

The Advocate of Truth



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Trick Or Treat?

by David DeLong

When the colder days of Autumn come around,

And harvest time is often on our minds;

This seems to be, for some, a time to find

A chance to celebrate on common ground.

That celebration, then, involves the chance

To be a part of acting deviltry;

Costumes of death are worn, don't you agree?

And Halloween puts people in a trance.

Even kids are taught how to extort

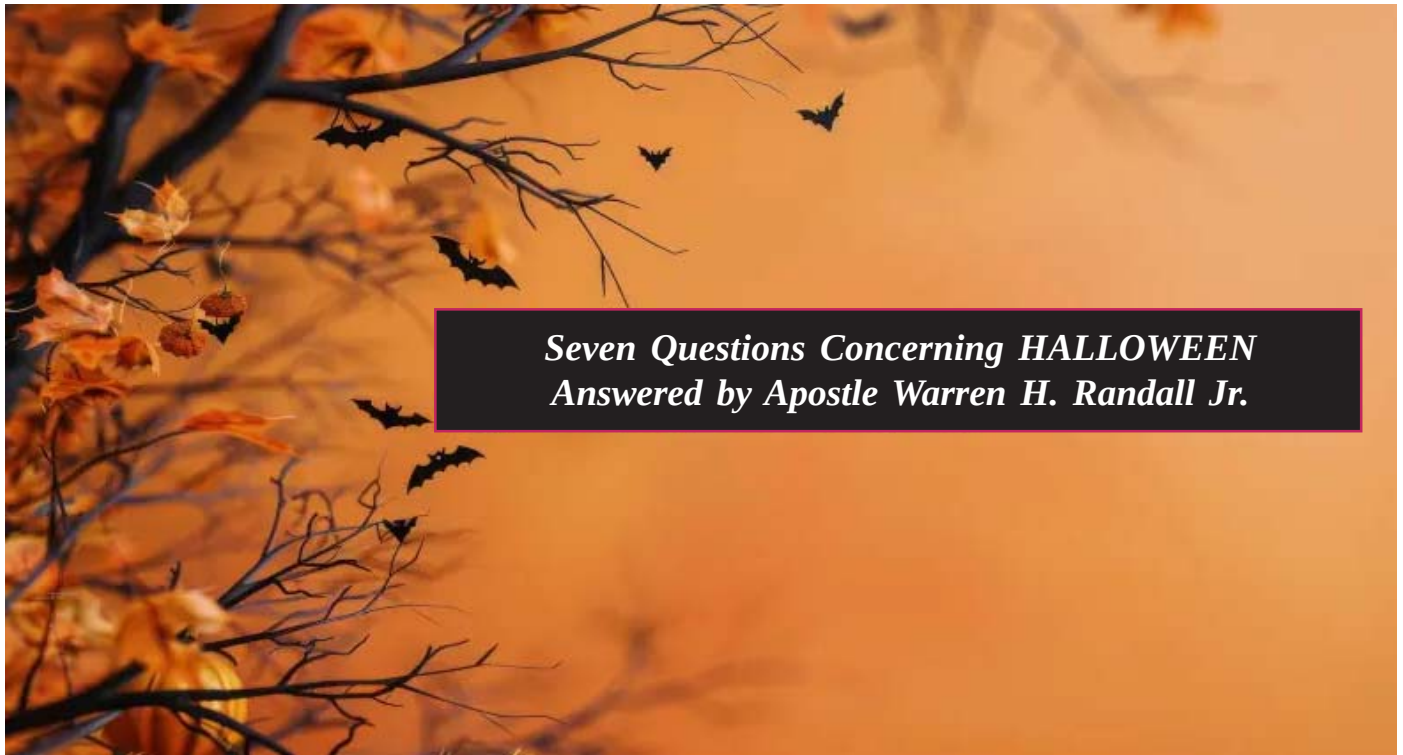
By going out on trick or treating night;

Now do you think that this is really right

For folks to do this, thinking it is sport?

Are we making, now, a great big fuss,

Or will the trick be tauntingly on us?



Seven Questions Concerning HALLOWEEN Answered by Apostle Warren H. Randall Jr.

1. Is Halloween a pagan celebration?

Halloween or All Hallows Eve does come from a pagan Gaelic festival called Samhain (pronounced Sah-win) which marked the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter or the "darker half" of the year. Celebrations began on the evening of the 31st of Oct. It was marked by great gatherings, feasts and it was when the ancient burial mounds were open which were seen as portals to the "otherworld." Halloween is celebrated the evening before the Roman Catholic Holy Day of Obligation known as "All Saints Day" which is also not to be celebrated by a child of God. Don't forget, Halloween falls on a Wiccan Sabbat. (Samhain) They celebrate by paying respect to nature, honoring the dead, holding bonfires and communicating with the spirits. A Wiccan is a practitioner of Wicca which is a modern earth centered religion that draws inspiration from ancient pagan traditions. (Excerpts taken from various sites on Wikipedia and referenced from an entry in the Columbia Encyclopedia)

2. Does the Bible mention Halloween?

While the Bible does not mention Halloween specifically, God's people have always been cautioned about making a covenant with other nations or intermarrying with them because He knew their influence would be great. In Ex. 23:32-33 Israel was told "Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. They shalt not dwell in thy land, lest they make thee sin against me: for if thou serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto thee." There are those that believe Halloween has been "cleaned up" and is now celebrated for the right reasons, i.e. the fall harvest. Some churches also think that keeping the children off the street is ensuring their safety. It may be ensuring their physical safety but what about their spiritual lives? This is an evil celebration, and we should not have anything to do with it.

3. What is the significance of the Jack-o-Lantern?

Like many celebrations, there are things and traditions that are connected with it. In certain parts of the British Isles bonfires and fortunetelling were common. In the United States mumming or house to house visiting and masquerading are popular. Jack-o-Lanterns are displayed. In addition, tales of witches and ghosts are told. Historically, root vegetables such as rutabagas or turnips were used for carving the lantern but pumpkins have become more popular. The

problem is that the jack-o-lanterns were used to ward off spirits and people are unknowingly carrying on that tradition.

4. Should a Child of God seek to have their future or fortune told as it was previously mentioned taking place in the British Isles?

ABSOLUTELY NOT! The one great example of this is when King Saul went to see the witch of En-dor. He knew better as he had already put away those that had familiar spirits, yet because he became afraid of the Philistines, he disguised himself so he could go and enquire of her. She did not raise up the dead prophet Samuel but Saul "perceived" that she did. It was her familiar spirit that he saw and not Samuel. (See I Samuel 28). We should have nothing to do with fortune tellers, crystal ball gazers, palm readers, tarot card readers, astrologers or those who claim to have contact with the dead or familiar spirits. Do not play with a Ouija Board. It is not something to fool around with ever.

5. What should I do if my place of employment proposes a Halloween party and is encouraging everyone to wear a costume?

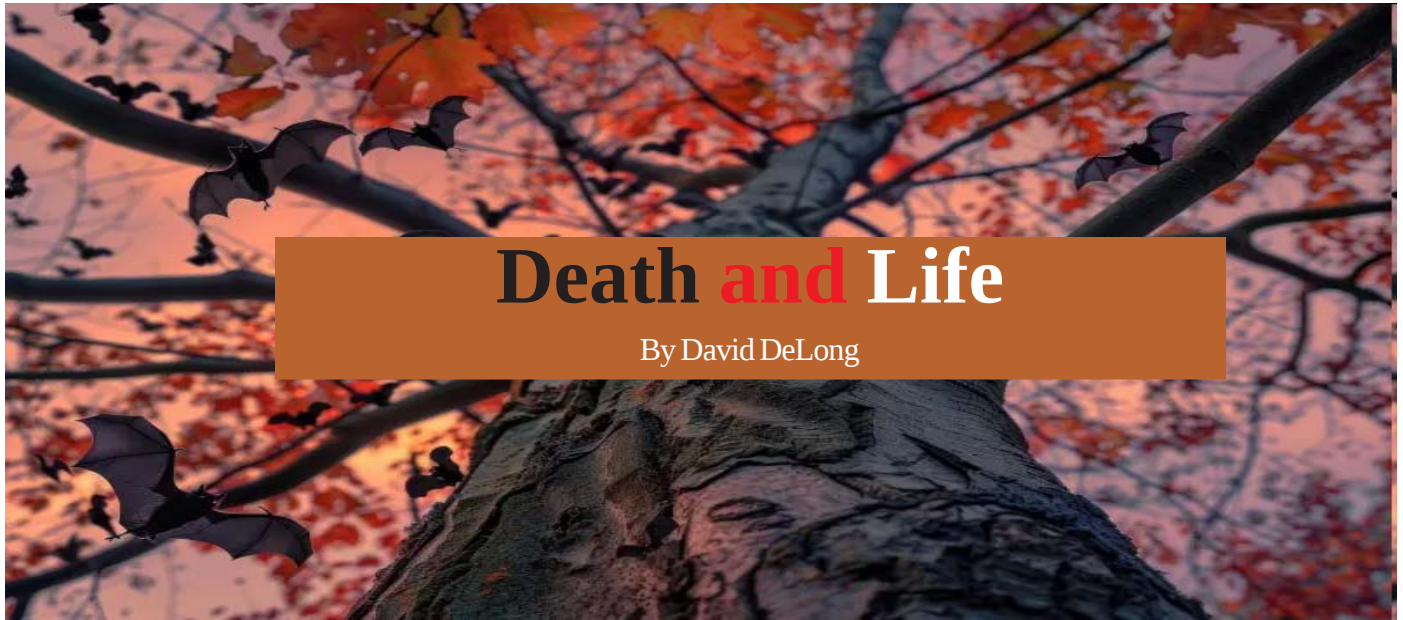
These situations always rear their ugly heads but really one is no different than the other. We have to stand up and say no, we do not participate. We do not work on the Sabbath; we do not celebrate Christmas; we do not celebrate St. Valentines day, etc. Unfortunately, Halloween has become more and more popular with it going from children's "trick or treating" to include adult parties. It has become very commercial with the sale of candy and the many costumes that are purchased in connection with it. We have an expression that says we are known by the company we keep. In I Thess. 5:22 we are told to "Abstain from all appearance of evil." Let us strive to do what is right and not what is easy.

6. Does the darkness written about in Eph. 5:11 "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" have anything to do with the devil?

This is an interesting question, but it has nothing to do with the devil and everything to do with becoming "unequally yoked." In other words, marrying someone that is outside the church. The cross reference is 2 Cor. 6:14, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" It is important to note that the devil or Satan is often thought of as being grotesque looking and lurking in every dark crack and crevice, but the opposite is true. 2 Cor. 11:14: "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." The devil is beautiful and as such has an allure or attraction. (See Ezek. 28:13-15). He was created perfect until he sinned but he knows our weaknesses and tries to exploit them. Please take note that the archangel Michael did not bring a railing accusation against the devil but said, "...The Lord rebuke thee" (Jude verse 9).

7. Where else is witchcraft mentioned in the Bible?

Witchcraft is not the only thing that we should be concerned with. In Ex.7:11 we learn Moses had to deal with Pharaoh's wise men, sorcerers and magicians who used enchantments. Daniel the prophet had to contend with the magicians, astrologers, sorcerers and Chaldeans. (See Dan.2:2). Israel was forbidden to do after the abominations of other nations. "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of the times, or an enchanter, or a witch. Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD..." (See Deut. 18:9-12). In Ex.22:18, Israel was also told, "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live." God hated all these things and told His people not to have anything to do with them as there was always the chance or fear of "contamination." Finally, in Rev. 21:8 and 22:15 there are groups of people listed who will not be in the kingdom but will be thrown into the lake of fire, and sorcerers are among them.



Death and Life

By David DeLong

Though death comes to us all in this life, a child of God must be concerned with, and preoccupied with, life in all of its aspects, including eternal life. The celebration of Halloween is only concerned with aspects of death, and therefore it must be avoided. Even though children have fun getting candy through trick or treating and other things related to this celebration, every aspect of Halloween exalts death. Ghosts and goblins, witches and ogres, skeletons and the grim reaper are common themes. Graveyards and headstones are often presented as well. Death is actually being celebrated by the observance of Halloween. Therefore, we know that Satan, the author of death (Hebrews 2:14-15), is the one who is being exalted instead of Christ, the Author of life.

Jesus was only preoccupied with life. He said in John 10:10: "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." He stated His purpose in coming to earth in Luke 4:16-19: "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the ac-

ceptable year of the Lord."

Jesus dedicated Himself to the ministry which God chose for Him of preaching life, healing the sick, casting out demons, and finally giving His life so that all who believe on Him will eventually have eternal life. Matthew 8:14-17 reads: "And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever. And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them. When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

We know that Jesus empowered His apostles and disciples to carry on with the work that He started. Matthew 10:1 tells us: "And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease."

The ultimate goal of Jesus was to glorify His Father by showing that He is the resurrection and the life. "Jesus saith unto her (Martha), Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" (John 11:23-26).

Occupations dealing with life and health are excellent for the child of God to become involved in: ministers of the gospel, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, nutritionists, suicide prevention workers, paramedics, EMT's, teachers, farmers, house builders, cooks, childcare workers, nursing home workers, hospice care, and addiction recovery workers, are some of these occupations. However, I would not encourage any person to volunteer to join the military because our doctrinal point #19 reads: "We stand opposed to carnal warfare."

Jesus taught that "No man can serve two masters..." (Matthew 6:24). And though He was addressing the issue of not being able to serve God and mammon, this verse could also be addressed at not being able to serve

the God of life and the god of death. Sometimes, the very smallest actions that we take in this life can turn out to have very large consequences. For instance, it may seem like innocent fun for a little girl or boy to dress up as a witch or a wizard during a Halloween celebration. However, we will not know the extent which these actions may have on such a girl or boy when they grow older in becoming involved with real witchcraft or the occult. Such "innocent" actions in childhood may create a desire in later life to become involved with these practices. And we will be partly responsible to the Lord for the development of such practices in the children that we allow to become involved with Halloween!



Why Must We Die? What is Our Hope?

When we come together to pay our last respects to a friend or loved one, we often wonder why we must die. It seems that no one escapes death. Sooner or later death will take each one of us. In I Corinthians 15:21-22 we find that death came by man. "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." Adam was the man who brought death into the world. We will have to go back to his time to see what Adam did to bring death upon all people.

We find in the first and second chapters of Genesis a complete record of the whole Creation. First, God made the heaven and the earth. Then He divided the light from the darkness. He also divided the water from the land. He called the dry land earth and the water He called seas. The earth brought forth grass and herbs yielding seed and fruit trees yielding fruit. Then God made lights in the heaven to rule the day, the night, and seasons. Besides these two lights there are many small lights called stars. God also made the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, and the animals on land. On the sixth day God made man and woman. After God had finished His creation, He "saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day" (Genesis 1:31).

God put the man in a wonderful garden He had prepared for man's enjoyment. "And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and

evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:15-17). Adam and Eve had a good thing. They could eat of all the fruit but of one certain tree and they would continue to live. However, they failed to obey God. Adam had an enemy on the earth who was against God and man. "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat" (Genesis 3:1-6). Yes, Adam failed. he did exactly what God told him not to do. He knew what the penalty would be. Let us see if God carried out the sentence.

God called to Adam, but Adam hid himself because he was afraid. He knew he had done wrong, so he tried to hide from God. That, however, is impossible for anyone to do. God found Adam and told him what would happen to him and all the rest of the people that should be born into this world. God said, "...Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" (Genesis 3:17-19). The human race has been returning to dust ever since Adam's time. We do everything possible to keep from going back to dust; but we cannot stop the curse, The Apostle Paul said, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12). How true! We must all die once but, sad to say, many will have to die the second time. Considering these things, how are we going to please God?

Paul wrote further, "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6). We just believe in God and believe that He will give us a reward for having faith and acting accordingly. God loves the people on this earth. He has loved them from Adam and has given them many opportunities to follow His commands. The human race, however, does not seem to want to obey God. The last thing God did was to send His Son that people might accept Him and receive eternal life. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). If we believe in God's only begotten Son, who is Jesus Christ, and are diligently seeking Him, then we are on the road to pleasing God.

Something else is required of each and every one of us. On the Day of Pentecost, which came fifty days after the Feast of Passover Peter was preaching in Jerusalem. There were many different nationalities represented at this meeting. Peter was telling them how they had crucified Jesus and how He was raised from the dead, that He had ascended into heaven to be with His Father. these people wanted to know what they should do to be saved. "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 2:38).

Then Paul wrote, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from



the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For it we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection" (Romans 6:3-5).

Before Jesus died on the cross, He told His apostles that He would die and be buried. Jesus said He would be in the grave three days, and then God would raise Him up. He was the first dead person to be raised to immortal life; through His death, we have the promise of being raised when Jesus comes back to earth to gather His saints. We read, "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming" (I Corinthians 15:20-23).

We must belong to Christ to be included in the first resurrection. Paul explained how this resurrection will take place; it will be a great day for the Christians, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought

to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory" (I Corinthians 15:51-54).

Paul wrote to the Thessalonians: "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (I Thessalonians 4:14-18). Paul made it plain enough how we should rise from the dead. The ones who diligently seek God

are the ones who will receive the reward of eternal life.

John was another servant of God who gave us some light about the reward of the righteous for following Jesus Christ and of those who, like Adam, disobey God. He received a vision from God, as we read: "I saw thrones, and they say upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the times of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, either had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands: and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power. But they shall be priests of God and of Christ and shall reign with him a thousand years" (Revelation 20:4-6).

John also gave light concerning the things that will happen at the end of the thousand years, saying, "And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:13-15). This second death is the reward of those who do not care to try to please God or accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour. It does not sound very pleasant. It will be a very poor ending for those who do not love the Lord God.

A Forgiving Heart

*We all must have a forgiving heart
Or the love of God will soon depart.
He forgives us for everything we have done,
He even forgives what we did to His Son.
So why can't we forgive those down here
For the things they have done down
through the years?
There is no time when we all agree,
But by His grace we are all set free
From the bondage unforgiveness can
bring to our heart,
By the grace of God, we get a brand-new
start.
By His grace we get another chance,
So, his kingdom will again advance.*

By Bertie I. Adams

*An enlarged
heart is
open,
obedient,
and
occupied
with God.*





Learning the Basics of Christian Living: Do You Know Your ABCs?

by
David
Royer

Many decades ago, I learned the ABCs of doing my job as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). This mnemonic (memory trick) is used for assessing and treating patients: A = airway, B = breathing, and C = circulation.

The actual ABCs are fundamental to learning. They are the foundation of our entire English language. Educators would have a difficult time teaching about reading, phonics, spelling, or literature without first learning and understanding the alphabetic principle. (See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alphabetic_principle)

Fundamentals are the same with Bible truths. In Hebrews 5:12, Paul says: "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat."

MEANING:

The book of Hebrews was written to a community of Jewish Christians, likely facing persecution and struggling with spiritual maturity, who were being urged to move beyond foundational teachings of faith toward a deeper understanding. Paul expresses disappointment that these believers, who should have been teachers themselves, still required instruction in the basic principles found in the Old Testament, specifically referring to "the oracles of God" found in Genesis, Proverbs, and Psalms. Verse 12 employs a powerful metaphor to illustrate their spiritual immaturity, comparing them to infants who can only consume milk, not solid food.

I found various Christian articles on the internet that reference the ABCs to make their intended point memorable and simple. For example: "The path of the Christlike life is the greatest adventure anyone can experience. To know that God our Creator is daily working within us to shape us into the image of Christ is an incredible experience. Getting started is a simple process, as easy as the ABCs. Consider this "ABC" process as a guide - admit, believe, and confess." (Source: <https://royalrangers.com/abc>)

"A" Admit. A person must admit to God that he is a sinner. He must be sorry for his sin and turn away from sinning. Verses supporting this step include Romans 3:23,

Romans 6:23, Acts 3:19, & I John 1:8-9.

"B" Believe. A person must believe that Jesus is God's Son and that God sent Jesus to pay the penalty for sin. Verses about believing include John 3:16; John 14:6 & Romans 5:8-12.

"C" Confess. A person must confess his faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Read Romans 10:9-13.

While these ABCs can serve as a helpful starting point for understanding salvation, this model is simplistic and potentially misleading if it replaces the whole narrative of the

gospel. Just remember that these ABCs omit key elements, including repentance, faithfulness, judgment, baptism, prayer, and the resurrection of the dead.

In closing, as we mature in the Word of God and strive to become more Christ-like, let us progress from these foundational teachings to deeper spiritual understanding. This process requires a disciplined practice of studying, discernment, and applying God's Word. Growth is not automatic, but it does require intentional effort, including regular Bible reading, prayer, and fellowship, all of which are empowered by the Holy Spirit.

THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD

Brother Scott Mills of Ohio (seated) was Ordained as a Licensed Minister during the Apostolic Council Meeting in Dallas, Texas this past June 2026. Members of The Twelve laid hands upon Brother Scott as part of this ceremony. Apostles from left to right are: Brother Pascacio Tavizon from Mexico, Brother Kent Cornwall from Canada, Brother Tim Buechner from San Antonio, Texas, Brother Errol Noel from Grenada, Brother Walter Goff from Panama and Brother Ricky Herrera Sr from Dallas, Texas.



LESSON

MOSES PRAYS FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

Scripture Reading: Exodus 33:12-23.

Golden Text: Exodus 33:20.

"And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live."

1. What did Moses request of the Lord in Exodus 33:12-13?
2. Did the Lord grant his request? Exodus 33:14.
3. Did Moses desire to do anything without the presence of the Lord? Exodus 33:17.
4. Did the Lord know Moses, and had he found favor in the sight of the Lord? Exodus 33:17.
5. What did Moses ask of the Lord in Exodus 33:18?
6. Did the Lord promise Moses to proclaim His name before him? Exodus 33:19.
7. Could Moses look upon the face of the Lord? Why? Exodus 33:20.
8. What further did the Lord tell Moses in Exodus 33:21-23?

LESSON II

THE TABLES OF STONE RESTORED

Scripture Reading: Exodus 34:1-14.

Golden Text: Exodus 34:1 (first part).

"And the LORD said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first..."

NOTE: A few lessons ago we studied about the tables of stone on which the Lord had written the Ten Commandments. When Moses brought them down from the mount, he saw the people worshipping a golden calf. He was so

disappointed with the people, and hurt, that he broke the two tables of stone on which God had written the commandments for them to follow. Now, we are going to see these were restored to the people.

1. What did the Lord tell Moses to do and when was he to come up into the mount? Exodus 34:1-2.
2. Was anyone to come with Moses? Were the flocks or herds to feed before the mount at this particular time? Exodus 34:3.
3. What did Moses do in Exodus 34:4?
4. How did the Lord appear unto Moses? What did He proclaim unto Moses? Exodus 34:5-7.
5. What did Moses do and ask at this time? Exodus 34:8-9.
6. What was the covenant which the Lord made with Israel? Exodus 34:10-13.
7. Were they to worship any other god? What other name was used for God in Exodus 34:14?

LESSON III

MOSES' FACE SHONE

Scripture Reading: Exodus 34:28-35.

Golden Text: Exodus 34:35 (first part).

"And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone..."

NOTE: Moses went up into Mount Sinai to get the second copy of the Ten Commandments and had been talking with the Lord. Moses now returns and comes down from the mount.

1. How many days did Moses stay on the mount with the Lord? Exodus 34:28. Moses did not have any food or water during this time.

2. When Moses came down from the mount, what did he carry and how did he look? Exodus 34:29.

3. What did Moses do, and who came to see him? Exodus 34:31.

4. Did the children of Israel come close to Moses, and what were they told? Exodus 34:32.

5. What did Moses do when he finished speaking with them? Exodus 34:33.

6. When did Moses take the veil off? Exodus 34:34-35.

5. Did Aaron then admit they had sinned? Numbers 12:11.

6. Did Aaron want Miriam healed, and did Moses ask the Lord for her healing? Numbers 12:12-13.

7. What did the Lord say concerning Miriam? Numbers 12:14.

8. How long was Miriam shut out of the camp? Numbers 12:15.

NOTE: Sometimes we say things against our ministers or helpers in the Church. Do you think this angers the Lord now as it did then?

LESSON IV

MIRIAM HEALED OF LEPROSY

Scripture Reading: Numbers 12.

Golden Text: Numbers 12:13.

"And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee."

NOTE: The children of Israel are still on their journey to the promised land as our lesson starts today.

1. Who spoke against Moses and for what reason? Numbers 12:1-2.

NOTE: Miriam was the sister of Moses, and she did not like it because Moses' wife was an Ethiopian. You may remember studying about Miriam in our earlier lessons. She was the little girl who ran to tell her mother when Pharaoh's daughter found Moses in the bulrushes.

2. What sort of person was Moses? Numbers 12:3.

3. The Lord spake to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, and what did He say? Numbers 12:4-8.

4. The Lord was angry with Aaron and Miriam. What did the Lord cause to come on Miriam? Numbers 12:9-10.



The Covenants

God made covenants to some people in the Bible. A covenant is a promise to someone. Look up the Bible verses below to find who received the covenant and what God promised them.

Genesis 9:8-17

Genesis 15:18

Exodus 19:3-6

Numbers 25:10-13

II Samuel 23:1 & 5

Hebrews 8:6-13



"Love worketh no ill to his neighbour...." (Romans 13:10).

WHEN BETTY HATED

by Mary Garner

"I hate that girl, and I'll not listen to her anymore," Betty Jo snapped as she switched the radio off. With her fist clenched, she stamped her foot and screeched, "I hate her! I hate her! I hate her!" Then she ran to the sofa and buried her face in the pillows.

Betty Jo's mother was speechless. Never had she seen her daughter in such a rage. For a few moments she sat, listening for some explanation of such action. But the only sound was the sobbing that seemed to come from a broken heart.

"Why don't you like Phyllis anymore?" asked Mrs. Larson, "I think she has a sweet voice, and I know she's a nice girl. You've always had such good times together."

"I hate her! I could pull her hair out! She's a cheat! I'll never speak to her again! I'll - I'll -" Betty Jo searched for words to express her hatred even more. She wanted to say something terrible, but she knew she didn't dare. Her mother was very kind and patient, but Betty Jo knew that it was time to find a stopping place.

"Be careful, Betty Jo," interrupted Mrs. Larson. "Remember Jesus is hearing every word you say, and he knows every thought in your heart."

"Well, Mother, it wasn't right of her. She told a lie to get to sing that song. Anyone who sings on that program is supposed to be under twelve years of age, and Phyllis was twelve her last birthday. I could have sung it, Mother, if it hadn't been for her. Jesus heard her tell that lie, too, didn't He?"

"Yes, Betty Jo, that is true, and liars will be punished. But let me read a Scripture to you, found in I John 3:15: "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." You see, Betty Jo, it isn't only lying that can keep us out of the kingdom. Hatred will do it too. Hatred is a terrible sin, and the best thing to do is to get rid of it as quickly as you can."

"How can you get rid of it? If you hate a person,

you hate her and you can't help it."

"Of course, you can help it. Ask the Lord to help you love her."

"I don't want to love her. I'll never love her again! I wish she'd take a cold and..." she clamped her hand over her mouth just in time.

"Betty Jo, I can't permit you to talk like that. Even though you could have sung in her place, you shouldn't act as you are. You must go to your room until you can act like a lady."

Gladly, Betty Jo obeyed her mother and marched toward her room. There she could say and think what she pleased, and no one could do anything.

"I'll get even with her, if it takes me a year to do it. There's that silly old doll she gave me last year for my birthday," With a slap and kick, little curly headed Nancy went sailing under the bed. Wham! Her head struck the wall.

"Oh, you poor dear, I didn't mean to do it. I love you. I really wasn't mad at you. I am sorry." But all this was too late. Nancy's head was cracked so badly that it could not be fixed. Betty Jo cuddled her in her arms and tried to press her head together, but the blow had been too much; Nancy would never be the same again.

Betty Jo's sobs had turned into really crying. To think she had broken the doll she loved most of all. Mrs. Larson heard the wailing and went to see what had happened. Between sobs, Betty Jo told her the story.

"The Lord is teaching you a lesson, dear. See what anger and hatred have caused you to do? You have broken your doll so that she will be of no use anymore. You cannot comb her curls or make her pretty hats anymore. That's what you do to your friends, too, when hatred is in your heart. Your friends are not good to you anymore. You can't do anything for them, and they can't do anything for you. Hatred will cause a person to do terrible things, things they wouldn't do at all if they loved everyone."

"Oh, Mother, I'm so sorry about it all. I do not want anything to happen to Phyllis. I want Jesus to forgive me for the mean things I said. I'll not let hatred into my heart again."

THE JUDGES OF ISRAEL

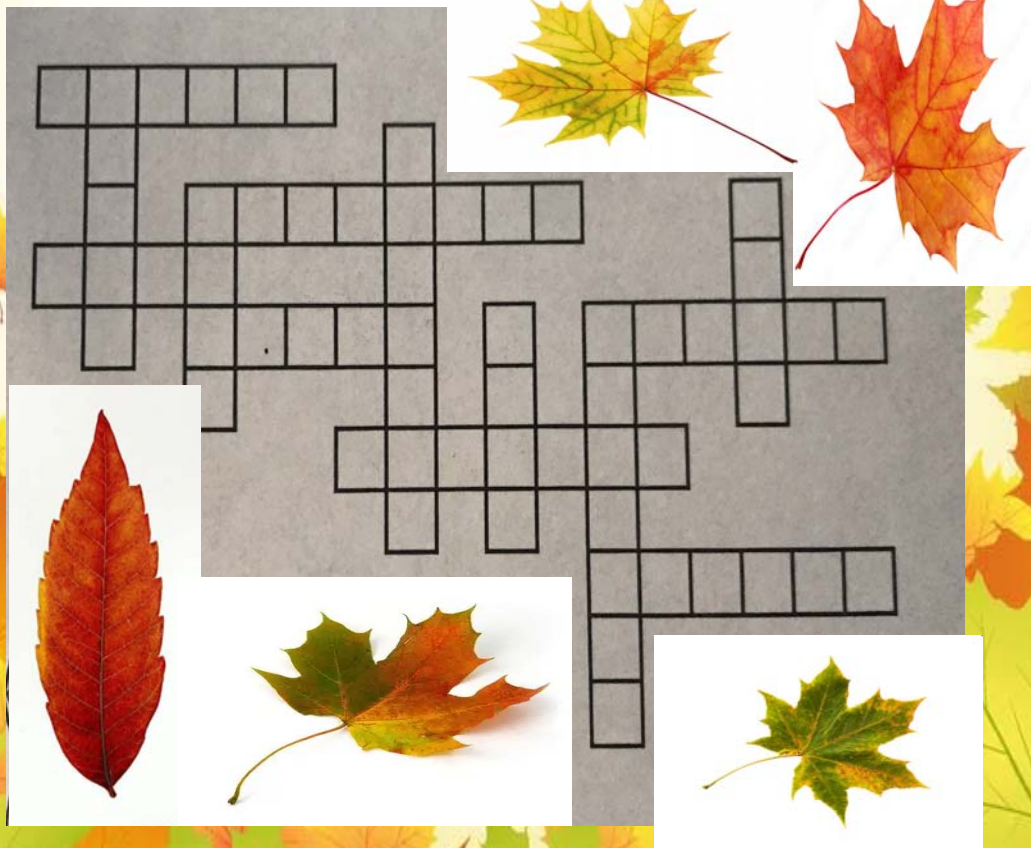
The Israelite people were ruled by judges for 400 years.

Fit those judges' names into the puzzle. Count the number of letters in each name.

Othniel Ehud Shamgaar Deborah

Gideon Tola Jair Jephthah

Ibzan Elon Abdon Samson Samuel





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An Eye For An Eye?

"An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth",
But, Jesus taught us a higher truth;
When someone smites you on the cheek,
Show to him that you are meek
And offer him your other one
For him to smite; be like God's Son;
If someone sues you at the law
And takes away your coat,
Then let him have your cloak also,
This is what Christ did quote;
If someone makes you go a mile,
Then go with him for twain;
Give to him that asks of you,
And lend to him again.
Love your enemies, those that curse,
Do good to them that hate;
Pray for them which use you sore,
Those who against you prate;
That you may be the children of
Your Father who's in heaven,
He makes His sun rise on the good
And the unjust, too, are given.