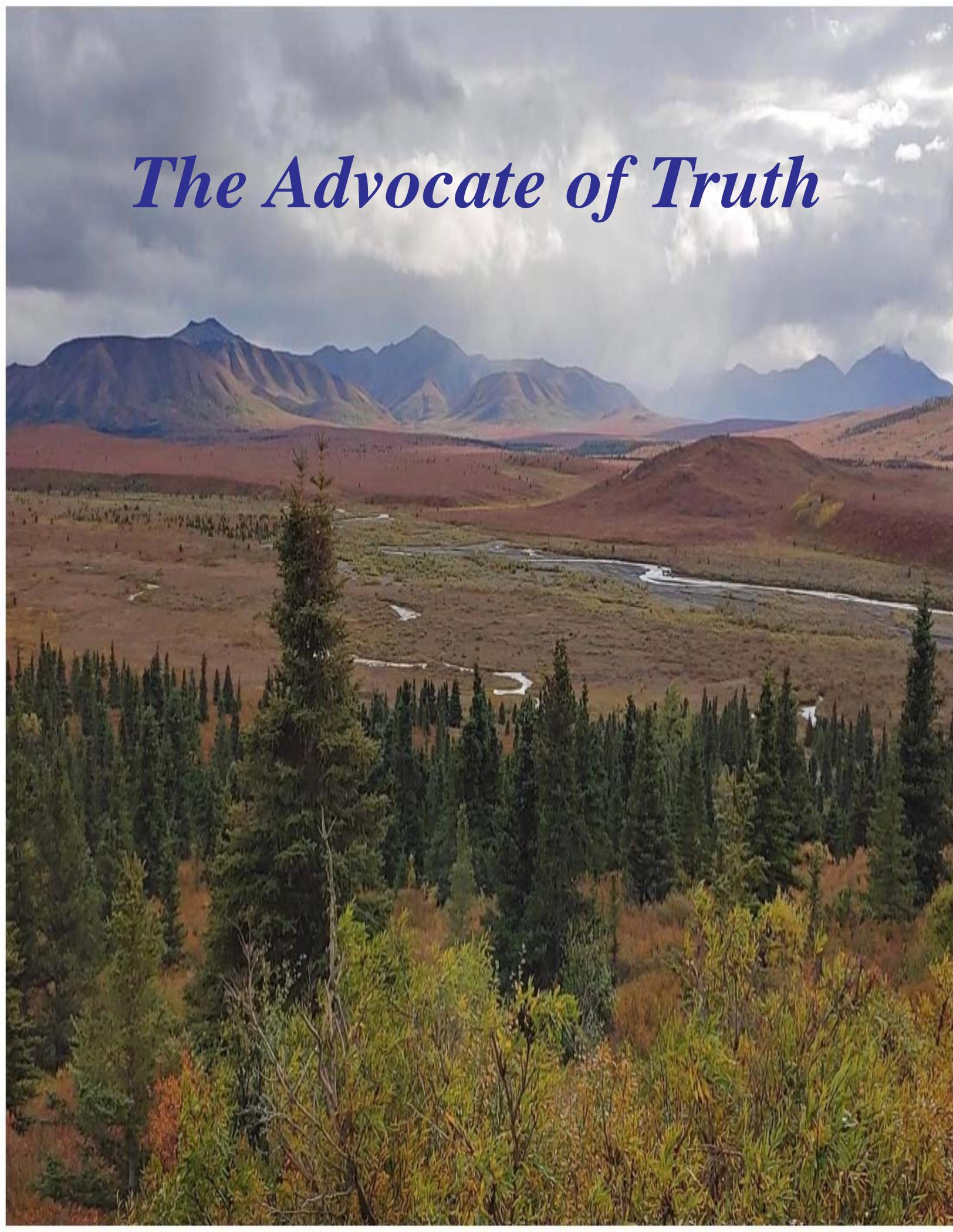
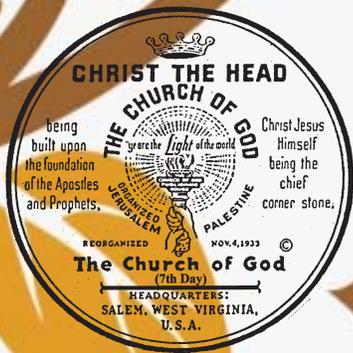


# *The Advocate of Truth*





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**Web site: [www.churchofgod-7thday.org](http://www.churchofgod-7thday.org)**

**Gary Mills ..... Managing Editor  
Ludina Mills..... Children's Page Editor  
David DeLong ..... Editorial Staff**

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*Cover Picture by Gary and Ludina Mills - Low bushes have started turning colors for the falls season in Denali National Park in Alaska and pictured below the flower beds along the Chena River in Fairbanks, Alaska.*





# KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

*by David Royer*

In both the Old and New Testaments, keys symbolized power, authority, privilege, trust, and right of access. Isaiah 22:22 refers to “the key of the house of David”. Matthew 16:19 offers the metaphor of Jesus bestowing spiritual authority on his original Apostles, to faithfully proclaim and spread His gospel message. “And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

The paragraph above provides the essential elements for this article.

First, **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**: Jesus has the authority (given Him by His Father; see Matthew 11:27) to own the “Keys of the Kingdom” and bestow them to others. After His resurrection and before ascending into heaven, Jesus commissioned His Apostles: “.... All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” (Matthew 28:18-20).

He shares this power and authority with our current Church Leaders to perform baptisms, “laying on of hands” in prayer, ordinations, and other spiritual duties. Our

Twelve Apostles today not only oversee Church affairs world-wide, but also have the duty and responsibility to defend and maintain the fidelity of Church Doctrine derived from the Word of God.

So, **KEYS OF THE KINGDOM**: metaphorically represents a continuation of Jesus’ original commission. All who faithfully lead our Church, and preach the Gospel, do so under the authority of Jesus Christ. Through preaching the Word, people come into a right relationship with God. Note that teaching, sharing the Gospel, and Bible studies are not restricted to evangelists, clergy, and pastors. Our entire Church can be a great witness.

**GOSPEL MESSAGE**: “The word gospel means “good news,” which is the message of forgiveness for sin through the atoning work of Jesus Christ. It is essentially God’s rescue plan of redemption for those who trust in His divine Son to be reconciled to a just and holy God. The actual content of this saving message is laid out for us in the New Testament.” Source: What are the essentials of the gospel message? Retrieved April 26, 2023, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/gospel-message.html>

Here are some example verses:

“Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,

And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:14-15).

“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God” (John 3:17-18).

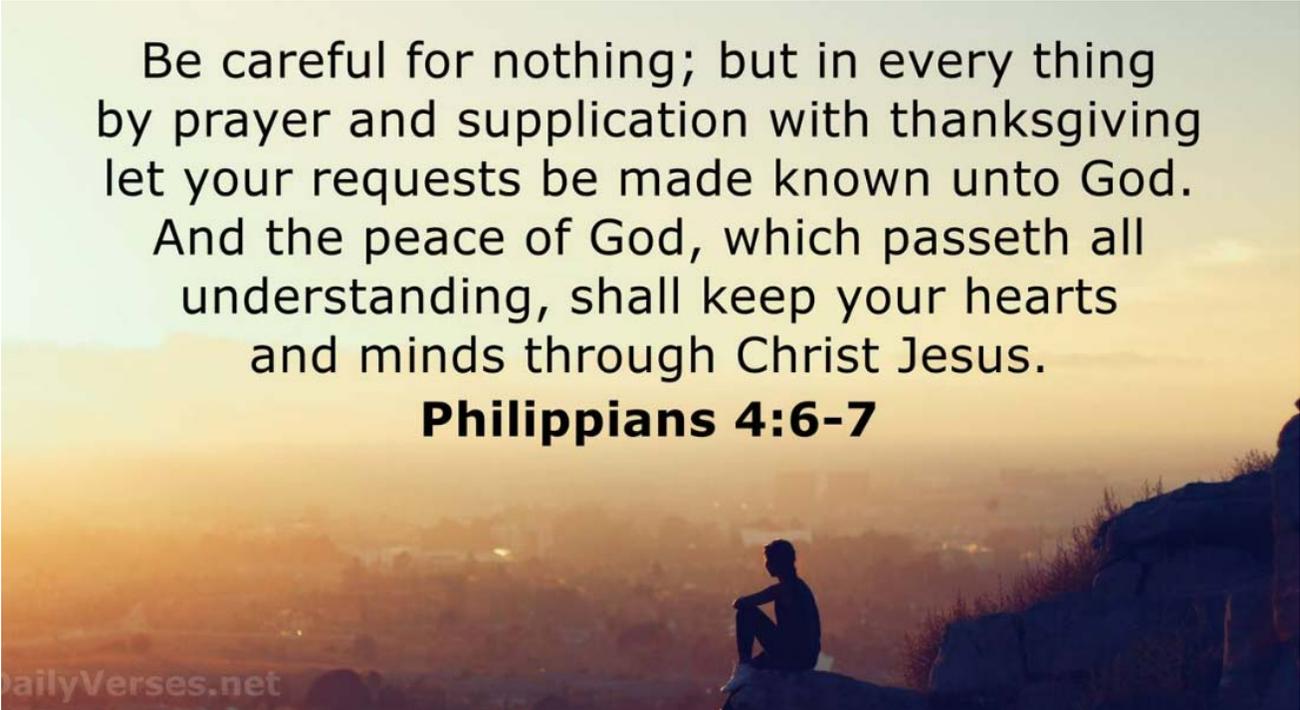
“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:” (I Corinthians 15:1-4).

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Romans 10:9-10).

**BIND AND LOOSE:** The words “bind” and “loose” were familiar Jewish legal expressions, meaning to declare something forbidden or to declare it allowed. The Amplified Bible translates this verse: “Whatever you bind (forbid, declare to be improper and unlawful) on earth will have [already] been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose (permit, declare lawful) on earth will have [already] been loosed in heaven.”

Our Church Leaders do not make commands that God approves and follows. Instead, they must be aware of what God wants to be done and follow His lead. Jesus’ instructions to his disciples made sense in the culture of His day and are applicable today. We must always look for God’s guidance before making rules that forbid or permit people’s actions.

In closing, we can imagine that Jesus is the door that needs keys to enter The Kingdom of His Father, God Almighty. Jesus said as much: “I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture” (John 10:9). Obtaining the Keys requires us to follow His instructions: “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” (Matthew 7:21).

A person is sitting on a rock, looking out over a city at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The city lights are visible in the distance.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing  
by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving  
let your requests be made known unto God.  
And the peace of God, which passeth all  
understanding, shall keep your hearts  
and minds through Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 4:6-7**



*Taken from The Instructor of Truth Part I - If you'd like to receive a hard copy of this book, send request to The Church of God Publishing House P.O. Box 328 Salem, WV 26426 or call 1-304-782-1411.*

*Part 25b - REVELATION 21  
(THE NEW JERUSALEM)*

**Question:** *With what are the foundations garnished (adorned)?*

*Answer: "And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst" (verses 19-20).*

**Question:** *Of what are the twelve gates made? Of what is the street?*

*Answer: "And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several (each) gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass" (verse 21).*

# Questions and Answers

**Question:** *Why did the city not have a temple?*

*Answer: "And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it" (verse 22).*

**Question:** *Who shall walk in the light of it?*

*Answer: "And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it" (verse 24 first part).*

**Question:** *What will the kings of the earth (the saints) do?*

*Answer: "And the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it" (verse 24 last part).*

**Question:** *Why will the gates never be shut?*

*Answer: "And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there" (verse 25).*

**Question:** *What is repeated?*

*Answer: "And they (the saints) shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it" (verse 26).*

**Question:** *What shall not enter into it?*

*Answer: "And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are*

written in the Lamb's book of life" (verse 27).

*Question: When the Lord returns what will be with Him?*

*Answer: "And behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be" (Revelation 22:12).*

*Question: "What is a definite part of the saint's reward, and what must they do to enter?"*

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



*From center left to right - Brother Paz Tavizon, Brother Errol Noel, Brother Kent Cornwall, Brother Tim Buechner, Brother Warren Randall and Brother Ricky Herrera laying hands on newly appointed member of The Board of Seven, Brother Scott Mills.*





*Friendship*  
*by Mrs. Mabel Bumgardner (deceased)*  
*Salem, West Virginia*

In defining friendship, it is an attachment to a person, intimate acquaintance, kind and favorable or benevolence, the love of mankind, affectionate. There are many more words to describe and illustrate the meaning of friendship. The definitions are numerous. However, complications arise when we tend to blend our characters and form friendships.

For instance, our personalities constitute distinction. Therefore, we can readily conceive the difficulty in blending personalities that harmonize and develop into friendship.

In looking back, I recall an article in one of our leading magazines defining friendship. This author had chosen this as a career and studied it exclusively. His conclusion was if you have made three staunch, honest, dependable friends in your lifetime, you have accomplished more than he had. He referred to people as acquaintances. The author of the article is unknown.

The secret of retaining friendship lies in the positive side of character, the commendable qualities such as virtue, beauty, integrity and charity. We would never lose a friend if we would search for the good qualities and omit the negative.

Instead, the negative seems more outstanding and prominent. We are prone to pick flaws. We see the imperfection and defects. Have we not all experienced the frivolous whims of human nature?

They will devour you one day with admiration and exalt you with compliments and pass you by the next day without even as much as a glance your way. Like a flash from a clear sky, your friendship seems ended, at least for the time being.

The two major negative qualities that tend to defeat and sever friendships are jealousy and envy. A minor cause is offense, yet its hold is immense.

We often times are abrupt in our speaking and careless in our remarks, and many times it occurs intentionally. What does the Bible say? "A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle" (Proverbs 18:19).

How can we cope with such actions and enemies? The Bible suggests praying for them. Note the Scripture quotation in Psalm 41:9, "Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me."

So, we have no assurance of tomorrow of our earthly friendships of today. We are told in Matthew 10:36, "And a man's foes shall be they of his own household."

Our only hope of friendship is Jesus Christ. He is a friend that will not forsake us, neither will He turn us away in time of need if we will keep His commandments. The only true friend and the only one we can depend on is Jesus. "That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:15).



*by Delwin DeLong (deceased)*

We can choose to vote or we can choose not to vote; that is the choice we have. If we look at the letters that spell vote, we can see that the word vote has a meaning in itself.

**V - voice  
O - over  
T - the  
E - election**

When we vote, we actually have a voice over the election. When we do not vote, we don't have any voice in the matter whatsoever, so that choice is really ours. We are speaking here of course in a secular sense.

Concerning us spiritually, we have a much bigger choice. It is up to us to cast our vote for eternal life or for eternal death. That is the most important choice and the most important vote that we have.

If we don't cast a vote for eternal life, then we default into the choice for eternal death. We have really made a choice if we do nothing.

"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (I Corinthians 15:33). We are told that there is a deceiver out there. That deceiver is much like the lying politicians who promise something that cannot be delivered. Satan tells us that we will not surely die and that we

will have eternal life no matter what we do. Satan is very good at deception. "Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame" (I Corinthians 15:34). Wake up in, other words, and listen to what the truth is. We need to have the knowledge of God. "But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?" (I Corinthians 15:35). "Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:" (I Corinthians 15:36). If a seed is sown, the seed that is dead comes up as a new plant. "And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body" (I Corinthians 15:37-38). Sometimes when we look at a little seed, we can't tell what it is going to be, but God can. "All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds" (I Corinthians 15:39). "There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another" (I Corinthians 15:40). Right now there are spiritual beings; they are angels. Satan has one of these bodies and can do many things. He can deceive in many ways. "There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resur-

rection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:" (I Corinthians 15:41-42). Now we have proof of how we will be raised. We will leave the corruptible part in the ground and the new part will come up at the time of the resurrection.

How many different stories have you heard on how this happens? People speak of having an out of body experience when they are close to death. It has often been described as travelling down a big white tunnel. It has been said that since many have seen the same thing, it must be true. Satan has created a good deception. When our brain cells start to die one gets illusions but why do these illusions appear to be the same? Satan can do many wondrous things to try to convince people of a lie. What does the Bible say on this matter? "It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power; It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body" (I Corinthians 15:43-44). God has given us the answer in his Word. He explains exactly how it will be.

If we vote for eternal life, we need to be informed properly how to cast that vote for eternal life. We have to do our homework and find out what the Scriptures say. We cannot trust what many people say. We must rely on the Word of God.

"As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 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" (I Corinthians 15:48-52). Those of us who are alive at the time when Jesus returns will also be changed. Paul himself even thought it could come in his lifetime. Jesus can come at any time, so we need to cast our vote now. But the dead will be raised incorruptible and then we that are left will be changed. "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (I Corinthians 15:53). That is what the vote is all about. We can be a part of this, resurrection or change or not, and we need to make up our minds and say yes, I'm going to cast my ballot for the truth and follow the truth. The

eleventh chapter of Hebrews contains a Hall of Fame of people which includes Noah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Sarah, Abraham, Moses and so on. Many heroes of faith are listed in there. The key verse appears at the end of the chapter. "(Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise" (Hebrews 11:38-39). They had not yet received the promise. They had not yet been resurrected, and this was after the resurrection of Jesus. No, none of them had received this promise yet. They are still waiting in their graves. Why? "God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect" (Hebrews 11:40). We will not be made perfect without them. They will be made perfect with us. They are just waiting in their graves for the return of Jesus. How plain is that truth?

"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" (I Thessalonians 4:15). "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 4:16-18).

A while ago I had a conversation with a woman. We were talking about Halloween with its spirits and spooks. I said to her, you know Satan is a great worker in these things. He can create images and can cause much havoc. These spiritual beings are the work of Satan. She asked me if I believed that the dead are in spiritual form. I explained that Satan can cause these forms to appear, but when we die, we wait in our graves until the resurrection. She asked what about the people that have died? Don't they go to heaven? I told her what the Bible says - No, they wait in their graves until the resurrection. I told her that through Satan's influence many traditions were added in the name of religion. When someone dies the next instant they know is the resurrection and the Lord. Time ceases for that individual until they are resurrected. What a fantastic time that will be. The lady cast her vote against the truth. Like that lady said, if I'm wrong a lot of people are with me.

What we do and believe must be written in God's Word. We cannot hold onto the traditions of men. Satan is using many of the same tactics that some politicians use - lies, discord and makes a lie look like the truth. Satan has done a very good job at deceiving the whole world. He told the same lie in the Garden of Eden. He told Eve that her life would better when she ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. He told her, "you're not going to die," but God said you will. Did she die? Of course she did. Satan lied to her and this lie is still being told today. Satan is very clever and disguises his lies so they will look like truth. He tells people that they will be saved if they follow his teachings, but they will not!

"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit" (I Thessalonians 4:3-8). If you are seeking the things that God says are true, you are desiring God. We need to cast a vote in God's election. There are two ways to vote. Vote for the truth or vote for a lie. One leads to eternal life the other to eternal death. The choice is very clear. And we have the freedom to choose. We can say the word Vote for -

V - victory

O - over

T - the

E - evil

And that would establish a-

V - voice

O - of

T - truth

E - eternally

Cast your vote for truth.

## BARAK'S FAITH

### (JUDGES CHAPTER 4)

by Richard Santiesteban

*Hebrews Chapter 11 is known as the Hall of Faith. Forefathers that thru faith believed in a substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen as described in the first verse of Chapter 11. What was interesting to me was the mention of Barak and how this man made the Hall of Faith as mentioned in Hebrews 11:32- And what shall I more say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak.*

*Barak's story takes place in the Book of Judges Chapter 4. During this period, the third Judge Ehud has passed away and the children of Israel continue to do evil in the sight of the Lord.*

*Jabon is the current King of the Canaanites and is reigning in the City of Hazor which is by the Gailee Sea. Jabon has a captain that reports directly to him named Sisera who commanded 900 chariots of iron. The children of Israel are oppressed for 20 years due to their sin.*

*Prophetess Deborah, wife of Lapidoth takes over as the 4th Judge of Israel. She is from Bethel which is modern day Bethlehem. She summons Barak who is the son of Abinoam whom came from the City of Kedeshnaphtali. Verse 6, Prophetess Deborah tells Barak that the Lord commanded saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor and take 10 thousand men from the tribe of Naphtali and Zebulun. Mt. Tabor is located far east of the Jezreel Valley otherwise known as the Valley of Armageddon which is the Northern part of Israel. Jesus had his transfiguration here on Mt. Tabor as well.*

*Continuation from Verse 7, Deborah is full of faith*

*and tells Barak that she will deliver both Sisera and Jabin. However, the next verse which is Verse 8 has me question Barak's faith. It states, And Barak said unto her, if though wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go. Barak seems a little hesitant and is leaning on a security blanket of his leader.*

*The next verse solidifies Prophetess Deborah's faith by saying, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the Lord shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman (this is prophecy). And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh. Kedesh in Hebrew means sanctuary.*

*A huge battle took place in the same City of Kedesh during the times of Abraham. Genesis 14:7 describes the Battle of the Kings which took place in Enmishpat which later changed to the name Kedesh.*

*Now, Barak gets his men ready to fight a battle where the Battle of Kings took place centuries before. His faith is strong now and will change the outcome of a kingdom in this battle. Barak charges down Mt Tabor into Kedesh. The battle does not take very long as the Lord discomfited Sisera and all his chariots as described in Verse 15. I like the way that King David describes this word "discomfited in Psalms 18:14 – Yea, he sent out his arrows, and scattered*

*them; and he shot out lightnings, and "discomfited" them. Discomfited is a power intervention that can only happen by the hand of God.*

*Barak kills every one of Sisera's soldiers but Sisera flees on foot and Sisera pursues after him. This is were the prophecy given by Deborah is fulfilled in verse 17. Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite: for there was peace between Jabin the King of Hazor and the House of Heber the Kenite.*

*Jael provides refuge for Sisera. Sisera falls asleep inside Jael's tent and she takes a nail from the tent and hammers the nail thru his temple killing Sisera in his sleep. Prophecy fulfilled as Sisera fell by the hand of a woman.*

*The last verse of Judges Chapter 4 describe how the children of Israel prospered in the land and destroyed King Jabin. Now let's turn back to Hebrews 11:33 and read the beginning that describes Barak's faith. First part of Hebrews 11:33 reads: Who through faith subdued kingdoms. In this case, Canaan was subdued or destroyed by Barak's sword. Barak's faith prevailed here because the substance of things hoped for was the victory of Israel over the mighty giants of Canaan. The evidence of things not seen here is the words of God that he will deliver Israel from the mighty giants. What a beautiful story. Amen*

*Ceremony to induct Brother Richard Santieteban and Brother Manuel Gonzalez (center) to the Board of Seventy.*



LESSON I

KINDNESS

*Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:25-32.*

*Golden Text: Ephesians 4:32.*

*"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."*

1. *Should we be kind and forgiving? Ephesians 4:32.*
2. *Will we receive more of a blessing from the Lord if we give and do not expect something given to us in return? Acts 20:35.*
3. *If a boy or girl be found doing something wrong, should we correct and help them, in the spirit of kindness? Why? Galatians 6:1.*
4. *Why should we help someone or bear his burden? Galatians 6:2.*
5. *Should we always be kind to strangers and care for them? Hebrews 13:1-2.*
6. *Besides doing good and lending to our enemies, does God expect us to love them? Luke 6:35.*

LESSON II

OBEYING GOD

*Scripture Reading: James 3:1-10.*

*Golden Text: Deuteronomy 11:27.*

*"A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day."*

1. *Can we serve Christ and Satan? Matthew 6:24.*
2. *Should we obey God rather than men? Acts 5:29.*
3. *Did the winds and sea obey Christ? Mathew 8:27.*

4. *What causes us to sin when we do not use our tongue to the glory of God? James 3:8.*

5. *If we use our tongue for speaking evil to others, are we obeying God? James 3:9-10.*

6. *Whom do we obey when we speak evil of others? James 3:15.*

7. *Is it pleasing to the Lord when children obey their parents? Colossians 3:20.*

8. *If we obey Christ and follow his way, will we receive a reward from Him? Colossians 3:24.*

9. *What has God promised us if we obey Him? Deuteronomy 11:27.*

LESSON III

FLEEING FROM SATAN

*Scripture Reading: James 4:6-16.*

*Golden Text: James 4:7.*

*"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."*

*NOTE: The word "flee" means to run away.*

1. *Would a child flee from youthful sins? II Timothy 2:22 (first part).*

2. *Instead of walking in a sinful ay, who would you follow? II Timothy 2:22 (last part).*

3. *Will children of God follow a stranger, or will they flee from him? John 10:5.*

*NOTE: In Hebrews 13:2 in Lesson I, we learned to be kind to strangers, but now we are being told to flee a stranger. We need to be aware of what strangers are doing. If we fear the stranger is doing evil, we should avoid their person. If we have God in our lives, we can ask Him to guide and help us in mak-*

ing this decision.

4. Who will deliver us if we flee from Satan? Psalm 143:9.

5. Whose will should we do and why? Psalm 143:10.

6. Does Satan lay snares, or nets, to try to catch us? Psalm 141:9.

7. If we listen to the Lord, shall we be free from the evil of Satan? Proverbs 1:33.

8. Will we be blessed of the Lord if we keep His way and flee from the devil? Proverbs 8:32.

#### LESSON IV

#### REPENTANCE

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:1-10.

Golden Text: Luke 13:5.

"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

1. What do we mean by repentance? Acts 14:15; I Thessalonians 1:9; Hebrews 12:1.

NOTE: According to Webster's Dictionary, "repent" means to feel regret or sorrow on account of something done or felt left undone; to change one's conduct because of regret.

2. Why must every individual repent? Psalm 51:5; Galatians 3:22; Acts 17:30-31; Romans 3:23.

3. When is the proper time to repent of our sins? Psalm 95:7-8; Hebrews 3:7-8; II Corinthians 6:2; Hebrews 4:7.

4. Repentance should be accompanied by:

(A) Humility, II Chronicles 7:14.

(B) Confession, Job 33:27-28.

(C) Faith, Mark 1:15.

(D) Prayer, Acts 8:22.

NOTE: What is the danger in waiting for "the right time" to repent? Do you think that when we repent and begin to serve the Lord that we leave all pleasure behind, or can joy be had from living a Believer's life? Have you sought the Lord and "repented?"

#### TENS

1. What name is given to the calamities that overtook a nation which persecuted the Hebrews? Exodus 10

2. What group of maidens went to meet a bridegroom? Matthew 25:1-14

3. What famous laws were given to Moses on Mount Sinai? Exodus 20

4. What ten men were cured of a vile disease by Jesus at the entrance to a certain village? Luke 17:12

5. Jacob had twelve sons, but he only sent ten down to Egypt to buy corn. Where were the other two? Genesis 42: 3,4

6. Who pleaded with God to save a city if "even ten righteous" should be found there? Genesis 18:23, 32

7. What man sad to his wife, who wanted a child: "Am I not better to thee than ten sons"? I Samuel 1:8

8. In what parable is one man told to give his money "unto him which hath ten \_\_\_\_\_" Matthew 25:28

9. What man complained that his wages had been changed ten times? Genesis 31:1-7

10. Who begged to be allowed to eat pulse and drink water for ten days instead of the wine and meat which King Nebuchadnezzar ordered? Daniel 1:3-21.

## A LESSON IN THE WOODS

By Arlene West Krenz

Davey was pushing his toy truck over little roads that he made for it behind the old farmhouse where he lived. "Brum-brum!" Davey tried to sound like a big truck. He looked up as his older brother came by.

"Where are you going, Ronnie?" Davey asked.

"I have to pile the wood in the woodshed, and then I'm going to the woods," Ronnie answered.

"I don't see why you like to go back there," Davey said. "I've been back there, and I haven't seen anything interesting."

"I know you haven't," said Ronnie. "You are always noisy, and we have to be quiet to see and hear things in the woods. I'll tell you what, Davey. If you will help me pile the wood, I will take you with me and show you how to see the birds and animals."

"I'd like that," said Davey. He put his toy truck away and ran to help Ronnie. Soon the wood was piled, and they were on their way to the woods.

"Shhhh! You must be quiet now," Ronnie warned his little brother as they neared the small grove of trees at the

back of their farm. "You will frighten everything away." But Davey was not quiet. He kept right on playing and talking.

Soon Ronnie stopped. "We are in the middle of the woods now," he said, "Did you see or hear anything as we came through the trees?"

"No," Davey answered.

"Do you know why?" Ronnie asked.

"Because there is nothing here," Davey said.

"No, Davey," Ronnie said bravely, "We didn't see anything because you were noisy. Now, let's try being quiet and see what happens."

Ronnie and Davey sat down on a mossy log. They sat still and waited. They heard the wind rustling through the trees, and the music of the tinkling brook, and the sweet singing of the birds. Then Ronnie nodded at a tree nearby. Davey looked and saw a pretty little squirrel peeking at them. The squirrel ran down the tree to search among the fallen leaves for acorns. He stuffed the acorns in his cheeks and ran back up the tree.

Ronnie and Davey sat on a log a long time. They saw many interesting things. When it was time to go home, Davey was quiet most of the way. He was thinking of all the nice things he had seen and heard in the woods. "Ronnie," He said finally, " you were right about being



quiet in the woods. I will be quiet there from now on. Think of all the things I have been missing."

"You have been missing things somewhere else, too," said Ronnie. "Can you guess where?"

Davey shook his head.

"In Sabbath school and church," Ronnie told his little brother. "There are many interesting things to see and hear there, if we watch and listen. Suppose you try it and see. It would be a nice surprise for Mother and Father, and I know it would please Jesus. Will you try?"

Davey did try, and he was surprised at how much he had been missing at Sabbath school. He became one of the best-behaved boys in Sabbath school, and his mother and father were very proud of him. I think Jesus was pleased with Davey, too.

**Do you suppose  
He is pleased with you?**

Look up the Scriptures below and find the answers.

1. How did we get the Bible? II Timothy 3:16 and II Peter 1:21.
2. How long will the Bible last? Find Psalm 119:89 and Isaiah 40:8.
3. When will the words of Christ pass away? Find Matthew 24:35.
4. Give a reason for studying and memorizing the Bible in Psalm 119:11; in II Timothy 3:15; and in II Timothy 2:15.
5. What was the reason the bible was written? Look up John 20:31.
6. What is God in Isaiah 5:1-3,7; in I John 4:8?
7. Read what God does in Romans 5:8; in Hebrews 13:5,6 and in Deuteronomy 31:6.

**THE BOOK  
OF EXODUS**

*Find the  
hidden words.*

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