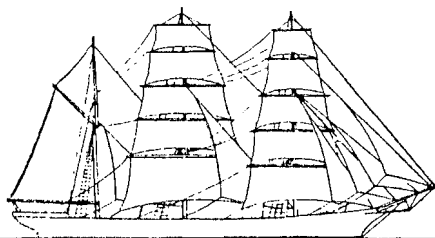
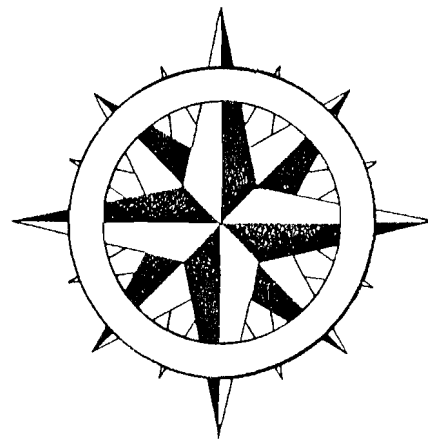


CHART

THE

GOSPEL



Vol. 1

by
WENDELL H. WATTS

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WENDELL H. WATTS
402 LIMESTONE
RUSSELLVILLE, ALABAMA 35653

\$1.25 per copy

A CLEAN CHURCH
(Eph. 5:25-27)

INTRODUCTION: The church is the most important institution in all the world, having been included as part of the eternal purpose of God and purchased with the precious blood of the Lamb of God. Is it any wonder then that Christ desires for the church to be "a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." In studying this lesson on a clean church let us first notice;

I. GOD DESIRES IT

- A. The church is composed of those who have been made free from sin through obedience to the gospel.
- B. Those who have been saved are pure and clean spiritually.
- C. Church members must remain pure as they continue to abide by the teachings of God's Word.
- D. God desires for the church to be clean and pure because it is His spiritual body upon this earth through which His work must be accomplished.

II. SIN SPOTS IT

- A. Sin is the only thing that can make the church impure and destroy her reputation.
- B. Sin is a blemish to the church from without and within.
- C. Those who sin should be encouraged and exhorted to repent.
- D. Some sin willfully and resist the efforts of others to restore them.
- E. When sin is known in the church and the guilty will not repent, it is time to act.
- F. God's people should not postpone action that is necessary for the cleansing and purifying of the church.

III. DISCIPLINE RESTORES IT

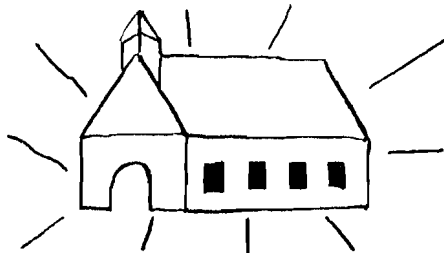
- A. When the unfaithful are withdrawn from, the church is pure again.
- B. The reputation of the church continues to be held in high esteem.
- C. The public, in general, does not blame the church for the fact that hypocrites get into the church, but they do blame the church for letting them remain as members.
- D. Corrective discipline, when used properly, will cause God to be glorified and the church honored, but a lack of discipline, when needed, will bring reproach.

IS THIS CHURCH A CLEAN CHURCH?

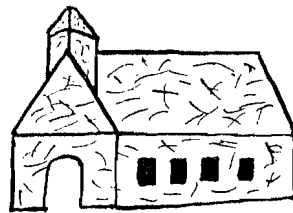
A CLEAN CHURCH

Eph. 5:25-27

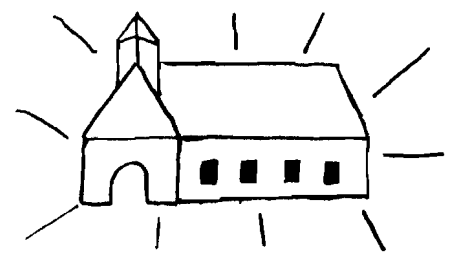
GOD DESIRES IT



SIN SPOTS IT



DISCIPLINE RESTORES IT



Saved are in church
Acts 2:47; 1 Cor. 12:13

Restore erring one
Gal. 6:1; Mt. 18:15-17

Church is pure again
1 Cor. 5:7; Eph. 5:27

Saved are pure
1 Pet. 1:22; 1 Cor. 6:9-11

Some sin willfully
Heb. 10:26; 2 Pet. 2:21-22

Has good reputation
Acts 2:46-47; 5:11, 14

Must remain pure
Mt. 5:13-16; 1 Jn. 1:7

Must withdraw
2 Thess. 3:6; Rom. 16:17

God is glorified
Eph. 3:21; 1 Tim. 3:15

A SUCCESSFUL MEETING

INTRODUCTION: The success of any gospel meeting depends primarily upon the members of the congregation and whether or not they want the meeting to be successful. To obtain the greatest amount of success requires the best effort of every member. This being true, every member needs:

I. TO EXAMINE HIS HEART

- A. The heart of man is the beginning place of every great undertaking.
- B. Each member must cleanse his heart of everything that would hinder the success of the meeting.
- C. Each member should be glad the meeting has been planned and thankful to be able to attend.
- D. Each member should want to learn more and eagerly look forward to hearing each lesson.
- E. No member should allow the pleasures and love of the world to crowd God out of his heart.
- F. Each member should put the kingdom of God first, be willing to make sacrifices if necessary to attend each service of the meeting.
- G. Each member must seek God with his whole heart.
- H. The success of the meeting will be hindered until each member gets his heart right.
 - I. When a member's heart is right, he will:

II. BRING SOME TO THE MEETING

- A. A gospel meeting offers a fine time to interest someone in the gospel.
- B. Each member can bring at least one other if he tries and he will try if his heart is right.
- C. God will bless us in our efforts to save others.

III. TRY TO RESTORE THE UNFAITHFUL

- A. Every congregation has back-sliders who are lost just as surely as the ones who have never obeyed the gospel.
- B. God commands us to restore the fallen and we sin if we fail to make an effort to do so.
- C. Select one that you know is a backslider and make an effort to restore him during the meeting.

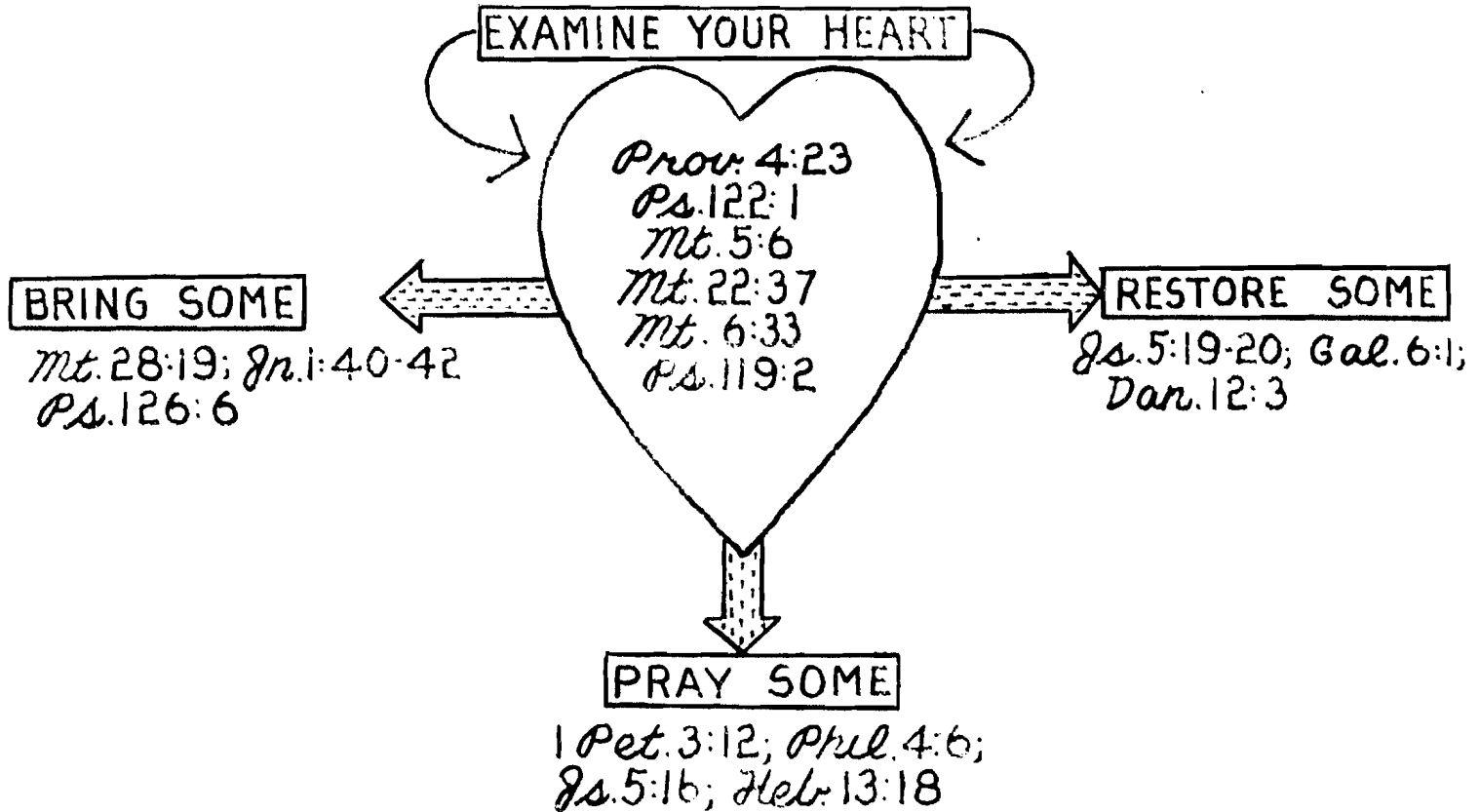
IV. PRAY FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE MEETING

- A. For the meeting to be successful we must seek God's help through prayer.
- B. God is with us and will help us if we ask Him.
- C. Pray for the preacher, the song leader and all others who have special responsibilities. Pray that sinners may obey the gospel and the church edified.

CONCLUSION: A gospel meeting is a challenge to every member of the congregation. Good meetings don't "just happen"; the secret of their success is plain hard work. If a meeting is not worth working for, it is not worth having.

#2

A SUCCESSFUL MEETING



ARE ALL RELIGIOUS PEOPLE CHRISTIANS?

INTRODUCTION: This a most important question. It is agreed that one must be religious to be a Christian, but are all religious people Christians? If all religious people are Christians, then, it makes no difference what one believes and practices, just so he is religious. But if all religious people are not Christians, then, some will be lost even though they are religious. If some will be lost even though they are religious, it points out the necessity of each individual making certain that his religion has the approval of God. Let's go to the Bible and notice some examples of religious people and see if all religious people are Christians.

I. SOME RELIGIOUS PEOPLE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

- A. Pentecostians--devout men, asked what to do to be saved, told what to do.
- B. Ethiopian eunuch--religious man, had to be taught, was baptized.
- C. Saul of Tarsus--religious zealot, had to change, was baptized.
- D. Cornelius--religious man, had to do something, was baptized.
- E. In each case we noticed that they were religious people, but not Christians. In each case the individual, even though a religious person, had to hear the gospel, believe it and obey before becoming a Christian. These examples, alone, are enough to prove that all religious people are not Christians.

II. THE RELIGIOUS WORLD OF TODAY

- A. Most religious people are included in one of four groups: (1) Paganism, (2) Judaism, (3) Catholicism, (4) Protestantism
- B. If all religious people are Christians:
 1. Why do those of groups 2, 3 and 4 send missionaries to try and convert those of group 1?
 2. One can accept God but deny Christ as do those under Judaism.
 3. One can worship the pope of Rome as do those under Roman Catholicism.
 4. One can believe and teach anything and everything as do those under the many religions of Protestantism.

III. WHO IS A CHRISTIAN?

- A. Jesus answers the question in Matt. 7:21. A Christian is one who obeys God and follows Christ.
 1. To obey God and become a Christian one must:
 - a. Hear the gospel (Rom. 1:16; 10:17)
 - b. Believe in Christ as the Son of God and Savior of the world (Jn. 8:24)
 - c. Repent of his sins (Lk. 13:3)
 - d. Confess his faith in Christ (Matt. 10:32)
 - e. Be baptized for the remission of his sins (Acts 2:38).

ARE ALL RELIGIOUS PEOPLE CHRISTIANS ?

PENTECOSTIANS

Devout men
Acts 2:5

Asked what to do
Acts 2:37

Told what to do
Acts 2:38

E. EUNUCH

Religious man
Acts 8:27-28

Had to be taught
Acts 8:30,31,35

Was baptized
Acts 8:36-38

SAUL OF TARSUS

Religious zealot
Acts 8:3; 9:1-2

Had to change
Acts 9:5-6

Was baptized
Acts 22:16

CORNELIUS

Religious man
Acts 10:2

Had to do something
Acts 10:6; 11:14

Was baptized
Acts 10:48

Paganism ? Judaism ? Catholicism ? Protestantism ?

Who is a Christian ?
Mt 7:21-23

"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"
Heb. 5:9; Mk. 16:15-16

ARE YOU FIT FOR THE KINGDOM?

(Lk. 2:57-62)

INTRODUCTION: It takes a certain kind of person to be fit for the kingdom, or church. By "certain kind of person" I make no reference to nationality, color of skin, richness or poorness, physical strength or weakness, but instead to character. Not just anybody is fit for the kingdom of God because it takes a certain kind of commitment to serve God acceptably. In considering this question, "Are you fit for the kingdom?", we will use verse 62 of the text as a basis for our study.

I. HAVING PUT HIS HAND TO THE PLOW

- A. To put one's hand to the plow is a proverbial expression to signify undertaking any business. Putting a religious meaning to it would mean obeying the gospel.
- B. No man is fit for the kingdom until he humbles himself in obedience to the gospel and is made free from sin.

II. LOOKING BACK

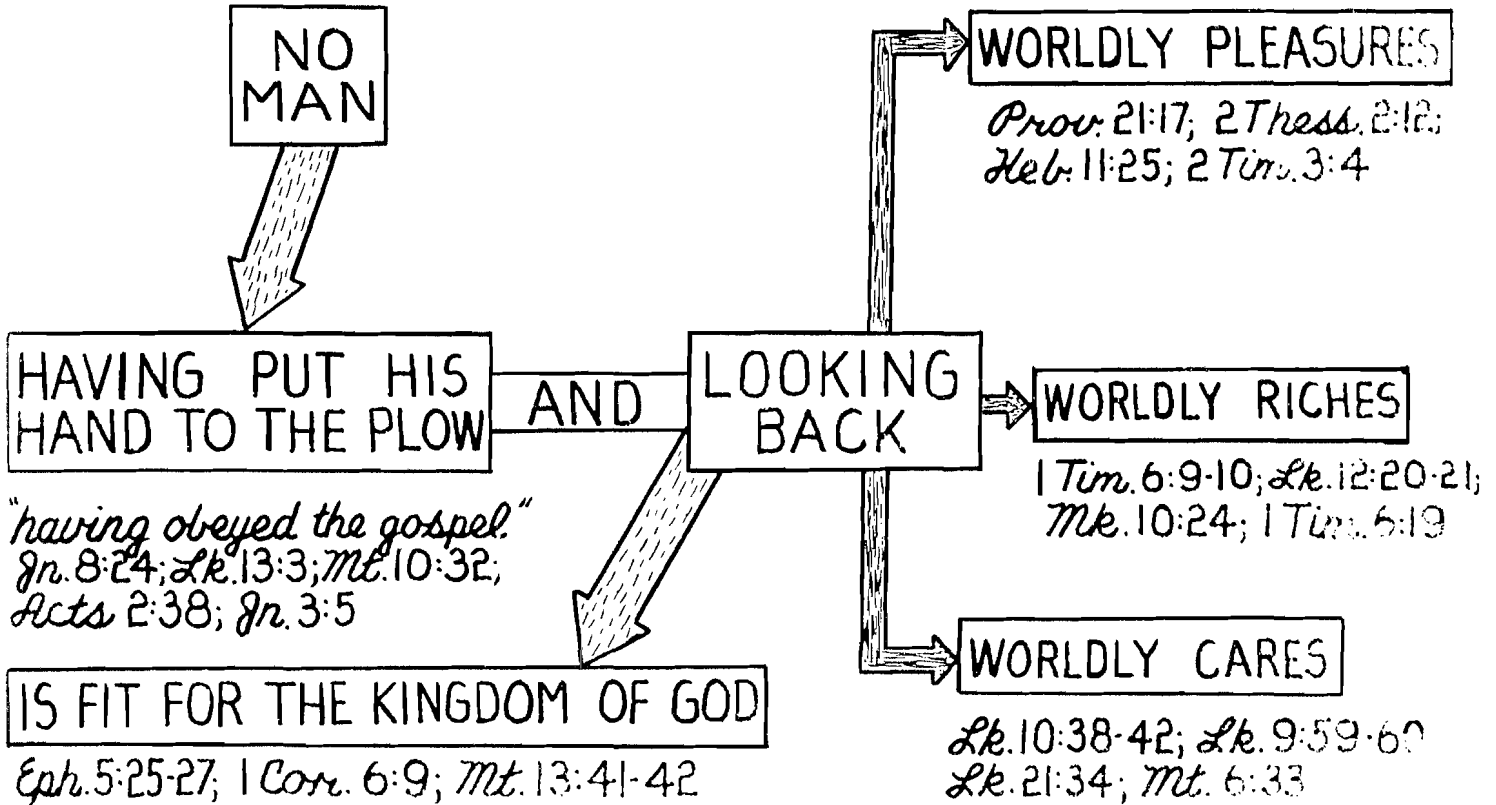
- A. This shows one can fall and destroys the false doctrine of "once saved, always saved."
- B. In order for the plowman to plow a straight row, he must look ahead and not back. If the Christian is to remain faithful, fit for the kingdom, he must look to Jesus his leader.
- C. The danger of looking back is ever present and many church members have been overcome by:
 1. Worldly pleasures.
 - a. Are you fit for the kingdom? Are you putting the Lord first?
 2. Worldly riches.
 - a. Many church members have made money their chief aim. Many church members who are not wholly committed to God do not give as they should.
 3. Worldly cares.
 - a. The Bible is full of examples of those who allowed worldly cares to interfere with their service to God. The church is full of members who do the same.

III. IS FIT FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- A. No man who has obeyed the gospel and looks back to worldly pleasures, or worldly riches, or worldly cares is fit for the kingdom. He is a disgrace to the church in many instances.
- B. Christ gave Himself for the church and desires for it to remain pure and perfect.
- C. At the Judgment the unfaithful church members will be cast out.
- D. The totally committed person never offers excuses. Neither does he allow others to interfere with his privileges, duties and responsibilities as a child of God. Once he puts his hand to the plow, he never looks back.

ARE YOU FIT FOR THE KINGDOM?

Lk. 9:57-62



CHRIST-MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MAN
(1 Tim. 2:5)

INTRODUCTION: Our text tells us that Jesus is the only mediator between God and man. A mediator is one who interposes between two parties who are not agreed. Since man is lost in sin (Rom. 3:23), man is not agreed with God and it is the duty of Jesus to bring the two together again, to reconcile man to God. In this lesson let us consider some things which qualified Christ to serve in this capacity.

I. HIS NATURE

- A. Christ was endowed with the nature of both parties at issue.
- B. Christ was the Son of God.
- C. Christ was the Son of man.

II. HIS ACQUAINTANCE

- A. Christ was intimately acquainted with both parties.
- B. He has eternally existed with God the Father.
- C. He lived among men some 33½ years and is thoroughly acquainted with man, knowing his trials, temptations, sorrows and sufferings.
- D. No one can be a mediator who is not intimately acquainted with the feelings, views, desires and claims of both parties at issue.

III. HIS LOVE

- A. Christ loved both God the Father and man and was interested in restoring peace between them.
- B. His love for the Father led Him to submit to His will and die on the cross.
- C. His love for man lost in sin caused Him to be willing to die in man's stead.

IV. HIS SUFFERINGS

- A. Christ was willing to suffer for both parties in order to reconcile them.
- B. He was willing to suffer whatever God required.
- C. He was willing to suffer because of man's sins.

V. RECONCILIATION

- A. Christ makes peace possible between God and man through reconciliation.
- B. He satisfied God by paying the price for the guilt of man's sins.
- C. He leads men back to God through obedience to the gospel.

CHRIST-MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD & MAN

1 Tim. 2:5

GOD

MAN

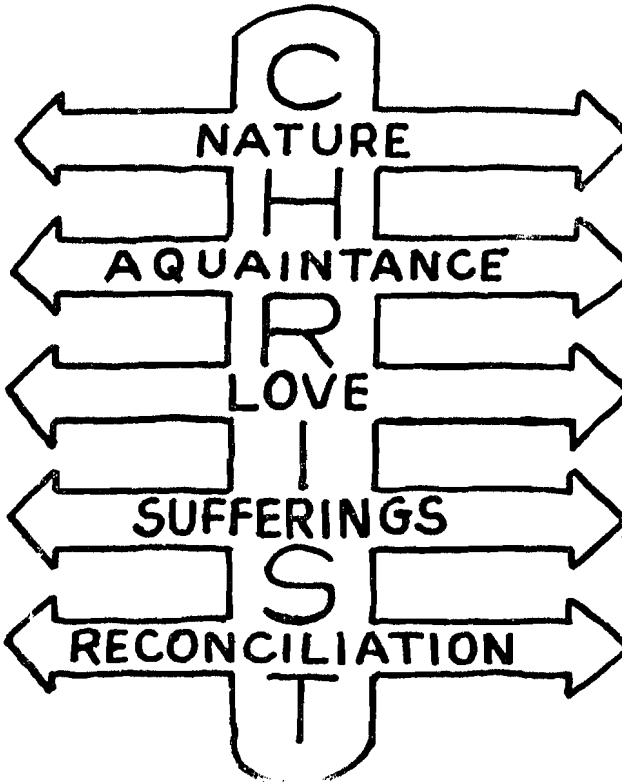
Mk. 14:61-62; Mt. 17:5

Jn. 1:1-2; Mt. 11:27

Jn. 14:31; Mt. 26:39

Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8

Isa. 59:2; 2 Cor. 5:18



Mk. 10:47; Mt. 18:11

Jn. 2:24-25; Heb. 4:15

Gal. 2:20; Eph. 5:2

Mk. 15:16-37

Isa. 53:5; Jn. 14:6

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

(Eph. 5:25-27)

INTRODUCTION: Many churches have become rubbish heaps for ungodly members because we have failed to withdraw from unfaithful members. Because church discipline is not practiced many congregations have lost their influence in the community, have ceased to grow and fail to convert many to the Lord. Withdrawing from unfaithful church members is often an unpleasant matter, but, nevertheless, it is commanded by God. Let us study on this most needed and neglected subject and be guided by the teachings of God's Word.

I. WHO IS TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM ?

- A. Any member who is willfully rebellious and will not repent.
- B. Partiality cannot be shown to any one under any circumstances.

II. WHY SHOULD WE WITHDRAW ?

- A. God commands it and we must obey.
- B. The unfaithful is lost and we must try to save him.
- C. The church must be kept pure and holy.

III. WHAT PROCEDURE SHOULD WE FOLLOW ?

- A. A private matter should be kept a private matter unless other steps are necessary.
- B. Prompt action should be taken against a false teacher before he leads others astray.
- C. When the sin is public, the erring member should be exhorted to repent.
- D. In every case proof of guilt should always be well established, a determined effort should be made to restore the sinner and discipline is to be used only as a last resort.

IV. WHO IS TO DO THE WITHDRAWING ?

- A. The elders are to take the lead and should announce the names of the ones being withdrawn from and give the reasons for the withdrawal.
- B. The whole church must support the elders in this action; elders can only initiate the action, they cannot withdraw for the congregation.
- C. There should be no sympathy with the offender in such a way as to excuse his sin or make him feel he has been mistreated.

V. SOME OBJECTIONS OFFERED TO WITHDRAWING

- A. The parable of the tares does not teach anything concerning church discipline.
- B. The Bible says for the church to withdraw from the unfaithful, not the unfaithful from her.
- C. If people want to get mad when we obey God, let them. We must obey God rather than men.
- D. It's true, we all sin, but discipline is for those who sin and will not repent.

LET US BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF GOD'S WORD CONCERNING CHURCH DISCIPLINE AND HAVE THE COURAGE TO CARRY IT OUT AND SOULS WILL BE SAVED.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

Eph. 5:25-27

DISCIPLINE

- Any member who is willfully rebellious - Mt. 18:15-17; Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 5:9-13; 2 Thess. 3:6
- WHO→
- To obey God - 2 Thess. 3:6; Heb. 5:9
To save the guilty party - 1 Cor. 5:5
- WHY→ 2 Thess. 3:14; 1 Tim. 1:19-20
- For the sake of the church - 1 Cor. 5:6; 1 Tim. 5:20; Acts 5:11
- A private matter - Mt. 18:15-17
A false teacher - Titus 3:10;
- HOW→ Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Jn. 10-11
- A public sin - Gal. 6:1; Jn. 5:19; 2 Thess. 3:14-15; 1 Cor. 5:11
- WHO→ Elders to lead - Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:17
Whole church to support - Mt. 18:17

SOME OBJECTIONS

The parable of the tares teaches us to leave them alone. - Mt. 13:24-30, 36-43

They have already withdrawn from us, how can we withdraw from them?

We will make some people mad.

Where will we start, we all sin?

DANGERS TO AVOID AS PARENTS

INTRODUCTION: This lesson applies to almost everyone because many are already parents and those who are not will likely marry some day and raise children. The warnings mentioned in this lesson will come too late for some who have already fallen victim to these dangers, but perhaps others can heed the warnings and profit by the mistakes of others. All of the dangers which we shall consider in this lesson have to do with mistakes committed by parents about whom we read in the Bible.

I. NOAH'S DRUNKENNESS

- A. Noah's drunkenness was the immediate cause of Ham's disgrace.
- B. The Bible warns of the effects of strong drink and its sinfulness.
- C. Parents who drink lose the respect of their children and often bring the curse of alcoholism upon them. By setting the wrong example they lead their children to become drunkards.

II. LOT'S MATERIALISM

- A. Lot's materialism was the ruin of his family.
- B. The choice which he made at this time later led to the destruction of his children and wife.
- C. In our materialistic age many parents are more interested in providing their children with the material things of life than they are in providing for them the spiritual, eternal things.

III. JACOB'S PARTIALITY

- A. Jacob's partiality brought sorrow and discord to his house.
- B. Jacob's favoritism for Joseph brought the envy and hatred of Joseph's brothers upon Joseph and caused them to sell him into slavery.
- C. Parents of today should avoid this danger by giving each child an equal share of love.

IV. DAVID'S HUMORING

- A. David's humoring of his son brought about the downfall of Adonijah.
- B. Because he was spoiled and had always been given everything he wanted, Adonijah could not take "no" for an answer when he desired the throne of Israel.
- C. Parents today who pet and pamper their children and spare the rod are headed for a fall.

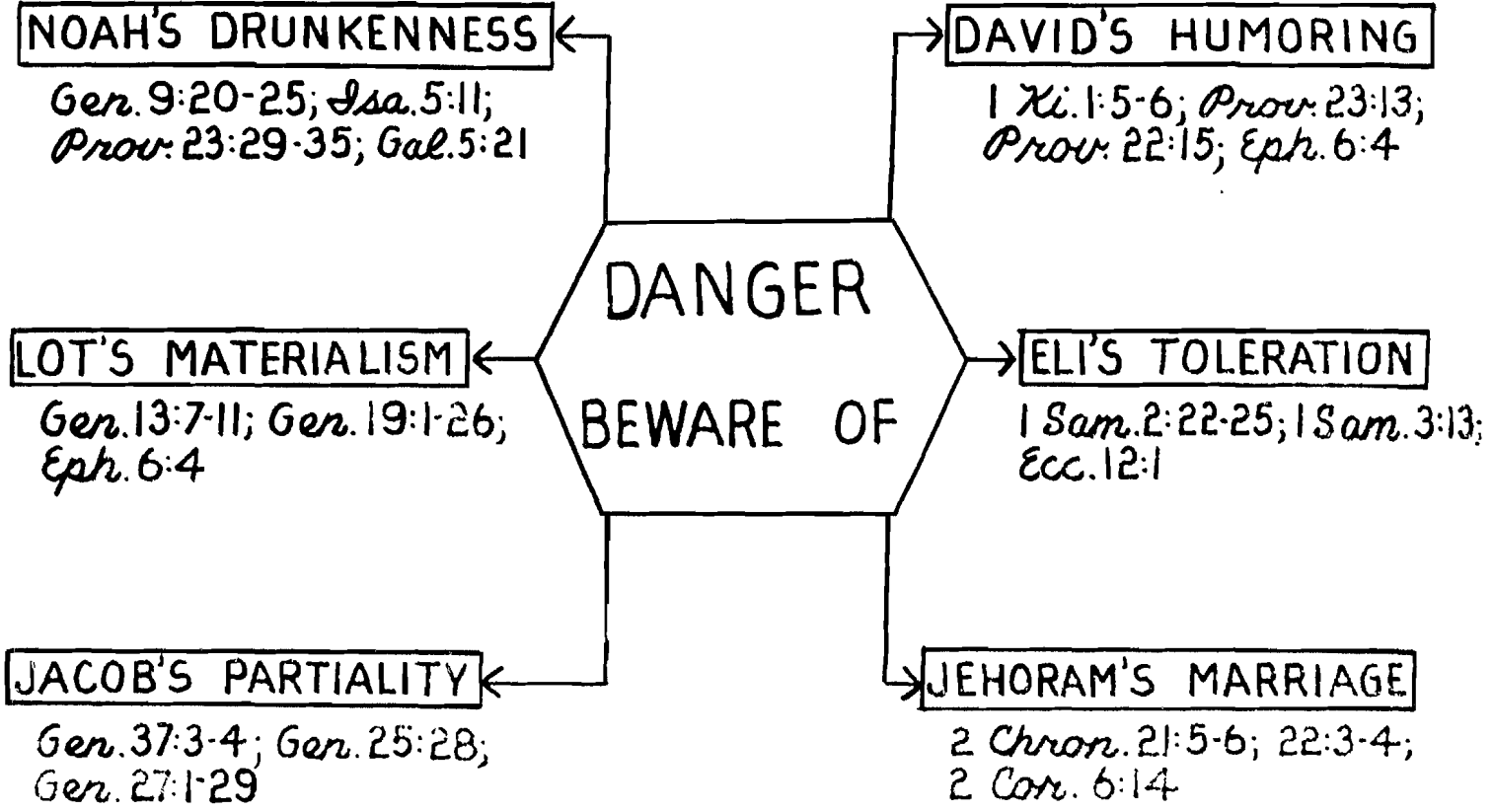
V. ELI'S TOLERATION

- A. Eli's toleration of his wicked sons was the curse of Israel.
- B. Eli knew of the sin and wickedness of his sons but did not take the proper action against them.
- C. Parents who tolerate short-comings in the lives of their young children will find it harder and harder to get them to do right as they grow older. We must begin early to teach them the ways of God.

VI. JEHORAM'S MARRIAGE

- A. Jehoram's marriage to wicked Athaliah spelled the doom of his son Ahaziah.
- B. Athaliah influenced Ahaziah to do evil when he became king of Judah.
- C. Make a wise choice of a marriage partner - Our partner will have a great influence on our children.

DANGERS TO AVOID AS PARENTS



DON'T BELIEVE A LIE !

(2 Thess. 2:8-12)

INTRODUCTION: It's bad to believe a lie at any time, but it is especially bad to believe a lie concerning religious matters because this could cause you to lose your soul. Our lesson deals with not believing a lie in the spiritual realm. Notice the following:

I. EACH THING WE HEAR IS EITHER THE TRUTH OR A LIE

- A. Truth comes from God and will help to save our souls.
- B. Lying originated with the devil and all liars are under his influence.
- C. Each thing man hears he either accepts as truth, perhaps after investigation, or rejects as a lie. We can't just ignore a matter in the religious realm; it's either true or false.
- D. Therefore, we must heed what we hear, how we hear and whom we hear.

II. LIES, BELIEVED AS TRUTH, ARE DANGEROUS

- A. Believing just one lie about a religious matter can cause the soul to be lost.
- B. A person's heart can be so filled with false doctrine that it is not receptive to the truth.
- C. We must take steps to avoid either situation.

III. THE BIBLE HAS MANY EXAMPLES OF THOSE WHO BELIEVED A LIE

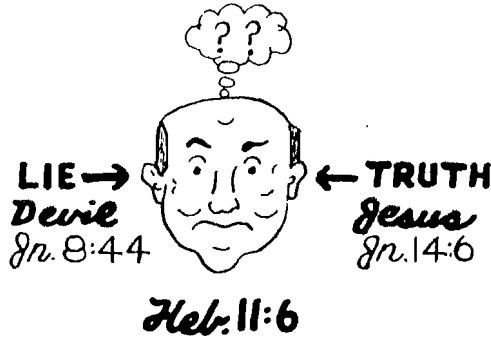
- A. Adam and Eve believed the lie of the serpent, sinned against God and brought the wrath of God upon them.
- B. The ten spies made a false report; it was believed by the nation of Israel, and they wandered many years in the wilderness.
- C. The false prophet posed as one with the truth; the prophet of God believed a lie and was destroyed.

IV. SATAN USES MANY LIES TODAY TO DECEIVE PEOPLE AND CAUSE THEM TO BE LOST

- A. Satan has deceived many into thinking it makes no difference what you believe.
- B. The devil keeps millions out of the church by leading them to believe that one church is as good as another.
- C. Satan lies when his prophets teach that baptism is not necessary in the plan of salvation.
- D. Satan has deceived many into believing that it's impossible to fall from grace.
- E. Many church members have allowed the devil to fool them when it comes to attending all the services of the church.
- F. Some have been deceived by satan and think that they do not have to give as they have been prospered.
- G. We can know that all of the above are lies because they are contrary to the Word of God which is truth.

DON'T BELIEVE A LIE!

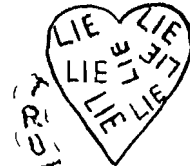
2 Thess. 2:8-12



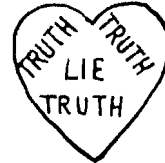
WE MUST HEED:

1. What we hear -
Mk. 4:24; Rom. 10:17
2. How we hear -
Lk. 8:18; Acts 10:33
3. Whom we hear -
Mt. 17:5; Acts 3:22-23

WE MUST AVOID THIS



Prov. 23:7



Mt. 5:8

SOME EXAMPLES

- Adam and Eve - Gen. 3:1-6
- Ten spies and Israel
Num. 13:25-33, 14:1-45
- False prophet - 1 Ki. 13:1-32

SOME LIES OF TODAY

- "Just so one is honest and sincere" - Heb. 5:9; Mt. 7:21
- "One church is as good as another" - Acts 20:28
- "Saved without baptism" -
Mk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21
- "Once saved, always saved" - 1 Cor. 10:12; Gal. 5:4
- "Not necessary to attend services" - Heb. 10:25
- "Don't give your money" -
1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:7

FAITH AND SALVATION

(Heb. 11:6)

INTRODUCTION: From the text we learn that faith is absolutely essential in the plan of salvation, for without faith no man can please God. In this lesson we will consider how faith saves man.

I. THE SOURCE OF FAITH

- A. The Bible is the source of all religious faith.
- B. Our religious beliefs cannot be based on human creeds and gain salvation for us.
- C. Neither can we trust in our opinions for religious faith.

II. HOW WE ARE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH

- A. When one accepts the Bible as the Word of God and is willing to believe its facts and obey its commands, he can be justified by faith.
- B. What does the Bible teach is necessary for one to be justified (forgiven of past sins)?
 - 1. One is not saved by faith alone.
 - 2. One must repent to be saved.
 - 3. One must confess Christ to be saved.
 - 4. One must be baptized to be saved.
 - 5. When ones's faith leads him this far, he is justified, saved from all past sin.

III. WALKING BY FAITH

- A. When one is justified by faith, he becomes a child of God and is added to the church.
- B. Each church member must continue to walk by faith, be guided by God's Word in the life he lives.
- C. To walk by faith the church member must:
 - 1. Attend all the services of the church possible.
 - 2. Give to God as he has been prospered.
 - 3. Work faithfully and zealously in the Lord's service.
- D. Every church member who is faithful unto death will inherit eternal life.
- E. If a church member can go to Heaven without attending services, giving to God and working for Him, then the alien sinner can be justified without repentance, confession or baptism.

IS YOUR FAITH SUCH AS TO LEAD YOU TO OBEY GOD AND SERVE HIM FAITHFULLY THAT YOU MIGHT SAVE YOUR SOUL?

FAITH AND SALVATION

Heb. 11:6



OPINIONS

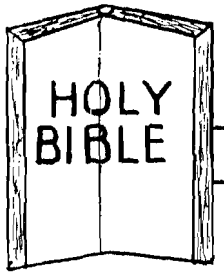
Jer. 10:23
Isa. 55:8-9



Is. 2:24

Acts 2:47

Rev. 2:10



Rom. 10:17
Jn. 17:20
2 Tim. 3:16-17

F
A
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repent
Lk. 13:3

confess
Mt. 10:32

be baptized
Mk. 16:16

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C
H

attendance
Heb. 10:25

giving
1 Cor. 16:2

working
1 Cor. 15:58

H
E
A
V
E
N

HUMAN CREEDS

Gal. 1:8; 1 Pet. 4:11

Rom. 5:1

2 Cor. 5:7



FISHERS OF MEN
(Mk. 1:16-18)

INTRODUCTION: In serving God not only are we required to properly manage our own lives so that we may enter Heaven, but we must also make the proper effort to save others. We must fish for men or lose our souls. In studying this lesson, let us notice the words of Jesus in verse 17.

I. COME

- A. Of the thousands of calls which man may receive none can compare with this call from the Lord.
- B. Jesus calls, but man must come, proving that man must do something to save himself.
- C. The invitation is extended to all laboring under the burden and guilt of sin.
- D. The invitation requires leaving all things that hinder, which many are not willing to do.

II. AFTER ME

- A. We must follow Jesus to become fishers of men. (Jn. 14:16)
- B. Many who fish for men are following someone other than the Lord. (human creeds, other men, etc.)
- C. To come after Jesus one must become a Christian.
 - 1. One becomes a Christian by:
 - a. Hearing and learning of God
 - b. Being born again of water and the Spirit

III. AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN

- A. One cannot become a fisher of men until after he becomes a Christian by obeying the gospel.
- B. One must continue to follow Christ after becoming a Christian if he is to "catch" men.
- C. The most Christ-like are the best fishers of men. In being steadfast one must cling to the doctrine of Christ and struggle to defend it.
- D. One cannot continue to follow Christ and put other things before the kingdom.

IV. THE ATTITUDE OF FISHERS

- A. So many members of the church do not win others to Christ because their attitude is not right.
- B. A genuine desire to serve Christ is needed.
- C. To be an effective fisher of men one must realize the lost condition of those out of Christ.
- D. Successful fishermen know that it takes hard work to catch fish.

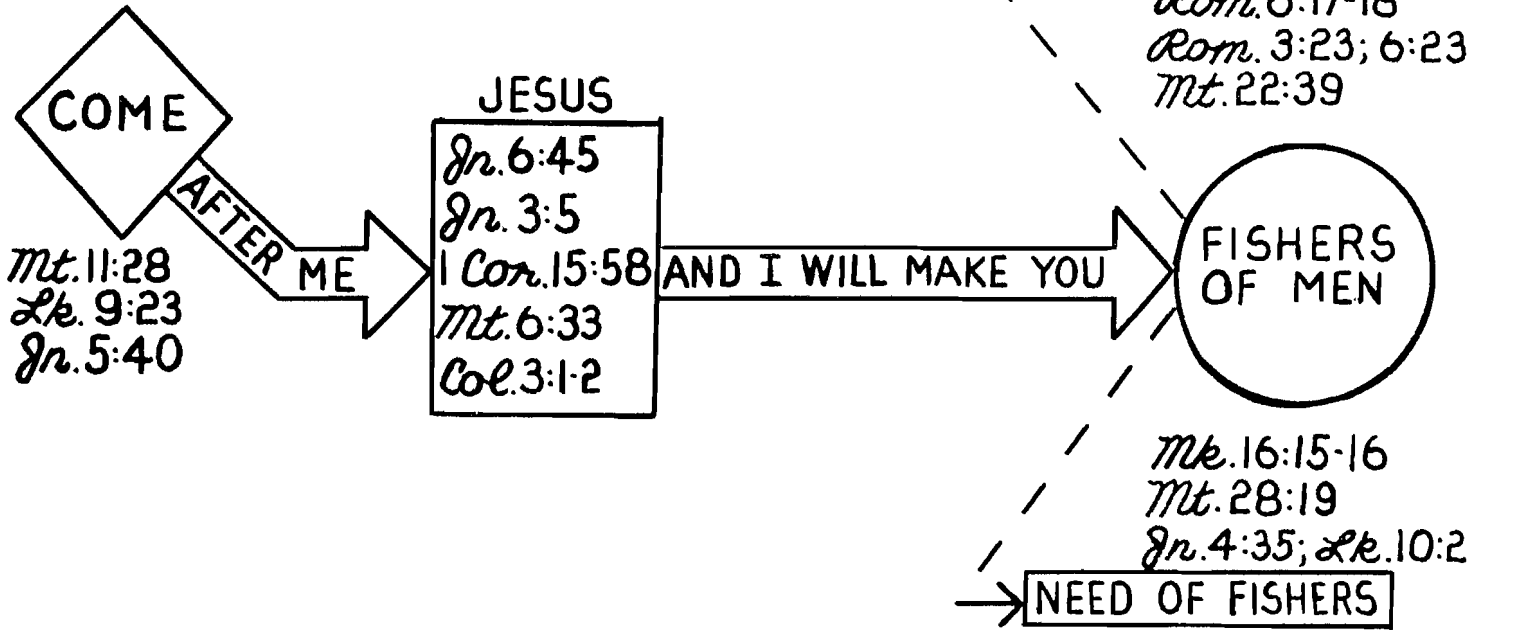
V. THE NEED OF FISHERS

- A. Most are lost in sin and Jesus commands that the gospel be preached.
- B. The fields are white unto harvest, but the laborers are few.

WE WILL LOSE OUR SOULS, EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE OBEYED THE GOSPEL, IF WE FAIL TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO OTHERS AND LEAD THEM OUT OF SIN.

FISHERS OF MEN

Mk. 1:16-18



Ezek. 3:17-19

THE GOODNESS AND SEVERITY OF GOD
(Rom. 11:22)

INTRODUCTION: Some have the mistaken idea that God will not punish the wicked, but our text tells us to behold both the goodness and severity of God. Thus, God can and will be severe as the occasion demands as we will notice in this lesson.

I. ADAM AND EVE

- A. The goodness of God is seen in the fact that He made Adam and Eve in His image.
- B. The severity of God is seen by the punishment which God placed on them after their sin.

II. MOSES AND AARON

- A. God was good to them when He heard and answered their prayer for water.
- B. God dealt severely with them when they committed sin.

III. THE ISRAELITES

- A. God heard their cry of oppression and delivered them from Egyptian bondage.
- B. God sent fiery serpents among them and much of the people died because of their sin.

IV. NADAB AND ABIHU

- A. They were privileged to serve as priests of God.
- B. When they offered strange fire, they were severely punished.

V. ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA

- A. The Lord added them to the church when He saved them from sin.
- B. He struck them dead when they lied to the Holy Spirit.

VI. MEN TODAY

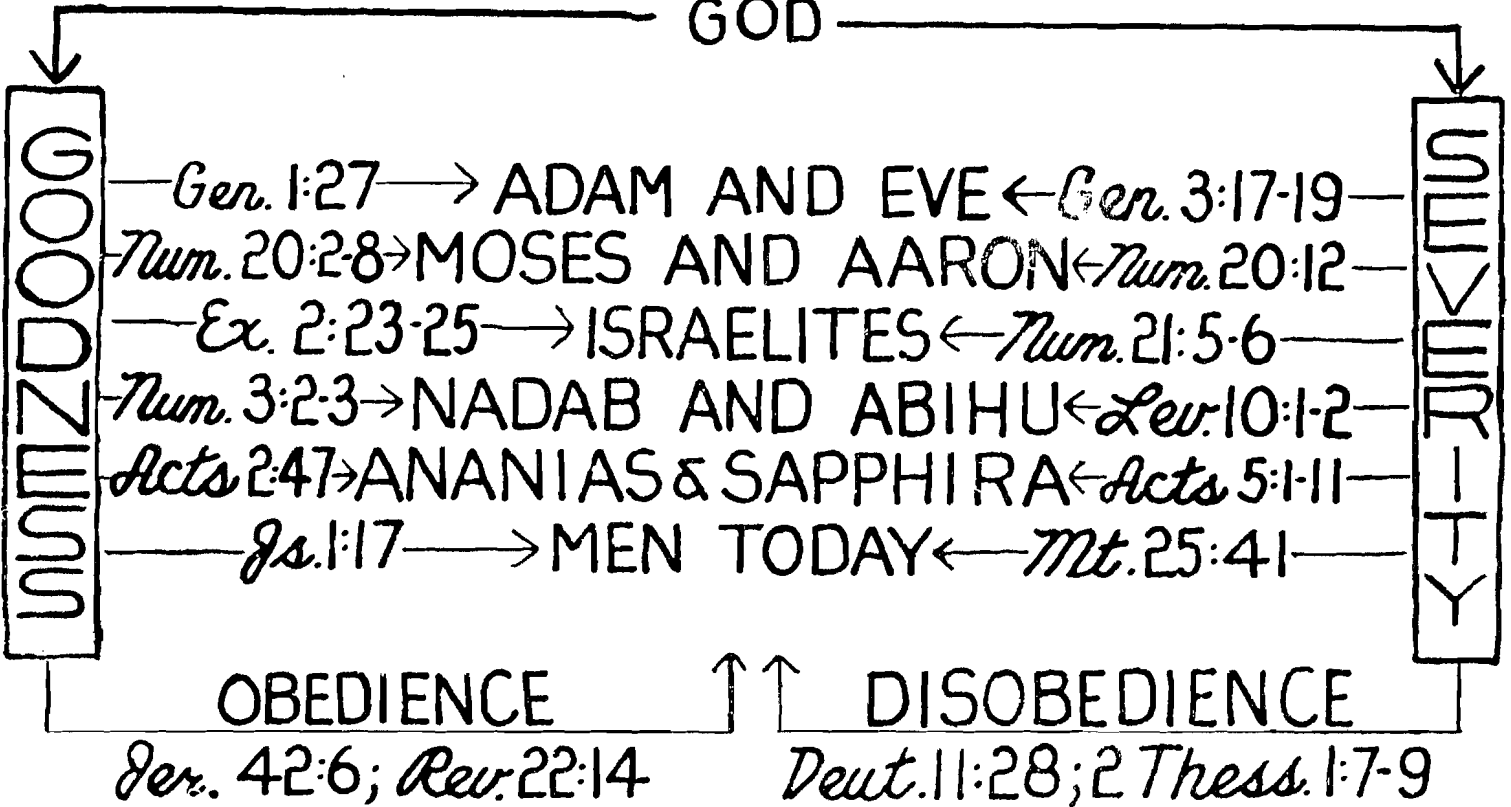
- A. God gives to man every good gift and every perfect gift.
- B. At the Judgment God will send the disobedient into everlasting punishment.

CONCLUSION: God can and will bless man in many ways if man will submit to God's will and obey Him. But, the moment man rebels and disobeys God he can expect the severity of God to come down upon him unless he repents of his wrong and obtains God's forgiveness. Christ is the author of eternal salvation to all them that obey Him, (Heb. 5:9), but the Lord will take vengeance upon us if we obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Will the goodness or severity of God be yours?

THE GOODNESS AND SEVERITY OF GOD

Rom. 11:22

GOD



HOW SCIENCE PROVES THE BIBLE

INTRODUCTION: There are many ways to prove that the Bible is the word of God. We can prove that God is the author of the Bible by the Bible's indestructibility, the Bible's harmony, the great good the Bible has done, the prophecies of the Bible and their fulfillment, etc. In this lesson we will consider how science proves the Bible. (There are many scientific facts recorded in the Bible which were unknown to man until just recently discovered.)

I. LAW OF GRAVITY

- A. Job spoke the truth concerning the law of gravity.
- B. For centuries the law of gravity had been a mystery to man and the ancients had various ideas about the suspension of the earth in space.
- C. How did Job know this truth? He didn't, he wrote as he was directed by God.

II. VALUE OF SNOW

- A. Men of all ages have enjoyed the beauty of snow, but its value was unknown for hundreds of years.
- B. The value of snow was unknown to man until Dr. Frank T. Stutt, a Canadian chemist, discovered that there are deposits of ammonia, nitrates, and nitrites in snow which make it valuable as a fertilizer.
- C. Either Job, four thousand years ago, knew what modern science has just discovered, or God who asked the question really spoke through Job.

III. ROTATION OF THE EARTH

- A. In the account of creation we read of God dividing the light into Day and Night.
- B. A seal was used as our present day rubber stamp but was generally round, perforated longitudinally and rotated upon a tiny axle. Understanding this, we can see the marvelous illustration of this ingenious question. Did Job know the truth he spoke? No, he was inspired of God!

IV. FLESH AND BLOOD

- A. How could Paul have known that all flesh is not the same flesh?
- B. How did Paul know that God hath made of one blood all nations of men?
- C. It is fantastic to believe that Moses had a present day knowledge of the nature and function of blood.

V. ROUNDNESS OF EARTH

- A. Isaiah speaks of the circle of the earth.
- B. Christ hints at the roundness of the earth when he said that men would be in bed (night), grinding corn (early morn) and laboring in the field (broad daylight), when He comes.
- C. The Bible speaks of roundness of the earth even though man did not discover this until recently.

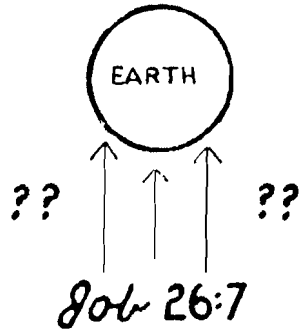
VI. LAW OF EVAPORATION

- A. Many men have pondered this problem. Have you ever thought about it?
- B. How did Solomon know these things? Did he possess modern scientific knowledge?

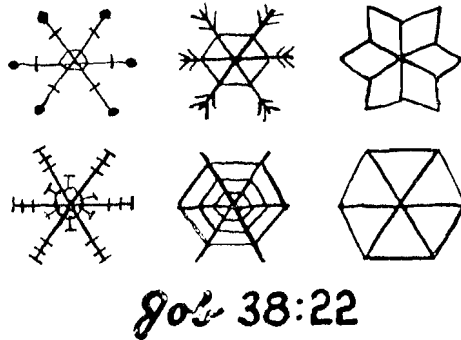
*Many ideas to use with this chart may be learned from reading "The Harmony of Science and Scripture" by Harry Rimmer.

#12 HOW SCIENCE PROVES THE BIBLE

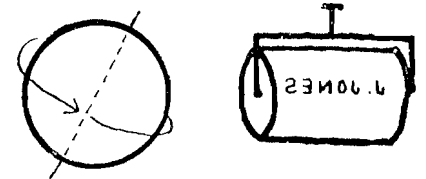
LAW OF GRAVITY



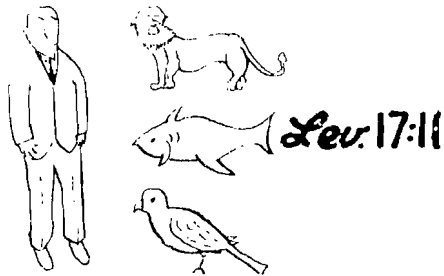
VALUE OF SNOW



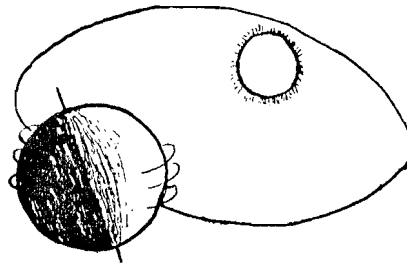
ROTATION OF EARTH



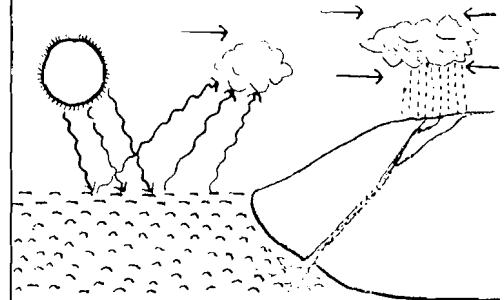
FLESH AND BLOOD



EARTH'S ROUNDNESS



LAW OF EVAPORATION



LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD

(Mt. 20:1-16)

INTRODUCTION: In the text the householder represents Jesus Christ, the laborers represent Christians and the vineyard represents the church. With these thoughts in mind let us study concerning laborers in the vineyard.

I. THE HOUSEHOLDER REPRESENTS CHRIST

- A. The vineyard was owned by the householder and he had the authority to determine the work to be done and hire the workers.
 - 1. He agreed to pay them so much and hired them to work in his vineyard, not A's or B's.
- B. The church belongs to Christ (Matt. 16:18) and He has the right to determine the work to be done and promises eternal salvation to all those who faithfully serve Him.

II. THE LABORERS REPRESENT CHRISTIANS

- A. The laborers agreed to the terms and went to work in the vineyard of the house holder.
 - 1. They were not free to work in A's vineyard even though their parents worked there.
 - 2. Neither could they sub-contract the work to the workers of B's vineyard.
 - 3. If they did not do the work themselves, they could not expect the householder to pay them.
- B. Christ does not force people to serve Him, but He does invite all to obey the gospel and come into the church (vineyard) and serve Him. Each one must agree to the terms of the gospel.
 - 1. People cannot serve Christ in other vineyards (churches) for He has but one.
 - 2. Neither can they sub-contract the work to workers in other organizations.
 - 3. Christ has promised to reward only those who work faithfully in His vineyard (church).

III. WORKING IN THE VINEYARD

- A. Why work?
 - 1. Work in vineyard because they were hired to work, must work in church because God commands it.
- B. What kind of work?
 - 1. Work of vineyard (pruning, picking fruit, etc.), work of God outlined in His Word.
- C. How much work?
 - 1. Each one to do what he could in vineyard, each church member to do best according to ability.
- D. When to work?
 - 1. Laborers in vineyard from moment hired, Christians from moment they enter the church.
- E. Non-workers?
 - 1. None mentioned in parable but if they had refused to work, they would not have been paid.
 - 2. Church members who are lazy and indifferent will be eternally lost.
- F. Work rewarded.
 - 1. Workers in vineyard paid after day's work, Christians inherit salvation after a life of faithful service.

LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD

Mt. 20:1-16

Householder = Christ
Laborers = Christians
Vineyard = Church

other churches

Eph. 4:4; Col. 1:18

TO
SUN
TO
OUR

A

Laborer

VINEYARD

CHURCH

Christian

why work?
kind of work?
how much work?
when to work?
non-workers?
work rewarded?

Phil. 2:12; Mt. 5:16
Acts 10:35; Ps. 117:172
1 Cor. 15:58; Mt. 25
Jn. 9:4; Gal. 5:10
Mt. 25:30; Jas. 2:24
Rev. 22:14; 21:1-5

Acts 2:47

Mt. 17:5
Mt. 28:18

human societies

Eph. 3:21

B

TO
OUR
SUN

THE LOST CHRIST

(Lk. 2:42-46)

INTRODUCTION: Have you ever lost anything and searched diligently for it? Certainly you have, we all have. The fact that something is lost creates anxiety and a search is made. The degree of the anxiety and the extent of the search, however, depends on the value of the thing lost. Lose a penny and little care is aroused or effort made to find it, but lose \$100 dollars and it makes one more concerned and more determined to find it. In our text we read about the lost Christ. And it is possible for people to lose Christ even today. In this lesson let us notice why Christ was lost on this occasion and why some people lose Him today.

I. HE WAS LOST BECAUSE OF NEGLIGENCE

- A. He was lost to His parents, those whom you would think would be the last to lose Him, not because they were wicked, not because they could not know where He was, not because they did not love Him, but because they were negligent.
- B. Neglect has always been a problem with men and God warns about it.
- C. Neglect was one of the first sins mentioned among members of the church.
- D. Parents of today neglect to warn and teach their children and lose them to sin and Satan.
- E. Church members, whom you would think would be the last ones to lose Christ, lose Him by neglect.
- F. Neglect can cause one to lose his soul.

II. HE WAS LOST BECAUSE OF SUPPOSITION

- A. Supposition often leads people astray. (Illustrate: wrong road, loaded gun, etc.)
- B. The Lord's parents supposed "him to have been in the company."
- C. Supposition is frequently found in religion.
 1. Supposition got Paul into trouble in Jerusalem.
 2. Members of the church often rely on supposition and division, partyism and strife result.
 3. Many suppose any way is all right just so one is honest and sincere.
 4. The average church member supposes the Lord is pleased with him even though he grows little and does little in the Lord's service.

III. HE WAS LOST BECAUSE THEY LOOKED IN THE WRONG PLACE

- A. "They sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance" but they did not find Him until they went back to where they lost Him--in Jerusalem.
- B. Many today look for Christ in the wrong place by seeking for Him in the creeds of men or among the religions of their relatives and acquaintances.
- C. Jesus tells us He can be found and tells us where to look.

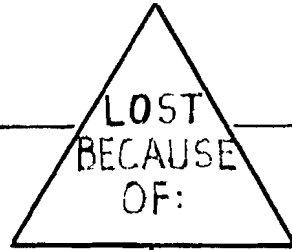
If you have lost Christ because of neglect, or supposition, or because you have been looking in the wrong place, find him now, before you lose your soul! You'll find him in the gospel. **LOOK FOR HIM!!!**

THE LOST CHRIST

Lk. 2:42-46

NEGLIGENCE

*Ps. 119:4; 2 Chron. 29:11;
Acts 6:1; Eph. 6:4;
Deut. 6:12; Heb. 2:3*



SUPPOSITION

*"but they supposing him
to have been in the company"
Acts 21:28-29; Jn. 17:20-21;
Jn. 3:5; 2 Pet. 3:18*

LOOKING IN WRONG PLACE

*"they sought him among their
kinsfolk and acquaintance"
Lk. 13:24; Mt. 7:7; Jn. 5:39;
2 Tim. 3:15-17; Rom. 1:15-17; Heb. 11:6*

THE MISTAKES OF NAAMAN
(2 Kings 5:1-14)

INTRODUCTION: Paul writes, in Rom. 15:4, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning." Certainly this is true in the case of Naaman. From the text we learn that Naaman made many mistakes in his dealing with God; mistakes which are commonly made by men today. By studying the mistakes of Naaman we can learn what he did that was wrong and warn people of today against committing the same. Let us notice his case.

- I. NAAMAN NEEDED HELP
 - A. Naaman was a great and honorable man "but he was a leper." Only God could provide a cure.
 - B. People today are lost in sin and only God can provide the forgiveness of sin.
- II. NAAMAN WENT TO THE WRONG MAN FOR HELP
 - A. The king did not have the power of God to heal him.
 - B. People today go to various ones instead of going to the Savior Jesus Christ.
- III. NAAMAN LEARNED THAT HIS CLEANSING WAS CONDITIONAL
 - A. He had to follow the instructions of God's prophet to be cleansed.
 - B. People today must obey Christ to be forgiven of sins.
- IV. NAAMAN BECAME ANGRY
 - A. Naaman didn't like the instructions which he received.
 - B. Many become angry today when they hear the truth of God's Word.
- V. NAAMAN WANTED HIS WAY
 - A. Naaman had already figured out how he would be cured and no other way would do.
 - B. People today want to be saved but only according to their plans.
- VI. NAAMAN WANTED TO SUBSTITUTE
 - A. He wanted to substitute the rivers of Damascus for the river Jordan.
 - B. Multitudes of today think they can be saved by substituting human things for the things of God.
- VII. NAAMAN WAS BLESSED AT OBEDIENCE
 - A. Naaman had to recognize and accept God's way and obey before he was cured of leprosy.
 - B. No one can be saved today until he believes God and renders obedience to His will.

LET US LEARN FROM NAAMAN THAT WE MUST GO TO GOD AND FOLLOW HIS PLAN FOR SALVATION FROM SIN.

THE MISTAKES OF NAAMAN

2 Kings 5:1-14

NAAMAN		PEOPLE TODAY
Leper - V.1	← Needed help →	Sinners - Rom. 3:23; 6:23
Went to king - V.6	← Went to wrong one →	Go to priest, preacher, parent, thief on cross - Jn. 14:6
Wash in Jordan - V.10	← Cleansing conditional →	Must obey God - Heb. 5:9; Mt. 7:21
Naaman was wroth - V.11	← Became angry →	Are unwilling to accept baptism: Acts 22:16, one church - Eph. 4:4
"I thought" - V.11	← Wanted his way →	"Faith only" - Jas. 2:24, "church of choice" Eph. 5:23; "do nothing" - 1 Cor. 15:58
Alvan & Pharpar - V.12	← Wanted to substitute →	Human creeds for Bible - 2 Tim. 3:16-17, denomination for church - Mt. 15:13
Dipped 7 times, clean - V.14	← Blessing at obedience →	Mt. 7:24, Hear - Rom. 10:17, Believe - Jn. 8:24, Repent - Lk. 13:3, Be baptized - Mk. 16:16

MUTUAL OBLIGATIONS

INTRODUCTION: Between the church and the individual church member there are mutual obligations which must be carried out. These are duties which God requires of both and which must be carried out if both are to grow and develop and be acceptable unto God. A failure on the part of either the church or the individual Christian to perform these duties results in sin.

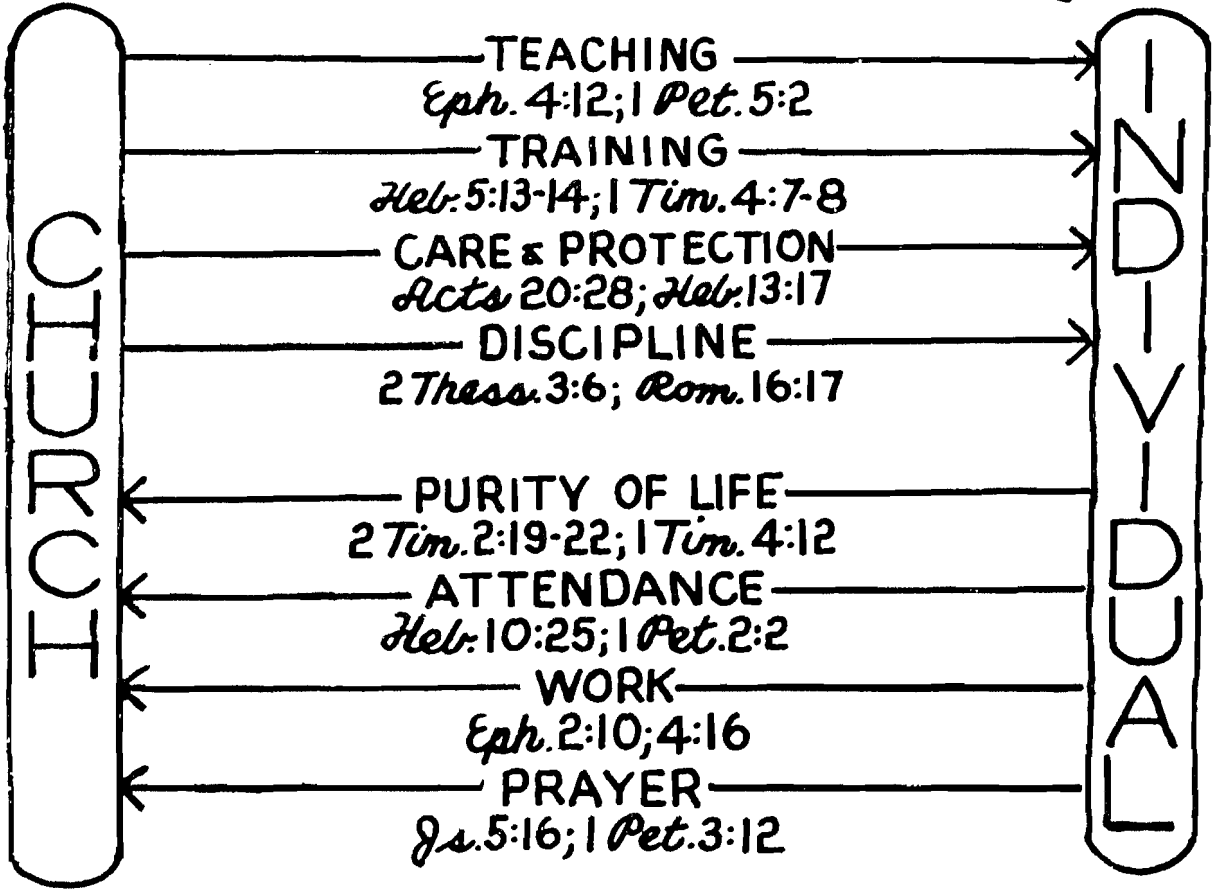
I. THE DUTIES OF THE CHURCH TOWARD THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

- A. When a person comes into the church, he does so as a babe in Christ and needs lots of teaching.
 - 1. Every member of the church has the right to look to the church to provide such teaching.
 - 2. A church which fails to have a good teaching program will not be strong and growing.
- B. Teaching alone is not enough to cause babes in Christ to grow into strong and vigorous workers.
 - 1. Training is also necessary for some things are learned by doing. (teaching class, personal work)
 - 2. It is the duty of the church to help each individual member grow and develop to the utmost.
- C. The church must also provide care and protection for her members.
 - 1. Paul warned about false teachers entering in. (Acts 20:29) Church must be protected from such.
 - 2. Under certain conditions the church can help needy saints. (Acts 6:1-6) (1 Tim. 5:9-10, 16)
- D. The church must keep herself pure, when necessary, by withdrawing from the unfaithful.
 - 1. This is one duty that most churches fail to perform.
 - 2. The church owes it to the faithful members to withdraw from the ungodly, lest they become contaminated by sin.
- E. The work of each congregation is under the oversight of her elders. (1 Pet. 5:2)

II. THE DUTIES OF THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER TOWARD THE CHURCH

- A. This is the main duty of the individual member toward the church---living the Christian life.
 - 1. The reputation of the church depends on the lives of her members.
 - 2. Many, and rightly so, accuse the church of having too many hypocrites as members.
- B. Church members owe it to the church to be perfect in attendance if at all possible.
 - 1. The church cannot teach or train if the individual is not present.
 - 2. The church member can neither be edified nor obey certain commands of God if he fails to attend.
- C. God has assigned the church a work to do and this work must be performed by the members.
 - 1. Work strengthens both the worker and the church.
 - 2. Most of us find time for things not half as important as church work.
- D. The prayers of her members can do much to help the church grow and develop.
 - 1. This is a duty each member can perform if he is really sincere.
 - 2. By working we can help God answer our prayers.

MUTUAL OBLIGATIONS



NECESSITIES OF PROFITABLE BIBLE STUDY

(2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2:15)

INTRODUCTION: Since the Bible is God's revelation to man, it contains God's will for man and we must study it to know God's will and save our souls. However, God never forces anyone to study His Word and obey His commands. Man is free to study or ignore God's Word as he chooses. But if you are a student of the Bible or plan to begin studying the Bible, let me suggest some things that are necessary if you are to study the Bible with great profit.

I. A DESIRE TO KNOW AND DO THE TRUTH

- A. This is the greatest need of all; without this desire Bible study is useless.
- B. Even though the Bible is truth and will help to gain freedom from sin, many do not want the truth and follow false teachers.
- C. Man may say that "we can't understand the Bible", but Jesus tells us otherwise.

II. THE REMOVAL OF RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE FROM THE HEART

- A. Religious prejudices are the most blinding and dangerous to enter the heart of man.
- B. Prejudice jumps at conclusions and assumes to be right without evidence. Some people's minds are like concrete, "all mixed up and firmly set."
- C. Many were filled with prejudice during the time of Christ and the apostles.
- D. We must have the proper attitude if we are to study the Bible with great profit.

III. THE USE OF COMMON SENSE

- A. Yes, the use of a little common sense is often very helpful in studying God's Word.
- B. In studying any passage of the Bible it is always good to notice who speaks, to whom he speaks, what he speaks about, the circumstances when he speaks and why he speaks.

IV. MK. 16:15-16 AS AN EXAMPLE

- A. Who spoke? --Jesus the Son of God and Savior of man.
- B. To whom did Jesus speak? --the apostles who had been chosen for a special work.
- C. What did Jesus speak to them about? --the preaching of the gospel and the salvation of man.
- D. What were the circumstances when Jesus spoke? --it was just before His ascension into Heaven. These were among His last personal instructions to the apostles and points out the importance of these words.
- E. Why did Jesus speak these words? --because man is lost in sin, needs to hear the gospel and believe it and obey it.

IN YOUR STUDY OF THE BIBLE HAS IT BEEN PROFITABLE TO THE POINT THAT YOU HAVE BELIEVED AND BEEN BAPTIZED THAT YOU MIGHT BE SAVED?

NECESSITIES OF PROFITABLE BIBLE STUDY

2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2:15

A DESIRE TO KNOW
AND DO THE TRUTH



Jn. 8:32; 17:17;
2 Tim. 4:3-4; Mt. 5:6

THE REMOVAL OF
RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE



Jn. 1:45-46; Mt. 13:15;
Acts 7:54-60; 1 Sam. 3:9

THE USE OF
COMMON SENSE



In studying any passage of the Bible it is always good to notice:

— MK. 16:15-16 AS AN EXAMPLE —

"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."

1. Who spoke
2. To whom he spoke
3. What he spoke about
4. The circumstances when he spoke
5. Why he spoke

JESUS	{	THE	{	PREACHING THE	{	AMONG	{	MAN LOST
1. _____	{	2. APOSTLES	{	3. GOSPEL & SALVATION	{	4. HIS LAST	{	5. IN SIN
Mt. 28:18	{	Mt. 16:19	{	Rom. 1:16	{	WORDS	{	Rom. 3:23; 6:23

THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS
(Lk. 8:4-8)

INTRODUCTION: Our text is most commonly referred to as The Parable of the Sower, but I prefer to speak of it as the Parable of the Soils because actually the main point is the four soils into which the seed fell. In the text the sower represents the teacher; the seed represents the Word of God and the different soils represent human hearts. The parable points out the importance of hearing and obeying the Word of God. Let us notice the four kinds of soil mentioned in the parable.

I. THE WAYSIDE SOIL

- A. The wayside soil represents the hardened heart of a man that will not receive the Word of God.
- B. The heart can be hardened by false teaching, prejudice, indifference, and the deceitfulness of sin.
- C. If you have hardened your heart to the truth of God's Word and will not let it enter in, you will be lost.

II. THE STONY SOIL

- A. The stony soil represents the heart that is without strong conviction. Faith is outward and not inward. The soil is shallow with no depth.
- B. These do not have the word snatched out of their hearts. Satan uses other means to cause them to fall. They fall away in time of trial and temptation because they are spiritually weak.
- C. Many have found that it is not easy to live the Christian life and have given up.

III. THE THORNY SOIL

- A. The thorny soil represents the heart of the man who is so busy with other things that he has no time for God. It's not too thin, not too hard, but too crowded.
- B. Many church members have allowed the pleasures and riches and cares of this life to choke out the Word of God from their hearts and have become unfruitful and unfaithful.
- C. If we fail to put God first, we will lose our souls.

IV. THE GOOD SOIL

- A. This soil is rich, loose, deep and clean and represents the good and honest heart which will receive the Word of God.
- B. When the seed falls into this type of soil the result, is always a Christian or obedience to God.
- C. This soil brings forth 30, 60 and 100 fold.

OF THE FOUR SOILS ONLY ONE IS PLEASING TO GOD. EVERY ACCOUNTABLE BEING IS IN ONE OF THESE CATEGORIES. HOW WOULD YOU BE CLASSIFIED? SOFTEN YOUR HEART, BLAST OUT THE ROCK, ROOT OUT THE THORNS AND BE FRUITFUL AS A SERVANT OF GOD.

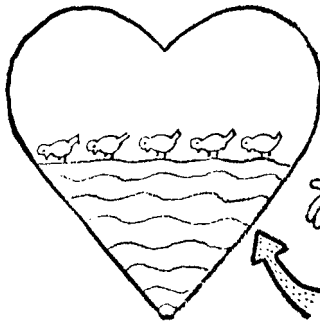
THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

Lk. 8: 4-8

WAYSIDE SOIL

Lk. 8:5
Rom. 10:17
Heb. 3:15
Lk. 8:12

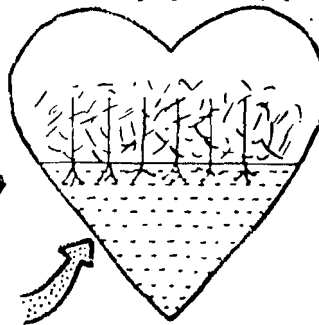
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THORNY SOIL

Lk. 8:14
1 Tim. 6:7-10
1 Jn. 2:15-17
Mt. 6:24

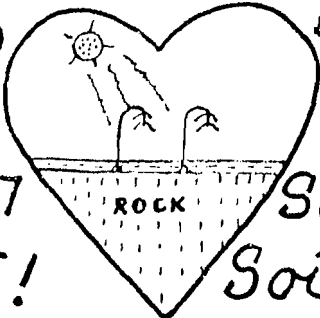
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STONY SOIL

Mk. 4:5-6
Lk. 8:13
Mt. 13:21
Lk. 14:27

LOST!



GOOD SOIL

Lk. 8:15
Col. 1:10
Rom. 7:4
1 Cor. 15:58

SAVED!



Sower = Teacher
Seed = Word of God
Soils = Human hearts

PERFECT PEACE

INTRODUCTION: Peace is a much talked about subject today. The prayers of millions include a petition for peace. In this lesson we will notice a plan that will enable all men to enjoy perfect peace.

I. GOD OF PEACE

- A. God is the author and promoter of peace.
- B. God hath raised Christ from the dead to make this peace possible.
- C. Sin is the great disturber, the constant troubler of the human mind.

II. PRINCE OF PEACE

- A. Christ is the leader in the fight against sin and Satan.
- B. If there were universal righteousness, there would be universal peace.
- C. Christ made perfect peace possible through His death, burial and resurrection.

III. GOSPEL OF PEACE

- A. The gospel of Christ tells us how to enjoy perfect peace.
- B. Messengers of salvation must proclaim the gospel of peace.
- C. Peace can be enjoyed by the individual sinner when he ceases to be the enemy of God, obtains the forgiveness of his sins by obedience to the gospel, and is admitted to the joys of those who are the children and friends of God.

IV. PERFECT PEACE

- A. The man who keeps his mind on the Lord and who trusts in Him will enjoy perfect peace.
- B. Perfect peace can only be provided through God.
- C. To mind the things of the Spirit, to follow God's instructions, promotes spiritual life and peace with God and man.
- D. The peace which God gives is a peace of the highest possible kind, a peace which is beyond man's ability to conceive.
- E. This peace brings a calmness within; fears disappear; a sweet tranquility enters the heart; the views, the feelings, the desires are changed and man finds comfort in the fact that he is at peace with God and the world.

ARE YOU ENJOYING THIS PERFECT PEACE, PROVIDED BY THE GOD OF PEACE THROUGH THE PRINCE OF PEACE AND MADE KNOWN IN THE GOSPEL OF PEACE?

PERFECT PEACE

GOD
OF
PEACE

Rom. 15:33
Heb. 13:20
Rom. 5:1

PRINCE
OF
PEACE

Isa. 9:6
2 Thess. 3:16
Eph. 2:14-15

GOSPEL
OF
PEACE

Rom. 10:15
Acts 10:36
Eph. 6:15

PERFECT PEACE

Isa. 26:3
Jn. 14:27
Rom. 8:6
Col. 3:15
Phil. 4:7

THE RIGHT COMBINATION

(John 4:24)

INTRODUCTION: With many things the right combination is necessary. It takes the right combination to open many locks. The right combination of hydrogen and oxygen is needed to produce water. And Jesus tells us that the right combination of spirit and truth is necessary if we are to worship God acceptably. The right combination is also necessary if man is to be saved from sin. The Bible tells us that all have sinned and that the wages of sin is death. Man, lost in sin, has four different combinations before him. It is up to him to choose the right combination if he is to save his soul. Let us notice the four combinations before man and learn which one is the right one.

I. WRONG ATTITUDE PLUS ERROR

- A. Many are in error because they do not want the truth.
- B. Some during the time of Christ hardened their hearts and closed their eyes to the truth.
- C. One's worship is in vain if he has the wrong attitude and follows error.

II. WRONG ATTITUDE PLUS TRUTH

- A. One may have the truth but if his attitude is wrong, he cannot be saved.
- B. The rich young ruler's attitude toward truth was such that he prized his money above truth.
- C. Stephen's audience knew he spoke the truth but because of their attitude would not believe.
- D. Many in the church fall into this category; they know the truth but have the wrong attitude.

III. RIGHT ATTITUDE PLUS ERROR

- A. One might be just as honest and sincere as humanly possible, but if he follows error, he will be lost.
- B. Saul of Tarsus was a sincere and honest man, but he was wrong because he followed Judaism.
- C. The Ethiopian eunuch was a religious man who had the right attitude, but he had to change his religion before he could be saved.

COMBINATIONS 1, 2, AND 3 ARE NOT THE RIGHT COMBINATION FOR SALVATION AND LEAD ONLY TO CONDEMNATION

IV. RIGHT ATTITUDE PLUS TRUTH

- A. This is the right combination, the one that will open the doors of Heaven for you.
- B. The Bereans hungered and thirsted after righteousness.
- C. The Pentecostians had the right combination when they were pricked in their hearts and wanted to know what to do.

WON'T YOU OPEN YOUR HEART TO RECEIVE THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD AND BELIEVE IT AND OBEY IT?

THE RIGHT COMBINATION

Jn. 4:24

Rom. 3:23
Rom. 6:23



WRONG ATTITUDE+ERROR

Jews - Mt. 13:13-15

Pharisees - Mt. 15:8-9

WRONG ATTITUDE+TRUTH

Rich young ruler - Mt. 19:16-22

Stephen's audience - Acts 7:1-60

RIGHT ATTITUDE+ERROR

Saul of Tarsus - Acts 23:1; 26:9-11

Ethiopian eunuch - Acts 8:26-39

RIGHT ATTITUDE+TRUTH

Bereans - Acts 17:11-12

Pentecostians - Acts 2:5,37,38,40,41

NO-FAZMZOZ

NO-TIVAS

SOME EVILS OF THE TONGUE
(James 3:8)

INTRODUCTION: In the text James speaks of the tongue as being "full of deadly poison." Nothing can better describe the evil that may be done by the tongue. There is no sting of a serpent that does as much harm in the world. There is no poison more deadly to the body of man than the poison of the tongue is to the happiness of man. Let us notice some of the evils of the tongue that bring so much unhappiness to all of us.

I. TALEBEARING

- A. Talebearing is bearing any evil report about another.
- B. God has legislated against talebearing.
- C. The person who lends his ear to talebearing is just as guilty of sin as the one who wags the tongue.
- D. Are you guilty of the sin of talebearing?

II. WHISPERING

- A. Whispering is the evil of detracting from others, or exciting suspicion against them by dropping hints or insinuations that they are evil. Whispering is most often done slyly and in secrecy.
- B. Whisperers are included in the class of sinners.
- C. Whispering can alienate friends as is known by observation and from the Bible.
- D. One breath of unkindness may start a long train of sad consequences which we have no power at all to stop.

III. SLANDERING

- A. Slandering means to utter a false report with the idea of injuring the reputation of another.
- B. Slandering is foolish and sinful.
- C. The man who destroys the good name of another is not too good to destroy your name. When you give ear to his wicked tale, you encourage him in sin.

IV. TATTLING

- A. Tattling is defined as gossip or idle talk and is usually greatly exaggerated.
- B. Paul and John were inspired to speak out against tattlers.
- C. Solomon says a prating fool shall fall.
- D. Gossip can destroy friendships, divide a church, break up a family and cause much unhappiness.

V. BACKBITING

- A. Backbiting is the act of speaking evil of one who is absent and not being willing to accuse him to his face.
- B. Paul warned both the Corinthians and Romans about the evil of backbiting.
- C. David tells us that the Lord is pleased with those who do not backbite.

SOME EVILS OF THE TONGUE

Is. 3:8

TALEBEARING

--*Lev. 19:16; Prov. 11:13; 20:19*--->

WHISPERING

--*Rom. 1:29; Ps. 41:7; Prov. 16:28*--->

SLANDERING

--*Prov. 10:18; Rom. 3:8; Ps. 101:5*--->

TATTLING

--*1 Tim. 5:13; 3 Jn. 10; Prov. 10:8*--->

BACKBITING

--*2 Cor. 12:20; Rom. 1:30; Ps. 15:3*--->

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TRUTH IS NARROW

(Mt. 7:13-14)

INTRODUCTION: In the text Jesus pictures the two gates which are opened unto man, the wide gate and the narrow gate. Man stands before the two and it is his to choose which he will enter. The two ways are opposite to one another, as different as left and right, darkness and light. The wide gate is the way of error and leads to hell; the narrow gate is the way of truth and leads to Heaven. Each accountable being is traveling on one road or the other. Let us notice now that the truth is narrow.

I. IN THE PHYSICAL REALM

- A. Truth is narrow in the field of mathematics. Truth allows us to give no other total of 1 plus 1 except 2. If we give some other total, we are either mistaken or untruthful.
- B. There are many cities named Washington in the U.S, but only one is the capital of our country. New York City, Chicago, Atlanta, Los Angeles can't be spoken of as the capital; truth is too narrow; it won't allow that.
- C. There are millions of planets in the solar system but only the sun is the center. For many centuries man was ignorant of this fact but when he learned the truth, he found that the sun is the center of our solar system. The truth is just this narrow.
- D. Of the thousands of possible combinations of the elements of the earth only the combination of 2 parts hydrogen and one part oxygen will produce water. Truth is narrow in the field of science.
- E. Man has had strange ideas concerning the shape of the earth in years gone by, but now, even the little first grader knows that the earth is round. Again, the truth is narrow.

IN THE PHYSICAL REALM WE ARE CONTINUALLY SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH. WE DEMAND AND WANT NOTHING ELSE.

II. IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM

- A. Truth is much more important to us in the spiritual realm because our eternal salvation depends on it. Therefore, we should be more interested in this truth.
- B. The truth will help us to gain freedom from sin and God's Word is truth.
- C. God's Word tells us there is one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God.
- D. Most accept the truth that there is one God, one Lord, one Spirit and one hope, but many deny that there is but one faith, one body and one baptism.
- E. Many would substitute human creeds for the one faith, man-made churches for the one body and different baptisms for the one baptism included in the plan of salvation.
- F. The truth is narrow and the Bible says there is one faith, one body and one baptism. There are no more faiths than there are Gods, no more bodies than there are Lords, no more baptisms than there are Spirits. The Bible says there is one of each.
- G. We must accept the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. The truth is narrow.

TRUTH IS NARROW

Mt. 7:13-14

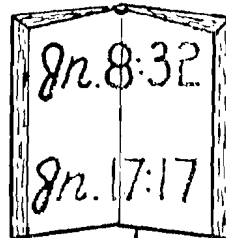


PHYSICAL REALM

- 1+1=2
- Washington, D.C. is the capital of the U.S.A.
- The sun is the center of the solar system.
- H₂O = water.
- The earth is round.

WE DEMAND TRUTH IN THIS REALM & WANT NOTHING ELSE)

SPIRITUAL REALM



← THE TRUTH WILL FREE

← GOD'S WORD IS TRUTH

Eph. 4:4-6
ONE →

GOD-Isa. 46:9 } MOST
 LORD-Jn. 1:1,2,14 } ACCEPT
 SPIRIT-Jn. 14:26 } THESE
 HOPE-1 Pet. 1:3-4 } TRUTHS

FAITH-Rom. 1:16 } MANY
 BODY-Col. 1:18 } DENY
 BAPTISM-Acts 2:38 } THESE

WHERE ART THOU?

(Gen. 3:9)

INTRODUCTION: The first question of the Bible shows the futility of man trying to hide from God. In this same connection the Hebrew writer tells us, "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." (Heb. 4:13) Thus, we can see the importance of doing the right things and being in the right place. In studying this lesson on "Where Art Thou?" please answer the following questions:

- I. ARE YOU WITH THE LORD OR AGAINST THE LORD?
 - A. In the great conflict between light and darkness, good and evil there is no middle ground---we must either join with Christ or be against Him.
 - B. If one is not allied with Christ, he is a co-worker with the devil.
- II. ARE YOU A SERVANT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS OR A SERVANT OF SIN?
 - A. No man can serve two masters (Matt. 6:24)
 - B. To be a servant of righteousness is to obey all of God's commandments.
 - C. Sin is obedience to the devil.
- III. ARE YOU IN THE NARROW WAY OR THE BROAD WAY?
 - A. Jesus points out that only two roads are open to us and we must make a choice.
 - B. The narrow way is strait and difficult and leads to eternal life.
 - C. The broad way is described as the way of many. It is entered by a gate that is wide and inviting so far as the world is concerned.
- IV. ARE YOU AMONG THE WISE OR AMONG THE FOOLISH?
 - A. The Lord closes the "Sermon on the Mount" by placing all men in one of these two groups.
 - B. The wise hear and do, build on a solid foundation, and will stand secure at the Judgment.
 - C. The foolish also hear but fail to do, build on the sand, and will be lost at the Judgment.
- V. ARE YOU IN THE CHURCH OR IN THE WORLD?
 - A. All accountable beings are in one or the other.
 - B. When one obeys the gospel, God saves him and adds him to the church. If the saved are out of the church, why does God add them to the church?
 - C. One remains in the world, the kingdom of Satan, until he is delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son.
- VI. WILL YOU BE AMONG THE SHEEP OR AMONG THE GOATS?
 - A. This separation will take place at the Judgment--it is future.
 - B. Those on the right hand will enter into the eternal joys of Heaven.
 - C. Those on the left hand will be cast into everlasting punishment.

WHERE ART THOU? WHERE YOU ARE NOW WILL INFLUENCE WHERE YOU WILL BE THEN!

WHERE ART THOU?

Gen. 3:9

WITH THE LORD ← *Mt. 12:30* → AGAINST THE LORD

SERVANT OF RIGHT. ← *Rom. 6:16-18* → SERVANT OF SIN

IN THE NARROW WAY ← *Mt. 7:13-14* → IN THE BROAD WAY

AMONG THE WISE ← *Mt. 7:24-27* → AMONG THE FOOLISH

IN THE CHURCH ← *Acts 2:47; Gal. 1:4* → IN THE WORLD

AMONG THE SHEEP ← *Mt. 25:31-33* → AMONG THE GOATS

SAVED!!

LOST!!

WHY THE RICH MAN WAS FOOLISH
(Lk. 12:13-21)

INTRODUCTION: In the text we learn of a man who had been abundantly blessed by God. In the eyes of the people round about him he was probably highly respected and honored and considered wise, but God addressed him as a fool. In this lesson we will notice some reasons why the rich man was foolish.

I. HE FORGOT OTHERS

- A. His debates with himself show his interest was only in self. Notice the personal pronouns used.
- B. God teaches us to love others and that we have the duty to help them when we can.
- C. The Judgment Day will find many lost because they forgot to help others.

II. HE FORGOT REAL JOY

- A. The rich man thought he could really be happy by eating, drinking and indulging himself.
- B. Solomon tells us of his search for happiness.
- C. Money can buy much, but money cannot buy love, a clear conscience or true happiness.
- D. The eunuch found real happiness when he heard the gospel and obeyed.

III. HE FORGOT HIS SOUL

- A. The rich man thought of life only in terms of material things.
- B. Even though the soul is man's most valuable possession, many exchange it for material things.
- C. The Bible warns of the danger of riches.
- D. Many have forgotten their souls in their pursuit of riches.

IV. HE FORGOT GOD

- A. The greatest blunder of the rich man was that he did not take God into account.
- B. The Bible teaches us to put the kingdom of God first and to love God above all others.
- C. Whatever our long-range plans may be, let us remember that the biggest factor of all is God. If we leave Him out of our plans, they are sure to end in ruin.

V. HE FORGOT DEATH

- A. He made his plans for "many years", yet he had only one day left.
- B. We often forget death and act as if we think we will live forever.
- C. We are forever putting off until tomorrow, yet we do not know whether there will be a tomorrow.
- D. Death and the Judgment are sure and certain; life is brief and fleeting and we need to be making our preparations to meet God NOW. Today.

WHY THE RICH MAN WAS FOOLISH

HE FORGOT OTHERS

He thought only of himself

*Mt. 22:39; Gal. 6:10;
Is. 1:27; Mt. 25:41-43*

HE FORGOT GOD

He left God out of his plans

*Mt. 6:33; Mt. 22:37;
Mt. 10:37; Mt. 10:4*

HE FORGOT HIS SOUL

He had his mind set on material things

*Mt. 16:26; Mk. 10:24;
1 Tim. 6:9-10; 6:17-19*

HE FORGOT REAL JOY

His motto was "eat, drink and be merry"

*Ecc. 2:3-11; Mt. 5:11;
Ps. 1:1-2; Acts 8:39*

HE FORGOT DEATH

He thought he had a long time to live

*Heb. 9:27; Is. 4:14;
Ps. 90:9-10; Amos 4:12*

WORKING FOR GOD

INTRODUCTION: God has much work to be done upon this earth, but puts the responsibility of doing this work upon those who are children of God. The growth and development of every congregation depends upon the work of the Christians who are members. Thus, it is the privilege and responsibility of every church member to be a worker for the Lord. But many church members, after obeying the gospel, want to by-pass work on their way to Heaven. They seem to think that since they have obeyed the gospel, they can just "coast" into Heaven. This is far from the truth and every church member must realize that:

I. WE ARE COMMANDED TO WORK

- A. In the parable of the laborers in the vineyard the householder hired laborers into his vineyard.
- B. Working for God is an individual responsibility.
- C. One's life should be filled with good works for God.
- D. We prove our faith by our works.

II. MUST WORK TODAY

- A. Jesus Christ had to accomplish His work before His death--while it was "day". So must we.
- B. We should look for work to do and finding it, work zealously.
- C. Life is brief and fleeting and we must work today.
- D. Too many spend too much time in worldly pleasures and unimportant things and leave little or no time to work for God.

III. THE NATURE OF THE WORK

- A. It must be a work of faith, prescribed by the Bible, for we walk by faith and not by sight.
- B. Our work must be a labor of love--love for God and love for our fellow-man.
- C. With the hope of Heaven before us we can be steadfast in our work for God.

IV. WE WILL BE JUDGED BY OUR WORKS

- A. If we waste our opportunities and fail to work in this world, we may find ourselves begging for mercy and a cool drop of water in the next.
- B. We will be judged on an individual basis by our works.
- C. God will reward those who are faithful as His workers.

CONCLUSION: Only those who obey the gospel and work faithfully and zealously in the kingdom of God will be eternally saved.

WORKING FOR GOD



↑ HEAVEN
Rev. 2:10

COMMANDED TO WORK

↑ *Mt. 20:1; Phil. 2:12;*
1 Cor. 15:58; Jsa. 2:14-26

MUST WORK TODAY

Jn. 9:4; Ecc. 9:10
Jsa. 4:14; Mt. 21:28

WORK

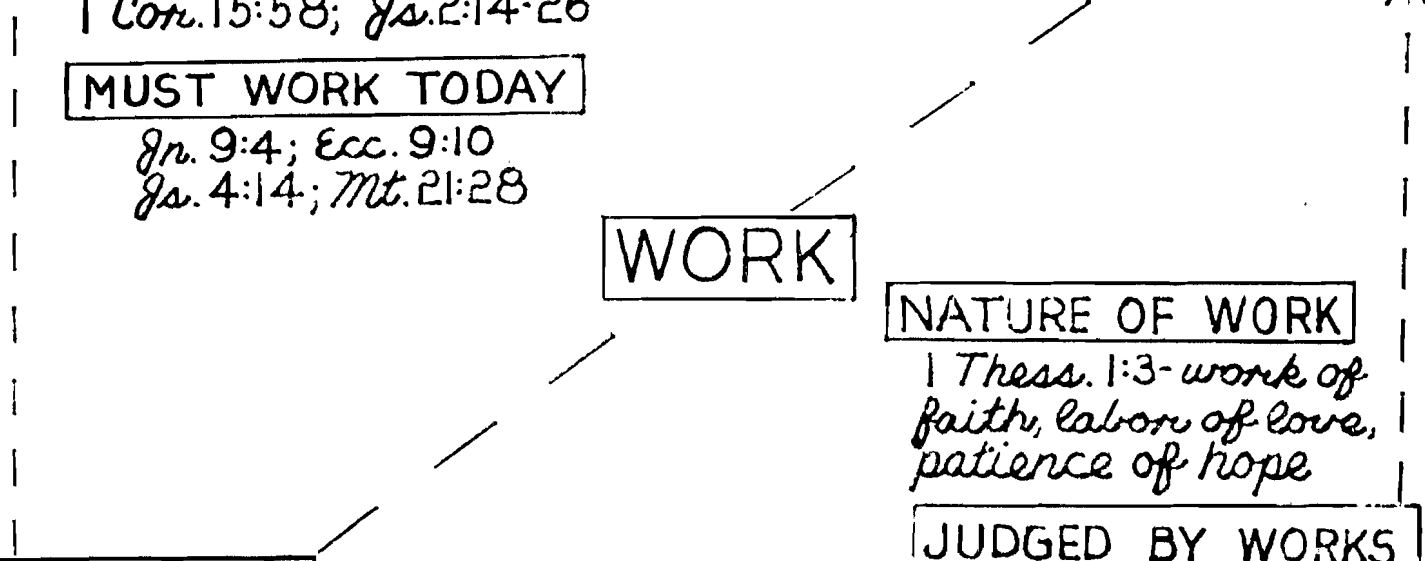
NATURE OF WORK

1 Thess. 1:3- work of faith, labor of love, patience of hope

JUDGED BY WORKS

2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12;
Heb. 6:10; Mt. 25:34-36

OBEDIENCE TO THE GOSPEL



HELPFUL HINTS FOR CHART PAINTING

Anyone with normal ability can paint a chart if he really wants to. With a determined mind, a little patience and lots of practice, you can produce charts that you will be proud of. We preachers often tell other members of the church that they can preach a sermon if they really want to and will try. This is the way I feel about painting charts; you can, if you really want to and will try.

Having made up your mind to learn to paint charts, you need to obtain the proper materials. First, let me suggest that you buy a copy of a speedball text book. I have one written by Ross F. George. These can be obtained from an art supply store for about \$1. This book is very helpful because it shows you how to hold your brush and how to make the different strokes of each letter of the alphabet. Perhaps you would like to get a water-color brush and some water colors and practice making letters on lined paper before you actually start on a chart. This will give you some experience and help you to have confidence in yourself.

For actual chart painting you need brushes of different sizes, different colored paints and material to paint the chart on. There are different kinds of paints, and brushes, and materials that can be used, but I prefer the following. I use rubber base, latex paint such as is used to paint the walls and ceiling in a house (darker colors are best). This paint can be purchased almost anywhere. The best brushes which I have found to use are marked "signed by Robert Simmons." (There are other brands, too.) These can be purchased at a paint store or art supply store and come in different sizes or widths. I use a #8 for painting the titles on charts, a #5 for sub-headings, and a #4 for the remainder of the chart. You may prefer other sizes; it's just a matter of choice.

Your charts can be painted on bed sheets. You can buy these cheaper about twice a year when the department stores have their "white sales." Bed sheets come in different sizes but I prefer the 72" x 108" size. By cutting a sheet this size in half, you can paint two charts, 4½ ft. by 6 ft.

When painting charts, I thumbtack the bed sheet to a piece of wallboard which is attached to the wall in the study. It's best to thumbtack the sheet on all four sides, making it taut and removing all wrinkles. Next, I sketch in the chart with pencil. I begin with the title and draw off lines a certain distance apart, depending on how tall I wish to make the letters. (The title should always be larger than the rest of the chart.) After drawing the lines I sketch in the different letters of the title. This is the procedure which I follow for the entire chart unless there is a picture that is to be drawn on the chart. By sketching in the chart with pencil you can arrange your spacing correctly and eliminate mistakes in the actual painting of the chart. It's always easier to erase a small pencil mark than a stroke of the paint brush. I use different colored paints to illustrate the chart in different ways. (All the verses of Scripture in one color, for instance.)

You may consider this a long drawn-out process, but practically everyone that I talk to tell me they understand a gospel sermon better when it is preached in connection with a chart. I consider this to be important enough for me to devote a little extra time and effort in my preparation to preach.

By using these helpful hints and with a little patience and practice, I think you will discover that chart painting is not as hard as you imagined.

