

A scenic landscape featuring a steep, rocky mountain slope on the left, a clear blue sky, and a valley with green trees in the foreground. The text "The Advocate of Truth" is overlaid in the center in a white, italicized serif font.

The Advocate of Truth



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The Lord's Supper Service is on Friday evening, April 3rd (Roman time), the beginning of April 4th (Bible time).

THREE THOUGHTS ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER

Bond Tennant

1. The Lord's Supper is a memorial service. “And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: This do in remembrance of me” (Luke 22:19).

Memorials are very common. The rich and the poor all have memorials. Each tombstone in every cemetery is a witness to two facts. First, that someone lived and died. Second, that someone is remembered.

The minds of those who partake of the Lord's Supper are focused on that terrible night in Gethsemane, to the cruel mob, to the time when Jesus stood before Pilate and Herod. They remember the nails that pierced Jesus' hands and feet, the spear that pierced His side. They visualize His blood that was shed for you and me.

2. The Lord's Supper is a proclamation. “For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come” (I Corinthians 11:26).

Not everyone can proclaim the gospel by speaking. However, every saint in the church preaches a sermon in the act of observing the Lord's Supper. An old adage says, “Actions speak louder than words.” This is very true. No sermon can express the heartfelt feeling that the saints are given as they partake of the Lord's Supper in complete unison.

3. The Lord's Supper is a means of spiritual nourishment. “Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him” (John 6:53-56).

Blessings of physical and spiritual life are two of the greatest gifts that God gives to man. However, both depend upon certain conditions. To live physically, we must have nourishing food, exercise often, and expose ourselves to plenty of sunshine and air. When a man shuts himself off from light, food, air, sunshine and does not exercise, he will die physically. Man cannot hibernate as the animals do. Neither can any hibernate spiritually.

Yes, Jesus said, “Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.” There may be some who do not prepare to partake of the Lord's Supper each year, but they may still claim to have spiritual life in Christ. Jesus also said, “I am the vine, ye are the branches” (John 15:5). The branches draw their life from the vine. If the branches are cut from the vine, they will wither and die.

A Letter Written by George Washington To His Nephew, Bushrod Washington, In 1783

Be courteous to all, intimate with few; and let those few be well trained before you give them your confidence. True friendship is a plant of slow growth, and must undergo and withstand the shock of adversity before it is entitled to the appellation. Let your heart feel for the affections and distresses of every one, and

let your hand give in proportion to your purse; remembering always the estimation of the widow's mite, that it is not every one that asketh that deserveth charity; all however, are worthy of the inquiry, or the deserving may suffer.

Do not conceive that fine clothes make fine men, and more than fine feathers make fine birds. A plain, genteel dress is more admired, obtains more credit, than lace and embroidery in the eyes of the judicious and sensible.

--From Elbert Hubbard's Scrap Book

ISRAEL

By Elder F. L. Summers (deceased)

Many people are not fully acquainted with the history of Israel and the part she has played in this world's history. We find that after the Flood, men began to drift into wickedness. Due to this serious drift back into sin after God had destroyed all but eight souls, God decided there was but one man who had found favor with Him. He called him to go out into a place He would show him. Abram, as he was then called, went out not knowing whither he went. In Genesis 14:13, Abram was referred to as the "Hebrew". This name, according to commentators, was given him by the Canaanites. He, at this time, was blessed by Melchizedek, king of Salem. After returning from the battle of the kings (see Genesis 14: 1-17) Abram paid tithes to him for Melchizedek was priest of the most high God,

"made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually." See Hebrews 7:3. His descent was not of the Levitical priesthood, as they were not in existence yet. It was about two generations later that Abraham's grandson, Jacob, wrestled with the angel and was called "Israel." Israel means "a prince with God or he who strives with God, one who prevails with God." It is from Jacob that the nation of Israel came into being. It was with this people that God worked and gave the oracles of God. This law of God is the foundation of every good law which was ever passed by man throughout the world.

Because of Abraham's faithfulness, God gave him a two-fold blessing. First, that of him He would make a great nation, "And I will make thy seed as the dust of the

earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered” (Genesis 13:16). This promise was renewed to Isaac, “And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed” (Genesis 26:4). Later this was renewed or reinstated to Jacob or Israel.

“And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of” (Genesis 28:13-15).

I would like you to please remember these blessings. He is giving them the land and promising them that they will have many descendants. Also that kings will come out of them. In the promise of Jacob He says, “I...will bring thee again into this land.” After Jacob’s name was changed to Israel, the promise was repeated, “And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel. And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land” (Genesis 35:10-12). If you will read this Scripture carefully, you will notice that it seems to stress multitudes and greatness of their descendents. We must conclude, however, that this is a twofold meaning to Abraham’s blessing. If this were not the case, then Paul’s testimony would contradict the above for he says, “Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ” (Galatians 3:16). This is an entirely different angle to what has been promised back in Genesis. Here the blessing that came upon all people is through Jesus Christ. Paul makes a positive statement to this, “That the blessings of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith” (Galatians 3:14). This,

you see, gives the Gentiles a direct inheritance from Abraham through Christ. You may say, “Do we not have to get into Israel to receive the blessing?” Let us see what God has recorded. “Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed” (Galatians 3:7-8).

Again Paul says, “And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise” (verse 29). What promise? It is the promise made to Abraham. Then we must be Christ’s for no man can receive of the inheritance through any other source but through Jesus Christ, who overcame the world. Praise the Lord! We become not only Abraham’s heirs, but children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. See Galatians 3:26. Israel could have received the full blessing if they had served God and carried the message of salvation to the world. They, however, failed to recognize their visitation, crucifying their Saviour. This was the climax of their refusal to accept His Son, Jesus. “He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them” (John 12:40). Who put this blindness upon them then? They were not blinded or deceived by people, but because of their sins God blinded them. Now who will remove their blindness, and when will it be removed? Let us see what Zechariah has to say about what is to happen to Jerusalem and the house of David. “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it. In that day, saith the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness. And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be my strength in the LORD of hosts their God. In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left:

and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem. The LORD also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah. In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them. And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem” (Zechariah 12:2-9).

I believe all will have to agree that the day spoken of in the above Scripture is at the battle of Armageddon. That being true, let us see what God does for Israel and what causes them to see. “And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. In that day, shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart” (Zechariah 12:10-12). “All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart” (verse 14). Is there any difference between the people mentioned above and the saved which are changed at His coming and stand on the sea of glass, changed to immortal beings?

“Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed” (Galatians 3:7-8).

What has God in store for Israel or the house of David? “In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness” (Zechariah 13:1). We are further told that there will be no more utter destruction of Jerusalem, and it shall be safely inhabited. Those who are left of all the nations which come against Jerusalem to battle will have to do certain things as recorded in Zechariah 14th chapter, especially verses 11, 16, and 17. We are told also that the Lord will be there, and He will strengthen the children of Israel.

“For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God. I will also save you from all your uncleanness: and I will call for the corn, and will increase it, and lay no famine upon you” (Ezekiel 36:24-29). “Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations” (verse 31). This all occurs after Christ sets up His kingdom. Also the reading of the chapter is such that it cannot be placed anyplace else. Isn’t this quite a contrast to what Paul wrote of the saints at the coming of the Lord, when they are caught up to meet the Lord, being quickened by His Holy Spirit and given eternal life and immortality? Also they are made priests of God and His Christ. Oh yes, Israel has a place, for the Lord will do better by them than at the first, but they will enter into the Millennium as mortal beings, ruled over by the original twelve apostles who sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel (see Matthew 19:27-28). Judah fights at Jerusalem during the battle of Armageddon. “And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain" (Zechariah 14:14-17). Here we find them fighting as mortal beings at the battle of Armageddon, which is entirely different from the saints of God.

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Galatians 3:28-29).

If we are Israel, why did John see 144,000 sealed of Israel’s twelve tribes, and a great multitude from every nation, kindred, and people, and tongues clothed with robes? If we have become Jews or Israel, would they be called of all nations and peoples? It is because Paul told us the truth in his letter to the Galatians. “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Galatians 3:28-29). Yes, dear one, the Church of God is the melting pot for all peoples. It is in this that we lose our identity and become one in Christ Jesus, who purchased the Church of God with His own blood. Then if we are Christ’s, we are heirs, joint heirs with Jesus Christ to all the promises made to Abraham who was saved yet he never was an Israelite. Neither was Isaac an Israelite, and they both were saved. So can we by being Christ’s, who took away the Levitical priesthood by becoming a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek, and Melchizedek was never an Israelite.

There is a special place for Israel for He says all Israel shall be saved. This does not mean they are saved in their sins, but it is those who loathe themselves and hate their

evil ways. The Lord says He will make a new covenant with Israel in that day. “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more” (Jeremiah 31:31-34). It is then that the Lord establishes the mountain of the house of the Lord in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills, then the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem (see Isaiah 2:2-3).

It is our duty to love the Jew, for the Lord will do better for them than at the first. We should also know the truth that we do not become Jews when we accept Christ, neither does a Jew become a Gentile, but we become sons of God in the Church of God. May God help us to rightly divide the word of truth. This article is written in love of the truth and the Jewish people, that we might love God’s time-piece which are rapidly being gathered back that He might make a new covenant with them. Micah 4:1-4,7 cannot mean the church, for there is no break in the thought. Is the church going to cause many nations to come up to worship or is it to cause the law to go forth? Will the church judge the people? This is all done by the one power which is Christ when He comes. This is done at the same time that they beat their swords into plowshares and learn war no more. The Lord says He will reign from Mt. Zion, and we are told He will raise this up also at His coming. The Lord shall reign over them in Mt. Zion. In Micah 3:12 the mountain of the house shall become heaps. This is the same mountain of the house as spoken of in Micah 4:1 being established in the top of the mountain and not the church.



The prophets in the Old Testament, writing under the inspiration of God's Holy Spirit, foretold a future time of blessing. They explained that it would come about by the establishing of a world government in which truth and righteousness will reign. That kingdom, or world government, under Christ would arbitrarily impose upon all people just and righteous laws. By doing this, universal and lasting peace would be assured for all people.

In the Bible's prophecies of this coming kingdom, there will be no miscarriage of God's Divine plan. This is because the kingdom is to be a literal and righteous government. It is the promised kingdom of Christ, and the Bible reveals that it will be a genuine government. The prophet, concerning this kingdom and Christ the chief ruler of it, foretold, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end" (Isaiah 9:7).

The kingdom of Christ is one of the prominent themes of the Bible. The Old Testament prophets foretold and described this empowered government that will be set up over all the world. One of the first references to it was by Jacob. On his deathbed, he prophesied, "Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be" (Genesis 49:9-10).

This prophecy was uttered while Jacob and his family

were in Egypt. In Egypt, at that time, a couched lion was the recognized symbol of royal rulership. Thus, it represented the right to rule. The 'couched lion,' which this prophecy depicts of Judah, really was a way of saying that from this royal tribe of Israel would come the one whom the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob had long promised. This seed of Abraham would be Messiah and the King. To this royal one to come, Jacob had prophetically assigned the title 'Shiloh.' 'Shiloh' means 'peaceful one.' His prophecy that the 'gathering of the people' would be to Shiloh, simply meant that this future ruler would, as the "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6), bring peace to all the nations.

"The kingdom of Christ is one of the prominent themes of the Bible."

The Prophet Isaiah also foretold the birth and ultimate exaltation to rulership of this great king. He wrote, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah also referred to this coming ruler of the world as God's "arm." "The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God" (Isaiah 52:10).

"In the Bible's prophecies of this coming kingdom, there will be no miscarriage of God's Divine plan. This is because the kingdom is to be a literal and righteous government."

Concerning the universality of the kingdom, David also foretold this time when he wrote, "All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is the LORD'S: and he is the governor among the nations" (Psalm 22:27-28). At another time, David wrote, "All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power; To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations" (Psalm 145:10-13).

In a prophecy pertaining to the kingdom, the Prophet Daniel wrote, "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever" (Daniel 2:44).



IF ONLY...

**Have you ever thought of
Sharing your blessings,
Whether a smile, or just one
Kind word
To one that is needing to
Hear it today,
It could well be the only
One they have heard.**

**Stop and think of the
Chances you are given
To spread hope and cheer
Everyday;
It could be just a smile
Or a helping hand,
Or just a name you speak
When you pray.**

**If each person would do
One act of kindness,
What a world of peace it
Would bring;
For then love would break
Forth like a river,
And hearts that are breaking
Would sing.**

**For a small act of
Kindness given away,
Will go forth, creating a
Friend;
For that act will turn,
Seeking to find you again,
And the circle never comes to
An end.**

--Betty Whetstone

Workers of Iniquity

By David DeLong

"And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more" (Luke 12:42-48).

The people mentioned in the above text are servants who have been entrusted with doing service for their Master. The passage is really a parable about servants doing service for the Lord. Notice that two of the servants were punished for not doing their Lord's will. One servant knew the Lord's will but did not prepare himself to do that will. He was beaten with many stripes. In other words he was punished more than the second servant. However, this latter servant, though he did not know his Master's will and did things "worthy of stripes", was also punished, though with a lesser punishment. Both servants, then, were

guilty of transgressing the Lord's will and could be called workers of iniquity. "Iniquity" means law breaking.

Think about this for a moment. There was absolutely no excuse that either servant could give to the Lord for not doing His will. We understand fully well that the servant who knew his Lord's will should be punished for not doing it. But what about the servant who did not know that will? Why was he punished? There is a saying that goes: "ignorance of the law is no excuse". If this is true in man's court of law, it is more true in God's court. No one who has access to a Bible has any excuse for not knowing the Lord's will.

Some might object that they didn't have the money to purchase a Bible. That's still no excuse. They could borrow a Bible. Any professing Christian will gladly loan, or even buy, a Bible for a person who asks for one. The only legitimate person who does not have an opportunity to know God's will is found in Romans 2:14-16: "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;) In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel."

We learn how the Lord Himself feels about someone not doing God's will in Matthew 5:19: "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the king-

dom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Many today teach against doing God's Commandments and even break these Commandments themselves. These people will all receive "stripes" of punishment in accordance to whether they knew to keep God's Commandments or not. Again, I want to emphasize that anyone who does not keep all of God's Commandments will be punished to some degree. These people have the opportunity to know God's will and are without excuse.

Notice in Matthew 23: 1-7 how the teachers of God's Word, the scribes and Pharisees, actually did not do the Word themselves. "Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples, Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi." These people, we know, were hypocrites and therefore workers of iniquity.

Revelation 18:4 teaches us that there are those who are called God's people, but who are still stuck in doctrines and practices that were invented by Babylon. These people must come out of this Babylonian system or they will receive punishment. John wrote: "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. 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. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God

hath remembered her iniquities" (Revelation 18:1-5).

These individuals are known collectively as God's people. They have some relationship with the Lord to be called His people. However, they must study God's Word to see where they are not following it. If they don't come out of this false system of worship (Babylon), they will be punished with plagues. Also, there are people who think that they have a relationship with the Lord and that they are working for Him. They, however, will find out some day that they were not following the Word of God and will be rejected by the Lord. Matthew 7:21-23 records: "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." The reason that these people will be turned away by the Lord is because of committing iniquity. We saw earlier that iniquity means law breaking. These people were not following the Word of God but were disobeying it, including breaking the Commandments of God. Let us be sure that we are obeying all of God's Commandments, including the Ten Commandments.

All that we need for knowing God's will is a Bible, Old and New Testaments, and the Holy Spirit of God to teach us the truth. Anything outside of the Bible will only lead us astray. Of course, ministers of God who preach and teach the truth are also helpful to us. In the final analysis, though, it is up to each one of us to study the Bible diligently to find out the will of God individually. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Timothy 2:15). "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (II Timothy 3:16-17).

Finally, let us not have fellowship with those who are workers of iniquity. They could lead us and our children astray. "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Ephesians 5:11).

Elder & wife singing on sabbath day



Be Of Good Courage

By David DeLong

Everyone needs to be encouraged from time to time. A kind word, an expression of praise, a look of approval or even a sincere smile can do wonders to lift a spirit and to encourage one to continue on in the way of the Lord. Words of encouragement can actually speak life to a weary soul. Proverbs 18:21 says: "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof." Furthermore, we learn from Proverbs 25:11: "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

Even the heathen nations know the benefits of encouraging one another in their worldly endeavors. We read: "They helped every one his neighbour; and every one said to his brother, Be of good courage. So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith, and he that smootheth with the hammer him that smote the anvil, saying, It is ready for the soldering: and he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved" (Isaiah 41:6-7). Scofield's note on this passage of Scripture says that the people here were making new idols. If the heathen nations know how to encourage others, how much more should God's people be encouraging one another.

Psalms 31:24 instructs us to: "Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD." Our encouragement, of course, comes from the Lord and not just from inspiring words that people may speak. David realized this when he came back to the city of Ziklag which had been burned with fire. In I Samuel 30:3-6 we learn: "So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. Then

David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep. And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God." We can do the same by encouraging ourselves in the Lord. Though we may not feel like it at times we can, and should, praise the Lord at all times (see Ephesians 5:19-20).

Joshua, who was to succeed Moses as the leader of Israel, needed the encouragement of Moses to help the Israelites inherit the Promised Land. The Lord told Moses: "But Joshua the son of Nun, which standeth before thee, he shall go in thither: encourage him: for he shall cause Israel to inherit it" (Deuteronomy 1:38). Later, Moses encouraged the people of Israel, including Joshua, to take the Promised Land. "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of all Israel, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou must go with this people unto the land which the LORD hath sworn unto their fathers to give them; and thou shalt cause them to inherit it" (Deuteronomy 31:6-7). Finally, the Lord Himself encouraged Joshua after Moses had died. He told him: "Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an

inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them...Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1:6,9). Sometimes a person needs a lot of encouragement to do what is required of him or her.

Twelve men from the tribes of Israel were sent out to spy the land of Canaan. Moses also gave them encouragement for this task. We find this episode in Numbers 13:17-20. "And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain: And see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many; And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds; And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes."

Other examples of people encouraging others to do their jobs were: Hezekiah to the priests and Levites to fulfill the law of the Lord; Joab to Abishai to fight against the Ammonites; King David to his son Solomon (II Chronicles 31:4; I Chronicles 19:11; I Chronicles 22:13; I Chronicles 28:20). Encouragement to strengthen another person is essential for that person to succeed in living a godly life and to perform what God expects. That is why a believer must attend church regularly to be encouraged by the pastor and the congregation. However, the pastor and the congregation must do their parts in encouraging others. Hebrews 10:24-25 teaches us: "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 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."

Acts chapter 27 tells of an event when the Apostle Paul was on a ship with a number of sailors. We pick up the story in verses 20-22: "And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away. But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. And now I exhort you to be of good cheer:

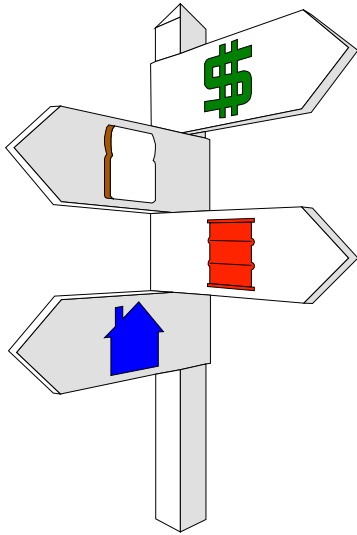
for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship." An angel of the Lord had given Paul this message.

Not only did Paul encourage others but people gave him encouragement as well. While traveling to Rome we find concerning Paul: "And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three days. And from thence we fetched a compass, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli: Where we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome. And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appii forum, and The three taverns: whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage" (Acts 28:12-15). Again, I want to emphasize that absolutely everyone needs encouragement.

Jesus knew the power of encouragement. "And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city. And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee" (Matthew 9:1-2). He encouraged His disciples in a boat during a storm. "And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid" (Matthew 14:25-27). Again, to His disciples He spoke words of eternal comfort: "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

Our Lord Jesus, the One who gave such wonderful words of comfort and encouragement to others, needed strengthening on the eve of His crucifixion. Being with His disciples, we read in Luke 22:41-43: "And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him."

Dear one, be of good courage, "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister" (Hebrews 6:10).



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.

ONE IN SEVEN

I heard the news that one in seven people who voted for President Obama now regret it. This is nothing new as past presidents have also lost popularity near the end of their term or terms. Not many, or any, past presidents have had so many crises to deal with at one time as President Obama. Future presidents will also have to deal with many crises that come upon the earth at one time as this is to be expected in these last days. No president's decision on how to deal with these crises will please everyone. Let us pray for our leaders.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE MILITARY

The following is an article from The Associated Press entitled *Hagel says climate change will challenge U.S. military*

AREQUIPS, PERU – "Rising sea levels and other effects of climate change will pose major challenges for America's military, including more and worse natural disasters and the threat that food and water shortages could fuel disputes and instability around the world", Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said Monday.

Addressing a conference of military leaders as the Pentagon released a new report on the issue, Hagel said, "Our militaries' readiness could be tested, and our capabilities could be stressed."

The new report – described as a Pentagon roadmap – identifies four things that it says will affect the U.S.

military: Rising global temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, more extreme weather and rising sea levels. It calls on the department and the military services to identify more specific concerns, including possible effects on the more than 7,000 bases and facilities, and to start putting plans in place to deal with them.

"Climate change is a threat multiplier because it has the potential to exacerbate many of the challenges we already confront today – from infectious disease to armed insurgencies – and to produce new challenges in the future," Hagel said. He spoke during the opening session of the conference, which was attended by defense ministers and military chiefs of more than 30 countries from the Americas, Spain and Portugal.

"Changing climate trends could spur more natural disasters, demanding more military support," he said. "Our coastal installations could be vulnerable to rising shorelines and flooding, and extreme weather could impair our training ranges, supply chains and critical equipment."

More broadly, the report warns that as temperatures rise and severe weather increases, food, water and electricity shortages could create instability in many countries, spreading disease, causing mass migration and opening the door for extremists to take advantage of fractures in already unstable countries.

Comment

The things that Hagel mentions in this article that climate change can cause are some signs of the times in these last days.

Who Is Leading You?

There appeared an article by Tom Krattenmaker in *USA Today* entitled **Christian Should Lead Christians**. The following is the article:

“Is the pope Catholic? Is the president of the Christian student club Christian? These questions might seem equal in their wry obviousness. They are not. In the massive California State University system, as at some other universities, new anti-discrimination rules for student groups mean it can no longer be required that the president of the Christian student fellowship is Christian, or that the head of the Muslim association is Muslim. Or that the officers of any group buy into the interests and commitments of that group.

Student clubs that refuse to accept the new rules will find themselves on the sidelines when it comes to meeting space, recruitment opportunities and other valuable perks that go with it being an officially recognized group.

Such is the fate that has befallen InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, a national campus ministry that finds itself “derecognized” in the 450,000-student Cal State system for insisting that student leaders of its campus chapters affirm the basic tenets of evangelical belief.

Not surprisingly, the situation has become one of the latest talking points for Christians invested in the grievance industrial complex. The difference between this and much of the other ax-grinding is that in this case, the objectors have a point. Let the Christian student groups reserve their leadership roles for Christians if they want.

Those of us opposed to discrimination can appreciate Cal State’s good intention in enacting the new policy this fall. But any good principle played out to the ninth degree, and in isolation from other important principles, can lead to strange results:

Such as the possibility of a Christian taking over leadership of a campus’ secular student organization. Or a white supremacist becoming president of a support group for students of color. Or a homophobe grabbing the leadership reins of a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender group.

At first glance, this seems as if it’s a fight over something that’s never going to happen. Why would an atheist want to become leader of an evangelical group such as InterVarsity? To this point, there are no reported instances

of the kind of absurdities the situation conjures.

Yet in a time of hardball politics, and given the creativity of campus pranksters, one can imagine the opportunities for mischief. What better way to bring down your political rivals on campus than to stack the membership of their group and elect a new president who is opposed to its beliefs and activities?

Then there is the principle of the matter, which is where InterVarsity is making its stand. It’s only fair and logical to allow a group based on common beliefs to expect its leader to share those beliefs.

Kudos to InterVarsity students at several of the Cal State campuses for continuing undeterred, despite losing their official student-group status. To compensate for their inability to recruit at the student activities fair, InterVarsity members at Sonoma State took to the campus with large vertical banners worn like backpacks. This kind of cheerful resilience is a better advertisement for their faith than complaining.

But it does not come easy, or free. InterVarsity estimates the cost of operations could rise by many thousands of dollars annually on some of the Cal State campuses. This is part of the reason why InterVarsity is continuing to pray and plead for relief from this new policy.

University officials and state lawmakers should reconsider, and not merely for the sake of InterVarsity. In addition to the freedom from discrimination, there are other relevant freedoms to factor: freedom of religion, freedom of association and our freedom to exercise common sense.”

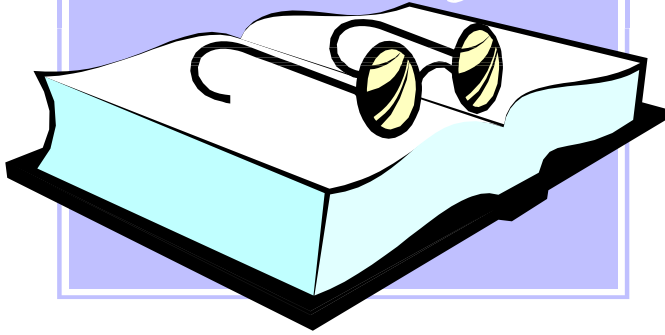
Comment

Demanding that the leader and/or officials of an organization does not have to have the same beliefs and tenets of the organization which they lead is sure foolishness. This is especially true for those who follow in Christ’s footsteps.

There is an old saying which says “follow the leader.” We know that Christ is the head of the church. Therefore, the members of the church follow Christ. Can we imagine what would happen if a Muslim headed the church? Then the organization would not be following its leader, Christ. A virtual Babylon would be created, and the church or Christian organization would be deemed as hypocritical. Let us pray that no more university systems adopt such a foolish idea!

BIBLE

Study



Questions and Answers

QUESTION: Do you believe that unconverted men have the right to call God their Father?

ANSWER: No! Please read John 8:42-44 to see what Jesus said.

QUESTION: Did Jesus have any blood brothers and sisters? Were there other children in the home of Joseph and Mary?

ANSWER: Yes. Strictly speaking they were half-brothers and half-sisters since Joseph, their father, was not the father of Jesus. The half-brothers are named, and the half-sisters are mentioned without naming them in Matthew 13:55-56.

QUESTION: Can you explain I Corinthians 15:29-30 which reads: "Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead? And why stand we in jeopardy every hour?" In Paul's day, is it true that there was a custom among Christians of baptizing a living believer in behalf of a dead unbeliever?

ANSWER: No, there was no such custom! If there had been one, Paul would have condemned it! A logical

understanding of it is as follows: If there is no victory in the warfare in which we are engaged, what is the use in going on with it? Why should we go on with recruiting soldiers? The ranks of believers are continually being thinned by death. Why should we go on seeking to fill up the ranks? If there be no resurrection, why go on baptizing more converts to take the place of those who have died? We must continue the work because we know that there is victory at the end.

QUESTION: How can we understand the word "peculiar" used in Titus 2:14?

ANSWER: "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14).

Children of God are the peculiar people of God. We use the word sometimes when we speak of something odd or strange. But that is not its use here. The word is translated from a Greek word which is made up of two words, one which means "around," as a circle, and the other which means "to be." It can be charted by a dot within a circle. This will help us to understand the meaning of the combined word. As the circle is around the dot, so God is around each one of His saints. The circle monopolizes the dot, has the dot all unto itself. So God has His own all to Himself. They are His own private unique possession. He has reserved them for Himself.

The expression in I Thessalonians 1:1, “the church of the Thessalonians which is in God,” has in it the same idea, for the Greek case is locative of sphere. That is, it is in the sphere of God, circumscribed by God, surrounded by Him.

This is a place of high privilege. In I Peter 2:7, the Greek has it, “Unto you who believe, is the preciousness.” That is, the preciousness of Jesus is imputed to us. He becomes our preciousness in the eyes of the Father as He becomes our righteousness before the Law. The Son dwells in the bosom of the Father, closest to the Father’s affections. Marvelous grace, that we sinners saved by grace are brought into that favored place closest to the Father’s affections. The Father loves us as much as He loves His only begotten Son. What a pillow on which to rest our weary hearts when going through a testing time.

This is also a place of protection. Place a dot outside of the circle, and draw an arrow from that dot to the dot inside the circle. Label that dot a temptation. As the arrow cannot reach the dot except it go through the circle, so no temptation can reach us except it go through the permissive will of God first. As we walk in the center of God’s will, He will not permit the devil to confront us with a temptation too great for us, but will provide us with the necessary faith and spiritual strength to overcome it. Victory over sin is a guaranteed fact when we are in the center of God’s will. Put another dot outside the circle. Run an arrow to the dot inside. Label the outside dot “a trial or testing time.” As the arrow cannot reach the dot inside unless it goes through the circle, so no time of testing, no sorrow, can reach the child of God who dwells in the center of His will, unless it comes through the will of God, and when it reaches us, God sees to it that all needed grace is given to bear the trial. He is the God of all grace who comforts us in all our afflictions. And that is what Paul means in I Corinthians 10:13 when he says, **“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”** The Greek word translated “temptation” has two meanings, first, “a time of testing or trial,” second, “a solicitation to do evil.” We are the peculiar people of God, all His own, closest to His affections, under His protecting care, the recipients of all

needed comfort and grace.

QUESTION: What are some of the verses in the Bible pertaining to the warring phase of the second advent of Jesus?

ANSWER: There are many of them! Revelation 19:11-12 is most moving: **“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.”** Revelation 19:15-16 states, **“And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”**

These and other end-time prophecies show us that with fire the Lord will destroy all evil doers. Here are a few more examples:

“Thine hand shall find out all thine enemies: thy right hand shall find out those that hate thee. Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven in the time of thine anger: the LORD shall swallow them up in his wrath, and the fire shall devour them” (Psalm 21:8-9).

“When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning” (Isaiah 4:4).

“And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the LORD” (Ezekiel 39:6).

“For behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch” (Malachi 4:1).

“And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts” (Malachi 4:3).



Myanmar



Taungzalat church women fast & pray



NURSERY MINISTRY



LESSON I

JESUS IS BAPTIZED

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:13-17.

Golden Text: Matthew 3:13.

“Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.”

NOTE: We continue the study of John the Baptist and of Jesus being baptized.

1. Where did Jesus go to be baptized, and who was to baptize him? Matthew 3:13.
2. Why didn't John want to baptize Jesus? Matthew 3:14.
3. What answer did Jesus give him? Matthew 3:15.
4. Was Jesus baptized by being put under the water? Matthew 3:16 (first part).
5. What happened when he came out of the water? Matthew 3:16 (last part).
6. What did the voice from heaven say? Matthew 3:17.

LESSON II

THE VICTORY OF JESUS OVER TEMPTATION

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:1-11.

Golden Text: Matthew 4:7.

“Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.”

1. Why did Jesus go into the wilderness? Matthew 4:1.
2. How long had Jesus been fasting? Matthew 4:2.
3. Who came to Him, and what did he ask Jesus to do? Matthew 4:3.

4. How did Jesus answer Satan? Matthew 4:4.
5. Where did the devil take Jesus, and what did he ask Him to do now? Did Satan also know the Scriptures? Matthew 4:5-6.
6. How did Jesus answer Satan this time? Matthew 4:7.
7. Where did the devil take Jesus after this? What did he offer Jesus? Matthew 4:8-9.
8. Read Matthew 4:10, and then give Jesus' answer to Satan.
9. Did Satan leave Jesus alone after Jesus refused to give in to him? Matthew 4:11.

LESSON III

CHRIST'S SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:1-20.

Golden Text: Matthew 5:14.

“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.”

1. Jesus went up into a mountain to teach His disciples. Verses 3-11 of Matthew 5 contain what we call the Beatitudes. Read these verses and see if each one in the class can name at least one. Try to memorize these within the next few weeks.
2. What did Jesus say His disciples were in Matthew 5:13?
3. Were they to be the light of the world? Matthew 5:14. Should we be the same today? Name some ways we can let our light shine in the world.
4. What will happen if we hide our light? What will happen if we put it on a candlestick? Matthew 5:15.

5. What did Jesus tell His disciples, as well as us today, to do in Matthew 5:16?

6. What did Jesus say about the law (Ten Commandments) in Matthew 5:17?

7. Should anyone take any words away from the commandments? Matthew 5:18.

NOTE: Jot and tittle means smallest possible amount.

8. What will happen to those who break the commandments? What will happen to those who keep the commandments? Matthew 5:19-20.

6. If we forgive men their trespasses, what will our heavenly Father do for us? Matthew 6:14.

7. What will happen if we do not forgive men their trespasses? Matthew 6:15.

NOTE: The Lord's prayer was part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. This sermon is continued through the rest of Matthew, chapters 6 and 7. Read these chapters to enjoy Jesus' words that He spoke to man that day.

LESSON IV

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:5-15.

Golden Text: Matthew 6:14.

“For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.”

1. What should we not do when we pray? Matthew 6:5.
2. How should we pray and where? Matthew 6:6.
3. What does Matthew 6:7 tell us not to do?
4. Does our heavenly Father know what things we need before we ask? Matthew 6:8.
5. After what manner should we pray? Matthew 6:9-13. How many can say the Lord's prayer from memory?

NOTE: This prayer is a model and a good one for little children to learn. We also need to remember that God wants us to ask Him for the things we want and need, and to depend on Him.

LITTLE, BUT WISE

**Who showed the little ant the way
Her narrow hole to bore;
And spend the pleasant summer day
In laying up her store?**

**The sparrow builds her clever nest
Of wool and hay and moss;
Who told her how to weave it best
And lay the twigs across?**

**Who taught the busy bee to fly
Among the sweetest flowers;
And lay his store of honey by
To eat in winter hours?**

**'Twas God who showed them all their way,
He gave them wondrous skill;
And teaches children, if they pray
To do His holy will.**

A STRONG FAMILY

"You just ought to feel my muscle, Papa," said Johnny. "Don't you think it's big and hard?"

The flannel shirt was pushed up into wrinkles at the shoulder, and a very soft and pink arm presented itself proudly for inspection.

"Pretty good for seven years," said Papa, smiling. "I hope some day to see you as strong as a family I know."

"What's their name?" asked Johnny, forgetting his muscle to the first hint of a story.

"Their name is Never," answered Father, with a funny little wrinkle at each eye-corner, as if a tiny little smile was curled up there.

"Never! What a funny name!" exclaimed Johnny. "What are their other names?"

"Oh, there are a lot of them. There is Mr. Never drink; he has such clear eyes, and such a steady step, you'd know him anywhere; a strong fellow is Mr. Never-drink, always ready to lift his end of the log."

"Another is Mr. Never-swear; you will know him by the company he keeps; and suppose he grows strong by not wasting his breath."

"Then there's Never-lie, whom everybody trusts; and Mr. Never-be unkind, whom everybody loves; and Mr. Never-forget, who loses nothing; and Mr. Never-be idle, who does the world's work; and Mr. never-be discouraged."

Papa stopped and laughed aloud, for Johnny was in the midst of a big yawn.

"You don't seem to care much about my strong people, Johnny," he said.

"I like stories about sure-'nuff people," replied Johnny.

"All right. Once there was a little boy who wanted to be very strong; oh, as strong as Samson! So he went to the strongest man on N street, and asked him how to get strong and hardy."

"By not touching strong drink," said the strong man on N Street.

"He asked another strong man the same question. "Never-swear," said the man. "It takes you into low company, where God and men are dishonored."

"Another side, "Never-lie. A single lie takes away a man's courage."

"Who was the little boy that talked to all those strong people, Papa?" interrupted Johnny suddenly.

"He was the little boy that I want my own boy to be," answered the father. "I want him to make friends with the Nevers, because they are the friends of God. And their family motto is this, "Thus saith the Lord, Thou shall not."

Answers to Bible Quiz:

Abel; Babylon; Cedars; David; Eutychus; Fair Havens; Goliath; Hair (Absalom's hair was in the branches of a tree when he was being chased); Isaac; Jairus; Kidron; Levites; Miriam; Nebuchadnezzar; Orpah; Passover; Quaternion; Reuben; Sodom; Tithe; Uzziah; Vashti; Willows; Xerxes; Yoke; Zadok.

**KIDS' CORNER
BIBLE ALPHABET QUIZ**

By T.V. LaKahmaiah

- A - The first person to die _____
- B - Where Daniel was prime minister _____
- C - Famous trees of Lebanon _____
- D - The shepherd king _____
- E - He fell from the third story _____
- F - Where Paul found refuge in a storm _____
- G - The big man killed by a small stone _____
- H - Caused the death of David's son _____
- I - The father of Esau _____
- J - His daughter was restored to life _____
- K - A brook near Jerusalem _____
- L - The priests of Israel _____
- M - The girl who watched at a river _____
- N - The king who dreamed of an image _____
- O - Sister-in-law of Ruth _____
- P - Feast of the Exodus _____
- Q - A guard of four Roman soldiers _____
- R - Jacob's eldest son _____
- S - City destroyed by fire _____
- T - God's tenth _____
- U - A king of Judah _____
- V - The queen before Esther _____
- W - Where Israelites hung their harps _____
- X - A great Persian king _____
- Y - Implement used with oxen _____
- Z - A priest of David's time _____

WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble these words about how Jesus grew.
(For help look in Luke 2:40-52).

IDMOSW
 RATESUT
 OVERA
 GROSTN
 GERSINDTUNDAN
 EEBONIT

**FIND SOME
BOOKS
OF THE
BIBLE**

**B A E Z R A M C O
 N R Z E P H A O P
 C E E S T H E R U
 O V K I N G S I M
 L E I S A H N A
 O L E A K E T L
 S A L A M E B H A
 S T I T U S R I C
 I I A C T S E A H
 A O B A D I W N I
 N N R U T H S S N
 S T O S E M A J A
 N J O B M A E O G
 E S T H E R N H E
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"And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the LORD be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath, And for the precious fruits brought forth by the sun, and for the precious things put forth by the moon, And for the chief things of the ancient mountains, and for the precious things of the lasting hills...." (Deuteronomy 33:13-15).

