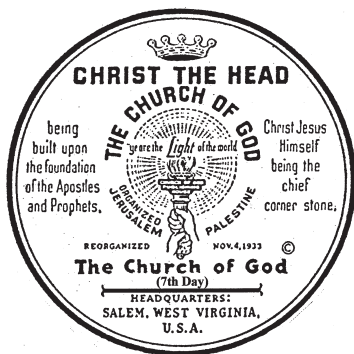


A close-up photograph of a flowering branch, likely a cherry or apple tree, with white blossoms and green leaves. The background is a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent light blue rectangular box is overlaid in the upper center of the image, containing the text.

# *The Advocate of Truth*



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# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

By Del DeLong

In Grafton, West Virginia, many years ago, a woman named Anna Jarvis decided to create a holiday called Mother's Day. She had a special mom, and she wanted to honor her in a special way. This idea of Mother's Day caught on, and now we celebrate this day to honor our mothers and thank them for all of the things that they have done for us.

The fifth commandment tells us to honor our fathers and our mothers. This is a command of God, and one He wants us to keep.

The first mother found in the Bible was Eve, Adam's wife. She was given this name by Adam. We read in Genesis 3:20, "And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living."

There are many mothers mentioned in the Bible. They all had a special influence on their children. Mothers like Hannah, Samuel's mom, were very devout women, and they raised very good children. Mothers who were not children of God, on the other hand, raised very wicked

sons and daughters.

Mary was a very special mother. She was chosen by God to be the mother of Jesus. She was a very good and devoted mother, and she did her job well in training her sons and daughters. The Apostle John writes in II John verse 1, "The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth". What a wonderful testimony to this mother.

Our mothers have sacrificed a lot to raise us properly, and they deserve a big "thank you" from each of us. The next time you see your mom tell her how much she means to you. If your mom is waiting in the ground for the resurrection, you will have a great reunion when Jesus returns.

When Jesus returns, He will bring the New Jerusalem with Him. We are told that this city is the Lamb's wife in Revelation 21:9-10. "And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God". This city is called the mother of us all. It will be a refuge and a beautiful place to live. In Galatians 4:26 we read, "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." What a wonderful time that will be.

To all of our mothers, I wish to say, have a happy Mother's Day.





# Zechariah, Chapter 2

(The Man with the measuring line)

By: Moises Torres M.

After the Babylonian exile, the Prophet Zechariah received some visions about the future of Israel. The man with the measuring line is one of them. In this vision, he sees an angel who is sent to measure the width and the length of Jerusalem:

“I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof. And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein: For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her” (Zechariah 2:1-5).

When the man was about to fulfill his mission and measure Jerusalem, suddenly another angel comes out to meet him, and prophesy something very important about the beloved city of God, and says, “...Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls...” This prophecy is for the future, when the Lord Jesus Christ will return and reign on earth. We know that many cities in Old Testament times were walled for different reasons, and Jerusalem was no exception; but in the future, this city will not need this kind of protection, because: “For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her” (Verse 5).

This reminds us of those great signs and wonders the Lord exhibited before Israel when he brought them out of Egypt. A cloud guided and protected them from the heat in the desert during the day, and a pillar of fire followed and illuminated them at night. So it will be in the future for

this nation and for the city of Jerusalem. They will not need any more a protective wall, for His Messiah will be their wall of fire all around them and their King among them. “Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD” (Verse 10).

Blessed are those of Israel who are saved from wrath, and see the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ dwelling among them. This condition is described in verses 7 and 8 of this chapter: “Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon. For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.”

These words bring again to our memory the advice given to the Church of God in Revelation 18:4: “And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”

The angel also prophesies to Zechariah, that he would fight and punish the nations which spoiled Israel, because the statement is: “for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.”

In those days, when the Lord takes control of Jerusalem, and has defeated all his enemies, many nations will join to the LORD and will come and worship in Jerusalem. “And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee. And the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again” (Zechariah 2:11-12).



# Three At-tributes of Job

By Bond Tennant

“There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil” (Job 1:1). Verse 3 says he “was the greatest of all the men of the east.” Satan moved God against Job. When all was gone, “In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly” (verse 22).

**Job had conviction.** Job trusted in the abilities of God. There was never a man in a worse condition than Job! God allowed Satan to do unspeakable things against him. Job lost all! His wife did not stand with him, and his ten children were dead along with his cattle. His wealth was also gone. He was miserable and comfortless, and he had many boils. Despite all this, he had conviction that God was able: “...he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold” (Job 23:10). In other words, “as bad as it looks, He will bring me out of it. I cannot find Him, but He knows the way I take; He can find me. His eyes are going to and fro in the earth, His eyes are over the righteous.” “I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee” (Job 42:2).

David knew God and had full knowledge of Him. Psalm 139:1-5 says, “O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.”

**Job was a committed man.** He believed in the

integrity of God! He believed God would do right, be honest, fair and upright. “I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause” (Job 5:8). “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him” (Job 13:15).

Abraham said, “...Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?” (Genesis 18:25)

**Job believed in a life after this one.** “For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me” (Job 19:25-27).

We see that Job had conviction. He was committed and believed in a life after this one. Job lived many years after “...the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before” (Job 42:10). “So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses” (verse 12). “So Job died, being old and full of days” (verse 17).





# THE SALT AND THE LIGHT

A Sermon Outline

## A wedding in Kenya

The Lord Jesus said that we are “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world” (see Matthew 5:13-14). Being salt and light is not optional. Jesus did not say you can be...or you have the potential to be.

He said you are.

Everyone who has accepted Christ for salvation and is born again is the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

### Light

In Matthew 5:14, Jesus tells his disciples, “Ye are the light of the world...”

We are to illuminate or make visible:

- Witness of Christ’s presence in our lives
- Worship God with pure hearts
- Love others as ourselves
- Do good without growing weary

However, it is important to know that it is not our light, but the reflection of the Light of the world, Jesus Christ Himself, that people see in us.

In Philippians 2:15, the Apostle Paul says, “That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye SHINE AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD.”

God uses His children, like beacons from a lighthouse, to show the way to Him. Even dim light is good and useful, so we don’t shine for ourselves.

### Salt

The Mosaic Law required that all offerings presented by the Israelites contain salt.

The mandate that Jesus gave to His first disciples is still relevant and applicable to His followers today.

What did Jesus mean?

- a) The witness represents the purity of the justified believer.
- b) Christians are to add divine flavor to the world.
- c) Christians are to sting the world with rebuke and judgment the way salt stings an open wound.
- d) Christians are to create a thirst for Christ.
- e) Christians serve as preservatives, stopping the moral decay and sin.

f) The Holy Spirit dwells in the believers, and when the Lord takes us, it will also go with us.

Without the Holy Spirit on earth, the wrath of God can be poured out.

The Spirit is where we draw our strength to free ourselves from the power of sin.

In those times without refrigeration, the fish they caught would quickly spoil and rot unless they were packed in salt.

As “salt”, the Christian is to counteract the power of sin.

It is a privilege to be the salt of the earth, but Jesus gave us a warning. The second half of Matthew 5:13 states, “...but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.”

If we have allowed disobedience, carelessness, and indifference to rule (govern) our lives, we have become contaminated salt and have lost our saltiness.

We need to confess our sin and let the Lord restore us to the purpose for which we were called.

If we are being “salt” and “light”, then we can expect fruit from our faithfulness.



# The Deep Things Of God

By David DeLong

As human beings we live in a 3-dimensional world: length, breadth (or width) and height. The Scriptures indicate that the Lord dwells in at least 4 dimensions: breadth, length, depth, and height. Concerning this situation we read in Ephesians 3:17-19: "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."

The 4th dimension of the Lord, as stated in Ephesians 3, is depth, which in Greek is "bathos". According to Strong's Concordance, "bathos" means: "profundity; extent, mystery, deepness, deep things, depth". In other words, the deep things of God involve the great extent or profoundness of His being, which is a mystery to most of the world. However the saints, according to Ephesians 3, are "able to comprehend" these various dimensions of the Lord because Christ dwells in our hearts by faith, and we are rooted and grounded in love.

The deep things of God involve His character, which shows that this is a spiritual dimension. We know that God is love and that this is the great message of the Bible. Let us read I John 4:7-21 to get a better picture of this deep dimension of God. "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved

us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also."

God's love is always involved in the deep things pertaining to Him. This love is a total mystery to the world. The two greatest commandments in the Bible are that we love God supremely and our neighbor as ourself. Concerning faith, hope, and charity (or love), charity is the greatest (see Matthew 22:34-40; I Corinthians 13:13). I Corinthians 13:1-8 expresses what God's love is. According to the passage that we read from in I John 4, we cannot be a part of God's family without His type of love dwelling in us.

Satan also has a deep side to him of which we must beware. Notice in Revelation 2:20-24 of what the Lord warned the Church of Thyatira: "Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden." Satan's "depths" involve counterfeits of God's doctrine and love, and sometimes outright lies such as he deceived Eve with in the Garden of Eden. God is much pleased when His children watch for such deceptions and don't allow them to gain a foothold in the Church.

It takes the Spirit of God to reveal the deep things of God to our minds and hearts. "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual" (I Corinthians 2:7-13).

We can be very thankful that the Lord has given to the saints this kind of spiritual knowledge and discernment. The world cannot understand these deep things of God because they are spiritually discerned. Verses 14-16

teaches us: "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ." The reason that we look like oddballs to the world for keeping the Sabbath, for instance, is because this is spiritually discerned and doing so seems like foolishness to the world. Thank the Lord that He has chosen His obedient people to understand these things! We are then able to enter into this dimension, so to speak, the deep things of God.

To give another example of the deep things of the Lord, we will now turn to Romans 11:30-36 which shows God's plan for the salvation of Jews and Gentiles. "For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all. O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen." Who else but the Lord could have devised such a plan?

A very intriguing incident occurred in the churches of Macedonia in Paul's day. A different type of deep things took place with them that actually shows the deep things of the Lord. The deep things involved with the Macedonian churches were actually their "deep poverty". We pick up this story in II Corinthians 8:1-9. "Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; Praying us with much entreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. Insomuch



that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also. Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also. I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love. For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

We see here a principle, used by the Lord Jesus Christ

Himself, that giving to others, even though one is in poverty, will abound by the Lord to bring the giver great blessings. The Macedonian churches, though they were in "deep poverty" (see verse 2), gave to help the other poor saints. Verse 4 tells us that they were "Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints."

The Macedonian churches were even an example to the Corinthians in giving (see verse 7). They truly were living in the deep things of God.



### **Acknowledge your sins and ask for forgiveness**

If you are not a Christian--a believer in, and follower of, Jesus Christ--then here are basic steps you must take to become one. First, acknowledge that you are a sinner and are destined for eternal death (the second death) in the Lake of Fire. A sinner is one who has disobeyed and broken God's Laws, which includes the Ten Commandments (see Exodus 20:1-17). I John 3:4 of the holy Bible reads: "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth (breaks) also the law: for sin is the transgression (breaking) of the law."

Eternal death, or the second death, is just what it means: the permanent ending of a person's life, not eternal torment in a forever burning hell. The Lake of Fire is also called Gehenna, and it will be a fire, set up by God, into which the sinner will be cast to be totally annihilated. Both soul and body of the sinner will be destroyed in it. Jesus taught in Matthew 10:28: "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him (God) which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell (gehenna)."

Next, after acknowledging yourself as a sinner, you must ask the Lord in prayer to forgive you of all your past and present sins. This is called repentance. Jesus taught in Matthew 4:17: "...Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Repentance also involves your intention to never commit a sin again. This depends on trusting the Lord to give you strength to not be disobedient any more. However, if you do sin again, you are given the assurance: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9).

### **Believe and be baptized**

You are now in the beginning stages of believing in the Lord for your salvation. Your whole Christian life is to be one of believing the Lord, following His example, and trusting Him to help you gain eternal life and to live with Him in His Kingdom. But, you must also be baptized in water to be saved. Jesus said in Mark 16:16: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." The method for being baptized is by immersion, or to be totally submerged in

the baptismal waters. We recommend this be done by a Church of God, 7th day minister or ministers. The examples of baptism in the Scriptures show that baptism is by immersion. For instance, the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist is recorded in this manner. "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:16-17). The phrase "went up straightway out of the water" indicates that He was submerged by John, and then was lifted up so that He emerged out of the Jordan River.

In another case of baptism, we encounter a disciple named Philip baptizing a man from Ethiopia. "Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing" (Acts 8:35-39).

Since Jesus is the One who saves you from sin, the proper name for you to be baptized in is that of Jesus Christ. We see this model being used in baptism in the Book of Acts. For instance, when the Apostle Peter preached unto a group of people, he said: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:36-38). Acts 4:12 further tells us: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." We are baptized, therefore, into the person of Jesus and in His name.

Peter, in his sermon above, mentioned receiving "the

gift of the Holy Ghost" (Holy Spirit). After you are baptized, you then must receive the Holy Spirit in your life. This is done by laying on of hands of the minister or ministers who baptize you. Again, we recommend this to be done by a Church of God, 7th day minister. We have examples in the Book of Acts for hands being laid on the person for receiving the Holy Spirit. For instance, Acts 8:14-17 reads: "Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost."

### **Confess the Lord and continue living for Him**

As was stated, you must repent of your sins, be baptized in Jesus' name, and receive the Holy Spirit. Now you must confess Jesus as your Lord, and continue to live for Him the rest of your life. This involves keeping His Word, including the Ten Commandments. In Romans 10:9-13 we learn: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

You now need to have a Church of God, 7th day fellowship group to meet with, if possible, to help strengthen your walk with the Lord. Hebrews 10:25 informs us: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." This means you should assemble, or meet with, a group of Church of God, 7th day people so that you can be uplifted and taught in the ways of the Lord. If such a group is not available to you, then you should at least keep in contact with us through correspondence.

The phone number, fax number, E-mail, and Web page of the Church are all found on the inside front cover of this magazine. Please feel free to contact us!



### 1. Why did God create diversity?

#### TO KEEP BALANCE IN NATURE IN FAVOR OF LIFE

**NOTE:** In its size, design, materials, color and distance, the universe denotes an infinite diversity. The planets and celestial bodies are different from each other. They differ in size and shape, and were placed at a different distance from each other according to the size of each one. The purpose and effect of this is TO MAKE IT A UNIVERSE where everything moves wonderfully! All celestial bodies move in translation movements around others and some others in rotational movements in themselves.

### 2. Is there a diversity in celestial bodies?

#### YES, EVERY CELESTIAL BODY IS DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS IN GLORY

“*There are* also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial *is* one, and the *glory* of the terrestrial *is* another. *There is* one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for *one* star differeth from *another* star in glory” (I Corinthians 15:40-41).

The stars are not all the same, each one has its own glory in power, light, color, and size. If this kind of diversity would not exist, the existence of the universe as we know it, and see it in the heavens, would not be possible. According to the size of each star and planet is the distance

between them. Each celestial body puts a force of gravity and inertia on the others, and therefore they were distributed in the universe in a way for the larger not to engulf the smaller. The distance and the precise size between them have a lot to do to maintain a balance, and they are subject to their orbits to avoid colliding with each other.

### 3. Is there diversity in celestial beings?

#### YES, AND THEY ARE ALL WITH A DIFFERENT PURPOSE

**NOTE:** God created different kinds of angels for different functions: seraphim, cherubim, archangels, angels; and each one has his glory (see Isaiah 6:6; Genesis 3:24; I Thessalonians 4:16; Jude 1:9; Genesis 19:1). They all have different powers and virtues to serve God and man.

“Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him” (I Peter 3:22). This tells us of celestial beings with different glory, power or virtue.

The “four beasts full of eyes” described in the book of Revelation 4:6, are as powerful computers scanning the universe. Read Revelation 7:11; 15:7.

### 4. Is there diversity on earth (the planet)?

#### YES, THERE IS A GREAT DIVERSITY, HUGE, VERY EVIDENT, AND VERY INTERESTING



**NOTE:** There is a great diversity of ecosystems, products of the feature of the zones or areas of land, sea, rivers, lakes, desert areas, the terrestrial Equator, the poles, the climate, etc. There is also a great genetic diversity, species diversity, cultural diversity, etc.

## 5. Is there diversity on the living beings?

### YES, A VERY LARGE DIVERSITY

The living beings present a multitude of forms that cannot all be covered. No individual is exactly like to another. Even in closely related communities, there are quite evident variations. This is particularly noticeable in regard to humans, animals, and plants. In relation with that, it is possible to distinguish and note wide variety of shapes and races. It is estimated that currently there are around 500,000 vegetables species, and more than two million animal species.

## 6. Is all flesh the same flesh?

### NO, THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF FLESH

“All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, *and* another of birds” (I Corinthians 15:39).

**NOTE:** Each species or kind of flesh is fit to live in a different environment. Fish cannot live out of water, rivers, or sea; neither can birds live in the water, or land animals take the place of the others. And all this is a created diversity by God for subsistence of life.

## 7. Why is there a diversity in humans?

### FOR THE KEEPING OF LIFE

**NOTE:** No human being is absolutely equal to another. Apart from gender, there is also diversity in the fingerprint, in the apple of the eye, on the physical, etc. Not even twins become identically equal. The diversity in human beings also occurs in height, in the features of the eyes, the color of the skin, the character, etc.; some are strong, others weak, and everyone has his or her own glory.

## 8. Is the gender or sex a part of diversity?

### YES, FOR COMPANY AND REPRODUCTION.

“And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him” (Genesis 2:18).

“So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them” (Genesis 1:27).

“And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so” (Genesis 1:24).

**NOTE:** The first purpose of the genus denoted in these verses is company, that man was not alone. The second is seen in Genesis 1:28: “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it...”

Man and woman are different genres and each has His own glory.

“But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman *is* the man; and the head of Christ *is* God...For a man indeed ought not to cover *his* head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man” (I Corinthians 11:3, 7).

**NOTE:** The glory of God is man and woman is the glory of man. The man has his authority and the woman hers. Man begets children, woman conceives them. Man's authority is work to provide home and food; the authority of woman is to create and care for children.

## 9. Are there diversities of gifts in the ministry of the church? What for?

### YES, FOR THE EDIFYING OF THE BODY OF CHRIST.

“Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I would not

have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another *divers* kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will” (I Corinthians 12:1-11).

#### 10. Why is there a diversity in the ministry?

“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-12).

**NOTE:** There are diversities of gifts, ministries, and operations, but all for the purpose of the edifying of the Church that is the Body of Christ.

I Corinthians 12:28-29: “And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. *Are* all apostles? *are* all prophets? *are* all teachers? *are* all workers of miracles?”

**NOTE:** Just as in the human body there is a diversity of organs with different functions, liver, heart, lungs, pancreas, ears, eyes, nose, etc. Also in the body of Christ, the Church, there are many different gifts and ministries, but all in favor of one body, and all are necessary: Does anyone live without a liver, kidney, or heart? Also, a church cannot function without apostles, prophets, and teachers.

## A SMALL BOY'S DILEMMA

*"I'm sorry to have to tell you,"  
Said a small boy whose face was quite  
sad;  
"But I can't play in the big game tomor-  
row,  
For I must go to church with my Dad."*

*"And, yes, I know it is Saturday,  
And I do know what difference it makes;  
It was set aside by God as the Sabbath,  
And to break it is one big mistake."*

*"At church we do all kinds of fun things,  
Special classes to learn of God's way;  
There are puzzles and games to delight us,  
And to show us that this is the right day."*

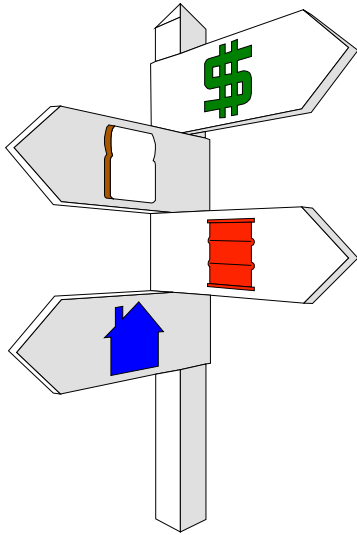
*"And, no, I can't make an exception,  
No matter how right it may seem;  
And I still have to say I can't do this,  
If it means I can't be on your team."*

*What a lesson we can learn about courage  
From a small boy who will stand up and  
say,*

*"God commands us to honor His Sab-  
bath,  
And that is what I'll do on His day!"*

## (Commandment #4)

Betty Whetstone



# THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

*If you have any items of interest that you would like to submit to this segment, please send them to The Church of God Publishing House, PO Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328.*

## THE YEAR 2015

As we come to the beginning of the first-half of the year 2016, I thought it might be a good idea to recap some events that took place in 2015.

In the United States, the news in 2015 was dominated by mass killings, a landmark ruling by the Supreme Court, the Pope's visit to this country, and internal politics. In June, a man opened fire at a 199-year-old historic church in Charleston, South Carolina, during a prayer service. This rampage killed nine people, which included the church's senior pastor. After his arrest, the accused killer confessed that he committed the crime. He hoped to ignite a race war.

About four months later, a gunman opened fire at a community college in southwestern Oregon. Nine people were killed, and seven were wounded before he killed himself. The gunman was said to have antireligious views and white supremacist leanings. He also had long-term mental health issues. Such mass killings that transpired in 2015 raised the issues of race relations in the United States as well as the controversial topic of gun control.

In June of 2015, the United States Supreme Court ruled in favor of allowing same-sex marriage throughout the country. This ruling stated that same-sex couples have the fundamental right to marry and that individual states or municipalities cannot say that marriage is reserved for male/female couples. It is mind-boggling when we realize that a country so largely founded on biblical-based moral principles around 239 years ago has abandoned the clear teachings of the Bible on this subject. See Leviticus 18:22; 20:13, Romans 1:26-28.

Pope Francis, the leader of the Roman Catholic

Church, visited the United States in September. President Obama welcomed him. He became the first Pope to ever speak before Congress. While visiting Washington, the Pope met with an openly gay couple one day prior to meeting with a county clerk ardently opposed to homosexuality. He also went to New York where he addressed the General Assembly of the United States. He also went to Philadelphia where he visited some of the historical sites related to the country's founding.

We know that the United States presidential election is not until November of this year, however the political campaigns of hopefuls for that office began in the summer of 2015. The first debate among candidates for that office was held in August, and many more followed. At one time or another during the year of 2015, a total of twenty-three major candidates including six Democrats and seventeen Republicans were declared as running for the highest office in the land. As of mid-November, the number had been reduced to eighteen--three Democrats and fifteen Republicans. It is certain that politics will continue to top the domestic news throughout the remainder of 2016. That is a given!

The year 2015 did not produce any economic "disasters" such as the world experienced during the financial crises of 2008 and 2009. However, many clouds of uncertainty continue to hang over the global economy. Anxieties over a possible slowdown in China, weakening markets in emerging countries, and the effects of the Federal Reserve's "on again, off again" approach toward raising interest rates, have all done nothing to dispel the generally gloomy outlook for the future.

The fragile nature of the economy was illustrated, at least in part, by a 12 percent drop in the major United States equity markets in a matter of only a few days during August.



## Natural And Manmade Disasters

There were several natural and manmade disasters in 2015. Other tragedies caused many to lose their lives and wreaked havoc in many parts of the world. In March, a German jetliner crashed, with no warning given, into the French Alps. All 150 passengers and the crew were killed. The cause of the crash was that the copilot locked the pilot out of the cockpit and then deliberately crashed the plane in order to carry out his own suicide. In April, 800 emigrants died when a ship carrying them capsized in the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Libya. They say that more than 2,000 emigrants died in 2015 trying to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe.

There were many earthquakes in 2015. Two powerful earthquakes occurred in Asia, one in Nepal and the other in South Asia. These earthquakes claimed the lives of over 4,000 people and injured tens of thousands. They also destroyed thousands of structures. There was a heat wave in India during the summer of 2015 which was very severe, killing more than 2,000. In the United States, an all-time record was set in 2015 for wildfire destruction. Over 11 million acres were burned, mostly in six western states.

Two warehouse explosions in China's port city of Tianjin, in August and October, took the lives of over 170 people. The explosions destroyed warehouses, businesses, apartments and houses. This disaster raised questions about corruption and government efficiency when it was discovered that the warehouses were located closer to residential areas than permitted by law. They stored much more hazardous material than authorized.

Religious observances were not without calamitous results during 2015. In September, during one of Islam's holiest events, a stampede killed over 700 and injured over 800 people while making a pilgrimage near Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

The above events represent only what might be considered as major headlines during the year 2015. For the vast majority of the world, the daily struggle to provide clothing, food, and shelter, and the countless battles against disease, both physical and mental, continued in 2015 and they continue in 2016!

## NEW NORMAL IN JERUSALEM

The following is an article by Shira Rubin which was written special for **USA TODAY**.

## In Jerusalem, living on edge is new normal

**Jerusalem--**Three months of near daily attacks by Palestinians have kept Jerusalem's streets quieter than usual, but that hasn't stopped Israeli teacher Talia Malek from taking public transportation and trying to keep up her daily routine despite anxieties.

"This is our city, this is our country, and we need to show that we cannot be intimidated," said Malek, who lives in a predominantly Jewish part of the city. As she and others waited for the light rail train to arrive, the group stared and stiffened when an Arab girl in a colorful hijab (head scarf) walked past.

"Co-existence in Israel is possible ... but this current situation reminds us that Palestinians see us as their enemy. ... And the moment that they have the chance they will – literally – stab us in the back," Malek said.

In the latest round of such violence, two Palestinians were shot and killed after stabbing Jewish pedestrians Wednesday in Jerusalem's Old City. Two Israelis later died from their wounds, including one man who was apparently wounded by police as they shot at the attackers, the Associated Press reported.

Since last September, Jerusalem and the West Bank have been plagued by almost daily attacks. Twenty Israelis and an American student have died and at least 120 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli assailants, according to the AP.

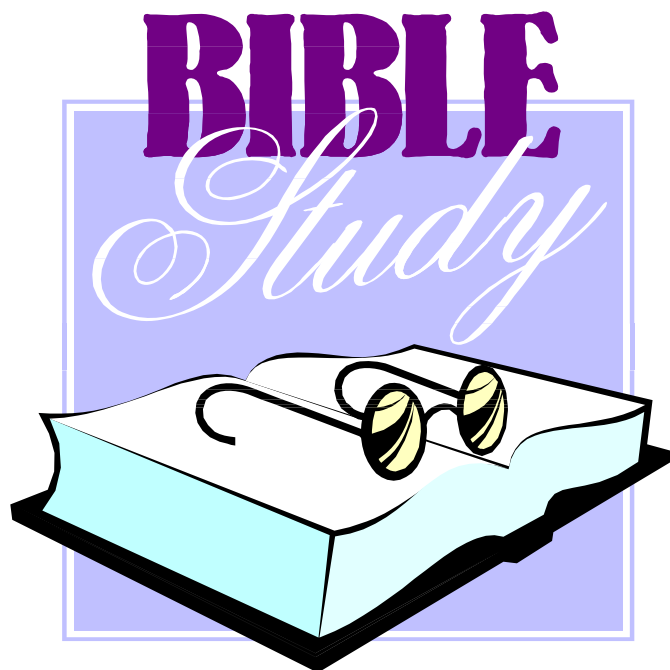
The attacks began after false word spread among Palestinians that Israel was going to take control of their holy site, a claim repeated by Palestinian leaders despite repeated Israeli denials.

Palestinians such as Ahmad Amari from East Jerusalem also say they are afraid of their Jewish neighbors. "I used to .. hang out in Jewish areas, but now ... I only enter Jewish areas for work," he said.

Yehuda Amram, a Jewish baker, said Jews should not confuse Arab neighbors – who mostly favor coexistence – with "foreign millionaires (in Arab countries) who are trying to cause problems ... through the internet."

## Comment

Really, living on edge is not a new normal in Jerusalem or anywhere in the Middle East. The friction and hatred between the Jewish people and the Arab population always was and will continue until Christ establishes His kingdom.



# Questions and Answers

**Question:** Will you please comment on the First Commandment with promise? Where in the Bible may this commandment be found?

**Answer:** "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth" (Ephesians 6:1-3).

This commandment of the Decalogue is found in Exodus 20:12: "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee." This one as well as all the other precepts of God's Ten Commandment Law were the righteous principles of God from the very beginning of Creation. They constitute a spiritual code and must be observed or kept in the Spirit, and be written upon the fleshly tables of the heart.

All of the Ten Commandments are found in the New Testament, as it is based upon the SCRIPTURES now known as the Old Testament. Jesus and the apostles always spoke or quoted from the Scriptures (as it is written), for the "New Testament" as we know it had not been written yet. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God," and Jesus did not change any of it in "one jot or one tittle."

He said to His disciples in His sermon on the mount: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For

verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled" (Matthew 5:17-18).

Again in Deuteronomy 5:16, we find this command given: "Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee." Here it is with a blessing pronounced upon those who comply with its provision. Yes, it goes beyond the temporal blessings of this life, because by observing this command, with the other nine, in spirit and in truth, will assure us an entrance into the New Jerusalem and eternal life.

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:14).

Jesus said in Matthew 19:19, "Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." In order to classify the commandments in service to God and man, we turn to Matthew 22:35-40: "Then one of them (a Pharisee), which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Here again, we find God's law, spiritually speaking, divided into two parts: first, love and obedience to God; and second, love toward our fellowman (neighbor). Into this second category, falls the fifth commandment, to "Honour thy father and thy mother." The first four commandments constitute love to God, and the last six love to mankind which includes our father and mother.

In order to comply with the provisions of the fifth command, we must first be in obedience to God and love Him. This is given in I John 5:3: "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." This comes first in order to perform the "second" part of the commandments which is: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." The fifth commandment is the beginning of this second category of God's great law. Jesus came into the world and magnified the law and made it honorable (Isaiah 42:21). In Luke 10:25-28, Jesus gave answer to a lawyer's question concerning eternal life. "And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live."

Verses 29-36 show who is our neighbor and what we should do to perform our love to him. It is showing mercy and love to those in need, and Jesus' words are recorded here: "Go, and do thou likewise."

Paul, in speaking of love and honouring one another says: "... but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Galatians 5:13-14). Honoring one another is to bear the fruit of the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-25).

To honour father and mother and receive the promise that thy days shall be long or prolonged upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, one must keep the commandments, of which this one is the fifth precept.

In Ephesians 6:1-3 we read: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

This goes far beyond the bestowing of temporal gifts, such as birthday presents, etc. It is first love of God and then love of parents. We read in Colossians 3:20: "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well

pleasing unto the Lord."

The fifth commandment is found in Exodus 20:12, and Deuteronomy 5:16. In the New Testament it is found in Matthew 15:4 and Ephesians 6:1-3. It must be observed as it is one point of the Royal Law. "If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well" (James 2:8).

**Question:** What is the makeup of the New Testament?

**Answer:** The first five books of the New Testament--Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts--are largely historical, four of them being a record of the life and ministry of Jesus, and calling attention to many events in His life which were in direct fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. In the Book of the Acts, we are furnished with interesting accounts of the experiences of the apostles and the early Christians as they faced an unbelieving and hostile world.

The next twenty-one books of the New Testament are an admixture of doctrinal and devotional truths. They consist of epistles, or letters, written by certain apostles to various individuals and groups called churches. These letters are by name: Romans; I and II Corinthians; Galatians; Ephesians; Philippians; Colossians; I and II Thessalonians; I and II Timothy; Titus; Philemon; Hebrews; James; I and II Peter; I, II, III John; and Jude.

Revelation, the last book of the Bible, is mostly prophetic. In its prophecies, it reminds us of the great objective of God's plan for man. In beautiful language it assures us that a happy day is coming when "...there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" (Revelation 21:4).

The Bible refers continually to the one prominent personage, Jesus, who is set forth as the Son of God. This Son of God is mentioned under various names and titles which reveal that Jesus was sent into the world to be, first, the Redeemer of the human race, and later, the Ruler of those whom He ransomed by His own precious blood.

The Old Testament prophets, who wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, foretold the coming of this great One, the Messiah, while the Spirit-inspired writers of the New Testament confirm the fact that He did come, and that He was crucified on the cross. They not only record the fact of His death, but they also explain its purpose of redemption in God's plan for man, and that it was in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies.





## Kenya

**The Church of God (7th Day) Board of Seven in Kenya.**





**Water being obtained from bore holes (wells) using electricity.**

### **Notice: Water wells needed for Kenya.**

**The Church of God (7th Day) in Stinnett, Texas has provided two wells for Kenya, but they are in need of two more wells. The cost to dig a well is \$1,200.00. Anyone wanting to help the brethren there to have two more wells please send your offering to: Church of God (7th Day) Publishing House, P.O. Box 328, Salem, W.Va. 26426. Money will be sent to Kenya. Thank you!**

**LESSON I****PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY  
(PART I)**

Scripture Reading: Acts 13:1-13.

Golden Text: Acts 13:3.

"And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away."

NOTE: We will begin a study of the missionary journeys of Paul and Barnabas. They will be traveling to different areas and cities preaching to the people. You may want to locate these places on your Bible maps as we study about Paul.

1. Who could be found in the church at Antioch (Syria)? Acts 13:1.

NOTE: Remember that Saul is also called Paul.

2. As the brethren prayed and fasted, what were they told to do? Acts 13:2.

3. What did they do next in Acts 13:3?

4. From where did Barnabas and Paul depart, and to where did they sail? Acts 13:4.

5. Who was also with Paul and Barnabas on this journey? Acts 13:5.

6. Who were Bar-jesus and Sergius Paulus, and which one wished to see Paul and Barnabas? Acts 13:6-8.

7. With what was Paul filled? Acts 13:9.

8. Did Paul approve of Bar-jesus, and what happened to him? Acts 13:10-11.

9. Did the deputy believe in the doctrine of the Lord? Acts 13:12.

10. What did John do when they reached Perga? Acts 13:13.

**LESSON II****PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEY  
(PART II)**

Scripture Reading: Acts 13:14-43.

Golden Text: Acts 13:38.

"Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins".

1. Where did Paul and Barnabas go after leaving Perga? Acts 13:14.

2. While in the synagogue, what was Paul asked to do? Acts 13:15-16.

3. Name five things Paul spoke of in the synagogue. Acts 13:17, 37.

4. About who are verses 38 and 39 talking? Acts 13:38-39.

5. Explain in your own words what you think Acts 13:41 means.

6. After the Jews left the synagogue, who talked to Paul, and what was said? Acts 13:42.

7. Who followed Paul and Barnabas after the service? Acts 13:43.

**LESSON III****PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEY  
(PART III)**

Scripture Reading: Acts 13:44-52.

Golden Text: Acts 13:49.

"And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region."



NOTE: In our last lesson, we learned that Paul and Barnabas are at Antioch (Pisidia), and Paul preached to the people in the synagogue. The people enjoyed hearing his message, and he was asked to return next Sabbath. We will now continue our lesson.

1. What happened the next Sabbath day? Acts 13:44.
2. What did the Jews do when they saw the large gathering? Acts 13:45.
3. To whom was the gospel now to be directed? Acts 13:46-47.
4. How did the Gentiles react when they heard Paul's words? Acts 13:48.
5. Was the Word of the Lord published throughout the region? Acts 13:49.
6. What was the action of the Jews toward Paul and Barnabas? Acts 13:50.
7. Did the action of the Jews disturb Paul and Barnabas? Acts 13:51-52.

NOTE: Paul had been commissioned to bring the "Good News" to the Gentiles. Prophecy was being fulfilled. The Gentiles were glad to hear the Word of God.

## LESSON IV

### ICONIUM AND LYSTRA

Scripture Reading: Acts 14:1-18.

Golden Text: Acts 14:7.

"And there they preached the gospel."

1. Where do we find Paul and Barnabas preaching at this time? Acts 14:1.
2. A great multitude of Jews and Greeks believed. What did the unbelieving Jews do? Acts 14:2.

3. List two things Paul and Barnabas did in Iconium. Acts 14:3.
4. What was the ending result of Barnabas and Paul's presence in Iconium? Acts 14:4-6.
5. Who did Paul and Barnabas find at Lystra? Acts 14:8.
6. What was necessary for this man to be healed, and was he? Acts 14:9-10.
7. What did the people do when they saw that Paul had healed the man? Acts 14:11.
8. What did the people call Barnabas and Paul? Acts 14:12.
9. The people wanted to worship Barnabas and Paul. What was their action to the people gathered? Acts 14:13-18.

### HOW GOOD ARE YOU IN BIBLE GEOGRAPHY?

1. Jesus was born in \_\_\_\_?
2. In what city did Zacchaeus climb a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus?
3. On what sea did Peter start to walk to Jesus?
4. In what garden did Jesus go to pray before the betrayal?
5. Naomi and her husband left \_\_\_\_ during a famine and went to sojourn in the country of \_\_\_\_.
6. Jonah refused to go to \_\_\_\_ when the Lord first commanded him to do so.
7. Job lived in the land of \_\_\_\_.
8. From what place did Lot and his family flee?
9. What is the place that is called the place of a skull?
10. Saul and his sons fell in battle at Mount \_\_\_\_.



Happy Mother's Day !



## HIS MOTHER'S TRAINING

Roland stopped and looked at the sign, "Boy Wanted." It hung outside a big cutlery establishment, next to a store where there had been a big fire. He had made up his mind that he was old enough to look for work and try to relieve Mother. Should he go in? He hesitated, then with all the courage he could command, went inside. He was sent back to a room where men on high stools were writing in big books, too busy to notice him, but a tall gentleman did, and questioned him so fast that he could hardly answer. "What kind of work do you expect to do? Don't know? Most boys do. Never worked before? Suppose you think it's all play?" Well, "pointing to some steps, "go down there and the man at the foot will tell you what to do."

Roland went down and found half a dozen boys at work with their sleeves rolled up, cleaning and polishing knives. The man at the foot of the steps looked up and said: "Come to try your hand? Well, three have just left for disgust: doesn't seem to be a boy's work, somehow, but it's got to be done. You see," he said, picking up some knives and scissors and showing spots of rust on them, "The water that saved our building the other night injured some of our finest goods. If you want to try your hand at cleaning, I'll show you how. We pay by the dozen."

"It isn't fair," said one of the boys: "Some have more rust on them hand others."

"If you don't like our terms, you needn't work for us"

said the foreman. Then the boy muttering that he wanted to be an errand boy and see something of life, left while Roland went to work with a will. As he finished each piece, he held it up, examined it critically, and wondered if Mother would think it well done.

When the hour for closing came, the gentleman who had sent him downstairs appeared, and looking around at the boys, said: "Well?"

"There is the boy we want," said the foreman, pointing to Roland. "He will take pride in doing anything you give him to do. He has been well trained."

Again the tall man spoke quickly.

"That's what we want. 'Boy Wanted' does not mean any kind of boy. Does your Mother know you came? No! Well, take her your first wage, and tell her there's a place open for you here. Then put your arms around her neck and thank her for teaching you to be thorough. If more boys were thorough, more boys would succeed in life."

"I guess."

"Mother," said Roland, when he told her about it, "It was because I tried to do everything as you would like it. I forgot I was doing it because there was a 'Boy Wanted.'"

The Bible says, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might..." (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

Answers to Bible Geography -

1. Bethlehem 2. Jericho 3. Galilee 4. Gethsemane 5. Bethlehemjudah-Moab 6. Nineveh 7. Uz 8. Sodom and Gomorrah 9. Golgotha 10. Gilboa



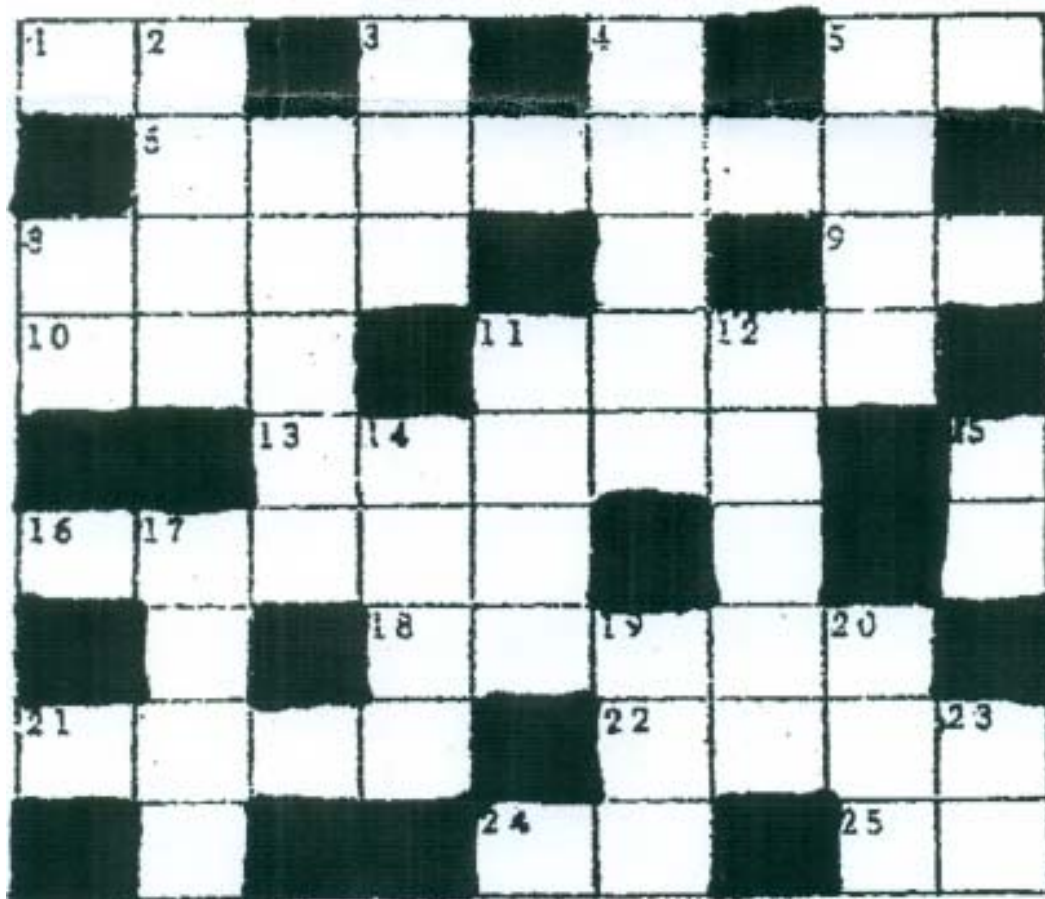
ACROSS

1. The Lord our God will ....serve. Joshua 24:24.
5. ...also is the resurrection of the dead. I Corinthians 15:42.
6. And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to ...Matthew 20:19.
8. ...is the mother of Jesus.
9. The opposite of yes is ...
10. In music it means duet....
11. Lest He ... us sleeping. Mark 13:36.
13. I will ... the shepherd. Matthew 26:31.
16. ...was born in a manger.
18. He calleth his own...by name. John 10:3.
21. Jesus washed his disciples' ...John 13:5,14.
22. Name a city in Judah. Joshua 15:52.
24. For...is God which worketh in you. Philippians 2:13.
25. ...are all the children of light. I Thessalonians 5:5.

DOWN

2. ...son of Isaac. Genesis 25:25.
3. There is ...in the presence of the angels. Luke 15:10.
4. We should bring forth...unto God. Romans 7:4.
5. He shall ... them a Saviour. Isaiah 19:20.
7. Jesus was nailed on a ...
8. The abbreviation for Medical Doctor...
11. Or if he ask a....will he give him a serpent? Luke 11:11.
12. Charity...faileth. I Corinthians 13:8.
14. Ye...must be born again. John 3:7.
15. Come unto... all ye that labour. Matthew 11:28.
17. So shall we...be with the Lord. I Thessalonians 4:17.
19. To him that overcometh will I give to...of the tree of life. Revelation 2:7.
20. ...me that thou owest. Matthew 18:28.
23. ...ye kind one to another. Ephesians 4:32.

**BIBLE PUZZLE**





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## **The Shepherd**

**By David DeLong**

**A shepherd had one-hundred sheep,  
He led them forth with tender care,  
By the waters, cool, and deep,  
Where everything was green, and fair.**

**One day a sheep strayed from the flock,  
The shepherd left the ninety-nine;  
Then, searched for it on ridge and rock,  
And rescued it; now it was fine.**

**So, lovingly, he saved the sheep,  
And took it home with happiness;  
It was his ever more to keep,  
And friends rejoiced, with him, no less.**

**Christ, our Shepherd, seeks the lost,  
He hunts for them in every clime;  
He brings them back at His own cost,  
And He rejoices every time.**

**So, let us too be in this work,  
And with the angels thrill to see  
A lost one saved, where death did lurk,  
For, praise God, this was you and me!**

