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McInteer Sermon Outlines - Hebrews

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I. When you have the world's greatest messenger bringing the world's greatest message, you truly have a monumental moment.

Heb. 1:1-3 "God, who at sundry times"

II. We go to our text.

A. God spoke.

1. Can you image anything more awesome?

2. Earthquake, mt. tremble at the sound of his voice.
   a) Starting point of all affirmation--I now know because God spoke.
   b) Phiefer wrote, "If sinful man is to find his way back to God, only God himself can reveal the way."
   c)

B. He had frequently spoken in:

1. Sundry times.
   a) Many portions.
   b) Revealed His will in segments.
   c) From time to time as needed.

2. Divers manners.
   a) Many varied ways.
   b) Dreams.
   c) Apocolyptic visions.
   d) Face to Face.
   e) Law.
4. Exo. 4:16
b. to come the coming.
2. This teaches this age has come.
3. Jesus is God's last word.
4. Beyond him nothing need be sought.
5. Notice to us--we are to hear.

D. By the Son.
1. Not by inspired prophets but by Jesus.
2. Without the Son man is in the dark concerning God & Salvation.
3. All centered on Jesus.
4. No mention of human author or nature of the reader to whom this comes.
5. A divine message has come.
6. Christianity not a break with Judaism but a continuation of God's goal.
7. No phrases will come showing the superiority of Christ.
8. The importance of the message is shown by the Messenger.
9. Jewish law by Moses--Christ is superior.
10. Greater by:
    a) Inheritance--only Son.
    b) Creation.

Col. 1:16
2 Sam. 7:14

III. The Messenger Described.
   A. Appointed Heir of all things.

   B. By Whom Made Worlds
      1. See creation, providence, redemption attributed to Son.
      2. Ages--world periods.

   C. Brightness of His Glory.
      1. Effulgence.
      2. That which radiates out from a light.
      3. Or reflection which comes back.
      4. Christ is to the Father what flames are to a fire. (Fudge)
      5. He's the visible outshining of God's glory.
      6. God wants to be seen but only visible in the person of Jesus.

   D. Express Image of His Person.
      1. Exact reproduction.
      2. Full representation.
3. As the Father is so is the Son.
4. By Him God is declared and expressed--the whole nature of Him.

E. Upholds All Things by the Word of His Power.
   1. Sustains all things.
   2. Supports, carries it out.
   3. All things--the universe.
   4. By him all things hold together.

Col. 1:17
5. Does it by his powerful spoken word--holds the universe together.

F. By Himself Purged Sins & Sat Down
   1. By himself.
   2. Futility of man seen to do it.
   3. Rituals of OT constantly repeated.
   4. Jesus had a glory with god "before the world was."

Jn. 17:5
5. Now in new position.

Matt. 28:18
Ps. 110:1

6. Not the location of his right hand seat as important as the supreme power seen.

IV. It's so important you hear and respond to this message.
I. We ask questions about everything.
   A. Tell me about your work, your friend, your home, your favorite food.
   B. We sing who is the Jesus you talk about everyday?
   C. Not unnatural to ask: What's so unique about your God?
   D. Then let me tell you.

II. Uniqueness about my God - 5 things.
   A. He is - alive - unlike and superior to any other.
      1. Author of the revelation, commands, promises.
      2. He is love.
   B. He speaks.
      1. God of the philosophy is silent having neither life, affection.
      2. Draper wrote God spoke in a participle indicating that it is not the main emphasis of the verse, but holy men were breathed on by God - as God revealed Himself to man.
3. He used diver's manners
   a) Fragmentary and pro-
       gressive
   Isaiah 28:10 Precept upon precept -
       line
   b) No set pattern.
   c) Progressive up to Christ, none beyond Him in
       revelation
   d) See the manner not the
       agents through which God spoke
   e) Incomplete ways.
4. One way was by the prophets.
   They were imperfect.
   a) Numerous
   b) Station and capacity
       varied
   c) Mortal, sinful
   d) Inspired but did not
       possess the spirit
       continually
   e) Word came from time to
       time
   f) Didn't fully understand
       what they said
   g) Spoke in fragments
   h) Did not originate the
       message
   i) Finest of prophets could
       not compare to Son
j) All sorts of men
k) Unselfish - did it for others.

1 Samuel 10:5 :10
1) Some heads of families

Gen. 20:7
m) Some had special gifts
to interpret.

1 Cor. 12:29
n) Could read writing-no
learned or skillful men
could

Daniel 5:17
o) Never a king under whose
reign there was not some
prophet.

C. He has a calendar.
1. Last days.
   a) Man and wife argued - she
disconnected her hearing
aid so she'd have last
word.
   b) Last days shows no state
of order of God's church
to be expected - this is
it.
   c) So perfect now nothing
more needs be said.
   d) Speech is more forceful
when given by life
against life
4.

e) God who speaks is full of power and life.
f) His speaking shows God's concern for us.

D. He has a Son.

1. Not in same category with prophets.
2. Unique
4. He's the final word and we cannot add to, diminish, look for another revelation. This is totality.
5. This Son claimed
   a) to be sent
      John 7:16
   b) God inspired
      John 8:26-28
   c) Impowered
      Luke 11:20
   d) Offered
      John 3:16
   e) Raised
      Heb. 1:3

6. Whoever sees Him sees the Father
7. Some say Christ is good teacher, religious fanatic, fake, criminal, phantom, political revolutionary, highest form of human life, has spark of divinity.

8. He's the full revelation of whole will

9. So near in the union of God and man, as though they be two distinct natures & more difference than any two distinct things can be, yet they make but one person as a man's body and soul which are two different natures yet make but one person (Gouge).

10. Purchase church with His blood yet God has no blood yet He assumed a human nature which had blood and in that respect blood is attributed to God by reason of the personal union of man with God.

E. His Son had 8 distinctions.

1. Appointed head of all things.
   a) We must die to heir.
Psalm 2:6-9
Psalm 89:27

6.

b) Heir conveys the dignity and dominion that the Father has.
c) He is willing to share all this with us and world to come.

2. By whom he made the world
a) A creation that is on-going, else there'd be chaos.
b) What is dispensed in the kingdom is never lost - 1 unused talent given to man who had 10.
c) World literally ages.

3. Who being the brightness of His glory.
a) Didn't become but always was.
b) Character - to cut, scratch, mark - seen in person.
c) The brightness issued from the sun is of the same nature the sun is.
d) It continues as long as the sun, as it is never without its brightness.
e) Can't separate brightness from sun.
f) Yet the sun and the brightness are distinctive each from the other; the one is not the other.
g) The light the sun gives to the world is by its brightness.
h) Shows via metaphor the relationship of God and the Son.
   1) Of one & same essence.
   2) Co-eternal
   3) Inseparable.
   4) Son is begotten by the Father by nature, not by will, favor or good pleasure.
   5) Person of one is distinctive from the other. (Gouge)

4. The express image of his person.
   a) God reveals God being God Himself.
   b) Character of God.
   c) Stamp, print, seal, mark
   d) Nothing is more like another than the picture or image of the thing stamped.
   e) See Son – see the Father

John 14
5. **Upholds all things by the word of his power.**
   a) Support and direction of movement.
   b) Wescott notes bearing is not merely support of dead weight, but carrying forward the universe.
   c) World had Atlas with all the world on his shoulder, but here is one who carries things forward to their appointed course.
   d) Upholds providentially.
   e) Providence seen as God sustains and governs all things He has made.
   f) Notice the falling sparrow - He also does me.
   g) All He needs is to command and it is done.
   h) Nothing can hinder it.
6. By Himself purged our sins.
   a) No one but Jesus could cleanse us.
   b) He's our High Priest

Hebrew 2:17

   c) Took Himself as the sacrifice to eradicate power of sin.
   d) Only He can remove every stain.
   e) His Priesthood continues after His death.
   f) Sin
      1) Redemption is His exclusive work - by Himself - no co-redeemer.
      2) Purge - cleanse
      3) Cross of Christ our glorification
      4) Free of the practice pollution and penalty of sin
   g) Becomes what he had not been before - the Lamb, the Redeemer.
   h) No one else could make purification from sin.

7. Sat down
   a) Love of the Father, blood of Jesus, inspiration of Holy
10. Spirit - the necessary foundation on which Scripture rests.
   b) Nothing higher or further than Jesus.
   c) He leads to all history as heir.
   d) He's the beginning of all things created.
   e) He's before all things via the brightness of His glory.
   f) He is throughout all as He upholds the world.
   g) Now He can sit down as no other priest ever did.
   h) Sitting shows completion - it's finished - it conveys sufficiency.

1 John 5:11-12
   i) Honor supervisors sit, inferiors stand.

8. At the right hand of the majesty on high
   a) Honor
   b) Rule

1 Peter 3:22
   c) Rest

Hebrew 10:12
   d) Intercede

Romans 8:34
   e) Wisdom and continuity
I. When we compare things, the greater
the value of the inferior object, the still
greater value of the compared superlative.
A. James Stanton: "Better than snuff and
gooder than crackers" says little.
B. He plays like Hiefetz - says something.

II. The Hebrew writer wants you to see the
excellency of Jesus--one way to do it is
to say:
Heb. 1:4 "Being made so much better than..."
A. 2 Greek words which express
comparison.
B. Better than angels--better in name.
C. The exalted Son is better than the
angels.

Ps. 2:7
2 Sam. 7:14
D. He'll use 7 O.T. passages to prove
superiority of Christ over angels.

III. To what has He been compared. (I can
lift more than Michael--but have I said
anything?)
A. Let's then see something about angels.
(Seiss said "Ministry of angels
inferiorly developed and inferiorly
understood."
B. Robert Milligan lists things angels do.
1. Frustrate Satan.
Jude 6
2. Punish wicked men.
Gen 19:1-26
2 Kings 19:35
3. Preside over courts.
   Dan. 10:20-21
4. Providentially bring men to repentance.
   Acts 10:1-8
5. Take care of living saints.
   Ps. 34:7
   Matt. 18:10
6. Comfort the dying.
   Lu. 16:22
   (Now remember Jesus is better than all these.)
C. What else do we know about angels?
   1. Have great zeal.
   2. Burn with desire to do God's will.
   3. They are consistent, immortal, everlasting, never decay, always young.
   Lu. 20:36
   Rev. 7:15
   Matt. 13:10
   Heb. 1:14
   Matt. 18:10
   5. Remember Jesus is better!
D. Can we find other acts of angels?
   1. Protective.
   I Kings 19:5-7
   2. Cure as physicians
   Jn. 5:4
   3. Nurse
   Ps. 91:11-12
   4. Guide
   Gen. 24:7
5. Guard. Ps. 34:7
12:7-8
7. Restrain. Ps. 34:7 Dan. 6:22

8. Are you aware Jesus is better? E. Are we overlooking anything?
1. We are to receive them. Heb. 13:2
2. Watch over us in death. Lu. 16:22
5. Heavenly companions. Rev. 7:9-11

7. Christ is better! F. What other astonishing things may we learn?
2. Take other forms. Matt. 28:3-4
3. They are intelligent. 2 Sam. 14:20
Ps. 103:20
104:4
4. Emotional.
Lu. 15:10
5. Swift.
Dan. 9:21
6. Powerful number.
Rev. 5:11
IV. It would seem to me that with Christ
being better than all this, there is
nothing to be found as His equal—and He
bids you come to Him.
CHRIST IS SUPERIOR TO ANGELS
Hebrews 1:4-

I. Compare Him to anything; Jesus is superior.
A. Be it man.
B. Be it Kings.
C. Be it Power—all power is His.
C. Be it Angels. This is the comparison desired in this study.

II. But what is an angel to which He is superior—if I ain't nothing but a hound dog to get something better than me takes little to do. Is an Angel much?
A. Of angels

1. We are talking about a lot of folks.
   Matt. 26:53 "Or do you think that I cannot"
   Dan. 7:10 "Thousands upon thousands myriads"
   Heb. 12:22

2. Have many titles.
   a) Spirits
   b) Ministers of God
   c) Sons of God
   d) Cherubims
   e) Seraphims
   f) Holy Ones
   g) God's Host

3. Attributes
   a) Have great knowledge.
   b) Pure
   c) Obedient.
   Ps. 103:20
d) Glorious
Matt. 28:4
Luke 2:9
e) Powerful
2 Kings 18:35
2 Thess. 1:7
2 Sam. 14:20
f) Near throne of God.
Rev. 5:11
7:11
4. 108 OT references to angels.
165 NT references to angels.
5. We aren't dealing with a minor "competition."

B. Let us respect them all the more but remember.
1. They are not to be worshipped.
2. They are not Jesus' equal.
3. He is not one of them.

III. Moving to comparison we see Christ's superiority in:

A. By inheritance a more excellent name than they.

v-5"For unto which of the angels said"

1. Jesus is God's Son.
   a) He is a spokesman superior to the prophets because He is God's Son.
   b) Sonship shows his nature.
   c) Sonship shows his position.

2 Sam. 7:14
d) Son, not angels, is the only one who can make us heirs.
e) God has no greater messenger than His Son, no further message beyond His gospel. (Bruce)
f) Angels are subject to ages to come--Jesus is ruler of ages to come.

2. This day have I begotten thee.
   a) Jesus has always existed.
   b) Christ did not become the Son until his incarnation.
   c) He was not the son in eternity past--rather He was God in the 2nd person.
   d) Son refers to Jesus incarnate.
   e) He did not become Son until He was begotten into time.
   f) Nothing in the Bible speaks of his eternal Son-ship, thus not always subservient and less than God.
   g) This day shows Christ's sonship began at a point in time, not in eternity.
   h) Son in human sense because He was conceived in this world.
   i) He was not Son before He was born.
   j) Virgin birth & Baptism & Resurrection did this.

John 1:14
Rom. 1:3-4
Ps. 2:7
B. Let all the angels worship Him.
   1. Brought firstborn in the world.
      a) Firstborn get special privileges.
      b) Has to do with position—not time.
      c) Came to mean one with all the dignity and honor as he who stood as the chief one.
      d) Not a word of time but of authority.
   2. Came to the inhabited earth.
   3. Corrects ideas of:
      a) Angels lord over present world system.
      b) Or that they should be worshipped
      c) Or that Christ was one of them in ascending order.
   4. Worship Jesus
      a) Sin to worship anything but God, therefore Jesus is God.
      b) All angels of every rank are commanded to worship Him.
      c) 20th CC had "we are not tempted to worship angels nor to suggest Jesus is one, but we are susceptible to conform to the culture around us."
      d) Worship is an act of an inferior to a superior.

Heb. 7:7 *The less is blessed of the better*
   e) Means to bow down, to kiss.

C. He made angels spirits, minister a flame of fire.
5. Made
   a) God created angels and they have life through His word.
   b) Angels are made
       Son is begotten.
   c) Angels are created, the works of His hands.

Col. 1:16-17
   d) They cannot procreate themselves.

Matt. 22:28-30

2. Spirits
   a) They are not preachers--they didn't tell Cornelius nor eunuch what to do.
   b) Men preach--angels rejoice over sinner.

3. Flame of Fire
   a) God can reduce angels to wind & fire so unstable is their nature.
       (Thompson) OK
   b) They obey with the swiftness of wind & strength of fire.
   c) They are speedy.

Isa. 6:2
   d) Necessary due to the extremes of Heaven & earth in distance.

D. Which at Right Hand til Enemies Thy Footstool.
   1. In NT Jesus is pictured as at Rt. Hand of God--not angels.
   2. He is always there as mediator & intercessor for us.
3. To sit at God's throne meant He shared in the judgement of the world. Sits with a task to do.
4. Enemies pictured at his feet as Kings put feet on conquered necks—they became footstool or resting place for his feet.
5. Enemies totally subdued.
Ps. 18:40-42
6. Jesus is not a loser.
1 Cor. 15:25
7. Footstool
Josh. 10:24
2 Kings 9:33
Isa. 53:3

E. Angels are ministering spirits.
1. Sent
   a) Constantly on errands for the saints.
   b) Deliver in times of danger:
      Paul in storm
      Lot at Sodom
      Elisha at Dothan
      Daniel in Den
      Peter in dungeon
   c) This work has not been abrogated.
   d) Transported Lazarus.
   e) Service—not dominion is their function.
   f) They have a charge to minister.
   a) Minister
      (1) All angels regardless of rank, are ministering servants—sent forth by highest authority.
(2) Their work is service.
(3) Angels only serve, Christ exercises authority.
(4) They look with interest on our affairs.
(5) Minister—menial service tho not guardian angels.
(6) 3 works show their inferiority to Christ: made, messenger, minister.

b) Heirs of Salvation
(1) Their highest work is to serve those who enter into the faith of Christ.
(2) Salvation
   (a) Deliverance from evil and the result of evil, namely death, and the power to do what's right.
   (b) Full blessings later—now heirs.
   (c) Saved from power & fear of death, from practice of sin, from ways of world.
   (d) Salvation yet future but enjoy in anticipation.
   (e) Salvation means deliverance and preservation.
   (f) Carries idea of entire & perfect—our eternal estate.
   (g) Fruition of our inheritance yet to come.
1 Pet. 1:3-4
Matt. 25:34
Eph. 1:13-14

(h) Christ is the author of our salvation; they ministers.

Crieve Hall - 6/19/91
HE WHO OWNS THE CHURCH
Hebrews 1:1-4

I. Jesus defused a problem by asking:
"Whose inscription is on the coin? What was this Caesar like?"

II. Cattlemen round up cattle--whose calf is this? Flying W--what is Ranger Wilson like?

III. The golf ball is found in the rough--another close by--whose ball is it?
Nicholas--what's Jack like?

IV. A new church building is in town. Whose church is it? It says Church of Christ--what is this Christ like?
A. Burden of this lesson to tell you.
B. Please see the Lord--not trustees, elders, preachers, members--but Jesus who owns the church.
C. Our text is a review of Hebrews 1:1-3. Quote it.

V. The Personality of Jesus
A. God the Father
   1. Can scarcely conceive of anything more dignified than the opening of Epeste. (Clark)
   2. God--at once seen as he prepares for the manifestation of his Son who brings salvation. (Clark)
   3. Begins with God as do other writings.

Gen. 1:1
Jn. 1:1
1 Jn. 1:1
4. Shortly to see God's portrait painting of Jesus.
B. See the God who speaks.

1. Sundry times = many a part.

2. Divers manners.
   a) Many ways—as prophets spoke in fragments.
   b) Angel to Abram Gen. 22:13
      Bush to Moses Exo. 3:1-4
   c) Stone by hand of God—Sinai
      Exo. 32:16
   d) Still small voice to Elijah
      1 Kings 19:12
   e) Dreams to Daniel Dan. 7:1
   f) Still incomplete

3. Times past by prophets.
   a) Past has a bearing on the present.
   b) Some reject saying all lessons of the past are inadmissible.
   c) Some live in the future—reject past and present.
   d) Prophets
      (1) Each a fragment.
      (2) Each had a part in completing the Mosaic.
      (3) Yet each less than complete—haven't heard "the rest of the story." (Harvey)
      (4) Prophets were a direct commission from God, had the guidance of the Holy Spirit, entrusted with thoughts & words from Most High.
      (5) The prophets—a class of individuals.
C. Note God Spoke

1. Note ease with which God effects great works—He speaks.
2. Wind, waves, demons, death obey His voice.
3. God Speaks—philosophy is silent—God who creates speaks.

C. Last days to us by His Son.

1. Last days because it's not to be followed by any other dispensation.
2. Final.

Heb. 12:25 "See that ye refuse not him that"

E. By the Son.

1. Today—by the Son.
2. We do not diminish old but do assert Christ is above all.
3. His not in original rather by Son.
4. God sent himself and speaks in the person of Christ.
5. Jesus the climax of Revelation.

VI. Now the 7 fold Presentation of the Excellencies of Christ.

A. Starts with Heir—No. 1—Matt. 28:18 "All power is given"

1. Card on Son—Saphir
2. Sin brought Him down from Heaven.
3. Sin's a defilement.
4. He overcame it for us.
5. Never was a time when Son was not heir.

B. By whom He made the worlds—No. 2

1. Jesus active in creation.

Jn. 1:3
2. Literally "ages".
3. He's able to answer prayer.
4. This settles origin of universe.

C. Brightness of His Glory--No. 3
1. Means "raging forth".
2. Effulgence--only here in NT.
4. Argued is Jesus a reflection or a radiation of Holiness.
5. Is it Sun & Moon, or just Sun.

D. Express Image of His Person--No. 4
1. Stamp, bearing the impression.
2. Jesus the stuff of what God is.
3. Jesus is God, absolutely like the Father, Lord of Heaven.
4. Image--character--the engraver of God's person.
5. Reproduction of God.
6. First meant tool, then finally the results.

E. Upholding All Things--No. 5
1. Uphold to carry.
2. Carries all things to appointed end.
3. Created world--but did not walk off & leave it--carries it on.
4. He leads down no dead end, street or blind alley.
5. Brings things to their-intended end.
6. He who notes the falling sparrow is mindful of me.
7. Thus we preach a powerful word.
F. By Himself Purge our Sins—No. 6

1. Offered not the blood of another but His own!

1 Jn. 1:7 "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son"

Acts 20:28 Church purchased by blood

2. Others told of atonement, Jesus made it.

3. Purged our Sins
   a) No doctrine must annul the cross.
   b) Nor speak against baptism for remission of sins.
   c) Sin is real—misses the mark—error.

G. Sat down on right hand Majesty.

1. It's over—calm, repose.

2. Not just in exaltation but his own act, and rightly completed, equal to the Father.

1 Jn. 5:11-12

3. No chairs in temple.

4. Right hand—Honor.

5. Majesty is a paraphrase for God.

VII. This is the Jesus we worship—who owns this church.

Hildale, Clarksville, TN (Dedication)–5/23/99
Brentwood Hills (BC) – 7/25/99
Locust Grove, KY – 7/22/99
Branson, MO – 9/12/99
West 7th, Columbia, TN – 9/19/99
Water Street, Charlotte, TN – 10/24/99
Central/Johnson City, TN – 10/31/99
Double Springs, AL – 11/7/99
Lick Skillet, KY – 11/14/99
Nashville Road – 1/26/00
HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE JESUS?

Heb. 1:1-4

I. Via different eyes people are described.
   A. Person 40 - to some is old.
   B. Person of complexion--varies.
      (Matthew called Tony Thurmond's little girl, olive skin, "that baby is dirty.")
   C. Maybe inaccurate--mean, soft, spineless.

II. What's your description of Jesus?
   A. Never saw him--yet trust him for your salvation.
   B. Read testimony of those that did see him.
      1. Apostles declare him divine.
      2. God said "He's my Son."

Matt. 17:5 "This is my beloved Son in whom in whom I am well pleased."
   a) Gabriel told of Him to Mary.

Luke 1:32-33 "He shall be great, and shall be called Son of the Highest"

Matt. 3:17 God said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
   b) Of himself Jesus said.

John 3:13
   c) Shows human and divine.
   d) Apostles

Acts 13:32-33
   e) Never stopped pleasing the Father.
John 17:4
f) His claim.
Matt. 28:18

III. How did the Holy Spirit describe Him?
Heb. 1:1-4
A. Spoke unto the Father by the prophets.
   1. Old time-time before Christ's coming.
B. Divers portions and manners.
   1. See Barclay on "divers."
   2. Like a roof - one portion on top of another.
   3. Each had a part to add to the whole.
   5. Hath at end of these days.
      a) Before coming.
      b) After coming.
   6. Spoken to us by His Son.
      a) One messenger - superior.
      b) Not (the message) entrusted even to prophets - only His Son.

IV. Then comes the description.
A. Heir of all things.
   1. Appointed= constituted.
2. All created by Him.

Col. 1:15-16
3. He lacks nothing to use for our help, happiness, final victory, glorification.
4. We are so blessed.

B. Through whom He made the worlds.
John 1:1-3
1. Plural
2. More than man, all solar world.

C. Being the effulgence of His glory.
1. Word only here= reflection.
2. Radiance
3. His perfections, dignity, splendor.
4. Can't see God and live.
5. Jesus emits his splendor.
6. Don't see sun but beams of light from it.
7. All the fullness of the Godhead.

Col. 2:9

D. The image of his substance.
1. Substance=essential nature of God.
2. Image a tool for engraving.
3. Stamp, impress as on a coin or seal.
4. That by which a person or thing can be recognized.
5. Character.
6. Exact reproduction.
7. Person= that which stands under, support, foundation
8. Reality.
10. "He brings the divine before us at once perfectly and definitely according to the measure of our powers.
11. The underlying reality behind something.
12. If God is a die the Son is the character made by the impression.

(From the annual lessons Page 290, 1950).
14. Every perfection of God manifest in Him--purity, mercy, love, goodness, justice, righteousness, tenderness, long suffering, ability to read the heads of men, work miracles, forgive sin.

E. Upholding all things by the word of His power.
1. Preserves
2. Cosmos vs. chatic.

F. Made purification for sins.
1. Offered up Himself.
2. His death necessary to our atonement.
3. His body a sacrifice for our sins.
G. Got down on the right hand of God.
1. Denotes accomplishment.
2. Denotes exaltation.

Eph. 1:20-22

V. How can one expect salvation out of Him?

Heb. 2:1-4
Marcus Dods gives an excellent treatment of these two adverbs. He writes:

Polymerōs points to the fragmentary character of former revelations. They were given piece-meal, bit by bit, part by part, as the people needed and were able to receive them. The revelation of God was essentially progressive; all was not disclosed at once, because all could not at once be understood (EGT, 4:247).

Dods goes on to say:

His speaking was also polytropōs ... not in one stereotyped manner but in modes varying with the message, the messenger, and those to whom the word is sent. Sometimes, therefore, God spoke by an institution [for instance, the Tabernacle and its offerings], sometimes by parable, sometimes in a psalm, sometimes in an act of righteous indignation ... These features of previous revelations, so prominently set and expressed so grandiloquently, cannot have been meant to disparage them, rather to bring into view their affluence and pliability and many-sided application to the growing receptivity and varying needs of men (4:248).
NAME ABOVE NAMES
Heb. 1:5

I. The message of Hebrews one is the excellency of Christ - so should it be with us.

A. 8 Particulars given.
   1. Relationship of God & Son.
   2. Worship due Jesus (v-6).
   3. Christ's divine nature (v-8).
   4. Christ's royal function (v-8).
   5. Superiority of Christ's gifts above all others (v-9).
   6. Christ's great work in Creation (v-10).
   7. Christ's immutability (v-11,12).
   8. Christ's glory & dignity (v-13).

B. In 10 verses:
   1. 7 O.T. quotes.
   2. 7 is perfect number.
   3. 5 from Psalms.
      1 from Deut.
      2 from 2 Samuel.
   4. Thus Law, Prophets, Writings.

II. Via Scriptures He Shows Christ Superior to Angels.

A. About the Scriptures:
   1. Finest way to prove anything.
      a) Testimony comes with the force of the witness bearers.
      b) Word of God impeachable - soundproof.
2. Shows authority of O.T. even in N.T. days.
3. "He says" shows Scriptures are the voice of God.
4. Arguments made from the Silence of Scriptures - (see quote).
5. Christians are expected to know them. (Dale McCook said if we didn't identify via location - and old English - some would never know its Scrp.)
6. Christians should know what is & is not in them.
7. Writer turns to:

Ps. 2:7

B. About Angels -
1. Called Sons.

Job 33:7
Job 1:6

2. They are Servants (sent) not Son.
3. Yet never called The Son.
4. We are called Sons.

2 Cor. 6:18

5. But never as The son.
6. Thus again about Scriptures:
a) Strong negation - to which did he say?
b) Negative argument from the Scrp. is a good one.
Rev. 22:18-19
C. When did God make this "This day" speech?
   1. Sonship declared.

   Lu. 1:32
   Mk. 1:11
   Lu. 9:35
   Rom. 1:4
   Eph. 1:20
   Acts 13:33-34 (Read)

III. It Answers Who is Jesus?
   A. God said he is my Son.
   Isa. 9:6
      1. Christ is the True & only Son of God.
      Matt. 3:17
      Matt. 17:3-5
         2. He alone is The Son.

   B. What does My Son imply?
      1. He's divine.
      2. Son is the same essence with The Father.
         Son is a distinct person from The Father.
      3. He is same ubiquity.
      Matt. 18:20
         4. Christ is one with the Father.
      John 10:30
      John 5:18
      Rev. 1:5
      Eph. 1:21-23
      1 Pet. 3:22
C. What's the Impact of This Day Have I Begotten Thee?

1. This day.
   a) Highly controversial.
   b) Various "timing".
      (1) Eternal generation.
      (2) Incarnation.
      (3) At baptism.
      (4) Resurrection.
   c) At incarnation Son of God becomes Son of Man - not at this time did he become Son of God.
   d) What's always been can't "become"!
   e) Gouge says "generation of Son is an everlasting generation."
   f) Son existed before creation of the world.

2. Begotten
   a) Means out of own essence to produce another like being.

Gen. 5:3
   b) Nicene Creed (325) "very God of very God, begotten not made being one substance with the Father."
   c) "What we make with our hands is different from us, but what we beget with our bodies is always the dearest thing in the world to us because it is a part of us." (C. S. Lewis)
   d) Angels made Son begotten
D. I will be a Father - He shall be to me a Son.

1. God says he is Father & Jesus so acknowledged.

Matt. 11:25 "I thank thee, Father"
Lu. 22:42 "Father, remove cup"
Lu. 23:46 "Father, into thy hands"
a) Son is such to his Father as the Father is to him.
b) God continues to be the same with His Son.
c) Quotation promised Solomon fulfilled in Jesus.

Ps. 97:7
d) God wanted no cedar house but Davidic in perpetuity.

2. Son

a) God & Christ are one.

Jn. 17:22
b) Most excellent name - Son of God.

IV. What Does All This Say?

A. Contrast between a Son and Servants (Angels).

1. "No angel could his place have taken - what did he do?"
2. No priest ever called Son.
3. Angels are to worship Him - not receive such.

Deut. 32:43

B. His Name is Wonderful!

1. Save by it.

Acts 4:12

2. Confess

Phil 2:11
3. Baptize into
Matt. 28:19

4. Pray through
Jn. 14:13
Eph. 5:20

5. Assemble
Matt. 18:20

6. Bow
Phil 2:10
In regard of an article of faith, a negative argument from Scripture is sound and good, because all articles of faith requisite to be believed are therein set down, so as if it be not to be found in the Scripture, we may well conclude that it is no article of faith.
ANGELS--ARE YOU ONE?--NOT QUITE!
Hebrews 1:14

I. Mention angels and you mention a hot subject. *Davidson's A Dictionary of Angels* has
   1. 72% Americans believe in them (up 22% since '88 and up 12% over 3 years ago.)  
      Adler quote 43
   2. Certainly Biblical.  
      a) Mentioned in 33 of the 66 books.  
      b) 295X mentioned.
   3. "Angels are not the main character of the Bible, but they are indispen- 
      sable supporting actors." 
      Fred Dickson Angels, Elect & Evil

B. It would be interesting to know what you see when I mention "angels."

   1. Francis Parr article.  
   3. Mortimer Adler article--as we study the subject.

II. First let's clear away the erroneous things heard.

   A. Angels are women.  
   B. Angels are babies.  
   C. Angels have wings and play harps (Exo. 12)  
   D. Are to be worshiped. 
   E. Dead saints become Heavenly angels.  
   F. Bible speaks of the "death" angel.  
      (Exo. 12)
G. Gabriel (Hero of God) has a horn.
1. Hodge with play on "messenger" calls them Heavenly telegram bearers.

Dan. 8:16 6. make this man to understand the vision

Dan. 9:21 Fly swiftly

2. Gabriel not called an archangel.
3. Raphael only in Enoch and Tobit--not Scripture.
4. Michael only archangel.

"Simply be the angel you are. Think beautiful thoughts...you can never fail when you are in line with the angel in you," also "There is no correct way to perceive angels. The only way to know an angel is by your feelings." where do youp come in?

I. Unknown author suggests they are "spiritual thoughts"--they "populate a landscape in which reality, myth, fantasy, legend, dreams and supernatural visions all appear hopelessly entangled."

J. "We are all capable of walking down a street and having a conversation with our angel. Talking with angels is the most natural thing in the world. When you ask your angel you can be sure you will be answered", from Ask Your Angel.

1. We are to call on God not angels.
K. They are intermediary—man experiences relationship with God through relationship with the angels. Virtually nothing can occur without the intervention of the angels. The angelic world constitutes the very relationship between the world and God." Peter Wilson, The Little Book of Angels. 

1. Remember could be a deceiving spirit. God stray "Borrowed Angel?"

1 Tim. 4:1 
2. Though we or an angel from heaven speak. Gal 1:8 
3. Chevy's Nova a bomb in Latin America—No va means "it doesn't go"—so change labels. 
4. Volvo—1 run. 

2 L. Angels sang at birth of Jesus. 
Job 38:7 
Rev. 5:11-14 
M. Not dead human—see Soulsman quote.

"We Sing Must Jesus Keep the Cross Reapers of the Lord"
III. Who or What are Angels?
   A. Erickson definition.
   B. Lockyer definition.
   C. Webber quote "do not die."
   D. Meyers titles of angels.

IV. That leads to "what do they do?"
   A. We sing angel songs, "Count your many blessings--angels will attend."
   B. Messenger--one sent.
      1. Messenger not more important than sender.
      2. Christ the star--angels stage hands.
         (Hodge)
   Col. 2:18-19
   Col. 1:17-19
   3. Examples of this.
      Lu. 1:11-20 Zechariah
      Lu. 1:30-35 Mary
      Lu. 1:36-37
      Matt. 1:18-25 Joseph
      Lu. 2:8-14
      Lu. 2:16-19
   C. Served Jesus.
      Ps. 91:11-12 Give his angels charge over thee
      1 Tim. 3:16 Seek of angels
      Lu. 2:14 Tempt. Bethsean
      Matt. 28:5 For he is not seen Jesus--he is not there
      Matt. 25:31 When the Son of Man came in his glory
   D. Harvesters
      Matt. 13:36-43 (1) Send for his angels--gather harvest
E. Return with Jesus.
2 Thess. 1:7 And ye who are troubled rest
Matt. 25:31
IV. Features of Angels.
1. A. Have feelings.
1 Peter 1:12 Desired to look into C. Gospel
2. B. Created by God.
Ps. 148:2-5
Neh. 9:6 Made Heaven C. hosts
Col. 1:16 By him were all things created
C. Innumerable.
Matt. 25:33 Every nation 2.5 billion devils, named to 50,000
Heb. 12:22 Innumerable C. of angels
Rev. 5:11 Judas 1,000 Region 3,000 Total 3,500
D. Without Sex--created no need to reproduce.
E. Great strength.
Dan. 6:22 Angels shut 400,000 mouths Gen. 1:16-19
Heb. 12:21 2 Kings 19:5 & 1 Kings 2:21 Army of Angels
F. Brilliant.
2 Sam. 14:20 Wisdom of an angel heard.
Ps. 148:2 Praise God
G. Beautiful
Acts 1:10 Clothed in white apparel
J. Voice Like Thunder
Jn. 12:29 Thunder--angels spake
1. Rejoice
Lu. 15:10
J. We become like them but never one of them.
Lu. 20:36
1. We become like them when we:
a) Obey
b) Serve
c) Be where needed.

d) Tell good news.

e) Give directions.

f) Help and protect those in need.

g) Worship God.

2. After all you judge them.

1 Cor. 6:3 "We shall judge angels"

K. Created before Fd. of world.

1. Webber clip, pg. 19


L. Invisible if so desire.

M. Appear as men.

Gen. 18:1-2

Mk. 16:5 "Serve them a new born meal."

N. Have great knowledge.

2 Sam. 14:20

1 Pet. 1:12

V. Do we have Guardian Angels?

A. Calvin, "Scripture strongly insists that angels are dispensers & administrators of God's beneficence toward us."

B. Some other statements.

"Free your inner angel child."

"An angel guided journey into creativity."

"Angels guide to personal growth."

"They are means to an end to prosperity, peace of mind, increased personal confidence."

C. Guardian idea.

1. "They help us but first live for God and serve us in submission to him. They take their cues from"
God not our ambitions or whims."
Timothy Jones Lookout 11/29/94
2. Pre-Chr. Roman religions believed in protective spirits--every man had a Genius and every woman a Juno. Judaism did
3. Origen (died 254) "every human soul is under the direction of an angel who is like a father."
4. T. Aquinas Summa theologica
   "every person has a guardian angel"
5. Muslem--2 people, one writes good, other writes bad.
6. Bible never says each has a specific angel. Acts 12:5 only reports what someone said about Peter.
7. Meyers quote:
8. They do guard and protect.
Ps. 91:11-12
Ps. 34:7 Angel encamps--delivers
Matt. 18:10 Little ones--angels do behold faces
Lu. 16:22 Rescued--carried by angels into
Heb. 1:14
Matt. 2:1-12
Matt. 13:20
9. Quotes:
   "In a thousand ways angels may assist us in our searching after truth, remove many doubts and difficulties. They may warn us of evil in disguise & place what is good in a clear stunning light."
   -John Wesley
"If you are a believer expect powerful angels to accompany you in your life journey...appearing, ministering, fellowshipping, and disappearing. They spell out the tenderness of his love; they meet a desperate need; then they are gone. Of one thing we can be sure; angels never draw attention to themselves but ascribe glory to God and press his message upon our hearts."

-Billy Graham

VI. In passing:

A. Cherubims, Seraphims, ArchAngels.

I Thess. 4:16
Jude 9
Rev. 12:7
Dan. 10:13
10:21
12:1
1. Cherubim to till, to plow.
Gen. 3:19
3:24
Exo. 37:7-9
2. Seraphim = to burn.
Isa. 6:2
6:6

B. Jesus is superior to angels--Packer on Holy Spirit--flood lights on bldg.--see bldg.

John 16:14

C. Satan has angels--but is he a fallen one?
VII. Study of Heb. 1:14

A. "Shows the intimidation of angels compared to Jesus." P.C. "Divine service to God." He shall not be made subject to angels.

B. They are Spirits. In so doing serve people

1. Their office is to serve God and Christ for the benefit of his church.
2. Lit. "liturgical spirits."

C. They are sent forth by Jesus.

1. Their position—ministering spirits awaiting dispatched duty.
2. They stand (Luke 1:19) before the throne where Christ sits and await orders.
3. God rules all this for His Son—He sends forth angels to do His service. They do not initiate the action—God, to whom glory belongs, does it.
4. Send forth on errands of helpfulness to God's people on earth in their times of emergency.
5. Since numberless, God has plenty to do his will.
6. We do not see them as they have charge over us.

Ps. 91:11-12
D. Sent forth to minister.
1. Minister usually applied to those who stood before God in his earthly sanctuary—so here the noble office of the unseen world. (Ellicott)
2. Attend = protect, care, show kindness.
3. Angelic ministrations are not properly rendered to men since the latter have no power of commanding them, though their ministrations to God are often directed to the good of men. (FJB)
4. Christ rules, they serve.
5. One thing: carry spirits of departed to Abraham's bosom, and gather saints at final judgement.
   Lot    Gen. 19
   Elijah 1 Kings 19:4-8
   Elisha 2 Kings 6:16-17
   Daniel Daniel 6:22
7. If God helps man by man, we need not wonder that he helps men by angels. (Clark)

VIII. Conclusion
A. Whatever your view the angels are a blessing to "heirs of salvation."
B. God has blessings here via angels for His children "Not really helping men (are angels) but sent forth continually to do service to God for the sake of them who are to inherit salvation." (Ellicott)

C. Heirs of Salvation used here for first time in Hebrews to describe the people of God and their destiny.

D. Salvation--the last word in Divine Purpose.

Berry's Chapel, Franklin, TN - 3/12/05 (BC)
Maryville, TN (BC) - 3/19/95
Eastwood, Hutchinson, KS - 4/24/95
In her first lesson on "A Study of Angels," Francis Parr writes,

Mention the word angel and what do you visualize? In my mind's eye, I see a beautiful woman with long, golden hair; a full, flowing, white robe; and lovely, shining wings that flutter gracefully, propelling this wonder along. Her voice is soft and gentle.

Other times the picture is of a fat, pink baby with a crossbow and heart-shaped arrows, aiming at some hapless fellow who, unknown to him is the object of a girl's affection. According to the Bible, both these images are almost totally inaccurate. But many people share these misleading mental pictures.

According to the Bible, angels are not humans who have died, whether babies or adults. According to Colossians 1:16, angels are among the invisible beings created by God. Biblical theologians point out a difference between mediate and immediate creation. In the Genesis account, God created Adam, then made Eve from Adam's rib. The first parents had children, their children had children, and the process continues to this day. While God is the creator in the beginning, people now result from being born. The theologians call this "mediate creation."
One of the strangest discussions held in scholarly circles occurred in 1943. The *Encyclopaedia Britannica* decided to publish *The Great Books of the Western World* in a set that would make it easy for the serious individual to read the major books that had shaped our culture. The series was to become the basis for thousands of discussion groups.

The editorial board selected Mortimer J. Adler, one of the foremost philosophers of our time, to edit the work. To make the project more user-friendly, it was decided to select the great ideas that ran through the great books. Mortimer Adler would then write an essay about each idea, tracing its development through the centuries and explaining its importance. One hundred two great ideas were identified. Adler had little difficulty getting his associates to agree with almost all the ideas he proposed to include. The one exception was the subject of angels.

The publisher of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* was Senator William Benton. He was flabbergasted that angels should be regarded as one of the great ideas. Robert Hutchins, president of the University of Chicago, and other members of the advisory board were also dubious about including angels, but Mortimer Adler was adamant. He pointed out that the subject of angels ran through the great books because their authors obviously considered angels of major importance. Adler found it curious that such a major idea was being currently ignored.

Ultimately, Mortimer Adler prevailed. The volume of essays on the great ideas was titled *The Syntopican*. The first article, “Angels,” was 5000 words long.
Gary Soulsman, writing an article that was carried in the Gannett chain of newspapers quotes a common opinion: “Angels are nothing more than human beings who have lived and died. We are all potentially angels with different qualities and characteristics. We are angels in the making.” —Marilyn & Wm. Webber

Millard J. Erickson offers the definition I consider most fitting: "by angels we mean those spiritual beings which God created higher than man, some of whom have remained obedient to God and carry out His will, and others of whom disobeyed, lost their holy condition, and oppose and hinder His work."

--Edward P. Myers
A Study of Angels, pg. 4
Herbert Lockyer says "the word is chiefly used in the Bible to represent those super human beings whose abode is heaven, and who function as the unseen agents in the execution of the will of God."

Angels do not die. Once God has created an angel, the angel continues to exist. On earth, if people had not had children, within a generation everyone would have died and there would be no one on earth. It is not like that with angels. God did not make them able to reproduce, because there was no reason for them to do so. God has created every angel necessary, and they all continue to be, to this day.

The exact time of their creation is not known, but Job 38:7 tells us that they shouted with joy at the creation of the world.

Marilyn & Wm. Webber

The Rustle of Angels, no. 172.
BIBLICAL TITLES GIVEN TO ANGELS

In many instances, the Scriptures clearly refer to the angelic host even though the words 
malak and angello{ are not used.

Angels are sometimes called “holy ones” (Dan. 4:13; 4:23; 
Ps. 89:5-7; Deut. 33:2; Dan. 8:13).

Angels are referred to as “sons of God,” and “sons of the 
Mighty” (Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7; NIV translates “angels”).

Angels are called “ministering spirits” [of God] (Heb. 1:14), 
mighty ones” (Ps. 103:21), and “messengers” [of God’s inter-
est] (Dan. 4:13, 17, 23). Collectively they are referred to as 
the council of holy ones” (Ps. 89:7).

Reference is made to angels as the “heavenly hosts,” (Luke 
2:13) and to the “hosts” [as in “Lord of Hosts”]. Isaiah uses the 
term “host HOSTS” more than 60 times. Angels are also called 
“heavenly beings” (Ps. 89:6).

—Edward P. Myers
A Study of Angels

5
Even the Wall Street 'ouma noticed it: There has been an explosion of interest in angels. Angels are not a new fad—they've been around for a long time. Open the pages of Scripture, and there's a rustle of angels. They appear in the Bible over three hundred times, popping up in the most unlikely places and doing unexpected things. Here are a few of their biblical roles: ladder climbers, wrestlers, lion tamers, weight lifters, birth announcers, recruiters, warriors, executioners, rescuers, and comforters. The Rustle of Angels, pg. 13 Marilynn & Wm. Webber
HELP INDIVIDUALS

Matthew 18:10 tells us that angels help individuals. Jesus says, "See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven." It does not say "the" angels, or just "angels," but says "their" angels—a possessive reference. They are angels of a particular function and work. The term "guardian angel" is not found in Scripture, but the concept probably comes from this verse.

If there are "guardian angels," then the question arises, Have angels failed to do their job when something goes wrong? Not necessarily so. It just might be that angels are limited in what they can do in their guardianship of man. Just as the book of Job depicts that Satan is limited in what he can do yet has a great deal of power, so we should be able to conceive of angels having a work to do in individual lives that can only go so far. Man is a creature of free will and God will not coerce him, even by using his angels, to do what man does not want to do.
A car accident turned me more to the Lord than anything else in my life, up to that point. There had been other things, however, which made me wonder if the Lord had some purpose for me. I will give an example.

In Oklahoma the roads follow section lines, which have been surveyed north and south, east and west.

One day in mid summer, I was driving the old Ford without a top, straight north on a country road. I had no hat, and when I felt I could stand the heat no longer, a small cloud appeared, and moved straight down the road at the same speed of the car. I stayed under the shade of that little cloud until I cooled off.

I thanked God for the cloud, and wondered if this was some indication that God might have something in mind for me later. My life at that time seemed to have no purpose, but I asked myself if God might be protecting me for some later service, and I began to feel that he was.

The car accident was with the same Ford touring car without a top. I was in a hurry, driving a road I did not know. Going over a little hill there was a steep drop, and a sharp turn at the bottom. In trying to make the turn, the car flipped over, took down the fence, and landed on its top. When the dust settled and I realized where I was, the back of the car was resting across my chest. I then wondered why I was not hurting, but soon realized that I was lying in a little ditch the rain had washed out. While lying there I became aware that if I had fallen six inches to either side, I would have been crushed. My thought then was that my guardian angel had placed me in the right position to fall into the little ditch, or perhaps God had the rain wash out that little ditch in preparation for my coming.

A farmer, living close by, saw my accident and came running to help me. I was able to squirm my way out from under the car, and we were able to turn the car over. With minor correction it was still in running condition. We repaired the fence and I was again on my way.

\[\text{Future is better than the past. \[Wm\]Bentley}^{4/7}\]
The angel of the Lord was therefore no other than the Logos which not only was with God but was God and in Christ Jesus was made flesh and came into his own. The difference between the Lord and the angel of the Lord is generally hidden behind the unity of the two. For the most part the Lord is referred to as He who chose Israel as His nation and kingdom and who would reveal Himself at some future time to His people in all of His glory so that in the New Testament nearly all the manifestations of the Lord under the old covenant are referred to Christ and regarded as fulfilled through Him.

A Study of Angels, pg. 74 – Edward P. Myers

It is possible that the angel of the Lord was simply an angel with a special commission. There seem to be fewer difficulties in understanding the ministry of the angel of the Lord if we see the angel as a momentary revelation of God on this earth.

The Rustle of Angels, pg. 73 Marilyn & Wm. Webber
CONCLUSION

Who, then, is the angel of the Lord? What is the most credible response to this question?

To this many answers have been given, of which the following may be mentioned: (1) This angel is simply an angel with a special commission; (2) He may be a momentary descent of God into visibility; (3) He may be the Logos, a kind of temporary preincarnation of the second person of the Trinity. Each has its difficulties, but the last is certainly the most tempting to the mind. Yet it must be remembered that at best these are only conjectures that touch on a great mystery. It is certain that from the beginning God used angels in human form, with human voices, in order to communicate with man; and the appearances of the angel of the Lord, with his special redemptive relation to God's people, show the working of that Divine mode of self-revelation which culminated in the coming of the Savior, and are thus a foreshadowing of, and a preparation for, the full revelation of Jesus Christ.2

A Study of Angels, pg. 73 - Edward P. Myers
I. Did you ever neglect anything?
   A. Pay your light bill?
   B. Taking care of a tooth that intermittently aches?
   C. Repairing tire that's often low?
II. What was the penalty paid by you for any neglect?
   A. More weeds in the garden.
   B. Weed eater won't start due to old gas.
   C. Would you admit that neglect was harmful and costly?
III. If we are on the same wave length, let's talk about life's greatest neglect or error.
   Heb. 2:1-3
IV. A Study of the Text
   A. It begins with therefore.
      1. We see an argument proceed from the lesser to the greater.
      2. Therefore suggests a conclusion.
      3. Does this not imply the time of opportunity is fleeting and temporary?
      4. It's the same as saying "on the account of this."
   B. We ought to give the more earnest heed to things heard.
      1. Ought = bound.
         a) It's imperative.
         b) It's more extensively important.
      2. Earnest -- close attention.
         a) Not careless.
         b) No care free attitude.
   a) You've had an opportunity.
   b) The power of teaching and preaching seen.
   c) What have you heard--plea or politics, after all salvation is not wholly God's affair--part ours.
   d) Men are not left to unaided memory.

C. Possible to let matters slip.
   1. Drift--as a boat.
      a) Always downstream.
      b) Don't strive, don't drift.
   2. Float past them.
   3. To drift is to ignore dignity of Him who spoke--namely, Christ.
   4. Faith in the Scripture our moorings.
   5. Faith our cable.
   6. Lapses often come from inattention more than design.
   7. Slip--as used in Bible.
      a) Arrow slipping out of quiver.
      b) Snow slide.
      c) Foul language slipping into conversation.
      d) Medically--food slipping down windpipe. (Fudge)
      e) Things slip and are forgotten.
V. The Big If
A. It shows something is coming.
B. It shows I have a part to play, neglect leads to make light of.
C. Word spoken by Angels was steadfast—and
D. Every transgression & disobedience receives a just recompense.
   1. Transgress = step over—doing what the law forbids.
   2. Positively done.
   3. Disobey—refuse to hear.
Matt. 22:1-4
4. Violation of an express command.
E. Recompense
   1. Award
   2. Payment
   3. We live in a dependable universe—else defy gravity & see results.
VI. Big Question—How Shall We Escape?
(Note we—all in it together)
A. No way to escape but by gospel.
B. Punishment certain if we fail.
C. God alone knows the true desert & demerit of sin.
D. Warnings of certainties are unanswerable question.
E. No escape because:
   1. God's omnipresent—can't get away from Him.
   2. Omniscient—can't outwit.
   3. Omnipotent—can't overpower.
G. If neglect of the law brings punishment—what will the gospel do?
G. Those who neglect will perish.
H. To neglect the gospel is to despise the Son.
1. Ruin comes because of neglect.

Heb. 10:8

VII. What Are We Neglecting?
So Great Salvation
A. What makes it so great?
1. It's an assured covenant—won't lose savings as in Russia.
2. Great via way it came.
3. Great by which it was wrought.
4. Great due to the infinite wisdom of God.
5. Great because of the one who first revealed it—Jesus.
6. Great because of evils from which it saves us.
7. Great by agents involved.
8. So don't get involved in lesser things.
9. Great because of spokesmen, its work of redemption, the results from it.
10. It carries a judgement equally great.
11. It's salvation's theme—part God, part us.

G. Its first spokesman—the Lord.
1. Not from prophets or angels but from Jesus.
2. He's the first preacher.
3. He's perennial prophet.
4. He brought grace & truth.

C. Confirmed
   1. By those who heard.
   2. By God—his standard of righteousness has not been altered & he still expects obedience from us.
      a) Miracles to prove.
      b) Miracles to attract attention.
      c) Miracles to show powers.
      d) Special gifts of the Spirit.
   4. God jointly attested the preaching.
THE MEDAL ON THE CAPTAIN
Hebrews 2:10

I. All of us have seen men and their medals.
   A. Soldiers have them for valor, wounds, victory, unselfish service.
   B. But let me tell you of the highest decorated Captain I ever encountered.
      1. He had a mission—to bring many sons unto glory.
      2. It necessitated suffering that in perfection he might do this.

Heb. 2:10 "For it became him, for whom are all"
   a) We'll see the divine identify with the human.
   b) We'll see our salvation arranged.

II. The Scheme of Redemption is due to the genius of God. (2nd stanza "By Christ Red."
A. Jesus tasted death for every man (Mark 2:9).
   1. His suffering death shocks many people.
   2. But about this and God's allowance of it, the Bible says it "became him."
      a) Suffering of the Redeemer was not accidental but planned as the general plan of divine providence. (Bruce)
      b) God initiated it.
      c) The work of Christ on the cross is a stumbling block to Jews, foolishness to Gentiles, but was an act worthy of God.
   3. Word "became" Him.
      a) We use it to compliment.
b) Fitting, seemly, final cause.

c) God chose this method to gain a life since "it became him."

d) Became implies necessity, duty, agreement of one thing to another.

e) Became God because of his mercy, justice, holiness, power, truth, love, wisdom--it fits!

f) Greatest power of God is seen in his Son becoming man and dying. (Gouge)

g) We need to show ourselves as Sons of Christ.

h) Harmony is seen in the moral government of the world--vindicates the right of divine government to forgive the violation of man by his sins.

i) Him is God.

j) If God is so concerned about the souls of men should we not be?

B. Exaltation of God.

1. Became Him.

2. For whom are all things.

3. By whom are all things.

   a) The Lord is the final efficient cause of all things.

   b) Heaven's the brightest thing God made.

I Tim. 6:16

c) All creatures come into existence through God's creative agency. They exist for his glory & they find their goal in Him in whom is found all creative & spiritual life. (Tyndal)
d) Thus used about Jesus in Heb. 1:2—Jesus thus not inferior to God.
e) Agent of Creation.

Rom. 11:36

III. What Does God Want?

A. Bring many sons unto glory.
   1. Really "having brought."
   2. Be content with what He sets before us thus reverence and obey Him.
   3. Bringing implies leading one willingly—not by force.
   4. Many Sons to glory.
      a) Embraces women too.

2 Cor. 6:18
   b) Wants to bring a multitude of obedient folk.
   c) Great in where He wants to take you—glory.

B. Possible Only Through Jesus.
   1. There is seen in Jesus a present realization of man's destiny.
   2. Jesus is for the benefit of every man.
   3. By virtue of him we become joint heirs.

Rom. 3:23
5:2
8:29-30
   4. Must be a son to be brought to glory.
      Everybody is not.

C. Jesus is called the Captain of our Salvation.
1. He fully qualifies to be the pioneer of man's salvation through the process of human suffering.

2. Called Captain.
   a) 3 other times.

Acts 5:31
12:2
3:15

b) Leaders
c) Author, Head, Chief, Source.
d) Trailblazer who leads the way of Pioneer.
e) File leader--church follows Jesus in single file.
f) Guide, deliverer, encourager.
g) Originates--carries us through.
h) Archegos--pioneer.

Acts 3:15
5:31

i) For hero who founded a city & gave it his name.
j) He made the pilgrimage we are making.
k) He opened the way for us.
l) 1927 Lindburg crossed Atlantic in 33 hours without communication. No one else had--no contingency plan to rescue him.
m) Compound--to rule and to lead.
n) Christ can lead us through death, resurrection and exaltation--he's done all three.
3. Like our Captain who fulfilled his mission we should fulfill the assignment God gives us.

IV. Our Captain Made Perfect Through Suffering.
A. Hard to explain—Milligan said only God could understand it.
B. Grasp "Perfect."
   1. To complete a process (Jesus was always perfect).
   2. To bring to destiny or to appropriate consummation.
   3. Legal and official—not moral perfection in mind—He was sinless.
   4. To finish or accomplish a thing—to put an end to it.
   5. Used of a human full grown.
   6. It fully carries out the purpose or the plan for which he was proposed.
   7. Nothing left for Him to do—did it all for us.
   8. Teleiosai—to make adequate or completely effective.
C. By his suffering Jesus was made a perfect or complete sin offering.
D. It is his suffering and atonement that can sanctify us.
E. Our afflictions can be made subservient to that end.

V. Now see "Suffering."
A. This is the method used by God.
B. Found his way to the Crown by way of the Cross.
6.

C. We are not saved by suffering. (I've had it bad--give me heaven) but by a Savior who did.

D. This about Jesus is often repeated.

Matt. 20:28 "Son of man came to give his life a ransom for many"

Matt. 26:28
Rom. 5:19
Rev. 7:9

E. Through suffering He identifies with man.
   1. GK idea of God--detachment.
   3. Christ feels for man.
   4. Because he sympathizes and feels he can easily help.

F. Had not Jesus blazed the way there'd be no salvation.

G. His mission is to provide the basis on which salvation can be offered others.

H. Not a government of caprice but of divine propriety.

VI. Are you a Son, an Heir?--if not, how do you propose to enter glory?
"HOLY, AND HOW I GOT TO BE THAT WAY"

Heb. 3:1-6

I. We often are interested in people's attainment.
A. Golfer - & how I got to be that way.
B. Slim - & how I got to be that way.
C. Rich - & how I got to be that way.
D. Why not holy & how I got to be that way.

II. I believe Heb. 3:1-6 tells us. From it I'd like you to see various things.

A. The often "wherefore". (V. 1).
   1. Connective c what goes before, c what has?
      a.) Jesus superior to angels.
      b.) Jesus friend of man, Son of man.
      c.) Jesus experienced things for man.

2:18 "For in that he himself hath suffered..."
   d.) Will be shown He's above Moses.
   e.) This is an urgent participle.

2. Always remember the Bible is practical - it connects the theoretical c the day to day living.
   It answers the "so what".

B. Holy Brethren.
   1. Only here in all NT are saints called "holy brethren".
      a.) Sometimes called holy.
      b.) Sometimes called brethren.
   2. How'd they get to be brothers (born of same womb):
      a.) Not by race.
      b.) Not by nationality.
      c.) Not by adoption.
      d.) But by faith in Christ.
e.) All came into Jesus same way.
3. Holy.
Eph. 5:5 "For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor
Heb. 12:14 "Follow peace with all men, and holiness,
4. Description of all true Christians.
(a) Brethren (relation & affection).
(b) Holy (for service, separation and enjoyment of
God).
C. Partakers of the Heavenly Calling.
1. Jesus once shared flesh & blood c men.
2:17 "Wherefore in all things it behooved him
2. Sharing flesh he now does the heavenly calling.
3. Why so designated? Milligan says:
(a) Comes from Heaven. Growth ideal-event
(b) Leads to Heaven. perfect, big takers but I'll
(c) "Feels hearts of partakers. have some little ones
4. Draper, lifting from Barclay, said
(a) Salvation is from heaven to heaven.
b.) From God to God.
5. This heavenly calling is the one common thing we
share since all are not of same intelligence,
same wealth or same opportunity.
6. To partake means to hold with another.
7. Remember:
(a) God has invested us c great dignity.
b.) Everything about our calling is heavenly!
D. Consider — C.B. Smock — Front cover backside.
1. This an intense word:
a.) Closely observe.
b.) To fix purposefully.
Matt. 6:28 "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider..."

2. The one to consider is Jesus. He was pioneer who led the way for us.
3. Why else consider Him?
   a.) Faithful.
   b.) Appointed - Made over House.
   c.) More glory than Moses.
   d.) Son over house.

4. Is Christ often in your thoughts?
5. Please note - no man stumbles into heaven. It's not accidentally or haphazardly found but real purpose & search is there. It's not an accident.

E. Apostle.
1. What does apostle mean?
   a.) One sent.
   b.) Ambassador.
   c.) One deputed for transaction of any important business.
2. Applied only here to Jesus & no one else in all of Hebrews named an apostle. What does this convey?
   a.) Jesus is God's representative to man.
   b.) He is able to instruct in all things.
3. See Barclay clipping on circle.

F. High Priest.
1. Naturally follows - as apostle he is God's representative to man; & as HP he's man's representative to God!
2. Latin for Priest is from "bridge builder".
3. He then opens the way to Heaven for us.
G. He is our Profession.
1. We associate this word with that which is very public in utterance. No secret disciples
2. It is a fixed statement of faith.
3. (Note that Heb. uses Jesus more often than most epistles.)
4. This profession means our spoken words; not the witness of our lives.
5. Profession shows:
   a.) Agreement - compact.
   b.) Admission - confession.
6. About Jesus you profess what?
Matt. 16:13-18 "When Jesus came into the coasts of
1 Jn. 4:15 "Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the
III. Put it all together. Jesus claims, because of what He is, a holy people. Are we?
East Ridge Church, Chattanooga, Tenn,
17th Training for Service Series 4-14-77
ARISE, MY SOUL, ARISE

Arise, my soul, arise,
Shake off thy guilty fears;
The bleeding Sacrifice
In thy behalf appears;

Before the throne my Surety stands,
My name is written on His hands,
My name is written on His hands.

His Spirit answers to the blood,
And tells me I am born of God,
And tells me I am born of God.

Charles Wesley
The ambassador was clothed with the authority of the empire from which he came. So Jesus came from God, clothed with all the power of God. All God's grace and mercy and love and power were in His ambassador, His apostolos, Jesus Christ.

(b) The voice of the ambassador is the voice of the king or country who sent him. In a foreign land the British ambassador speaks for Britain. His is the voice of Britain. So Jesus came with the voice of God; in Him God speaks; in listening to Him we hear the voice of God.
STARE AT THE SAVIOR
Heb. 3:1-6

I. What do you think about? What do you ponder?
What's occupied your mind lately more than anything? Let me make a plea - let it be Jesus!

II. Heb. 3:1-6 gives a challenge for this consideration.
May I lead you to ponder the Prince. We see these things:

A. Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling - this says a lot about you!

1. Wherefore
   a.) You can reason - you can think.
   b.) You are invited to compare & correlate facts you have.

2. Holy brethren.
   a.) Holy often used.
   b.) God calls you holy because of Jesus 1 Cor. 1:30.
   c.) Then we are commanded to become holy (1 Pet. 1:15-16).
   d.) W/o it none see God Heb. 12:14.
   e.) Saints always plural.
   f.) Brethren a great word.

3. Partakers of Heavenly Calling.
   a.) Chr. have many differences, but we share this in common.

B. Consider Jesus.

1. Consider.
   a.) Doesn't mean to glance or barely notice.
   b.) Rather fix your attention in such a way to study & learn.
b.) Direct Exo. 24:12
And the Lord Moses!

John 9:29 We that God spake unto Moses: as

IIa.) One sent - Jesus Mission was my salvation.
b.) Heb. writer calls no one else an apostle.
c.) Has authority like an ambassador.
d.) Had a most important assignment.

3. High Priest.
a.) Priest from pontifex in Latin = bridge builder.
b.) Speaks to man for God.
    $peaks to God for man.
c.) Jesus call HP Heb. 2:17.

4. Christ Jesus.
a.) Jesus - human side.
b.) Christ - anointed - also used as proper name.
c.) 1st X Christ use in Heb.

C. Contrasts c Moses.
1. Remember Jews dearly loved Moses. Cited his
   credentials - writer deals c it tactfully giving
   him all his dues.
   a.) He spoke c God face to face - other prophets
      via visions - Moses mouth to mouth.
   Nu. 12:8 "With him will I speak mouth to mouth, eve
   Exo. 33:11 "And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face"
   b.) Direct recipient of law.
   Exo. 24:12 "And the Lord said unto Moses, Come up
   John 9:29 "We know that God spake unto Moses: as for
   c.) Faithful.
   Nu. 12:6-7 "And he said, Hear now my words: If ther
2. Both Jesus & Moses Faithful.
a.) What quality is higher than this!
b.) Yet both men rejected by folk they came to
serve - were still faithful tho.
3. Jesus ahead of Moses because:
a.) Builder of house is more important than the
house.
1.) Remember God appointed both.
2.) Jesus permanently counted worthy.
b.) Moses a servant - Jesus the Son.
1.) Servant is always preparing for things yet to be
he's getting ready.
2.) House is made for the Son.
3.) Word tho for Moses not of a slave but of one
who chose to be a servant - he had a choice -
not compelled but freely chose.
4.) Note contrasts:
a.) Son vs. Servant.
b.) Son over - Moses in house.
c.) Son over own house, in house of another.
D. We are God's House Conditionally.
1. One translation uses house 7X.
2. It's not church bldg.
3. It's the people - House of Hanover.
4. Houses can't contain God.
Acts 17:24 "God that made the world and all things to
5. He dwells in us.
1 Cor. 6:19 "What? Know ye not that your body is the
6. Note the "if".
a.) Conditional.
b.) Or never really had it as Bapt. say.
7. If shows --
   a.) Danger of falling.
   b.) Need of perseverance.
   c.) Emphasis on tenacity.
   d.) Saving faith trusts & obeys until the end.
   e.) Firm - w/o wavering - no declining from or shaking.
   f.) Continue to the end!
8. We must have confidence!
   Things will be right. We must have hope.
After dinner on by breakfast

Exciting - Home - blue - will bring another book

Flying - how can anything go as fast as this into

Boeing - wind behind side door

Electric Auto - 38 gas 43000 dollars and

Magic - disappear - terrible - work - ship

People - open luggage - found things lost 25%

1. RT foot hurts - old age - as old
2. Dr. - have you had complaining - best will interfere
3. Make withdrawal - from bank - half at joint cost
4. Guess Age - 100 younger looks - interfere
5. Insure - cause of death - nothing serious
6. John Anderson, having gone to sea, his eight year
7. Golf in Heaven - God gives - see at once
8. 300 operations - hasn't cut self yet
9. Black and Brown shoe - 20 x today
10. Dr. - close 1" either way out of spell
11. 30 qt potatoes - buy a whole one
12. Children of Israel - new grew up
13. Application - Crossword Smart during Office

new and better. I did.
Kids
1. Been Hunt: Cat had kittens
2. Chewing Gum Rubber-Nocar. had football
3. Seen cute, red head, brother had any where
4. Bigger hole - bigger piece of pic - 2.23 sq. will be
5. Teen Ager Run cts - phone rings
6. Go to Heaven - ran in 4 cat: shadow 4am
7. Dummy - he's got Rubber teeth
8. Some body help little boy
9. Paul hat out paddle - bashed too tight
10. Boots - snowy on them
11. Swallow Coin - Call Paccher - get money out of anything
Crazy Coni bal - ate pictures - de hand - ate 60 stoll eyes

Cowboy Xtra - huan - Come get it
Berry more - Excuse friend - haven't seen
Battle wits - unmanned 924
Cats Car our Clubs - get air way on pond
I. It is no secret that the Bible tells of gardens and things that grow there.
   A. One is Eden - good for taste, eye, beauty.
   B. Jerusalem - Jesus buried and raised-life eternal.

II. With a little play on words one in Hebrews 4.
   A. Four times "Let Us."
   B. They are:
      v-1 Let us fear.
      v-11 Let us labor.
      v-14 Let us hold fast.
      v-16 Let us come boldly.
   C. This "let us" is just the vitamin to grow stronger, zealous, faithful Christians.
      1. Let us be careful and continue.
      2. Let us never slack - let us labor, work.
      3. Let us never weaken - hold fast.
      4. Let us win - come boldly to the throne.
   D. "Let us" see these four injunctions.

III. Let us fear lest a promise bring.
A. The Israelites lost the rest of Canaan due to obstinacy and unbelief. Let us be careful we come not short through the same causes.

B. There is the possibility of failing to enter the rest of God.
   1. Emphasis is on fear, carefulness.
   2. Whole church should be on its guard lest any single individual drop out.
   3. Each one is important.
   4. Thus a renewed warning against remissioness.
   5. The call to fear carries with it the suggestion each saint should examine himself for any signs of waywardness.
   6. We have the example of the Jews in the wilderness—they due to unbelief and disobedience failed to enter the Promised Land. Are we slipping?

C. He writes they "came short of it."
   1. That means to miss it.
   2. In a race to come short is to fail—however short it is.
   3. Don't let the devil hinder your last few steps and come short.
   4. If we do come short, is it not our own fault?
D. The gospel was preached to us and to them.
1. It via preaching gives man hope today - renewing it.
2. The wilderness folk heard Moses and the elders as we today hear Jesus.
3. They could have persevered even as we can.
4. They disbelief and fell.
5. The word is preached for our profit, yet they did not see it as God's words through no faith, thus it increased their damnation.
6. Joshua and Caleb believed it and were profitted.
7. For it to profit you, it must be heard and mixed with faith.
   a) Word mixed a peculiar expressive. It is a metaphor taken from the nutritive of the human body by mixing the elements taken into the stomach with saliva and gastric juices in order for digestion to take place. To receive nutritive unmixed with juices is to cause death.
   b) We mix what we hear with faith and are saved.
c) Unbelief is the root of all unprofitableness—faith in the hearer is the life of the word. Faith must act and exercise while we hear the word, assessing the truth of it, approving of it, applying in obedience.

d) It's those who believe and obey that truly enter.

e) The promise remains open and inexhaustible.

f) Literally "the word of hearing."

g) Hearing is not enough, believe and obey.

h) Many kinds of hearings: disinterested, critical, skeptical, cynical, mocking, believing and acting.

E. For we believe and do enter rest.

1. Present tense—not future, but present reality.

2. If they believingly associate themselves with those who obey, they can be saved.

3. Will we exercise that persevering faith and obtain the rest?

4. The rest is not inactivity, but describes satisfaction and repose successful achievements.
5. Blessing began but are not yet consumated - it is now and yet!
6. The rest of God has been in existence for men to share since the creation of the world was finished.

IV. Let us labor to enter the rest.
   A. Labor
      1. Signifies every exertion of body and mind - it is the one thing to do.
      2. Laboring now makes the rest more pleasant when it comes.
   Ecc. 5:12
      3. Let us do our diligence.
   B. Rest
      1. Possibility has not passed and gone - it exists now.
      2. God's word cannot be broken. the promise remains open.
      3. Lest any man fall off from the grace of God, from the gospel and its blessings and perish everlastingly.
      4. The writer knew a man might make final shipwreck of faith and be lost.
   C. Unbelief did them in.
      1. Believe, obey, love, you enter in.
2. Belief a matter of the heart - man can't see but it does not pass the notice of God.
3. No escape for disobedience and unbelief - didn't need to say "and is not baptized."
4. See the misery of the disbelievers - no grace or glory his.
5. Unbelief keeps us out.
6. As sure as the unbelieving Jews fell in the wilderness and never reached the Promised Land, so sure it is that unbelievers fall into destruction and never reach Heaven.

V. Let us hold fast our profession.
A. We have a great high priest.
   1. Superiority of Christian system over the old.
   2. OT priest came with fear and trembling with the blood of the victim.
   3. If they transgressed could be struck dead.
   4. Christ's executives are part of priesthood on earth by dying for us, the other he executes in Heaven preceding the cause and presenting the offerings of his people.
5. OT priest had to be fully in touch with men, as well as God.  
6. His task to bring the voice of God to men and bring the presence of God to men, as well as usher men into the presence of God.

B. Overpassed into Heaven and his name is Jesus.  
1. OT priest passed through vale into Holy place yearly.  
2. Jesus once for all entered Heaven with his own blood into the presence of God.  
3. His name is Jesus - healer, Savior and giver of divine protection to all who come to God by him.  
4. He partook of human nature, being submitted to all trials and distress—tempted like we are yet without sin and able to succor us in our trials.  
5. He lived the human life.

C. Touched with the feelign of our infirmities.  
1. Perfect sympathy for his fellow-man.  
2. Joined with divine omnipotence, but can both forgive and strengthen you to bear trials.
3. Tender concern for us as no one else can—can sympathize and satisfy.

4. It is destructive that Jesus is the gift of sympathy. To the Jew God was holy and that meant different. The basic idea of God was that he was different, that he belonged to a completely different sphere of life and being from that to which we belong, that in no sense did He share our human experiences. (Barclay)

5. Infirmities cover all the frailties of human nature.

6. Yet Christ never sinned.

John 14:30

D. Yet in all points tempted as we, yet without sin.

1. Jesus can say, "I've been there."

2. It makes God able to help as He knows our problems. The best person to give you advice on your journey is the one who has travelled the road before you.

3. His temptations were genuine.

4. Because of humanity and earthly experience, he is able to sympathize.
5. Human nature of Jesus gives assurance of sympathy and confidence of strength.

   a) Means apart from sin.
   b) Does not mean the ability to sin, but without having in fact sinned.
   c) Knows the depth and tension which we can never know.

VI. Let us come boldly unto the throne.
   A. Repeatedly we are invited here--open access to all who will come.
   B. Come
      1. Approach, draw near used seven times in Hebrews.
      2. Technical term employed of the priest who alone was able to approach God in worshipful service.
      3. Means draw near--privilege formerly restricted to a few is now extended all people of God.
      4. Guilty may come.
   C. Boldly
      1. All who feel need of salvation may come confidentially with the liberty of speech. He may receive pardon of all sins and there is mercy for the taking.
2. Come without doubt, fear--come with confidence.
3. Never think the best days of the church are past--His arm is not shortened nor is his power less. Great manifestation of His power is not past--it is ever present. He is still God!
4. God is as great today as He ever was.

D. Throne of Grace - Mercy
1. Not tribunal of strict and inexorable justice dispensed in death, but throne of grace.
2. Mercy refers to pardon of sin and being brought to favor of God.
3. Grace supports the soul after we receive mercy, purified from unrighteousness, upheld in trials, faithful unto death.
4. Mercy and grace is what we want.
5. Guilty and without merit--need mercy, still weak our only hope is grace.
6. God gives mercy because he understands.

E. Grace to help in time of need.
1. Like manna in the wilderness -- a new supply daily.
2. He will find literally "well timed help" - help in the nick of time before it is too late.
3. Help in time of need's seasonable support.
4. It comes as the consequence of an earnest cry of the person in distress.
5. Word signifies to "run at the cry."
6. To such a cry the compassioned high priest will run in time of need and show mercy.
7. You may expect to see grace and mercy when you call.
8. Come with reverence and godly fear, not as one dragged before a tribunal of justice, but kindly invited there.
9. We go there through a mediator.
10. Present tense is used and it suggests time of need is frequent, therefore come regularly to throne as a daily exercise.
11. Several things are seen:
   a) There is a throne of grace.
   b) Mercy is sprinkled through the atoning blood of the lamb which takes away sins.
   c) Come in faith and apply ethics.
   d) Call aloud on God for his mercy if we expect him to run to our assistance.
   e) Feel the spiritual necessity of the call.
f) We get blessings via Jesus and God is well-pleased and takes refuge in atonement.
g) This calling we approach with confidence.
h) All of these are reasons for our perseverance.

Franklin, KY - 9/9/01
Walnut St., Dickson, TN - 10/21/01
Antioch - 11/4/01
IT TAKES 3 TO GO TO HEAVEN
Heb. 4:1-2

1. Anyone remotely acquainted with God surely knows He wants only my good.
   A. He holds before me 3 things.
      1. Salvation from past sins.
      Acts 2:38 "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be
      Rom. 6:1-2 "What shall we say then? Shall we continu
      1 Pet. 1:15 "But as he which hath called you is holy, ;
      3. Heaven at the end of the journey.
      Jn. 14:1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe
   B. He uses 3 parties for me to make this rest.
      1. Himself.
      Heb. 4:1 A promise...left us of entering into his
      2. His servants.
      Heb. 4:2 "For unto us was the gospel preached, a
      3. Me.
      Heb. 4:1 Let us therefore fear
      Heb. 4:1 Any of you should come short
      Heb. 4:2 Word to be rec. in faith

II. God's Done Much For Me.
   A. He sent me a promise.
      1. I didn't deserve it.
      2. It came via OT, prophets, apostles.
      3. He has a rest & planned from the 1st to share it
         with men.
      Acts 13:32 "We declare unto you glad tidings how
         that the promise was made unto the fathers
   B. What is this rest of God.
      1. Promised land.
2. Sabbath.

Gen. 2:2 "And on the seventh day God ended his work
3. Peace in fulfilling destiny.

(a) Rest & peace in being a conscious partner of God
Heb. 3:14 "We are made partakers of Christ, if we hol
1 Cor. 3:9 "For we are labourers together with God; ye
(b) I'm free from bondage of Moses & have beauty
of new worship.
(c) I'm in Christ.

4. Rest is His - unchangeable - needs no additions.

No alterations possible.

III. Others Have Blessed Me.

A. I'm blessed by their obedience.

B. By their labors.

1. Man can't be saved other than by preaching of
   gospel.

2. Gospel both old & new.

1 Jn. 1:1-4 "That which was from the beginning, whic
C. By their example.

1. In obedience.

2. Or disobedience.

Heb. 10:26-28 "For if we sin wilfully after that we
have received the knowledge
Heb. 10:31 "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands

IV. I Must Face Myself.

A. I've go the word.

B. It's been bought.

C. What will I do about it?

1. Hearing alone not enuf - Jews heard - disbelieve

V. 2 "But the word preached did not profit.
2. Must have hearing mixed c faith.

V. 2 "Being mixed with faith in them that
(a) Describes digestion of food in stomach and
assimilation of nutrients thruout body.
(b) Regardless of food's beauty must be digested.
(c) Improperly digested harms.

D. Am I entering rest or distress?

V. 3 "For we which have believed do enter

V. 6 "They to whom it was 1st preached entered

1. He bids us "Let us fear."
(a) Don't deny remedy provided & tendered to all.
(b) Abhor all sin; respect its nature & its end.
(c) We must be people of watchfulness.

E. Faith my responsibility, grace God's—I do the
mixing.

F. Faith a compound of knowledge, confidence,
obedience.

Sheet End 10-21-73
WAVES OF EVANGELISM
Heb. 4:3-9

I. Aren't you impressed with repeated acts of kindness?
II. Then surely you are impressed with the overtures of God's grace.
   A. Like ceaseless surf they roll.
   B. As day follows night.
   C. From everlasting to everlasting.
III. I then I fail, whose fault is it?

IV. Purpose of this lesson to show waves of grace - 4 in number.
   A. Works were finished from the first day of the world
      (V. 3).
      1. God always planned for my salvation.
      Matt. 25:41 "Then shall he say to them on the left hand
      2 Pet. 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promises"
      2. He had it before the first day.
      1 Pet. 1:18 "Forasmuch as ye know that we were
      3. He worked and rested as he wants such for us.
         (a) Rabbis made great use of 7th day - no evening
         as in all other days, thus rest of God is eternal
         & everlasting.
         (b) Rest & labor are correlated - one incumbent on
         other.
   B. God renewed it in David.
      1. Jews had another shot in David's time.
2. Today is always God's time.
   Heb. 4:2  "Again he limited a certain day
3. Then and always word was competent to do what
   God wanted done.
Rom. 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Chri
4. Spoke by David (v. 7).
5. Does by Jesus.
Heb. 1:3  "Who being the brightness of his glory, and:
Eph. 1:9 "Having made known unto us the mystery of
C. It came earlier in Joshua.
1. Word for Jesus & Joshua same.
2. Joshua did not bring true rest.
3. God's wanted his word preached everywhere.
4. 500 yr. before David.
5. We, like they, do not enter our goal automatically.
   It's good to fear.
Heb. 12:28 "Wherefore we receiving a Kingdom
6. Gospel must be appropriated by consistent faith
   (and persistent).
7. Joshua led to Canaan; Jesus leads to Heaven.
D. There now is "Another Day."
1. God comes to be now.
2. He wants us to be saved & stay saved!
3. God does not want us to fail to obey or fall away
   after primary obedience!
4. Are great days of religion past?
   (a) Turned Pharoah's palace into a frog convention.
   (b) Joshua cheerleader for Jericho's walls.
   (c) David gave lions lockjaw.
   (d) Hands tied today?
5. Men's failures do not stop waves of God's love.
7. Unbelief & disobedience used interchangeably.

Heb. 3:19 "So we see that they could not enter
Jn. 3:36 (ASV)
Matt. 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that kille
V. Shall I deny myself the Rest?
A. Will I receive the word in faith?
B. Will I hold it in patience?
C. Will I believe this is God's today?
D. Could I fuss if I never have a tomorrow of
   salvation--I've got today.
E. Does the gospel have power if not obeyed?
   1. Do we ignore promise to own ruin?
   2. If some were left behind in wilderness, will we
      be?
3. Are we short?
   "Many called, few chosen"
F. Do you see the rest that remains?
   1. Not Canaan.
   2. Not Sabbath.
   3. Heaven! Rev. 14:13
4. Why hesitate? It's today! It's open!

These End 10-28-73.
Woodburn, Ky. Church 11-28-73.
"WORDS THAT OCCUR ONLY ONCE"
Hebrews 4:12

I. What do you imagine is the K.J. vocabulary
   A. Perhaps 5,000
   B. But do you realize there are many words used only once in the Bible?

II. We'd like now to study some
   A. Heb. 4:12 "For the word of God is quick
      1. Here we have origin of our word for critic.
         (a) Able to judge, skilled in judging, a judge
      2. In our verse its a "discerner".
      3. Here he extols the word
         (a) Living to live, to be alive
         (b) Powerful its active
      (c) A sharp sword
      4. It is God's--& it pierces & divides.
      5. Further its a skillful judge.
      John 12:48--"He that rej. me
      6. Only once does God use it therefore its the word that decides and not will of ma
(a) Daring presumption to transfer word to self
(b) Human reasoning can't set aside God's word
(c) Submit self to word
(d) Will we be speechless w/o excuse?

B. 2 Cor. 2:17 "For we are not as many
1. Etymology interesting
   (a) Crib or manager
   (b) Eat quickly
   (c) One who sells provisions
   (d) Keep a tavern and sell drinks
   (e) Those who adulterated & weakened
(Isa. 1:22) "Thy silver is become
2. Water down the word
3. Note many do
4. Seek to please people and not God
   (2 Tim. 2:15)
5. Margin has "deal deceitfully"
   (Not peddling the gospel)
C. 2 Cor. 4:2 "Not walking in c. nor
1. Closely kin to one just used
2. Etymologically:
   (a) A slave
   (b) To make slave of another
3. Homer used it:
(a) Penelope's robe to deceive suitors
(b) Net of Vulcan to catch Mars
(c) Trojan horse
(d) Mouse trap

4. Any trick or contrivance or stratagem to use to deceive others.

5. Paul was not a juggler

6. Do we quote words apart from context?

D. Gal. 3:1 "O foolish Galatians who

1. Means to fascinate
2. Charmed by speaker and thus prove self foolish since deprived of use of facilities.

E. 2 Tim. 3:17 "That the man of God may

1. Perfect=fitted
2. Thus special appetite
3. Fitted out like a vessel for a voyage
5. God fits you out to every need
6. You are ready!
I. It would be easy to do a play on Fred's name and speak of the marvelous "Friends" we have known.
   A. I've lived long enough to know at least four generations--and they represent talent personified.
   B. I knew his Lawrenceburg daddy--he gave me a silver dollar-"now you will never be broke."
   C. Though I have reason to love all generations as I've been with them in baptisms, deaths, marriages, performances, it's Fred himself who was my "friend" of whom I speak.

II. It's a long history.
   A. He was host preacher along with Barbara at St. Elmo meeting that incorporated other illustrious names - Baker, Pinkley.
   B. It was in the teaching profession that these graduates of Duke had a strong influence on Lipscomb.
   C. It was the superiority of his English, grammar and composition in which he excelled. One observing this asked, "Did you ever make a grammatical error?" And answered "Not to my knowledge."
F. What a Friend we have in Jesus.

1. He tried to keep in touch—one word, "Fred" on his card.
2. He kept his faith in Jesus and he reverenced His teaching.
3. "Eyes of Him with whom we have to do."

Rom. 8:26 "The Spirit helps us in our weakness."

John 14:15 15:14 "You are my friend."
ALL I DO IS IN THE SIGHT OF GOD
Heb. 4:13
1. From our God we hid nothing & that's a one & only
   A. Fool wives.
   B. Hid from law.
   C. Go undetected by teachers - but God sees all.
   Heb. 4:13 "Neither is there any creature that is not n
II. Several things to see.
   A. The word is tied inseparably c God.
   B. All creatures are manifest in His sight.
      1. No aspect of man is free from power of God.
         a.) Soul.
         b.) Spirit.
         c.) Joints & marrow.
         d.) Thots & intents of heart.
      2. Nothing escapes His scrutiny.
      3. We cannot escape His notice of us.
      4. Live daily as tho God is seeing you.
      5. Card on Depression.
   C. All Things are Naked & Open to Him.
      1. Absolutely nothing is hidden.
      2. Naked. (unreadable)
         a.) If you harbor evil thots, God knows it.
         b.) Jesus asked, "Why think ye?" Matt 21:8
         c.) Dave Bristol address.
      3. Open. (unreadable)
         a.) Bend back the neck.
         b.) Laid bare.
         c.) Expose face as one who would identify a
            criminal. Sharp dagger point as if threaten
            to move him.
d.) Taken by throat as athlete grabs an adversary.
e.) Or expose as a malefactor c neck bent back.
f.) Or bending back neck of victim to expose to sacrificial knife.
g.) Nothing hinders God from striking.

D. God is the One c whom we Have to Do.
1. He is the one & only in this final category.
2. "The hearts of all men are in the hand of the Lord & He turns them whatsoever He will."
3. I'll meet Him in Judgement.
4. God is our "account" literally. He's the one to whom we give account.
5. Lit. "with whom is our account."
6. Judgement doesn't end all - Judgement comes!

God Spiritual Intensive Care Workshop, Family Church, Southgate, Mich. 9-8-80
1. Earlier, we've seen the Sward.

II. Now we want to see the Son.

IV. He is 1st described as our great High Priest.

A. Great.

B. He Arose & Ascended.

C. He's in Heaven to Help.

V. Next, we see He is passed into the Heavens.

D. The Great High Priest is also the Son of God - heavenly ministry is designated to sustain & uplift.

1. We pray thru & to Him.

2. Not thru the wall, but thru the Heavens.


5. Passage thru - tense shows it's a state of compleio.

6. John refers to it in Jesus conversation c Mary after the resurrection.
1. Our HP not Aaron's descendant - but God's!
2. French town taxes story.

VI. My Obligation - Hold Fast Our Profession.
   A. Clinging tenaciously.

1. Keep on holding.

2nd. Spiritual Intensive Care Workshop, Gateway Church, Southgate, Mich. 9-8-80

VII. Hold Fast 10-19-80

Central Church, McMinnville 10-20-80
San Jose Church, Jacksonville, Fla 11-18-80
WHAT'S THE MOST POWERFUL, ENERGETIC THING YOU EVER HELD IN YOUR HAND?

Heb. 4:12-15

I. How do you answer the above?
   A. Our cookstove quit--it was more and it would have shocked us.
   B. I held my newborn and felt their potentials.
   C. I held Betty's 7/20/43--greatest on earth.
   D. But with you I'm more than flesh--so the Bible takes that honor.

II. Read Heb. 4:12-13
    "For the word of God is quick & powerful"
A. We will see things about the word of God.
   1. Living, Quick
   2. Powerful--Energetic
   3. Penetrating
   4. Discerning
   5. Judgemental
B. First know it's the "Word of God."
   1. All characteristics of it come from this, God's word.
   2. He speaks to man.
   3. Since it is the word of God, supreme in every way, it cannot be disregarded.

III. Let's look at features.
A. It is Living, it is Quick.
   1. Like God and Jesus it's alive.
   2. It is not a dead letter.
   3. It continues unimpaired, notwithstanding all assaults against it.
2. It's adaptable to all ages.
3. It is of inexhaustible interest.
   a) Books of men grow old and obsolete.
   b) Do you often read your 1st grade primer?
   c) It's as fresh today as it was years ago.
   d) "The law of the Lord is perfect."
   e) It's the consolation of mourners.
   f) It's the sanctification of believers.
   g) It's permanent.
4. Personification of Jesus.

B. It's Powerful.
1. It's like a hammer breaks in pieces the Rock.
2. Really means energetic.
3. Instrument of spiritual regeneration being born not of corruptible seed but by word that lives and abides.
4. Nothing motivates you like the word.
5. Supreme power among men--dominates thought.
6. Derives its power from Him who knows what's in man and the subtle insight into character is profound.

C. It's Sharp and Pentetrating
1. Sword--short one in hand to hand combat.
Jn.12:48 "He that rejected me & receive not my"
2. Sharper than 2 edged sword.
3. Piercing and penetrating.
   a) Reaches depth nothing else does.
b) Whole of man exposed.
c) Body - Soul - Spirit.
d) Through bones, even joints and marrow.
e) Only man has spirit beyond the earth to God.
f) "Piercing" an old verb "to go through."

D. It is Discerning
1. Literally "critic".
2. Thoughts & intents of the heart.
   a) Desires and intentions.
   b) Desire is emotional, part of man governed by feelings, instinct and passion.
   c) Intention is the intellectual part of man governed by intellect and will.
   d) Emotional and intellectual life alike must be submitted to the scrutiny of God.
3. Whole nature of man is searched.

E.Judgemental

v-13 "Neither is there any creature"
1. We definitely will give account to God.
2. God lays bare the innermost elements of man's being.
3. Figure of speech to surgeon opening body to discover & remove diseased organs and tissues.
4. Nothing exempt--not even a germ from God's sight.
5. Get word tracheotomy to bend back the neck--surgeon in operation.
6. Or hold a wrestler takes.
7. Dagger put under throat so could not lower head and hide.
8. We give account to God as he literally turns us inside out.
9. You will meet the eye of God!
10. As your life is in full view are you able to stand before him now?

Franklin, KY - 7/1/01
Old Union, Castalian Springs, TN - 7/18/01
Walter Hill, Murfreesboro, TN - 7/29/01

Beltline, Decatur, AL - 8/29/01
Pond church, Dickson, TN - 9/30/01
Antioch - 11/4/01 (BC)
Neely's Bend - 3/2/03
Pratt, KS - 4/18/04
Allen County C/C, Ft. Wayne, IN - 7/31/04
Mt. Zion, London, KY - 4/23/05
Fishinger & Kenny - 5/8/05
ME DOWN? NO, I'M UP!
Heb. 4:14-15

I. There is little doubt that blue days come to us all.
   A. But am I down?
   B. I have reason to victoriously be up—let's see why.

II. This is my Anti-Depressant.
   A. Seeing then that we have—
      1. I've got something—so have you, fellow Christian.
      2. Shortly I'll see—that great high priest.
      3. We've just learned much about his majesty in the preceding verses but do not think he is so remote we have to access.
      4. "We" shows the certainty of this relationship.
   B. A Great High Priest.
      1. Great—superior to all who have ever been.
      2. Why great?
         a) Where He is—Heaven.
         b) Who He is—Son of God.
         c) What He is—Sympathetic though great.
         d) Why He is—to do it for us.
         e) When—in our times & seasons.
         f) How—by his matchless power.
      3. In presence of God himself.
      4. Priest passed through veil, Jesus into Heaven itself.
C. Hold Fast Our Profession.
2. No varying resolve but a persevering commitment.
3. Summoned to a holy duty.
4. Persevere in faith, fellowship, practice.
5. No need to give up.
6. What is tugging at you?
7. Let nothing shrink your profession.
8. Keep making your confession.

D. Jesus Concerned About Us.
1. Touched—he can sympathize.
2. Though in Heaven He can still feel for us. Sympathize.
3. Feeling of our infirmities.
   a) He enters into our suffering.
   b) Philo taught best & wisest of men look with indifference on weakness of others—not Jesus!
   c) He knows how it was to be a man—(could you feel Eskimo's customs & food having never been there?)
   d) With human weakness He can associate.
   e) Christ attracted to our weaknesses, not just our strength.
4. Tempted like us.
   a) Not once, but always Jesus was being tempted.
      "Our Friend, how else could it I did it I's got in to something!"
b) He could have sinned but didn't.
c) Like us--tempted.
   Unlike us--resisted.
5. Without sin.
a) Lived the perfect life.
b) Our substitute.

III. Result of all this.
A. Come boldly to the Throne of Grace.
   1. Boldly.
      a) Fearlessly.
      b) Unwavering.
      c) Come believing He will help.
      d) Implies freedom & liberty.
      e) Our God delights to be approached --not like Esther.
   B. There find:
      1. Mercy
         a) There for the taking.
         b) Loving Kindness.
         c) Man ever needs it.
         d) No jeweled names on his breastplate--but graven on his hands
            his people's names.
      2. Grace to help.
         a) Nothing earned.
         b) His love shown.
      3. In time of need.
         a) For every time and every need we come.
         b) Lit. "for opportune aid."
         c) Comes in proper seasonable time.

   Help when we need it
d) Seasons come when we stand in need of special assistance.
e) Man has special seasons trials of: adversity, prosperity, bodily afflictions, bereavement, our own hour of death, persecutions.

C. You Get Help By Asking For It!
(Ps. 136) 12 years in Egypt. 
his mercy endureth forever.
So. Harpeth - 1/17/93
THE GARDEN OF TEARS
Heb. 5:7
I. In this we see the 3rd Reference (and final one) to Jesus' tears.
A. It's found in Heb. 5:7.
B. It refers to Gethsemane.
C. It abounds in moving phrase.
II. First in Days of His Flesh
A. What does this mean?
   1. Appeared as a man.
   2. At one time incarnate.
   3. Our Redeemer was one time flesh and blood.
B. What does this telegraph?
   1. Jesus identifies with our distressing weakness.
   2. He bore our lot:
      a) Weary
      b) Hungry
      c) Thirsty
      d) Ingratitude
      e) Slander
      f) Temptations of Satan
   3. Does it show he qualifies as priest mentioned in v-2.
   4. Priest must show compassion.
   5. Priest must aid those out of the way.
   6. He sympathizes with sufferers.
III. Offered Prayers & Supplications
A. Prayers
   1. Suffering intensely he prayed with fervor.
   2. Not much difference in these 2 terms.
3. Prayer = sense of need.
4. Beg

B. Supplication
1. Sense showing need of protection.
2. He had needs & wanted shelter.
3. Implore.
4. 2 more intense terms follow--cry & tears.

IV. Strong Cry & Tears
A. Various translations.
1. With mighty outcries & tears.
2. Earnest cries with tears.
3. Crying aloud & weeping as he pleaded.
5. Not without a piercing cry and not without tears.

B. Strong Cry
1. This is not weeping but an outcry.
2. A wall.
3. Lamentation.
4. Cry of one in danger.
5. Cry is one man does not choose to utter but is wrung from him.
6. Comes from tension & searing pain!
7. How meager is our compared dedication, concern.

C. Tears
1. Not expressly stated he cried in Gethsemane but this shows he did.
2. Macknight alone says it's not Gethsemane.
3. Note:
   a) Burdens do not demand the suppression of natural emotions.
   b) Nothing dishonorable in tears.
   c) Jesus does not make the heart insensitive or hard.
   d) He wept that he might redeem us—do our sins move us to tears?

D. Gethsemane
1. Matthew "very heavy"—verge of despair.
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D. Gethsemane.

II. Facts about Gethsemane
A. Raises questions:
1. Why was the soul distressed?
2. Why go apart from disciples, take on face, cry, repeat prayer 3x?
3. Why is one who could do miracles so disquieted?
4. He came to wish to die - why is He ready to submit at approach of it?
B. He felt the burden of Sin as only
  Only God can!

1. Mean, the blood of Christ (Briefly)
  yet His was impuited Sin
C. Lessons learned
   1. Prayer best remedy in time of trouble
      Job 5:17, "Fear not troubles, speed they fly"
      a) Nothing too trivial
      b) Spread it before Him, 2 Kings 4:14
   2. See value of entire submission to will of God
   3. Great weakness in strongest disciplines. Pray from Lord's Word
      yet now asleep.

      End 5-4-80
SOMEONE'S CRYING, LORD

Heb. 5:7-9

1. In this world, we've many heartaches & sorrows.
   A. Amazed if only mine.
   B. Or just Christians.
   C. He who started it all suffered - & it's due to the influence of sin.

1. May I tell you about Him.
2. May I tell you the triumph over sin.

11. Hebrews is our text.

Heb. 5:7-9 "Who in the days of his flesh, when he had
A. No mincing of words about Jesus suffering - He truly walked with me!

1. Flesh
2. Offering prayers & supplications
3. With strong crying & tears - helplessness.
4. All of this depresses to some extent:
   a.) We don't want to hear it.
   b.) We disguise death with cosmetics.
   c.) Magnolia Davis never wanted a sermon on the thot of dying.

B. But the above has redemptive value - there is hope & sunshine. Look what went for Him & for us:

1. "Address him who was able to save him from death!
   a.) God alone can do this.
   b.) Note his ability.
   c.) Here is a companion that never fails us.

2. On the word "death."
   a.) Jesus knew He was to die.
b.) Aren't we human enough to think of an easy hour of passing? (Is my Father, if it be thy will) Matt. 26:39 "And he went a little further, and fell on c.) Isn't it all right to be asked sparing from sufferers? (1) If redemption can come other than by death of Christ, so be it. (2) If conversion can come w/o Calvary, grant it. (3) There is the inevitable shrinking of the human will from the ordeal that faced Jesus. (4) We can be honest c God. d.) See enormity of sin. (1) He stood as Surety & Substitute. (2) Tho he felt reluctance he gave entire submissic (3) Scary to see sin be able to render such a necessary blow to the Godhead if we are to be saved. (4) We fear death because of what lies beyond - the judgement. 3. He was heard in that he feared. a.) We may be heard, but do not get a yes answer. b.) It gives support to know one listens. c.) Our prayers may best be answered by giving us the grace to endure rather than power to escape d.) Angels strengthened Him. 4. His fears. a.) This phrase hard. b.) Fear defined. (1) Caution. (2) Circumspection. c.) He won.
(1) Heard on account of his reverence & respect for God.
(2) Shows he was willing to do God's will even if it was distasteful.
(3) He conformed & brot his will into line. Jn. 12:27 "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I": Mk. 14:35 "And he went forward a little, and fell on
(4) Heard for his piety.
(5) Father's will was Supreme & guided the course.
(6) In reverence Jesus did not want to oppose God.
(7) Whatever came, he trusted God.
5. Lessons for us.
a.) He is our pattern of submissive reverence.
b.) True answer to prayer: "Thy will be done" - God's always right.
c.) We overcome via godly fear.
d.) Obedience is a costly virtue.
e.) God's power was not exercised in His behalf - he died.
f.) Salvation is not to professors of faith, orthodox belief, church members, but those who obey him
I. To see the other side of a matter, we:
   A. Use reverse psychology—(feed a child
      with "don't you eat a bite of this").
   B. See a football play from the "reverse
      angle."
   C. May I take one of the most contro-
      versial passages that talks about
      absolute apostasy and show what it is
      they fell from. From any angle—Great!

II. We accept the impossibility of renewal for
    some.
    A. There is the unpardonable sin.
    B. We see opposition strenuously offered
       to Christ.
    C. We believe there are those with a clear
       conviction of conscience fight Jesus
       Christ. (Dedication card) - #1
    D. Surely there is a shade of difference
       between backsliding (can be restored)
       and hardened apostasy (can't be).
       (See Allen card)

III. Secondly, we believe it is proper to warn
     against danger—else why warn if can't
     fall—into Grandpa's well. Rock Anderson's
     A. If we make no progress toward maturi
        mity we are likely to regress
     B. "Forgetfulness ends in rejection
        Apathy ends in antipathy
        Unfaithfulness ends in infidelity."
     C. We stand in constant danger of
        stopping short of the goal.
     D. "Some fell asleep on enchanged
        ground." (Saphir)
E. What is our loss rate?

IV. Let's Enumerate the Blessings (and we'll see the enormity of the offense) Thompson

V. If I'm a Christian--from the reverse angle--I have 5 things.

A. I've been once enlightened.
   1. I am acquainted with duty.
   2. I know the truth.
   3. I know Jesus is the Son of God.

Heb. 10:32 Call to remembrance the days of old, where you were made spiritually born.

Eph. 1:18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened.

4. It perhaps means baptism--it occurs only once.

Eph. 5:14 Awake thou that sleepest, arise from the dead.

4:4 There is one body, one Spirit, hope that reigneth in you.

5. Man sees he is lost and Jesus meets his needs.

6. Enlighten--cast light on, reveal, make known.

7. This is real, Jesus is too, no straw man status.

John 8:12 I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Eph. 5:8 Now ye are light in the Lord.

8. Hammarshjold card #3

B. Secondly, Tasted the Heavenly Gift

1. Taste
   a) Experience
   b) Not a superficial lick.
   c) Most conclusive of all testimony.
   d) Inward & spiritual.

2 Pet. 1:4 Given to us great and precious promises

1 Pet. 2:3 Ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

e) Taste--Lord's supper-tangible-real.
f) Taste—to experience.

2. Gift—used only here—so is it:
   a) Jesus
   b) Salvation
   c) Eternal life

Rom. 6:23 

d) Holy Spirit, remission of sins, new life.

e) Gift—not a reward of service.

3. Lost man card #4
   Russell card #5

C. Thirdly, Partaker of the Holy Ghost

Act. 2:38 

1. I share his influence
2. A downpayment

2 Cor. 1:22 
2 Cor. 5:5 

3. Earnest payment

Eph. 1:14 

4. Partake—partner (Cromwell card #6)

Heb. 10:29 

5. No one but a Christian can receive the Holy Spirit.

6. World cannot receive Him.

John 14:17

Gal. 4:6 

D. Fourthly, Tasted Good Word of God

1. Taste—know the truth.
2. Word—sweet—Card Bible Endurance #7

Rev. 10:10 

3. See the good, beauty of word that leads to clear conscience via obedience.
4. Take the Bible into our lives & it changes us.
5. It's God's work.
   a) Durant card #8
   b) Whitefield story #9
E. Fifthly, Powers of the World to Come
1. Age to come already present for Christian.
   a) It was the church.
   b) Jews should know they shared & relished it.
   c) Power of about to be age of the church.
2. Deeper still---we live in two worlds---"this" and "that" of Luke 20:27 on.
3. Holy Spirit will carry the work in years to come, gospel dispensation and perhaps new world to come. (Milligan)
4. Ours is participation in the full power of new dispensation.
5. Lewis #10
6. Judgement #11
VI. What Can I invite you to---
   A. Enlightenment
   B. Heavenly Gift
   C. Partaker of the Holy Spirit
   D. Tasting the Good Word of God
   E. Powers of the World to Come

Shady Grove church, Duck River, TN - 5/23/89
Holliday Park, Monroeville, PA - 5/26/89
Central Ave., Valdosta, GA - 6/4/89
Men join the church. They take that Holy Name upon themselves. They enter covenant with each other in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, inviting Holy Trinity to witness and support their purpose of faithfulness, purity, love cooperation, liberality, of personal effort to win a lost world to Christ. Yet American churches are filed with men and women who flagrantly and frivolously and constantly ignore the obligations of their voluntary covenants. Thousands of church members have changed residence without changing membership. They stand aloof from the local church. They take no local responsibility for Christ. They settle into be-
Lost man

God does not die in the day when we cease to believe in a personal deity, but we die on the day when our lives cease to be illuminated by the steady radiance, renewed daily, of a wonder, the source of which is beyond all reason.

Dag Hammarskjold
Lost man

Modern writers depict the pessimism of our time and many of them throw up their hands in despair and say, "There is no answer to man's dilemma." Hemingway once said, "I live in a vacuum that is as lonely as a radio tube when the batteries are dead, and there is no current to plug into." Eugene O'Neill in "Long Day's Journey Into Night" typifies the philosophical attitude of our day. He says, "Life's only meaning is death." I say to Hemingway and O'Neill, who have already gone on. "There is more to life than death." There is more to life than a radio tube that needs a place to plug into. Jesus taught us the dignity and importance of being a person. God put us on this
Lost Man

Man is the product of causes which had no pre-vision of the end they were achieving...his origin, his growth, his hopes and fears, his loves and his beliefs, are but the outcome of accidental collocations of atoms no fire, no heroism, no intensity of thought and feeling, can preserve an individual life beyond the grave... and the whole temple of man's achievement must inevitably be buried beneath the debris of a universe in ruins.

Bertrand Russell

GREAT QUOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS - Sweeting
P. 169
Mission

The story is told that during the reign of Oliver Cromwell, there was a shortage of currency in the British Empire. Representatives carefully searched the nation in hope of finding silver to meet the emergency.

After one month, the committee returned with its findings. "We have searched the empire in vain seeking to find silver," it reported."To our dismay, we found none anywhere except in the cathedrals where the saints are carved from choice silver."

To this, Oliver Cromwell eloquently answered:"let's melt down the saints and put them into circulation."
Why not ask the Lord to melt us down for greater
circulation?

G.S.

GREAT QUOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS – Sweeting
P.185

BIBLE ENDURANCE

Whoever is found reading the Scriptures shall for­

In twenty-five years, the Bible will be a forgotten
book. – Robert Ingersoll

Rome also persecuted the Scriptures: but chiefly in
this way; that instead of being the custodian of the
Scripture it became the jailor of Scripture, and for
many centuries the Word of God was hidden from the
people, and legends and traditions of men became
the food of the human mind. –Adolph Saphir

(over)
Another century and there will not be a Bible on earth.

Voltaire

GREAT QUOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS - Sweeting
P 32-33

Modern culture

The greatest question of our time is not communism versus individualism, not Europe versus America, not even the East versus the West; it is whether men can bear to live without God. Can civilization hold together if man abandons his faith in God?

Will Durant

GREAT QUOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS - Sweeting
P.187
Faith

The great evangelist George Whitefield once asked a coal miner in Cornwall, England, what he believed. "Oh," said he, "I believe what my church believes." Whitefield then inquired, "And what does your church believe?"
"Well he answered, "the church believes what I believe."
Seeing that he was getting nowhere, Whitefield then asked, "What do you both believe?"
The coal worker answered, "We both believe the same thing."
This sort of unintelligent faith is pathetic and only
Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in.
Aim at earth and you will get neither.

C.S. Lewis - Living Quotations

GREAT QUOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS - Sweeting
P. 136
Judgment

The time was the 19th of May 1780. The place Hartford, Connecticut. The day has gone down in New England history as a terrible foretast of Judgment Day. For at noon the skies turned from blue to grey and by mid-afternoon had blackened over so densely that, in that religious age, men fell on their knees and begged a final blessing before the end came. The Connecticut House of Representatives was in session. And as some of the men fell down and others clamored for an immediate adjournment, the speaker of the House, one Colonel Davenport, came to his feet. He silenced them and said these words: "The day of judgment is either approaching or it is not. If it is not, there is no cause for adjournment. If it is, I choose to be found doing my duty. I wish therefore that canals may be brought"
wish therefore that candles may be brought."

Alistair Cooke

GREAT QUOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS - Sweeting P.156
WHAT CRUCIFIED JESUS?

Heb. 6:4-6

1. World's long argued "Who."
   A. Tell of my Temple experience.
   B. Jews or Romans - none now alive who did it.

II. What did it & won't it today?

Heb. 6:4-6 "For it is impossible for those who were on

III. These things did.
   A. Envy. Prov. 14:30 "Envy, the rottenness of the bone.
      Matt. 27:18 "For he knew that for envy they had
      Touched Joseph's Bro.
      Gen. 37:11 "And his brethren envied him

1. Define - covetous of what belongs to another
   (riches) or has come to one (good fortune).
   (a) Malicious desire to deprive.
   (b) Delight in his loss of it.
   (c) Eugene Field, "Here & there along the course
      wherein we hoped to glide. Some envious hand
      has sprinkled ashes just spoil our slide."

2. Avoid envy.
   I Cor. 13:4 "Love envieth not

3. Can you both weep & rejoice with those who do?

   Gal. 5:19-21 "Now the works of the flesh are mo

B. Greed.

Matt. 26:14-16 "What will ye give me

1. What do I get out of it?
2. What will you give me?
3. Burning passion to get.

Col. 3:5-6 "Mortify your members which are

4. Clippings.
(a) Drummond.
(b) NCC.
(c) Ave. Protestant.
(d) What disturbs most?

5. Am I jealous for "my time & pleasure" — rather than His?

C. Ignorance.
Acts 3:17 "And now brethren I wot that through ignorance
1 Cor. 2:8 For had they known it they would not
1 Tim. 1:13 "But I obtained mercy because I did it;

1. Ignorance in religious matters leads to error.
2. The Quakers got their name from the fact that they trembled under the power of the Spirit. At least their faith shook them! Too many of us today are shaky about what we believe but not shaken by what we believe.

D. Cowardice.
1.Mk. 14:50 "All disciples "forsook him & fled."
2. Peter denied.
Matt. 26:69-75 "Now Peter sat without in the palace.
3. John's Rev. speaks of the fearful.
Rev. 21:8 "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the
5. Rulers.
John 12:42-43 "Nevertheless among the chief rulers and

IV. What then have we seen?
A. Envy.
B. Greed.
C. Ignorance.
D. Cowardice.
Test Your Bible I.Q.

How well do you know your Bible? Though understanding the meaning of the Word is more important than knowing a body of facts, it is always fun to test our memories of interesting people, places and things in the Bible.

This month Guideposts has drawn 12 questions from Eerdman's Handbook to the Bible, a colorful new reference book filled with fascinating information. See how many of the questions you can answer.

1. In Luke (11:42), Christ chides the Pharisees for tithing "rue" while neglecting spiritual matters. What is rue?

2. The word Golgotha, the site of Jesus's crucifixion, means "the place of the skull." What is it?

3. Hiram, King of Tyre, supplied the finest timber available for Solomon's temple. What kind of trees did he hew and where did they come from?

4. How far did Mary and Joseph travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem? (a) 20 miles (b) nearly 50 miles (c) 70 miles (d) about 100 miles.

5. Winnowing, as used in the book of Ruth (3:2), refers to what farm chore?

A model of Solomon's temple at the Bible Museum, Amsterdam, Holland.

The hilltop city of Jesus's birth as shepherds may have seen it.

Cedars of Lebanon.

Kings 5:6

Separate chaff from wheat.
6. Samaritans and Jews had widely differing religious beliefs. True or false?

Paul's conversion on the Damascus road came (a) during Christ's ministry (b) immediately following His crucifixion (c) a few years later?

8. The Roman emperor pictured on the coin shown above was a persecutor of Christians and is the subject of Peter's letter (I Peter 2:13). Was it (a) Pilate (b) Nero (c) Herod (d) Augustus Caesar?

In Matthew (6:27), Jesus asks, "Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?" How long is a cubit? (a) one inch (b) about one foot (c) more than a foot?

9. The King James version of the Bible was completed in which century?

10. The word "apocrypha" means (a) hidden (b) fiction (c) inspired.

At least seven of Christ's disciples were fishermen. Three were called by Christ at Bethsaida. Can you name the three?

Eerdmans' Handbook to the Bible, a 680-page volume of helpful information and colorful illustrations, is currently available to Guideposts subscribers at a substantial saving. For information on how you can receive a copy, write: Guideposts Books, Carmel, N.Y. 10512.
NCC Official Lists Motives for Giving

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. — What motivates Christians to give to their churches?

Commitment is the key, according to Nordan C. Murphy, stewardship director of the National Council of Churches—"commitment to a person named Jesus and all that he stands for."

DR. MURPHY reported on findings of an international study on church giving sponsored by 15 Protestant bodies of the U.S. and Canada in a multi-media presentation before the annual meeting of the National Association of Church Business Administrators.

He said the study found that the six most important motivating forces for giving through the Church are "gratitude to God," "an expression of worship," "the privilege of sharing," "an obligation," "love for others" and "the need of the Church for money.

The amount of money given, the survey found, is controlled by "income," "church needs," "biblical teachings," "amount left after meeting family obligations," "frequency of participation in Church activities" and "guidelines given by the Church."

"SUPPORT OF the Church is not affected to any great degree by its involvement in social issues," Dr. Murphy said. "In fact, the program of the Church made little difference in what is contributed.

"Clergy interviewed gave three times the weekly amount contributed by their members. These same clergy reported that giving is falling off because of the lack of the churches' impact upon modern society. Laymen, in jarring contrast, moved this far down the list. How much a person or family earns influences the amount contributed. The greater the income, the smaller the percentage of income given."

Graham Crusade Offering Of $71,000 for Africans

FALCON HEIGHTS, MINN. — On the final night of the 10-day Billy Graham Upper Midwest Crusade here, the offering was earmarked for famine victims in Africa.

The offering amounted to over $71,000.
January 15— I've been resting quietly for a week. The first few nights after New Year's Day, my owner read me regularly. But now I guess I've been forgotten.

February 2— Clean-up day! I was dusted along with some other things—but was put back on the shelf.

February 24— Owner used me for a short time after dinner. Looked up a few verses. Went to Sunday School.

April 10— I was dusted today and put on the center table in the sitting room. Special company was here, but now I'm back on the shelf again.

May 12— Busy day. My owner had to lead a devotional lesson and had to look up some references. Had quite a time finding me, and then hunted and hunted to find those references.

June 5— I'm here in grandma's lap. She's here on a visit. She let a tear fall on Colossians 2:5-7.

June 6— In grandma's lap again. She has spent most of her time reading I Corinthians 13 and the last four verses of the 15th chapter.

June 7, 8, 9— I've been in grandma's lap each afternoon. It is such a comfort to be appreciated and loved. She reads me part of the time, and then just sits and talks to me.

June 10— Grandma is gone and I'm back in the same old place. She kissed me before she left.

July 4— Had a couple of four-leaf clovers stuck in me today.

August 1— Packed in a suitcase with clothes. Off on a vacation, I guess.

August 7— Still in the suitcase.

August 12— Still in the suitcase although everything else has been in and out many times. Other things first I guess.

August 15— Home again and on the shelf. Quite a journey. Can't see why I went.
June 6— In grandma's lap again. She has spent most of her time reading I Corinthians 13 and the last four verses of the 15th chapter.

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August 13— Home again and on the shelf. Quite a journey. Can't see why I went.
I. Two words: one you may not know, the other you may not have experienced.
   A. Accoutrements
      1. Define
      2. Alonzo Welsh & Larry Williams.
   B. Salvation
      1. Know not how to be saved—life's most important adventure.
      2. Or think you are without the continuing necessary obedience.
      3. One passage will forever establish this and it's Heb. 6:9-12 that we study.

II. "Things That Accompany Salvation"
Heb. 6:9-12 "But beloved, we are persuaded"
   A. Intro
      1. There are listed things never to be separated from salvation.
      2. There can be more, but never less than these.
      3. We speak of the continuing obedience the saint must show.
      4. "These things show that a person is in the state of salvation, and will issue in salvation."
   B. "But" "Beloved"
      1. Here he softens what he has said before.
      2. Earlier warned against apostacy.
      3. Contrastingly now encourages to perseverance.
      4. Commends the good in them.
5. Excites to watchfulness and activity.
6. Do not resemble unfruitful ground of verse 7.
7. Some meet with destruction.
   You meet with salvation.
   (All above from Clark.)
8. All pivots on word "But".
9. After warnings come encouragements.
10. KJV uses beloved, others use "friend."
11. Twice addressed as brethren, now beloved.
12. Confidence in the readers, only here calls them beloved or friends.

C. Persuaded Better Things of You.
   1. Lit. "the better things."
   2. Alternate of the things of v. 8.
   3. Shows the positive hopefulness and expectation.
   4. He expects them to do things that accompany salvation and shortly will identify these things.

III. Litany of "Things".
   A. God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love.
      1. "For though God is debtor to no man and will reward no works which proceed from pride and self-righteousness, yet he is not unrighteous nor will he forget one service which springs from love to him." (Scott)
2. "Man's work cannot in itself merit reward from God, but (1 Jn. 1:9) the righteous God cannot neglect his own promise and law that such work shall receive reward." (Ellicott)

3. "Works of love, done for the glory of Christ, or done to his saints for Christ's sake from time to time, as God gives occasion, are evident marks of a man's salvation." (Scott)

4. This must be shown toward his name.
   a) Not I'm a good man, I love my family, I'm OK though never baptized.
   b) He is to get the glory.
   c) He is the motivation.
   d) Every good work must spring from faith in the name.
   e) Every work must have love for its motive as it has God for its end.
   f) Goodness alone does not count unless it is divinely rooted.

5. Note you minister to the saints and do minister.
   a) Bless the body.
   b) Continue in it.
   c) Helps the lonely, visits to sick, share emotions--serve!
   d) What have you done for a sister today?
B. So work—labors of love are evidence of salvation.
   1. Love promotes the good of others.
   2. Love brings peace.

C. Next cited is "diligence."
   v-11 "And we desire that every one of you"
   1. "No turning back" we often sing.
   2. Continuance is emphasized as proof of reality of your salvation.
   3. Diligence gives reason to hope—thus no spasmodic service to God—it's constant.
   4. It's one of those "everytime the church house doors open" type of saint.
   5. "Be as zealous in the maintaining the fullness of their own hope as they have been in ministering to their brethren." (Dummelow)
   6. No season we can be discharged from duty.
   7. Faithful to the end.

D. Akin is "be not slothful."
   1. That's sluggishness.
   2. Some sink into spiritual listlessness.
   3. Success in all sphere comes with diligence.

E. Choose a model.
   1. Be a follower of the ideal Christian.
   2. Avoid "I'm as good as he is" attitude to do nothing.
   3. There are those worthy of imitation.
   4. What names come in your mind?
F. Finally "faith" and "patience" are necessary to inherit the promises.
1. These are two conditions always necessary—faith and patience.
2. Our faith must not waver—it offers no excuses—it is maintenance.
3. Our steadfastness does not slacken.
4. Faith is the motivating principle.
   a) Living and working.
GOD IS NOT UNRIGHTEOUS TO FORGET—
Heb. 6:10-12

I. When things are left dangling, we are always moved to questions—
A. Did he not hear from me?
B. Did he not understand?
C. Does he not care?
D. Has he forgotten?

II. We are human—we raise the same questions about our God & our work for Him. May I dispel some fears!!
A. 1st, God is not unrighteous to forget.
   1. We can base all our hopes on the character of God.
   2. One who forgets is suspect—that's not God!
   3. God is interested in each individual.
   Heb. 4:13 "Neither is there any creature that is not r
   4. Confidence may rest in the righteousness of God.
   5. Let there be a fixed, constant, prevailing persuasion concerning the good things promised us let it support in difficult times.

B. Your work is seen & known.
   1. Your work (Up to ears in work is merely lying down on job).
      a.) Legitimate grounds on which to base opinions & judgments.
      b.) You perform.
      c.) Edison on Work.
   2. Labor of Love.
      a.) It is a labor but
      b.) You love doing it.
c.) Simpson or Samson.
d.) These terms are different. Guard said to me in St. Thomas, "It's nasty out there" & a little boy added, "Besides that it's raining."

3. Showed toward his name.
   a.) Name - same as to God himself.
   b.) Name - toward his name - for his sake.
   c.) Service to saints is reckoned as deeds done to God!

Matt. 25:45 "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye di

4. Ministered to the saints & do minister.
   a.) Faithfully had & do now minister to the saints.
   b.) Serve fellow Christians.
   c.) All true Christians are known by their marks.
   d.) Confidence rests on righteousness of God & good deeds to saints.
   e.) Hitler Clip.
   f.) Cranford Card.

III. But there is another chapter --

A. "We desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end!"

1. Desire.
   a.) Radiates a deep feeling.
   b.) Intense.

2. Everyone of you.
   a.) Wanted all - W/o exception.
   b.) Chapters c nothing but names show God is mindful of the individual--man is neither a thing. abstraction, or idea--he's a person.
3. Same diligence.
   a.) Do in study, prayer, meditation, what you do in visiting!
   b.) Balance hard to obtain.
4. Unto the end.
   a.) Persevere to end.
   b.) Fatal inertia - sluggishness.
   c.) Conversion is not everything - only the commencement - it's not the crown - keep on.
5. Not slothful (Chaucer Clip).
   a.) Impossible situation theirs if they don't continue in good things.
   b.) Be fervent.
   James 5:16 "Confess your faults one to another and pray.
   Rom. 12:11 "Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit.
   Prov. 6:6 "Go to the ant, thou sluggard, consider her.
   Rev. 3:16 "So then because thou art lukewarm and need c.
   d.) Let your light shine.
   e.) Can't stand still - go on, to full assurance.
B. Winning Trio - Faith & Patience & Example.
1. Faith.
   2 Tim. 3:10 "Thou hast fully known my doc., manner
   a.) If I gave you a deed to a farm you'd never seen, would you believe it's yours? N. T. is that deed - comply c it.
   b.) We live in times of doubt - don't let it engulf you.
   c.) Faith & fact clip.
2. Patience.
a.) Lit. "length of spirit".
b.) Not easily out of breath.
c.) Obtain by faith & patience - not human merit.
d.) "I have decided to follow Jesus."
e.) Dog & clothesline that broke.

3. Followers of them!
a.) Worthies have entered their inheritance - follow them.
b.) Be a mimic.
1 Cor. 4:16 "Wherefore, I beseech you, be ye followers..."
1 Thess. 1:6 "And ye became followers of us & of the..."
2:14 "Followers of the churches of God which..."
Eph. 5:1 "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear..."
c.) Others made it - let's us!
d.) We walk not untrodden paths.

Yest. End 4-11-76
The new employee limped up to the foreman at the end of a long day of backbreaking work.

"Boss, are you sure you got my name right?" he asked.

"It's right here—you're Joe Simpson, aren't you?" the foreman replied. "Yeah, that's it," moaned the fellow. "I was just checking—I thought maybe you had me down as Samson."

No one seems to be interested in our excuses—people merely want performance. Alibis for lack of service, for lack of ability to give a full measure of trust make a bad servant. And we are all servants, serving each other in one way or another.

English divine Sidney Smith once wrote, "Try to make at least one person happy each day, and then in ten years you may have made three thousand, six hundred and fifty persons happy, or brightened a small town by your contribution to the fund of general enjoyment."

We cannot move a step upon this earth without finding someone to serve. And as we serve each day, we never stop to consider how many we've made happy, but it should be very vivid in our minds how many we've made unhappy. —JOYCE HILFER, "The Joy of Service," Dynamic Maturity, 7-69.
Once there was a poor lady who had to do her laundry by hand. She did a big washing and hung it on the line to dry. The line broke and the clean clothes fell in the mud. She washed the clothes again, and a second time the line broke. This time, however, a dog came along and walked over the clothes. When she saw them she didn’t cry. All she said was, “Ain’t it funny, that dog didn’t miss a single one.” Yes, that was true patience. — BERT E. WIGGERS, Pastor, Castletberry Baptist Church, Ala., “Wanted: Patience,” Specialty 11-69.

A young woman living in one of the twin Chicago apartment towers known as Marina City decided to have a “Bible party.” She mailed out copies of the Gospel of Mark to several people living in nearby apartments with the request that they read the Gospel and come to her apartment on a certain evening to discuss it. Their religious background, or lack of it, she said, would make no difference so long as they were willing to read and discuss the book.

Several of those invited responded. One guest who had never read the Gospel before was so shocked by Jesus’ insistence on a life of service that she asked the question, “How could Christ possibly be serious about serving rather than being served?” (“Faithful Rebels,” Roy Blumhorst (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1967), p. 80.)

That Jesus was deadly serious about the importance of a life of service the whole Gospel record attests. In fact, Paul says that it
Thomas A. Edison is regarded by most people as the world's greatest inventor. He patented more than eleven hundred inventions in sixty years. Henry Ford once said that the period of Edison's life (1847-1931) should be named the "Age of Edison," because of his many inventions that were so helpful to mankind. Edison himself did not look upon himself as a wizard, however. "Genius," he said, "is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." He demonstrated this by working days at a time, stopping only for short naps. Because of this dedication to work, Edison had few friends. To him, work was his joy and companion. Few people have cultivated such a close friendship with hard work.
STRAINS ANCHOR: ABOVE THE SHIP

Heb. 6:19-20

I. Not being much of a sailor - (when did you become a sailor, Mona Moore asked the Captain) - nautical things fascinate & entice.

A. Stand on top deck & watch the harbor men secure the ship.

B. Or stop in mid-sea - lower an anchor from stern & see ship maintain its constant position.
   1. Great chains roll across pulleys as anchor is hoisted from sea bed.
   2. Suppose I'd yelled - "not below but above you Swab!" The anchor is in the sky above the ship!
   3. One is - oddly - as only 2X that I know of are anchors ever cited in the Bible.
      a) Paul's ship wreck & casting 4 anchors.
      b) Our text of this lesson.

   Heb. 6:18-20 "Lay hold on the hope set before us"

C. There are several metaphors:
   1. Refuge
   2. Anchor
   3. Veil
   4. Forerunner

II. The Above Ship Anchor.

A. Hope
   1. How essential!
   2. Opposite of despair.

   Titus 2:13 "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glory."

   1 Peter 1:3-5
3. Pinned to something - Jesus.
4. We are to be held in a select position.
5. That which holds, the anchor, is unseen.
6. Without it we drift.
7. It is a present possession, we have it.
8. 1930 Lincoln Stiffens, an American journalist, went to Russia & wrote "I have seen the future & it works". Even then Stalin was murdering people.
9. Ours is not wishful thinking – it is set before us.

B. Hope Is an Anchor of the Soul.
1. I'm eternal - soul.
2. Anchor suggests security and storms.
3. Security
   a) Sure
      (1) Unfailing
      (2) Indestructible
      (3) Incapable of being moved.
      (4) Job of anchor is to fasten itself to the sea bed and hold ship without waverung.
   b) Steadfast
      (1) Firmly fixed
      (2) Anchor dropped in the deep but it reaches the sea bed!
      (3) It holds regardless of the condition of the sea.
      (4) Guaranteed.
4. Anchor
   a) Only here in Bible is hope offered as anchor.
   b) It's in the presence of God.
   c) It is Christ.
5. What's yours?
   a) Wealth
   b) Fame
   c) Wisdom
   d) Courage
6. Storms will come
   a) Persecution
   b) Doubt
   c) Remorse
   d) Inward corruption
   e) Outward adversity
   f) Death
7. We are like tossed ship in all the storms of life.
8. As long as anchor holds the ship does too.
9. Entered Veil
   a) Jesus in Heaven for us.
   b) Spoke of Holy of Holies.
   c) Our anchor is fixed above!
      (1) Tied to the everlasting & immovable throne of the most High God.
      (2) We are in the outer court but He is on the Inside.
      (3) Does my life & ambitions show the heavenly pull? Or is it all earth?
4.
(4) Behind the curtain means Jesus is in the direct presence of God. Due to his death on the other side of the cross.
(5) Aaron went 1X per year but no priest followed him. Lesser priest could not go.

III. He is Our Forerunner
A. Entered for us.
   1. Opened way for all.
   3. Intercedes – Roman 8:34
John 17:24 "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast
2 Tim. 2:12 "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him"
   5. Bore our sin & punishment.
B. Forerunner
   1. Used only here.
   2. Scout sent in advance of an approaching army.
   3. Suggests others will follow.
   5. Made promises:
      "Where I am there shall my servants be".
   6. No one else could do it but Him. Must follow in his way:
      a) Same place.
      b) Same obedience.
Heb. 5:8-9
   c) Same method.
Heb. 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author & finisher of"
5.

d) Faith in Jesus absolute necessity.
7. Christ's pledge - where I am you will be also.
West End - 7/21/85
Wildwood Valley Church, Hurricane Mills, TN - 7/29/85
Skillman Avenue Church, Dallas, TX - 9/9/85
In The First Circle, Solzhenitsyn tells about Innokenty Volodin, a State Counselor in the USSR's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Suddenly arrested, Volodin is torn away from his home, his wife, his career; stripped of his post, his medals, and his uniform.

Thrown into the Lubyanka, Volodin, sleepless and exhausted, is fingerprinted and registered as a prisoner. He shudders as he sees the paper they lay in front of him. Above the fingerprints is written, "Volodin, Innokenty Artemyevich, 1919, Leningrad". Over that, in thick, bold type, are the words, "KEEP FOREVER".

Isn't this the way it will be in hell: KEEP FOREVER? Imagine what it will be like: KEEP FOREVER.

"Say Hello to Life" - page 137 - Rod Huron
The following interesting illustration is taken from Naure's God's Apostles and High Priests (p. 159), but I have not had any opportunity of verifying its historical accuracy. "The figure is taken from the practice that prevailed in old times in the harbors of the Mediterranean and Other Inland seas. In every harbor, as may be seen indeed to this day, was a great stone (and usually there were a number of such) immovably embedded in the ground near the water's edge. That such, as we understand, was the anchorage (Gr. aιχορία). It served ordinarily as a meeting for the little vessels of those days, but it also had another function. Sometimes the little ship could not, by means of its sails, make its way to a secure mooring within the harbor. In such a case, a foreman would go ashore in a small boat with a line, which would be made fast to the aιχορία. That was sure and steadfast, being of ample strength, and immovably embedded in the ground. Therefore, those on the little ship had only to 'hold fast' to the line, and by means of it, and by patient, persistent effort, gradually drew near to the shore."
MELCHIZEDEK—THRIC E NAMED—
NEVER FORGOTTEN Heb. 6:20

I. Perhaps no man has fascinated us more than Melchizedek.
   A. Odd Name
   B. Appears only 3X in the Bible.
      Gen. 14
      Ps. 10:4
      Heb. 6 & 7
   C. King
   D. Without Father
      Without Mother
      Without Descendents
      Without Beginning
      Without Death
   E. Great
   F. Commanded to consider him.
      1. One of 4X in Hebrews
         Heb. 3:1 Consider apostle & High Priest
         Heb. 7:4 Consider how great this man was
         Heb. 10:24 Consider one another to provoke
         Heb. 12:3 Consider him that endureth
      3. God expects us to react to His word.
      4. Contemplate spiritually.
   G. NT Introduction (Heb. 6 & 7)
      1. Understand better Jesus our High Priest.
      2. Forerunner
         a) Used only here.
         b) Scout sent in advance of the army.
         c) Suggests others will follow.
II. High Priest Forever After The Order of Melchizedek.
   A. Who is this man?
      1. Compound name.
         a) Melech = King
         b) Zedek = righteousness
      2. Here and in:
         Gen. 14:18-20
         Ps. 110:4 "The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."
      3. So mysterious Johnson said, "None can lift the veil of Melchizedek"—then why "consider" him??
      5. Owens "a mere man & nothing more"—seems to do no justice to him.
      6. We'll tackle other items later.
   B. See his encounter with Abraham.
      1. He's King of Salem—this is Jerusalem.
      2. Priest of the Most High God.
         a) Combined two offices, priest & King.
         b) Most High God means God the Supreme—not the highest of gods as though there are many.
         c) Priest of El Elyon.
      3. Met Abraham returning from slaughter of Kings.
         a) Abraham organized his own army—318 born in his house.
         b) Rescued Lott.
         c) Returns in victory.
4. Melchizedec blessed him, bread and wine.
   a) Greater the Lesser.
   b) Aaron could bless folk as office of priest.

Deut. 21:5
   c) Obviously there were others in Abraham's time who worshipped the true God.
   d) He's a Gentile.

5. Abraham gave him 1/10 of the spoils.
   a) To receive tithes indicates a certain preeminence.
   b) Law later compels payment of tithes.
   c) Kingly wealth made his ministry more eminent & conspicuous as he performed Kingly duties.

C. He's King of Righteousness & King of Salem; also King of Peace.
1. Righteousness an attribute of God.
2. This God demands of us and is attainable through Jesus.

Rom. 4:6 "Imputeth righteousness"
3. Salem is a place.
4. Peace.
   a) Jesus is King of Righteousness and Prince of Peace.
   b) Righteousness gives Peace.

Isa. 9:5-6 "For unto us a child is born"
   c) Lord is our righteousness.

Jer. 23:6
Ps. 85:10 "Righteousness & peace kiss each other"

III. His Unusual Characteristics.

A. Without Father
1. Not immortal--only so far as story goes.
2. V-9 "And as I may say so"--knows he's explaining something hard.
3. Did not come to his office by right of premogeniture--not any successive way but could by God.
4. Had no ancestors in the priesthood.
5. Did not receive office by hereditary rights.
6. Did not belong to any line of priests.
7. Alexandrian principle: the silence of Scripture is charged with meaning.
8. Note absence of reference to parents, children, birth, death--he is independent & timeless.

B. Without Mother
1. Belonged to no priestly family.
2. Under Levi had to prove line of descent.

Neh. 7:63-65 Not in register, not found
C. Without Descent
   1. No successor—there was no law to constitute order of descent.
   2. Without genealogy.
   3. Does not depend on successor.
D. Without beginning of days or end of life.
   1. Aaronic priesthood dies.
   2. Present tense—didn't die.
   3. No record of his death thus his priesthood abides continually.
   4. Jesus is forever.
Mic. 5:2 from of old—everlasting
Rev. 1:18 alive forever more amen
E. Obviously he was "Great"
   1. Reasons
      a) Abraham was subject to him.
      b) Abraham was prince, ruler, father of a nation.
      c) Gave 10% out of respect.
      d) He blessed Abraham.
      e) Levi paid tithes via Abraham.
IV. Obvious Lessons
   A. Melchizedek shows an abiding efficacy—so does Jesus.
   B. Priesthood endures—so does Jesus.
   C. Greater than Aaronic priesthood—so is Jesus.
   D. Christ superior in the spiritual and eternal.

Paragon Mills - 6/28/98
AT WHAT LOCATION DO YOU ENVISION JESUS?  
Heb. 8:1

I. When you pray to God through Jesus or pray to Jesus via many songs, where do you envision Him being?  
A. Right here in our assembly?  
B. Right here in my heart?  
C. In Heaven on His throne?  
   1. I believe all these locations to be correct.  
   2. But let’s isolate one—Heaven! and get a fuller picture of what He is doing there.  
   3. We will use Hebrew scriptures to present this.

II. On God’s Right Hand Enthroned  
Heb. 8:1  
A. What a joy to see King Jesus.  
B. We relish in His authority.  
C. We know He has been to earth among us and now is triumphantly home.  
   1. He became the perfect sacrifice for sin.  
   2. He is seated—unlike the temple—His work is completed.  
Heb. 10:12  
D. He’s ruling over His Kingdom  
   1. There to oversee our journey.
2. Will leave it only to come to earth and call us to meet Him in the air. The earth becomes his footstool—though never sets foot on it.

3. Last enemy destroyed.

1 Cor. 15:24-27

4. Will call the righteous and banish the wicked in the Judgment Day.

III. Until this event what does He do in Heaven—"roam around all day like the sun?"

Heb. 4:14-16

A. In our earlier passage it introduces the idea of his priesthood.

Zech. 6:12-13

B. Do we need one?

1. Have you ever sinned?

2. As such are we in any position to negotiate with God?

3. Can we propose terms of pardon? What would we offer for our atonement?

4. Is the shedding of blood necessary?

Heb. 9:22

5. Penalty of sin is death—how can we overcome it?

   a) Blood of animals.

Heb. 10:4
b) Of man--he's a sinner.
6. We need a priest to plead for us.
7. We need a priest who is sympathetic with us since we keep sinning.

Heb. 2:17-18
Heb. 7:25

C. What does our High Priest (Jesus) do?
Heb. 4:14-16

1. We have one.
   a) Greater than earthly one.
   b) Greater than angels.
   c) Greater than Moses.
2. Passed through the heavens, Jesus, Son of God.
   a) Not one where God is but one we see.

2 Cor. 12:2
   b) Son of God--not son of Aaron, deity, divine.

3. Hold fast profession.
   a) Don't turn back.
   b) Stay faithful.
   c) To other religions.
4. Priest that can be touched.
   a) Sympathetic with us.
   b) He lived here in human flesh and knows how we feel.
   c) He was tempted yet without sin
5. In all points tempted.
   a) Lust of flesh, eyes, pride of life.

1 John 2:16
   b) Devil tried him.

6. Draw near with boldness.
   a) Come openly for help.
   b) Throne of grace.

Rom. 3:24-26
   c) Find mercy—when we do wrong
      or are prosperous, or poor,
      or sick, or death of loved one.

IV. Once again see who He is.

Heb. 7:26-28

A. Exactly what we need.
   1. Barnes statement.
   2. Holy—supremely so.
   3. Guileless—free from evil,
      innocent, blameless.
   4. Undefiled—unstained, unspoiled,
      chaste on HP mitre "Holy to Jehovah."
   5. Separated from sinners, made
      higher than the heavens.
   6. No daily need to offer up
      sacrifice.
      a) Earthly priest must officiate
         for himself.
      b) Then others—all sinful
      c) Year by year.
7. Lord put him there by an oath.
Heb. 7:21
Ps. 110:4

B. Our priest superior.

V. Once again on his duties.
Heb. 9:24-28
A. Entered into heaven itself.
   1. Not earthly tabernacle.
   2. Not pattern, but real tabernacle.
B. Appear before face of God for us.
   1. Intercedes
   2. Pleads our case.
C. Not offer himself often.
   1. His sacrifice sufficient for all time.
   2. Not with blood not his own.
      a) Earthly priest did.
      b) But animal.
      c) Pleads forgiveness for all penitent, obedient ones.
      d) Obedience necessary.
D. Since foundation of the world—manifested to put away sins.
1 John 3:8
   1. Sacrificed himself.
   2. His death vital.
   3. Man dies once—so did Jesus—
      not repeated-mass-sacrifice
4. Next judgment as He returns.
5. Will not suffer here again.
6. Be ready for His return.

VI. (These good thoughts in Annual Lesson 1950).
He is benevolent and
plenteous of mercy; and is able to
plunge our wick, wise, and is able to
enlighten our minds; and judge our
affections, and correct our errors.
He has made such a sacrifice as was
necessary to put away our guilt, and
offres such intercession as we need
to have offered for us in order that
we may be preserved from falling.
THE MASTER IS A MINISTER
Heb. 8:1-2

I. Somehow it thrills us to find one we admire does the same thing we do.
A. I'm a farmer - so am I
B. " " teacher - " "
C. " " minister - so is Jesus.
   1) Some of us serve more formally yet -
   2) All Christians are ministers.
   3) Just think - we do what Jesus does.

II. This is clearly stated in our text.
Heb 8:1-2 "Now of the things which we have
A. The Now
   1. New division in Hebrews
   2. Puts all eyes on Jesus.Heb 3:1
      12:2-3
         a) Helps fainting ones be strong.
         b) Reassuring to see Him in his glory and power.
         c) Better grasp His work for us.
         d) Taught to look at Him - we've thought of ourselves enough.
            (Boll)
         e) We see our inabilities, the strength of our adversaries,
            we try to lift ourselves and meet only with failure.
B. The Sum.
   1. Several meanings assigned this expression:
      a) Like adding a column of figures and cite the total.
      b) Chief point, main point
      c) Heart of the matter - the end result.
      d) Head (only time used in N.T dealt with sum of money Roman captain paid to gain freedom. Acts 22:28.
      e) To crown the argument.
      f) Main scope of discourse whereunto all the particulars tend to aim.
      g) Brief compendium and abridgement of large discourse.
         We would do well to learn to condense as the Holy Spirit does.

C. What is the Sum?
   v. -1 "We have such an high priest.

III. Let's see component parts of the Summation.
   A. We have a High Priest.
      1. We have a current relationship with Him.
2. We have now this present blessing.
3. We now see His work.

B. High Priest.
1. Christ is superior to all others.
2. He alone remains.
3. 3 Works
   a) Prophet - reveal truth of God
   b) Priest - provide redemption by God
   c) King - bestow God's power

C. Who is set
1. Sitting shows stability
2. Often shown seated

1:3
10:12
12:2
Ps 110:1
Jude
3. Not implying his posture in ministering but his position in power.

D. On the Right Hand.
1. This the greatest honor of eternity.
2. No other position equals this.

E. Throne.
1. Greatest dignity.
2. Unique in majesty and power.
F. Majesty in heaven.

1. 3 times tells of his majesty.

1:3
12:2
8:1

2. No power is higher than God & that's where Jesus is.
3. Christ arrayed with immorality, incorruption, purity, majesty and all glory.

4. In heaven in the presence of God.
5. Stress is placed on ascension, He is in Heaven.

III. Well, what is He doing?

v-2 "A minister of the sanctuary.

A. The Master is a Minister.

1. It's a heavenly ministry.
2. It is ceaseless
3. Defined:
   a) To serve in public office, servant.
   b) From 2 words - belonging to and work.
   c) One who works for and belongs to the people.
   d) Jesus works for us
   e) His ministry today is not one of sacrifice but of prayer. and intercession.
5.

f) Not engaged in daily offerings.

7:27
g) Remember -one employed in public service.

Ezra 8:17 - For house
Joel 1:13 - Of altar
Joel 2:17 - Of the Lord

h) Service always has a religious
element.

4. Some observations.
a) Always serve with fear and trembling.
b) Be curcynsoect kest they offend.
c) H.P. wore bells - Jesus is continually making pleasing sounds before God.
d) God approves of no person just being interested in himself.

B. It's in the Sanctuary
1. Within the bounds of Heaven's placement - not outside.
2. He rent the veil and thus can offer gifts and sacrifices to God.
3. Plural - both Holy and Holy of Holies both sections of temple.
4. In Heaven itself.
5. Sanctum Sanctorium.
6. His ministry is in a superior place.

C. Features of it.
1. True
2. Tabernacle
   a) Tent of meeting
   b) In temple of God where all our worship ascends.
   c) Here all affairs are handled.
   d) Thompson says it never refers to Jewish temple.
   e) Dwelling place of God. Meeting place of Jesus and man. Communion of Jesus with all believers.

3. Pitched by the Lord.
   a) Lord did it
   b) Done once for all - pegs fastened not to come loose.
   c) Christ had a human body
   d) Taken down, folded up, erected again without breakage or loss.
   e) God pitches this one - he takes above. Men kept temporary.
   f) Not the doings of man.
LIGHT COMES OUT OF A STONE

Heb. 8:5

1. Required of all is a refreshment of mind that value of religious heritage might be maintained.
   A. In O.T. "When our children ask"—
   B. In N.T. the some traditions are vain, others are valuable.
   C. For us 3 words—Establishment, Reformation, Restoration.

I. Light From a stone.
   A. Tell of Cyclotron—Clip on Stone.
   B. Man is interesting.
      1. Born Dec. 24, 1772 Port Tobacco, Md.
      2. Dad died when 3.
      3. Mother moved to Va. in church of Eng.
      4. Barton Warren Stone son who wanted to be a lawyer.
      5. By sprinkling entered Presby. Church.
      6. Wanted to preach.
      7. Ordain if subscribe to Confession of Faith—said would only if it in consent with word of God.
         (a) Depravity troubled him.
         (b) Also predestination & election.
         (c) "If men are depraved why preach to them?"
         (d) Universal gospel—how can there be limited atonement—that he was 1st to use "at one moment."
C. Cane Ridge, Ky.
1. Group of Presby. pioneers asked Daniel Boone where was a good spot to build a church house.
2. "On Cane Ridge; the most game is there. I think it's the best farming land. I gave it the name.
3. Cane break - (8 miles west of Paris, Ky.) 15 miles long & 8 miles wide - cane 8 to 10' tall.
4. Built it 1791 - cane so hi had to climb trees & sight for others who set the logs.
5. Blue ash trees, logs 16" square, hewn by broad ax, 30'x50' size of house, 15' ceiling, sheeting attached c wooden pens.
6. No chinking between logs, no glass in windows, floor of logs, also benches - split c legs attached 2 doors front & back, slave galery. No fireplace preaching for Stone emotional kept them warm.
7. Elevated pulpit - in front of it a Communion table they began to use every Sunday.
8. Stone came in 1796 - 24 yr. old. 30 responses 1st yr.
10. Only son died 1808, wife 1809 note statement triumphantly followed.
11. 1811 married Celie Brown of Castalian Springs, cousin of wife. Came to Sumner Co. - Nashville "a vaillage hardly worth notices."
12. 19 kids. by both wives.
13. Stroke 1841 - paralytic, died Nov. 9, 1844 Hannibal, Missouri.
D. Religious Involvement.
1. 3rd Sunday, Aug. 1801, 7 day revival at Cane Ridge - 30,000 came.
2. 2 yr. earlier one at Logan Co., Ky.
3. 6/28/1804 Last Will & Testament - 800 words - 8 years before Alex. Campbell baptized. This was of Springfield Presby.
4. 5 preachers formed Springfield Presby - 4 quit - left Stone alone.
5. 1807 baptized by immersion.

E. Religious Statements.
1. Bible.
   (a) "The Scriptures are the sole authority - no creedal statement may be bound on the church.
   (b) Statement from last will.
2. Church.
   (a) Statement from last will.
   (b) Unity statements:
      (1) Doctrine of Bible not divide but opinions.
      (2) Unity views.
      (3) Sectarianism is anti-Christian - all Christians should be united in the one body of Christ.
      (4) Wear no unscriptural name.
3. Restoration quotes.

Sheet End 6-24-73
In the winter of 1809, my only son Barton Warren died and in the Spring following May 30th my dear companion Liza triumphantly followed. She was pious, intelligent and cheerful, truly a helpmeet in all my troubles and difficulties.

Having heard of a remarkable religious excitement in the south of Kentucky and in Tennessee under the labors of James McGready, and other Presbyterian ministers, I was very anxious to be among them; and early in the Spring of 1801 went there to attend a camp meeting. There on the edge of a prairie in Logan County, Kentucky the multitudes came together and continued a number of days and nights encamped on the ground; during which time worship was carried on in some part of the encampment. The scene to me was new, and passing strange. It baffled description. Many, very many fell down as men slain in battle, and continued for hours together in apparently breathless and motionless state sometimes for moments reviving, and exhibiting symptoms of life by a deep groan or a piercing shriek, or a prayer for mercy most fervently uttered.
Of the Cane Ridge encampment he wrote the bodily agitations of exercises, attending the excitement in the beginning of the century, were various, and called by various names; as the falling exercise, the jerks, the dancing exercise, the barking exercise, the laughing and singing exercise—the falling exercise is very common among all classes the saints and sinners of every age of every grade from the philosopher to the clown. The subject of this exercise would generally a piercing scream, fall like a log on the floor, earth, or mud and the fear is dead.

As a husband, he was kind, devoted, tender, obliging, faithful; as a father, he was fond and attentive; he lived to promote the happiness of his family. Never a man loved the domestic circle more than he. He carefully brought up his children in the nurture and the admonition of the Lord; night and morning asking the divine blessings upon his family, and committing and commending himself and them to the care and the protection of the Heavenly Father. His was truly a house of prayer.
When Barton W. Stone was asked was he afraid to die he said, "Oh, no, for I know in whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. I know that my Redeemer lives. My dependence is in God and His Son. God bless you, my brother, I hope to meet you in heaven."

We will that our power of making laws for the government of the church and executing them by delegated authority forever cease, that the people may have free course to the Bible and adopt the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus.

Eph. 1:22 "And hath put all Things under His feet."
2 Pet 1:3 "According as His divine power..."
We will that each particular congregation as a body actuated by the same spirit choose her own preacher and support him by free will offering........... and never henceforth delegate her right of government to any man or set of men whatsoever.

(These are some of the 800 words that comprised the last will and testament of the Springfield Presbytery.)

Phil 4:19: For unto you is the message of Jesus Christ; to you a revelation, which is in you, even as in Paul and the apostles.

Wearied with the works and doctrines of men, and distrustful of their influence, I made the Bible my constant companion. I honestly, earnestly, and prayerfully sought for the truth determined to bide at the sacrifice of everything else.
We have taken the name Christians, not because we consider ourselves more pure than others—but because we knew it was the name first given to the disciples of Jesus by divine authority. It has better agreed with our spirit, which is to unite with all Christians without regard to names or distinctions.

We can propose a creed which all the sect can agree to receive as the only infallible rule of faith and practice and on which they can unite. This creed is the Bible.

Acts 15:9 And the Corinthians were so sharp of private opinions every man had a right, to deprive him of the civil deprive him of thinking, & to make him a slave. The doctrines of the Bible are decided. There never decided Christians but human opinions on those doctrines. We clung to always done so.
I emancipated my slaves from a sense of right, choosing poverty with a good conscience, in preference to all the treasures of the world. This revival cut the bonds of many poor slaves; and this argument speaks volumes in favor of the work.

To destroy sectarianism, and sectarian props, creeds, and names--to promote love, peace and unity among Christians--to free the Bible from the rubbish of human tradition--and to restore to the world the unadulterated gospel of the kingdom--these shall engage our best powers--these shall be the polar star to which our attention and exertion shall be chiefly directed.
If Christian union be right, disunion is wrong; if it be the
will of God, that they be one, it is opposition to His will to be
divided; if it be their duty to be united, it is their sin to be
disunited; if their union be the salvation of the world, their
disunion is its ruin.

John 17:21, 23: "Then shall the world..." I have heard the
world say, "That they may be one as we are one, that the
world may believe that Thou hast sent me.

The subject of baptism now engaged the attention of the people
very generally, and some, with myself, began to conclude that it
was ordained for the remission of sins, and ought to be administered
in the name of Jesus to all believing penitents.
Thousands of brethren there are wasting the Lord's goods. They seem to have forgotten, or never have been taught, that they themselves are living sacrifices to God. If they are Christians, their whole soul, body, and spirit are His and all the substance they possess.
Light Comes Out of a Stone
Cromwell Cook Cleveland

SPECIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT can reveal the presence of light being emitted from solid rock. A radioactive substance, such as Uranium 238, within a stone, sends off small particles, known as alpha rays, and the changes occurring relative to heat, energy and the escaping of these particles result in detectable light. A scientist, using a cyclotron, can inject a stream of neutrons into a rock, and this action, also, can cause light to be seen on a film, as it comes from the stone.

Many years before this discovery was made, "light," figuratively speaking, emerged from a work of frontiersmen's art. Blue ash trees were felled. Logs, 16 inches square, hewn by broadaxe, became huge girders. The structure was 30 by 50 feet, with a 15-foot ceiling. The sheathing (the first covering boards) was attached to the clapboard roof with wooden pins.

There was no chinking between the logs, no glass in the windows. The floor and the benches, which had no backs, were of the puncheon type. A puncheon was a log which had been split and the face smoothed. Laid together, these constituted the best in pioneer floors.
EXACTNESS DEMANDED
Heb. 8:3-6

I. I live in an age of great tolerance.
   A. We have unusual liberties.
   B. We exercise varying tastes.
   C. We glory in contrasting opinions.
      1) Op Ed pages of newspapers.
      2) Boiling point in TV exchanges.

II. We begin to see it in religion.
   A. One church is as good as another.
   B. There are hundreds of roads to heaven.
   C. We worship according to conscience and sincerity.
   D. It's bigotism and autocratic to say there is a prescribed way.

III. I know it is not popular to challenge this laissez-faire cavalier attitude but I've a few verses I want to preach.
   A. I'm not doing it to say "see you are wrong". (I might be)
   B. I am doing it to pull us back to a sense of caution and care.
   C. It's hard to imagine one displeasing God when he comes to Him in spirit and in truth.

IV. Here's the paragraph
Heb. 8:3-6 - Read
   A. It's the story of the excellency of Jesus.
   B. 2ndly the exactness of God's desires.
V. The text examined.
A. Jesus our great high priest.
   1. Sum of all the Hebrew letter.
   2. We now have Him.
   3. His priesthood not earthly but heavenly.
      a) only time "necessity" ever used used relative to Christ so I immediately see something restrictive is intended.
      b) His office must be beyond any questionableness.
   4. Priest offer gifts to God on behalf of the people.
      a) None but priest could be at altar - this was exacting.
      b) Priest could not come empty handed and only with gifts prescribed - this was exacting.
   5. Jesus must bring a gift.
      a) Offered himself.
      b) Lamb acceptable - the most exacting, perfect gift of all.
      c) Once for all done.
   6. Incidentally since we are priest, What are we offering?
B. Jesus also Mediator.
   1. Define.
      a) Middle person between 2 parties entering into a covenant.
      b) Start in the middle of two parties and bring them together.
Perfect mediator

C. Has better covenants and promises.
1. Covenant is an arrangement, disposition or institute according to which the divine favor is dispensed to those with whom it is made.
2. Earlier translated testament.
3. 12X in next 2 chapters, 4X in closing one, 17X in Hebrews 1/2 of all NT usages.
4. Duty must be done after the right manner.

VI. But let's go back to Moses and the Tabernacle of which Jesus is the fulfillment.
A. Earthly priest served unto the example and shadow.
1. Example.
   a) Tent of meeting copy of one that was and is to come.
   b) Means symbol, sign, outline.
   c) Indicates a reflection.
d) It was a pattern to follow - 4. How closely? That is our question.

2. Shadow
a) General form or outline.
b) Does not have distinguishing characteristics.
c) Shadow has to have an object to cast it.
d) Represents a bodily substance.
e) Shadow has no real substance.
f) They are fading and transitory.

3. Jesus passes Moses as substance does shadow.
4. If we worship form it is not real.

B. God told Moses to make a Tabernacle according to the pattern.
1. He quotes scripture without locating it.
2. He admonished Moses Ex. 25:40
   a) Wanted no miscarriage no mistakes.
   b) Solemn warning as he begins his work.
   c) This spirit must be exercised today.
   d) What the spoken word of God was to Moses the written word is to us.
   e) "Instructed" - an authoritative word that demands obedience.
   f) The phrase "of God" said by some not in the original Greek we get the strong feeling God didn't ask Moses to guess but rather comply to exactness.
g) Tender foot trying to break 5.
1st hoss - others threw high life
on horse, bucked boy off into cactus patch. Tried hoss again once
more they put high life and just
as he started bucking boy jumped
off before being thrown. How did
you know to jump? Started to
smell the same way he did before
just before he bucked me off.

a) Invisible realities made plain to
Moses.
b) Stephen said "Moses made the
tabernacle 'according to the
fashion that he had seen'"
(Acts 7:44)
c) Earth was to copy Heaven and it
must be exactly right.
d) Moses was not to trust his own
wisdom but to do exactly what
God said.
e) He was not called to build what
he thought God would like, but
rather exactly what he asked for.
f) He had a pattern - follow it.

VIII. What does this say to us today?
A. Calvin "See that thou do nothing
beyond the pattern."
B. As no part of the tabernacle was Moses invention but was an exact representation of what God had shown him—so must we abide in the doctrine 2 Jn. 9 "Whosoever transgresseth and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ."

C. "God will exact an account of them to whom he gives the charge. We are responsible for defaults and defects."

D. He further said partial obedience is unsound and dangerous.

E. Let's go back to the drawing board.
THE INCOMPARABLE CHRIST
Heb. 9:11-14

I. Everything I've ever owned is subject to improvement.
   A. Clifford Hayden's car—we painted.
   B. Our dwelling from 2 room apartment to 2 bedroom house and its multiple remodeling.
   C. Don't know anything we can't improve.

II. Not so with Christ.
   A. He is perfect—2 meanings.
   B. His system is complete.
   C. He's perfectly adequate to every need of life.
   D. Consequently He is to be praised and adored.

III. I would like to see this contention sustained in one paragraph—Heb. 9:11-14 that we read.
   A. Notice its completeness.
   B. See its contrasts.
   C. Glory in its conclusion.

IV. From Heb. 9:11-14, we learn:
   A. v-11 "But Christ"
      1. It signals the termination of the Jewish ways.
      2. One tabernacle described now replaced by a better one.
      3. "Historic appearance of Christ the grand turning point in the economy of redemption." Milligan
      4. He is the magnificent change for all men.
B. v-11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
1. Different tribe--different time.
2. All see the improvement--better things now--good things to come has an immediate as well as future blessing.
3. Lit. good things which have come to pass--Christ has come--with it comes blessings now.
4. Things to look forward to certainly but also rejoice in what we now have.

C. Greater & More Perfect Tabernacle
1. Earlier built by Moses according to pattern.
2. This one built by Lord himself.
3. 2 parts--1st the church, then Heaven.
4. Christ entered through the veil--you can now see the way to Heaven.
5. Note comparisons & contrast.
   a) Both have a place for priestly service--temple & Heaven.
   b) Earthly in location, material, workmen which was a picture--but rather see the real thing than the picture. He's eternal in Heaven.
   c) Both used blood; bulls & goats vs Christ's blood.
   d) Multiple entrances vs one entrance.
3. Further peculiarities.
   a) Blood--mentioned 12X, heretofore unnamed.
   b) Blood the forfeit of life, the price of sin.

Lev. 17:11 "For the life of the flesh is in the blood... for it is the blood that maketh atonement for thy soul."
   c) Offering of Christ's is effective for us.
   d) His blood is superior to goats & obtains an effectiveness.
   e) Entered Once Royal Robes, via sacrifice & gifts which was Himself, own Blood.
   f) Once was sufficient--never repeated--no Mass.

7. Redemption
   a) We receive spiritual promises that belong to eternity.
   b) The promises are outside corruption & defilement of time.
   c) Redemption = deliverance--ransom paid--argument from lesser to greater.

D. Mention of Ashes
1. Numbers 19
2. Red, cedar wood, hyssop, scarlet.
3. Without spot, no yoke, without camp, slain before priest--by hands of others--even as was Jesus.
4. Sprinkled 7X—all people.
5. Whole of heifer—all of Christ.
E. Old law had no provision to expiate those transgressions committed against Divine Will as revealed in His law. (Tyndale)
F. How Much More!
1. If animals helped how much more blood of Jesus?
2. Now Christ's blood into which we are baptized.
4. Offers Himself.
   a) Shows His unspeakable love.
   b) Also effectiveness of sacrifice.
   c) Covenant confirmed by sacrifice of His life.
   d) Death penalty for violated law.
   e) Animal transitory, without consent, no agency of his own.
   f) Christ a divine gift, voluntary, agreeable to eternal arrangement.
   g) Sets free of any condemnation and secures treatment as though he'd never sinned—man that is.
   h) Christ has honored all claims of the law.
   i) He bore our sins & opened the door for us to receive the Promise.
   j) He's both High Priest & offering.
G. Purge conscience.
1. No sin forgiven absolutely without Christ's blood as no debt is absolutely settled via paper currency.
2. God issued promissory note based on infinite value of Christ's blood.
3. Now permanent.
1 Pet. 1:4 "To an inheritance incorruptible"
H. Serve the Living God.
1. Sins atoned for.
2. Believer is justified.
3. Christ returns in Royal Robe.
(NIV) When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves, but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offer himself unblemished to God, cleanse our conscience from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God.

Franklin, KY (VBS) - 6/28/98
THE ODDEST O. T. SACRIFICE
Heb. 9:13-14 Numbers 19

1. The Ashes of the Red Heifer
   A. Called "The most enigmatic rite in the O.T.
      1. Rabbis said Solomon gave up trying to understand it.
      2. It cleansed the defiled & it defiled the clean.
      3. An allegory? (Riggans)
      4. Crossville "if we'd been there I'm sure we'd have understood it."
   B. Its purpose though is very clear--remove the defilement of death, via the "waters of separation."
   C. Grasp the setting of it.
      1. Leviticus does not tell this ceremony--only Numbers & Hebrews.
      2. Don't know exactly the timing--do know it was during wilderness wandering.
         a) Some think the daily, monthly, even annual sacrifices suspended due to poverty, distress or disfavor of God.
         b) Born of the mercy of God.
      3. Historically
         a) Death via rebellion had come.
         b) Death, sin, infection all connected.
         c) Death a universal visitor comes on impartial feet.
         d) Contact with death made one unclean.
2.

e) Death is obnoxious to God.
f) Death crowning consequence of sin.
g) He who destroys sin also destroys death.

D. No wonder—"the Lord spoke--this is the ordinance"—(V. 1 & 2).
   1. God sees our needs and establishes our remedies.
   2. Rites of purification come from Him—not man.
   3. It is simple remedy but it is not optional.
   4. May not be fully understood but what room for faith if we know the why & wherefore of every step.
   5. We are to obey every detail.
   6. This is a deliberate decree from God.
   7. If all must die—and perhaps 100 did daily—
      a) Can't touch corpse
      b) Or bone
      c) Or grave
      d) Or intent where one dies
      e) Or slain soldier in the field—must urgently need remedy & relief.
     8. Came at crucial time—suppose you just touched death!
      a) Sanitary to avoid death
      b) Wages of sin
9. This is not Sinai prescribed thus differs from all others.
   a) Came from Wilderness of Paran.
   b) Christ comes in the wilderness of life.
   c) Came when Israel lay under condemnation of death.

II. The Prescription & Sacrifice
   A. The Animal
      1. Heifer
         a) Young (?)
         b) Single animal—one & only one—
            (contrasts with multiplicity & constant repetition of others).
         c) Rare—female (Christ had the tenderness of a woman).
         d) Golden calf defiled—this one cleanses.
         e) Female—affection, kind, fruitful.
      2. Red (Not white, black, yellow, spotted)
         a) Adam—red
         b) Christ taken out of man
         c) His blood red
      d) Heslop says pure red of great price & very rare. P.C. says most common color.
      e) Would reject if had 3 white hairs on her rabbis said.
      f) Red—flush of life.

3. Without Spot
   a) Great care necessary in providing sin offering.
b) Christ without spot.
Heb. 9:14"How much more shall the blood of Christ who thru the eternal Spirit offered himself w/o spot to God purge your conscience.

d) Jesus never under sin.
He will not slay her--another will.

b) Most simple sacrifice--unlike complex ones from Sinai.

c) Thot onl 6 ever self (nor Nazi rite) under any circumstances--no family loved one touched in death, no pallbearer, no touch of a grave, even accidentally so painted white.

4. No blemish
   a) Must be perfect in its kind.
   b) Give God the best we have.
   c) Jesus w/o blemish.
Jn. 18:23 "If I have spoken evil bear wit. of"
19:4 "That ye may know I find no fault"
1 Pet.2:22 "Who did not sin, neither was"

5. No Yoke
   a) Symbol of degradation.
   b) It's life not bent to the pleasures of others--bull or yoke.
   c) Our Lord never under constraint--no one other will impose on Him--
came to do the Father's.
   d) Jesus never under yoke of sin.

B. The Sacrifice
1. Give her to Eleazar, H.P.
   a) He will not slay her--another will.
   b) Most simple sacrifice--unlike complex ones from Sinai.
   c) Thot only 6 ever used.
   d) H.P. must not define himself (nor Nazirite) under any circumstances--no family loved one touched in death, no pallbearer, no touch of a grave, even accidentally so painted white.
2. Bring her forth w/o the camp.
   a) Sin offering always w/o camp thus sin & death have no place in the city of God.
   b) Death is foreign to the presence and habitation (sanctuary) of the living God.
   c) No one ever died in the presence of Jesus—or stayed dead around Him.
   d) Christ suffered w/o the camp.
   e) Died in unhallowed place.

Heb. 13:12 "Wherefore Jesus also that he m.s."

f) Caiaphas delivered Jesus to Rome.
   g) Only place where slaughter was outside the camp (Deut 19:3)

3. Slay the Heifer
   a) Only necessary to repeat when ashes played out.
   b) Christ inexhaustible—only 1X.

Matt 18:21

4. Eleazar—blood on finger.
   a) Defilement reach sanctuary?
   b) Not brought to it but sprinkled before it at a distance.

Lev 4:6

   c) Seven X = perfect performance.
   d) Christ perfect cure.

Josh 6:4

5. Burn the Heifer (v-5 Read)
   a) Only here blood burned.

Lev. 14:4-6 (Leper cleansing)

   b) Wholly consumed—Jesus gave his all.

   c) Blood burned became effective part of ashes—so blood of Christ continually effective.
d) With sacrifice also fragrance, incorruption, cleansing, royal grandeur.

e) Heifer consumed w/o being flayed, cleansed, divided.

f) Cedar wood = might and imperishability, splendor.

g) Hyssop - cleansing.

h) Scarlet - blood & fire - purifying agent, also Sin.

Isa. 1:18 "Tho your sins be as scarlet"
i) Participants to make clean process become unclean.
j) Sin makes us unfit for God.

6. Gather the Ashes

a) They are indestructible residue of the victim (Christ ever available).

b) Unclean purged by a clean person.

Rom. 3:23 "For all have sinned & come short"
c) Ashes reserved for permanent use.

d) Put in clean place (v-9).

7. Apply the cleansing.
a) Mix with water (spring)

b) Water of separation.

c) Remarkable remedy for death.

d) Purification a perpetual demand.

III. What Does This Say to Us?

A. 3 day & 1st day - Power of Resurrection and 1st day.

B. Death & sin separate us from God.
Rom. 5:12 "One man sin, death by sin, passed"
1 Cor. 15:26 "The last enemy that shall be"
1. Powerless to keep ourselves from death.
   2. Only relief was sprinkling of ashes and in his own appointed way.
   3. To abandon brings wrath of God.
Jn. 13:8 "If I wash thee not thou hast"
Heb. 10:29 "Trodten under ft...counted blood"
4. W/o purification cut off.
5. No cleansing except in strict obedience to His appointments.
6. We cannot invent our own way.
7. Don't question—what worse am I for touching dead? — and thus judge by feeling — God made a difference.
C. Ashes & water remove impurity because God said so. John 19:41
D. Wrath of God spends itself either against sinner or substitute.
1. Only Jesus free of sin.
2. Holiness & uncleanness both contagious.
E. All wash — else "no part with me" come to the waters of separation in baptism. Must purify in appointed way.

Benton, AR - 4/9/89
Northeast. Indianapolis, TN - 5/18/89

Jefferson Ave., Cookeville, TN - 9/12/89
Union Ave., Memphis, TN - 11/7/89
40th & Hazel, Pine Bluff, AR - 2/28/90
Third & Dwight, Monahans, TX - 3/29/90
SURPRISES OF THE JUDGEMENT  Heb 9:27

I. Do you like surprises? Only some, huh?
   A. Pepper & tax check

II. Judgement may have unpleasant surprises.
   B. For some, they are:
      1. That There Actually is a Judgement.
      2. Easy out, forget it, dismiss it, disbelieve it.
         Jesus will make it a certainty, no such things detract from it.
      3. Dr. Miller, dentist, "kier"
      4. Does it trouble you? Should (nothing but Jesus)
         Heb. 10:26-27 for if we sin wilfully after that

B. That Christ is a Real Person.
   1. Jews reject - modernist deplores.
      2. Must have faith

C. That He's by Word.
   1. Joh 12:47-48 And if any man hear my words
      a. Discourages. Reasons for it however.
      2. Do what the verse actually & rigidly follow.
      3. Suppose above verse actually & rigidly followed
         where would you appear?
      4. Mat 7:21
      5. Joh 14:21 He that hath my commandments & keepeth
         Joh 14:23 It a man love me, he will keep my
      6. Do and whatever he likes, let's not be surprised.
1. Thet. Tolerance & Love Always Abode

I Cor 13:8 "Charity never faileth"
I Cor 13:13 "And now abideth faith, hope, charity."

1. I wish ye, & so do, as they that
2. neon about men who rob, cheat, hush,

E. Why don't.
2.) Clip on Professor.

Lastest Grove 11/4/52
Sheridan 11/4/52
Clybourn 11/4/52
Wooden Chapel 11/3/52
Grove 11/3/52 (Grove Band Rehearsal")
Riverview Wichita 11/3/52
Bethany Town 9/5/53
Bethel (6th Sep) 10/4/53
Minneapolis 10/23/53
New Brunswick 3/5/61
West 8th 3/7/61
A PROFESSOR'S HUMILITY

T is said that when Professor John Stuart Blakie of the University of Edinburgh was one day hearing a new class of students recite, one man arose in the classroom holding his book in his left hand.

Professor Blakie ordered him to take it in his right hand. He began to make some excuse when the Professor thundered out, "Take your book in your right hand or take your seat."

There was complete silence in the classroom as the boy stood motionless.

Then, closing his book and putting his left hand behind him, he drew his right arm from behind his back.

It ended at the wrist. "If you please, sir, I have no right hand."

The Scotch students hissed Professor Blakie. He hesitated only a moment and then, coming down from the platform, put his arms about the shoulders of the boy and said, "You will forgive me, won't you, for I did not know."

That night the professor knelt in that boy's room and led him to Christ. Think you he could have done it if he had allowed the wrong to go un-ighted?
"Recently one of these people advocated a new idea, which after all, was not too surprising in the light of modern trends. The church should write a new Bible, a book of modern thought to speak in up to date language to enlighten people. Sin should be classed as undeveloped good, God the ultimate in all decency. The outrageous teachings of the Bible should be replaced by some of the finer standards of morality, and to this intelligent creed all men would subscribe. Such statements suggest there can be no limit to man's stupidity."

from "Don't Loose that Fish"
by Ivor Powell
page 143
PREACHING A FRACTURED SENTENCE
Hebrews 10:19-22

I. Some unusual things are incomplete.
   A. The Unfinished Symphony (Schubert)
   B. Venus Demilo's arms, Sphinx nose.
   C. Hand of a god over a cultist entrance to chemical lab in Tokyo.

II. I have an incomplete sentence that I want to preach—any idea why I don't complete it since the Holy Spirit did?
   A. It leads to great commands, too magnificent to skim over.
   B. Its participing nature presents marvelous thoughts that must not be overlooked, so without apology we go to a partial sentence.

Heb. 10:19-22 "Having therefore brethren, boldness'"

III. Important things to learn—Six words to be exact.
   A. Having
      1. We have 2 havings though one in italics.
      2. NIV has "we have" as does RSV, also ASV the same though second "have" is in italics.
      3. Incidentally points the 2 haves of provision to the 3 Let us of privilege.
         a) Draw near—full assurance.
         b) Hold Fast—Profession.
         c) Consider—one another.
      4. Most important is that "having" stresses a continuous possession and relationship.
B. Therefore Brethren
1. Access is available only to those classified as brethren.
Heb. 3:1 "Wherefore holy brethren, partakers of H.
2. It is a restricted company that has this.
3. All men have God as creator, those that so choose have God as Father, Jesus as Savior, and Holy Spirit as a gift.

C. Boldness to Enter into the Holiest.
1. Is our word "boldness" or "entering" or "holiest"?
2. Perhaps boldness will summarize it all.
   a) By the grace of God you have the boldness of approach--as I look forward to a meal with Margaret Thatcher at Harding--or the Champlain of the day at the State Legislature.
   b) Boldness of approach is a great privilege.
   c) I come with assured confidence.
   d) But I must make the right and reverent use of this approach.
   e) Lit. "let speech beside opportunity to address a superior without apprehension."
   f) Means freedom to express orally concerns of my heart--not arrogant or aggressively outspoken. (Gromacki)
g) Remember Jewish sign carriers at Pat Buchanan's announcement for Presidency.

3. This boldness lets me enter into God's presence as I come in the right doctrine and practice.

4. To some Jesus will say "I never knew you."

Matt. 7:21 "Not everyone that saith unto me"

5. Ave. Jew could not go to the Holy of Holies--I saw a Jew shake like a candle in little alcove of Jerusalem synagogue as he was under the dome of the Rock--won't go there lest he step on lost ark of covenant.

6. But I go as a priest in my own right to the holy presence of God.

D. Blood is our next word.

1. Only by the sacrifice of Jesus and his death is the door open for me.

2. This is my cleansing--nothing but the blood.

3. No intervention of man's way or material sacrifice gives me entrance--only Jesus.

4. I'm covered by his blood.

5. This is my means of entrance--I know no other.

1 Jn. 1:7 "But if we walk in the light"

6. Priest did not go apart from blood into the Holy of Holies--we do not apart from the blood of Jesus.
E. By a new and living Way.

1. Our word is way but it has two adjectives we must see.

2. New--this particular word only here.
   a) Most fascinating word in advertisement.
   b) Newly made, recent, newly opened--even as we do roads and the one to Bells, TN.
   c) Jesus' death makes it possible.
   d) Opposite of old.

Heb. 8:13 "Now that which...waxeth old vanish"

3. Living
   a) Gives life.
   b) Quickens.

4. Way
   a) Shut to sinners, open to believers.
   b) Now way to Heaven is open.
   c) Creatures have their way.

Prov. 30:19 "Eagle, Serpent, Ship, Man"

d) We have a clear way.

Ps. 128:1 "Blessed is everyone fear--walks"
Deut. 5:32 "Ye shall not turn aside rt.-left.
Isa. 55:8 "For my thoughts are not your"
Isa. 35:8 "And a highway shall be there called holiness--unclean--wayfaring"

Jn. 14:6 "I am the way"
Acts 9:6 "Found any of this way"
Acts 18:26 "Expounded unto him"
Acts 19:23 "Arose no small stir"
5. He consecrated it for us.
   a) Fitly prepared.
   b) He did it for us—not for himself—"broken for you."

F. Our next word Vail
1. No barrier to Heaven.
2. Vail described Exo. 26:31-33.
3. 60' long, 30' high, 4"-6" thick.
4. Vail was only medium of access to God under old covenant.
5. Rent at death of Jesus.

Matt. 27:51
Mark 15:38
6. Flesh—our vail.
   a) When he died he got rid of his flesh.
   b) Flesh synecdochically put for whole body.
   c) See though the incarnation.
   d) Could mean:
      (1) Curtain that concealed the glory of God from man's view except transfiguration.
      (2) Body of Jesus torn so men could have his blood's benefit—necessary that he die.
      Poured blood establishes new way.

G. Our last word is Priest.
1. High—great.
2. Priest.
   a) One who makes appeal to God for man.
b) Some have faith divided
Between Christ & Church.
Between Christ & some priesthood.
Between Christ & reason.
Between Christ & philosophy.
Between Christ & their personal merit.

3. Over house of God.
   a) Dominion, jurisdiction.
   b) Above all other priest.
   c) We simply do what he says.
   d) House--church.
   e) As we do more for our own house
      than we do for any other (gave
      Ron Eubanks gas. but didn't say
      let me paint it) so Jesus lovingly
      attends to his own foremost.

IV. Thus our 6 words: Having, Brethren,
   Boldness, Blood, Way, Vail, Priest.
   Six incomplete, You will make it seven,
   Complete.

Bells, TN - 3/28/95
I. Do you enjoy gardening like I do?
   A. Get a Henry Fields catalog, you know it's spring garden time.
   B. In gardens I like to plant country lettuce.
      1. We use it in prayer--"lettuce" pray.
      2. God's got a "let us" garden in Hebrews 10--and I want to plant the 3 the KJV cites.
   C. We will see some things that are most necessary to Christian development.
      1. Let us--draw near, hold fast, consider one another.
      2. Cargil called it communion, confession, consideration.
      3. I'll delineate them and then you name them in your summation.
      4."Draw near, speak out, stir up." (Stedman)
II. First Let Us is "Draw Near."
   A. To what?
      1. He does not specify but as it unfolds you know he has the closeness of our fellowship with God in mind.
      2. Used in a religious sense as priest came to worship God.
      3. It has a tense that tells us to keep on drawing near.
      4. Under veil of Old Law it said "not yet" but new veil says come now, enter in.

Neaver my god to thee - Near to heart of God
5. Christian is to behave as what he is—child of God—at home in the Holy Place.
6. We now have the right of access to God.
7. Sing "I Am Thine O Lord."

B. Some things necessary to this drawing.
1. True heart.
   a) More than body, heart is touched.
   b) Outward washing of no value unless the inward heart is right.
   c) We go through motions without being touched inwardly.
   d) The plea of God.

Prov. 23:26 "Give me thine heart"
   e) I see you baptized—body washed with pure water—then I watch you live and see it there also.

2) Bible hearts.
   Ps. 24:4 Pure
   Ps. 73:1 Clean
   Prov. 14:30 Sound is life to
   Neh. 9:8 Faithful
   Luke 8:15 Honest & good
   Ps. 7:10 Upright
   Isa. 38:3 Perfect
   Acts 2:46 Singleness

2. Full Assurance of Faith.
   a) Based upon God's faithfulness to keep His promises.
   b) Enter by faith, not feelings.

   a) Under OT sprinkling.
      Ezek. 36:25 Nu. 19:2-10
b) Blood given has to be prescribed and applied.
c) Evil conscience is one burdened with unpardoned grief and guilt.
d) Must be cleansed by the blood of Christ.
e) God's not finished with us, primary conversion is only the beginning.

1 Jn. 1:9

4. Bodies washed with pure water.
   a) Priest had to wash his flesh before entering sanctuary.
   b) Must refer to baptism though some want to throw it out on the quibble water is not pure where we baptize.
   c) "Under ordinary circumstances no minister has a right to say any man can be saved without being baptized both by water and by the Spirit." (Seiss)
   d) Baptism a washing.

Titus 3:5
Eph. 5:26

e) Priests died if didn't wash.
Exo. 30:19-21 "that they die not"


III. Our 2nd. Let Us is Hold Fast.
   A. It's the clear call for faithful continuation in teaching and in living
   1. To "have down."
   2. Never lose grip on what we believe.

   Turtle Sundown at mid
3. Haven't all of us at times been touched by doubt and almost gave up?
B. Hold fast the profession of faith.
   1. Many up hope for faith as the better translation.
Rom. 8: 24
   2. You confessed Jesus and He's your hope.
Heb. 4: 14
   3. Life is based on conviction.
   4. "There is an expected performance matching our glorious privileges."
      (Cargill)
   5. Need faith to take God at His word and do just what He commands.
      (Milligan)
   6. Middle plank of triad—faith, hope, love.
   7. What is our hope? In our own achievements—or God's promises?
   8. Must be without wavering.
      a) Don't backslide, apostatize.
      b) Whatever losses we sustain let us be careful not to lose our religion.
      c) Don't be driven by every wind of doctrine.
      d) No leaning, firm, unbending, anchored building.
      e) Wavering idea is of an upright object not inclining at all from
         the true perpendicular.
      f) Continually walk in the presence of God.
9. Know he is faithful who promised.
10. Do we believe God will do what he said he'd do?

IV. Last Let Us Now is Consider One Another.
A. Christianity is social.
1. Our duty to cherish a mutual spirit of interest and concern for each other.
   a) To direct ones whole mind to an object.
   b) Present tense--keep on considering.
   c) We need one another.
   d) Put the mind down on one.
2. Consider
3. Don't keep brothers at a distance.

B. One Another
1. "No man ever saved his soul who gave his whole time and energy to saving it." (Barclay)
2. Royal Navy "No officer shall speak discouragingly to another officer in the discharge of his duties."
3. We are called to a brotherhood.
4. "Purified souls in obeying truth--see that ye love one another fervently." (Peter)

C. Provoke Unto Love & Good Works
1. Stir--stimulate.
2. Sharpen.
3. Exhort--speak positively.
4. One way to provoke, exasperate is inciting them to love & good works.
5. Stir
   a) Bad sense  Acts 15:34-39
   b) Good sense  Prov. 6:3
6. Excite to distinguish benevolence.

D. Don't Forsake Assembly.
1. Don't neglect public worship.
2. Can't be selfish--individualistic.
3. Don't be an absentee.
4. "Worship promotes intelligence, order, peace, harmony, friendship, neatness of apparel, purity and propriety of intercourse among neighbors." (Seiss)
5. The Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
6. Connection between meeting together and sin of apostacy.
7. Worship test not what we get out of it but what we give to it. (Draper)
8. Worship is like the Southern lady who met Sherman with a poker just so he'd know which side she was on.
9. God intends for the assembly to have a helpful, positive outcome.

E. Some Were Forsaking!
1. Neglect--abandon.
2. Why?
   a) Sense of superiority--Saints never in singular.
   b) Fear of persecution.
   c) Alternate religion.
   d) Shortsightedness.
   e) Levity
   f) Laziness
   g) Weariness
3. Will Christ acknowledge me if I'm ashamed to worship Him?
4. What if I'm ashamed of brothers who do worship Him?
5. We live in 2 worlds: space and time and spiritual things that are eternal--don't forget spiritual world.
6. Don't invent ways to worship.

Matt. 15:9

In vain do they worship me. 

Isa. 66:3

Ezek. 33:31

Exhort them to continue.

"Your words have kept men on their feet." (Moffatt)

Job 4:4

F. There is a day approaching.
1. Sunday--but more! Not Jerusalem destroyed.
2. Return of Christ.
   a) Postponement of return has its effect on us.
   b) Would you welcome it?
3. Time is short for all.
4. So soon we die--be ready.

Eastwood, Hutchinson, KS - 4/23/95
Downtown church, Harrison, AR - 5/7/95

Smithville, TN - 6/27/95
Wasted Effort

As spring begins, remember this: You can now raise the vegetables your children won't eat, instead of buying them.

Edwardsville, Ill. Brenda

Tn
TRIBUTE TO CHARLES RONEY  
Hebrews 10:23-25

I. How many generations does it take to make a great preacher?
   A. I knew his grandmother and her dedication.
   B. I knew his parents.
      1. Bro. Roney an elder in churches I preached in.
      2. He was a fellow Potter trustee--thus I've served under him and with him.
      3. His mother a joy to Betty at Lakeshore.
   C. I knew his brother and sister-in-law--great talent.
   D. I know Pat and admire her, plus that lovely married daughter.
      1. Thus several generations enter this story.
      2. All plus Christian education University status enter in.

II. Your elders frequently remind me, "You sent him to us"--if so, it was one of the best days work I've ever done.
   A. Elders praise him.
   B. Church loves him.
   C. Town appreciates him.
   D. Sister churches of our brotherhood love him.

III. Question arises as to why?
   A. Go with me to a Hebrew passage.

10:23-25
B. Loved his faithfulness.
"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith"
1. It's Chevy that says "Like a Rock."
2. Charles has ever manifested that spirit.
3. Faith toward God.
   Hope exhibited before world.
   Love for fellow Christians.
C. Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.
1. He knew you individually.
2. He kept in confidence that knowledge of you.
3. He was ever ambitious for you in wanting better things for you.
4. Loved entire church equally.
5. Saw excellencies, defects, needs, dangers, trials, temptations.
6. Yet no busybody or gossip.
7. Provoke--excite, call to action.
8. Wanted only good works--nothing selfish.
D. Not forsake but exhort--a day is coming!
1. He put a good example before you.
2. He told us time short for all.
3. He made us aware of accountability.
4. He faithfully brought you the word--of hope, of promise, of responsibility.

Crittenden Drive - 6/24/01
HE MISSED HIS APPOINTMENT

Heb. 10:25

I. Days were important to Dick Sobel.
2 Cor. 6:2 "Day of salvation..."
2 Kings 7:9 "This is a day of good tidings."
Psalms 19:2 "Day unto day uttereth speech."
Psalms 84:10 "A day in thy courts..."
Ecclesiastes 12:1 "While the evil days come not..."
Acts 17:31 "He hath appointed a day..."
Heb. 13:8 "Jesus Christ the same today and forever."
Heb. 10:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves."

A. He took the worship hour a thing of great importance.
B. He loved life and had a marvelous MBA homecoming.
C. After an exhausting day to his bedroom and Sissy to her's as he fell asleep.
   1. 4:00 a.m. his light was on as was his habit.
   2. Sissy saw it but so routine did not check on him.
   3. At 8:30 his alarm kept ringing and Sissy called to get up else late to West End.
   4. He didn't answer her call--when she checked on him it was evident he was gone.
5. She followed all the instructions of 911, but no success and doctor assured her this was best.

II. But he kept another appointment--glory.

A. Imagine the entrance.

1. Alleyn, "I'm surprised to see you, son."
   Dick, "But this is what you and dad ever encouraged."
   Mother: "I just meant surprised so soon!"

2. What does he find?
   a) No darkness--Jesus is the light.
   b) No calendars--time is no more.
   c) No exit--no over ever leave.
   d) No hospitals--no one ever sick.
   e) No funeral home--no one ever dies.
   f) No appliances--no one ever needs one.
   g) No sorrow--John's tear the last to splash on heaven's floor.
   h) No medicine--no one ever hurts
   i) No wrinkles--no one ever ages.
   j) No sunset--glory of God does light it.
k) No death—eat of tree of life.

B. For the promises of God we are ever thankful.
A PARTICULAR Enoch
Hebrews 11:5

I. Tell James Dobson story. (On plane with him--boy set by him saying he believed in Christ so strongly he'd never die--"what did you say?" I admire your faith but remember some long odds against you--of the 8 billion that have ever lived only two escaped death--my best to you.)
A. I want to tell you about one of those two.
B. It's a particular Enoch.
1. There were others.
Gen. 4:18 Cain's 1st son
Gen. 25:4 Abraham's grandson
Gen. 46:9 Ruben's oldest
2. The particular one is Gen. 5:21-24; Heb. 11:5, He never died.
3. There must be some reason for it--let's search and find it.

II. About our Particular Enoch we study
A. Facts
1. 7th from Adam--several passed over between the 2 and we are not told why.
2. Hebrew word means to dedicate, thus Dedicated.
3. In 1st age of world before Jew and Gentile distinction.
4. Shatters theory of original sin.
5. Of him know so little not even one word he spoke is preserved for us.
6. The best of livers and not the longest livers.
7. He was one of the best—died before the flood—lived fewest years of any of them—365 years.
8. Methuselah his son.

B. What's so peculiar to him? "By faith was translated that he should not see death."
1. Translated
   a) To transfer from one condition to another.
   Heb. 7:12
   Gal. 1:6
   Acts 7:16
   b) To move from earth to Heaven.
   c) Manner of translation not told us as we know of Elijah's.
2 Kings 2:11
   d) F.J.B. says implies a sudden removal—like the change that comes with Christ's return.
   e) Draper says it's a beautiful word—means to replace, transposed—he exchanged earth for Heaven—he just changed places.

2. Did not see Death.
   a) Death shown as an enemy and not seeing is to be removed to absolute freedom.
   b) It means death could not come near him.
   
   c) Not to taste—to have nothing to do with it—taste not in the least degree of participation.
   d) He did not experience death.
e) "not found"—Gouge says it may mean his people searched for him but did not discover him—means he was no more on earth nor would he ever so be.

f) The implication is that there had been a long search for him, but God in one decisive act had taken him.

g) Looked for Elijah 3 days.

2 Kings 2:17

C. Then comes the magnificent "Because."

III. Because:

A. God translated him.
1. Changed from mortal to immortal.
2. From place to place—earth to Heaven.
3. "Took"—it's the taking of a person or a thing to one's self as Isaac took Rebekah.

Gen. 25:20

4. God took him to himself for God has the power to preserve from death whom He will and to settle any man where He will.
5. Long life may not be the greatest blessing one can achieve—to be elevated to God's presence is better.
6. Why did God take him so soon—corrupt world not worthy of him—maybe his work was done.

B. Testimony
1. Evidently he had the esteem of men.
2. He surely did of God as God knew his inward spirit.
3. From Jude 14 we see Enoch's prophesy of the coming of the Lord to Judgement.
4. Judgements led him to the concern for all to seek their pleasing God.
5. Those that please God shall not lack witnesses.
6. Tense of word "using testimony" implies that this testimony continues still.

C. Pleased God
1. In his life he did those things that pleased God.
2. Work must be done before reward is expected.
3. He was very circumspect over himself and careful in all things to do what was acceptable to God.
4. He wanted to be well pleasing to God.
5. He "walked"—continually.
6. God was always in his eyes—whether alone or in company of others.
7. The duties of piety ever his affair.
8. He moved carefully and conscientiously to avoid what might displease God.
9. Sought diligently to do what was acceptable to His will.
10. Recall Abel believed and was murdered; Enoch believed and was translated—life holds differences.
11. Obviously it is possible for a man to please God.
12. We know without any uncertainty what to do and not to do to please Him.

13. To walk is to set God always before us and to act as those that are always under his eye.


15. It's to make God's word our rule; His glory our end in all our actions.

16. Enoch shared this privilege with Noah.

Gen.6:9

17. Above all else it was God.

D. Cargill tells a little girl’s explanation of this event. "Enoch was God's friend and went with God every day in a walk. One day they walked a long way, it was late, God said "Enoch we are closer to my house than yours, why don't you just come home with me?"

And he did.

Crieve Hall - 6/21/00
Berry's Chapel - 7/9/00
Silver Point (BC) - 7/23/00
Walter Hill - 7/30/00
Locust Grove, KY - 8/27/00
Riverwood - 9/3/00
I. One great Perry Como song--"It's Impossible."

II. We move to the religious realm. Several times it's mentioned.

Matt. 17:20 Unbelief--grain--mountain

"Nothing shall be impossible"

Mark 10:27 Same

Matt. 19:26 "With men...but with God"

Luke 1:37 "For with God nothing"

Luke 17:1 "It is impossible but"

Luke 18:27 "The things which are"

Heb. 6:4 "For it is impossible for those"

Heb. 6:18 "By 2 immutable"

III. We go to one more.

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

A. Faith

1. Literally "apart from faith."

2. The usual expression for approaching God in worship--is to draw near to Him.

3. "Faith is more than just belief in a statement has been proved, it is a commitment to the existence of God and that He will reward those who yield to His will. (Thomas)

4. 2 other indispensable things in Hebrew.

9:22 Blood

12:14 Holiness

5. You must believe--once for all.

6. Unless you believe in God all religion and good things cease to exist. (Barclay)
7. Russian cosmonaut saw God nowhere, American saw Him everywhere.
8. Look at the leaf that grows in a spiral around the stem of the apple—notice that the 6th line of the leaf always overlaps the first line—no exception.
9. Count corn rows—always an even number.
10. Faith implies obedience. Lu. 5:5 "At thy word I will do it"
11. Need faith in God—fool trusts his own heart (Prov. 28:26).
12. Atheist a fool (Ps. 14:1).
13. Absolutely necessary is faith.

B. Cometh
1. Cometh—7X in Hebrew.
2. Description of a worshipper.
3. Implies there is a distance existing.

C. God
1. "There is a God, infinite, eternal, unoriginated, self-existent, the cause of all other beings, on whom all depend, by whose energy, bounty and providence all other beings exist, live, and are supplied with the means of continued existence and life." (Clark)
2. "He is not indifferent about his own worship, requires adoration and religious service from men, saves those who seek and service Him." (Clark)

D. Must—necessity—no word stronger.
E. Believe He Is
1. Bible does not attempt to prove His existence.
2. It is obvious that if you're going to believe that God is, you have a problem—you have never seen Him—He is invisible, yet you must take Him to be real and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. You have not seen Him operate, yet you trust Him. This is the way faith works. (Gutzke)

F. Rewarder
1. It's proper to see God as a giver of rewards.
2. He puts a sharp charge on himself to render such.
Ps. 62:12
1 Sam. 2:8
3. He becomes a recompense.

G. Diligently Seek
1. Eyes of God are every place beholding evil and good.
Prov. 15:3
2. Word for seek implies that one seeks until he finds—earnestly seeking.
3. Also shows men has access to God.
4. Word seek is akin to strive, as in agony of contest.
5. Can't come to God casually.
Jer. 29:13
6. He gives us the capacity to come to Him. He would not give us the desire if it were not possible to secure the desire.
7. He doesn't call us to salvation
then hide from us--he does not
tortment us.
SARAH: ONE WHOSE MARRIAGE WEATHERS MULTIPLE STORMS

Heb. 11:11

I. By any standard, Sarah is an interesting study.
   A. Famous because wife of Abraham - founder of Israel.
   B. Her name means Princess - we'll see something.
   C. More space devoted to her in Genesis than account of entire human race until her time.
   D. She was as far on the other side of Christ, time-wise, as we are this side.
   E. First miracle birth in the Bible.
   F. First woman to show hospitality.
   G. First & only woman whose age was given at death.

II. But the main thing we want to see is the storms that came to her marriage & her success. We shall list storms...

A. Storm of Disruption. v. 4 “Sarah despised as forlorn.
   3. They couldn't have known all that was coming.
   4. He was 75 & she 65 (Gen. 12:4).

Gen. 12:2 "I will make thee a great nation"

G. Storm of a New Religion.
   1. Altar at March, March 8. Called on the name of the Lord

Gen. 12:7 "There builded he an altar there"
2. At Bethel.
   Gen. 12:8 "There he builded an altar

1 Pet. 3:7 "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them accord
4. Abraham wealth - 318 servants to rescue Lot -
   perhaps that many at home c duties.

E. Storm of Attractiveness.
   1. Sarah was a "fair woman to look on." (Gen. 12:11) "Most "married an angel" - Mbp.
   3. Taken to Pharaoh's house. (a) Pomp & riches fascinate? (b) Things worth more than husband's love?
   4. Abimelech in Gerar offered some enticement.
   5. She was really half sister - Abraham said sister.
   6. But didn't - her fidelity saved both!

E. Storm of Impatience.
   1. Gift of Hagar. (a) Voice of Sarah
      Gen. 16:2 "Go in unto my maid.
   2. Conception & despite.
      Gen. 16:5 "And Sarai said unto Abram, My wi
   3. Abraham stood c her.
      Gen. 16:6 "Thy maid is in thy hand; do to her
5. Storm of Hard Decision where someone is hurt.
   1. We don't please all the people all the time.
   2. Sarah has own son.
   3. At Isaac's birthday party Hagar & Ishmael mocked.
   4. Abraham got rid of her the next day.
   5. Incidentally, nothing more about Sarah after Isaac's being offered till her death.

   1. She dies, is buried, mourned.
   2. She was wonderful.
   3. Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calligraphy.
   4. Though faith also Sara herself receive.

Gen. 18:15 "And Sarah denied, saying, I laugh." Rom. 4:19 "And being not weak in faith, he..." Gen. 21:10 "Cast out this bondwoman..."
Gen. 21:12 "And God said unto Abraham..."
Gen. 16:12 "Therefore Sarah laughed within herself..."
Rom. 4:19 "And being not weak in faith, he..."
Heb. 11:11 "Through faith also Sara herself receive..."

Book End 1/3/73
Because the Judah Line.

Pinecastle Church, Sardis, Ala, 3-27-72
McGregor First Church, Ft. Myers, Fla., 3-14-73
Shade Church, Nursed Shiloh, Mo., 3-26-73
Green Lawn Church, Lubbock, Texas 4-16-73
Browns Chapel, Montgomery, Ala., 6-18-73
Pinebark Church, 6-25-73
I LOOKED INTO THE HEART OF GOD
Heb. 11:17-19

I. My task of life is to see the Lord.
Acts 17:27: "That they should seek the Lord
I Jn. 3:2-3 "Beloved now are we the sons
A. Perhaps I've never seen Him, so well or
beheld His love so great as when I see
Moriah.
Jn. 3:16
B. Shall we to the Genesis story.
II. Events on a mountainside
A. God did tempt Abraham
1. He foreknew all - He's doing it so we
will know.
2. He tempts none to evil but He tests us
all.
3. Abraham beautifully responds with
"Here I am."
B. What he heard was awesome.
1. v. 2 "Take now thy son, thine only son
(a) Isaac's very life a miracle - now to
be taken away.
(b) Abraham didn't doubt it was God's
voice nor did he suggest he misunder-
stood. His beloved was to be a burnt
offering on a yet to be designated place!
2. And Abraham rose up early & went
(a) No wonder he's called Father of the
faithful, Friend of God. James 2:21-
(b) He didn't presume to reason with God.

(1) All neighboring nations would be offended.

(2) This would defeat the promises made by God himself.

(c) He didn't reason with Sarah

(1) Could you explain this to your wife?

(2) Amidst her cries, could you have gone? Will we give our sons?

(d) Didn't wait & reason it out, steel himself for the supreme moment.

(1) What would he have thought each look at Isaac?

(e) Didn't go partially prepared

(1) Ass

(2) 2 men

(3) Wood – he even of it

(4) Isaac his son

(a) No other son would do!

And so they went

(a) 3 days journey

(b) Wonder what he thought?

(1) Will the place never come?

(2) What will I say if Isaac asks?

(3) Will God raise him from the ashes?

(c) Was there a flashback?

(1) Did I journey across trackless desert, Lebanon's valleys, Hermon snow, Canaan's tent for this?
(2) I'm 100, Sarah 90 when he comes to the Princess.
(3) I remember the strangers at Mamre's oaks, words so calm & reassuring, Sarah's laughter (thus Isaac).
(4) I watched him grow - now this!
(5) Am I losing my mind - how will I explain it?
"None of the ransomed ever knew
How deep were the waters crossed
4. 3rd day they stop
(a) Jonah  §20
(b) Jesus
(c) Now Abraham
(d) No explanation to servants - they might dissuade
(e) Where was camp - by Kidron? Gethsamene yet to be?
(f) Sun arose over mt. yet to be Olive & bathed Moriah's rocky slopes.
5. v. 6 "And they went - both of them together
(a) Old daddy & young son
(b) Go together to build an altar
(c) Had before perhaps & knew routine
(d) Altar built, wood - but something is missing?
v. 7 "My father - Here am I, my son
v. 7 "Behold the fire & the wood but where
6. That answer
v. 8 "My son, God will provide himself"
(a) You could almost see the q.t. coming
(b) Isaac no slow wit - he could count
  says Ward in his "The Word Comes Alive"
  (1) Daddy, fire, wood, altar, knife & me
  (c) Isaac trusted his father & His God
  (1) Wonder what Abraham told him?
  (2) Did he tell of unusual birth
  (3) God rightly could take away
  (4) God's faithful
  (5) Every promise is fulfilled
  (d) v. 9 "Laid him on the altar"
  (1) Isaac agreed
  (2) Knife raised toward Heaven in
  supreme acts of faith - God will
  raise him up
  (3) Angel's ringing voice A.A.

11 And the Angel of the Lord called
  unto him out of heaven, and said, Abra-
  ham, Abraham; and he said, Here am I.

12 And he said, Lay not thine hand
  upon the lad, neither do thou any thing
  unto him: for now I know that thou
  fearest God, seeing thou hast not with-
  held thy son, thine only son, from me.

7. Ram in the thicket - offered him
(a) God did provide
  And He exercised grace, To have faith's true
  That every promise is fulfilled, To those who hear do
13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a
ram caught in a thicket by his horns:
and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering
in the stead of his son.
14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said
to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

C. Yea God did provide even more.
1. He had a son who died
Phil. 2:5-8 "Let this mind - obedient unto death

  5 Let this mind be in you, which was
    also in Christ Jesus:
  6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with
    God:
  7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a serv-
    ant, and was made in the likeness of
    men:
  8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obe-
    dient unto death, even the death of the

2. As Isaac came close to watch the smoke "That could have been me" - so l to
    Calvary.
3. Another father & his boy
4. Woods on his back.
5. He too laid down voluntarily & they nailed him there.
6. No cry - as a lamb dumb.
7. Simply God can't save Him & me - he elected to save me! /Sprue /

Eph. 5:2 "He gave himself an offering and a sacrifice to God by a sweet-smelling
8. No substitute for Jesus - he died that I might live.
Rom. 3:25 "For it is not possible that the blood of
Heb. 10:4-5 "For we have not a sacrifice to offer but the
Rom. 3:25 (for all have sinned and come short of the
11. For thousands of years in the mind of
God & He retreated not.
12. So a proverb "In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen" - even the heart of God.
"When I survey the wondrous cross I fall on my face." 532

West End 4-13-69
Stillwater, Okla. 4-25-69
Highland, Abilene 10-7-69
Downtown Church, Letha, Okla. 11-14-69
Maryville Church 3-13-70
Atlanta, David Hill 4-17-70
Copell Church, Carterwell, Ala. 5-8-70
HE WORSHIPPED GOD - LEANING ON THE
TOP OF HIS STAFF
Heb. 11:21

I. Everyone seeks to describe our age & with varying emotions & shades of optimism.
A. Avery Lee - Card 1
B. Avery Lee - Card 2
C. McLaren - Card 3

II. I care not what others say, I must know my own heart - what better could I ask than the spirit of Jacob
Heb. 11:21 "By faith Jacob, when he was
A. The 1st of two events

1. Perhaps his blessings to Ephraim & Manasseh was the last act of life - the other worship cited here coming earlier

2. Or it may have been so customary it later by faith followed. This I hope it is

3. Joseph son's brought to Jacob.
   (a) 147 yr. old Read Gen 48:1-22
   (b) Been in Egypt 17 yrs. (Gen. 47:28)
   (c) Sat on bed even in death Read Man. of Eph.
   (d) Recalls Ladder of Luz 10 listing (v-1)
   (e) Rachael "died by me in the land of Canaan (Gen. 48:7)
   (f) "I buried her there"
   (g) "Who are these?" he asked of Eph. & Man. Adopted as his own (48:1-22)
   (h) Eyes dim - could not see - brot them near - Kissed - embraced.
(i) Didn't think I'd even see Joseph but
now I see his seed even

(j) Bro't Eph. in rt. hand to Jacob's left &
Mass to his rt.

(k) Jacob crossed his hands "guided his
hands wittingly" (v. 14) & blessed the
youngest (Eph.) 1st

(l) Joseph tried to uncross

(m) J. refused "I know it, my son, I know
it."

(n) Blessed both "concerning things to
come"

4. No more scheming - faith & serenity &
blessing the end of his days

5. Blessings came true - Ephraim so
prominent 10 tribes often called after
him.

B. Worshipped leaning on top of staff
1. Some say bowed himself on bed head
2. Sat in bed & leaned on staff
3. Surely didn't worship staff
4. Often sat staff by head of sleeping chief
5. Some things are of little value yet
precious by reason of their association
6. Memories cluster round that staff
7. He believed in the holiness of God else
he wouldn't have worshipped him

8. Willie Cato retired, pajamas, head
pillowed c his hands beneath, legs
crossed & propped up - as Keeble
entered Willie said, "just having a little talk c the Lord!" "Like that?"
Keeble snorted - Lord don't hear if you don't put effort - get down there (on your knees) where you belong.
They both did!

III. See his Faith!

A. Some many things I see

1. Overrule of human intention in the blessings

2. Triumph of faith over will

3. Faith that let him over staff, 147 yr. ol look optimistically at future.

(a) Edison clip on discouragement

4. He that his body would go back to Palestine

(a) Abra. had faith - yet a tent - never owned a foot of promised land except grave plot.

Heb. 11:10 Looked for a city

(b) Neither did Isaac or Jacob. But they believed God!

(c) Knew God kept promises

5. Death's solemn event

(a) Where do I go

(b) What does it inaugurate

(c) What work's terminated

6. At end he was blessing men

7. He's filled with recounting of God's goodness to him
8. Will we die the death of the righteous?  
   Calm, Victorious
9. Faith hard to come by in old age  
   (a) Cite our past promises—  
   (b) Reflect on Hazards  
   (c) Hold to the future
10. Words of dying carry power!

B. When it’s my hour:
   1. Story of husband who buried wife, after  
      late supper, son put to bed. Sobs. Can  
      I sleep in mother’s bed? Later, "Daddy,  
      it’s so dark - is your face toward me?"
   2. Daddy to window and ask God, "Is your  
      face toward me, Father?"
   3. Yes, it’s there!  
      Gen. 49:33 "And when Jacob had made  
      Isa. 41:10 "Fear not thou, for I am with
What name shall we give the time in which we live? How shall we describe it? This age requires more distinctive titles than any which has preceded it. In the distant future the twentieth century will be remembered, if there is anyone left to do the remembering, as the nuclear age, the space age, the ecumenical age. It is the century of the secular city and of the common man, of global war and of the United Nations. It is simultaneously the age of fission and fusion, of scattering and gathering, of disintegration and integration. In our time mighty empires, centuries in building, have fallen apart and become numerous petty, bickering little nations whose instability threatens all known stability.

This is the age of "The Pill" and LSD, of miracle
drugs that save lives and overkill that destroys life, of opulent churches and "the death of God", of supersonic planes and curtained countries, of instant credit buying implying boundless trust, and electronic snoopers suggesting total suspicion.

There has been no age like this one. Wherever we probe it, politically, socially, morally, theologically, this is a time of change and instability, of social change so rapid and so radical that today's events outdate yesterday's most fantastic prediction.

"The Roads to God" - By G. Avery Lee - Pages 100-101

What shall we do with our secular urbanization, our high-rise apartments, our depersonalized, impersonal living, our slums, crime, and all that goes with a modern metropolitan area?

"The Roads to God" - By G. Avery Lee - Page 54
In the massed anonymity of city life, people whose lives are molded by such depersonalizing devices as time clocks, assembly lines, and mass-produced everything take pathetic comfort in being told they can prove themselves to be "thinking men" by selecting the right (mass-produced) cigarette!

"All to the Good"- By Robert B. and Homer D. McLaren

Page 59

The urge to "get away from it all" overwhelms every sensitive man from time to time.

"Gateway to the Great Books" - Vol. 1
Introduction & Syntopical Guide Page 99
When Colonel John Glenn's space ship was reentering the atmosphere, fiery white and red particles were flying all round him. It appeared that the shield of the ship was burning up. He commented: "This is apt to be a bad day."

"The Gospel of the Resurrection, pg.111
THE GOSPEL FOR AN EXPLODING WORLD,
by Franklin Paschall

My boast is not that I deduced my birth
From loins enthroned, and rulers of the earth;
But higher far my proud pretensions rise--
The son of parents passed into the skies.

Cowper
DISCOURAGEMENT

If at first you don't succeed - you're running about average!

No one knew this better than Thomas Edison, who, to find a substitute for lead in the manufacture of storage batteries, conducted 20,000 unsuccessful experiments.

A reporter asked him: "Aren't you discouraged by all this waste of effort?"

"Waste?" he shot back. "Nothing is wasted. I've found 20,000 things that don't work."

We can go through life obsessed by failure, and refuse to pick ourselves up and try again. Or, we can learn from past mistakes to devise new approaches.

-Chrisopher News Notes, 10-69.

DISNEYLAND - Admittance

Guards at the gates of Disneyland are refusing entry to youths with "unacceptably" long hair and beads, unless they are wearing a coat and tie. Housewives in tight shorts and hair curlers have no trouble getting into the vast playland. - Newsweek, 9-22-69.
EARTH—Pollution

Now that astronauts complete circle the earth in less than two hours, and particularly since Apollo pictures, we no longer think of the earth as an unlimited, vast, unending frontier. Almost universally we have come to think of it as a relatively small circumscribed ball floating out in the vastness of space. We are conscious of crowding together on this ball. We have begun to worry about the extent to which we have been polluting it and exhausting its precious and limited resources. We have indeed just begun to think of it in the same way that a crew thinks of its spaceship. —WILLIAM POLLARD, "The Earth as Spaceship," Science Teacher, 9-6

EDUCATION

In these changing times, we may well reexamine some of the familiar aims of education; to wit, pushing back the boundaries of ignorance, power to think, to judge, discipline for the adventure of life, how to live, perpetuation of truth, harmonious development of all the faculties etc. The cry now is for more of the living things that are unseen – the education of the heart – a balance of what is used with what is excellent life – more sensitive, more human, more responsible. “We have become gods in technology and apes in living,” says an eminent educator. Knowing your goals is half the journey, and great goals bring out great minds. —EUGENE BERTIN, “Ravelins,” Penna School Jnl, 9-69.
UNMISTAKABLE INGREDIENTS OF LEADERSHIP
Heb. 11:24

I. I know of no cry more important today than able Leadership.
   A. Lou Harris Poll.
   B. Fortune – Executives.
   C. Mules & Pumpkins.

II. For the demonstration of it, why not turn to one who did it well – Moses.
Heb. 11:24 "By faith, Moses, when he was"
   A. Man of obedient faith.
       1. Always coupled with obedience.
       V-28 "By faith kept the passover"
   B. Man of unique individual qualities – Moses – individual name.
       1. Patton & the noodle.
       2. Industry Week quote.
       3. Our word “King” comes from “Kin” and started out as a title referring to men who led their kinfolk into battle.
       4. Encyclopedia saleslady.
   C. Timeliness – when he was come
       1. Knew when to make a responsible move.
       2. Success clip.
       3. Tennyson quote.
       4. Procrastination article.
   D. Courageous Decisiveness – refused to be called.
       1. Reared courageously – hid, not afraid of the King’s commandment.
2. Cadillac Motor Car.
3. LeFan risks.
4. Schuller page.
E. Integrity - choosing rather to suffer.
   1. Schuller card on priorities.
   2. Haggai CLIP.
   3. $1 for a sandwich.
F. Evaluations - Esteeming the reproach of
   1. "What this country needs more than anything is a leader, a man or
      woman who has the ability to get other people to do what they don't
      want to do & like it."
      Harry Truman
   2. Boardroom Reports.
   3. Carl George evaluation.
G. Vision - Respect unto the recompense.
   1. "It would seem the church only prepares to move out after it has
      been run over from behind". Leighton Ford
   2. Gordon Selfridge plan.
   3. Henry Ford's garage.
CHOICES
Heb. 11:24-26

I. One of the great blessings of life is the privilege of choice.
   A. We are not always right.
   B. We are not always unfettered - pressures come.
   C. But still I have the sovereign right of choice.
      1. Occupation.
      3. Above all, religion.

II. Made in God's image He grants me the imitation of Him.
Ps. 78:67-70 Read
2 Thess. 2:13 "But we are bound to give thanks always.
John 15:16 "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you:"
1:19 "If ye were of the world, the world would not have chosen me, but I chose you:"
Eph. 1:4 "According as he hath chosen us in him before
Matt. 20:16 "So the last shall be first, and the first shall be last.
1 Pet. 2:9 "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal people,
Gal. 4:4 "But when the fulness of the time was come,
A. God chose a day for the birth of Jesus & chose not to reveal its time.
   1. God did not reveal a day, week, or month.
   2. We have messed up a calendar may not give its year.
   3. God picked this & returned tells us in another time.
   4. Heaven around
      a) There was sign (star), to bless. (Matt. 2:11) When? No?
         1. Come following (Matt. 2:2) When? No?
         2. There was sign (star).
         3. Come following (Matt. 2:2)
B. But the question for me - am I as judicious in the choice of time and events.

III. We have many Bible examples.

A. Moses.

Heb. 11:24 "By faith Moses, when he was come to manhood, refused to be the son of Pharaoh's daughter;.

B. Mary & Martha.

Lu. 10:42 "But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part which shall not be taken away from her."
d.) Make him a family supporter by giving daughter Merab - only to give her to another. (Note D. humility in son-in-law statement)

"Who am I?"

e.) Faced many snares.

f.) Gave Michael at a price. (No money for dowry - so render a public service - insult not to do or to give daughter for nothing.)

"Instead of being slain, he killed 200."

g.) True the Lord was c him.

IV. Now there comes choices for me.

A. Will I heed time.

Heb. 3:7 "Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his"

B. Will I be faithful.

Religious stories have a special meaning for kids. One 7-year-old recited the story of David and Goliath—how David hit the giant in the forehead with his slingshot and the giant Goliath fell dead.

“What does that teach us?” I asked the boy.

He said, “Duck.”

Art Linkletter

When speaking, use a grain of sugar. When listening, use a grain of salt.

Quote: December 1

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Daddy was teaching his small daughter to tell the time; “These are the hours—these are the minutes—these are the seconds.”

The little girl was still puzzled. “But Daddy, where are the jiffies?”

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When speaking, use a grain of sugar. When listening, use a grain of salt.
Editorial

Although written one-hundred years ago, the following editorial by Isaac Errett contains a needed lesson for modern Christians.

Lessons for the Holidays—Festive occasions have their own temptations and dangers. It is said of Job that after his children had passed through a season of festivities, he “sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts” (Job 1:5).

In the exuberance of merriment that characterizes the holiday season, there is always danger of being swept into excesses. Young Christians, especially, need to be on their guard. “Forewarned is forearmed”—therefore, we drop this kindly word of warning in time.

Go not near the wine-cup, nor allow even the daintiest hand of woman to bring it near to you. Be particular about your associates. Avoid the ballroom and all scenes of revelry. Keep down all selfishness in arranging your plans for a happy time, or the close of the festive season may find you more capable of meanness than at its opening.

Remember that while you are blessed with a happy home, many friends, and unnumbered comforts, there are multitudes who are homeless and friendless, sick and suffering, poverty-stricken and desolate. Perhaps some of these are in your own neighborhood. Seek them out. Leave no scene of sorrow or distress uncheered with the light of Christian sympathy and kindness.

Deal thy bread to the hungry, and bring the poor that are cast out to thy house; clothe the naked and hide not thyself from thine own flesh. “Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rearward” (see Isaiah 58:7,8). Then indeed will thy heart be merry, and the richness of its joy will not fail.

We surely have no objection to gatherings of friends for festive enjoyment. There is need for every legitimate influence that will strengthen family ties and bind neighbors in social relations. But there is a kind of feast described in Luke 14:12-14, which, it strikes us, might be made truly enjoyable.

It is true that, in our country, there is not the same need for it as in our Lord’s time in Palestine. Yet even now, in our own happy land, and especially in our large cities, there are multitudes of deserving poor and innocent unfortunates to whom such a feast would be a joyous inspiration for months and years to come. To be to our fellows what Christ would be, were He here, should be our supreme desire.

About the only joy that abides permanently with us in this life is that which springs from doing good to others. Not even the joy of fellowship with God abides, unless it bears fruit in godlike mercy and compassion. Make bright this season, therefore, with deeds of kindness and love, and you shall have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.
How to Recognize a Wise Man—When I was a small boy if you were to have asked me how to recognize a wise man, I could have answered quickly. “He’s one of the tall fellows in the Christmas program wearing a bath robe with a purple towel around his head and singing, ‘We Three Kings.’”

As we grow older, we want to know more about these strange, romantic figures who slip briefly onto the pages of the New Testament and then disappear. As we study the Scripture, some of our old ideas are corrected.

The Wise-men (magi) were probably priests or sages from some Eastern land, perhaps astronomers from Persia or Babylon. They evidently did not come to the manger crib, despite the popular pictures to the contrary. Matthew 2:11 notes that they entered “the house.” They could have arrived at some time between Christ’s presentation in the temple after forty days, and the time when He was two years of age.

More important than this is the lesson these men have for Christians today. Their query in Jerusalem indicates how one may recognize a wise man even in our day. “Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him” (Matthew 2:2).

They came asking. “Where is he that is born King of the Jews?” Wise men ask questions. They are humble enough to realize they don’t know everything. They are teachable. The Bible never condemns honest doubters, those who ask sincere questions.

The Wise-men of Scripture wanted to welcome and honor the new ruler. Interestingly while they came many miles to do so, the very nation into which the Messiah was born ignored Him. “He came unto his own, and his own received him not” (John 1:11). Some who had the best opportunity to know and love Christ were the least willing to accept Him.

But these kings of the Orient (whether there were three or more, we don’t know) came much like the Greeks who sought the Lord late in His ministry. That group came saying, “Sir, we would see Jesus” (John 12:21).

Even today, wise men ask questions about Jesus. Who is He? What did He do? Why is He important to me? What can I do for Him?

The Wise-men also came looking. “We have seen his star in the east.” While they were still in that eastern land, they saw His star. What we see often is what we get. As the poet said,

Two men stood behind prison bars;
One saw mud, the other stars.

Those who are wise look for word from Heaven. God offers it, but does not force it upon us. One writer put it like this: “God safeguards our freedom; He gives the sign, but we may stay or journey.” He might have added, “Or look the other way!” To many people at this season, church is just an afterthought. They are wrapped up in cards, shopping, partying, and decorating. They like the music. They may even come to church. But they do not really see the Christ of the manger.

Only those willing to look for Jesus can see Him beyond the tinsel and turmoil. Christmas Sunday is a time to look—at the star, at ourselves, and at the sin-scarred world stretching out before us. Wise-men came looking.

They also came accepting. How did the Wise-men find out about Jesus, the anointed one of God? Some suggest that they came from the land where Daniel had lived. Perhaps they had heard his prophecy of a coming prince (Daniel 9:25 ff.). They could have been Jewish proselytes. Whatever the case, these sages picture for us wise men of any age. They came asking, looking, and accepting.

It is not wise to accept Christ without evidence. Nor is it wise to refuse to accept Him when the evidence is presented. Few in our land know nothing about Jesus. Many need to know more. The church must stand ready to offer reasons for faith in the only Son of the one true God.

Almost two thousand years have passed since the day when Christ was born. Looking back, it is easy to see who have been the truly wise people through the centuries. In eternal perspective, it will seem even clearer. If we would be wise, we must follow their example. Then we can sing with William Dix:

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to Thee.

As they offered gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin’s alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.
WHAT MORE SHALL I SAY?
Heb. 11:32-35A

1. There are many reasons to change from an intended sermon topic:
   A. A need changes.
   B. A reason evaporates.
   C. A statement needs clarification.
   D. No need was ever more apparent than today following our extensive injury of Camp WEBE campers in the bus accident.
   1. 2 were baptized in an excellent camp.
   2. Several more would have been today but injuries hospitalize.
   3. Others of you perhaps will.

II. Our text – in historic value
   We examine & seek today’s re-enactment. Heb. 11:32-35A.
   A. What shall I more say?
      1. Faith is the subject.
         a.) Defined.
         b.) Illustrated.
      2. Defined only in V. 1.
         a.) "Westminster Abbey of Scrip."
         But is it a tomb or is it a parade of heroes?
         b.) Quality of life – called faith.
         c.) Thoreau, "If I seem to walk out of step c others, it is because I am listening to another drum beat."
         d.) Starts c hope.
         e.) Enemy of status quo – looks for something better
f.) Aware there is something else.
g.) Sees the invisible as the present, "I am an atheist, thank God."
h.) Activities of faith have changed course of human history.
i.) Sacrifices present advantage to gain future.

3. Time to tell (something in detail literally.)

a.) 6 great names.
   (1) "Day of Midian"
       Isa. 9:4
   (2) David & Sam = great King & prophet.
   (3) Fire of Daniel.
   (4) Weakness to strength - Samson.
   (5) Promises - fulfilled, not just expressed to them.
   (6) Resurrection to eternity better than resurrection to just return of health tomorrow. Marian Cox, "I have no doubt of Mary Dawn's home, but I want her here awhile."

b.) Writer speaks from fullness of knowledge.
c.) Shows what faith can do & can bear.
d.) Faith can do great things, great things are set before it.

III. Out of our painful injuries I saw --

A. Endless love.
   1. Accurate report in Tenn.
   2. Spoke of calmness of children, Marlin Cox greatness.
   3. 3 men --
      a.) Turney Stevens.
      b.) Wayne Thurman.

   a.) Pillows, blankets, lemonade, comfort.
   b.) Medical Dr. on nearby picnic.
   c.) Head of ambulance service, Jackie Carver, member of the church.
5. Parents serving others as well as own needs.
7. Cancelling "Acts on the Sea" - everyone injured either in body or heart - so hearts stay here.
8. Church at Carthage brot food, opened homes, stayed as long as any were to come & go.
B. Reports of critical nature --
   1.) Prayer to God.
   2.) Women received their dead.
   3.) Reported complimented on calmness.
   4.) Efficiency all hospital personnel.
   5.) "Wrought righteousness"
       "Obtained promises"
       "Escaped - out of weakness were made strong.
C. Life is precious.
D. Promise of Youth rewarding.
E. Others suffer as we do, so we remember them.
F. Now is time to obey.
*Post End 8-19-79*
OBTAINING THE BETTER RESURRECTION
Heb. 11:35

I. I am not unmindful of this day.
   A. Every Sunday is resurrection remembrance.
   B. Some do it annually.
   C. May I speak of obtaining the Better Resurrection.

II. Heb. 11 is the hero's chapter.
   A. It comes to a climax and it has a beautiful tribute to women.
      1. 10th effect of faith.
      2. 1st time women enter picture.
         a) Shows greatest faith—the challenge of death!
         b) No finality in lions (Sister "C" saw Norman Barker's chow & said, "See the lion."), fire, sword, armies—but nothing compared to the finality of death.
         c) Over others we sometimes win—upsets in games—but death is final!

3. It was not final to women.

4. They had faith!
   a) They inspired the prophets to try resurrection.
   b) Women are involved in every NT resurrection.
   c) May even be a foreigner like widow of Zarepheth.
d) Think of singles plus married women today who gloriously carry the gospel.
e) When men move to heights usually a great woman inspires it.
f) They personify showing an indomitable spirit facing incredible odds.
g) Faith does not inquire as to the sex it empowers.

5. Faith today so important.
a) Christ could do no mighty works because of no faith.

Mk. 6:5 "And he could there do no mighty work"
Matt. 13:58 "And he did not many m.w. because"
Mk. 9:23 "If thou canst believe, all things"
Matt. 9:29 "According to your faith be"
Jn. 11:25 "I am the res. & the life"
:27 "Yea Lord I do believe that there"

6. We receive the benefit of others' faith.

7. Don't rob him by your unbelief.

B. We see the endurance of torture.

v-35 "Others were tortured, not accepting
1. We do not all suffer the same thing.
2. Exchange torture for denial of faith.
3. Women endured this extreme persecution.
4. Torture—to stretch & beat with clubs till dead.
   a) Man's inhumanity to man.
   b) Bombs in planes.
5. Can't take our faith & hope—only our riches, life, pleasure.
6. Maccabees suffered endlessly and history tells it.
7. Faith works & suffers also!
C. Sought something--better resurrection.
   1. Greatest evidence of God's power.
      a) Presupposes a former life.
      b) Suffering pays off.
2 Cor. 4:17 "Our light affliction which"
   2. Obtain
      a) Aimed at.
      b) Get by what we undergo.
3. Better
   a) Raised to die no more--Lazarus did.
   b) Exempt from miseries.
   c) Better world.
Phil. 1:23 "For I am in a strait betwixt"
Heb. 10:34 "For ye had compassion of me in"
   d) Better to be in another world than deny our faith & convictions here.
D. Which for you?
John 5:28-29 "Marvel not at this for"
   1. Trusting God does not assure easy life.
   2. God could stop the enemy but where would faith be?
   3. Trials give God an opportunity via our faith.
   4. Heroes acted by faith at the bidding of the word.

Cox Blvd., Sheffield, AL - 3/26/89
Richmond, KY - 4/16/89
Northeast church, Indianapolis, In - 5/14/89
6 MISTAKES OF MAN
Heb. 12:1-2

1. Preachers are advised:
   A. Never preach an old sermon.
   B. Never preach someone else's sermon.
   C. Today I do both.

1. Sermon is Cicero's.
2. It's aged.

II. Years ago he said, "There are Six Mistakes of Man!"
    Shall we see if we are still making them?
   A. We believe we can advance ourselves by walking
      on others. Matt. 20:26 "Not the will of Father..."
      1. This cannot be construed as anti-ambition or
         advancement.
   2. Tim. 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God
   2. Tim. 4:7 "I am now ready to be offered, and the tim
   Rom. 12:11 "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit;
   2. But it does mean we cannot use the mud sill
      philosophy for advancement.
   Rom. 12:3 "Every man among you not to think of himself
   Lu. 22:26 "But he that is greatest...younger
   Matt. 18:10 "But whose...serve
   Matt. 18:1 "Who is the greatest...humble
   Matt. 20:27 "Whosoever will be chief among you, let
   3. Let me never seek to destroy you.
   B. We believe by worrying we can change matters -
      when there are some things we cannot change.
   Matt. 6:34 "Take therefore no thought for the morrow
   Matt. 6:26 "Behold the fowls of the air
   1. God protects birds & they are unusual.
a.) Warm blooded - keep body at same temp. regardless of weather.

b.) Can't sweat - yet a/cond.

c.) Chickadee, size thumb, 105° when it's -40°.

d.) To do so eats lots of food - several times per hr.
    Heart beats rapidly - needs lots of energy.

e.) Baby birds eat wt. daily; 14 oz. pigeon eats
    1/20th of wt. daily - "Eat like a bird" - 180#

    man would eat 9# food daily.

f.) Can't fall off roost - bird!

Wt. causes ankle joints to bend & toes lock firmly.
Toes can't unclamp till wakes up & stands up.

C. Insisting a thing is impossible because we can't do it. Phil. 4:13 "I can do all things thru Christ which strengthens me."

Rom. 8:37 "Nay in all these things we are more than conquerors."
(Note what earlier named - tribulation, etc.)

1. Are there some we can't convert?
2. Aren't there others who can?

Rom. 12:4 "For...we have many members in one body

D. Refuse to set aside trivial preference.

Rom. 12:3 "For I say, thru the grace...to every man

Phil. 2:3-4 "Let nothing be done thru strife or vainglorious.

1. How many of us peevishly have to have our way?
2. What spoiled attitude do I take?

E. Neglecting the development & refinement of the mind.

Mk. 12:29 "Hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one L

Heb. 5:12 "For when for the time ye ought to be teach

1 Pet. 2:2 "As newborn babes desire the sincere milk of

2013 Century
F. Attempting to compel others to live & believe as we do.
Rom. 10:17 “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by t
Rom. 14:19 “Let us therefore follow after the things w
1. Let us lead, inspire, not compel.
2. Let us learn proper approach, not force.
3. Morris Thurman told of soldier in chow line - duty
to get rid of apricots.
   a.) You don’t want any a., do you?
   b.) Wouldn’t you like some ap.?
   c.) Do you want 1 dish or two?

[Notes]

[Events]
- Portland, Mich., 3-13-77
- nineteen Drive, Russellville, 3-27-77
- Bay Area School of Preaching, lectureship
- San Leandro, Calif., 4-5-77
- Newport, Ark., 5-19-77

[Locations]
- College St. Church, Lebanon, Bible class 9-25-77
A farmer went with his son into a wheat field to see if it was time for harvest. "See, Father," exclaimed the lad, "how straight those stems hold up at their heads! They must be the best ones. Those with their heads bent over, I am sure, cannot be good for much." "See here, son," replied the father, "this stalk that stood so straight is lighthearted, and almost good for nothing; while this that hung its head so modestly is full of the most beautiful grain." The marks of life are similar. Humility is not a sign of weakness, but of strength, maturity and fullness.—Rev A. PURNELL BAILEY, DD.

Temptation rarely comes in working hours. It is in their leisure time that men are made or marred.

W M TAYLOR.
For many people are credited with brilliant ideas or brave actions, which really were dumb luck. But as long as they keep their mouths shut thereafter, they can bask in the glory of such acclaim. Sometimes, however, a person is figuratively backed against the wall and then is compelled to shatter the false halo he is wearing.—GEORGE W CRANE, PhD, MD, 6-30-76.

VIETNAM—Prisoners

The Communists who have taken over Vietnam reportedly are holding between 200,000 and 300,000 political prisoners in "reeducation camps." Not only former officials of the fallen Saigon regime, but some of its most outspoken opponents, have been herded into the prison camps. Among them are some of the militant Buddhists, Hoa Hao leaders and Third Force parliamentarians who gave ex-President Nguyen Van Thieu so much trouble during the Vietnam War. Many of these critics of Thieu, once hailed by the Communists in the north, have now been jailed by the Communists. Their offense: they are not only anti-Thieu but anti-Communist as well.—JACK ANDERSON.

WALTERS—Barbara

I became one of the million Barbara Walters watchers on opening night when she became co-anchorperson with Harry Reasoner in her new job, wondering along with the rest of the watchers if she would be her old self, the Barbara we all knew before she became a million dollar baby in the A and BC store. When Harry signed off for both of them, saying "Goodnight from Barbara Walters and I" I thought a new Barbara had been born because she didn't say a word. But one of my lip-reading friends, who kept her eye on the show, which I suppose the profession calls dramatic, fade-out between program and commercial, tells me differently. She said that she could "read" Barbara saying, "I am sorry, Mr Reasoner, but you have created a most grievous grammatical faux pas, using the first person, nominative case, when in reality the accusative was in order, as the preposition 'from' calls for the first person singular objective in apposition with the proper name Barbara also being the object of the same preposition. I feel that our association will be more lasting and fruitful if you would exercise due care. In other words, watch it, boy."—JIM COMSTOCK, W Va Hillbilly, 10-16-76.

No man is rich enough to buy back his past.—PROVERB.
TO WIN THE RACE
Heb. 12:1-2

I. Marathon? Hardly.
   A. 26,000 enter – 1 wins.
   B. Many falter – few finish.
   C. Only one winner.

II. Ours a greater Race.
   A. In view of what we win.
   B. As well as what we lose.

III. Surely a race so vital and important has ingredients of how to win the race. All in Heb. 12:1-2. Rent Clothes #1
   A. I've many encourages – great cloud of witnesses.
      1. Lit. those who testify.
      2. Are they departed ones, cognizant of what we are doing.
      3. Literal?
      5. They testify that faith will carry believer safely through all that they may be called to suffer in the profession of the gospel – (Owen).
      6. They scream – keep on, stay with it, you can do it, I did!
      7. They encompass us.
      8. It's the advantage of the home court!
      9. They have been faithful & resolute.
         a) Story of Huey Long & circus.
            Have to dip animals--no competition for LSU football.
         b) You be resourceful.
B. Lay aside every weight.
1. Weight is not a sin.
   a) Of course it embraces what is perhaps wrong - but carries idea of impediment.
   b) Some things:
      Eating
      Drinking
      Apparel - Won lottery #2
      Possession
      Pleasure - Bible Reading #3
      Associates
2. It could be flesh or clothing - we are not in race condition.
3. Nothing named but it covers all that hinders.
4. Lay aside embraces: (else elders are powerless in their view)
   a) Willingness
   b) Readiness
   c) Resolution on our part.
C. The Sin That Besets.
1. Difficult to interpret.
2. Some interpretations.
   a) Some sin like a flowing robe.
   b) Sin that easily stands around us.
   c) "Sin that clings to us" - Luther.
   d) Not "the" but sin in general - (F.J.B.)
   e) Sin that has the greatest advantage over us.
3. Sin most prone, liable from age habit constitution circumstances - lurking card #4

g) One that brings us into danger (Some won't put off garment the crowd admires - can play ball in a warm-up jacket).

3. Weight is liberty - this is sin.

4. Let's name some:
   a) Priorities of time & finance.
   b) Divided allegiance.
   c) Ignorance of duty.

5. Not same for all.

6. Varies with the season, drugs, no sin consciousness, compromise.

7. It will damn if not conquered - can't run with this burden.

8. Are we covetous, unclean, lazy, intemperate, self-righteous?

D. Run 400 - No reverse #5

1. That's what it's all about.

2. Activity - she's Baptist, I'm radio.

3. Not proxy.

4. Not by spurts.

5. Bars removed - Run!

6. One thought in mind - make the goal.

7. Divest self of everything however lawful & pleasant that encumbers and draws us away. (Boll)

8. Demands great exertion.
10. "Set before us"
   a) Not at liberty to choose our path.
   b) It's prescribed.

Eyes on Jesus
1. Sure it is tough!
   a) Running for my soul.
   b) No value in just starting.
   c) Need strength to win.
   d) Race is long.
   e) Reward worth it - 3 million Jews vs 21 million Arab - Moshe Dyan said "We have no other choice."

2. Need to see the Perfect Jesus.
   a) Look at Him - not off.
   b) See Him as rewarder.
   c) He's worth everything.
   d) Place our hope in Him.
   e) No one ever carried what He did.
   f) He's umpire.
   g) Don't falter.

Gal. 5:7 Ye did run well; why do ye hinder yourselves?
3. Keep eyes on Jesus.

Heb. 3:1 Consider the apostle & high priest of our profession
   a) Jesus in His glory is reassuring.
   b) Look to Him - we've thought of ourselves long enough.
   c) We see inabilities, power of adversary, self - met only failures - see Jesus.

Poll quote #8
First Colony Church, Sugar Land, TX - 1/8/89
Revival, church, Daytona Beach, FL - 1/15/89
Benton, AR - 1/25/89
Mid-Delta Workshop, Greenwood, MS - 1/25/89
An excited man called his wife. 
"I won! I won the lottery! Pack your clothes!"
"Great!" she says. "Summer or winter clothes?"
"All you clothes," says he. "I want you out by 6!"

_The Jokesmith_

Regular Bible readers are more likely than the general population to be aged 55 and older, according to the Standard Rate and Data Service of Wilmette, Illinois. And they are most likely to live in single-income married-couple households. The 1987 median household income of Bible readers was $21,500, compared with a national median of $26,000.

Between 1982 and 1986, people who read the Bible at least once a day dropped from 15 percent of all adults to 11 percent, according to Gallup surveys. But the percentage of adults who never read the Bible declined while the percentage of weekly and monthly readers rose.

It is expensive to market to borderline
US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT published a 23 February 1987 cover story on "Lying in America" and asked whether we have become a nation of liars. It offered as proof a litany of ethical abuses including a "rash of revelations about hyped and falsified scientific research." It referred to a January 1987 study, accusing forty-seven scientists at the Harvard and Emory University medical schools of producing misleading papers. A House sub-committee estimated that in 1986 one out of every three working Americans is hired with educational or career credentials that have been altered in some way.

DEATH OF ETHICS IN AMERICA – Cal Thomas – P.23

Forward Only – When Henry Ford designed his first automobile, he neglected to include a reverse gear.

Popular Fruit – The most widely consumed fruit in the world is the banana.
CRUISE SHIPS passing through the Panama Canal must pay a toll that averages about $30,000. The highest toll ever paid for going through the Canal was $89,154.00 by The Queen Elizabeth 2. The smallest amount ever paid was 36 cents by the noted adventurer, Richard Halliburton, when he swam through the Canal in 1928.

If I am in Christ, I can say with Christ: "A body hast thou prepared for me." Far from this body being simply a clog and hindrance to me, it becomes the very instrument of God for doing God's work in the earth. (Rom. 6:13,19). My feet for hastening unto his work and worship, my hands to minister in his name, my eyes to look for him, my ears to hear for him, my head to think, my mouth to speak, my voice to sing--all my members and all my faculties for God: this is consecration, happiness, and salvation. "Lo, I am, come; in the roll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do thy will, O my God; yea, thy law is within my heart." LESSONS ON HEBREWS - R.H.Boll - P.124-125
I. Man's greatest moment is:
A. Consider Jesus
   1. Think seriously.
   2. Draw an analogy between Jesus & yourself.
   3. Give careful examination & reach a conclusion.
   4. What do you want to see in Heaven greater than Jesus?
B. See Jesus for a purpose.
   1. Here to move us to steadfastness.
   2. His trials greater than ours — He won, we can too.

II. Note His treatment.
A. Contradiction of sinners.
   1. Hostility = to speak against.
   2. To threaten with more than words.
   3. It was like the bare knuckle fighting that brought blood.
B. In face of it all He did His work.

III. Point is we must not weary or faint.
A. Christian ever in danger of giving up.
B. This caused by many things:
   1. Difficulties of the course. "The soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way
   2. Slowness of apparent progress.
   3. False value of the estimate of feeling.
   4. Neglect of the means by which hope & courage are maintained.
      (a) Prayer.
      (b) Reading.
      (c) Associates.
(d) Jesus - He suffered more than us all - desertion, curse, crucifixion.
1 Pet. 2:20-23
5. Are we weary - sudden breakdown or exhaustion?
C. We've not suffered martyrdom.
1. Our striving has not reached point of total dedication.
2. Are we still struggling against sin?
3. Are we set to be faithful to end?
These End 100 Plus Class 4-31-74.
THE PURPOSE OF SUFFERING FOR THE SAINT
Heb. 12:5-6

I. Today we see two attitudes:
   A. Fatalism.
   B. Resignation.
   C. Should we add a third, rebellion, as suffering comes to the saint.

II. But I raise the question - can there be optimism?
    Can there be the "I love you, Lord, for loving me enuf to spank me" spirit?

   A. Let's study the Bible.
      1. Scrp. speak - don't forget them. Speaks way a daddy would.
      2. Speak = have conference c us.
      3. HS speaks thru them.

   B. Specifically read Heb. 12:5-9.

III. In both covenants God's ordained discipline for His children.
   A. The origin of persecution; mystery to pain.
      2. Could be fatue, pain is not always punishment.

   B. Purpose of Persecution.
      1. To make me better, whether God originated or permitted.
      2. To prove to me sonship. It can be fatherly discipline in the hand of God.
      3. We can overrule opposition to the development of our character.
IV. Our Text of 2 Covenants.
A. Proverbs 3:11-12 Free quotation
B. Heb. 12:5-6 "And ye have forgotten the exhortati
C. Observations.
1. We are sons.
   (a) Your suffering neither w/o God's knowledge or
       permission & purpose.
   (b) God loves before He chastens.
   (c) Our sonship not on way we take our chastisemen
       but on our being chastised at all.
2. We must not adopt wrong attitude - one of despite
   (a) Its duration is short.
   (b) Es = purpose.
   (c) Are sufferings trials or calamities?
   (d) If we despise we say we don't deserve any.
3. Chastening - Rebuke - Scourge.
   (a) Chasten = to discipline in all forms, like the
       way a dad trains his son; instruct by means of
       correction.
   (b) Rebuke = convince a person of his faults.
(a) Scourge = heavy degree of punishment, whippec severe.
Isa. 1:5-6 "Why should ye be stricken any more
Gal. 6:16 "And as many as walk according to t!
(d) God deals c His children in love, not easy
    sentiment. Love involves spanking.
(e) Chastening a sign of sonship.
(f) God never spanks more than is necessary - no
    child abuse.
(g) Persecution by man may be discipline of God.
4. What causes the necessity of sufferings.
   (a) Our inventions.
Ps. 99:8 "Thou answeredst them, O Lord our Go
5. In what forms does it come?
   (a) Disease of body.
   (b) Disease of mind.
   (c) Injury to character.
   (d) Profligate kids.
   (e) Faithless friends.
6. What good does it do?
   (a) Corrects our faults.
   (b) Forms Chr. character.
   (c) Prompts our eternal well being.
   (d) Builds endurance - don't faint.
    1 Kings 19:4 "But he himself went a day's journe
   (e) Best looking lawns frequently know the mower.
   (f) Since it all is regulated by hand of God, we
      are to be better because of it.
7. "He knoweth our frame"
   "I will correct thee in measure"
"He stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind."

"Tho he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies."

"My grace is suff. for thee, my str. is made perfect in weakness."

West End 100+ class 5-12-74
WHAT GOOD IS DISCIPLINE ANYHOW?
Hebrews 12:5-11

I. Who has not asked this question?
   A. When trials come and plans are changed who has not felt the question of why?
   B. But can I see God's hand in my life and yield to his educating me for eternity?
   C. That is the purpose of this lesson.

II. Our text -- Hebrews 12:5-11
   A. It is no new thing to know that God disciplines his children.
   v-5 "And ye have forgotten the exhortation"
      1. So easy to forget what we have been told and come up with that lame "I didn't know this is what you wanted." /ADDRESSES YOU AS SONS
      2. Utterly forgotten in GK.
      3. Speaketh = hold converse, reason with as with sons. Scriptures speak:
         a) Not a dumb or silent letter.
         b) They have a voice--God.
         c) Holy Spirit is present & speaks.
         d) Attend with reverence--God's way of communication.
         e) God pleads, argues, commands, confers.
         f) Manner of speaking--as to sons. (Owen)
   4. My son despise not thou the chas.
      a) Don't make light of it.
      b) Don't impute it to chance or a second cause--it's from the Lord.

Training; Correction; Punishes
c) Despise is to hold of little account—the Lord is telling you something!
d) Do not think lightly of it.

5. Chastening.
   a) Discipline a better word.
   b) Educate is word.
   c) We are being fitted to share God's righteousness.

Prov. 3:11

6. Don't faint when rebuked.
   a) Hasn't cost you your life has it?
   b) Faint = broken down, weak, omit necessary duty.
   c) Losing heart & hope.
   d) Rebuke stronger than chasten.

B. It is a sign of God's love.

v-6 "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth"

v-6 "Scourgeth every son whom he receiveth"

1. Good is going to come out of this as Heaven directs the matter.

2. Men persecute us because we are religious, God because we are not more so." (Henry)

3. Scourge—draw forth blood—he takes the hide off, high degree of suffering.

4. Receive = accepts.

5. Such is the lot of every child in a normal family.

C. When there is no chastening, discipline

v-8"If ye be w/o chastisement...then are ye bastards

1. Fathers made no effort to educate illegitimate sons.
2. To not be disciplined suggests we are not true sons.
3. "To be suffered to go on in sin without rebuke is a sad sign of alienation from God". (Scott)
4. After all, you don't spank the other fellow's sons do you--even if you'd like to!

D. Earthly Example
v-9 "We have had fathers of our flesh which"
1. Our earthly parents give us bodies. (Our Heavenly Father gives us souls)
2. Parents have the right to discipline. (We've taken it away from teachers and police and look at the mess we are in.)
3. We give reverence to parents.
   a) We submit in meekness--don't sass our mothers.
   b) We learned to react rightly--(Michael has his time out and is taken out.)
   c) We continue our affection.
   d) Child's duty to respect commands of parents.

E. Heavenly Example
v-9 "Shall we not much rather be in subjection"
1. God leads in a way we may not know.
2. Submit--see the end of the road not the roughness of one turn.
3. Give unquestioned submission.
4. Father of Spirits.
Nu. 16:22 "God of the spirits of all flesh".
5. His correction of his own is perfect.
6. End is great—life!

G. Parental Contrast
v-10 "For they verily for a few days"

1. How few are our days on the earth
   but how painful short with supervision of our children.
2. Our supervision time is quite short.
3. "Chastened after our own pleasure."
   a) Did what we thought was best though imperfect.
   b) May have acted when we were angry, embarrassed, insulted, irritated.
   c) Might have forgotten ultimate goal—reform manners.
   d) Our uncertain mood & judgement entered in.
   e) Discipline with parents has its limits.

4. God for our profit—partake holiness.
   a) Duration of our relationship with God is what's important.
   b) Our whole life with Him is a state of childhood.
   c) Under lifelong training.
   d) His perfect knowledge directs our destiny.
   e) Partake holiness.
      (1) He knows what he wants us to be.
      (2) More & more he removes us from the world & makes us more like Him.
(3) Educated to spend an eternity with God.
(4) Luther, "God's ways are like a Hebrew book--must read it backward to understand it."

H. It may not now seem joyous--but grievous:
1. Christian is not insensitive to pain.
2. Insensibility neither manly nor saintly.
3. Tribulation tries our patience and piety.
4. We are bad judges of the experiences through which we are passing.
5. God is so fair with us--lets us feel!
& Say!

I. There is a Profitable End
v-11 "Nevertheless afterward it yieldeth"
1. Peaceable fruit of righteousness.
   a) Peace contrasts with our time prior to our chastening--now OK.
   b) Ultimate fruit compensates for any temporary pain.
   c) Righteousness is actual righteousness in ourselves not just a state of justification.
   d) Time is required for fruit to ripen.
2. Know our afflictions are not for naught.
3. Discipline's purpose is to make us good, at peace with ourselves, our own conscience, our God.
4. We must exercise--oppose of fainting.
5. "Afflictions are the gymnasium of the spiritual life." (P.C.)

III. Outside Adairville not clear
Pick up on first "Heaven Bound"
Thus all discipline together
home, person or church has
this desired end.

Adairville, KY - 3/6/94
THREE CORRECTIVE LESTS
Heb. 12:14-17

I. We wear glasses and speak of our corrective lenses.
   A. It may be nearsighted, farsighted.
   B. It may be astigmatism.
   C. Our lenses correct the malady.

II. In the KJV there are 3 "lests" and like lenses they are corrective for Christians.
    Let's study our text, Hebrews 12:14-17.
   A. I'll admit some of it is difficult to understand.
   B. It may be some is difficult to put into practice.

III. It starts with a holy injunction.
    v-14 "Follow peace with all men & holiness"
    A. Two essentials in our Christian living.
       1. Peace to be followed.
          a) "For peace sacrifice anything but purity." (Erdman)
          b) Thomas says all men does not include non-Christians.
          c) Has to do with all other Christians.
          d) Can't be at peace with wickedness.
       2. Second essential is holiness.
          a) Is there a stronger characteristic with God?
          b) Do we see ourselves set apart to be altogether His?
          c) Today holiness is assaulted on every hand. It comes via:
             (1) Money, cheating.
             (2) Entertainment.
             (3) Distractions.
B. Peace & Holiness—knowing if I do not practice it—I will not see God gives us plenty to do.

IV. Now comes our Lest series.

v-15 "Looking diligently lest any"

A. Looking diligently.
   1. Some evils come unobserved. (Boll)
   2. Harmless?
   3. We see a few variations, slight changes & think nothing of it.
   4. Woman would not pass Lord's supper in pew unless she could stand in aisle.
   5. Balance between harshness and faithfulness.
   6. Diligently
      a) Comes from GK word that gives us overseers, bishops.
      b) Every Christian, not just elders, has a duty to look after one another.
      c) Ours is a religion of togetherness, we are family.
      d) "Jim Bill thinks we should know the members"—why not, are elders board of directors?

B. Lest any fail of grace of God—1st lest.
   1. Is there any member you want to see fail? Of course not—then help him. (Stop-drop-roll-coat on fire)
   2. Don't let folk wander in and out and not be concerned!
   3. It is possible to fail this grace.

Ezek. 34:6 "My sheep wandered" none search/seek.
C. Lest any root of bitterness spring.
   1. This our 2nd lest.
   2. "Root of bitterness springing up trouble."
   4. Could be a poisonous herb.
   5. Unworthy member can poison whole thing.
   6. Spiritual evils are progressive--think what the instrument has done to us.
   7. They "trouble" you--a divided church hinders the work.
      (Clip on bison protector)
   8. Many defiled--am I the root that started it?

D. Our 3rd lest.
   v-16 Lest there be any fornicator.
   1. Watch for moral uncleanness.
   2. Watch against sensual sins--Ellen has just "come out."
   3. Watch against profanity.
      a) He has no regard for what is holy.
      b) God requires respect--the profane ignore Him.
      c) Profane is to set light way with commands of God.
      d) It is to condemn holy things.
      e) Easily neglect worship.
   4. Esau an example--would you like to be one for the enemy?
      a) Failed to see what is valuable.
      b) Had no feel for the important.
      c) He's never called a fornicator except here.
4. (cont.)
d) He's a sensualist.
e) He had great possibilities and lost it.

5. For 1 morsel sold birthright.
a) He had no aspiration beyond flesh.
b) He had no appreciation for the unseen.
c) This world was good enough for him. (All this Boll)
d) Rejected it for trivial matters & material gain.

6. This we see:
a) Afterward he would have inherited the blessing.
b) We know he was rejected by God and Isaac.
c) No place of repentance.
   (1) Was it in himself?
   (2) No record of repentance.
d) Sought it--the birthright?

   Gen. 27:34

   (1) Was it the blessing he sought--not forgiveness?
   (2) Made an irrevocable and fatal choice.
   (3) Irreparable.
   (4) Tyndale said he sought to change his father's mind--not his own.
   (5) God could not recind Jacob's blessing.
V. Thus Three Lests
A. Lest any man fall.
B. Lest any root of bitterness spring up.
C. Lest any fornicator arise.

Smithville, TN (BC) - 5/4/97
THAT TO WHICH CHURCH MEMBERSHIP BRINGS ME

Heb. 12:22-24

1. My association with various things brings responsibilities & contacts.
   A. Educational Field.
   B. Political Field.
   C. Marriage.
   D. So also religiously.

II. When I enter relationship with Jesus in His church, I come to certain spheres.
   A. I come to Mt. Zion.

1. This is not hereafter but now.
2. It's the declaration of the state to which we are currently called by the gospel.
3. Why Zion, rather than Sinai? Is there more glory to Zion?
   (a) Zion means sunny.
   (b) It's another name for Jerusalem.
   (c) Read Gal. 4:24-27.
   (d) God seasonally at Sinai, God forever at Zion.
   (e) God in terror at Sinai, God in peace at Zion.

(1) Read Exo. 20:18-20. Speak Thou unto us, that we may hear the word from Thee.
   Heb. 12:18 "For ye are not come unto the mountain.
   Heb. 12:20 "(For they could not endure that which was commanded,"
   Heb. 12:21 "And so terrible was the sight, that"
   Deut. 9:19 "For I was afraid of the anger and heat"

(2) Gospel came on Pentecost at Jerusalem.
   (f) Law at Sinai. Gospel at Zion.
   (g) Forsook Sinai - "took away", Zion free & remains.
   (h) Sinai impossible, Zion salvation.
(1) Kingdom is spiritual - we enter by character not carnal descent.
   John 4:21-24
(2) Sinai was wilderness & remote - Jerusalem a city
   God wants us with the people.
4. Read Jerusalem passages
   2 Sam. 5:6-9
   1 Kings 14:21
   Ps. 78:68-69
   Ps. 132:13
5. Zion sunny - word clear as day that came.
6. It's the city of the living God, the heavenly
   Jerusalem - speaks of spiritual nature.
A. To an innumerable co. of angels.
   1. Lit. myriads of angels. Rev. 5:11 charge over thee.
       Heb. 1:14 "Are they not all ministering spirits, serving
   3. Read Saul forth to min. for them who shall be
       heirs of salvation.
       Ps. 68:17 "The chariots of God are twenty thousand
       Dan. 7:10 "A fiery stream issued and came forth for
       Rev. 5:11 "And I beheld, and I heard the voice of
B. General Assembly.
   1. This the one body of Jew & Gentile.
      Eph. 3:1-10
      Rev. 5:9-10
   2. From word meaning a public festival of celebration
      attended by all people.
C. Church of the First Born.
   1. Heirs of Christ so names written in Heaven.
Exo. 32:32 "Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; Ps. 69:28 "Let them be blotted out of the book of the Dan. 12:1 "And at that time shall Michael stand up, 1
2. 1st born natural heirs of estate.

D. God the Judge of All.
1. God's the supreme head.
2. We have access to the Judge.
3. Access only by Jesus.
4. Rewards faithful; punishes wicked.

E. Spirits of Just Men.
1. Owens said (a) spirits in a separate state capable
   of communion c God & church (b) departed ones
   made perfect (c) the invisible world - Intelligent
   powers in the presence of God.
2. Just men do not fear presence of God. Fudge
   says these lived & died before Christ.
3. Perfect = complete.
4. Made perfect & stay that way in Heaven.

F. Blood of Christ.
1. It's meant for all.
2. It has a voice. "Abel's voice was louder than that
   of his own voice.
3. Abel's blood cries for revenge. Christ's blood
   cries for pardon.
4. As old covenant was ratified by blood, so Christ
   seals His c His blood.
5. We come to God by grace; Christ opens way to
   Him. 15:11, 17 "but if we walk in the light
6. Blood:
   (a) Purifies 10:22
   (b) Ratifies 9:19
(c) Passes over 11:28
7. Christ calls for righteousness, not ritual.
[Scripture Ref. 11:28-29]

M. J. Bailey – Funeral 11-9-81
Benton KY Church 11-9-81
Central Church, Chattanooga, Thanksgiving Service
Hilltop Ave Church, Cookeville, 11-19-81
Washington St Church, Fayetteville, Tenn. 4-19-82
Madison Church 5-2-82
Grayson, Ky. 3-1982
Central Church, Memphis, 5-3-82
Olive Hill Church, Athens, Ala.

Broadway Church, Lubbock, Texas 9-26-82

Central Church, Jackie, Kansas 10-10-82
Jeanie Church, Moundboard 10-26-82
Baptist Church, Columbia, TN 3-1-83
College Hill Church, Memphis, Tenn. 3-15-83
Chapel Hill Church, Johnson City, Tenn. 4-12-83
Northside TN Church 8-27-83
Columbia Ave. Church, Glasgow, Ky. 8-9-83
Old Hickory Church 9-14-83

Hastings Church, Callaway, TX 9-25-83

Cindy Blake Church 312051. Ala 10-31-83
Acceptable Service - Heb 12:28

I. Want to work for a prize only to miss it?
   A. Want God to reject you?
   B. Our lesson not so much to show what is acc. service but that to be rewarded it must be acc. with God.

II. Note 3 things from text.
   Heb 12:28 "Wherefore we receiving a Kingdom
   A. God has a government
   1. Called a Kingdom- absolute monarchy
      Matt 21:15 "All power is given unto me.)
   2. Now in existence
      I Cor 15:24-26
   3. Cannot be moved - it lasts
      a.) Contrast with insecurity of today's saints.
      b.) God expects service in this Kingdom
         "let us have grace is let us hold fast the
         benefit or gift" in margin.
   2. Note strength of "whereby"
   C. God demands & expects acceptable service
      1. Service
      2. Called to work - Heaven the rest, not earth
      3. Tell of colored boy - little work to stay busy.
      4. Compare last with in sell us God service
      2. Only acceptable service.
      3. Word means well pleasing.
      1. Axel & peach peeling - Future reactions
1. We are children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. (Rom 8:17)

2. God created us to be conformed to the image of His Son. (Rom 8:29)

3. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. (Prov 1:7)

4. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. (Col 1:14)

5. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. (Col 1:15)

6. Grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ our Lord. (2 Peter 1:2)
Two little Hollywood kids were feuding. "My daddy can lick your daddy," shouted the first boy.

"Yeah!" protested the other. "You just wait till next year!"

"Next year," jeered the first. "Why—your daddy gonna take boxing lessons?"

"Naw. Next year I'll probably have a new daddy."

—Peter Donald, quoted by Louis Sobol, King Features

HOW TRUE!

A colored boy knocked at the door of a spacious house and asked for work. The household was already well supplied with servants, so the mistress said: "I am sorry, but we really haven't enough work to keep another boy busy." "Lady!" said the boy, "you must have! You just don't know what a little bit of work it takes to keep me busy!

Many of our brethren are like this lad. It takes very little to keep them busy. In fact, some of them seem to think that one service a week is WORK in the vineyard of the Lord. Let every person strive to attend every service and bring someone with you. Work AND LIVE FOR CHRIST!

—Gospel Visitor, Wellington, Kansas.
A PART OF FAITH'S FULFILLMENT
Heb. 13:1-3

I. Aren't you impressed with the practical qualities of the Word of God.
A. It's not doctrine devoid of doing.
B. And the doing is for the betterment of everybody!
   That makes preaching Christ such a joy!
1. We can't say one thing & live another.
2. We can't say one thing and do nothing.
3. It's all an intelligent presentation - unlike children's proverbs!
C. Furthermore, there is teeth in it - vs. 5 - emphatic.
   "for he saith."
1. We live our lives always based on what God has said.
2. We worship not men or their way - Clip on Mary.
3. God has condescended to reveal Himself to man -
   we go by this revelation.
4. His word calls for the best that's in us all.

II. God Expects of the Christian Love & Compassion.
A. Let brotherly love continue.
   1. Phileo, natural love of a bro.
   2. Have an understanding of those from the same source.
   3. We digress & are hostile toward other Christians many times.
   4. We become competitive.
   5. Phileo means both love & like!
   6. We love because we are brothers.
Heb. 2:11 "For both he that sanctifieth and they who
7. Love bro. 1st, then stranger.
8. We are to think kindly of all men & do them good.
9. But more love toward brother - a domestic feeling
   Above ordinary friendship.
Ps. 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for
1 Thess. 4:9 "But as touching brotherly love ye need no
1 Jn. 3:16 "Hence perceives we the love of God, beca
18. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers.
Lev. 19:34 "But the stranger that dwelleth with you sh
1. Our guest could be a messenger! Angels!
2. Leaders are expected to show hospitality.
1 Tim. 3:2 "A bishop then must be blameless, the husb
Titus 1:8 "But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good n
3. Quote of Didache from Page 390 of Bruce.
4. Stranger was the traveling Chr.
   a.) Inn's bad.
   b.) Hospitality more than economic help.
Gen. 18:1 "And the Lord appeared unto him in the pl
Judges 6:11 "And there came an angel of the Lord, an
Judges 13:3 "And the angel of the Lord appeared unto
5. Hosp. more needed in early times, but still
   necessary.
6. This is not conviviality which opens one's house
   to festive parties made up of acquaintances from
   immediate neighborhood.
7. Rather, kindness to such as have no claim on you
C. Remember them that are in Bonds.
1. Suffer as the bound c them.
2. Lloyd Stone told of his compassion for Billie Sol
   Estes who wrote his wife & each child a letter
every day - individually while in prison 7 yrs. - at El Paso took care of pool & recreation yd. for warden & guards.

3. Do we hurt c them?
1 Cor. 12:26 "And whether one member suffer, all the
4. Do we put ourselves in another's place?
5. All of us are liable to the same afflictions.
6. Remember is more than a mental act - it's active help.
7. Bondage of:
   a.) Ignorance.
   b.) Sin.
   c.) Civil.
   d.) Social.
8. "Remember" a word of high degree of sympathy.
9. Feel as tho they were your own kinsman.
10. Sympathy, an expression of unity between two parties.
11. Wound in ft. excites whole body.

III. Conclusion.
A. Virtues of love seen.
   1. Brotherhood.
   2. Hospitality (varies in degree offered).
   3. Help - Sympathy.
   4. Chastity.
   5. Contentment.
B. Of love Seiss said - it will
   Defend bro. when defamed
   Admonish bro. when at fault
   Deal tenderly c differences
Lessen ground of dissention
Widen agreement
Put Best Construction on doubtful conduct
Rejoice even in the least opening for peace.

C. Motives for having it:
1. Christ commanded it.
2. Christ set example.
3. It's a great blessing w/i itself.
Fourth Graders
Mix Proverbs

FRANKFORT, Ind. (UPI) — Sayings about early birds, rolling stones, greener grasses, glass houses and good turns haven’t been heard by today’s fourth grade philosophers who have given new teeth to the old saws.

Teacher Jeanne Collins asked her fourth graders at Frankfort’s South Side School to complete a list of proverbs she thought they would be familiar with.

Not so.

The early bird of some of the students catches “an early fly,” “the afternoon bird” or “as well as he fetched.”

A rolling stone “can break a bone,” “will knock you down” or “may hit soon.”

The grass is always greener “than the sky,” “in the summer,” “when the sun is out,” “when you know what you’re doing,” or “than a wienie.”

People who live in glass houses “are people who get hurt” or “are fools.”

One good turn “is a good time,” “is a curve,” or “and that’s the end.”
Pope Puts Emphasis on Virgin Mary

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II is making the Roman Catholic cult of the Virgin Mary into one of the cornerstones of his pontificate.

During his three months in the Chair of Peter, he has sprinkled doves of speeches with devotional words for the mother of Christ, made prayers to the Virgin, one of the major themes of his trip to Latin America, and kept the "M" of Mary flying high on his blue papal coat of arms.

"The cult of the Virgin is an element which brings down to earth and humanizes religion... just as family life involves the affection of children for the father and the mother," says the Rev. Virgilio Levi, a Vatican prelate and writer.

Worship of the Virgin — a popular tradition in Latin America, southern Europe and the pope's native Poland — frequently has been identified with old-fashioned conservative theological positions. Protestant churches in the past have cited the cult as a potential obstacle to efforts for Christian unity.

So far during his trip, the pope has bestowed crowns as a sign of church esteem on two of the leading virgin images of Latin America — Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of Mexico and Latin America, and our Lady of Altarica, madonna of the Dominican Republic.

Pope John Paul has devoted all four of his major speeches to the Virgin Mary and her teachings of the religious virtues of fidelity, perseverance and coherence.

Opening the Latin American bishops' conference at the sanctuary of the Virgin of Guadalupe on Saturday, John Paul lauded her lyrically as "the mother of God, the mother of Mexico, the queen of the apostles and the queen of peace," asking her "to save the nations and peoples of the whole continent from wars, hatred and subversion."

In the central address of his trip Sunday, he invoked "the spiritual presence of Our Lady of Guadalupe" to reemphasize the church is not wedded to any political system and seeks the liberation of man only within the framework of the church.

Interest in the 17-day conference has revolved around the church's role in political and social affairs, but one of the key points in the preliminary document cites "the need to strengthen Marian piety, one of the pillars of popular religion and of faith." It calls the Virgin Mary "a symbol, a pillar, a mode."

Vatican prelates accompanying the pope say the massive fervent crowds bestowing portraits of the pope and the Virgin Mary show the cult of the Madonna responds to deep spiritual needs.

Close friends say the former Karol Wojtyla, who lost his mother when he was 1, was always deeply moved by the Virgin Mary as a mother figure. The pope's church in Poland, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was built with timbers from a riverbank after communist officials refused to allow him to use materials allegedly needed for construction.

After being elected, one of the first images the pope ordered brought to his private chapel from Poland was of the Virgin of Czestokowa. His papal coat of arms, dedicated to the Virgin, shows the cross with a capital "M", dominating the shield and the motto "Totus Tuus" ("Thine entire")
CONVERSATION - COVETOUSNESS - CONTENTMENT  Heb. 13:5-6

I. In this lesson we deal c. 3 "C's".
   A. Conversation.
   B. Covetousness.
   C. Contentment.
      1. What's more practical?
      2. What's more needed?

II. My Conversation.
   A. It is my manner of living.
      1. My life, not my speech.
      2. Turn of mind or
      3. Habit of life.
   B. Live W/o Covetousness.
      1. Define.
      2. Word comes from "to love silver."
      4. Money seeks to possess us.

Deut. 31:6 "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not
Matt. 6:25-30 "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thou
5. Mammon.
Lu. 12:15 "And he said unto them, Take heed, and be
6. We ask, "What's he worth?" "How much does he
owe?"

1 Tim. 6:6-10 "But godliness with contentment is great
7. Money & sex are related.
Col. 3:5 "Mortify therefore your members which are 
C. Contentment.
1. Can I depend on God & be independent of things for happiness?
2. These words are not to be interpreted as anti-ambition.
3. Lord said He wouldn't leave us.
   (a) Leave = send back, fail to uphold, won't let you sink.
   (b) Double negative - never, never leave.
4. He will not leave lifeless or destitute.
5. He won't leave in lurch.
Gen. 28:15 "And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee, and deliver thee from all evil thy enemy shall do unto thee."
Deut. 31:6 "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not."
Josh. 1:5 "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life; as I have been with Moses, so I will be with thee; I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."
1 Chron. 28:20 "And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of a good courage; and do thou work: and the Lord be with thee."
Isa. 41:17 "When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I am he that drew water out of an ancient cistern, and runneth out streams in a dry land: I sent to my love, I said, I will go into the house of my sister, and when I found her not, I entered into the gate of her sister."
7. We have no reason to forsake God!
8. God does not reward unfaithfulness.
Ps. 118:2 "Let Israel now say, that his mercy endureth for ever.
Rom. 8:31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"
9. What can man do God cannot undo?
10. Some are like butterflies - flit here & there.
11. Should be content because:
   a.) God decides all matters correctly.
   b.) God is interested in us.
   c.) God is in control.
   d.) God daily grants mercies.
COLUMBUS

The cost of the first trip of Columbus was some $7,250, of which he received $320, the ship $180, and sailors $29 each, reports The Robesonian.

MAE WALLER, "Do You Know That?"

"You could say she eats well and sleeps soundly."
Funny World.

A New England appliance manufacturer decided to vacation in Sea Island, Ga this summer and wrote to the hotel to ask if he could bring his Afghan hound. The hotel...

“If I move heaven and earth to break 100,” the golfing duffer said as he swung at his ball.

“Concentrate on heaven,” pleaded his friend. “You’ve moved enough earth already!”

2, 1978
 manager wrote back, “I’ve been in this business for 25 yrs. Never have I had to eject a dog for disorderly conduct. Never has a dog set fire to a bed with a cigarette. Never has a dog asked the bell captain to send up a hooker. I have never found a hotel towel, an ashtray or a blanket in a dog’s suitcase or empty whiskey bottles in the closet. The dog is most certainly welcome!” Then, he added a PS. “Can you supply references on yourself?”

Gov. Winfield Dunn of Tennessee: “A young man asked me how I liked being governor. I replied that I like it. When I go home at night, I sleep like a baby: sleep for an hour and then wake up and cry for an hour.”

While getting the house fixed up for the holidays, a woman called a Venetian-blind repairman to come pick up a broken blind. That evening the doorbell rang and the husband answered the door. “I’m here for the blind,” said the visitor.

The husband took a bill from his pocket, gave it to the man and shut the door.

Page 7b  

January
Carl Sandburg tells of the chameleon who got along very well adjusting moment by moment to his environment until one day he had to cross a Scotch plaid... and he died at the crossroads, heroically trying to relate to everything at once.

We stand at the crossroads of history with the wonderful word—God's relevant message of redemption. May we not die at the crossroads trying to relate to everything at once.

"Preaching the Wonderful Word" - By Avon Malone
From Ft. Worth Christian College 12th Annual Lectures, p. 147

An unusual experience was reported by Admiral Richard E. Byrd. He talked about tense moments during his first expedition to the South Pole. From a time he was isolated from other members of the expedition. One day he got lost in a sudden blizzard. There was nothing in the barren whiteness to give him a sense of direction. He knew if he struck out blindly to find his hut that he would get lost and soon freeze to death in the storm. So he took a pole that he had in his hand to use in feeling for holes in the ice and stuck it in the snow, tied a scarf around it so he could see the pole from a distance. He then took several trips looking for his hut. If he could not find it, he would continue to wander. He did not continue to wander, but returned to the pole which served as his "center." Three times he tried and failed but each time he would return to the center and try again. He said without his pole serving as the center, he could have died in the storm. We all
need a center.
THE MAGNIFICENT TWELVE
Heb. 13:1-8

I. Magnificent 12.
A. No--not a movie.
B. No--not Israel's tribes.
C. No--not apostles.
D. No--not Heaven's 12 gates & foundations.

II. We turn immediately to them--how many are you doing, how many will you start doing?
A. #1 Let Brotherly Love Continue.
   1. "As a body the church has no message but the gospel of Christ. It has no warrant to issue proclamation on political problems--the individual can." (Stedman)
   2. We can preach love.
   3. All believers have:
      a) 1 Father
      b) 1 Elder Brother who is not ashamed to call them brethren.
      c) One Spirit.
      d) One "brother" in Christ to love.
   4. Can't love Jesus without loving brother.
   5. This love decays via self love, love of the present world with lusts, secular interests & pride. (Owen)
   6. Love to be demonstrated, not just stated. Labor at your own name.
Heb. 6:10 Ye have min. to the 1st do min.
10:32-34 Consider faith.
   7. Many commands, love sums up all.
1 Tim. 1:5 The end of the comm. is charity.
8. You are your brother's keeper.
B. #2 Be not forgetful to Entertain Strangers.
   1. Brethren driven away by persecution.
   2. Hospitality lit. is love of stranger or traveller.

2 Jn. 6-11
3 Jn. 5-10
1 Pet. 4:9 Use hospitality one to another: we have needed it. Matt. 25:35,36 I was an hungry and you gave me food.
3. Show love to those who can't repay it.
1 Jn. 3:18
2 Thess. 3:10-13
4. "When a man is in need it is not a good time to ask." (Boll)
5. Your life is the only gospel some strangers read.
6. Do we dodge this duty?

C. #3 Remember them that are in bonds as bound with them.
   1. Some suffer for the gospel.
   2. Do we show we care, pray for, assist them?
   3. Bound with them--for the same cause.
   4. Christian is never left to his own resources.
   5. Only recently are prisons decent.

D. #4 Remember them which Suffer Adversities:
   broke her doll, going over to cry e her
1. Adversity due to suffering for the gospel.
2. Believer is not exempt from adversity.
3. Adversity - lit. "have it bad."
4. Feel for others as though you were going through the same thing.
5. Whole frame is distressed over suffering of 1 part--sore toe!

1 Cor. 12:25-27

E. #5 Marriage is Honorable in all.
1. Never thought I'd have to defend marriage versus live-in.
2. God calls it "honorable." All should
3. He insists the bed be undefiled--our expression "sleeping with" is sin.

F. #6 God Judges Whoremonger & Adulterer.
1. Men living & dying impenitently in "sin" will suffer eternal punishment.
2. Prostitutes say "It is my body, I can do as I please."
4. Loose sexual standards mark our days.
5. New morality is old infidelity.

1 Thess. 4:6

G. #7 Let Your Conversation Be Without Covetousness.
1. Conversation—frame of mind; manner of acting.
2. Covet—inordinate desire plus suitable endeavor for more riches.
3. Have an undue evaluation of riches.
Col. 3:5 "Covetousness is idolatry"
4. Lit. "lover of silver."
5. Money represents the sum of all lusts.

Job. 31:24-28
1 Tim. 6:10
6. Intense materialism order of the day.

H. #8 Be Content With Such Things As You Have.
   1. No envy.
   2. No complaining.
   3. Contentment is not having what you want, it is wanting only what you have. (Stedman)
   4. Where is the line between standard of living increase and needless luxury which is waste? (Stedman)

I. #9 "I Will Never Leave Thee Nor Forsake Thee."—The locust shane on battlefield
   The Almighty promises us much.
   2. God makes the promise, you can confidently trust Him.
   3. He makes the sun rise on evil and good; rain, just & unjust.
   4. Earthly treasures are uncertain—He is not.
   5. Emphatic I will never, never under any circumstances ever leave or forsake.
Ps. 27:13 I trust in thee
Ps. 118:6 Save me for thy love and for thy name's sake.
---
1. Say what you believe without fear.
2. Aim at higher things--lower will adjust.
---
K. #11 Remember: Rule--Spoke--Follow.
1. Present imperative--continuously remember.
2. Those who had rule--they have it no more; not speak but spoke--their lives are finished. (Boll)
3. V-17 is elders.
4. Look back at the past--those who died & left their testimony.
5. We do not know which leaders these were.
6. Seems to be apostles here.
7. Spoke
   a) All who taught you.
   b) Those who led them to Christ.
8. Whose Faith Follow...End.
   a) Faith of leaders was not in vain.
   b) Look careful at lives of leaders.
   c) Live so that others may follow your example.
   d) Repeatedly contemplate the matter of which your guides have done.
   e) Note the way their lives ended.
L. #12 Jesus Christ The Same.
1. Jesus who is, who was and who is to come.
2. In our world of change, Jesus is the same.

Berry's Chapel - 12/20/92
South Harpeth - 1/10/93
Central -- Cleburne, TX (BC) - 3/28/93
Central church, Pascagoula, MS - 6/9/93 (A.M.)
Chisholm Hills, Florence, AL (BC) - 8/15/93
Humboldt, TN - 5/1/94 (BC)
Paris, AR (BC) - 5/8/94
Savannah, TN (Noon) - 5/23/94
Corinth church, Sparta, TN (BC) - 9/25/94
New Providence, Clarksville, TN (BC) - 10/2/94
Temperance Hall C/C (BC) 8/11/96
Dothan, AL (BC) - 3/2/97
Sheridan, AR (BC) - 4/20/97
Oak Grove, So. Fulton, TN (BC) - 6/8/97
Beech Hill, Lipley, MS (BC) - 7/27/97
Germantown, TN (BC) - 9/14/97
Pond Church - Dickson, TN (BC) - 9/21/97
Oscoda, MI (BC) - 9/28/97
Walnut Street, Greenville, AL (BC) - 10/12/97
Fairview church, Columbia, MO (BC) - 5/31/98
Nashville Road - 3/23/03
I. Our world rapidly changes.
   A. Medicine.
   B. Methods.
   C. Multitudes.
   D. Manners.
      1. Behavior.
      2. Songs.
      3. Reverence.

II. Does everything change?
   A. Boss not the same - Tastes vary.
   B. Does Jesus? Church does - 11:00 A.M., hats, VBS, length of meetings.
   C. Does the word?
      1. Does it speak to that world (of yesterday) & not this world?
      2. Are we spectators & not participants.
      3. Does God – Christ – HS bridge the gap of yest. & today?

III. Features of the Changeless Lord.
   A. The life of the Lord alters not.
      1. Features:
         (a) He is "from everlasting" Ps. 93:2
         (b) He is "incorruptible" Rom. 1:23
         (c) He "only hath immortality" 1 Tim. 6:16
         (d) Who made God? - He's always been - creature vs. creator.
(e) Does not grow old, strength does not wane, 
gains no new powers nor loses old ones.

B. The Character of the Christ is Constant.
1. Ours via strain, shock, feculotomy alters.
2. We become harder or softer; wiser or dumber — not God.
3. Exo. 34:5 "The Lord, a God merciful" 
   James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift"

C. The Statements of the Savior Change Not.
1. We say things we regret.
2. We change our minds.
3. God not subject to these weaknesses.

Isa. 40:8 "The grass withereth but the word of our God" 
Ps. 119:89 "Forever O Lord thy word is settled" 
Ps. 119:152 "Thou hast founded thy com. forever"

4. God stands behind every warning & promise.

John 10:35 "The Scrp. cannot be broken"

D. The Purposes of the Prince are Perfect.
Nu. 23:19 "God is not a man that he should lie" 
1. We change because of:
   (a) Lack of foresight to anticipate.
   (b) Lack of foresight to execute.

Ps. 33:11 "The counsel of the Lord standeth forever"
2. He wants to save us.
Heb. 7:25 "He is able also to save them to the uttermost" 
3. We may stand on the promises of God.
TWO THINGS THAT HEIGHTEN PRAYER
Heb. 13:18-19

I. On the subject of prayer, do you think we pray enough.
   A. How many prayed today?
   B. How many times?
   C. What were the occasions?
   D. What were the nature of the prayers - requests, praise, selfish & personal - just what.

II. Read Our Text.
   Heb. 13:18-19 "Pray for us: for we trust we have a

III. Two things add zest to Prayers.
   A. 1st, worthiness of one remembered.
   B. 2nd, specific nature of certain request.

IV. Pray For Us.
   A. Us & we.
      1. Was it editorial we?
      2. Were there companions of the writer?
         Conscious of those who worked c him.
      3. Can the smallest Christian be of benefit to the most powerful one?
   B. Unusual request?
      Col. 4:2-3 "Continue in prayer, & watch
      Rom. 15:30 "Now I beseech you, br.
      1 Thess. 5:25 "Br. pray for us.
   C. Present imperative - thus request for continuous prayer.
   D. Request shows:
      1. Confidence in folk of who request is made.
         What about radio "pray for us" request broadcast.
      2. Need - do we ever pray for preachers, editors, etc.?
3. Only a man who knows the power of prayer would request it.

V. Good conscience - Honest Living.
A. Felt he had a right to request prayer by virtue of the quality of his life.
   Heb. 13:18 "For we trust we have a good conscience.

B. Good conscience.
   1. Humbly felt he was doing right.
   2. Right by God's standard.
   3. His Christ faith resulted in highest degree of ethical living.
   4. Is this a qualification of our prayers?
   5. Are we desirous of & willing to "live honestly"?

VI. Specific Request of Prayer.
   Heb. 13:19 "But I beseech you the rather to do this.
A. Earnest request.
   1. Rather better translated abundantly, exceedingly
   2. Pray hard!

B. Special Request.
   1. Wanted to be restored to them?
   2. Was he exiled from them, or in prison, or on preaching tour?
   3. Do we know anything more than once he was with them - now he isn't.
   4. Doesn't he hope to be there shortly?
   5. Would prayers shorten the gap?
   6. Do prayers activate Heaven?
   7. Does the Lord really dispense the affairs of the church in accordance with our prayers?

\[\text{Hand End 5-1-74}\]
I. It's a most moving conclusion to a great book, Hebrews.
   A. 1st I want you to pray for me.
   B. Secondly, this I pray for you.
      2. Let's see this conclusion.

II. Urgent plea "Pray for us."
   A. The Prayer Plea.
      1. It has to do with fellowship in the same congregation, it's a plea among brethren.
      2. It is a responsibility all can fulfill.
      3. We must help each other--especially those who lead us--make their work easier.
      4. Helping others leads to your own benefit.
      5. As Baldwin was installed as PM he said, "It is not your congratulations I need, it is your prayers."
      6. How extensive is your remembrance of others in your prayers?
      7. If the early church believed anything it was the importance of prayer.
      8. Surely it pleases God for us to lift up each other in prayer--it's "well pleasing in his sight" (v-21).
      9. Do we substitute contentiousness, criticism, complaints for prayer?
     10. Tense: be constantly praying for us. Present imperative.
11. Is the duty to pray for others the job of preachers, elders, deacons or all?
12. Apostles & prophets did it.
1 Sam. 12:23
13. Does prayer request not show confidence in the one approached?
14. Does the Lord dispense the affairs on the church in accordance with our prayers?

B. The Behavior Plea
v-18 "for we trust we have a good conscience.
1. Conscience clear and good.
2. Conscience & behavior must both be of the same fine quality.
3. Wants his life to be right in three areas:
   a) Good conscience to God & man.
   b) A submissive will--"willing to live."
   c) Correct goals--live honestly.
4. Note his "all things"--there is no place for dishonorable action in the Christian life!
5. Live Honestly
   a) Life properly among all.
   b) Need a cleansed heart and unhypocritical faith.
1 Tim. 1:5
   c) Not aware of any unconfessed sin in his life.
   d) Pray that he will keep living that way--the very highest degree of ethical living.
C. Earnest request that will end in his earlier restoration.

v-19 "But I beseech you the rather to do"
1. Singular "I"--1st X for it.
2. Strong--most earnestly.
3. Prayers will affect this event.
4. Restored.
   a) Evidently the writer knew them personally.
   b) Don't know why he was restrained from being restored to them more quickly.
   c) Earnestly wants to be with them--was he in prison or on a preaching tour?

III. Now comes His Doxology & Wish for Them.
v-20 "Now the God of peace that brought"

A. Now the God of Peace.
1. Passage of unusual rhythm and lyrical eloquence.
2. Great benedictory prayer.
   a) God described in two ways: peace and resurrection power.
   b) This is the one to whom we are praying--God of Goodness, Greatness, and Grace.
   c) Great to know peace in perilous times. He promotes peace.
   d) Paul and Heb. only uses this term.
   e) Peace is restoration to health & well being.
f) Peace—a knitting in one.

B. Brought Again From the Dead Our Lord Jesus.
1. Resurrection a power & frequent truth preached.
2. Brought again = to lead up.

Rom. 10:4
3. Brought = Raised
4. From the dead.
   a) Only here in Hebrews is the resurrection told.
   b) Waits til the benediction to mention it.
   c) Jesus valid claim.
5. Lord = word for complete sovereign.

C. The Savior Described.
1. Great Shepherd of the Sheep.
   a) Lit. "That shepherd, that great one."
   b) Paul never uses the Shepherd figure.
   c) Heb. writer uses it only here.
   d) Shepherd is with the flock.
   e) He gives his life for them, as we see this tender figure.
   f) He leads from grave to glory.
   g) Jesus calls himself the good shepherd.
   h) Peter calls him chief shepherd.

Jn. 10:11

1 Pet. 5:4
i) God is Shepherd; therefore, Jesus is divine.
   j) He ever feeds & pastors.
John 10:14
10:16
Matt. 27:31
1 Pet. 2:25
2. Has this through the blood of the everlasting covenant.
   a) Blood
      (1) Cross exhausted.
      (2) Seals the covenant.
Zech. 9:11
b) Covenant
   (1) Eternal
   (2) Can never become obsolete or need another one.
   (3) Continuously up to date.
Lu. 22:20
(4) Christ's death ratified an unalterable covenant.

III. Things He Wants For You
A. Make you perfect.
   1. To equip for the supreme purpose of their existence.
   2. Make fit, complete, not defective.
   3. God tells us what we ought to be & then enables us to be it.
   4. Perfect a medical term--bone heals, sound, not hurt.
   5. Man's out of joint, disconnected without God.
   6. The perfecting is in us.
   7. Believers have rips and tears only God can fix.
   8. We'll see several features of perfection--good work, obey directions, goal to do will of God.
6.

B. In Every Good Word
1. God has no other purpose than our blessedness.
2. Good = admirable.
3. Good works:
   a) Created for them (Eph. 2:10).
   b) Thoroughly furnished (2 Tim. 3:17)
   c) Seen -(Matt. 5:16 - 1 Pet. 2:12)
   d) Maintain (Titus 3:8)
4. We are to be:
   Full of (Acts 9:36)
   Well reported (1 Tim. 5:10)
   Rich (1 Tim. 6:18)
   Pattern (Titus 2:7)
   Provoked (Heb. 10:24)

C. Do His Will
1. God shows us his will and expects us to do it.
2. Combo of divine & human action.
3. Such brings all good things to the world.
4. Follow his revealed will.
5. Working--to do, perform.

D. That Which is Well Pleasing.
1. If it pleases God, it's perfect.
2. In these things God delights.
3. He sees we can't hide.
   Lu. 1:6
   Gen. 5:24

E. It's Through Jesus.
1. All through Jesus--no grounds for just human achievements.
2. Can't live Christian life without Jesus.
3. No communication between God and us except through Jesus.

F. To Whom Be Glory, Forever
1. Doxology from glory, majesty.
2. Ultimate end--the glory of God.
3. Glory to God due Him longer than the earth's existence.
4. Amen--the ratification.