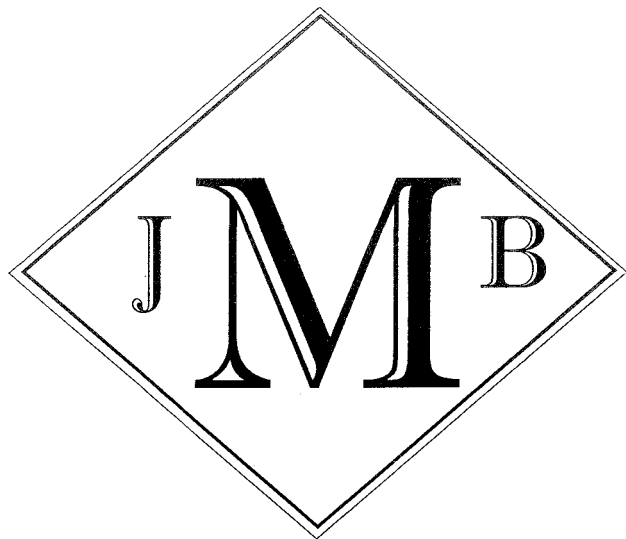
7. Mother Eunice lit. "good victory."
Victoria is latin name

- a) We owe a lot to others.
- b) Mention our mother stirs up our faith.
- c) Parents are a powerful influence.
- d) Any force greater than a mother? Don't marry a heathen!
- e) A household that fears God is a joy.
- f) Bible loves to honor home.

*Men are what
their mothers
make them
Emerson
The destiny of the
child is always
the word of the
mother
Napoleon*

8. We need 3 generation Christians!

- Ladies Bible Class, No. Jackson, TN - 10/5/93
- Ladies B.C., East Main, Murfreesboro, TN-11/10/93
- Hohenwald, TN - 11/14/93
- Beville Rd., Daytona Beach, FL (BC) - 1/30/94
- Huntington Park. Shreveport, LA - 3/13/94
- Smithville, TN - 5/18/94
- Savannah, TN - 5/25/94
- Myrtle Beach, SC - 7/10/94 (BC)
- Adams, TN Ladies Bible Class - 2/17/95
- Bells, TN - 3/30/95
- Locust Grove (Homecoming), Franklin, KY - 4/9/95
- Downtown church, Morrilton, AR - 5/7/95
- Granny White VBS - 7/12/95



GIFTS TO A GUY ON MOTHER'S DAY

2 Tim. 1:3-5

I. Our Nation pauses to honor Mothers and we acknowledge with gratitude a nation's interest.

A. Motherhood is marvelous.

1. Getz Card.
2. Muncy Card.
3. Gibbons Card.

B. Bible is not backward about discussing mothers.

1. Eunice.

II Tim. 1:5 "When I call to rem. the unfeigned faith

II Tim. 3:14-15 "But continue thou in the things which

2. Athaliah.

2 Chron. 22:3 "For his mother was his counsellor

II. We salute our mothers with gifts - and well we should - because earlier we've received gifts from her.

A. May I tell you some of my gifts - as you can with gratitude think of yours.

1. From her, I received a home. She was there.

(a) Children must have a family, see clip on Commune.

(b) Kids need a keeper at home.

(1) 43% nation's mothers work out of home clip.

(2) Sweeting quote.

(c) Circumstances alter things; but "things" shouldn't alter a family.

Titus 2:4-5

2. From her, I received a knowledge of the Lord & a reverence for His Word. *I Thas 2:13*

(a) Jule Miller quote.

(b) Child sang:

"Yes, Jesus loves me
My momma tells me so."

(c) Bud Coleman called his granddaughter in Memphis. She was 3 - she hated to stop playing to telephone granddad, she ans. questions quick and short - "Are you playing?" "Yes." "Go to S.S." "Yes." "What did you study?" "Adam & Eve Gen. 3." Lois noticed Bud got off line shortly thereafter. She asked why. Bud said, "She might ask me where my Bible lesson was & I couldn't remember the text."

3. My Mother gave me truth in lip. *I Thas 5:8*

(a) No lies, few mistakes.

(b) No compromises.

(c) Lady & her successful son.

Prov. 31:1 "The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy t

(d) I remember no immorality of word or deed.

4. My mother gave me the example of work.

- (a) Lou Erickson poem.
- (b) Mad rush clip.
- (c) Cowboy & Indians.

Thurs 4-11

5. She gave me the example & practice of worship.

Heb. 10:24-25 "Let us consider one another to provoke"

Heb. 10:26 "For if we sin wilfully after that we have"

- (a) Connection between attendance & wilful sin if absent?
- (b) What if I had to go to school but church optional? Which would I have that most important?

6. She gave me courage to try.

- (a) Geo. Elliot noted we often do the impossible not because we think we can but because somebody we respect knows we can!

7. My mother gave me a trust to keep; a loyalty to fulfill.

*West End 5-12-74
Union Ave. Sunday School Class, Memphis 5-11-75*

For years man has wondered at the phenomena of conception, of prenatal development, of the mechanism of heredity, and of birth itself. Maturation--the process of bring the various parts of the human organism to full development--reflects God's marvelous plan every time it takes place. From a one-celled being when new life begins, only 2/100 inch in diameter, the newborn has already developed into a complex being of more than 200 billion cells at birth.

"The Christian Home in a Changing World" - By Gene A. Getz

Page 36

Mother

The family exists, however, for the benefit of the wife and ~~mother~~. The long duration of human infancy and childhood necessitates an arrangement where the mother and child are assured sustenance and protection. The family also exists for the socialization of the child. It is his microcosm of society, which is fashioned according to society's accepted patterns of living, and in which the child learns to adjust to the larger social arrangement outside of the home. The monogamous marriage has come to be regarded in Western civilization as the most feasible domestic institution for the socialization of children. Organized religion has heartily endorsed monogamy and has declared all other re-

lations between the sexes sinful. The state concurs and declares any deviation from monogamy to be illegal.

"Sex and Marriage in Utopian Communities"

Raymond Lee Muncy

Page 11

According to Edward Gibbon, in his classic work, "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire", there were five major causes for the decline and fall of the Roman empire.

1. The breakdown of the family and the increase of divorce.
2. The spiraling rise of taxes and extravagant spending.
3. The mounting desire for pleasure and the brutalization of sports.
4. The continual production of armaments to face ever-increasing threats of enemy attacks.
5. The decay of religion into many confusing forms, leaving the people without a uniform faith.

"The City A Matter of Conscience and Other Messages" - By
George Sweeting - Page 9

Mother

MOTHERS—Working

In 1971, 43 percent of the nation's mothers worked outside the home. In 1948, the figure was only 18 percent. The greatest increase has occurred for mothers of preschool children. One in every three mothers with children under six is working today. In 1948 the figure was one in eight. Now there are more than 5,600,000 children under six

whose mothers are in the labor force. This figure represents over a quarter of all the nation's children under six yrs of age. —
URIE BRONFENBRENNER,
Prof Human Dev & Family
Studies, Cornell Univ.

”
The selfish wish to govern is often mistaken for a holy zeal in the cause of humanity. — ELBERT HUBBARD

COMMUNES

There is no good study on communal living that does not show that it produces children with mildly—or even extremely — aberrant personalities. The Russians tried it and quit. You need both mother love and peer love.—Psy-
chologist HARRY F. HER-
LOW, *Psychology Today*, 4-73.

The working wife has been singled out by juvenile authorities as a major contributor to the mushrooming incidence of childhood crime. Today, according to the US labor department, there are over twenty-seven million women with children under eighteen, and eleven million of these women are working.

Working for what, we ask? Undoubtedly, in the case of poorer families, to make ends meet. But increasingly, statisticians tell us, the wife's wages are being used to pay for children's higher education, a color television, a second car, a retirement fund, and vacations.

"The City A Matter of Conscience and Other Messages" - By
George Sweeting - Page 14

Mother

"My eyes do not have to close to recall my mother as she sat every day at 11:00 a.m. in 'her spot' to study her Bible. We knew not to disturb her at this time. I shall always remember this about my mother," said Jule Miller, one who has given the church a most successful tool for teaching and reaching the lost.

"Give Them God's Way" - By Becky Tilotta - Page 3

... 13.
Breathes there a mother who
has never said,
After mud-tracked carpets
and kids late to bed,
Neglected homework and toss-
ed about clothes,
Bubble gum in the hair and a
runny nose,
Until at last in frustration
wild:
"I'm warning you! You're go-
ing to be an only child."
—LOU ERICKSON, *Atlanta*
Journal.

Quote

“ ”

X
Lady down the block was boasting to her neighbor about her highly successful son. "He lives in a beautiful apartment and wears expensive suits and he goes to Europe every year," she gushed. "Not only that, he goes to a fancy doctor — he lies on a couch and he talks for an hour and pays him \$25 a visit." The friend was impressed. "Twenty-five dollars an hour? What on earth do they talk about?" "About ME!" the mother replied proudly. — KELLY FORDYCE, *Indianapolis Star Sunday Mag.*

Mother
Quote

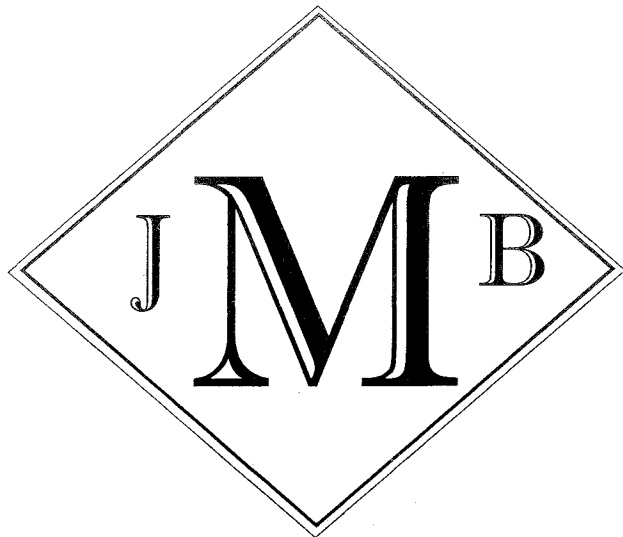
mother

The trouble with most neighbors, of course, is the fact that they have children. My neighbor next door is blessed — call it that — with four boys under nine years of age. Last week I dropped in for a moment. Four cowboys with guns were rushing around. One drew a lethal-looking cap pistol, shouted "Boom!", pulled the trigger, enjoyed the pop, and his mother dropped onto the couch. I waited. She lay there a long while, then winked at me and said, "Peace, it's wonderful. Playing dead is the only way I ever get any rest."

I

After the mad rush of getting the older children off to school, hubby off to work, and dressing the young ones for play...a harried mother rested her aching head on the cool kitchen table. At this point, she felt her four-year-old's hand on her shoulder. "What's the matter, Mommy?" he asked sympathetically. "Don't you have anything to do?" g

mother



WE ALL NEED NUDGES

2 Timothy 1:6-7

- I. Our machine does not always operate at 100% efficiency.
 - A. We grow tired.
 - B. We become lazy.
 - C. We get discouraged.
 - D. We frankly become fearful and are ready to give up.
- II. Fortunately the Bible tells us first century folk did also--now we study a demonstration of it--as we all need nudges.
 - A. Paul's last letter to Timothy.
 1. He wants him to come to Rome.
 2. Even greater purpose; prepare him for Paul's death and to encourage Timothy's faithfulness. (Erdman)
 3. His "wherefore" connects with what has just been said.
 - B. I Put Thee in Remembrance.
 1. He reminds Timothy of his unfeigned faith.
 2. As Simpson says innuendos are not a part of Paul's style.
 3. Timothy is not called to create a gospel but to remember what he has received.
 4. Facts & doctrine were revealed to you: simply tell that!
 5. Difficult days are upon us, Timothy must carry a heavy load.
 - C. Stir Up the Gift of God.
 1. Gift
 - a) J. W. Roberts said can't "identify"--(but Timothy could.)

- b) Came when he began his preaching.
- c) Intended to make him strong.
- I Tim. 4:14 *Naked not gift... of the fruit of the*
- d) Wanted him to preach. *presbytery*
- e) Lipscomb said our gifts are increased by usage.
- f) They need to be cultivated by personal care.
- g) What gifts are ours?
- Influence
- Experience
- Prayer
- Teaching
- h) Whatever it was, it enabled him to do his work.

2. Stir Up

a) Defined

- (1) Rekindle
- (2) Add fresh fire
- (3) Keep blazing: progressive, continuous action.
- (4) Rekindle with bellows--as it was once a flame.
- (5) Fan into a flame.
- (6) Stir it up, there is a fire underneath the embers.

b) What does this say to you?

- (1) We all need at times to poke up the fire of duty.
- (2) We need to use our spiritual equipment to the fullest.
- (3) Others depend on our public service.

(4) We need encouragement, also a whip.

2 Tim. 2:22

Flee you're lusts; follow the lowly

(5) We need to be reminded again of our first love.

(6) No one is beyond improvement.

(7) Our interests wane and we assign every reason but the right one.

c) What puts out the fire?

(1) Bad thoughts.

(2) Corrupt speech.

(3) Wicked words.

(4) Wrong company.

(5) Prosperity of the wicked and erroneous.

(6) Pampering the flesh.

(7) Bad health.

(8) Business pressures.

(9) Preacher trouble.

d) What makes it glow?

(1) Reading.

(2) Meditation.

(3) Prayer.

(4) Observing God's providence.

(5) Examples.

(6) Resolutions.

(7) Worship.

(8) Obedience.

1 Thess. 5:19 "Quench not the Spirit"

e) Please note:

(1) Paul never questions the purity and surety of Timothy's faith.

(2) His peril lies in timidity, self-consciousness & fear-- as man in Myrtle Beach prayed, "Help us to not be afraid to go out & seek people to worship with us."

(3) Man has a grand alliance & unseen resources in God!

3. Gift came by putting on my hands.

a) Paul united with elders in this.

b) They accompanied Paul--they were concurrent participants.

c) Elders could appoint to office, Paul could give him the miraculous power. (Johnson)

d) Note MY! -- Personal touch arouses--my hands--you are my boy. (Barnes)

1 Jn. 4:18 *There is no fear in love, perfect love casts*

III. As workmen of God, there are things that are not from Him as well as things that are.

A. Things not--Spirit of Fear.

1. This the perfect guarantee to be able to do your work.

2. Fear is one of those things that makes us do less; also

a) Doubts

b) Monotony

c) Discouragement (Erdman)

3. We stand in danger of neglecting opportunities.

4. Fear is cowardice.

Faith is fear that's said its prayers

- 5. Fear within exaggerates the fear without.
- 6. We must not shirk daily duties.
- 7. Christ & word helps overcome fear.
- 8. All men have not the same weaknesses
- 9. He's dealing with a sensitive man who at some times found duty difficult.
- 10. Foresaw Paul's departure and where would Timothy turn?

B. Things We Are Given.

- 1. Spirit of Power.
 - a) Gospel is wonderful.
 - b) Feel the obligation to help others know the truth.
 - c) Must know power is on our side.
 - d) Christ wants us enthusiastic for His work.
 - e) Gives encouragement to encounter difficulty & danger.
 - f) God suits his sustaining power to needs of the occasion.

Eph. 1:9-11 *Inheritance. Pres. Ret. praise of things.*

- 2. Spirit of Love
 - a) Channel through which power flows.
 - b) Uses power in love.
 - c) Love animates.
 - d) Love makes us earnest, untiring, no hireling.
 - e) Love moves men for church, family, country, business.

3. Spirit of Sound Mind

- a) Clear understanding.
- b) Mind balanced & under good influence.
- c) Everything is in its proper place.
- d) Discipline--self-control.
- e) Correction.
- f) Keep whole being subject to Christ.
- g) Self gov. by restraining passions.
- h) Quietness of mind, peaceful enjoyment of ourselves.
- i) Face discouragement & overcome.
- j) Christ brings men to a sound mind.
- k) Whoever accepts Christ is wise.
- l) Opposite of madness, levity, pride, conceit.
- m) Soberity, sound judgement, self-control, self-restraint, correction, various translations.

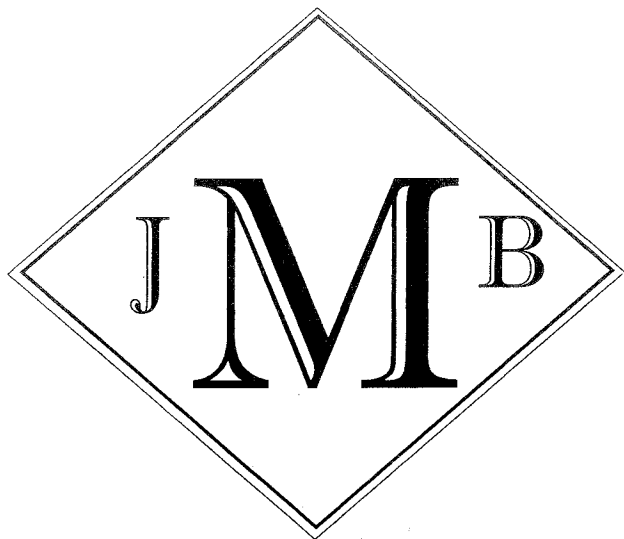
Coopertown, TN - 7/17/94

Waverly, TN - 8/21/94 (BC)

Ashland City (BC) - 8/28/94

Reidland, Paducah, KY (BC) - 10/9/94

Memorial, Houston, TX (BC) - 10/16/94



THE TRUTH TO LIVE & TO TELL

II Timothy 1:8-10

- I. If you are around me long enough, you'll hear truth that is meaningful and to me unsurpassed. It may be:
 - A. About my family.
 - B. Or my work.
 - C. Or a blessing extended.
 - D. Or a dream pursued.
 - II. All of it comes naturally because I am living it.
 - A. I believe this is the greatest method of evangelism.
 - B. It just pours out because it is a blessing unsurpassed.
 - C. Truly the truth of God should be that in my daily living.
 - D. I point to one expression of it as the truth I ceaselessly live and tell.
- II Tim. 1:8-10 "Be not thou therefore ashamed"
- III. From our text we see:
 - A. We must not be ashamed of the gospel.
- Rom. 1:16
1. Tense shows he is forbidding an act not yet begun--Timothy is not accused of being ashamed.
 2. Cowardice is bad.
 3. It's like saving purse but losing money; saving frame but losing picture.
 4. Christian stands alone in that there is no Savior but Jesus.
 5. 3X word ashamed used.
 6. Loyalty to gospel brings trouble.

B. Not ashamed of the testimony.

1. Paul writes from prison.
2. It is about OUR Lord--they are mutually connected and strengthened.
3. Cause of God's servants also cause of God.

Eph. 4:1

4. Testimony is gospel in general.
5. Each needs his courage boosted.
6. Christ suffered for it.
7. It's the gospel of power, of salvation, of consecration.
8. "Me"--take your share.
 - a) Prisoner for Christ's sake.
 - b) Not Nero's but Christ's.
9. Such faith not always easy.

C. You Partake & Suffer

1. Lit. for gospel.
2. Ready to share with me.
3. Affliction
 - a) If God can save He can carry you through trials.
 - b) Suffering brings highest good.
 - c) Timothy, you suffer with Jesus and me.
4. Gospel
 - a) Paul a herald with all implied, announcement from the King.
 - b) Good news of Salvation.
5. Power of God
 - a) So certain is God's help it is spoken of as already done.

- b) Left all in God's hands in perfect confidence. (Johnson)
 - c) With great power God called us-- will not cease to exercise it.
6. Carry it out in "the strength that comes from God." (NEB)
- D. Now see what God did.
1. Who saves us?
 - a) Life's greatest blessing.
 - b) God called Savior.
 2. Who calls us?
 - a) Called to light, glory of Jesus, cleanliness.
 - b) Universally by word of gospel.
 - c) Personal, effectually by sermon, providence, reading, conversation, mediation, successfully (party call comes) complete.
 - d) We are invited!
 - e) No one counseled with God but of his own purpose he calls us, it originated in His goodness.
 3. With a holy calling.
 - a) To life of holiness.
 - b) Walk worthy of the call.
 - c) Much expected of you as world sees you.
 - d) Father is holy, purpose is too.
 - e) Man who knows the gospel is a changed man in business, home, pleasure, temperament, character.
 - f) Wherever the gospel calls it is holy and makes man that way.

- g) All God's children have a certain family resemblance to God.
4. Not according to our works.
 - a) Negatives make clear the positives.
 - b) Nothing in us attracts the merit of God, nor his mercy.
 - c) Not by merit but saved by Christ.
 - d) Works fruit of salvation not the cause of it.
 - e) Not because of anything we've done but grace revealed & received--we gain by being in Jesus.
 - f) Not one shadow of human merit.
 - g) But by gospel of eternal purpose.
 5. His own purpose & grace.
 - a) Origin of salvation is God, Christ the means.
 - b) His grace not of necessity--our damnation would not tarnish the glory of God.
 - c) Not of impulse of another, council of another, our work.
 - d) Gospel of Grace--his design from all eternity.
 - e) Grace given not destined to us.
 - f) Given us in person of Jesus.
 6. In Christ Jesus Before World Began.
 - a) Mystery known now in Christ.
 - b) Saved from sin.
 - c) Lit. before time eternal.
 - d) Grace received only in coming into Christ.

E. The Means of God's Mercy.

1. It is now made manifest.
 - a) God's love prompts him to act.
 - b) Imperative we obediently respond.
 - c) Manifest--only NT passage where manifestation in GK applies to incarnation of our Lord.
 - d) Christ appeared in the flesh.
 - e) Appearing--not just his birth but whole of his earthly coming, his everything.
 - f) The epiphaneia.
 - g) Thus we confess and are baptized into Jesus.
2. Who abolished death?
 - a) Brought death to nought as a power overshadowing man--from GK "to render inoperative".
 - b) Life will be free from destruction.
 - c) His resurrection removed the sting.
 - d) Death opens door to glory.
 - e) Death abolished in its very essence.
 - f) Death--punishment of sin, eternal separation.
 - g) Jesus frustrated, squashed, dismantled death, lit. put it out of gear.
 - h) Died our death so we can just fall asleep.
 - i) The entire antithesis of "zoe" or life--the entire principle of decay, corruption, & separation from God.

- j) To die is to gain.
- k) Christ disarmed the grave--it's a departure, sleep.
- l) Tyrants' reign is broken.

Heb. 2:15

1 Cor. 15:56

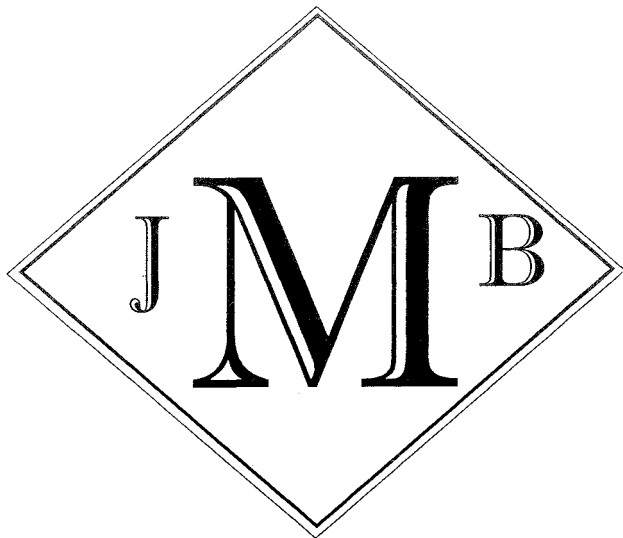
- m) He made death of non-effect.
3. Brought Life & Immortality to Light Through Gospel.
- a) Whole new life is incorruptible.
 - b) Lit. "he hath illustrated life."
 - c) Illustrated doctrine of incorruption.
 - d) Incapacity of decay.
 - e) See both soul and immortality of it.
 - f) We will arise, have happiness that's complete & endless, even now at peace.
 - g) S. Davis said he trembled at himself.
 - h) Immortality incentive to holiness and goodness.
 - i) Immortality is really incorruption.
4. Light via Gospel.
- a) Look what gospel brings to light!
 - b) Peculiar GK word that means to enlighten, illustrate, clear up not so much to discover.

John 1:9

- c) He didn't create sun for 1 day nor you for just 70 years.

- d) Lit. "He hath illustrated life through the gospel."
 - e) Gospel brings subject near like a telescope--shows how to get rid of sin, how to be justified, how to surmount every obstacle.
 - f) He has shown us another world.
5. Gospel
- a) All by means of the gospel.
 - b) Human minds could not arrive at such great testimonies as this.
 - c) No wonder the Devil hates the gospel.
6. Question
- a) Have we committed our souls to Christ--one day will be inquired after.
 - b) Do we serve God or Satan?
 - c) Our lives will truly affect others.

Lehman Ave., Bowling Green, KY - 7/9/97



THE CHAIN THAT WILL RATTLE

2 Tim. 2:1-2

- I. Men do not want to accept the truth that Jesus has one church and in it He places the saved.
 - A. If we say we are that church we will be asked to trace our existance all the way to Pentecost.
 - B. I frankly don't know of anyone that can do it--anymore than I can trace myself to Adam to prove I'm a man.
 - C. In the first place it is not necessary--if we sow the seed it will produce the Kingdom--thus in this way we "rattle our chain."
- II. But there is a matter in which we can rattle our chain--and if accurate in this then the correctness of the church takes care of itself.
 - 2 Tim. 2:1-2 "Thou therefore my son, be strong"
 - A. Here is the succession that is vital--it is the receiving and imparting the truth.
 1. Clip on "That's Greek."
 2. I must receive the truth and pass it on to others.
 - B. Have you ever known of a time in your lifetime when this was more important?
 1. So I want to say something very basic--a compelling duty.
 2. I hope you are not weary--as the prisoner & TV were.
- III. First we dial with strength.
 - A. Thou therefore my son.
 1. Paul's last letter.

2. Did want Timothy to accept it in a weak state.
3. Thou
 - a) Very personal--You!
 - b) Timothy must deal with himself.
 - c) Verb in middle voice.
 - d) Turn to yourself--really see where & what you are.

Ps. 42:5 "Why are thou disquieted?"

4. My Son
 - a) Shows how close they are.
 - b) Commands coupled with love.
 - c) Therefore shows he's said it before & repeats it.

B. Be Strong in the Grace.

1. No one wants their "boy" to be weak.
2. Here is a call to courage--help Timothy overcome any timidity.
3. Wants him strong and growing stronger.
 - a) Literally keep on being empowered.
 - b) Present passive imperative.
 - c) Stronger & stronger in all that's good.
4. Source--Grace.
 - a) Enough grace for everyone's needs but we must avail ourselves of it.
 - b) To tell someone to be strong without telling how is frustrating.
 - c) Not in your own strength--But God's.
 - d) It's sufficient.

e) It's powerful--stand is to be fixed.

Rom. 5:2 "In which ye stand"

f) It's acquired.

Jude 21 "Keep yourself in the love of God"

g) Our strength comes from drawing on the source of inspiration-- Grace of God through Jesus.

h) Do we understand the spiritual resources within ourselves?

5. Grace in Christ Jesus.

a) He dwells in our hearts by faith.

Eph. 3:17

b) Remember we are in Christ.

c) Call on this glorious indwelling--
"My Jesus Knows."

IV. Now the Chain.

A. Not congregational lineage.

B. Not apostolic succession.

C. But the faithful continuation of doctrine --the truth.

1. Are we saying what they said?

2. Are we doing what they were?

D. Timothy Heard.

1. First of two essentials--reception of truth--then will come transmission.

2. He heard an apostle!

3. It too was very personal and vital.

E. It was confirmed by many witnesses--not done in a corner.

1. Strength seen in numbers.

2. It's a corroboration of truth.

F. The Same

1. No alteration.
2. Seek to duplicate what you heard--not play "gossip" as you tried to delude.
3. Mountain the purity of the word.

G. Commit to Faithful Men.

1. Privilege to receive the truth.
2. "Faithful" are trustworthy men--same word in v-11.
3. Trustee a man of character.
4. Reliable.

1 Cor. 4:2

H. They are to teach others.

1. We do not stay forever--need those who follow.
2. Ignorant are to be taught.
3. If a privilege to receive, it is a duty to transmit.
4. "Pass it on" our cry.
5. It's an anodyne, as it soothes; it's a power as it continues.
6. Do we view ourselves as a teacher--even our own children--elder's book for his family in Terre Haute.
7. Do you want success or to do what we are doing?
8. Are we capable of teaching others?

V. Is the Chain Broken or Intact Via Me?

Chisholm Hills, Florence, AL (BC) - 8/22/93

A TV rating service discovered it had inadvertently obtained part of its findings from a prison and that the prisoners watched only daytime programs. Curious, the rating outfit asked the prisoners why they never watched evening shows. "That's simple," explained one. "The lights go out at eight."

"But why do you watch it during the daytime?" persisted the prober.

"I thought it was part of the punishment," replied the prisoner.

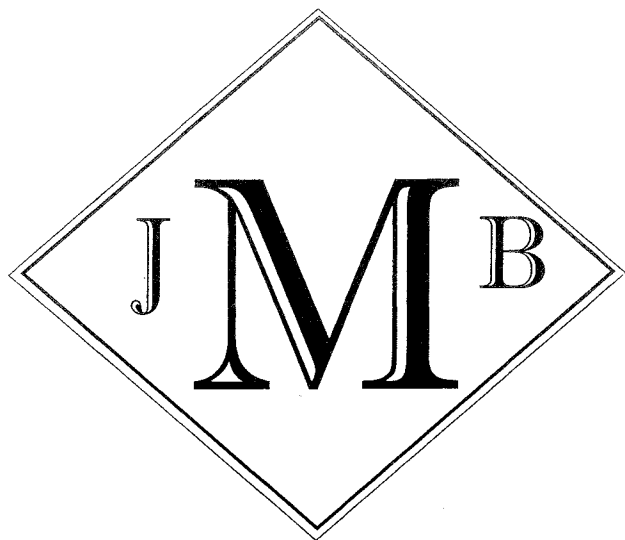
—Jim Frankel in *Cleveland Press*



To Each His Own

AMERICANS characterize unintelligible speech by saying "That's Greek to me"; the Russians and Romanians by "That's Chinese to me"; the French by "That's Hebrew to me"; the Germans by "That's Spanish to me"; and the Poles by "I'm listening to a Turkish sermon."

—Noah Jonathan Jacobs, *Naming-Day in Eden* (Macmillan)



TO SHARPEN MEMORY

2 Tim. 2:7-8

I. Of memory much has been said:

- A. "Memory is for us the hearing of deeds to which we are deaf and the seeing of things to which we are blind." Plutarch
- B. Shakespeare called memory "the warder of the brain" (Macbeth), and in Hamlet he wrote "of Hamlet...the memory is green."
- C. Perhaps we can overcome M. Twain who said, "My memory was never loaded with anything but blank cartridges." Rather we will replace that with the most potent thought man can have.

2 Tim. 2:8 "Remember that Jesus Christ"

- 1. But before we come to his challenge let's see what went before.
- 2. Timothy has been:
 - a) "Entrusted with the gospel" (v. 1-2)
 - b) Given 3 examples: soldier, athlete, farmer.
 - c) Example of Paul himself and his loyalty to Christ restated. (v. 9-10)

II. Though no one knows the full extent of the power of the human mind, things are competitive with which the mind can wrestle. So:

A. "Consider what I say" (v-7)

- 1. I want you to grasp what I've just taught you.
 - a) How alert are we to teaching?

b) Or to public songs & prayers?

- 2. Not only "hear" but properly apply.
- 3. "Reflection aids discernment."
- 4. Timothy is invited to personal application.
- 5. So "Bear in mind" what I said.

B. "The Lord give thee understanding in all things." (v-7)

- 1. To make a Christian fully aware of responsibilities, he needed the ally of divine help.

Eph. 6:10 "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might."

- 2. Proper concept of holy teaching is so imperative we need to ask the Lord to assist us in our honest search.

III. Then Comes the Supreme Truth to Ever Recall.

2 Tim. 2:8 "Remember that Jesus Christ"

A. Two unique things:

- 1. Our Savior was part human.
- 2. Our Savior via resurrection proved his stated claim: I am the Son of God.

B. The Incarnation

Jer. 23:5-6

- 1. Only one other verse where Jesus is seed of David.

Rom. 1:3

- 2. He is real and was here.
- 3. Seed of David shows his manhood.

4. Many ancient MMS have this expression come after the stated truth of his resurrection.
5. He can thus feel what we feel.

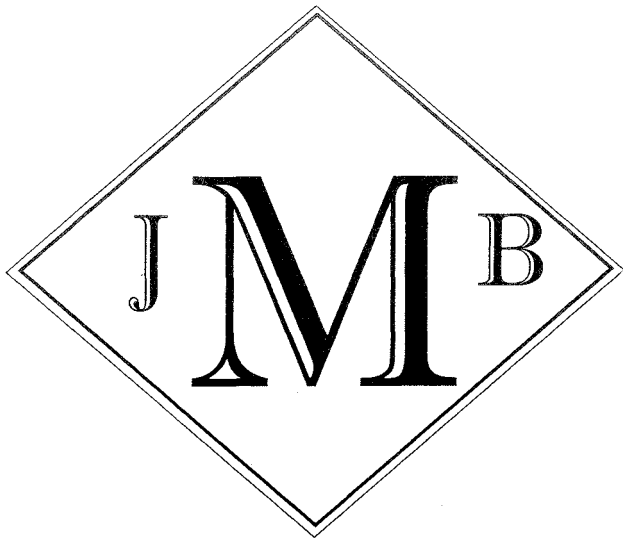
C. The Resurrection

1. Crucifixion showed he bore our sins on him not in him, that sins not his own proven by resurrection.
(Clark)
2. Resurrection his settled proof.
3. It shows an event completed that has present results.
4. It proves he endured and conquered-- what the Son of man did others can do.
5. Paul habitually preached this truth-- 30X he mentions it.
6. Would a liberal invite you to remember the Resurrection?
7. This testimony comes from one of Christianity's greatest enemies so it carries deep worth.
8. Resurrection seals all Christ's claims.
9. It shows God accepted his sacrifice.
10. He is risen from the dead & is in a state of resurrection which lasts forever.
11. Raised = Devine side
David = Human side
These are the two great facts to recall.
12. The risen one was not born of flesh & blood as Jer. 23 taught.

13. Resurrection is greatest confirmation of truth in the Christian religion.

IV. Why are these 2 truths so vital to us?

- A. Don't dilute with sprinkling and Easter.
- B. If Christ was crowned so can his followers be.
- C. Since he fulfilled every prophesy human & divine you can implicity trust them.
- D. When it's rough for you, recall no cross no crown; no thorns no throne. (Simpson)
- E. Proper thoughts--victorious in nature--can be a real encouragement. This can be a decisive force at a critical moment.
- F. Amid noise & stress of religious work, it is possible to forget Jesus. (Moule)
- G. The B.I. said this happens when you recall:
 - 1. Trials vanish.
 - 2. Your trials not as severe as His.
 - 3. You can hope even in hopelessness.
 - 4. You see the futility of all opposition to Christ.
- H. Remember these two keystones:
 - 1. Incarnation
 - 2. Resurrection



GOD'S 22 RIFLE

2 Tim. 2:22

- I. Do you have a gun? What kind?
 - A. BB gun
 - B. Rifle 22
 - C. Shotgun--12 gauge, 410
 - II. Just so you'll remember it--God's got a 22.
 - A. Don't know if it's a pistol or rifle.
 - B. Got the license to carry it.
 - C. It needs to be used.
 - D. Name rhymes with slim.
- 2 Tim. 2:22 "Flee youthful lusts but follow"
- III. Let's look at His 22.
 - A. Some things I'm to run from.

"Flee Youthful Lust" (evil desires)--
word/or continuous action--keep
on fleeing.

 1. Some things are stronger in youth
than any other time.
 2. The one Paul identifies is Lusts.
 3. What does this embrace?
 - a) Pride--Be Seen--Center of
Attention.
 - b) Desire for money--lottery.
 - c) Power-- Covetousness.
 - d) Sex
 - e) Reckless pleasure--fast car.
 - f) Have my own way--short
temper--self assertion.
Novelty has its draw.
 - g) Slow to claims of others.

4. Great inventor--Accident said Mark Twain.
 - a) Fleming, mold, in open dish was assaulting culture of staphylococcus--Penicillin.
 - b) John Walker potassium chlorate and antimony sulfide stuck to stirring stick--scrap off hit stone floor and burst into flame--thus matches.
 5. Run from Lusts! When lust conceives brings sin, then death.
- B. Follow (pursue)--keep on pursuing--ever active--not enough to run away, but run after good.
1. Righteousness
 - a) Not self will but God's way.
 - b) How much good did you do today?
 2. Faith--fidelity
 - a) Devotion to small duty
 - b) Faithfulness
 - c) Believe the truth and stay with it.
 3. Charity--Love
 - a) Ever doing good.
 - b) Love parents, church, fellowman.
 - c) Sympathy
 - d) All mankind
 - e) Truth not opinion
 - f) Kind vs. quarrelsome
 - g) Kind to everyone

4. Peace
 - a) Refuse to be jealous, envious.
 - b) Spirituality champions.
 - c) Absence of contentions.
 - d) Bear evil without resentment.
5. With them that call on the Lord out of a Pure Heart.
 - a) Enjoy fellowship of all saints.
 - b) Associate with holy people--
just who are your friends?
 - c) Fellowship with sincere believers
who are interested in Christian
growth.

IV. Remember 2 Tim. 2:22 as you flee evil and constantly seek the good.

A youthful giant slouched into an Illinois schoolroom one day after school. The teacher, Mentor Graham, looked up and recognized the young husky standing there awkwardly as the new young buck who had recently moved to town and who had whipped the daylights out of all the local toughs. Graham looked up and down the six-foot four-inches of muscle and ignorance before him, and offered to help him read and to lend him a few books. No one remembers Mentor Graham nowadays, but his pupil will be remembered for a long time. His name was Abraham Lincoln.

William P. Baker

No Thought at All

A farmer chided his teenage grandson, "Your generation is lazy. When I was 15, I thought nothing of getting up at day-break to milk the cows."

"I don't think much of it, either," the grandson replied.

Iowa

Vicky

Win or Lose

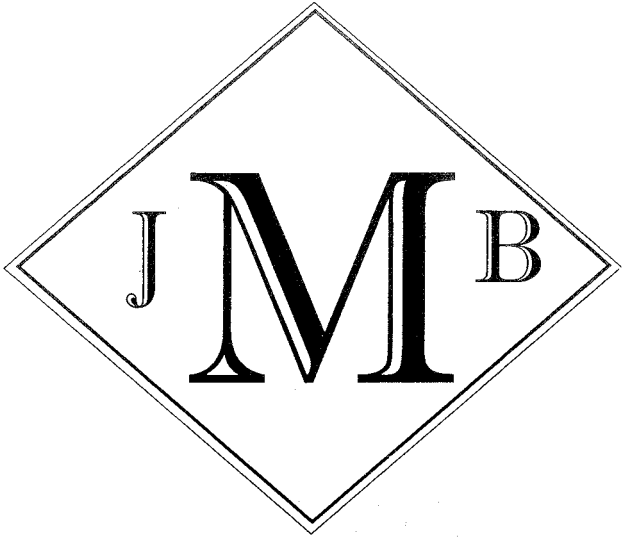
When Joe asked Steve if he wanted to play a round of golf Saturday morning, Steve said he would love to.

When Steve returned home Saturday, his wife asked, "Did you win today, honey?"

"Of course not," Steve muttered. "You know I was playing against the boss."

Kansas

J. E. T.



THAT INSPIRED WORD

2 Tim. 3:16

I. We share what I hope in the church is a universal belief that the Bible is the inspired Word of the Lord.

A. If so, it means He speaks this to us today.

B. It means it is our full authority.

C. It means His providence has preserved for us this divine utterance.

II. Does that word make such a claim?

A. It says he spoke by the mouth of men.

2 Chron. 36:21 "To fulfill the word of Jehovah by the mouth of Jeremiah."

Acts 1:16 "The Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David."

Acts 3:18 "God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets."

Acts 28:25 "Well spoke the Holy Spirit through Isaiah the prophet unto our fathers."

B. Jesus amens it.

John 16:13 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come."

C. We may confidently accept the Bible as the Word of God.

III. Various ways were employed to accent this truth.

A. It came with Paul defending his challenged apostleship.

2 Cor. 11:5 "For I reckon that I am not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles."

1. Thus he rightfully wrote these words:

Gal. 1:11-12 "For I make known to you, brethren:

- a) Gospel not after man.
- b) Came through revelation of Jesus Christ.
- c) Paul claims a personal revelation and suggests his claim by miracle performance.
- d) "The revelation of the written word is unique. It is terminal and not continuous. Paul's audacious claims were fully substantiated by the Holy Spirit. Our task is not to add to the written revelation but to render, understand it and explain it." (Howard)
- e) No human wrote or explained to Paul the faith he possessed.
- f) Not by tradition, not by rote.
- g) He learned through the unveiling.

h) Source of revelation is God;
content is Christ.

B. Not only to Galatians but also to
Thessalonians.

I Thess. 2:13 "And for this cause we also
thank"

1. Continual thanksgiving.
2. Scriptures, Latin, anything written
3. Lipscomb wrote about how the
Word works (energizes, keeps on
working).
 - a) By the word the new birth is
effected (I Peter 1:23).
 - b) By it the soul is saved.

James 1:21

c) By it we are sanctified.

John 17:17

I Tim. 45

d) It prevails mightily.

Acts 19:20

e) Like seed it has power in itself
to reproduce.

Mark 4:26-27

f) It is living and active.

Heb. 4:12

g) It's like a fire against that
which is false.

Jer. 23:29

h) It's like a hammer.

Jer. 23:29

i) It is light in darkness.

Ps. 119:105

j) Sole weapon is Christian warfare.

Eph. 6:17

4. They received "(heard) and accepted" the gospel via obedience.
5. It came through men from God.

C. We refer to his words to Timothy.

2 Tim. 3:14-17 "But abide then in the things"

1. From a babe taught word.
2. What are we saying to our children?
3. Both OT and NT inspired.
4. Lead us to see Jesus in the Christ.
5. Believers are God's house because he dwells in them.
6. Church of living God contrasts with temple of dead idols.
7. Pillars uphold and support as does the church the Word.

D. James tells us more.

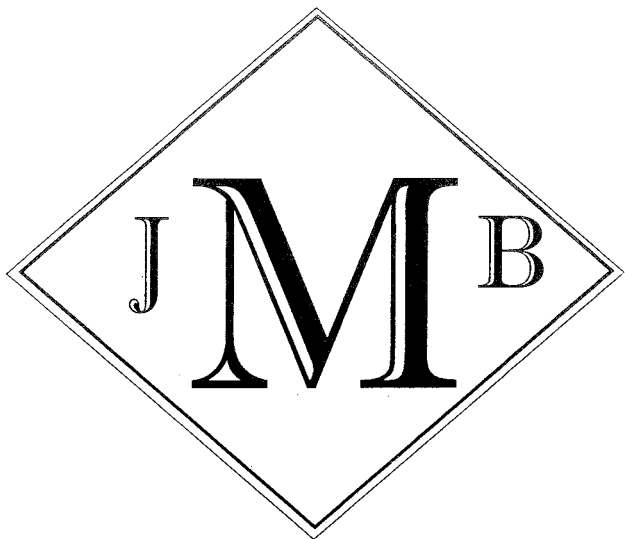
James 1:17-22

1. What hinders swift hearing?
 - a) Prejudice
 - b) Wedded to some fleshly indulgence.
 - c) Social and family traditions.
 - d) Fear of reprisal--disinherited.
2. How is our attitude?

Isa. 57:15

Isa 66:2

Acts 11:14



IF GOD SHOULD SPEAK AGAIN
2 TIM 3:16-17

- I. In our observations of man we see him make secure his possessions, his accumulation, his health.
- II. In turn, we see him be lax about the only thing eternal (not seen) - Soul.
- III. He ask men close questions about no Bible truth for actions - he says in despair he can't understand it.
- IV. Two reasons for muddled state
- A. Catholic - "Only the priest knows"
 - B. Protestant - "It's a mystery" Mt 6:44
- V. People wish God would speak again - did He make a mess the 1st?
- Could He make our duty plainer
- A. On HEARING Rom 10:13 - For whosoever shall call on the name
- Mk. 9:7 "This is my beloved Son, hear
- Luke 8:21 "My mother & my brethren R
- Matt 7:24 "Whosoever heareth these
- Luke 8:11 "The seed is the word
- Mt 12:48 "He that rejecteth me, and
- Rom 1:16 "For I am not ash.

B. On FAITH

Rom 10: 9-10 " If thou shalt confess
But how do you get this faith
Rom. 10: 17 " So then faith cometh by
Heb. 11: 6 " But without faith it is
Jam. 2: 24 " Ye see then how that by
Acts 8: 36 " See here is water, what
Rom 5: 2
Gal 5: 6

C. On REPENTANCE

Luke 13: 3 " I tell you Nay, but ex
What is repentance - so sorry you
quit - drunkard & Christiaunity
in compat 2ble.

Act 17: 30 " And the times of ignor.

2 Pet 3: 9 " The lord is not slack

Luke 24: 47 " That rep. & remis. of sins

On baptism → New birth, new relationships, new citizenship
→ God Pardons new destiny

Mk 16: 16 " He that believeth & is

Act 2: 38 " Then Peter said unto them
(Repentance - independent) No of Remiss. consequence

Gal 3: 26-27 " For ye are all the children

Rom 6: 17 " But God be thanked that ye
I Pet 3: 21 " The like figure where unto
Christ

Act 22: 16 " And now why tarriest thou
" For by 1 Spirit

Used at Preston Kew, 10/24/147
West End 10/24/58
Hendersonville 6/27/57

GOD SHOULD SPEAK

I. The Conversation Begins:

Bush Cole "I'm glad we are different - each has choice - writers couldn't see it like."

A. Division caused by careless reading - inattentive or not searching.

1. Subj. "hairs" dresses - how many read it?

II. How could God speak clearer

Jude 3 "It was ^(necessity) needful for me to write

A. Means "exceedingly intent" - "take up seriously" sternly contend.

1. Believe Apostles gospel - not fake teachers

2. Once = deliverance trustworthy of Gospel has occurred - ~~is~~ sure of all thing nec. told - no repetition - not progressive rebellion - final - complete - not supplemented or supplanted

The Christian Sacraments

By FRED P. THOMPSON, JR.

Reprinted from *The Englewood Christian*, April, 1957.

THE word *ordinance* means "a rule established by authority; a permanent rule of action." This is the word most used among our people, because of long association and prejudice against other designations, for the central rites of the church. Some find this word at least mildly distasteful because of its legalistic overtones.

Sacrament is a word derived from the military oath taken by every Roman soldier, pledging to obey his commander and not to desert his standard. Hence the term *sacrament* implies an oath or ceremony involving an obligation. Through traditional usage this expression, *sacrament*, has come to imply the effective means by which God's redeeming grace is actually conveyed to the worshiper. It is a word, therefore, with richer and deeper meanings for many Christians than the more barren term, *ordinance*.

Religion may be regarded under three aspects: first, it is personal, individual, mystical—a private matter of a man confronted by God; second, it is intellectual, rational, doctrinal—a matter of reasoning upon the meaning and nature of life; third, it is social, communal, institutional—expressing and nurturing the faith and promoting the fellowship of believers with each other and with God.

Under this third aspect sacraments are considered. As William Clow has written, "Sacraments are those rites or ordinances which have been instituted to symbolize the truths of the spirit evident to the soul, by the things of nature evident to the senses." This is not a comprehensive definition, but it is illuminative of one facet of the subject.

Faith and act

The premise behind all worship, and thus behind the sacraments, is faith. Faith stands on the conviction that there is a spiritual world as well as a natural world, that behind all things there is a Personality who communicates himself to us and with whom we may have personal relationships. The sacramental principle therefore rests on the generalization that things inward, unseen, spiritual may be symbolized by things outward, seen, natural, and that these symbols may be used to quicken faith and increase devotion to the Lord whose presence is felt in them.

An illustration of this principle is the building of the tabernacle. Moses was commanded, "Look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount" (Exodus 25:40). What Moses made were the symbols of the things unseen and heavenly. The altar, the laver, shew-bread, candlesticks, the Holy Place, the Holy of Holies were the outward, earthly, and visible symbols of inward and spiritual and heavenly truths. The legitimacy of thus expressing spiritual truths by visible and natural elements is underscored throughout the entire Biblical revelation.

It is therefore an interesting phenomenon that within Christendom there have arisen some groups who eschew the sacraments altogether. Among these we may mention the Society of Friends and the Salvation Army. The emphasis of the former is on ethics and personal holiness. As a result, the Friends are gradually becoming a benevolent social institution and losing their character as a church. With respect to the Salvation Army a similar process is taking place. Evangelical fervor cannot long be maintained without the quickening spiritual passion inspired by the regular observance of the sacraments.

Suspicion of the sacraments has issued from a misinterpretation of their meaning and purpose. Some have attempted to show that even to the apostle Paul the sacraments were magical in character. Wernle, in his *Beginnings of Christianity*, says, "It was Paul who first created the conception of a sacrament. He would have baptism regarded as a miracle and a mystery. The baptized convert should believe that he steps forth from the water a different person from what he was when he entered it." (Parenthetically, one may say that Wernle is exactly right in Paul's

expectation of the difference between the old man and the new man after one has put on Christ in baptism. What Wernle apparently fails to see is the place of faith in the entire process.)

Kirsopp Lake holds that for Paul baptism is a sacrament which works *ex opere operato* ("from its own inherent value"). Yet Paul on one occasion writes, "I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius . . . for Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel" (1 Corinthians 1:14-17). Paul could never have written this had he believed the sacraments were magic conveyers of grace. For Paul there is never any saving grace apart from personal faith.

Christian baptism

The great primary sacrament in Christianity is baptism. In the New Testament this rite is spoken of in an amazingly rich and full context. Our Lord refers to it as a birth of water and of the spirit. In the book of Acts baptism is related to repentance as antecedent, to remission of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit as consequents. In the epistle to the Romans baptism is related to the experience of dying and rising with Christ. In the Corinthian correspondence baptism is presented as a spiritual washing intimately connected with sanctification and justification. Incorporation in the one body is effected through this sacrament. Paul reminds the Galatians that baptism is the exchange of an old and inadequate garment for the proper clothing identifying the children of God—it is "putting on Christ." Peter adds that baptism is the "answer of a good conscience toward God."

Thus Christian baptism involves the symbolism of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, assuring the obedient penitent that the significance of those events is brought home to his own soul's need when he is baptized. Corporately, baptism is the act of initiation into the church, the entrance gate into the body of Christ. Moreover, baptism is connected



The emblems of the Lord's Supper represent to us Jesus' presence with us just as He was with the disciples when He first distributed those emblems.

—From a drawing by Adam

THE DIVINE PART
(God So Loved The World)

Incarnation
Death
Burial
Resurrection
Coronation

Heb. 4:15,5:8
John 1:1-14; 2 Cor.8:9
I Pet.3:18 Matt.27:46 Heb.2:9
Jn.19:38-39 Isa.53:9 Matt.27:66
Matt.28:7 Actsl:3 Matt.28:16-18
Ro 24:7

SALVATION

Titus 2:11 Joshua 6:2 Titus 3:5-7

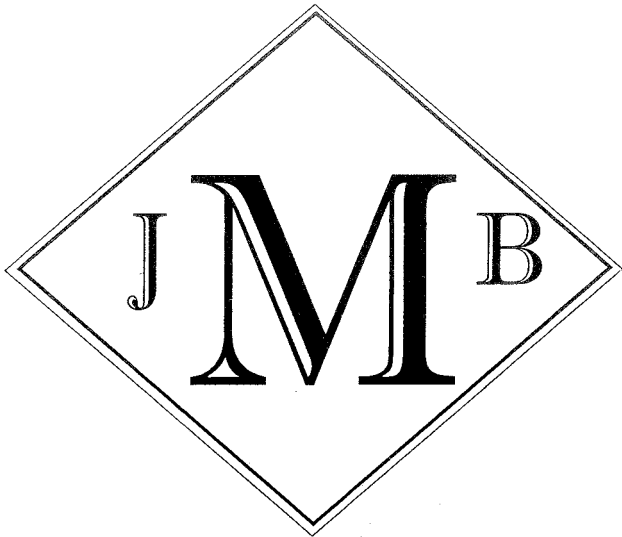
BY GRACE ARE

Baptism
Confession
Repentance
Faith
Teaching

YE SAVED (Eph. 2:8-9)
I Pet. 3:21
Mk.16:16 Acts2:38;22:16
Matt.12:32 Acts8:37 I Tim6:13
Lu.13:3 Actsl7:30 Rom2:4 Acts
Heb.11:6 Mk16:16 2:38
Rom.10:17 Jn.20:30
Titus2:12 Jn.12:32 Jn6:44-45
Heb. 8:11

THE HUMAN PART

(This chart appears in Brother Freed's book—may it give you renewed acquaintance and assurance.)



PREACH THE WORD

II Tim. 4:1-2, 5

I. As a preacher, you are somebody. #1

- A. Teacher. *1.) Letters to God*
- B. Minister. *2.) How to preach - study*
- C. Servant. *you us sit & listen #2*
- D. Fellow laborer.
- E. Herald. *3.) Ingersoll #3*
- F. Evangelist.
- G. Preacher - God had but 1 Son & He was a preacher. You are somebody.

II. No wonder Paul's final charge came c such august language - we see the prologue & the Text.

II. Tim. 4:1-2 "I charge thee...before God

A. The Prologue.

1. I charge Thee.

- a.) Last words of Aged Apostle.
- b.) Charge = declare solemnly & emphatically.
- c.) Knew his departure near (V. 6).
- d.) Timothy must stand on his own.
- e.) Does the "Therefore" really belong - Moule says No & J.W. Roberts says it connects c previous statement about the all sufficiency of the Word.

2. Before God & the Lord Jesus Christ.

- a.) Solemn witnesses.
- b.) Barclay says reminding one of whom Jesus is changes a man.

3. Judge Quick and Dead at His appearing & Kingdom. *Description of pedestrian*

- a.) Judgement of all is in hands of Jesus.

- b.) We give account in Judgement for our proper use of the Word.
- c.) Spain defined Judgement as divine administration of justice - vindicate the innocent & punish wicked.
- d.) Some day our work tested by Jesus.
- e.) Keep in mind our work must be good enuf to satisfy Jesus.

4. Appearance & Kingdom.

- a.) Events take place at the return of Christ ^{#4}
- b.) Appearing is Epiphany. Note Wordsworth Card.
- c.) Jesus returns as conquering hero.
- d.) In ancient times when emperor was coming, the whole town spruced up & everything was put in order.
- e.) Upper & better Kingdom of future above today's.
- f.) Paul looked forward to that time.

B. The Charge.

1. Preach the Word.

1 Cor. 1:21 "For after that in the wisdom of God the w

- a.) Simple & straightforward charge.
- b.) Preach = herald, proclaim, public proclamation of important message
- c.) Town crier idea - voice ^{#5} "it seems to be"
- d.) Declare exactly what the King wants to be know
- e.) No alteration allowed. why cross out #6
- f.) As Paul stood on the threshold he viewed this as most important thing he could say.
- g.) Coffman Card on Preaching from Lenski ^{#7}

2. Word. - *Know it - Harvard card #8*
 a.) Message is Jesus. *Self-preparation #9*
 b.) But all I know about Him is from Bible. Moule wrote, "The primeval church assuredly believed that the Bible is the word par excellence."
 See other cards. *#10 #11*
 c.) Want Word - not experiences or psychological tips however well intended.

Amos 8:11 "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God
 Acts 20:27 "For I have not shunned to declare unto you

3. Proclaims c urgency.

NEB, "All occasions, convenient & inconvenient."

- a.) Urgency overrules every situation.
 b.) Time of preaching not determined by mere convenience. - *Clergy statistics #12*
 c.) Instant = "press forward."
 d.) You make the occasion. - *John Coddie #13*
 e.) Has idea of "stand by, be at hand." *Keep*
 f.) Be persistent - make & take your opportunity.

4. 3 rules of matter & 2 attitudes.

- a.) Reprove. *Studying statistics #14*
 1.) Appeal to reason.
 2.) Expose & refute those who teach wrongly.
 3.) Coffman - censure for a fault.
 4.) Convince others. *Bother Bazzy #15*
 b.) Rebuke. *#16 Stazot & Britches*
 1.) Appeal to conscience. *Beecher #17*
 2.) Set right the unruly. *Apri. Deal*
 3.) Reprimand c authority.
 4.) Convict others.

c.) Exhort.

- 1.) Appeal to will. *Patrick Henry #18*
- 2.) Encourage.
- 3.) Don't drive to despair & thus take heart out of a man.

d.) Longsuffering.

Header Coll #19

- 1.) No place in pulpit for a short fuse.
- 2.) Have an unwearible longsuffering in face of prejudice, opposition, & mistakes.
- 3.) Spirit which never grows irritated or regards man as hopeless.
- 4.) Unfailing in the fullest sense of devotion.

e.) Doctrine.

Hembone #20

- 1.) Word our guide.

III. Now Comes the Final Injunction.

V. 5 "But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions"

A. Here we meet 4 obligations.

1. Watch thou in all things.

- a.) Keep your head in all situations.
- b.) Be sober.
- c.) Exercise self control.
- d.) Temperate.
- e.) Well balanced.
- f.) Like an athlete who won't choke.

2. Endure afflictions.

- a.) If at ease, Satan has no problems.

Luke 6:26 "Woe unto you, when all men shall speak w

- b.) Don't be a carpet knight who never suffers or sacrifices.

3. Do the work of an evangelist.

a.) The evangel is the good news.

2 Cor. 5:19 "To wit, that God was in Christ, reconcil

Acts 6:4 "But we will give ourselves continually to pra

Eph. 4:11 "And he gave some, apostles; and some, pro

Acts 21:8 "And the next day we that were of Paul's cor

b.) Note Tim. is preaching where they have elders!

c.) Not a theorist nor guardian of celebrated ordinances.

4. Make full proof of thy ministry.

a.) Discharge all duties - leave nothing undone you ought to do.

b.) Leadership demands dedication.

c.) Live it fully.

d.) Duty to carry on.

Josh. 1:2 "Moses my servant is dead; now therefore ari

Jn. 17:4 "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have fi

Harding Graduate School Preachers Forum, Memphis
4-21-84

After the family's return from church one Sunday, a small boy said, "You know what? I'm going to be a minister when I grow up." #2

"That's fine," commented his mother. "But what made you decide you want to be a minister?"

"Well," said the boy thoughtfully, "I'll have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I think it would be more fun to stand up and yell than to sit still and listen." Preaching

At a New Year's Eve

Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll, whose caustic wit few could match, said some years ago that the ministry is best suited for "a man of religious turn of mind, consumptive habit of body, not quite sick enough to die nor healthy enough to be really wicked." Many laughed, as though the ministry was inconsequential and really didn't matter. But on another occasion, Sydney Smith had a good answer. Speaking on the same platform with Smith, Ingersoll turned to him and said, "If I had a son who didn't have a good mind, I would want him to be a preacher!" Smith replied, "I'm sorry your father didn't share the same emotion." Preaching

Bible Comparatives by R. Earl Allen

Page 92 #3

"The Epiphany of Christ." Notice how the charge is set against the manifestation of Christ. The word for "coming" or appearance" is an important one in the gospel. The Greek word is transliterated as "epiphany." The following quotation from Wordsworth will illustrate its uses (The word is translated here by "manifestation."):

First, it describes Christ's ^{HUMAN} Manifestation, His epiphany, when He was displayed as an infant at Bethlehem to the Gentiles brought to Him by the leading of a star (Matt. ii. 2:11). Next, it describes His Manifestation in His Childhood in the Temple (Luke ii. 41-52). Next, His Baptism, when he was manifested to Israel (John i. 31), and was anointed by the Holy Ghost (Matt. iii:16), when the Grace of

God dawned upon all men in Him (Tit. ii.11), and the Kindness and Love of God our Saviour toward man ~~appe~~ appeared (Tit. iii. 4). Next, it describes the Manifestation of His Godhead of Cana of Galilee (John ii.11) and finally, it describes the future Manifestation to the Great Day when He, Everlasting King and ~~Jud~~ Judge of all, will destroy His enemies with the Epiphany of His coming ((II Thes. ii. 8), and when all His Saints will appear and shine with the Epiphany of His Glory. See John iii 2. (Greek Testament with notes, Comment on II Tim. 4:8

Letters to Timothy, by J. W. Roberts, p.p. 94-95.

PREACHING ⁴⁵

Since belief in the Scriptures as the infallible and authoritative Word of God has declined in the life of the Church generally, it is not surprising that the eloquence and power of the proclamation of this Word have diminished also. What is the result? It is well put in this description of a panel discussion involving a rabbi, a priest, and a

Protestant minister. The rabbi stood up and said, "I speak according to the law of Moses." The priest said, "I speak according to the Church." The clergyman rose to his feet and said, "It seems to me . . ."
—JAMES MONTGOMERY BOICE, *Christianity Today*, 12-20-74.

MAGNUS.

Preaching
The clergyman's small daughter watched him preparing next Sunday's sermon. "Daddy," she asked, "does God tell you what to say?" #6

"Yes, he does, dear," he replied. "Why?"

"I was wondering," she said, "why you cross so much of it out."

#7
"Preach the word . . ." Something of what this means has been lost in the modern definition of preaching. The true meaning is "Herald the word of God in its completeness, not altering it in any way, nor adding anything of his own that is borrowed from another source."³

³R.C.H. Lenski, Exposition of the Epistle of Paul . . . I Timothy (Minneapolis: Augsburg Press, 1964) p. 852.

Commentary of 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon, by James Burton Coffman, p. 292.

As with the institutions of mercy, so with institutions of the mind. On the gates of Harvard University is this inscription "After God had carried us safe to New England and we had builded our houses, provided necessaries for our livelihood, reared convenient places for God's worship and settled the civil government, one of the next things we longed for and looked after was to advance learning and perpetuate it to posterity, dreading to leave an illiterate ministry to the churches when our present ministers shall lie in dust."¹⁸

Serendipity
by J. Wallace Hamilton
P. 123-124

Preaching

#9

"Self-preparation is the most difficult work a preacher has to do ... A preacher who is spiritually anemic, or intellectually impoverished, or morally depleted, will wish often for a juniper tree."

(Charles E. Jefferson - 1860-1937)

Walking with the Giants, by Warren Wiersbe, p. 115.

But we may assuredly say, what the primeval Church assuredly believed, that the Bible is the word, par excellence. For it is the one authorized record of the workings of divine Love in meeting our sin and death, and it is the only book on earth which carries with it from end to end, in one way or another, imprimatur of the Son of God as the authentic revelation of Himself, and of His Father's mind through Him, and of the Glory to be revealed in us because of Him.

#10

Studies in II Timothy, by H.C.G. Moule, p. 127.

Well then may St. Paul pass from his testimony to the greatness of the Scriptures, to this last appeal to Timothy to 'preach' the Word, preaching it like that 'grave person' whom Christian saw in the house of the Interpreter, with eyes lifted up to heaven, the best of books in his hand, the law of truth written upon his lips. and the world behind his back.

Studies in II Timothy, by H.C.G. Moule, p127.

#12

ecumenical dialogue



By Dr JOHN H HAYES

Several denominations have more clergy seeking positions than they have positions seeking clergy. This is particularly true for denominations that have been losing members. The situation is such that if present trends continue (and of course they never do exactly), according to one report, "there will be an Episcopal priest for every lay member of that denomination in the year 2004." The United Presbyterians would find themselves in the same fix only seven years later.

efficient opportunities and challenges. — *Christianity Today*, 6-2-78.

We would remind would-be clergypersons who can't find positions that there is a long tradition of ministers gathering a flock through evangelism. Whatever shortage of vacant pulpits certain groups may have, there is no shortage of potential converts to Christianity. In fact, many denominations are growing instead of shrinking. Although much of that growth may be at the expense of declining denominations, at least some of it is by gaining adherents from among the previously unchurched.

We need not worry about any excess supply of clergy. People with suitable gifts and training who faithfully proclaim God's Word and who are genuinely guided by him will find sut-

Quote

Note the pregnant words of this brief epitaph to missionary John Geddie at Aneitum, New Hebrides: "When he landed in 1840, there were no Christians; when he left in 1872, there were no heathen."

#13

"A Word Fitly Spoken" - By Robert J. Hastings - Page 74

"But why do we keep having to study the Bible over and over?" some people ask. Any educational psychologist can answer that. Years ago a study at Northwestern University in Chicago showed that 25 percent of average people forget what they hear within one day. Another 50 percent forget what they learn within two days. Eighty-five percent forget something in four days. And 97 percent will forget something in seven days.

#14

"The Jesus Touch" - By Richard Hogue - PP. 97-98

Preaching

A baby began to cry during the Sunday morning sermon, so the mother carried it towards the door. The high-pitched minister paused and told her: "You need not leave. The baby is not disturbing me."

Looking back toward the pulpit, the mother replied: "No, but you are disturbing him."

13, 1978 _____ Page 163

Pity the churchgoer who fastens upon one flaw in the sermon and misses all the good things the minister said. An old lady said to Dr. George R. Stuart one Sunday morning: "Doctor, you said 'britches' instead of 'trousers' in your sermon. That is such a coarse word, and I was embarrassed." "Well," replied Dr. Stuart, "Let's see. What did I say before I said 'britches'?" "I don't remember." "And what did I say after I said 'britches'?" "I don't know." "Well, lady," observed the great preacher, "if I hadn't said 'britches,' you wouldn't have remembered anything in my sermon!"

When Henry Ward Beecher opened an envelope containing a single sheet of paper on one April Fool's Day, the letter simply stated, "April Fool." He observed: "I have often received letters without signatures, but this is the first time I have received one from a man who sends nothing but his signature."

#17

↑

Preaching

ary 26, 1978

Page 210

#18

Chief-Justice Marshall of the U. S. Supreme Court related that Governor Giles of Virginia once addressed a note to Patrick Henry:

"Sir,—I understand that you have called me a 'bobtail politician.' I wish to know if it be true, and if true, your meaning.—Wm. B. Giles."

Patrick Henry replied:

"Sir,—I do not recollect having called you a 'bobtail politician' at any time, but think it probable I have. Not recollecting the time of the occasion, I can't say what I did mean; but if you will tell me what you think I meant, I will say whether you are correct or not.—Very respectfully, Patrick Henry.

Preaching #17

When he was growing up in Metcalf Co., Ky., commissioner of agriculture Wendell Butler recalls a minister of a rural church who forever was telling his flock how proud he was to have heard the call to fill their pulpit. Then lo and behold, one Sunday he announced to the surprise of one and all that he was leaving since he'd heard the call of a church in Green Co.

"I know it's a bigger church and you'll be paid more," one of the members said to the preacher later, "but I thought you'd heard the call to come here. Now you say you've been called to go there. How do you know which call to listen to?"

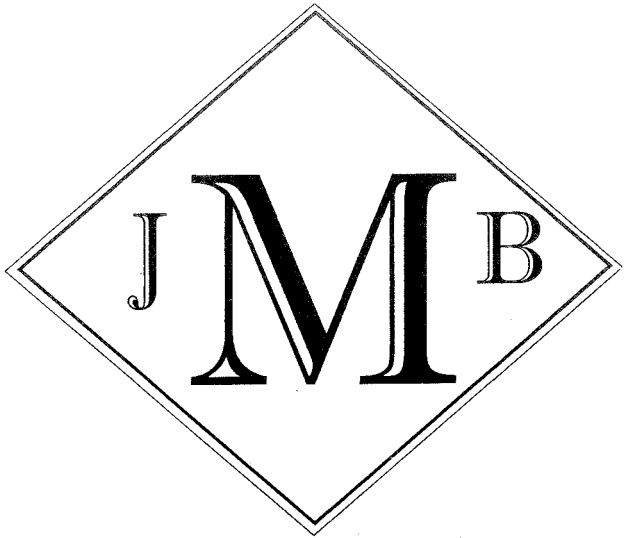
"Brother," came the answer, "if you listen close enough, one call always is a little louder than the other!"

-JOE CREASON, *Louisville*

ier In' 12-27-72. i

Hambone, the Negro philosopher in a popular cartoon, often has some good down-to-earth advice with illustrative value. For example, "Some folks worries about de Scripture dey don't understand; it's de Scripture I do understand dat worries me!"

"A Word Fitly Spoken" - By Robert J. Hastings - pp. 91-92 ^{#20}



3 FIGURES

2 Tim. 4:6-7

- I. When we come to conclusions it's well to evaluate.

- II. Paul did it in his letter to his son Timothy.
 - A. Preach and Fight
 1. Read 2 Timothy 4.
 2. Preach nothing but the Word.
 3. Sacrifice for it--now being offered.
 4. Faithfully discharge duties.
 5. Paul was loyal to the end.
 6. Follow our captain to the end.
 7. Close of each day can we say we were faithful?
 8. Comfort if we can say this.
 - B. It's a Race
 1. Finish it.
 2. Give it our all.
 - C. Stewardship
 1. Things entrusted to us.
 2. Overcome all doubts and fears.
 3. Keep what's committed to you.
 4. Overcome persecutions and hardships.
 5. Beeped out Abilene Christian at Super Bowl.

III. There comes a crown.

A. It's righteousness, not laurel leaves.

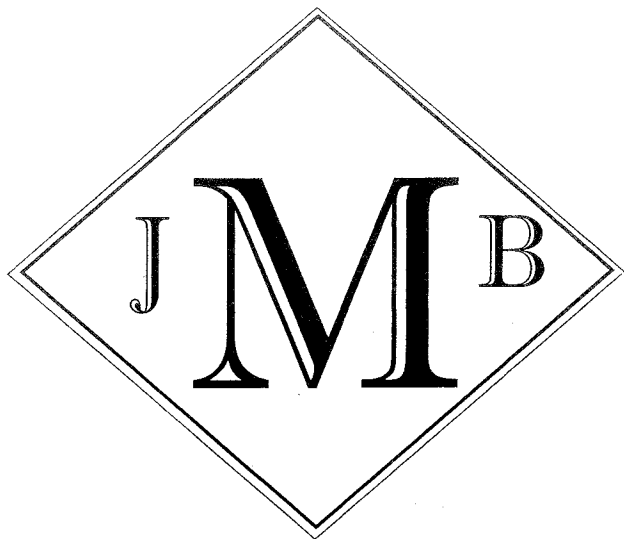
B. God blesses the faithful.

1. Think of Noah, Abraham, Moses.

2. Think of men you know.

C. Crown is shared with others.

IV. Tells of associates (V.9-18).



LAST DAY HERE; 1ST DAY THERE

2 Timothy 4:6-8

I. It was Paul's valedictory.

A. Last letter.

B. Last chapter.

C. Last expected day.

1. What will I say?

2. What would you say?

II. He begins with a "For".

(for I v. 6 contrasts but you v. 5)

A. Life needs to face its conclusion and summation of accomplishments and purposes cited.

1. This varies in contrast from his first imprisonment.

Phil. 4:17

2. He'll call for Timothy to come--as we want those dear to us at the last--it will allow Timothy to see how a Christian dies.

3. Biblical Illustrator makes these points:

a) One of best known Bible texts.

b) Utterance of profound humility, lofty courage and unvarying truth.

c) Paul alone as never before--away from churches he established, friends, places, Jerusalem.

d) Yet in spite of this he is looking forward.

e) In this man you see a great completeness.

4. Thus his last charge is enforced by the announcement of his coming death.

5. Paul has served Christ 30 years plus.

B. Next the most personal "I".

1. As old men fall out, young men must take over. (D.L.)

2. Note calmness in face of death.

3. It raises the question as to "why?"-- would he not have continued to do good had he been given more days?

4. The "I" is emphatic--as for myself-- contrasts with Timothy.

2 Cor. 5:8

C. Am Now Ready

1. Albert Barnes says the Greek is not stating I am willing but rather just the fact I will depart.

2. There is a duration limit.

3. What makes us want to stay here?

a) I haven't been anywhere else.

b) I enjoy this.

c) I love family and friends.

d) Departure may not be easy physically.

e) Are we uncertain as to our destiny?

4. Is it easier:

Life weary

a) If life gave sad experiences.

b) Conscious of completion of work.

c) Loneliness from loss of loved ones.

d) Our engaging view of Heaven.

*Grandpa
leave me
out of the
prayer.*

5. How do you feel when the dearest of earth tell you they are leaving?
6. Didn't think of being executed as much as departing.

D. To Be Offered

1. Phillips "last drop of my life is being poured out."
2. Poured out as a libation.
3. Heathen poured wine on head of victim about to be offered. He says in substance it's already poured on his.
4. The beginning of the end has started. (H. Cogburn said, "Virginia is winding down.")

Phil. 2:17

5. In substance my martyrdom has commenced--you must take my place, Timothy.
6. Into what capable hands have we entrusted the future? Do they know predenominational Christianity?
7. This offering was Paul's own life-- just what are we giving for Christ?
8. See the fullness:
 - a) "I am already poured out" literally.
 - b) RV "I am already being offered"-- the process has begun.
 - c) Yet no excitement, emotions or affectation of stoicism.

E. Time of my Departure is at Hand.

1. Time

- a) Knows death is imminent.
- b) He does not tell us what were the grounds of his expectation of death.
- c) Word time refers to a season rather than minutes, hours or day--brief period of time before actual death.
- d) Peter the same spirit.

2 Peter 1:14

2. My Departure

- a) Multiple meanings:
 - (1) Loosing cords as a tent taken down.
 - (2) Loosing of a ship as she goes homeward.
 - (3) Going away--Africans say, "He's arrived, 'not' he's gone."
 - (4) Picture of one bound to present world as ship to moorings--soon to be loosed and take its journey.
 - (5) From verb--loosen again, undo--loosing from prisoner's chains.
 - (6) Under full expanded sail we go forth.
 - (7) Loosing anchor.
 - (8) Departure implies a starting place and a destiny.

- b) We get word "analysis" meaning to set free, a separation of things one from another, the undoing of a cord--weighing of anchor, season of unmooring.
 - c) Like unyoking animals after a weary day--as mule would shake himself once out of harness.
 - d) Thus unyoke from cart or plow.
 - e) Paul is now ready to cross death waters and enter safe haven.
3. On departure this brings added thought.
- a) Death not a cessation of consciousness nor sleep of the soul but to be at home with God.
 - b) Main reason to write Timothy is that I no longer can serve--he must.
 - c) The godly anticipate the end--wicked don't.
- Hosea 7:9
- d) How do we speak of death--exultation or lamentation?
 - e) Man dead to the world can depart it more easily.
 - f) We move from the room of life's troubles and mortality into rest and immortality of Heaven.
 - g) Some inns had sign, "We are not going to live here--we sail tomorrow."

h) Is our vessel seaworthy--last night in harbor may not be pleasant--so what, we sail tomorrow.

4. At hand--death already stood there.
5. White says there is no figure of speech--but synonym for death.
 - a) Death--at home with the Lord (2 Cor. 5:8).
 - b) Death as gain (Phil. 1:21).
 - c) Death as far better (Phil. 1:22).
 - d) Death as falling asleep (1 Thess. 4:14).
6. Time to strike camp again.
7. Tell Robert Browning's "Incident of the French Camp".
8. He looks back at his life without regrets.

III. Now Comes Life's Summations.

A. I have fought a good fight.

1. Metaphors of fight, race, guarding--Grecian games.
2. Wrestler, Runner, Soldier.
3. We'll see a happy retrospect of life.
4. Past filled with satisfaction.
5. Does Christ daily grown stronger in you?
6. As in retrospect what do you see?
7. The fight (all kinds of contests).
 - a) Kept the rules of the contest.
 - b) Honorable contest.
 - c) Grand wrestling.
 - d) Contended well.

Chris influence so visible at death

but their own pressures

(Some think they have little to do)

- 8. Are we keeping the rules of the contest?
- 9. Not statements of egotism, rather the grand fight I have fought.
- 10. It's the contest, not his involvement that's cited. *Devoted to great ends of life*
- 11. Hendrickens quote. *life*

B. I Have Finished My Course.

- 1. It's easy to start a race--it takes staying power to finish.
- 2. Note how he finished. *Don't mess up 18th green*

Acts 20:24-27

- 3. Course was the cinder.
- 4. To be faithful to God to the very end only is true success--stay on course.
- 5. Note: You must finish!
- 6. He didn't give up.
- 7. Runners carried no luggage--we are to discard all that impedes.
- 8. Track coach, "If you have anything left 10 yards past the finish line, you didn't give it your all."

C. I Have Kept the Faith.

- 1. Not so occupied about self that he forgets the cause he serves.
- 2. Kept
 - a) Guard.
 - b) Strenuously so.
 - c) Business phrase--kept conditions of the contract--true to my engagement.

Dis regarded life itself when it stood in competition c his duty to God

3. For him, what did this involve:
 - a) Iconium--stoned.
 - b) Lystra--dragged out to die.
 - c) Philippi--beaten and jailed.
 - d) Thess.--accused of sedition.
 - e) Athens--Ignored.
 - f) Jerusalem--Bound.
 - g) Galatians--Imposter.
 - h) Rome--jail and death.
4. Faith
 - a) Scheme of doctrine.
 - b) Truth
 - c) Precious--only remedy for sin.
5. Questions
 - a) Can I say this?
 - b) Do I have the ability to guard the gospel or does anything go?
 - c) Has the truth suffered at my hands?
 - d) Am I aware of what challenges faith today?
6. We cannot change circumstances but we can triumph in them--Martyn Lloyd-Jones.

IV. The Faithful's Tomorrow.

- A. Henceforth = Lit. what remains.
 1. His religion in face of death the source of unspeakable consolation.
 2. See the glory of what remains--crowning and bestowing.
 3. Contrasts with dying statements of others.
 - a) Napoleon "Head of the Army."

- b) Caesar, "Have I played my part well on the stage of life?" Yes. "Why then don't you applaud me?"
- c) Hume's mother, "Send me something. I've no support in distress. What consolation can philosophy bring?"
(He'd taken away his mother's faith--she died before he got there.)

B. Laid Up For Me

1. Turns to future as conscious victor with merited reward. (Erdman)
2. Crown is in view--laid up--not yet in possession.
3. For me--personal joy and knowledge.
4. Me--individual appropriation.

C. A Crown

1. His crown not of Greek laurel or pine to corrupt, but permanent.
2. Paul about to die via sentence of unrighteous judge. The Higher Judge would reverse the sentence and give him a crown.
3. This crown--the highest of acclaim.

2 Pet. 1:4

1 Cor. 9:24

4. Here we are heirs--crown not ours yet.
5. Righteousness
 - a) Result of or
 - b) as a reward for righteousness.

- c) Perfect righteousness.
- d) Comes in recognition of righteousness.

Rev. 22:11

e) The material of the crown.

6. Are we now so living?

D. Presentation

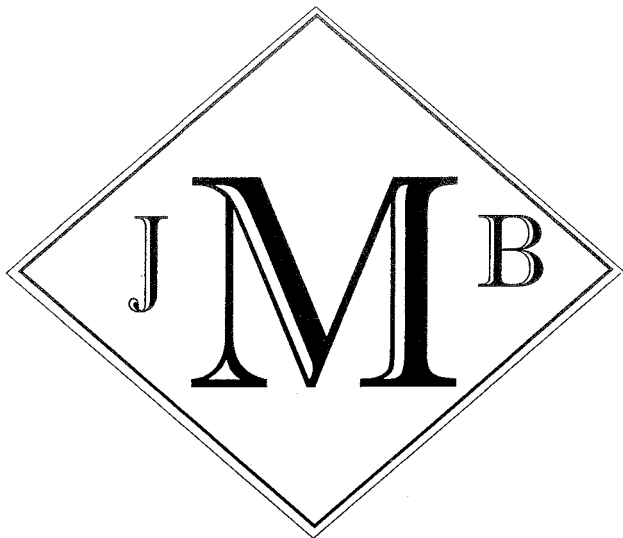
1. Righteous judge--contrasts with evil one who sentenced Paul.
 - a) Umpire
 - b) Referee
2. Crown is given by the Highest being, on most august occasion, and in most distinguished company.
3. Tenses
 - Past--I fought.
 - Present--is laid.
 - Future--will give.
4. Crown presented at Christ's appearing--not at Paul's death--Macknight ??
5. Greeks used to take down part of city wall to allow victorious athlete to enter by unused gate--a new one.
6. That day.
 - a) Judgement
 - b) Joy of 2nd coming.
 - c) No 2 resurrections--that day.
 - d) Do we look forward to Christ's return?

E. The Others Also.

1. All
 - a) All who serve share same hope.

- b) Common to the faithful.
 - c) Unlike races--where Ben West said they paid nothing for 2nd place--none excluded because others won also.
 - d) Do you know any King except Jesus who wants every subject to have a crown--(welfare cheats vs filthy rich.)
 - e) Person must respond to get the crown.
2. Love His Appearing
- a) Wesley says it's literally who have loved and do love.
 - b) Do we want Him to come?
 - c) We believe in and look for 2nd coming.
3. Our lives are getting on--if you were to write your obituary what would you say?

Lipscomb Lectureship - 6/14/95 (Granny White)
 Robinson & Center, Conway, AR - 9/20/95
 Maul Road, Camden, AR - 10/25/95
 Pond Church, Dickson, TN - 11/1/95



PAUL'S LAST WORDS
(2 Tim. 4:6-8)

1

I. We are familiar with questionnaires.

A. What advice would you give a son?

B. When do you think you will die?

1. How would you answer this?

II. Our man Paul has no if's or and's --
this is it.

2 Tim. 4:6-8 "I am now ready to be offered"

A. If that says anything it says three
things:

1. There has been a time of opportunity.

2. This time comes to a close.

3. There awaits a future predicated
on how we responded to our
opportunities here.

B. Shall we discuss these three items.

III. There is a time of opportunity.

A. Though the door may vary in the width
it is ajar, it's still there for us
all.

1. This verse shows the fight (wrestler)
the course (the runner on the cinder
tract) and the faith (guarding as
does a soldier.)

(a) We must be sure to keep the
rules of the contest.

2. Do we see our day?

(a) for others - clip on world

(b) Personally respond

P. Meadow

Harvard

Jesse

Halk

B. The Door Finally Closes.

1. One way to enforce an announcement is to say it's your last one. Literally it was for Paul.

(a) You must serve, I no longer can.

2. The figure is an expressive one.

(a) Departure is either loosing cords and taking down a tent, or loosing a laden ship as she turns homeward, soon loosed from moorings to take voyage.

(b) He sees himself as oblation - last drop of blood is poured out.

(1) Heathen poured wine on head of man to be offered.

(2) For him the process was already underway but look at the calmness.

3. Do we see death as eminent?

4. Have we grown weary of shrouds?

5. Let me tell you of Paul's death.

(a) Was it lower dungeon or Mamertine prison.

(b) If so like a buried jug buried beneath another jug and both getting air and food from one opening.

(c) When the executioner came he

had no baggage to pack - he was still waiting for that overcoat.

(d) From the malaria of Rome to beauty of Heaven he's dispatched.

(e) J. P. Roberts says Rome had no jails.

6. Tenny describes the political climate of Rome like this:

(a) Nero Paul's Caesar.

(1) 17 years old when presented for Imperial Office.

(2) First 8 years good ones, Seneca & Burrus his advisors. Latter supervised gov. and military; Seneca wrote speeches and gave advice.

(3) Nero most interested in amusing himself

(4) About time of Paul's Jerusalem arrest a change came in Nero-
for worse.

(a) His mother Agrippina sought to become controlling regent.

(b) Picture on coins beside son.

(c) Nero turned away-she turned to Britannicus, a stepson.

(d) Nero poisoned himself at public banquet, forced mother into exile, put her in ship he knew would sink.

11
Must have
been
something,
he etc

4

(e) She escaped - AD 59 he killer her
in 62 got rid of Seneca and Burrus.

(5) Launched course of frivolity and tyranny.

- (a) Chariot races and musical contest.
- (b) Played lyre and danced.
- (c) Taxed estates of childless couples,
confiscated wealth, suicide desirable.
- (d) Every man betrayed friends just to
stay alive.

(e) Senate a rubber stamp.

(6) AD 64 - the fire ^{cost 400,000 tons} ^{200 long}

- (a) Started in cluttered shops near
Circus Maximus. (Circle Great-bad wide)
- (b) Burned 1 week, checked, broke out
again and was worse.
- (c) Destroyed 3 or 14 wards.
- (d) Suetonius accused Nero, wanted space
for private palace, stood and sung
"The Sack of Troy".

(7) After Fire.

- (a) Had slum clearance, wide streets,
parks, construction of stone and brick
- (b) Changed charge of incendiarism to
Christian.
(1) See clip. Tacitus (Tos/h/tas)
- (c) Plots unfolded to assassinate Nero.
(1) Started tour of Greece as a
singer and a chorister.
regardless of performance he
gave - always first.

- (d) Rebellion grew - Senate condemned
him - he fled.
- (e) Died by his own hand saying
"What an artist is perishing."

8. In this turbulent and evil time Paul
came to Rome.

- C. There awaits a Future - Henceforth
1. Death is not a cessation but an
association; we need not awake but
to see we are awakened in the presence
of Jesus; death is a departure not a
defeat.
(a) Paul wrote these words when alone
as never before away from churches,
friends, home - yet he looks
forward!
 2. Crown - not laurel or leaves but
regal, righteous and everlasting.
 3. The Lord grants the crown.
(a) An unrighteous judge may dispatch
him; a righteous one will receive
him. In Heaven's Appellate Court,
sentence is reversed.
 4. All victors are crowned.
(a) What remains in your career-
the crowning?
(1) We've seen past (fought),
present (is laid), and now

6

future (will give)

(2) Well has it been said, "He who is dead to the world can depart from it more easily."

Whittier Poem

(b) What will our dying words be?

(1) Napoleon "Tete d'armee" - Head of Army.

(2) Cassar "Have I played my part well on the stage of life? Why then do you not applaud?"

(3) Byron poem.

(c) Crown given by Highest being, on most august occasion and in most distinguished company.

(d) Do we want the return of the Lord?

(e) As the GK took down part of city wall to make a "new gate" for victorious athlete - one never before used - so the Lord welcomes us home to heaven.

West End - 2/6/66

Great Lakes Chr. College - 1/28/66

Walnut St. - Dickson - 2/18/66

Brentwood Hills 3/4/66

Highland, Fla. - 3/20/66

Tacitus, in writing of his reign, says: (Annals IV, 39)

But by no human contrivance, whether lavish distributions of money or of offerings to appease the gods, could Nero rid himself of the ugly rumor that the fire was due to his orders. So, to dispel the report, he substituted as the guilty persons and inflicted unheard-of punishments on those who, detested for their abominable crimes, were vulgarly called Christians. The source of that name was Christus, who in the principate of Tiberius had been put to death by the procurator Pontius Pilate. Checked for a moment, the pernicious superstition broke out again not only through Judea, the home of the pest, but also through Rome, to which from all quarters everything outrageous and shameful finds its way and becomes the vogue.

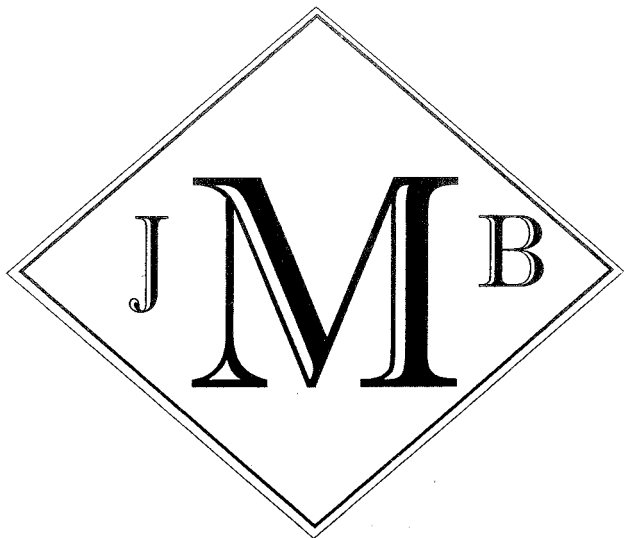
So those who first confessed were hurried to the trial, and then, on their showing, an immense number were involved in the same fate, not so much on the charge of incendiaries as from

hatred of the human race. And their death was aggravated with mockeries, insomuch that, wrapped in the hides of wild beasts, they were torn to pieces by dogs, or fastened to crosses to be set on fire, that when the darkness fell they might be burned to illuminate the night. Nero had offered his own gardens for the spectacle, and exhibited a circus show, mingling with the crowd, himself dressed as a charioteer or riding in a chariot. Whence it came about that, though the victims were guilty and deserved the most exemplary punishment, a sense of pity was aroused by the feeling that they were sacrificed not on the altar of public interest, but to satisfy the cruelty of one man.

Through him the first fond prayers are said
Our lips of childhood frame,
The last low whispers of our dead
Are burdened with his name.

--John Greenleaf Whittier

My days are in the yellow leaf,
The flowers, the fruits & leaves are gone,
The women, the center of the grief
Are mine alone



PUT YOURSELF IN THIS PARAGRAPH

2 Tim. 4:9-11

I. It seems appropriate on the last Sun. of the year to turn to the last writings of Paul.

A. I want you to see what he said.

B. I want us to picture it 20 centuries later - it's our names - where would we fit in the paragraph?

II. Christians & the Crisis.

A. "Do your best to come to me soon"

1. 2nd time "do your best"

2 Tim. 2:15

a.) Word of diligence.

b.) Real effort.

2. Soon.

a.) Quickly, w/o delay.

b.) Realizes brevity of time.

B. Demas.

1. He's forsaken, deserted Paul.

2. He was in love - with the present world or age.

Matt. 13:22 "Cares of this world, deceitful... choke"

a.) Cares.

In 2:15 have not the word

b.) Delight in riches.

3. Tragedy of Demas.

a.) Once a fellow worker.

Phil. 24 "Mar - Aris - Dem - he - my fellow workers"

Col. 4:14 "make the beloved phy & D. Great you"

- 2.
- b.) Once just named.
 - c.) Retrogression took place.

Reader Clip

C. Crescens to Galatia; Titus to Dalmatia.

- 1. Not desertion - just other fields of service.
- 2. What causes us to move? Hardship? Sacrifice?
No appreciation? Strife?

3. Do we mysteriously disappear?

4. List of 4 mental problems

3. Do I see present friends of service & where I might work?

a.) Bible School.

- b.) Sunday Servants.
- c.) Bible Correspondence.
- d.) Tuesday night.
- e.) Prayer breakfast.
- f.) Charity calls.

D. Only Luke is c Me.

- 1. Think how much of the Bible they wrote.
- 2. Change is a costly thing.

E. Mark now profitable.

- a.) Earlier went back.

Acts 13:13

Acts 15:37

- b.) Now very useful = vessel of honor - growth comes.

F. Tychicus I sent.

- a.) Here was one who would take orders.

b.) Will you fulfill roles assigned.

g) Ted W. Clip

G. Bring cloak, books, parchments.

1. Winter coming? Creature comfort? Stop him from working? Item he just liked?

2. Books - inspired man studied?

3. Parchments - skins or vellum? Needed to write? Something to say? Our "papers" are pretty reduced in value when we die! Or was it evidence for next trial?

H. Alexander.

1. Requite, repay.

2. Beware - on guard, avoid.

3. Did he contradict Bible or Paul's statement about himself?

West End 12-26-76

Guthrie, Ky. Church 9-20-77

Preston Road Church, Dallas 5-22-78

West 7th, Columbia 6-5-78

One of every four Americans is mentally ill. If three of your friends are OK, you're in trouble—TOM HAY, *Rockdale Citizen*.

The trouble with not being neurotic these days is that people are apt to think you're really sick.

SPORTS

Leaders don't go to church as much as the rest of the people, according to a survey by the *Washington Post* and a Harvard research unit. While 42 per cent of the 1,521-person survey reported attending religious services once a week or more, and 22 per cent reported attending never or almost never, only 29 per cent of leadership groups reported attending weekly or more, and 36 per cent reported never or almost never. Among leaders, farm groups and blacks ranked highest in attendance; university students and feminist leaders ranked lowest.

In 1959, Ted Williams, then 40 years old and closing out his career with the Red Sox, was bothered by a pinched nerve in his neck. "The thing was so d--- bad that I could hardly turn my head to look at the pitcher," he said.

For the first time in his career Williams batted under .300, hitting just .254 with 10 home runs. At the time, he was the highest salaried player in sports, making \$125,000 a year. The next year, the Red Sox sent

Williams the same contract. "When I got it I sent it back with a note. I told them I wouldn't sign it until they gave me the full pay cut allowed. I think it was 25 percent. My feeling was that I was always treated fairly by the Red Sox when it came to contracts.

"I never had any problem with them about money. Now they were offering me a contract I didn't deserve. And I only wanted what I deserved." He cut himself about \$31,500. —
WILL McDONOUGH

Quote

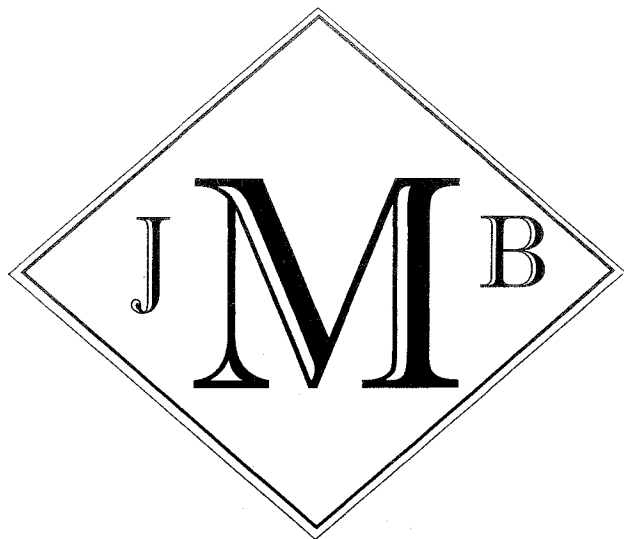
November 28, 1976

Page 546

"Beware of Alexander the coppersmith, who did me great harm." I remember years ago hearing a Baptist preacher comment on this text. He said that he too had been damaged by Alexander the coppersmith, as he looked at the collection plate and saw all the pennies there!

"Growth of the Body" - By Ray C. Stedman - Page 179

Giving



SEVEN NAMES
2 Tim. 4:9-13

I. Names!

- A. Man dies & leaves a name; the tiger dies and leaves a skin. S. G. Champion
- B. If throughout life, you'd keep an honored name, shun, even in thought, The joys that end in shame.
Cato(?) 175 BC
- C. He beat his name on the drum of the world's ear. P. J. Bailey
- D. I would rather make my name than inherit it. Thackeray
- E. "The Pyramids themselves, dotting with age, have forgotten the names of their founders". Th. Fuller
- F. Some to the fascination of a name Surrender judgement, hoodwinked.

They do well at last. (Cato 116 BC) (Cowper)

II. Let me tell you of 7 names. *1. Son of mixed marriage*

A. Timothy

- 1. Desired, wanted. *2. Highly esteemed*
- 2. Be diligent = make it your business or object. *3. Timid*
- 3. Never knew whether he made it or not. *4. Imprisoned Heb 13:23*

B. Demas - *meaning unknown*

- 1. Change - fellow worker, named, *Col. 4:14* forsook me.
- 2. Deserted
 - a) Left behind.
 - b) Forsake.
 - c) Abandon.

Left me in the lurch (1.2.)

Ryker
clip

3. "Having loved this present world"

- a) Love his appearing (v-8) vs Love this present world (v-10).
- b) Emphasis via contrast on love.
- c) Drawn away via love of present.
 - (1) Preference for temporal vs eternal interests.
 - (2) Dread of sacrificing liberty and life for the unseen - Moule.
 - (3) Cowardly felt terror of Rome.
 - (4) Christ died to rescue us from present age.

Gal. 1:4 "Who gave himself for our sins"

- d) Love of world embraces. (Waddy)
- (1) Honor

Gal. 1:10 "For do I now persuade men, or God?"

Jn. 12:42-43

- (2) Wealth

Matt. 13:22 "He also that received seed" *see Mk.*

- (3) Home

Matt. 10:37-38 *No that loves father or mother*

- (4) Life

Mk. 8:35-36 *Save his life / loses*

- (5) Sin

1 Jn. 2:15 "Love not the world"

F. Mark *(God has shown Grace)*

- 1. Meet Mark *(stumpy fingered)*

Acts 12:12 "Came to the house of Mary, the M.

Acts 12:25 "B & S took with them John, whose"

Acts 13:5 Salamis - John to their minister

Acts 13:13 Perga in P. John departed from

(Meet him only a man prominent men)

Acts 15:39 Contention - departed asunder-took
Col. 4:10 Marcus - if he come, receive.

- 2. Paul refuses to hold past failure against him. (Bruce)
- 3. Magnanimously writes of him.
- 4. Big hammer now strong enough to come to Rome - that terrifying city.
- 5. Great to be judged useful to a work.

C. Crescens to Galatia. (*Growing is meaning of name*)

- 1. New kid on the block.
- 2. May mean Gaul or Asia.

D. Titus *Not in Acts / Gentle / not circumcised*

- 1. He's everywhere. *Dalmatic = Yugoslavia*
- 2. Dependable. *lets all the light fall on his theme verses*

E. Only Luke is with me.

- 1. Feel the "cold of space" - the dread pain of solitude. (Moule)
- 2. Loneliness a burden.
- 3. Luke, beloved physician. (Col.4:14)
- 4. Does not write his own name in Acts - trace by 1st person pronoun.
- 5. Called fellow laborer (Phil. 24).
- 6. Believer's sigh.
- 7. Ironic - one who has done so much for others is forsaken.
- 8. Yet he's not discouraged. (Roberts)

G. Tychicus *Willing to be sent*

- 1. Went on journeys - Acts. 20:4.
- 2. Beloved brother - faithful minister. (Eph. 6:21)
- 3. Now being sent - tense of the word.

H. Carpus - another new name, only here.

(fruit)

*Pleasant
great
joying
thanks*

*See
22nd*

III. Lessons

- A. Paul would have enjoyed the comfort of this companionship but work bigger than his pleasure.
- B. All, except Demas, leave under good circumstances.
- C. Work must go on & plans laid whether I eat of that apple tree or not - I want Mark to finish my meetings.

Hillsboro (Wed.night) - 12/24/86

Locust Grove Church - 1/4/87

Christian Singles-Una Church - 1/12/87

Vesper Service, Park Manor - 1/11/87

West Side Church, Searcy,AR (Bible C.)-2/7/88

W.Nash. Heights (Bible Class) - 2/14/88

Tuscumbia, AL (Bible Class) - 3/29/88

Isabel, KS (Bible Class) - 4/17/88

Goodlettsville, TN (Bible Class) - 5/1/88

Crittenden Dr., Russellville,KY (B.C.) -5/15/88

Echo Meadows, Oregon, OH (Bible Class) -5/22/88

Radio Program, Lafayette, TN - 6/13-17, 1988

Hoover church, Birmingham, AL (B.C.) - 7/31/88

Little River church,Hopkinsville,KY(BC)-8/21/88

Tompkinsville, KY - 9/11/88 (Bible Class)

Woodbridge, VA (E.C.) - 9/25/88

No. Jackson - Jackson, TN (B.C.) - 4/2/89

Skyline - Jackson,TN (video) - 4/4/89

Benton, AR - 4/9/89 (B.C.)

Northside, Terre Haute, IN (B.C.) - 8/20/89

Cheap Hill, Ashland City, TN (B.C.) - 6/17/90

Jackson Christian School (Chapel) - 4/4/91

Silver Point, TN - 6/2/91

Sturdy Road C/C, Valparaiso, IN 9/8/96

Ypsilanti, MI (BC) - 9/15/96

Gilroy church (BC) - 9/22/96

Schochoh, KY - (BC) 9/29/96

