



HOPING FOR HEAVEN

Reservations in Hell

A Wake Up Call
To the Church

by David Rose

Hoping for Heaven, Reservations in Hell

A Wake Up Call To the Church

*“But whatever doctrine is new must be wrong:
for the old religion is the only true one; and no
doctrine can be right, unless it is the very same
“which was from the beginning.”*

John Wesley

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Reservations in Hell**

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“It is an undoubted truth that every doctrine that comes from God, leads to God; and that which doth not tend to promote holiness is not of God.”

George Whitefield

Forward

My first printing of this publication “Hoping for Heaven, Reservations in Hell” was placed free of charge on the internet for anyone to read and copy. This book, however, has had some modifications and additional information added. I have many positive responses from the original manuscript, listed below.

“Hoping for Heaven, Reservations in Hell by David Rose is an incredible book that will force you to look at yourself in the mirror judging your life with God’s standards. In today’s lukewarm church age, many Christians have conformed to the world having their consciences seared not knowing the difference between good and evil, holy and unholy, God and Satan. This Biblically based book by David Rose will clear up any misunderstandings about God’s Word and God’s plan for Christians. This book is for anyone who is seeking to know how to avoid the fires of Hell to live eternally with God in His Kingdom. John the Baptist came to prepare the way for Jesus Christ by preaching repentance and holiness; David Rose also comes preaching repentance and holiness in his book Hoping for Heaven, Reservations in Hell.”

-Hunter (Watchmen Radio)

“David Rose’s book “Hoping for Heaven, Reservations in Hell” certainly caused me to re-examine my life and reminded me what Jesus expects from me. It’s an eye-opening and hopefully a life-changing book for those who are Hoping for Heaven with Reservations in Hell.”

John C. - NY 12/19/05

“Hoping for Heaven, Reservations in Hell” has made me question my obedience with God and bring light to the things in my life that are not acceptable if I am to call myself a Christian. I am extremely thankful to have read David Rose’s book because it has scared me enough to sit back and say that God would not allow me in his kingdom with the life I have been living, so changes need to be made. I have always said my faith in the Lord is strong, but I now realize that if it is really as strong as I think, then I would pay closer attention to his word. Again, this book has made me look at my life with God from a different perspective and I am very grateful to have read it. The changes that need to be made will be a true test, for I have lived my life a certain way for so long that the sins I have committed have become mundane. Yet, I realize that if I love the Lord as much as I do, these changes should come easily or at least be most rewarding.”

Tonia P. NY 12/22/05

“Hoping for Heaven, Reservations in Hell”, has helped me become a more faithful follower of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I was in a position in my life when I thought I knew what I needed to do to make it to Heaven. This book showed me that there was a lot more I needed to change in order to be saved. I truly

believed I was saved, I was wrong! Many will say to the Lord that day, "but Lord, Lord" and he will say "I never knew you." I would have heard those dreadful words if I didn't read this book. Even though I had attended church every Sunday for the past 6 years and read my bible everyday, I was still not saved because of the sins that I was committing, and not even realizing I was committing them. I thank Jesus for putting this book in to my hands. Everyone knows that everyone fears death, and they know it is going to happen. Those who fear it are those who don't have Christ. As a follower of Christ I do not have to worry about what happens after death. I know that you go to heaven or to hell, it is your decision. What a decision to make. What an opportunity the Lord has given to us! I believe that this is a book of opportunity. Don't let it pass you by, I'm glad I didn't. This book has been life changing for me. I have passed it on to people in my family with hopes that they will take the same opportunity to read it. I know it will open there eyes to the living word so they too can have everlasting life after death."

Stacey R. NY 12/22/05

"Dear saints of God, your book, "Hoping for Heaven, Reservations in Hell" has blessed me and my friends a great deal. Where can we get a hard copy of this book to buy, please?"

Mr. Ray Q. London, England 2006

Dedication

I would like to dedicate this book to the wonderful and beautiful woman in my life, my wife Sheila. You have always encouraged me even when I was running down rabbit trails. I love you very much. I would like to thank you for reviewing this book and the many hours you spent proofreading and correcting this manuscript. May God bless you with every blessing He can give to a woman of God. You have helped to keep me anchored in my walk with Him.

I would like to thank my mother for her determination and patience in the proofreading and correction of this book. I love you mom. And a special thanks to John Cook for his proofreading and corrections of the original manuscript.

Also, I would like to thank Pastor Don and Joyce Evans and Pastor Dutch and Marleen Woltman because you have shown me what being a true Christian is all about. You have shown me the power of God through true love and humility. You have been instrumental in helping to mold me into the man that I have become. I am truly thankful that God placed you all in my life.

Most of all, I want to praise and thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for being patient with me and showing me His truth.

This book is written and dedicated to ALL those that hunger and thirst after the truth. May God meet you and bless you.

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*“The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all
the nations that forget God.”*

(Psalm 9:17)

Introduction

This may be one of the most important books you will ever read. This book is a guide for you to test yourself to see if you are in the faith. As Paul states;

“Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you- unless, of course, you fail the test?” 2 Corinthians 13:5 NIV

We should always measure ourselves against the Word of God. So let's go ahead and measure ourselves against the Word together, and see where you and I are in the Lord. What you may read in these pages may be encouraging or may upset you, it may even get you angry. Remember, I'm just the messenger, I did not write the Bible, I'm only reporting what the Bible says.

If what I'm saying is in the Bible and true then you are accountable whether you want the truth or not. We will be judged by what's in the Bible. You will discover that if you read and investigate the message and then act on it, you will not only know you are saved, but will feel it, because the Holy Spirit will bear witness. If you are truly saved, where is God's power in your life? Where are all the miracles? What about the transformed lives? I think as we begin to investigate, we will find the answers.

There are many people that are hoping for a Heaven they will never see. They have neglected reading the Bible for themselves. They have believed everything someone else has told them. May God bless you as you search the scriptures for truth, for the truth shall set you free.

“Opposition! It is a bad sign for the Christianity of this day that it provokes so little opposition. If there were no other evidence of it being wrong, I should know from that. When the church and the world can jog along together comfortably, you may be sure there is something wrong.” Catherine Booth

“If the church were to live one week as if they believed the Bible, sinners would melt down before them.” Charles Finney

“If I see aright, the cross of popular evangelicalism is not the cross of the new testament. It is, rather a new bright ornament upon the bosom of a self-assured and carnal Christianity. The old cross slew men; the new cross amused. The old cross destroyed confidence in the flesh; the new cross encourages it.” A.W. Tozer

“How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation? A little matter of neglect brings you to ruin, but our master’s words are “strive to enter in at the straight gate, for many, I say unto you shall seek”- merely seek--”to enter in, and shall not be able,” striving is wanted more than seeking. Let us pray that God the Holy Spirit would always enable us to be in downright, awful earnest about the salvation of our souls. May we never count this a matter of secondary importance, but may we seek first, and beyond everything else, the kingdom of God and his righteousness. May we lay hold on eternal life: may we so run that we may obtain.” Charles H. Spurgeon

“There is dust enough on some of your Bibles to write the word ‘damnation’ with your finger.” Charles H. Spurgeon

Chapter 1

Something is wrong

“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:” Matthew 7:13

How many of us have heard of great men like Joseph Alleine, Jonathan Edwards, John Wesley, George Whitefield or Charles Finney? These men shook their world for Christ. When they preached, men and women would cry out in agony over their sins. Others would scream or shriek, still others would tremble, some would shake, some were even torn with a kind of convulsive motion in every part of their body. When Jonathan Edwards preached his sermon, “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God,” it would cause some of his congregation to rise weeping and moaning from their seats, and others would be bowed over not able to stand with an awful conviction of their sin and a real awareness of the danger they were in with God.

When Finney preached back in the 1800’s, at a village schoolhouse near Antwerp, New York he witnessed the same things. *“An awful solemnity seemed to settle upon the people; the congregation began to fall from their seats in every direction and cry for mercy. If I had a sword in each hand, I could not have cut them down as fast as they fell. I was obliged to stop preaching.”*

It was said that 10 years after Finney preached, 80% of those saved were still going strong in the Lord. That is simply unheard of today. We feel blessed if we can retain five percent of new converts a year later.

What about the great awakening in Wales under Evan Roberts. It was estimated that around eighty percent of the people were still in the churches five years later because of his preaching.

What was it that these men had that we don't? The Bible tells us to “***Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.***” (Hebrews 13:7)

Old time preaching saved men **from their sins**, today we have preaching that is saving men **in their sins**. If you wanted to be successful, would you go to a bum living on the streets for advice on how to achieve success? No! You would probably consult successful people and ask them how they achieved their success.

If you were sick, would you go to a mechanic? No! You would most likely go to a doctor or a nutritionist. If you wanted to learn how to be a computer technician, would you go to medical school. No, that would be stupid. Yet look how many of us are praying for revival, and we are trying all kinds of new and crazy ideas to bring people into the church, then we can't get them to stay. Not only that, the ones that do stay have never been freed from the power of sin in their lives. They have the same sin problems as the lost. It is not consistent with scriptures or past movements of God. We are not preaching the same message that our forefathers or the gospels preached. We have adopted a Barney (the purple dinosaur) gospel with no teeth.

Where is Gods power, as demonstrated in the early church and that was with our forefathers when they preached. God has moved upon my heart to write a warning to those that think they are saved, but don't live like it, because many are not going to make it. They have allowed themselves to be deceived. There has, over the years, crept in very damnable lies in the churches across America.

Today in many pulpits, preachers are giving success seminars. There is no mention of the blood of Christ, repentance, fasting, prayer, evangelizing, self-denial or hell, only different ways to enhance your life. There is something terribly wrong.

A hundred years ago, William Booth founder of the Salvation Army uttered these words: *“The chief danger of the twentieth century will be: religion without the Holy Ghost, Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without repentance, salvation without regeneration, heaven without hell.”*

“In 1906 the ‘Azusa Street’ revival prophesied that in the last days three things would happen in the great pentecostal movement:

1. There will be an over emphasis on power, rather than on righteousness.
2. There will be an over emphasis on praise, to a God they no longer pray to.
3. There will be an over emphasis on the gifts of the Spirit - rather than on the Lordship of Christ”

(“The Delusion of Cool Christianity” by Andrew Strom)

Some of you have sat back in an easy chair and let TV and radio preachers spoon feed you the word of God and you don't even bother to check to see if what they are preaching is in the Bible. We just believe it or not, depending on what we want to

hear. We act like God's commandments are multiple choice. What would you say to me if I had a bottle of deadly poison in my hand and I told you I was going to drink it because it tasted good. You would probably warn me and try to get me to read the warning label. But what if I said "I don't believe the way you do. Besides we've all got a right to believe the way we want." But the truth be known, my belief has nothing to do with the facts. If you or I drink poison we will die. For some reason truth is no longer truth or a fact is no longer a fact. Now people say, well that's your truth, I don't believe that way. This is stupid reasoning from a dumbed down generation who believe truth is not absolute.

Two plus two equals four is true, therefore it is a fact. It does not matter how many people say that two plus two equals six. That would be false, or a lie. It does not matter how many graphs I make or how many ways I try to convince you that two plus two is six it will always be four. Truth is forever settled, it can't be changed. It is a fact. Because much of what is called teaching in schools today is not showing children how to think, children are being told what to think. That is indoctrination. I have not run across many people who really know how to research anything anymore. They think that research is listening to a proclaimed expert speak on the news or by reading a news article. True research is checking the references to see if they really exist. It also deals with making sure there is no contradiction in the statement or supposed fact. With this, I challenge everyone of you to check out in the Bible to see if what I am telling you is even in the bible.

Many think they have a right to believe the way they want to when it comes to God's word. But let me ask you, just how many ways can you interpret this verse:

“Thou shalt not commit adultery”

What did Jesus say to the woman caught in adultery? He said: ***“Go, and sin no more.”*** (John 8:11)

How many ways can you interpret the verse “Go, and sin no more”? The Bible tells us that God is going to judge the adulterer right along with the whoremonger in (Heb. 13:4). Whoremongers are going to have their part in the lake of fire in (Rev. 21:8). Listen up! It does not matter what you believe, the Bible says that no adulterer shall inherit the kingdom of God. (Gal. 5:19-21)

So many people get hung up on scriptures they don't understand, they throw the whole Bible out as a book that is too hard to understand. Mark Twain once said, *“Most people are bothered by those passages in scripture which they cannot understand; but as for me, I always noticed that the passages in scripture which trouble me are those I do understand.”*

If people would begin to obey the parts of God's word that they do understand, God says that He would pour out His spirit on them and give them greater understanding of His word.

“Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.” Prov. 1:23

Why would God reveal His word to you if you don't obey the parts you do understand? You must obey, and turn from things that God has revealed to you that are doing wrong, and then He will pour out His Spirit on you and give you greater understanding of His Word. If you don't obey Him, the rest of the Word will be hidden until you obey the parts you do understand.

The biggest reason many of you can't understand the Bible, is you haven't been obedient to that which has been revealed to you. Act on what you have and more will be given you. Don't act

on what you have, and even that will be taken away.

What does the Bible say? Many people are under the wrong assumption that all they have to do is say a prayer or just believe in Jesus and they will go to heaven when they die.

But is this really what the Bible says? Let's look:

After Peter preached to over 3000 people on the day of Pentecost the people asked him "what shall we do?" They wanted to know how to be saved. Here was Peter's opportunity to tell them to ask Jesus into their hearts. What did he tell them? He said, "*Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission (forgiveness) of your sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost*" (Acts 2:37-38)

Lets look at Philip, when he was done preaching they were all baptized, both men and women. (Acts 8:12) Then Peter and John came on the scene and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:14-17) So far we have not run into anyone saying ask Jesus into their hearts. Instead we see people being told to repent, be baptized and then be filled with the Spirit.

When Peter preached to Cornelius and his household, they repented and received the Holy Spirit and then Peter commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Acts 10:44-48

What about the Philippian jailer? The Word tells us that after an earthquake all the doors were opened in the prison, and the keeper of the prison came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, asking "What must I do to be saved? That night Paul spoke the word of God to him and that same hour he and his family were all baptized. (Acts 16:32-33)

Am I saying that in order to be saved you must be baptized? No! But I am saying that salvation is much deeper than a little prayer

and baptism is much greater than a little token of your commitment to Christ. You better have a good reason for disobeying our Lord when he commands us to be baptized. Many of you are not tied up on a tree like the thief hanging next to Jesus.

Baptism is much more than just a symbolic action showing your new life in Christ. It is according to scripture:

A burial of the old man and resurrection of the new.

It is putting on Christ. (Galatians 3:27) (Colossians 2:11,12)

Something supernatural happens to those who are baptized in faith.

The old man is dead and buried, the new man in Christ is born.

You are made dead to sin!

Still nothing on accepting Jesus into our hearts. You can go from Matthew to Revelation and you will not find one case where any of the disciples are telling anyone just accept Jesus into your heart. I have not found where any of our forefathers in the faith did this either.

Close to two hundred years ago during Charles Finney's preaching, people would just run to the altars or they would cry out for mercy where they were seated. Many would be there all night crying out to God and repenting of their sins. I believe this gave the Holy Spirit time to work in people's lives and to change them. No one preached "Close your eyes and bow your head if you would like to ask Jesus into your heart raise your hand". Let me say this to you Pastors, if your converts can't stand up with every eye open and every head up in a church setting where there are other Christians that love them, they will never stand up for Christ in an ungodly world. So the question is, what did these men of God do that we don't?

They thundered against sin! They did not lull the people to sleep by saying peace, peace, when there is no peace. They would warn that “without holiness no man shall see the Lord.” (Heb. 12:14)

Richard Owen Roberts, a man used of God to usher in a great revival said in his sermon ‘Preaching that Hinders Revival’,
“What ever happened to the fearless preachers whose fiery denunciations of sin and awesome warnings of impending doom used to grip the land? Are we too advanced a culture to be affected by prophets of God or are the men who think themselves called of God too timid to tell the truth?”

Why do we not preach against sin anymore? Doesn’t the Word warn us about professing Christ and living in sin? Yes it does.

*“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso **confesseth** and **forsaketh** them shall have mercy.”* (Prov. 28:13)

*“And hereby we do know that we know him, if we **keep his commandments**. He that saith, I know him, and **keepeth not his commandments, is a liar**, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.”* (1 John 2:3-6)

*“But the **fearful**, and **unbelieving**, and the **abominable**, and **murderers**, and **whoremongers**, and **sorcerers**, and **idolaters**, and **all liars**, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”* (Revelation 21:8)

Many think they are righteous just because they believe in Jesus. But God’s word says:

*“Little children, let no man deceive you: he that **doeth***

righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.”

(1 John 3:7)

A true Christian is Christ like. He keeps God’s commandments. (1 John 2:3-6)

Do you really want to go to heaven? Paul made it very clear on how to get there, he said:

*“Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ **depart from iniquity (sin).**”* (2 Timothy 2:19)

Many think they know the Lord because they said a prayer many years ago. You may pray everyday, but if you are living in known sin the Bible says God will not hear you. Not only that, **your prayers are**, according to the Bible, **an abomination to Him.** (Prov. 28:9 & Psalms 66:18) Jesus said we must repent. (Luke 13:3,5)

Many false teachers will tell you that repent means to turn from unbelief in God to belief in God. But belief is worthless if you don’t follow up with obedience. This is why Jesus said, *“Why do you call me Lord, Lord and do not do what I say.”* (Luke 6:46)

James said, “Even the devil believes in God and trembles.” So it takes more than head knowledge, it takes loving and serving Jesus, and the Bible says if we really love Him we will obey Him. (John 14:15)

What did Jesus tell the woman caught in the act adultery to do? He told her to **“go and sin no more”**. He did not tell her to get counseling. Or to try to cut back on all of her men. He said “don’t do that anymore”. What part of these scriptures are people not understanding?

John said, if anyone says they know the Lord Jesus and yet they are not keeping the ten commandments of God, they are a liar. (1 John 2:24) Once we are born again we will walk in love toward God and man. (Eph. 5:1,2)

True love fulfills the ten commandments.

“Love to God will admit no other God.

Love resents everything that debases its object by representing it by an image.

Love to God will never dishonor His name.

Love to God will reverence His day.

Love to parents makes one honor them.

Hate, not love, is murder.

Lust, not love, commits adultery.

Love will give, but never steal.

Love will not slander or lie.

Love’s eye is not covetous.” Author Unknown

Love fulfills the law. Just saying you’re a Christian does not make you a Christian, any more than standing in a garage makes a you a car. Paul tells us how a true Christian lives. *“Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “Do not commit adultery,” “Do not murder,” “Do not steal,” “Do not covet,” and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.” Romans 13:8-10*

If you walk in love, you will keep the 10 commandments. So

it is possible through the power of the Holy Spirit to live a holy life. This is the reason that Christ came, to destroy the power of sin and the devil,

(1 John 3:8) and turn us from a life of sin to a life of holiness. (Acts 3:26 / 1 Peter 2:24)

Many think that because they said a prayer and asked Jesus into their hearts, that they are saved. They have no hunger for His Word, no desire for prayer, no compassion for the lost and no conviction over sin. This is not right! Today many pastors say we are to “win people through grace, not law.” “The law is to condemning.”

How should we share the word of God with others? What has worked in the past? If you want the same results of the early church revivals, do what they did. Preach what they did. Does the Bible tell us to use our methods that we use today? Or does it tell us to follow Jesus and follow the ancient paths and consider our forefathers and follow them?

“Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.” Jeremiah 6:16

“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.” Hebrews 13:7

Are we too proud to learn from our early leaders or are our early leaders too radical for our lukewarm generation? *“So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of*

my mouth." Revelation 3:16

“The Salvationists can scarcely read their flaming evangelical history without tears. Has the glory of the evangelical revival under Wesley ever gripped the hearts of the Methodists of today? Have they read of the fire-baptized men in Wesley’s team? Men like John Nelson, Thomas Walsh, and a host of others whose names are written in the Book of Life; men persecuted and kicked in the streets when they held street meetings? Yet as their blood flowed from their wounds, their tears flowed from their eyes. Have the Holiness people set a guard at the door of the beauty parlors lest any sister should enter to get her hair curled, while a block away there is a string of prostitutes trying to sell their sin-wracked bodies with none to tell them of eternal love? Do the Pentecostals look back with shame as they remember when they dwelt across the theological tracks, but with the glory of the Lord in their midst? When they had a normal church life, which meant nights of prayers, followed by signs and wonders, and diverse miracles, and genuine gifts of the Holy Ghost? When they were not clock watchers, and their meetings lasted for hours, saturated with holy power? Have we no tears for these memories, or shame that our children know nothing of such power? Other denominations had their Glory Days of revival. Think of the mighty visitations to the Presbyterians in Korea. Remember the earth-shaking revival in Shantung. Are those days gone forever? Have we no tears for revival?” Leonard Ravenhill

“We want a revival of old-fashioned doctrine. I know not a single doctrine which is not at this hour studiously undermined by those who ought to be its defenders. There is not a truth that is precious to the soul which is not now denied by those whose

profession it is to proclaim it. To me it is clear that we need a revival of old-fashioned gospel preaching like that of Whitefield and Wesley.” Charles Haddon Spurgeon

“How tragic that we in this dark day have had our seeking done for us by our teachers. Everything is made to center upon the initial act of “accepting” Christ (a term, incidentally, which is not found in the Bible) and we are not expected thereafter to crave any further revelation of God to our souls. We have been snared in the coils of a spurious logic which insists that if we have found Him, we need no more seek Him. In the midst of this great chill there are some, I rejoice to acknowledge, who will not be content with shallow logic. They will admit the force of the argument, and then turn away with tears to hunt some lonely place and pray. “Oh God, show me Thy glory.” They want to taste, to touch with their hearts, to see with their inner eyes the wonder that is God.” A.W Tozer

“A revival of holiness is what we need. Such preaching of the claim that Christ Has on us, shall lead us to live entirely for Him and His kingdom; such an attachment of love to Him as shall make His fellowship our highest joy; such faith in His freeing us from the dominion of sin as shall enable us to obey His commandments; such yielding to the Holy Spirit as to be led by Him in all our daily walk - these will be some of the elements of the revival of true holiness for which the Church must learn to seek as for the pearl of great price.” Andrew Murray

“The nature of the preaching is of the first importance. Its character will grade the converts and measure the depth of the work. The word of God in its purity and strength must be given. The law of God in its spiritual demands must arouse the conscience, and pierce and lay bare the heart.

“Evermore the law must prepare the way for the gospel. To overlook this in instructing souls is almost certain to result in false hope, the introduction of a false standard of Christian experience, and to fill the church with false converts...Time will make this plain.” Charles Finney

“Some say that they are gospel preachers. I am a law and gospel preacher.” John Wesley

“It is a great mistake to give a man who has not been convicted of sin certain passages that were never meant for him. The law is what he needs... Do not offer the consolation of the gospel until he sees and knows he is guilty before God. We must give enough of the law to take away all self- righteousness. I pity the man who preaches only one side of the truth always the gospel, and never the law.” D.L. Moody

“I fear the preachers have been more studious to please than to awaken, or there would have been a deeper work.” John Wesley

“Satan, the god of all dissension, stirreth up daily new sects, and last of all, which of all other I should never have foreseen or once suspected, he hath raised up a sect as such as teach... that men should not be terrified by the law, but gently exhorted by the preaching of the grace of Christ.” Martin Luther

Chapter 2

The Law of the Lord

“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul.”

Psalm 19:7

Do you consider yourself to be a good person? Good enough to go to heaven? By who’s standard are you measuring? The good person believes he will go to heaven because he or she is nice and gentle hearted. If you think you are a good person, chances are you give to charities and other good causes. You may even go to church, be an elder, sing in the choir, work in a soup kitchen or teach Sunday school. But the real question is are you good by your standards or God’s.

*Let’s take a look at God’s standards. The ninth commandment says; **“thou shall not bear false witness (lie)”** Have you ever told a lie? If you have, God says you are a liar. You say you’re not a liar. You only tell small ones. Let me ask you a question. If you kill someone what does that make you? A murderer! How many times do you have to kill some one before you become a murderer? Once! If you tell one lie, God says you’re a liar.*

There are no big lies and little lies, just as there are no big thieves and little thieves. Size has nothing to do with it. If you steal \$5.00 you’re just as much a thief as if you stole \$30,000. If you tell any kind of lie you are a liar. Have you ever taken something that belonged to someone else regardless of its value? Then you are a thief. “Thou shalt not steal.”

Have you ever looked upon someone to lust? Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said of old, thou shall not commit adultery, but I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust after her has committed adultery already with her in his heart.' The seventh commandment is "Thou shall not commit adultery".

If you said yes to any of these, the Bible says you're guilty. If you have broken one commandment you are guilty of breaking all the commandments. For the word says "*For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.*"
James 2:10

If you were to face God for your lying, stealing and adultery on judgment day would you be innocent or guilty? Also remember we have only looked at three of the Ten Commandments, we have another seven to go. If you have ever lied, stolen and lusted after someone in your heart, then you are a lying, thieving adulterer at heart and you have to face God on judgement day. The Bible says "*For the wages of sin is death.*" *Romans 6:23*

God warns us in His word that "*...all souls are mine: as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine; **the soul that sinneth, it shall die.***" *Ezekiel 18:4*

So tell me good person, can your goodness get you to heaven? Can you still lie, steal and commit adultery and be a good person? "*But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone.*" *Revelation 21:8*

There are also those that think because they are spiritual or religious they will make it to heaven. There are those that treat their church like a God, some think their membership will save

them. Many see nothing wrong with horoscopes, palm reading and fortune telling. They see nothing wrong with praying to saints or loved ones that have passed on. This Is forbidden in the Bible and Is called the sin of Necromancy. These same people see nothing wrong with reading books from people like Jeane Dixon, Edgar Cayce, John Edwards or Nostradamus. Many don't see the harm in practices such as; Silva mind control, yoga, TM meditation, talking to spirit guides.

Many people see nothing wrong with going to hear psychics, mediums, palm readers or a tarot card reader. What many people don't know is, if the message or miracles do not lead you back to God and His son Jesus Christ it is not from God.

“I am quite sure that the root of nine-tenths of all the heresies that have ever afflicted the Christian church, and are the cause of the weakness of so much popular Christianity, is none other than the failure adequately to recognize the universality, and gravity of transgression. If a word comes to you, calls itself God's message, and does not start with man's sin, nor put in the forefront of its utterances the way by which the dominion of that sin can be broken in your own heart, and the penalties of that sin in your present and future life can be swept away, it is condemned= “ipso facto” (in the very fact itself)- as not a gospel from God, or fit for men.”
Alexander Maclaren

One sure-fire way of finding out if a message is from God or if the prophet is of God is he will turn people away from their “evil way and from the evil of their deeds.” (Jer. 23:21-22/23:30-32)

“I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have

turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.”

Jer. 23:21-22

“Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that steal my words every one from his neighbour. Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that use their tongues, and say, He saith. Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the Lord, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the Lord.”

Jer. 23:30-32

In Deuteronomy 13:1-5 the Lord tells us that if a prophet or dreamer of dreams does miracles, if he in any way tries to lead you away from God, to other gods, you are not to listen to him, *“For the Lord your God is testing you to find out if you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.”*

Just because a man or woman can tell you something about your-self does not make them a prophet of God, remember witches can do the same thing. A prophet according to scripture will turn people away from sin and towards Jesus.

“The prophet comes to set up that which is upset. His work is to call into line those who are out of line! He is unpopular because he opposes the popular in morality and spirituality. In a day of faceless politicians and voiceless preachers, there is not a more urgent national need than that we cry to God for a prophet! The function of the prophet, as Austin-Sparks once said, “has almost always been that of recovery.” Leonard Ravenhill

“The prophet is God’s detective seeking for a lost treasure. The degree of his effectiveness is determined by his measure of

unpopularity. Compromise is not known to him.

He has no price tags.

He is totally “otherworldly.”

He is unquestionably controversial and unpardonably hostile.

He marches to another drummer!

He breathes the rarefied air of inspiration.

He is a “seer” who comes to lead the blind.

He lives in the heights of God and comes into the valley with a “thus saith the Lord.”

He shares some of the foreknowledge of God and so is aware of impending judgment.

He lives in “splendid isolation.”

He is forthright and outright, but he claims no birthright.

His message is “repent, be reconciled to God or else...!”

His prophecies are parried.

His truth brings torment, but his voice is never void.

He is the villain of today and the hero of tomorrow.

He is excommunicated while alive and exalted when dead!

He is dishonored with epithets when breathing and honored with epitaphs when dead.

He is a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, but few “make the grade” in his class.

He is friendless while living and famous when dead.

He is against the establishment in ministry; then he is established as a saint by posterity.

He eats daily the bread of affliction while he ministers, but he feeds the Bread of Life to those who listen.
He walks before men for days but has walked before God for years.
He is a scourge to the nation before he is scourged by the nation.
He announces, pronounces, and denounces!
He has a heart like a volcano and his words are as fire.
He talks to men about God.
He carries the lamp of truth amongst heretics while he is lampooned by men.
He faces God before he faces men, but he is self-effacing.
He hides with God in the secret place, but he has nothing to hide in the marketplace.
He is naturally sensitive but supernaturally spiritual.
He has passion, purpose and pugnacity.
He is ordained of God but disdained by men.”

Leonard Ravenhill

“If the church in the second half of this century is to recover from the injuries she suffered in the first half, there must appear a new type of preacher. The proper, ruler-of-the-synagogue type will never do. Neither will the priestly type of man who carries out his duties, takes his pay and asks no questions, nor the smooth-talking pastoral type who knows how to make the Christian religion

acceptable to everyone. All these have been tried and found wanting. Another kind of religious leader must arise among us. He must be of the old prophet type, a man who has seen visions of God and has heard a voice from the Throne. When he comes (and I pray God there will be not one but many) he will stand in flat contradiction to everything our smirking, smooth civilization holds dear. He will contradict, denounce and protest in the name of God and will earn the hatred and opposition of a large segment of Christendom.” A. W. Tozer

“The message of repentance is the message that will mark and characterize the message of every real prophet of God as long as the world lasts.”

John G. Lake - Water Baptism

We have thrown out the law of God in our sermons to make every one comfortable and we know only preach grace. After all we don't want to condemn people.

But the word tells us, that we use the law as our school master to bring us to Christ.

“Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.” Gal. 3:24

If a man is never convinced he is a sinner worthy of God's wrath, what motivation does he have in coming to Christ?

I have heard many pastors say well every person knows they are sinners. So true! There are many that do know that, but you will not find many that really believe they have sinned enough to burn in hell for it. That is where many miss it. A sinner will always declare his own goodness. This is why we need the power of the law, to drive us to Christ. This is also why many will come to Christ and

then continue in a life of sin. They feel that if God would not punish them before they were “Christians” how could he possibly be made at them now that they believe they are children of God? It is because as John Wesley so beautifully put it:

“I fear the preachers have been more studious to please than to awaken, or there would have been a deeper work.”

Many pastors preaching leave the impression that the disciples had little pocket New Testaments. They had no new testament then, only the old testament and they preached out of that. So when Paul says:

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:” 2 Tim. 3:16

Paul was speaking here of the Old Testament. The new testament had not been written yet. Many forget that fact. You see the Old Testament and the New Testament do not contradict one another they complement each other. The Old Testament had Gods laws on stone tablets the new testament has Gods laws on our hearts. So, take heed in regard to the Old and New Testament warnings..

God also warns in Deuteronomy 18:10-12

“There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead (talks to or prays to the dead). For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord,...”

To talk to the dead whether to saints, the virgin Mary or a loved one who has died, is called necromancy. Necromancy is forbidden in the Bible, it is an abomination to the Lord. The New

Webster's Expanded Dictionary says necromancy is "The revealing of future events through pretended communication with the dead; sorcery." I can hear many of you now saying, "but these laws are in the old testament." God has changed since the old testament. Since Jesus came, God is more loving and patient with us. Hebrews 13:8 says; "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today

and forever." Praying to anyone other than God the Father through Jesus Christ is strictly forbidden in the scriptures. (Also it should be noted: it is OK if you talk to Jesus and or the Holy Ghost. They are one in the trinity.) *"I and my Father are one." John 10:30*

"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." 1 John 5:7 The word says: *"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." 1 Tim. 2:5*

Mary is not a mediator and Paul is not a mediator. There is only one mediator (go between) between God and man. If you pray to anyone else you are wasting your time, and damning your soul. God is a jealous God. If you find a church that has their own revelation outside of the Bible, watch out! Many religious people take from many different religions. They see nothing wrong with taking a little bit of Buddhism, Zen, Hinduism, Christianity and mixing them to suit their lifestyles. That is, they see nothing wrong until they run into the first commandment. "Thou shall have no other gods before me." What part of the Ten Commandments do we not understand? Have you ever prayed to or bowed down to an image of a god or a saint? The second commandment says; "Thou shall not make for yourself any graven image." This also means that we should not make a god to suit ourselves, either with

our hands or our mind.

You say “My God would never throw anyone in hell, he is too loving.” You’re right your god wouldn’t, he does not exist. He is a figment of your imagination, an ‘image’ which you have shaped to suit your lifestyle. You have committed idolatry. Instead of obeying the God written laws, you write your own laws.

You can study all kinds of spiritual books, but you have little time for your Bible. You let other people interpret your Bible for you. Jesus said that if you really loved Him you would keep His words. (John 14:23)

David said in psalms 119:11 ; “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” Have you taken the time to learn God’s word? Many of you still don’t see anything wrong with psychics. You believe these psychics have a gift from God. Well Paul ran into a psychic, in the book of Acts, who was a fortune teller.

“And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which show unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.” Acts 16:16-18

What did Paul do? He cast out the devil, and she lost her fortune-telling ability. If you think being a white witch is better than a black witch, you are deceived. *"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 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;" Deuteronomy 18:10-12

There is no good thief and bad thief and there is no good witch and bad witch. Have you ever used the Lord's name in vain? If you have ever used the name of God to express frustration or anger you are a blasphemer.

The third commandment says: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord in vain." No blasphemer will enter heaven. God's name is Holy, you will give His name respect and reverence, or you will suffer God's wrath as a blasphemer.

Have you broken any of God's laws? *"Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.*

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the

LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. Thou shalt not kill. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. Exodus 20:3:17

“He that keepeth the commandment keepeth his own soul; but he that despiseth his ways shall die.” Prov. 19:16

“And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to Love Him with all thy heart and with all thy soul To keep the commandments of the Lord, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good.”
Deut. 10:12, 13

“Fear God and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man.” Eze. 12:13

Notes: _____

“Jesus has spoken to you many times by His Spirit and told you that this world is not your home and that it is not all of life to live or all of death to die, but that after death comes the Judgment. He has shown you that you are a sinner, lost and undone, that the wrath of God hangs over you. If you die in your sins, it will be an awful thing to “fall into the hands of the living God” (Heb. 10:31). If you go on in your sins, you will be arrested by the Sheriff of Heaven and be bound hand and foot; you will be cast into “outer darkness,” where the inhabitants weep and wail and gnash their teeth (Matt. 8:12). The Lord has told you that the time will come when you will cry for mercy. Yet the mercy door will be closed, and God will not hear you. He will laugh and mock at your fears and calamity. He will say, “Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire,” a place “prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matt. 25:41)...

Heaven was prepared for you, but if you are not pure in heart, the pearly gates will be closed against you. This world will be wrapped in flames; it will burn as pitch and tar, and the wicked will be swept off into destruction.

In view of the terrible doom the text implies, make the preparation at once, You will have to die someday, and there is no repentance in the grave. As you go down in death, you will rise in the Judgment. Death is coming; That terrible eternity is before you! Before the sun rises or sets again, you may be cold in death, and your soul may be lost.”

Maria Woodwarth-Etter - Set your house in order

“For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us his Holy Spirit.” Paul

“The light that shines in makes every sin I commit manifest and condemns it. If the sin is not confessed and forsaken, the stain remains. Conscience becomes defiled because the mind refused the teaching of the light.” Andrew Murray

*“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.” “Verily, Verily, I say unto you, whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.” Jesus*

“If you yield yourself to the practice of any sin, you are undone. In vain do you hope for life by Christ, except you depart from iniquity. Forsake your sins, or you cannot find mercy. You cannot be married to Christ except you be divorced from sin.” Joseph Alleine

“Look but to the state and torment of the damned, and think well of the difference between angels and devils, and you may know what sin is.—Angels are pure; devils are polluted: holiness and sin do make the difference. Sin dwells in hell, and holiness in heaven. Remember that every temptation is from the devil, to make you like himself; as every holy motion is from Christ, to make you like himself. Remember when you sin, that you are learning and imitating of the devil, and are so far like him, John 8:44. And the end of all is, that you may feel his pains. If hell-fire be not good, then sin is not good.” Richard Baxter

Chapter 3

The Hell bound Christian

A hell bound Christian is a hard one to win. Why? Because he believes he is already saved. After all he has said the “sinner’s prayer” many years ago. He or she may pray, read their Bibles and even go to church. They may even witness about the Lord. But there is one thing lacking from their lives, obedience. Many of you still have not turned from your sins. You make all kinds of excuses for yourselves, and why you can’t leave your habits and sins. Jesus said, *“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? 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 (sin).”* Matt. 7:22,23

Notice that they have already identified him as their Lord, as many of you call Jesus your Lord. But Jesus asks you this question. *“Why do you call me, Lord, Lord, and do not do what I say?”* Luke 6:46

Many think that all they have to do is believe in Jesus and they are in. They say “The Bible says that “God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” so I believe, so I’m saved. But, also remember that Jesus also said that; “Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” And if you think that repent means to just change your mind from unbelief to belief, I’ve got news for you. What did Jesus tell the woman to do who was caught in adultery? He said “Go and sin no more.” What part of this do we

not understand? Jesus rebuked Chorazin and Bethsaida after he healed a whole bunch of people in those cities because they still had not turned from their sins. *“Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you. And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.”* Matthew 11:21-24

They believed that Jesus was the son of God, or how else could he have done the miracles. They needed to have faith in him, as the son of God to get their miracles.

Jesus proved that when he went to his own hometown, and he could do no mighty works there except heal a few sick folks. Why? Because they did not believe he was the Christ, the son of God. After all, this was Joseph’s son. Yet Jesus rebuked Chorazin and Bethsaida because they did not turn from their sins. Jesus asked the question “why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not do what I say?” You see the Bible says that Jesus is only our source for salvation *if we obey Him*. (Heb. 5:9)

“And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”

There are many that think they can live any way they want to as long as they believe in God. If this is true, why did Paul warn the **churches** about certain sins? He is talking to other believers

not sinners. He is warning other churches what sins will send someone to hell. He is also identifying false Christians.

To the Corinthian church he writes:

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.” 1 Cor. 6:9,10

To the Ephesian church he warns that:

“For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.” Eph. 5:5,6

To the Galatian church he warns:

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.” Gal. 5:19-21

What part of these verses are we not understanding?

Paul also told the Colossians:

“Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of

disobedience,” Col. 3:5,6

To the Romans he warns:

“For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.” Romans 8:13

One way to identify a hell bound or counterfeit Christian is that they can see other peoples’ sin, but not their own. A man who enjoys his liquor may not have a problem with pornography, so he will agree with the preacher, when the preacher says that pornography is a sin. Just don’t point out his sin. Counterfeit Christians will almost always get upset if you point out their sins. A true Christian is always searching his heart to make sure there is nothing in there that his Lord would be grieved with.

*“Little children, let no man deceive you: he that **doeth righteousness is righteous**, even as he is righteous.” 1 John 3:7*

There are also many pastors and religious leaders who are leading people to hell by their teaching. Jude warns us about them:

“For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only sovereign and Lord.” Jude 4

In this verse the word deny in the greek is arneomai (ar-neh’-om-ah-ee) which means to contradict, deny or refuse. There are those that will tell you that since you are under grace sin will not hurt you. They contradict God’s word by their teaching. This is one way to deny the Lord, that is to teach the opposite of what He taught.

They say you should not sin, but if you do you will be OK. This gives license for sin (immorality/ lawlessness). By saying that you can still sin, you are denying our Lord Jesus, who tells us in his

word that the gospel has -

“... 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.” 1 Thess. 4:7,8

This is why John could say, *if we say that we know the Lord yet we don't keep his commandments we are a liar and the truth is not in us. (1 John 2:3-6)* This is also why Jesus could ask, *“And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say.” Luke 6:46*

How can people live in known sin and think that God is their friend and hears their prayers? The Bible tells us God will not hear a sinner. (John 9:31) Not only that, but if you have known sin in your life the word of God says that even your prayers are an abomination. “He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.” Proverbs 28:9

How is it that the forefathers in the faith understood this. They knew that if their was sin in their life in anyway it would hinder their prayer life. Even John G. Lake spoke of a time when the power of God was not manifesting in his life because of something he had to confess to his wife.

“One of my sons was dying with pneumonia once. I prayed for that fellow and I prayed for him, and it was not a bit of good. But one day I was downtown, and I was praying about that boy and the Lord said, “you go home and confess your sins to your wife.” And I said, “I will.” I stopped and got one of the old elders to come down to my house. As we rode along we talked together, and I said, “I have some things I want to fix up with my wife before you pray. There has been all kinds of prayer, but He won't hear.” So I took my wife in the other room and told her the whole business, all there was, and we went into the other room and prayed for that son

and he was healed in a second.

I want to tell you that when Christians are not healed, as a rule you get digging around and get the Holy Ghost to help you, and when they have vomited out all the stuff, they will get the healing.” John G. Lake - Divine Healing

So no matter what these preachers are telling you today, they do not have the power nor the Word of God to back up their statements. The Bible tells us that “without holiness no man shall see the Lord.” Yet we continue to flatter ourselves and say if I do these sins God will still love, and listen to me.

Many of today's preachers forget that almost all the great men of faith preached holiness too.

“Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin” (1 John 3:4-5). There is to be no sin in us. We are to purify ourselves as He is pure (1 John 3:3). Sin has been destroyed. do not be afraid to claim your position in Christ. “Sin shall not have dominion over you” (Rom. 6:14). Do not be afraid to see the Word of God. It is true. You are “dead indeed to sin, but alive to God” (v. 11). Being dead to sin and being alive to God are the same thing.” Smith Wigglesworth - Children of God

“Think not to come within the court of God with stain upon thy garments. Think not that heaven can smile upon a nature fouled through evil contact. Think not that Christ can dwell in temples seared by flames of hate. No! The heart of man must first be purged by holy fire and washed from every stain by cleansing blood. Know ye (not) that he whose nature is akin to God's must ever feel the purging power of Christ within?”

John G. Lake - Holiness unto the Lord

Who told you it was OK to watch R-rated or PG13 movies with sex, violence and profanity? Was it Jesus? Did the Holy God of heaven tell you it was OK to swear, drink alcohol, smoke and dress seductively? Somebody must have told you. Was it God? There is one way to find out. Ask yourself these questions. Is there murder in heaven? How about rape? Are liars going to be in heaven? I'll give you a hint; ***"...and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone..." Rev. 21:8*** Is there going to be gambling in heaven? How about drunks? How about alcohol? Cigarettes? Pornography? R-rated movies? Are these things and the people that enjoy them going to be in heaven? I've got news for you, the sinner is not separated from his sin. Jesus said if you sin, you are a slave to it. It owns you (see John 8:34-36).

You say "well I don't believe that way, besides I've got my own little relationship with God." I've got news for you, God is no respecter of persons. If he will throw one man in hell for stealing, he will throw in also. Repent, turn from your sins. True saving grace that brings salvation teaches us to say ***"No to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled upright and godly lives in this present age."*** *Titus 2:11,12*

Jesus warns us that condemnation will come on those who love darkness more than light. John 3:19 A fundamental characteristic of a person who will come into condemnation is a person who loves darkness and finds pleasure in their sin. 2 Tim. 3:2-5 The true Christian however loves righteousness and hates iniquity (sin). Heb. 1:9 Jesus tells us that those who do evil hate the light. (John 3:20) Jesus is the light. John 12:46 "If we walk in

the light, as he is in the light,...the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7

The things that you watch on TV, can you watch them in church in front of your pastor? If not it's sin. If you knew that Jesus was coming over to your home to visit would you rush around picking up and hiding your videos and music tapes and CD's? What about your magazines,) would you be hiding them? If you're doing anything that Jesus would not approve of you're in sin. Christian means Christ like. There is no such thing as saintly sinners or heavenly devils. You can go to hell in the middle of a prayer meeting. You can go to hell with a communion wafer on your tongue and baptismal waters dripping from your head. "Without holiness no man shall see the Lord." The bottom line is, do you love Him? Why is it you find no time for Jesus? Sunday is the only day you have to rest, so what do you do? You go shopping, hunting, golfing, visiting, tanning, traveling, anything but church, because you just don't have the time. So you appease your conscience by watching some TV preacher that will tell you that you deserve better than what you have, and you should treat yourself with what you don't have. After all you're a king's kid! So it's OK if you work to collect material gain all the while your friends, neighbors and loved ones are going to hell. You say you love Jesus. But you don't seem to have time for Him. You've been a Christian now for over five years and you still know just as much about God as when you began. If you were to ask a sports fan who won the game he would probably not only tell you the scores he could tell you who played and give you a run down on all the players in his team. If you love English, chances are you are great at spelling and communication. If you love hunting, you probably

know all about wildlife and guns. Someone who loves to cook will probably have hundreds of recipes in his or her head. Someone who loves to sing has probably memorized dozens of songs. What you love you learn. Now don't you think it stands to reason, that if someone loves God they will love His word?

“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.” “He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father’s which sent me.” (John 14:23,24)

Notes: _____

“How shall I feel at the Judgement, if multitudes of missed opportunities pass before me in full review, and all my excuses prove to be disguises of my cowardice and pride?” W .E. Sangster

“Have you no wish for others to be saved? Then you are not saved yourself. Be sure of that.” Charles H. Spurgeon

“You have nothing to do but save souls. Therefore spend and be spent in this work.” John Wesley

*“The most likely man to go to hell is the man who has nothing to do on earth. Idle people tempt the devil to tempt them.”
C. H. Spurgeon*

“There is dust enough on some of your Bibles to write the word ‘damnation’ with your finger.” C.H. Spurgeon

“Brethren, if you had to look straight into His eyes, as we are going to have to do one day, what would your answer be? Supposing I should say, “well, Lord, I was so busy acquiring a little farm over at Hillside that I did not have time to love you. I did not have any time to honor you. I did not have any time to tell anybody else about you?” Well, your farm is gone and you are not there anymore, and here you are at the great day, God’s eternal day. How trivial these things would be. We would be ashamed to utter them. Our hearts would smite us so that we would be unable to say them.” John G. Lake

“No Christian is in a right condition, if he is not seeking in some way to bring souls to Christ.” C.H. Mackintosh

“God forbid that I should travel with anybody for a quarter of an hour without speaking of Christ to them.” George Whitefield

Chapter 4

The Christian's Duty

“Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thy heart; thou shalt earnestly rebuke thy neighbour, lest thou bear sin on account of him.” (Leviticus 19:17 Darby Translation)

There are many “Christians” so called because they name the name of Christ, that feel to love someone is to accept them just the way they are and let the way they live be between them and God. They say “they have a right to what they believe” thereby releasing them from any obligation of warning others to flee from the wrath to come. Others insist that it's not their calling, claiming that they witness by the way they live. Of course these professors would never dare warn or rebuke a brother in sin. Feeling that would be judging. The text “thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart” simply means that you are more concerned with what your friends think of you, than you are for their lives and safety. You hate them in your heart. I know you don't agree with me but let me give you an illustration. You notice that your neighbor's house is on fire and you know the Smiths and their children are all sleeping unaware of the fact that their house is on fire. Now if you, not wanting to wake Mr. Smith this early in the morning, were to sit down on the front yard and watch the house burn down you would be responsible for the outcome of the Smith's family. And I dare say that if someone knew or found out that you watched the Smith family's house burn down and you didn't lift a finger to help them or warn them, you would be in a lot of trouble. Now for another scenario, there are millions of people all around you heading for the lake of fire in hell and you know

someone who can save them. *“When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.”* Ezekiel 3:18,19

Many seek the approval of men rather than the approval of God. How many men and women there are that when they know someone is doing something that will bring damnation to their soul, they smile sheepishly and say a silent prayer. “O God please forgive them, they don’t know what they are doing.” Forgive them? Why not rather ask God to forgive you, for being willing to watch friends, neighbors and in some cases even your own loved ones go to hell to burn forever, all because you couldn’t tell them the truth. You were more concerned about the admiration of men than the cause of Christ. Will you now, before its too late, stand and be the man or the woman that God wants you to be? Many people are afraid to tell others because they feel this is judging. Now that would be true if you hated the person or treated them unkind because you knew they were in sin. That would be judging, and that is wrong. But if you love someone, you will warn them in love to save them.

Love is not hypocritical. Meaning, if you are telling someone they should not steal, and yet you are guilty of the same, you are a hypocrite.

“And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye;

and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye." Matthew 7:3-5

First cast out the sin out of your own life, then when you have gotten the sin out of your life you will see clearly to help others get sin out of their lives as well. Do not preach what you yourself do not live. How can the blind lead the blind? Hear me preachers, your sermons will never have power until you live them. We are plainly told by scriptures to warn others. Paul tells us in 1 Timothy 5:20 *"Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear."* And again in Titus 1:13 *"This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;"* Sin is serious, it will drive a man to Hell if it is not overcome by the power of the blood of Christ. If we could see where sin was sending our loved ones, our neighbors and friends we would be pleading with them to forsake their sins and embrace Christ, whenever God presented the opportunity.

If you were in a life raft and your friends were drowning next to you in shark infested waters and you did nothing but read your book and enjoyed your tan, could the people in the water really call you a friend? Charles Finney said: "If you see your neighbor sin, and you pass by and neglect to reprove him, it is just as cruel as if you should see his house on fire, and pass by and not warn him of it. Why not? If he is in the house, and the house burns, he will lose his life. If he sins and remains in sin, he will go to hell. Is it not cruel to let him go unwarned to hell? Some seem to consider it not cruel to let a neighbor go on in sin until the wrath of God comes on him to the utmost. Their feelings are so tender that they cannot wound him by telling him of his sin and his danger. No doubt, the

tender mercies of the wicked are cruel. Instead of warning their neighbor of the consequences of sin, they actually encourage him in it.” “Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbor, and not suffer sin upon him.”
Leviticus 19:17

“If you do not reprove your neighbor for their sin, you are chargeable with their death.” Charles Finney

“An English clergyman came downstairs to the breakfast table one morning. Evidently he had a sleepless night, and his wife asked him, “What is wrong with you?” “Wife, I had a terrible dream last night.” “What was it?” The husband, who had not been winning souls, said, “I dreamed that we came before the judgment seat of Christ, and as the Master looked at me, He said, ‘Where are the souls of the servants in your house?’ I bowed my head and said, ‘I don’t know, Lord.’ The master asked, ‘where are the souls of the children in your house?’ And I bowed my head again and said that I didn’t know where the souls of my children were. Then the Lord said, ‘Where are the souls of the people in your congregation to whom you have preached Sunday after Sunday?’ And I had to answer, ‘Lord, I don’t know where they are.’ Then I saw hell opening and I fell into hell, and there were the souls of my servants, there were the souls of my children, there were the souls of my congregation whom I had not faithfully warned. They were all gnashing their teeth and cursing me because I had not faithfully warned them about going there.” Then the man dropped dead, right in the presence of his wife, and went into eternity.” (Jesse M. Hendley - “How to have a Revival”)

How about you, have you faithfully warned those you know and love? How about your children? How about your

grandchildren? Your brothers and sisters? Time is running out.
Have you done your duty?

*“A hundred thousand souls a day
Are passing, one by one away,
In Christless guilt and gloom.
Oh, church of God, what wilt thou say
When on that awful judgment day
They charge thee with their doom?”*
Jesse M. Hendley

“Christianity is so entangled with the world that millions never guess how radically they have missed the New Testament pattern. Compromise is everywhere.”

A. W. Tozer

“Could it be that too many of God’s true children, and especially the preachers, are sinning against God by guilty silence?...I for one am waiting to hear the loud voices of the prophets and reformers sounding once more over a sluggish and drowsy church. They’ll pay a price for their boldness, but the results will be worth it.” A.

W. Tozer

*My friend, I stand in judgment now
And feel that you’re to blame somehow
While on this earth I walked with you day by day
And never did you point the way
You knew the Lord in truth and glory
But never did you tell the story*

*My knowledge then was very dim
You could have led me safe to him
Though we lived together here on earth
You never told me of your second birth
And now I stand this day condemned
Because you failed to mention him
You taught me many things, that's true
I called you friend and trusted you
But now I learned, now it's too late
You could have kept me from this fate
We walked by day and talked by night
And yet you showed me not the light
You let me live, love and die
And all the while you knew I'd never live on high
Yes, I called you friend in life
And trusted you in joy and strife
Yet in coming to this end
I see you really weren't my friend"*
by D.J. Higgins

Jesus said, "For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." Mark 8:38

"Could a mariner sit idle if he heard the drowning cry? Could a doctor sit in comfort and just let his patients die? Could a fireman sit idle, let men burn and give no hand? Can you sit at ease in Zion with the world around you DAMNED?" Leonard Ravenhill

“Not called!’ did you say? ‘Not heard the call,’ I think you should say. Put your ear down to the Bible, and hear Him bid you go and pull sinners out of the fire of sin. Put your ear down to the burdened, agonized heart of humanity, and listen to its pitiful wail for help. Go stand by the gates of hell, and hear the damned entreat you to go to their father’s house and bid their brothers and sisters and servants and masters not to come there. Then look Christ in the face -- whose mercy you have professed to obey -- and tell Him whether you will join heart and soul and body and circumstances in the march to publish His mercy to the world.”

William Booth

“Someone asked Will the heathen who have never heard the Gospel be saved? It is more a question with me whether we -- who have the Gospel and fail to give it to those who have not -- can be saved.” Charles Spurgeon

“We Christians are debtors to all men at all times in all places, but we are so smug to the lostness of men. We’ve been “living in Laodicea “, lax, loose, lustful, and lazy. Why is there this criminal indifference to the lostness of men? Our condemnation is that we know how to live better than we are living.”

Leonard Ravenhill

“Some wish to live within the sound of a chapel bell; I wish to run a rescue mission within a yard of hell.”

C.T. Studd

“The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed.”

Hudson Taylor

“For my own part, I would a thousand times sooner have the leprosy of the body eating my eyes out, and my feet and arms, I would rather be loathsome in the sight of my fellowmen than die with the leprosy of sin in my soul, and be damned.” D.L. Moody

“Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.” Isaiah 5:14

“God will never remove the guilt as long as thou entertainest the sin...It is a desperate folly to desire God to forgive what thou intendest to commit.” William Gurnal

“Now, many men say, “I am not going down to the grave of a drunkard....Ah, my friends, this is the case with hundreds in this city. They are in the current of riches, of pleasure, of drink, that will take them to the whirlpool. Satan has got them blindfolded, and they are on their road to the bottomless pit.”
D.L. Moody

“But think you, O ye drunkards, that you shall ever be partakers of this inheritance with the saints in light? Do you flatter yourselves, that you, who have made them often the subject of your drunken songs, shall now be exalted to sing with them the heavenly songs of zion? No, as by drunkenness you have made your hearts cages of unclean birds, with impure and unclean spirits must you dwell... But perhaps you may not believe this report. These words may be looked upon by you as idle tales, and I may seem to you as Lot did to his sons-in-law, when he came to warn them to get up out of sodom, “as one that mocketh.” But if you believe not me, believe eternal truth itself, which has positively declared, that nor drunkard shall ever enter into his kingdom.”
George Whitefield

Chapter 5

Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs and Immodest Dress

“ Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also,...”Habakkuk 2:15

Alcohol & Tobacco

What does the Bible really say about drinking? The biblical word for wine in Greek is oinos. Oinos can refer to two entirely different types of grape juice. Unfermented juice, and fermented (intoxicating juice). We know that cider can be fresh cider or fermented or hard cider. Yet we call it cider. In the same way ancient writers refer to grape juice as fresh wine (oinos). Athenaeus (A.D. 200) speaks of a “sweet wine (oinos)” that “does not make the head heavy” or Papias (A.D. 60-130), who was an early church father, says that when grapes are crushed they yield “jars of wine (oinos)” There are many more examples, these are only a few of many examples. Jewish scholars who translated the Old Testament into Greek about 200 B.C. understood that oinos could mean either fermented or non fermented wine. Many people try to justify drinking by saying, “why did Jesus turn water into wine at the wedding at Cana, if he knew what the word said about strong drink? The first question we need to ask is what kind of wine was it that Jesus made? The first thing to take into consideration is that Jesus turned the water into wine to “manifest forth his glory” John 2:11. This was to confirm that He was the Christ, the Son of the living God, who came to save mankind from

their sins not in their sins. (Mat. 1:21) In the Old Testament God's word warns us to not even look upon wine when it is fermented. *"Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."* Prov. 23:31,32

God knows the dangers of alcohol, that is why His word is so against it. *"Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!"* *"Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink."* Isaiah 5:11,22 Vs. 22 is a strong warning to those who serve alcohol. If Jesus gave them fermented wine, wouldn't that be unfair if later He throws them into hell for being drunkards? With a little common sense and knowledge of scripture you can see it was not fermented wine. *"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."* Prov. 20:1

Now ask yourself, do you think Jesus would serve strong drink? *"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also,..."* Habakkuk 2:15

Do you think God the father would be pleased with His Son for giving his neighbors strong drink at the wedding? Of course not. The wine that Jesus made at the wedding was just fresh grape juice.

"The saloon is a liar. It promises good cheer and sends sorrow. It promises health and causes disease. It promises prosperity and sends adversity. It promises happiness and sends misery. Yes, it sends the husband home with a lie on his lips to his wife; and the boy home with a lie on his lips to his mother; and it causes the employee to lie to his employer. It degrades. It is God's worst

enemy and the devil's best friend. It spares neither youth nor old age. It is waiting with a dirty blanket for the baby to crawl into the world. It lies in wait for the unborn." Billy Sunday

To those parents that allow alcohol in their home, I ask, "don't you care that your children could grow up hooked on wine or booze? Be sure of this, if your child grows up and becomes an alcoholic it will be because you taught him that it was harmless. And if he goes to hell for it, it will be because *you sent him*. "Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing:" Judges 13:4

If you still don't see anything wrong with booze let me ask you a question. Why don't you take a bottle of beer to drink, or a cigarette to smoke into church with you next Sunday? Why, you would gasp at such an idea! Take a beer or a cigarette into church? "That's the house of God" you would say. But that's where you are wrong. You are the house of God!

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" 1 Cor. 6:19 "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Cor. 3:17

Do you realize that if you are a "Christian" that you are the temple of the Holy Spirit? You are not your own. If you are destroying it with tobacco, pot or alcohol, God has given you a very clear warning. God has been mercifully waiting for you to repent, but He will deal harshly with you if you continue in known sin.

The Indian shamans (witch doctors) used tobacco to call forth spirits or to pay homage to their gods. If you smoke around your

children you cause your children to sin against their bodies.

“Cigarette smoke contains four thousand chemicals and forty three known carcinogens. Some are so toxic that they can’t be dumped legally in a landfill.”

“More than 400,000 deaths in the United States per year are from smoking-related illnesses. Smoking kills more Americans each year than alcohol, cocaine, heroin, homicide, suicide, car accidents, fires and aids - combined.” Evening Sun Newspaper 10/21/96

I have listened to many professed Christians who preach against other evils only to have a cigarette hanging out of their mouth. (Hypocrites) If you are a parent, I speak on the behalf of your children. If you smoke around them, in the car, restaurant or same room, you are guilty of child abuse in God’s eyes. You are killing your children to feed your selfish habit. I have seen so many children in cars with their little noses running and eyes all red only to look in the front seat to see a mom or dad filling the car full of smoke with their cigarettes. Repent! This goes the same for smoking in your house with children. According to God you are a child abuser. Don’t justify your sins, confess them to God and turn from them. You must destroy your sins before they destroy you.

God has warned us in His word that in the last days people we're going to be led away from him, by being deceived by drugs.

*“... for by thy **sorceries** (sorceries in Greek is pharmakea, which translated means use of drugs) were all nations deceived” Rev. 18:23 “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.” Rev. 21:8*

*“...Idolatry, **witchcraft**, (those who practice magic arts and or*

*sorceries- getting high through drugs) hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, **drunkenness**, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things** shall not inherit the kingdom of God.” Gal. 5:20,21*

Modesty

How it must break God’s heart, to see so many professed Christians that are so immodest in their dress. We have women that come to church nowadays that look just like hookers. They think it’s stylish to wear skimpy mini skirts. When women dress so that men will notice their legs, they cause men to lust. So by wanting to be wanted, you are sending those that you claim to care for, to hell. You are playing pied piper for the devil. At the judgment you will look behind you to see all those that you have led to damnation, because you loved the attention they gave you.

“In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.” 1 Tim. 2:9,10

Modest - Means having a regard for decencies of behavior or dress, quiet and humble in appearance. Not displaying one’s body; not boastful or vain; virtuous.

“In the summer time especially, we have our biggest opportunity to test our consecration to Jesus. Sheer blouses, halter-tops, “short” shorts, and skimpy bathing - suits are the norm for many careless Christian women. They use the rationalization that

“it’s hot” or “I’m swimming” to excuse their lack of modesty. Clothes that fit too tightly, tops that are cut too low, and skirts that are cut too short are not only a distraction to those around us but the wearers show an unloving lack of concern for their responsibility as a representative of Jesus.”

(Melody Green Sievright)

There are many men that also play Christian. You justify your lust, by saying; “a woman’s body is beautiful” or “it’s art”. You see nothing wrong with reading a Sports Illustrated bathing suit edition, or having a women’s bikini calendar. Jesus said that if you look at a woman to lust after her beauty, you have committed adultery with her in your heart. So according to Jesus, you are not an admirer of art, you are an adulterer. Many of you wives are not watching out for your husbands that you claim to love. Many of you would never think of having a woman over to your house sitting on your coffee table wearing a see through nighty. Yet you don’t think twice about placing some woman’s magazine or catalog in plane view on the coffee table for your husband or worse (your children) to see. You are supposed to protect him, not tempt him. People today are so desensitized by the media they no longer have any more convictions left. Every generation wants more and more liberty. When will it end?

“At the end of the last century, if people went to the beach, they were practically covered from head to toe. Little by little, more skin was revealed until today almost anything goes. So what do beach loving believers do now? They go to the same “skin-infested” waters surrounded by half naked bodies (actually, half naked wouldn’t be so bad!), but they wear “modest” bathing suits (some even try to justify “modest” bikinis), Modest!? Compared to

what? To a modern day version of a couple of fig leaves? How dare we expose ourselves so freely! But, no! We're being conservative by the standards of the world. And what will we do if our country legalizes nude bathing? Will we still frequent these beaches? Will we try to develop a modestly nude look? God help us to see." (Michael L. Brown, How Saved Are We?)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Rom. 12:1

"...I can remember thinking, "well, it's not my fault if they can't keep their eyes off me and on the Lord. They just aren't spiritual enough. Why should I have to change just because they are weak?" But the Lord showed me that it was my fault. I was responsible for causing my brother to stumble and it had to change. Once I really saw the damage my selfishness was doing to others and to the Lord, I was really ashamed of myself and embarrassed that I had been representing Jesus in such an unbecoming way." (Melody G. Sievright)

"Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offenses will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come! It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones." Luke 17:1,2

"But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks." Eph. 5:3,4

"For the moment, chew on this: If the typical swimwear at our beaches is not sinful and seductive, then why wouldn't it be

appropriate for a Christian sister to get up in front of the congregation in a slinky bathing suit and lead us in worship? God's counsel to those who go to beaches and pools and find themselves filled with lust is simple: Flee for your life!" (Michael L. Brown - Go and Sin No More)

Listen up! Lust will still send a man or a woman to hell, the scriptures are clear.

Matthew 5:28; Titus 2:12; Romans 6:23; James 1:14, 15; 1 Peter 2:11

Women, ask yourselves this question. Do you wear those short skirts, tight jeans and low cut blouses to be noticed by men? If you dress to be seductive to men, realize you are causing them to lust. You are sending them to hell. How can you claim to belong to heaven, when you are working for hell?

Paul warns us to flee sexual immorality. 1 Cor. 6:18

I hear professed believers say things like; "I am married not dead!"

They say this to justify their lust. But the Word of God says that we that are Christians have "...*crucified the flesh with it's passions and desires.*" *Gal. 5:24*

We are supposed to reckon ourselves dead indeed unto sin and alive unto God... Rom. 6:11

*"as his divine power hath given us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who hath called us by that glory and virtue, by which are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye may become partakers of a divine nature, **having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**" 2 Peter 1:3,4*

Notice that for the Christian that we have escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust, and we have, (past tense) crucified or put to death passions and desires or lust of the flesh. Do not let satan deceive you any longer. But, "Flee also

youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” 2 Tim. 2:22

God tells us to run away from lust, because its the same thing as adultery in our hearts. Do not listen to the man who tells you everyone must lust, because he is preaching for the devil. Heed God’s word and place it in your heart. Meditate on it, speak it, and obey it. It will save your soul and purify your heart.

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”

John 17:17

“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.”

Psalm 119:9

If a man says, to justify his lust that “he is married not dead,” he is wrong! The Word of God says he is dead. Dead in his sins!

Notes: _____

*“If you want to live in sin, all right, live in sin,
and go to hell at the end.”*

Billy Sunday

*“In the meantime what we are afraid of is this: lest
any should use the phrase, “the righteousness of Christ,
“ or, “the righteousness of Christ is imputed to me,” as a cover for
his unrighteousness. Warn them against making void that solemn
decree of God, “without holiness no man shall see the Lord,” by
vain imagination of being holy in Christ. O warn them that if they
remain unrighteous, the righteousness of Christ will profit them
nothing!” John Wesley*

*“Jesus will not walk with His people unless they
drive out every known sin.” Charles Spurgeon*

*“Say not that thou hast royal blood in thy veins,
and art born of God, except thou canst prove thy
pedigree by daring to be holy.” William Gurnall*

*“Real Christianity is marked by the pureness, the
holiness, of thoughts of man; and if the kind of Christianity
you have does not produce in your mind real holiness,
real purity, real sweetness, real truth, then it is a poor
brand. Change it right away... Surely we who profess to
know the living God, who profess to live in union with
Him, ought to present to the world that attitude and holiness
of mind which needs no recommendation. People
know it; they feel it. They know it is the mind of Christ.”
John G. Lake*

Chapter 6

The Carnal Christian

“For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?” 1 Cor.3:3

“Why do we build our churches upon human flesh? For we teach men not to die with Christ but to live in the strength of their dying manhood... If I see aright, the cross of popular evangelism is not the cross of the New Testament. It is, rather, a new bright ornament upon the bosom of a selfassured and carnal Christianity. The old cross slew men; the new cross amuses. The old cross destroyed confidence in the flesh; the new cross encourages it.”

A.W. Tozer

“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” Psalm 119:11

It is taught in many churches today that a carnal Christian is a Christian who acts identically to the unsaved. A carnal Christian believes that he just has not grown up spiritually yet. He is a “Babe in Christ”. Even though he or she may have been a professed believer for over twenty years. This is a very dangerous teaching, because it’s not what the word says.

“The word “carnal” comes from the Greek root “sarx” (flesh) giving, “sarkikos” meaning “fleshly”. Each time the word “flesh” or “fleshly” is used in the Bible, where in context, it is describing a moral action, it can be replaced by the word “carnal”. The two words are the same in Greek; they only differ in some English traslations.” Winkie Pratney, (The Carnal Christian)

The verse in the Bible that many use to justify carnal behavior is found in 1 Cor. 3:3 *“For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?”*

First, it was envy, strife and divisions only, that Paul accused them of being carnal. And they repented of these too, as you can read in 2 Cor.7:9-11

Second, Paul told the Corinthian church to expel the sexually immoral man that was attending their church.

(1 Cor. 5:1-5) Paul called this man a “wicked person”(Vs.13). Not a babe in Christ. God’s word says: *“The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.” Psalm 9:17* So we can see this man in adultery was not heading for heaven. Not if he was wicked anyway. If the Corinthian church were adulterers, thieves, drunkards, etc... why would Paul tell them to “not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat.” 1 Cor. 5:9,11 If this is true to the carnal Christian teaching, Paul would be, in essence, telling the Corinthian church not to meet together or fellowship together. Since they would be a bad influence on each other. This is absurd!

What about Romans chapter seven?

In chapter seven Paul was telling of our inability to keep the law. He was showing us that the law cannot save us. (vs.7-13) Paul was showing us how the law is good, but it has no power to save. This is why the law is considered our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ (Gal. 3:24). For it is through the law that we see our need for a savior. Paul was showing us that under the law he was still carnal (fleshly) sold under sin (Rom. 7:14-20). Paul was showing them that all the law did was awaken the sin that was already within him. This is why Jesus came, to destroy the power of sin and the devil in our lives.

(1 John 3:8) Not to make us feel sorry with no power to change, as some teach.

To say that we are still sold under sin, is to misunderstand the scriptures. For how can we be redeemed if we are still under the bondage of sin? But many of you will quote vs.19 “for the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.”

This is referring to an unregenerated person. How do I know this? Easy, in chapter 6 of Romans, Paul tells us what the power of the gospel has done. In Rom. 6:18,20 it says we were made free from the power of sin. In vs. 14 Paul tells us that through Christ, sin can not control us anymore, we are dead to sin (Rom.6:2).

“Under the reign of grace, it is just as easy to do right, as under the reign of sin it is easy to do wrong. If grace is not more powerful than sin, then there can be no salvation from sin. Therefore, for a Christian to do righteousness is as easy as for a sinner to do sin, and much more so, because grace much more abounds. As long as a man is enslaved to sin, it is impossible to do good. When Christ, the mightier power, reigns, then sin can no longer reign. “Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.”

Unknown

“Those who find their own experience written in the 7th chapter of Romans, are not converted persons, If that is their habitual character, they are not regenerated: they are under conviction, but not Christians.” Charles Finney (Lectur vll. Legal Experience.)

“Christian” implies being a “little - Christ” or “Christ - like” what kind of blasphemous combination is a “carnal Christ - like” you might as well talk about “Godly sinners” or “heavenly devils.” God sees sinners; He sees saints. He does not see “sinful saints” or “saintly sinners”. What fellowship has light with darkness? We are either good or bad, selfish or loving. No definition of a Christian that allows fellowship with the sin that cost God His son and Christ his life comes from the Holy Spirit of God. The “carnal Christian” philosophy is all right in its place: that place is hell. If you are living in known sin, it is time you quit it for good. If you live a carnal life, you are not a Christian and have no right to call yourself one, “carnal” or otherwise.” Winkie Pratney (The Carnal Christian.)

One of the greatest deceptive doctrines is that, once you are saved you can never become unsaved. But the word of God warns:

***“For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and savior Jesus Christ they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.*” 2 Peter 2:20,21**

This verse very clearly shows that a person can be saved and then lose his salvation by turning away from the Lord. When Paul says they have escaped the pollution of this world by the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, we can assume pretty safely that they were saved. For the word said that they have “Escaped the pollutions of the world.” You can only escape through Jesus. But according to verse 21 it says “it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.” You could not say that if you could never lose your salvation. James tells us that: “Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.” James 5:19,20

In order to be in the truth, you must be saved, in order to wander from it to the point that when someone brings you back, they have saved your soul from death. Then we can safely assume that the soul died, or was close to dying.

“But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.” Ezekiel 18:24

If we do good God will not remember our sins. *“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I*

write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.” Heb. 10:16,17

But if we turn away from doing good, and do evil, God will not remember any of your good or righteous deeds. He will forget they ever existed. This explains why Jesus will be able to say to those who turn away from Him and die in their sins: *“I never knew you” Matt. 7:23*. He will forget any good thing you have ever done. So turn this day from all known sin. Turn from your sin, to Jesus Christ. From darkness to light.

Remember this: “Sin will always take you farther than you want to go, make you stay longer than you want to stay, and make you pay more than you can ever pay.”

I heard a preacher share a story that illustrates the power and deception of sin perfectly. There was a young boy who had watched snake handlers once. And so one day while walking with his friends they saw a rattlesnake. The boy remembering how the snake handlers caught the snake, placed a stick across its neck and with his free hand slid it behind the snakes head. The boy holding on to the neck of the snake, picks it up and begins to brag about how easy it is. The other kids terrified ran away from him to a safe distance. The young boy laughed and called the other kids chicken. But while the young boy was bragging, the snake was whipping its body, all over, until it had caught the young boy’s arm. It was then just a matter of seconds before the snake had a vise grip around the boy’s arm. The young boy began to scream for someone to help him unwind the snake from his arm. But the other kids were afraid to help. The boys arm finally went numb because of the lack of circulation, and he lost his grip. The snake’s head broke free and bit the boy multiple times all over his body.

Never think that just because nothing bad has happened to you, that your sin will not turn on you. The devils are watching and waiting. When you sin you are in essence saying, “Satan thy kingdom come.” When you obey the word of God you are in essence saying, “Jesus thy kingdom come.” I know a lot of people are saying “but what about grace? It’s not by works, but by grace

we are saved.” Salvation is a free gift according to God’s word. Grace is this, we have all sinned and we deserve God’s wrath and yet God says if you will confess and forsake your sins I will forgive you.

If a king forgives a thief by showing him mercy, does the thief remain a thief after the king has forgiven him of his crime and shown him mercy? No! The thief is thankful he was not put to death for his crime. The king’s mercy, has changed the thief’s heart. If the thief, after being forgiven his debt, went back out and started stealing again, the king would be indignant against him. “Did I not have mercy on you?” He would ask. “Then why have you mocked my gift to you? I gave you a new life, and another chance, and you chose to go back to the very same crime that almost got you beheaded the last time. You are a wicked man, to the dungeon with you.” The king shows one last act of kindness, instead of beheading the thief, he puts him in the dungeon for six months. Now after the thief is let out, if he steals again he will be scared to death to face the angry king. Because he knows the king does not have to show kindness. He has already been shown favor. No! This time he will be put to death.

How many of you have trampled under your feet, the mercy and blood of our Lord Jesus? God has forgiven us so many times for so many things. There will come a day when God will say enough is enough. It’s now or never. Turn from your sins while you still can.

“Awake! awake! O sinner, arise and take your flight. There is but one door that you may flee by, and that is the narrow door of conversion and the new birth. Unless you turn unfeignedly from all you’re sins, and come to Jesus Christ, and take Him for the Lord your righteousness, and walk in Him in holiness and newness of life; as the Lord liveth, it is not more certain that you are now out of hell, than that you shall without fail be in it but a few days or nights from now.” Joseph Alleine

“How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? Turn

you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.” Prov. 1:22-30

“He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, Will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.” Prov.29:1

“By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.” 1 Cor. 15:2

“God is not angry merely against the sin abstracted from the sinner, but against the sinner himself. Some persons have labored hard to set up this ridiculous and absurd abstraction, and would fain make it appear that God is angry at sin, yet not at the sinner. He hates the theft, but loves the thief. “He abhors adultery, but is pleased with the adulterer.” Now this is supreme nonsense. The sin has no moral character apart from the actor. The very thing that God hates and disapproves is not the mere event- the thing done in distinction from the doer; but it is the doer himself. It grieves and displeases Him that a rational moral agent, under His government, should array himself against his own God and Father, against all that is right and just in the universe. This is the thing that offends God. The sinner himself is the direct and the only object of His anger.” Charles Finney -(The Guilt of Sin)

“There are many, many Christians who are filling their minds with entertainment that is ungodly, and then wondering why they have

so many emotional problems and why they can't be like Jesus. You can pray, you can go to every church service, you can have people anoint you and pray for you - but if you violate the laws of God concerning the human mind, your life will be shaped like the world. You will fail spiritually, and you will be sick in your soul and your body.” Richard Misipley

“Let us learn from the early disciples that to be filled from the heavenly world with the Spirit that dwells there, we must be entirely separate from the children of this world or from worldly Christians. We must be ready and eager to live as entirely different men, who literally represent heaven upon earth, because we have received the Spirit of the king of Heaven.”

Andrew Murray

“Repentance is an infinitely deeper thing than sorrow, or suffering, or dread of a wrath to come. It is the taking a right view of sin as sinful, and then quitting it.”

Theodore L. Cuyler, D.D.

“There is a good deal of trouble among people about what repentance really is. If you ask people what it is, they will tell you, “it is feeling sorry.” If you ask a man if he repents, he will tell you, “oh, yes: I generally feel sorry for my sins.” That is not repentance. It is something more than feeling sorry. Repentance is turning right about and forsaking sin.”

Dwight L. Moody

“I am positive of the fact we are on the wrong side of the cross. We talk about love, love, love-it ought to be repent, repent, repent. John the Baptist came and his message was repent! Jesus came - the same message -repent! The Holy Spirit came - the same message - repent, repent, repent and believe.”

Smith Wigglesworth

“What then is repentance? Repentance is simply renouncing sin, turning round from darkness to light, from the power of satan unto God. This is giving up sin in your heart, in purpose, in desire; resolving that you will give up every evil thing, and that you will do it now.” Catherine Booth

“Repentance always implies abhorrence of sin. It of course involves the love of God and the forsaking of sin.”
Charles Finney

“Cleansing cannot take place where there is not an entire separation from, and giving up of, everything unclean. “Touch not the unclean thing” is God’s command to His chosen ones.”
Andrew Murray

“It is altogether doubtful whether any man can be saved who comes to Christ for His help but with no intention to obey Him.”
A. W. Tozer

“If ye do not kill sin, it will kill you.”
Jamieson, Faucett & Brown

Notes: _____

Chapter 7

Repent!

“But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.”

Ezekial 18:21

Many that confess Jesus as their Lord are still living in sin and bondage. They need to understand what Jesus has done for them. They also need to hear Jesus say, “Go and sin no more.” This is what repentance is. This is what Jesus told the woman caught in adultery to do. He said, stop. God will not ask us to do anything that we can not do. The problem with most of us is it’s not a matter of can not, but will not. We deceive ourselves by saying, “I just don’t have the power,” when it’s just that we don’t have the desire to stop. We are still trying to shift the blame for our sins just as Adam did with Eve. Now it’s not sin, its a habit, or worse, it’s a sickness. We have made labels for just about every sin you can think of. If someone abuses a child, its not his fault, it’s his parents. If someone is homosexual, they were born that way. It’s in their genes. It’s not their fault. If a man rapes someone it’s because he is sick. If you smoke it’s because it’s a habit. Well let me say this, it was a sin before it was a habit and now that sin has a grip on you. The same thing with internet porno, it starts out with just a few clicks of your mouse and a quick peek here and there and before long you’re looking at it every day. It’s got you.

All through God’s word He speaks against sin. Sin is to the soul what cancer is to the body. We must find a way to kill the power of sin in our selves if we are to enter heaven, and the only way we can overcome sin is by the Holy Spirit bringing death to our old man. This is what repentance brings. Being baptized in water is a act of faith that demonstrates that the old man is berried and dead. Then the Holy Ghost infuses you with power to live a holy life for Christ, and to be His witness. But even if you can turn from sin by God’s power you still have the stain of your past sins

on you. So if God judges you, He will find you guilty. There are many who are counting on God's goodness for their salvation, but the Bible says God is angry with sinners.

*"...thou **hatest all workers of iniquity.**" Psalms 5:5*

The term "God loves the sinner, but hates the sin" is found nowhere in the Bible. The rapist is not separate from his sin. That is why he rapes, he is a rapist, he is not separate from his sin. Just as a man that murders someone is a murderer. Someone that tells a lie (even if it's one) is a liar. God is just as angry with the man as He is with the crime. The Bible says that the wrath of God abides on those that: "**know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.**" 2 Thess. 1:8

The Bible says that if they don't believe in Jesus Christ and obey Him, the "**wrath of God abideth on them**". John 3:36 The word abide means to remain, continue or stay. This means that until a man or woman gets right with God, they are under His wrath. The only reason God does not judge them now is that He is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9

"The idea that God will pardon a rebel who has not given up his rebellion is contrary both to the scriptures and to common sense. How horrible to contemplate a church full of persons who have been pardoned but who still love sin and hate the ways of righteousness. And how much more horrible to think of heaven as filled with sinners who had not repented nor changed their way of living." A.W. Tozer

A big problem new believers face today is after they repent of their sins and turn to Christ it is only a short time before they begin to drift away and fall into worldliness. But God's word has the cure for worldliness. The only way to stay away from sin and have authority over it, is to stay close to the word of God and keep it hidden in your heart, and keep away from things that feed your old man.

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." John 17:17

“Where withal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed there to according to thy word.” Psalm 119:9

When a man repents, he turns from sin to Jesus. From darkness to light. He becomes a new creature. Many are told that when you become saved you will continue to sin. But God says that if we are in Christ we are dead to sin. When we believe that we are dead to sin, it is because we are alive in Christ (Rom.6:22). We have to act on our faith. A true Christian is dead to sins. A sinner is dead in sins. The Holy Spirit will help you to live a holy life. The moment you become a Christian the old man dies. There may be times your old man tries to resurrect himself, but you must believe that he is dead, and make him stay dead.

“Sin has no power over a dead man, dress it in its most bewitching guise, yet it stirs him not. Tears and smiles and words and blows alike fail to awaken a response from that cold corpse. No appeal will stir it until it hears the voice of the Son of God. This is our position in respect to the appeals of sin. God looks on us as having been crucified with Christ, and being dead with Him. In Him we have passed out of the world of sin and death into the world of resurrection glory. This is our position in the mind of God; it is for us to take it up and make it real by faith. We may not feel any great difference, but we must believe that there is: we must act as if there were. Our children sometimes play at make believe; We too are to make believe, and we shall soon come to feel as we believe. When, then, a temptation solicits you, say, I am dead to thee, spend not thine energies on one that is oblivious to thy spells and callous to thy charms. Thou hast no more power over me than my Lord and Head.” F. B. Meyer

“Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:11

“Everywhere the Bible says, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved” or its equivalent, it is understood that no one can turn to Jesus Christ without turning from sin.” John R. Rice - (How to Have a Revival)

“Let’s say I lived near a volcanic mountain. An announcement is made that it will erupt in the next twenty-four hours. Without means of transportation I could in no way escape because I could not get far enough away from the mountain on foot in that twenty-four hour period. Without an automobile I am doomed. In seeing my need a generous and loving person knocks on my door, gives me a car, put the keys into my hand, and says, “the car is yours. You are now saved.” I rejoice that I have been saved. Being almost penniless, I never could have bought the automobile.

This person has freely given me the automobile that is going to carry me to safety. I call friends and excitedly tell them, “I have been saved! I am not going to die! A very compassionate person has given me an automobile that is going to carry me to safety.” I then dig out my maps. and I even buy a book telling me how to drive more proficiently. However, for the next twentyfour hours I remain in the house. I fail to get into the car to drive to freedom. The volcano erupts, and I am swept away to destruction. The gift that would lead to my freedom was provided, but I just celebrated it and took no action. Afterward, all who knew my position and what I had received would say “He received the automobile in vain.” John Bevere -(A Heart Ablaze)

Have you received God’s grace in vain? Do you not know, God is not impressed with your confessions. He wants His laws written on our hearts. He wants obedience. Many say they are safe from God’s wrath. Yet they are living under it every day, through their sins and disobedient lifestyles. You think that God is so loving and merciful that He will continue to let you sin against Him, over and over again. Be careful “God is not mocked”.

“It is a sad mischief to thousands in our congregations that they feel so much and do so little. They melt under eloquent preaching, perhaps shed tears. (So they do over a pathetic novel.) Their consciences are touched. They make good resolutions, and then go home, and straightway forget what manner of persons they have been. This is a most dangerous and damaging process. My

friend, don't you know that to weep over sin, and then not to quit the sin - to have a good feeling, and not to carry it out into practice - does you a most serious harm? It is a wrong upon the Holy Spirit, and a most terrible wrong to yourself. It hardens your heart most fearfully. The most difficult persons in our congregations to deal with are those emotional people who have wept and resolved an hundred times, and yet have never lifted a finger to obey Christ. I am afraid that their tears in this world are but a prelude to bitter tears in perdition. Hell is full of weepers." Theodore L. Cuyler D.D.

Jesus commands us to repent. Luke 13:3

There are many out there that think to repent means to change your mind about God. It's more than that:

"Dr. George Lamsa who is known as the world's foremost authority on the Aramaic language, "the language Christ spoke" said: sin does separate us from God -- Repent in Aramaic means do not sin again -- mistakes are not sin -- No one can be forgiven without repentance. When a sinner repents he is no longer a slave to sin and satan." unknown

God's word tells us that we must, if we have called on Christ to save us, crucify our flesh with the affections and lust, (Gal. 5:24) and turn from all sin. (11 Tim. 2:19) This is repentance, turning from darkness to light. We need to starve the old man. Your sinful nature will die if you don't feed it. Wrong movies, music, magazines and even corrupt company that glorify the very things that Christ died to free you from, must be turned away from. If you hang around those that drink, smoke and curse it will only be a short time before you start doing the same. Prov. 13:20, Prov. 1:10-19

God's word says: "...Come out from among them, and be separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" 11 Cor. 6:14

God wants us to be a light to the lost, not bosom buddies. We are to love them, yes, but not hang around them when they are cursing, drinking, smoking and telling their dirty jokes. For you to sit there smiling at them instead of warning them would be wrong.

“Woe unto you if the world speaks well of you, for so did they of the false prophets.” (Luke 6:26) “Have you not taken encouragement to sin against God, on that very presumption, that God would show you mercy when you sought it? And may not God justly refuse you that mercy that you have so presumed upon? You have flattered yourself, that though you did so, yet God would show you mercy when you cried earnestly to him for it: how righteous therefore would it be in God, to disappoint such a wicked presumption! It was upon that very hope that you dared to affront the majesty of heaven so dreadfully as you have done: and can you now be so scottish as to think that God is obliged not to frustrate that hope?” Jonathan Edward

After a person is born again (receives Christ as Savior and Lord by turning from their sins, to serve Christ), They are commanded to be baptized. Water baptism is an act of obedience that follows your conversion for the washing away of your sins, and the burial of the old man and the resurrection of the new. The Scriptural method of water baptism is total immersion in water. The Greek word “baptism” means to immerse, submerge and emerge.

Anyone who is baptized must realize what it means. “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” Mark 16:16 This is why baby baptism is not Scriptural. One must believe and repent to be baptized. Babies are too little to believe. Baptism is your death and resurrection with Christ. *“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 if 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

“It is the same with the gospel. When we tell people that they are sinners, that there is a consequence to their actions, that one day they will be judged for their deeds, that without doubt a guilty verdict will come, people get enraged! But when all we say is “Only believe!” - no repentance, no commitment, no change of life required - why should there be any offense? How are we holding anyone accountable? How are we convicting them of their sin? We simply are not preaching the whole counsel of God. If we were (with so much media exposure), the American people would be trembling in their boots!” Michael L. Brown - “How Saved Are We?”

“Young man, I leave you in the hands of your final judge. Life and death are now before you and God is witness to your choice. If a bleeding saviour has no charms for you - if the thunder of his vengeance does not strike terror through your guilty soul; then go on: march on your way rejoicing - trample under foot the son of God - sport with eternal vengeance and deny the thunder of his power. Your fair morning will soon - be turned into darkness, your course run - your bodies fall in the grave, and your souls into the hands of the living God.” Asahel Nettleton

“When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall die thereby. But if the wicked turn from his wickedness, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall live thereby.” Ezekiel 33:18,19

“False converts often indulge in sin if they can persuade themselves that god will forgive them or when they think they can repent of it afterward. They often reason in this way: “The pastor does this” or “The elders do this, so why shouldn’t I do the same?” They fear punishment , not sin. They know they sin, but they hope to escape the punishment. This is contrary to the spirit of the true friends of God, whose absorbing objective it is to

get all sin out of the world. Such people are not half as afraid of hell as they are of committing sin.”

Charles Finney Legal Religion: Principles of Fear

“It is utterly vain to expect Christ to take possession of us while there is committed sin in the life. The face of the Lord was turned from His people at Ai because of a single transgression. Until the golden wedge and Babylonish garment buried under the tent was dug up and burned, the Divine countenance remained averted, and Israel blundered about in darkness, confusion and galling defeat. If

I regard iniquity in my heart, says David, the Lord will not hear me. (Psalms 66:18) Think of a clerk asking forgiveness of a merchant with stolen money in his pocket. And what if the merchant knows it. How can one ask and the other extend pardon. The thing is morally impossible. The Bible distinctly states that it is our iniquities that separate us from God. If this be so, then the giving up of these iniquities must be the condition of restored Divine nearness and favor. As I have heard people repeatedly affirming the impossibility of living without sin, I have wondered at the ignorance shown in such speeches of the Word of God. So far is it from being impossible for a child of God to live a blameless life, the Bible distinctly states that the unconverted man himself must cease sinning before God will pardon him. In Isaiah 55:7, we read, “Let the wicked forsake his ways, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.” Beverly Carradine

“The sword of the Lord will descend on the Earth swiftly and soon!” Girolamo Savonarola

Chapter 8

A Word of Warning

“He, that being often reprov’d hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy. .” Prov. 29:1

You have broken God’s laws and ignored his warnings. You are guilty, and the wages for your sins are eternal damnation in hell under the wrath of an angry God. But God has done a very special thing that you and I don’t deserve. Two thousand years ago God sent His only begotten son who did no sin, to take your punishment for you. (John 3:16) But it’s God’s way or no way. You can not make deals with God. He already laid down the ground rules. The forefathers would shake with holy fear as they preached the law of God. Today we have at ease preachers telling people, “Awe God would not hurt a fly. He is all love!” You must also remember that He is not only love, He is holy, and righteous. No sin can enter His presence. We cry for an outpouring of His Spirit, but do we really know what we are asking for? Revival will come with a price.

One thing I know, this generation has no fear of God, and the preachers in the land should not only feel ashamed, but should weep for all the souls we have hardened by our luke warm, fuzzy preaching. God’s word says that in times of ignorance God winked at sin, but now He commands all to repent. Acts 17:30

“And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:”

The Word says that God is the same yesterday, today and forever. Heb. 13:8 He has not changed nor has his outlook on sin changed. Psalms 34:9, 103:11, 115:13, Proverbs 1:7, 8:13, 9:10, 10:27

When a man fears God he will turn from his sin. When a man does not fear God he will be lenient with sin. This is why God sent His Son Jesus Christ, to change us, not to change Him! God sent His Son to make us more like Him. Not so that God would be more

like us. Yet this is what most churches seem to be saying by the way they preach. Paul tells us that we can cleanse ourselves from our sinful behavior and walk in holiness if we fear God.

“Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” 2 Corinthians 7:1

I hear so many “Christians” say in regard to their sin, well when God is ready to deliver me from this habit, or this sin He will. God was ready two thousand years ago when He let His Son be crucified on a bloody cross. You need to wake up. God has given you everything you need to walk in holiness. You are deceiving yourself, by walking in deception. If you would spend more time in the Word and less time in front of your television watching filth, you would have power over all sin. How is it that self proclaimed “Christians” can say they love Jesus and then sit in front of that television and watch the very things that put their Savior on that tree? Do you think there are two Jesus A holy one at church and a less holy one at home, that likes to sit and watch Seinfeld crack dirty jokes and brag about his sexual conquests? And then when they crack a funny (dirty) little joke you grin and think it was cute. We say we want the world to be saved but we are too tied up with things in our lives to care about are neighbor down the street. Listen! God is Holy, and history proves He will not tolerate sin.

We tell the homosexual that God loves him. I would like to know what God you serve? My God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah in Gen. 19, He also destroyed the Egyptian Army Exodus 14, and don't forget the flood where he destroyed the whole earth with water. Genesis 6. This was the God of the Old Testament, and according to Heb. 13:8 He is the God of the New Testament. God would like to save homosexuals, but not in their sins, but from their sins.

Look at the book of Acts, not only was God doing awesome signs and wonders and healing all kinds of people, but He was also judging sin. Look at Ananias and Sapphira when they lied to the

Lord. Actually, they lied to Peter who told them that they did not lie to him but to the Holy Ghost. (Acts 5:1-11) Notice that in the last verse it says; “And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things. There was the fear of the Lord, in the early church.

What about Simon the sorcerer? He tried to buy the Holy Spirit and Peter told him that he was on his way to hell. He told him he better repent because he was still basically a child of the devil. (Acts 8:18-24) He said this to a professed believer. O we could never judge anyone. Spineless is what we have become. Luke warm and compromising, God wake us before it's too late. What about a man called Elymas, he withstood Paul and the Word says the hand of the Lord made him blind. (Acts 13:8-12) It was God's hand not satan that did this to the man. What about Herod as soon as he was done giving his boastful speech an angel of the Lord smote him and he was eaten up by worms and died. (Acts 12:19-24)

Charles Finney in the early revivals speaks of times when he even saw the mighty judgments of God fall: *“At Rome, N.Y., several years ago a great revival occurred, the power of which rocked and rent the stout hearts of many sinners, as the forest trees are rocked and rent by a tornado; but with it came some awful judgments revealing another form of the mighty hand of God. There were in that place a small class of hard drinkers who seemed determined to resist every call from God to repent. On the Sabbaths they would get together for drinking and reveling. On one of these occasions, one of their number suddenly fell down dead. Mr. Gillett, pastor of the church in that place, hastened to the spot, found the fallen man yet warm, but actually dead; and turning to the surrounding company of his associates, said, “There who of you can doubt that this man has gone right down to hell!” This case made a deep and thrilling impression.*

Another man, a famous apostate from a profession of religion, greatly opposed the revival. All at once God smote him with madness, and in his insane ravings he sought to take his own

life. Men by turns had to watch him and restrain him by violence from committing suicide. Ere long he died a most horrid death and awful warning to hardened apostates of their impending doom! So God tries to reform and save guilty men."

(Charles Finney - The Self-Hardening Sinner's Doom)

Here is another example of Gods judgement fallen on individuals. In one of Maria Woodworth Ethers meetings a man was "making sport of the works of God, and saying awful things about [her], and the power" all at once "fell to the ground, a helpless man, stricken with paralysis." Ron McIntosh - *The Quest for Revival*

Once during a John G. Lake meeting; "two young sisters came to scoff and disrupt a service. Without warning, one of the women fell down as though she were dead. The other sister quickly approached Lake, saying, "Man of God, we have sinned, but forgive us and restore my sister." Lake prayed for the woman, and she was raised to life instantly. Needless to say, both women immediately were converted." Ron McIntosh - *The Quest for Revival*

God's word tells us that we must call on Him, confess and turn from all known sin. (Acts 3:19) Jesus will give you the power to leave your old life. He will create a new life in you. But do not wait until tomorrow to get right with God, you might wake up in hell tomorrow. There are many who thought they could do it later, only to find out it was too late:

"Suddenly Cut Off."- In Berrien Co., Michigan, there was a number of giddy scoffers. One night they went to a revival meeting. They hastened and got ahead of a load of Christians, and then to tease them, drove very slowly. At the meeting they continued to trifle. On the way home they repeated their former conduct, more blasphemous than before; sporting and praying in mockery. Little did they dream that sudden vengeance, from an

insulted God, like the crashing of a thunderbolt, quickly would fall upon one of their derisive number! Within a week he was in the woods with a companion in sin, and a bullet crashed through his brain and he fell a corpse.

Truly, “Judgments are prepared for scorers, and stripes for the backs of fools.” (Proverbs 19:29) -Rev. J.E. Arney (Revival Kindlings-by Rev. Martin Wells Knapp)

“Hell Already Begun.- Salvation’s day with the dying man was nearly done. He had lived Christless and now was dying hopeless. Friends hoped for the best, but as they listened they were almost stupefied with horror. “I feel,” said the dying man, “the flames of hell are gathering round me now. I’m lost! I’m lost! I’m lost!” No one present could but feel the truth of God’s word that hell from beneath is moved to meet the wicked at their coming.- Rev. J. Steffee. (Revival Kindlings- by Rev. Martin Wells Knapp)

“He, that being often reprov’d hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.” Prov. 29:1

“What A Warning!- One night at a revival meeting a young lady was urged to repent. “I will seek God tomorrow night,” she replied. The next evening her mother found that she intended on going to a ball, and entreated her not to go. She replied, “I will go if I die,” and went upstairs to dress. Her beau soon called for her. She was called but did not reply. Her mother went up to her room, found her sitting before the mirror, her lifeless hand placing a bow in her hair, for she was a corpse. She lost the dance, her life and her soul. Oh, to be a year too late, or a month too late, is to be forever too late, and forever lost. Prepare now to meet thy God.-Sel.” (Revival Kindlings-by Rev. Martin Wells Knapp)

“A Duke of Buckingham, professed atheist, confessed as he died: “I sported with the holy name of heaven. Now I am haunted by remorse, and I fear, forsaken by God.” (Last Words of Saints and Sinners - Herbert Lockyer)

“Kay, the infidel was the one who cried at the end: “Hell! Hell! Hell!” His family could not stand his groans and oaths and fled from the room until he was dead.” (Last Words of Saints and Sinners - Herbert Lockyer)

“J.H. Huxley, professor and agnostic had a nurse record these last words as he looked up at the nurse standing by him and with trembling eyes he says; “So it is true” and then he died. (In sermon by Steve Hill called “Take Your Pick” - Brownsville Assembly of God Fla.)

Sir Francis Newport who ridiculed Christianity, is quoted as saying these terrifying words on his death bed; while all his atheist friends gathered around him. “You need not tell me there is no God, for I know now there is one, and that I am in His angry presence. You need not tell me there is no Hell for I have already felt my soul slipping into its fires. You retches cease your idle talk about there being hope for me I know I am lost forever. And then he died.” (In sermon by Steve Hill called “Take your pick” - Brownsville Assembly of God Fla.)

John Bean (a Christian turned infidel was a young man still in collage when he had a horrible accident, that put him on his death bed. His parents and classmates recorded these last words: “Oh mother, mother give me some water to quench this fire that is burning me to death.” Then he tore his hair and rent his breast. Then again he cried, Oh mother save me the devils have come after me. O mother take me in your arms and do not let them have me. And his mother drew near to him he buried his face in that fond bosom which had nourished and cherished him. For he turned from her and with an unearthly voice he shrieked father, mother, father save me they come to drag my soul, my soul to hell. And with his eyes darting from their sockets he fell back upon his bed a corpse.” (Exerpts taken from -Earnest Christian Sept. 1867)

Are you ready to go to hell? A place where the worm never dies and the fire is never quenched.

“Put your finger into that candle: can you bear it even for one minute? How then will you bear hell fire?” Surely it would be torment enough to have the flesh burned off from only one finger. What then will it be, to have the whole body plunged into a lake of fire burning with brimstone!” John Wesley

Will you this day put off your salvation? Are you ready to meet God? Death will one day take us out. With every heartbeat we are racing closer and closer to the Judgment. Are you ready? Many people think they will have time. But death waits for no one. April 20th, 1999 in Littleton, Co. two students shot and killed 12 of their classmates and a teacher; and 21 other students were wounded. Then these two committed suicide.

None of these people knew that day they were on on their way to the Judgment. Many had planned what they were going to do after school. Many had even made plans for the weekend. Then without warning, they were standing before the Judgment. 9/11 the same thing happened. These people went to work thinking they were going to put their 8 hours in and go home and enjoy their families. That day many dads didn't come home. That day, many mothers never picked up their kids at school.

Many people put all kinds of money, effort and planning in a vacation. Many will put all kinds of planning in your death and burial. Many will prepare and get ready for competitions and sports events. But not very many will put forth the effort, nor the preparation for where they will spend eternity. Heaven or Hell, where are you headed? Many people flatter themselves by saying they will never go to hell. Yet all they have to keep them from going, is some new age guru or their traditions and fables that have been handed down from generation to generation. When you invest in life insurance don't you read the policy over before you sign? Well, before you're on your death bed don't you think it would be wise to read your Bible for yourself and see what it says?

If you put off what you can do today you might not ever have another chance to call on God. You might, as those already mentioned, cry out tomorrow for God's mercy and find none. God will forgive you if you sincerely and wholeheartedly tell Him you're sorry and turn from all known sin and then serve Him as Lord of your life. Don't cry that you can't live for Him when you watch movies with sex and profanity in it. You put garbage in, you will get garbage out. The Bible warns *"Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals." 1 Corinthians 15:33*

"How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!" Psalm 1:1

God says He will give you power over all sin. (Luke 10:19 / Rom. 6:22)

"Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. " Prov. 1:24-32

"Have we not seen many sinners on our right and our left cut off in their sins? And what but the tender mercy of God hath spared us week after week, month after month, and given us space for repentance? What shall we render unto the Lord for all his patience and long suffering, even to this day? How often have we incurred the sentence of condemnation by our repeated rebellion

against God. And yet we are still alive in his presence and are hearing the words of hope and salvation.” DR. Watts

How many times have you encouraged yourself to sin against God, on the presumption, that all you have to do when you are done is say your sorry. Many of us have flattered ourselves by saying, if I do this sin, God will forgive me, when I ask. Do we think God will be better than His own word? “Without holiness no man shall see the Lord.” It’s time to make up our minds. This could be our last call from God. Some of you are wondering if it’s already too late. The very fact that you are reading this book is proof that God is not through with you. Jesus said: “No man can come unto me unless the Father draws Him.” If you are concerned about your walk with God, this is a good sign. But don’t push your luck!

Do not put it off one more day. If a man really loves God he will not only obey Him but will want to worship Him. If you have no desire to see others saved, nor the desire to just praise him in private, chances are really high that you are not saved. If you can find time to learn about world events, yet you have no time to learn God’s word, chances are high you are not saved. A true Christian loves God’s word. Check your-self to make sure you’re in the faith.

“Depression may result from the inward suggestion that sin has been committed for which forgiveness has not been obtained. In serious cases the sufferer may believe that he has been guilty of “the unpardonable sin”...for if anyone has crossed “the deadline” of divine grace, there would be no inward concern about it. Conviction comes from the working of the Spirit of God, who in such a situation would have withdrawn from the heart and mind, Suggestion to the mind that the unpardonable sin has been committed is repeatedly the cause of mental depression. It can be pointed out to the patient that if that sin had been actually committed, there would be no conscience of it because the Holy Spirit would have withdrawn.”... John A. Macmillan

“If God had given you up, and withdrawn His spirit, you would have no desire for Him.” John A. Macmillen

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” Mark 16:15-18

“Too many have promised themselves a quiet time before they leave the world, when they could turn their face to the wall and confess their sins; but how few have found that time of silence! Don’t men drop dead in the streets—yes, even in the church pew? Don’t they die at their places of employment? And when death is gradual, it offers only a feeble time for repentance.

Many a Christian has said on his death bed, “O! if I had to now seek my God; if I had to now cry to Him for mercy, what would become of me? The pain of death is enough, without the agony of repentance. It is enough to have the body tortured with the often pains of death, without having the soul torn with sorrow.” Sinners! God said, “Today, if you hear my voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert, where your fathers tested and tried me.” Charles Haddon Spurgeon

“Furthermore; the repentance described here as being absolutely necessary is a sincere repentance. It is not a phony tear; it is not hanging out the banner of grief, while you have frivolity in your hearts; it is not having a bright light within, and closing all the blinds on the windows by a pretended repentance. It is the putting out the party candles in the heart; it is sorrow of soul, which is true repentance. A man may renounce every outward sin, and yet not really repent. True repentance, is a turning of the heart, as well as of the life; it is the giving up of the whole soul to God, to be His

forever and ever; it is a renunciation of the sins of the heart, as well as the corruptions of the life.” Charles Haddon Spurgeon

“A man may be in God’s favour though he feel sin; but not if he yields to it. Having sin does not forfeit the favour of God; giving way to sin does. Though the flesh in you “lust against the Spirit,” you may still be a child of God; but if you “walk after the flesh,” you are a child of the devil. Now this doctrine does not encourage to obey sin, but to resist it with all our might.” John Wesley

“Are we still watching movies with profanity, nudity and glorified violence? In Jesus we are dead to all that! Are we still lying, cheating, or walking in bitterness, pride or greed? That nature was nailed to a tree! “*But now you **must rid yourselves** of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips*” (Col. 3:8). The Scripture says **must.**”
Michael L. Brown - How Saved Are We?”

“For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?” Heb. 10:26-29

“He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.” Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not

Getting Right With God

If we acknowledge our sins to God and confess and forsake them, He will forgive us. This is called repentance. (Luke 13:3, Acts 2:38-39, 1 John 1:9, Psalms 32:5) The Lord will not only forgive you your sins, but will also heal you if you are sick.

(Psalms 103:3, Is. 53:4,5, Matthew 8:16,17, 1 Peter 2:24, Mark 16:15-18, James 5:14,15, Mark 11 :23,24)

Pray and ask God to forgive you. Tell Him that from now on you are His. God is good and He is ready to forgive and He is plenteous in mercy to all that call on Him. (Psalms 86:5)

Once God forgives you your sins the Bible says He will not remember them anymore. (Jer. 31:34) If we confess and forsake our sins God is faithful to forgive us. (1John 1:9) Then deny yourself, live for God and follow Jesus. (Luke 9:23)

Remember this, if you deny Jesus, He will deny you. (Matt.10:33)

We must obey God's word, for He (Jesus) is the source of our salvation to only those that obey Him. (Heb. 5:9) The first thing you need to do as an obedient Christian is to be baptized. This is not an option as some teach. See first chapter. Then you are to be baptized in the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38 / Acts 22:16

We also need to be willing to give our lives for Jesus if necessary. (Matt. 10:39, Rev. 12:11) You must now keep yourself pure. (1 Tim. 5:22) "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." Gal. 5:24

If you are a true Christian you will discipline your life to the study of God's Word. You will find out what God wants for your life through His Word. You will not find it by watching junk like Seinfeld, Charmed, Friends, Desperate Housewives, and more like them. They are not only offensive, but are an obomination to God. They make light of and joke about the very things that nailed your savior to that tree. If Jesus set you free from adultery, fornication, corrupt communications, homosexuality, witchcraft and more, why

do you entertain yourself watching others live the life you were commanded to leave? If I have to tell you why, it's because you have not been born again yet. If your Lord and master could not sit through it and laugh and enjoy it with you, without being offended, ***you are still in sin.***

Tell others of what God has done for you. Fellowship with other believers as this will help keep you strong and protect you from falling into false doctrine.

Starve your sins out. By not looking at crude magazines and TV shows, lust will begin to die in you. Live holy, draw close to God and resist the devil and he will flee from you. Remember, if you don't kill sin, it will kill you.

Get the baptism in the Holy Ghost.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is one of the most important and undeniable realities of the Bible. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would come just a few short days after His ascension.

Who is the Holy Spirit? He is the tangible presence and power of God.

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8”

How do you get this baptism of power? Ask!

“And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.” John 14:13

The Holy Spirit gives us not only the power to live above sin, but also power to cast out devils and heal sicknesses. Mark 16:15-20

“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he (Jesus) shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire” Matthew 3:11.

Many people believe they have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit at conversion. While this is true in a sense that the Holy Spirit comes into us, to change us, it is not true that we are baptized with His Spirit unless we ask for Him.

“...How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?” Luke 11 :13.

There were also Christians in Paul’s day who did not have the baptism in Holy Spirit when they were born again. See: Acts 19:2-6 also see: Acts 8:14-20

Now that Jesus is glorified and the Holy Ghost has been given. We no longer need to wait to receive Him. If we ask and allow Him to do so, He will fill us with His living water. The Holy Ghost baptism is a gift from God to sanctified believers to comfort them, guide them and instruct them, and give them power to live for Him. You must desire to receive this gift. Ask and believe that God will give the Holy Ghost baptism to you, and He will do it.

“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you” Matthew 7:7

How can we claim to love Christ, but reject His Spirit? There are many that say they love God, but disobey Him when He has commanded them to be filled with His Spirit. (Ephesians 5:18) Could it be that you are more comfortable with the spirit of anti-christ than with the Spirit of the Living Christ? What are you afraid of? Don’t you want all that God has for you? If you love God you will love His Spirit. His Spirit will bring conviction, healing, power and salvation. This is why we don’t see God moving in our churches anymore, because no one wants Him. They would rather watch some sitcom talking about sex than seeking heaven until the Spirit comes down in power. Please seek Him, while He may be found. The time will come when you will not have an opportunity to experience His awesome presence.

“The true man of God is heartsick, grieved at the worldliness of the Church, grieved at the blindness of the Church, grieved at the corruption in the Church, grieved at the toleration of sin in the Church, grieved at the prayerlessness in the Church. He is disturbed that the corporate prayer of the Church no longer pulls down the strongholds of the devil. He is embarrassed that the Church folks no longer cry in their despair before a devil-ridden,

Last Words of Christians

John Wesley “The best of all is, God is with us.
Farewell!” Then he died.

Dwight L. Moody (1837-1899) “I see earth receding; heaven is
opening. God is calling me.”

Howard Crosby (1826-1891) “My heart is resting sweetly with
Jesus, and my hand is in His.”

Matthew Cotton (1633-1728) “I am going where
all tears will be wiped away.”

George Whitefield (1714-1770) “Lord Jesus, I am weary in thy
work, but not of thy work. If I have not yet finished my course, let
me go and speak for thee once more in the fields, seal the truth,
and come home to die.”

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) “Where is Jesus, my never-failing
friend?”

Jonathan Edwards jr., “Trust in God and you have nothing to
fear.”

Catherine Booth “The waters are rising, but so am I. I am not
going under but over. Do not be concerned about dying; go on
living well, the dying will be right.”

Quotes taken from: (Last Words of Saints and Sinners -Herbert
Lockyer)

How do you want to die?

“What does baptism into the name of Christ stand for? Why were you baptized? Was it not for the renunciation of all sin, and the mortification of every lust? “How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 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” (Rom. 6:2-4).

So often as you hear your own name, call to mind the covenant between God and you in baptism. As God promised on His part to be your God, so you promised to forsake His enemies, to dedicate yourself to His service, to obediently keep God’s holy will and commandments, and to walk in the same all the days of your life. Surely it is a most wretched forgetfulness, to forget yourself to be a Christian. Live holy, because the wicked lives of Christians are far more sinful than the wicked lives of pagans and heathens...

The sins of pagans may have fairer excuses than others; they may plead in another sense than the apostle. How can we call on Him, of whom we have not heard? And how shall we hear without a preacher? (Rom. 10:14). The sun, moon, and stars were but dumb preachers. Had we, O God, heard the joyful sound, we would have received it gladly. We never knew that thy Son was crucified, for had we known it, we would have believed in Him. We would have taken Him for our rightful Sovereign, and obeyed His laws; but what will you pretend? Can you say, you never heard of heaven and hell? Never heard of faith, repentance, and remission of sins preached? Never heard a strict and circumspect course of life pressed upon you? Did you not know that drunkenness, cursing, etc. were sins? That piety, sobriety, and righteousness was your duty? Why then do you do the one, and leave the other undone? Surely, if heathens shall be damned, wicked Christians cannot think to be saved.” Andrew Gray

Chapter 9

The True Christian

”Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:” Matthew 7:13

Remember being a Christian means being Christ like. If you are not Christ like, you're not a Christian. Simple isn't it? Now do think Jesus Christ would be smoking pot (marijuana)? I don't think so. How about getting drunk? Lusting over someone of the opposite sex? How about when Jesus got mad, do you suppose he swore and used profanity in the temple with the money changers? I don't think so! It's time to be true. It's time to get real. The early church was always looking to make sure there was nothing that would hinder the move of God in their lives. They were willing to give up anything to have more of God. Today we want to hold on to as much of the world as we can and tell people how much God means to us. We say things like “I don't see anything wrong with this” or “God knows my heart”. Is this what God's love has taught us? When a man or woman becomes a true Christian they become dead to sin. Sure you may still feel sin in your inward parts, but you no longer give into them. You are dead to their charms. The Word says that a Christian is dead to sin. A false christian as well as a sinner is dead in sin. Meaning you still obey your flesh's desire to sin. A true Christian wars against sin as a man who beats against the flames. If you have repented of your sins and were baptized in the name of the Lord. You are dead to sins. You no longer have to be a slave to fleshly passions. *“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid! how shall we, who are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that as 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 as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also should walk in newness of*

*life: for if we have been planted together in the resemblance of his death, so shall we be also of his resurrection. Knowing this, that **our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that we might no longer be enslaved to sin:** for he that is thus dead with Christ, is delivered from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him: knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more power over Him: for as He died, He died once for all on account of sin; but as He liveth, He liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. **Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.** Rom. 6:1-18*

The true man or woman of God fears sin more than hell. Remember sin gave birth to hell. If there was no sin there would be no hell. Listen to C.H. Spurgeon.

“If you will not have death unto sin, you shall have sin unto death. There is no alternative. If you do not die to sin, you shall die for sin. If you do not slay sin, sin will slay you.” C.H. Spurgeon

Why do we not hear the kind of preaching today that we used to hear in years gone by? Many of the quotes I have taken go as far back as the 1600's. How is it that many of today's pastors feel they have a greater grasp and greater revelation of God's word then

these men of the great revivals, and yet their fruit is sadly missing. You would think if these men had greater revelation they would have greater results. Yet, they don't! Have we become so arrogant and proud that we can no longer hear the voices of great men and women of God that have found the Lord in a way that this generation has not even come close too. If we are to have God we are to master our sin and overcome it.

“If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.” Gen. 4:7

The law to a false convert is a bunch of do's and don'ts. The law to a Christian is his delight. Psalm 119:47, 103 & 1:2 Those that are counter fit Christians are restricted by the law from what they really want to do, but those that are true Christians love the law and find no restrictions with the law, in that they want nothing that the law condemns. For instance, a false convert may be upset because he is told not to watch a certain movie because of profanity, sexual innuendoes, or immodest dress that it contains. To him the law of God becomes a burden. The true Christian does not want to watch anything that His Lord would not watch. To him the law of God is his delight. Do not the things of this world have more appeal than the things of God? Would you rather waste hours watching actors joke, swear, use the Lord's name in vain, commit adultery, watch women expose parts of their bodies and stir up lustful passions or make light of homosexual behavior and other wicked things?

Or, would you rather get up and go out and tell the world about Christ and His love, and tell people there is a hell to fear and a heaven to gain? Have you really left your old life, or are you still living it vicariously through the actors that you watch on television? Allow me to be honest with you. If you smoke pot, tobacco, get drunk, dress enticingly, swear and use dirty language you will not make it. I don't care if you believe me or not, read your Bible.

There will be no doubt that there are those that are wise in their own eyes, that are not open to correction. These are easy to spot for they never listen to the case you make with God's word. They also have no answer for you when you take the Bible as a whole and present the many scriptures that confirm one another. So they divide and conquer. Instead of reading all the scriptures in harmony and asking God for the truth, they break them down and debunk them one by one. These people will always find some reason to allow sin in their lives and the lives of others.

They will look and search until they find something in the word that they can take out of context to justify their sin and ease their conviction. They do this only by ignoring the many passages that tell us to repent and to walk in the spirit and obey the gospel. To those people I can only say, when you are thrown in the lake of fire as a sinner do not complain, for you fought to get there. You kicked over scriptural warnings, ignored passages that conflicted with what you believed in and told those that tried to warn you that they were condemning you or judging you.

Remember this, it was Jesus that said *"Repent: or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth."* Rev. 2:16

He did not say to say the sinners prayer quickly. He said Repent. Which meant, turn from your sins to Him.

It was also Jesus who said *"and I gave her space to repent of her fornication: and she repented not."*

Jesus also told us we must overcome our sin in order to have eternal life. It was Jesus who said: *"He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels."* Rev. 3:5

It was Jesus that said: *"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent."* Rev. 3:19

It was Jesus who said: *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin."* John 8:34

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

Here the key word is ***followeth***, not just believe. John makes this clear when he says: *“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness we lie, and do not the truth:”* 1 John 1:6

So let me ask you, who are you following? I did not ask you who you believe in. James says *“even the devils also believe, and tremble.”* James 2:19 The word of God tells us that *“the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.”* 1 Peter 3:12

Remember this, that to believe the gospel is to obey, to obey is to follow. To say you believe in Jesus but you don't obey what he says, makes you a hypocrite. Faith without works is dead.

James 2:20

This is why the gospel says: *“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 you believe in someone, you're going to obey them. If you're standing in front of a judge for a crime you committed, and that judge says “if you want to stay out of jail, this is what you need to do” you don't leave there ignoring what he said and say it's enough that I believe he is the judge. That would be stupid! Yet that's what thousands of confessing Christians say while they continue to smoke, swear, drink, commit adultery, lie, steal, get high and watch things they know Jesus would not approve of. Then they say they are saved and on their way to heaven. God assumed that we would be smart enough, that if He said we must believe, that we would obey the one in whom we say we believe in. Remember to believe is to obey. *“And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”* Heb 5:9

My prayer is that you will seek the Lord until He comes for you. And if the Lord should tarry, that you go to meet Him with joy as other Christians have.

“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

Ephesians 5:1-6

“Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.” Matthew 5:28-30

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers

“Therefore when thou art tempted to sin, say as Joseph did, “How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?” (Gen. 39:9). Shall I thus requite the Lord for the innumerable mercies bestowed upon me? Hath He surrounded me with blessings and loaded me with His benefits? Hath He crowned me with loving kindness, and many rich blessings here; and hath He promised to crown me with eternal blessedness hereafter? And shall I be so unkind and disingenuous as to wrong that God, who hath been so kind to me, and is continually doing me good? Shall I not hear Him calling on me to be holy, who hath so often heard me crying to Him for help? Hath He denied nothing to me, and shall I not deny my lusts for His sake? Is He my friend and benefactor, and shall I do service to His enemy? Hath He honored me, and shall I dishonor Him? Doth He promise me blessedness, and is a wicked life the way to come to it? Have I tasted and seen that the Lord is good, and shall I continue to do what is evil? Do showers of precious mercies distil on mine head, and shall they all miscarry? Shall I displease and dishonor that high and dreadful Majesty, whose free grace is the well-head and fountain of all these mercies? Or shall I not rather express my thankfulness in such a manner, as may become the mercies of God? Oh, the mercies of God are a mighty motive to prevent sin and promote holiness...

We must leave sin and live holy, because to sin is very unsuitable work; and very unbecoming to Christians: for (1) Are we not strangers, and therefore to abstain from whatsoever is contrary to holiness? “Dearly beloved, I beseech you, as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul” (I Peter 2:11). We are traveling to an higher country, where pure souls breathe in an uninfected air and are partakers of heavenly visions to the full. Oh, do not by living unholy, belie your great and glorious hopes. “Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure” (1 John 3:3). Show yourselves to be the right seed of the woman, by flying from the face of the old serpent, and abhorring his image. Strangers must not be meddlers; oh, meddle not with sin, but put off the old man with his deceitful lusts. Trouble not yourselves with anything that will hinder you in your journey heavenward. You expect a room among the angels, and will you live as slaves in the world? You are in the way to Canaan, why then are you in love with the flesh-pots of Egypt? “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God” (2 Cor. 7:1).” Andrew Gray

“In these days, prelates and preachers are chained to the earth by the love of earthly things. The care of souls is no longer their concern. They are content with the receipt of revenue. The preachers preach to please princes and to be praised by them. They have done worse. They have not only destroyed the Church of God. They have built up a new church after their own pattern. Go to Rome and see! Thou shalt find them all with the books of the humanities in their hands and telling one another that they can guide men’s souls by means of Virgil, Horace and Cicero. Dost thou not know what I would tell thee? What doest thou, O Lord! Arise, and come to deliver thy Church from the hands of devils, from the hands of tyrants, from the hands of iniquitous prelates.” Savonarola

“The church is never a place, but always a people; never a fold but always a flock; never a sacred building but always a believing assembly. The church is you who pray, not where you pray. A structure of brick or marble can no more be the church than your cloths of serge or satin can be you. There is in this world nothing sacred but man, no sanctuary of man but the soul.”
John Havlik

“When the church was very young, it had no buildings. Let us begin with that striking fact. That the church had no buildings is the most noticeable of the points of difference between the church of the early days and the church of today. In the minds of most people today, “church” means first a building, probably something else second; but seldom does “the church” stand for anything other than a building. Yet here is the fact with which we start: the early church possessed no buildings and carried on its work for a great many years without erecting any.” Ernest Loosley

“The church’s greatest period of vitality and growth until recent times was during the first two centuries A.D. In other words, the church grew faster when it did not have the help or hindrance of church buildings.”
Howard Snyder

Chapter 10

True Church

“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.” 1 Tim 4:1-2

*“For the time will come when they will **not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**” 2 Tim 4:3-4*

I have been studying revivals and early church history for close to ten years now, and what I see in today's church must break God's heart. We, in today's Church, are more concerned about Church programs than in personal holiness and souls. We have this idea that we go to church on Sundays to worship God and do our time. Yet we can't grasp the concept that we are the church. We are a holy priesthood, not a building.

1 Peter 2:5 The building is just that, a building!

We, the Christians, not the buildings are the Church body.

Ephesians 1:22-23, 2:19, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 1 Corinthians 3:9

The Church is the bride of Christ, not that building you go to on Sundays, or Saturdays. Revelation 19:7, Ephesians 5:22-23 That is just one of the places we choose to meet.

Sadly most churches are not a place to seek the Lord, but to participate in a program. There is seldom any waiting on the Lord, or having the Spirit of God rule the service. Most services you can predict what will happen through the whole service. The first 20 min. or so is praise and worship time, then tithes and announcements. Then children are released from adult church so they can go into another room and color bible pictures. At which

time the pastor will expound on some text (preach) for about 45 minutes to an hour, followed by the altar call where he will give the invitation to whoever wants to receive Jesus as savior. This can all be done in secret, so that no pressure is placed on the sinner. He can sneak into heaven's door and no one will know, except himself and the pastor. Of course some pastors use the bait and switch technique, where they say "with every eye closed and every head bowed, while no one is looking around, raise your hand. The sinner raising his hand thinking he is safe from being embarrassed, is then called forward by the pastor in front of everyone.

Question! Is this how Jesus got people into heaven, through secrecy and trickery? Can you picture Jesus doing any of this? Of course not! Jesus said:

"For whosoever shall be ashamed of me, and of my words, in this degenerate and sinful age, of him will the Son of man be also ashamed, when He cometh in the glory of his Father, with the holy angels." Mark 8:38

"For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on Him, shall not be ashamed." Romans 10:11

We are trying to make it so easy for people to be saved, that we are teaching people to think they can be saved and ashamed of Christ at the same time. I have even heard some Christians bragging about tricking some one into being a Christian. They say something like "can I pray for your headache?" The person, being somewhat polite says, "sure". Then the Christian begins by saying; "Just repeat after me. "I command this headache to leave in Jesus name. Lord, I also ask you to forgive me of anything I might have done against you. Please forgive me and come into my heart." The guy goes away somewhat confused about the prayer, with or without the headache, and the Christian goes to his brothers and sisters in Christ following Sunday and shares his mighty testimony of leading someone to the Lord. This is not only stupid, it is extremely unscriptural. Salvation is always followed by repentance from sin and turning to God from a sincere heart.

If you ever do a study on all the great soul winners from the 1600 on up to the early 1900 you will see a pattern that is almost entirely neglected in today's sermons. These men of old denounced sin openly in public. How they thundered against sin. Men like Joseph Alleine, who would say things like:

“Are you yet in ignorance and not turned from darkness unto light? I fear you are under the power of Satan. Do you live in the willful practice of any known sin? Know that you are of the devil....O that I could but make you see how bad a master you serve, how merciless a tyrant you gratify; whose pleasure is to set you on to make your perditions and damnation sure, and to heat the furnace hotter and hotter in which you must burn for millions and millions of ages.”

Or Jonathan Edwards who shook men to their souls, with words like:

“You who remain in an unregenerate state, consider this: the fact that God will execute the fierceness of His anger, implies that He will inflict wrath without any pity. When God beholds the unspeakable extremity of your condition, and sees your torment to be so vastly disproportional to your strength, and how your poor soul is crushed and sinks down, as it were, into an infinite gloom, He will have no compassion upon you; He will not hold back the executions of His wrath, or in the least lighten His hand.”

(see Isaiah 27:8, Ezekiel 8:18, Romans 9:22, Proverbs 1:24-33, Isaiah 63:3)

What about Wesley, was he hard on sin also? He would preach things like:

“A man may be in God's favor though he feel sin, but not if he yields to it. Having sin, does not forfeit the favor of God; giving way to sin does. Though the flesh in you “lust against the Spirit,” you may still be a child of God; but if you “walk after the flesh,” you are a child of the devil. Now this doctrine does not encourage you to obey sin, but to resist it with all your might.”

I could go on and on with examples but I am sure with all the quotes through-out this book there is enough to convince you, something is wrong with today's church.

“Charles G. Finney won some 250,000 souls in a few short years, most of them in New York State and in nearby areas. Within certain limited areas the profound effect of the Finney revivals was more intense, more revolutionary than even the Moody revivals. And how did Charles G. Finney Preach? Did he preach upon the love of God? Not often! Did he preach on grace? He believed in grace, but law comes before grace in the Bible, and so it came in Finney's preaching. Did he give tender invitations? Perhaps, toward the close of each campaign, certainly not in the first part of the services... Oh, may God give us preachers who will preach like Charles G. Finney against sin!” John R. Rice

O, but today we have many liberal pastors that scream, “But we must not scare the sinners with hell, but reassure them with grace.” They say “We need to change our message to fit with the times.” Has God changed? Is He still moving in the supernatural? Are people still being saved from their sins?

*“For I am the **LORD**, **I change not**; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.” Mal 3:6*

*“**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**” Hebrews 13:8*

The Word of God is clear, God has not changed since Jesus came to earth to die for our sins. No Jesus died and rose to change us, not to change God. We were the sinners, we had the sin problems, we were the ones that were going to die because we had sinned. God sent Jesus to not only pay for our past sins, but stop us from living in our future sins and obeying the lust of our flesh. In short, God died on the Cross to make us more like Him, not for Him to be more like us. Many of today's pastors are teaching that God is not mad anymore. If that is true, then explain why in Revelation, the people cry for the rocks to fall on them to hide them from the Wrath of the Lamb of God?

*“And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his **wrath** is come; and who shall be able to stand? Revelation 6:15-17*

God is still angry with sin, and with sinners, to say different is to say that God has changed, and that my friends, is unscriptural and ignorant.

Today many pastors are teaching new Christians that “no one is righteous and no one understands and no one really seeks after God, and no one does good, no one, not even Christians. This they support with Rom. 3:10-12

“There is none righteous, no not one; there is none that understandeth; there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are become unprofitable, there is none that practiseth goodness, no not one.”

So they start right off teaching the new Christian that his walk will be a failure, but not to worry because this is the normal Christian life. Is it really? Is this what God’s word says a Christian is?

First let’s look at this in its proper context. This chapter is talking about all the people on the earth in their natural state outside of Christ. Yes, there is none righteous outside of Christ, this is true, but can it be said that a Christian does not seek after God? Matthew 6:33, Luke 12:29-31, Hebrews 11:6

*“If ye then be risen with Christ, **seek** the things that are above, where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God.” Colossians 3:1*

Can it be said that a Christian does not do good? Or in other words, he does not obey Christ? 2 Thessalonians 1:8,

*“But why do ye call me, Lord, Lord, **and do not practice** what I teach you?” Luke 6:46*

*“And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that **obey** him;” Heb. 5:9*

*The Word says: “Little children, let no man deceive you: **he that doeth righteousness is righteous**, even as he is righteous.” 1 John 3:7 We are not righteous just because we say He is our savior. We are righteous because we walk in the light, and we follow and obey Him. 1 John 1:7, 4:4-10*

Today, in most churches more emphasis is placed on programs and activities than evangelism. Why? Because most Christians would be bored, or ashamed with winning souls. Many Christians say they would love to see revival, but you will not see many laboring for revival. When we talk to most professed Christians in today’s church about prayer and fasting you will see a look of panic. Most believers today do not want to be inconvenienced. They would rather say they care, than to show they care. They would rather waste hours and hours on mindless entertainment, than to try to win someone to the Lord, or seek the Lord, themselves. Is it any wonder the world sees a sick and weak looking Christianity that is always apologizing to everyone for its worldliness and lack of power? Remember, God did not start many of today’s churches that ask the government permission to exist. The church is a group of people not a tax exempt organization. I am not putting down churches that have 501C coverage, but am asking why do you have to get permission from the world to serve Jesus? If I have a group of friends that meet in my home, or someone else’s home to worship the Lord, is it any less of a church? I do believe that is how the first Churches started and continued for many years until man decided he had to have more control. I predict that someday very soon the American church will be forced underground, and denominations will be a thing of the past. You will either be a Christian or a nonbeliever. You will not be able to get an ordination or a pretty little certificate to hang on your wall because that will be outlawed one day in this country. You will not have a pretty little steeple or church building, but will probably meet in a home or a basement. Will it be any less of a

Church? No! The Lord tells us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together with other believers. Sadly denominations have scattered and separated us. Lets stop playing church and start being the church.

“If you had asked, ‘Where is the church?’ in any important city of the ancient world where Christianity had penetrated in the first century, you would have been directed to a group of worshiping people gathered in a house. There was no special building or other tangible wealth with which to associate ‘church’, only people!” Walter Oetting

*“And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread **from house to house**, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart”* Acts 2:46

*“As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into **every house**, and haling men and women committed them to prison.”* Acts 8:3

*“Likewise greet the church that is **in their house**. Salute my wellbeloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ.”* Rom. 16:5

(Also see 1 Cor. 16:19, Col. 4:15, Philem 1:2)

“You mistakenly think we conceal what we worship since we have no temples or altars. Yet how can anyone make an image of God? Man himself is the image of God. How can anyone build a temple to Him, when the whole world can not contain Him? Even I, a mere human, travel far and wide. So how can anyone shut up the majesty of so great a Person within one small building? Isn’t it better for Him to be dedicated in our minds and consecrated in our innermost hearts - rather than in a building?” Mark Felix in Octavius 2nd Century A.D.

I believe many new Christians that are on fire, get watered down, by being told to take care of a building called a church for a few years until they show they can be trusted in the ministry, and then when they have become as lukewarm as the elders they are given greater responsibilities. Pastors if you find a young convert

on fire, don't douse him, fan him. Let him share his testimony. Show him how to share his faith. Let him get others in your denomination on fire again. Don't worry about him making mistakes, he probably will, but that's why you're there, to help guide him into a mighty man, or woman of God. Don't allow your churches to be holding grounds for pew sitters, allow them to step out into what God has called them to do. A man does not have to go to school to win souls or to preach. He just has to have the fire of God on his life. Also he needs to be taught to test everything by scriptures and to be accountable to others, not controlled. (For more information on the early church see, "The secrets of the early church" by Andrew Strom)

"There is no greater hindrance to revival than a comfortable pastor settled and satisfied, coasting along until he reaches retirement, who does not want his flock disturbed or the status quo upset. He has long since lost his burden and concern for a mighty upheaval of God among the resters at ease in Zion. He resents any intrusion into the complacency of a sleeping church, and interprets the prophet's call to repentance as an indictment of his own preaching. Sometimes his own people may get under conviction, and put him to shame by a concern he does not seem to feel. This makes it exceedingly difficult for any revivalist calling Christians to repentance, but what a delight when pastor and prophet stand together!" Vance Havner

"In the Irish Revival of 1859, people became so weak that they could not get back to their homes. Men and women would fall by the wayside and would be found hours later pleading with God to save their souls. They felt that they were slipping into hell and that nothing else in life mattered but to get right with God... To them eternity meant everything. Nothing else was of any consequence. They felt that if God did not have mercy on them and save them, they were doomed for all time to come." Oswald J. Smith

“The true man of God is heartsick, grieved at the worldliness of the Church...grieved at the toleration of sin in the Church, grieved at the prayerlessness in the Church. He is disturbed that the corporate prayer of the Church no longer pulls down the strongholds of the devil.” Leonard Ravenhill

“The chief danger of the Church today is that it is trying to get on the same side as the world, instead of turning the world upside down. Our Master expects us to accomplish results, even if they bring opposition and conflict. Anything is better than compromise, apathy, and paralysis. God give to us an intense cry for the oldtime power of the Gospel and the Holy Ghost!” A.B. Simpson

“As said an English writer not long since, “No error is so destructive, and to be so greatly denounced, as that Christians are expected to sin during this life.” The Fact is, the Churches are going rapidly away from God because of a lack of the true bread of life; and because the ministry have, to such an alarming extent, been guarding their Churches more against the doctrine of sanctification than they have against sin.” Charles Finney

“Little by little, the church loses its grip on essential things, becomes a social club, goes to sleep or flies off at a tangent. All over the world we find sleeping churches, and all round them are the gospel-starved masses. Instead of performing the first thing of importance, evangelizing the masses, they are engaged in a bewildering variety of pastimes--anything but the real thing.” J. Edwin Orr

“I believe that the world is upon the threshold of a great religious revival, and I pray daily that I may be allowed to help bring this about. I beseech all those who confess Christ to ask Him to-day, upon their knees, if He has not some work for them to do now. He

will lead them all as He has led us. He will make them pillars of smoke by day and pillars of fire by night to guide all men to Him.”
Evan Roberts

“In the New Testament church it says they were all amazed - And now in our churches everybody wants to be amused.”
Leonard Ravenhill

“An unholy church! it is useless to the world, and of no esteem among men. It is an abomination, hell’s laughter, heaven’s abhorrence. The worst evils which have ever come upon the world have been brought upon her by an unholy church.”
C.H. Spurgeon

“Why are we not more holy? Asked John Wesley, addressing his preachers. “Chiefly because we are enthusiasts, looking for the end without the means.”
John Wesley

“It is because of the hasty and superficial conversation with God that the sense of sin is so weak and that no motives have power to help you to hate and flee from sin as you should.”
A.W. Tozer

“Lastly--are not the Church in their present state, a standing, public, perpetual denial of the gospel? Do they not stand out before the world, as a living, unanswerable contradiction of the gospel; and do more to harden sinners and lead them into a spirit of caviling and infidelity, than all the efforts of professed infidels from the beginning of the world to the present day?”
Charles Finney

“There’s only one proof of the Holy Ghost in your life and that’s a holy life” Leonard Ravenhill

Chapter 11
Holiness is Not Legalism
A sermon by John Wesley

Without holiness no man shall see the Lord.” Nothing under heaven can be more sure than this; “for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.” And “though heaven and earth pass away, yet His word shall not pass away.” As well therefore might God fall from heaven, as His Word fall to the ground. (Heb. 12:14; Mic. 4:4; Matt. 5:18).

No one who is not saved from sin here can be saved from hell hereafter. No one can see the kingdom of God above, unless the kingdom of God be in him below. Whoever will reign with Christ in heaven, must have Christ reigning in him on earth. And yet as sure as this is, and as clearly as it is taught in every part of the Holy Scripture, among all the truths of God, there is probably none which is less received by men.

Yes, professing Christians invariably invent one way or another to get to heaven without holiness. In the place of holiness, some have substituted penance, pilgrimages, and praying to saints and angels. Thousand of professing Christians have no doubt but that, by a diligent use of these things—without any holiness at all—they shall see the Lord in glory.

However, Protestants will not be satisfied in that manner. They are convinced that whoever leans on such things leans on the staff of a broken reed. Yet, thousands of such Protestants also think that they too will see God without holiness. How? Why, by doing no harm, generally doing good, going to church, and receiving the sacraments. And many thousands are content with this, believing they are on the high road to heaven. Yet, that is not much better than the hopes of the first group.

However, other Protestants recognize that such nominal Christianity is not sufficient. They correctly say that such a religion does not stand on the right foundation. However, they go on to say that Christ has already accomplished and suffered

everything for us. They say that His righteousness is imputed to us; therefore, we need none of our own. Since there is so much righteousness and holiness in Him, there needs to be none in us. In fact, they claim, that to think we have any holiness, or to desire to seek any holiness, is to renounce Christ. That from the beginning to the end of salvation, all is in Christ, nothing is in man. And that those who teach otherwise are preachers of legalism, and know nothing of the gospel.

What evasion! What has Satan done? He has persuaded the very men who receive it to “turn the grace of God into licentiousness” (Jude 4). This is indeed a blow at the root, the root of all holiness, all true religion. The whole design of Christ’s death was “to destroy the works of the devil” (I John 3:8). But now this is overthrown in one stroke.

THE FRUITS OF CHEAP GRACE

For wherever this doctrine of easy grace is received, it leaves no place for holiness. It forbids all such exhortations as might excite a desire for holiness. Nay, it makes men afraid of personal holiness, afraid of cherishing any thought of it. For they fear that any step toward holiness might be a denial of the faith, and a rejection of Christ and His righteousness. So that, instead of being “zealous for good works,” good works are a stench to their nostrils. In short, they are infinitely more afraid of the works of God, than the works of the devil.

Here is Satan’s masterpiece! We are to believe that men are holy, without a grain of holiness in them! Holy in Christ, however unholy in themselves. They are supposedly in Christ, although they have not one jot of the mind that was in Christ. They are “complete in Him,” although they are as proud, as vain, as covetous, and as lustful as ever. They think they can continue in unrighteousness because Christ has “fulfilled all righteousness.”

O ye simple one, do not be deceived. For as surely as the Lord lives, “neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor

homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.” “Such” indeed “were some of you. But you are washed, but you are sanctified,” as well as “justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Cor. 6:9-11). You are really changed! You are not only accounted as righteous, you are made righteous.

The inward power of the Spirit has made you free—really, actually free—from the law or power “of sin and death” (Rom. 8:2). This is liberty, true gospel liberty, experienced by every true believer. This is not freedom from the law of God, or the works of God, but from the law of sin and the works of the devil. See that you stand fast in this real, not imaginary, liberty. Take heed that you “be not entangled again,” by means of these vain boasters, “in the yoke of” that vile “bondage of sin,” from which you have cleanly escaped. (Gal. 5:1).

I testify unto you, that if you still continue in sin, Christ shall profit you nothing. That Christ is no Savior to you, unless He saves you from your sins. And that unless it purifies your heart, faith shall profit you nothing. Oh, when will you understand, that to oppose either inward or outward holiness, under color of exalting Christ, is directly to act the part of Judas, to “betray the Son of man with a kiss?”

What? Make Christ destroy His own kingdom? Set Christ against holiness? Talk of Christ as saving His people in their sins? It is no better than to say, He saves them from the guilt, but not from the power, of sin. Will you make the righteousness of Christ a cover for the unrighteousness of man? So that by this means, “the unrighteous” of every kind “shall inherit the kingdom of God!” Stop! Consider! What are you doing? Who has corrupted you from the simplicity of Christ, from the purity of the gospel?

You did know, “He that believeth is born of God: And whosoever is born of God sinneth not” (1 John 3:9). O come back to the true, the pure, the old gospel! That which you received in the beginning. Come back to Christ, who died to make you a holy

people, “zealous for good works” (Tit. 2:14). “Remember from whence you are fallen, and repent, and do the first works” (Rev. 2:5). For “wilt thou know, O vain,” O empty “man, that faith without works is dead” (Jas. 2:17)?

Do not stupidly and senselessly call holiness legalism—a silly, meaningless word. Be not afraid of being under the law of God. Rather, fear being under “the law of sin” (Rom. 7:23). Love the strictest preaching best. That which most searches the heart, and shows you wherein you are unlike Christ. That which presses you most to love Him with all your heart, and serve Him with all your strength.

Permit me to warn you of another silly, meaningless phrase: Do not say: “I can do nothing.” If so, then you know nothing of Christ. Then you have no faith. For if you have faith, if you believe, then you “can do all things through Christ who strengthens you” (Phil. 4:13). You can love Him and keep His commandments; and to you His “commandments are not grievous” (1 John 5:3). Grievous to them that believe? Far from it! They are the joy of your heart.

Show then your love for Christ by keeping His commandments, by blamelessly walking in all His ordinances. Honor Christ by obeying Him with all your might, by serving Him with all your strength. Glorify Christ by imitating Christ in all things, by walking as He walked. Trust in Christ to live and reign in your heart. Have confidence in Christ that He will fulfill in you all his great and precious promises. That He will work in you all the good pleasure of His goodness, and all the work of faith with power. Cleave to Christ, until His blood has cleansed you from all pride, all anger, all evil desire. Let Christ do all. Let Him who has done all for you, do all in you.

Exalt Christ as a Prince to give repentance. A Savior both to give remission of sins, and to create in you a new heart, to renew a right spirit within you. This is the gospel, the pure, genuine gospel; glad tidings of great salvation. Not the new, but the old—the everlasting gospel. John Wesley - England, 18th century

“Christ will be master of the heart, and sin must be mortified. If your life is unholy, then your heart is unchanged, and you are an unsaved person. The Savior will sanctify His people, renew them, give them a hatred of sin, and a love of holiness. The grace that does not make a man better than others is a worthless counterfeit. Christ saves His people, not IN their sins, but FROM their sins. Without holiness, no man shall see the Lord.”

Charles Spurgeon

“If the presence of God is in the church, the church will draw the world in. If the presence of God is not in the church, the world will draw the church out.”

Charles Finney

“Some people do not like to hear much of repentance; but I think it is so necessary that if I should die in the pulpit, I would desire to die preaching repentance, and if out of the pulpit I would desire to die practicing it.”

Matthew Henry

“Sin is never an accident. It’s always intentional.”

Ray Greenley

“Don’t presume upon the mercy of God and so encourage yourself in sin.”

Jonathan Edwards

“Whatever call a man may pretend to have, if he has not been called to holiness, he certainly has not been called to the ministry.” Charles H. Spurgeon

“Every man is as holy as he really wants to be.”

A. W. Tozer

“The nature of Christ’s salvation is woefully misrepresented by the present-day evangelist. He announces a Savior from hell rather than a Savior from sin. And that is why so many are fatally deceived, for there are multitudes who wish to escape the Lake of Fire who have no desire to be delivered from their carnality and worldliness.” A.W. Pink

*“And ye know that he was manifested to **take away** our sins, and **in him is no sin**. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not; whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.” 1 John 3:5, 6*

“In the case of one who truly abides in Christ in the exercise of a living, active faith, to sin--to disobey God--involves a contradiction in terms. To say that one sins while in the exercise of faith and of love, is absurd. Thus the Bible testifies:--”If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature”--not merely ought to be, but is. So throughout the Bible. I know not one passage, descriptive of being in Christ, which does not imply living without sin. If it were otherwise--if faith in Christ for salvation from sin left the soul yet in sin, then is faith in Christ a failure; for being in Christ by faith has for its special object, victory over sin. And faith is declared to be that which gives the victory over the world. (1 John 5:4) Hence when we sin, we are no longer in Christ, but out of Christ. This is implied in the text, and it equally follows from the very nature of being in him.” Charles Finney

“Repent! The Kingdom of heaven is at hand!” John the Baptist and Jesus Christ “Give me leave to ask you, in the presence of God, whether you know the time, and if you do not know exactly the time, do you know there was a time, when God wrote bitter things against you, when the arrows of the Almighty were within you? Was ever the remembrance of your sins grievous to you? Was the burden of your sins intolerable to your thoughts? Did you ever see that God’s wrath might justly fall upon you, on account of your

actual transgressions against God? Were you ever in all your life sorry for your sins? Could you ever say, My sins are gone over my head as a burden too heavy for me to bear? Did you ever experience any such thing as this? Did ever any such thing as this pass between God and your soul? If not, for Jesus Christ's sake, do not call yourselves Christians. You may speak peace to your hearts, but there is no peace. May the Lord awaken you, may the Lord convert you, may the Lord give you peace."

George Whitefield

"It is impossible for a man to be freed from the habit of sin before he hates it, just as it is impossible to receive forgiveness before confessing his trespasses..." Ignatius

"Men tell us in these days that sin is what you think it is. Well, it is not. Sin is what God thinks it is. You may think according to your own conscience. God thinks according to His." John G. Lake

"Any concept of grace that makes us feel more comfortable sinning is not biblical grace. God's grace never encourages us to live in sin, on the contrary, it empowers us to say no to sin and yes to truth." Randy Alcorn

"Evangelical repentance is repentance of sin as sin: not of this sin nor of that, but of the whole mass. We repent of the sin of our nature as well as the sin of our practice. We bemoan sin within us and without us. We repent of sin itself as being an insult to God. Anything short of this is a mere surface repentance, and not a repentance which reaches to the bottom of the mischief. Repentance of the evil act, and not of the evil heart, is like men pumping water out of a leaky vessel, but forgetting to stop the leak. Some would dam up the stream, but leave the fountain still flowing; they would remove the eruption from the skin, but leave the disease in the flesh". --Charles Haddon Spurgeon

“If you will not determine to be pure, you will grow more and more impure.” George MacDonald

“People do not drift toward Holiness. Apart from grace-driven effort, people do not gravitate toward godliness, prayer, obedience to Scripture, faith, and delight in the Lord. We drift toward compromise and call it tolerance; we drift toward disobedience and call it freedom; we drift toward superstition and call it faith. We cherish the indiscipline of lost self-control and call it relaxation; we slouch toward prayerlessness and delude ourselves into thinking we have escaped legalism; we slide toward godlessness and convince ourselves we have been liberated.”

D.A. Carson

“Beloved, if any unholiness exists in the nature, it is not there by the consent of the Spirit of God. If unholiness is in your life it is because your soul is giving consent to it, and you are retaining it. Let it go. Cast it out and let God have His way in your life.”

John G. Lake

“You are the way you are because that’s the way you want to be. If you really wanted to be any different, you would be in the process of changing right now.” Fred Smith

“Men do not differ much about what things they call evils; they differ enormously about what evils they will call excusable.”

G. K. Chesterton

“Whatever weakens your reason, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your sense of God, or takes off the relish for spiritual things then it is sin for you, however, innocent it may be in itself.” Suzanna Wesley

“It is perilously easy to have amazing sympathy with God’s truth and remain in sin.” Oswald Chambers

*America, how you have fallen.
You were founded on the word of God.
But now we say to each his own.
We had the word of God in school.
But the occult is now the rule.
We used to love and even pray.
Now we lust and meditate.
The Bible was our golden rule
but now Harry Potter rules the schools.
Marriage was a sacred pledge.
Now perversion rules the nest.
The voice of every child is a blessing, that is true.
For money and a little time they will kill them all for you.
The storms will be increasing, the weather it will rage,
for the wrath of God is at the starting stage.
It will not be long now, till our freedoms fade.
For we've pushed the Lord God out, soon demons will invade.
The drafts they are coming they will not spare a child.
The attacks will keep coming, they are designed just for you.
To take away your freedom,
the UN will know just what to do.
They will try to mark you, with a tiny chip.
But just remember if they do,
you've sold your soul to you know who.
For the mark we know is true, it's satan's great design for you.
You once were a "nation under God".
But now to Him you never pray.
You love the darkness and hate the light.
You love the wrong and hate the right.
You love to feast and hate to fast.
You love to play, no time to pray.
God has shown us the way, and that's through His Son.
We must stop our sinning or judgment will come.
To say that you know Him, His commandments you must keep
or else forever in Hell burning you will weep.*

We have turned from the light and embraced the night.

Weep and wail for our land we have lost.

*We have paid the price
without counting the cost.*

*We have sown to the flesh,
so destruction we will reap.*

*Pray to God,
so perhaps our freedoms we may keep.*

By David Rose

Recomended Reading:

Bible

Alarm to the Unconverted by Joseph Alleine

The secrets of the early church by Andrew Stom

How Saved Are We? by Michael L. Brown

Great Evangelical Teaching

by Thomas Nelson Publishers

How to Experience Revival by Charles Finney

Whatever happened to the Power of God

by Michael L. Brown

It's Time to Rock the Boat by Michael L. Brown

Revelation of the End by David Rose

The Quest for Revival by Ron McIntosh

***Read books containing sermons from these great men & Women of God:
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A.W. Tozer

Leonard Ravenhill

Catherine Booth

Charles Finney

John Wesley

Andrew Gray

Just a few People that understood the workings of the Power of God:

John G. Lake

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