

EXALTING CHRIST · EQUIPPING BELIEVERS · EVANGELIZING THE WORLD

CORNERSTONE

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IN THIS ISSUE:

Disdain for Doctrine

The Remedy for Ruin

One Thing Alone

...and more

TO YOU WHO **BELIEVE**, THIS **STONE** IS **PRECIOUS** · 1 PETER 2:7

I am sure we have all experienced it. After spending a lot of time and energy and making sure everything was in its place, the time had come to flip the switch on the lights that I had carefully and thoughtfully put up on my house and front lawn. I was ready to stand back and take it all in. For sure, I was expecting great things. But when the time had come to turn on those lights, there was nothing. Muttering to myself that I had already invested too much time in this annual project, I set out to begin the second phase of this tortuous task—checking all my connections to find the reason for the lack of power. Going up and down the line, I pushed and pulled at every connection to make sure it was secure and to locate the source of the problem. When I finally located it, I found that there was indeed a loose connection. Even though everything looked to be in order, it was not. However, when the adjustment was made, what a difference it made! There was bright light everywhere and the personal satisfaction that my efforts were not in vain.

A Poor Connection


It is not too hard to see the spiritual parallel, is it? For many of us, there are many times we are expecting great things from God, yet it is just not happening. Everything is laid out and seems to be in order: regular attendance at our local fellowship, involvement in Christian service and ministry, and even regular prayer and personal Bible study. Even though everything looks in order, something is not quite right. Maybe there is a need to see if every spiritual connection is as good as it should be, and if any adjustments need to be made.

A Strong Connection

When it comes to being properly connected to the Lord, the Word of God gives us some sound advice. Paul's aspiration as he expressed it to the Philippians was that he might “*know Him [Christ] and the power of His resurrection*” (Phil. 3:10). His continual desire was to grow in the knowledge of the Lord and then have that knowledge translate into spiritual strength. This was his goal even though he had come to Christ many years before. He was not stagnant in his faith but was always pressing toward the mark. Despite the abundance of revelation he had received and the experiences he went through in his service for the Lord (read 2 Cor. 11:23-28), his greatest desire was to know the Lord even more. This was the secret of his spiritual strength. Even Peter exhorted his readers to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus (2 Pet. 3:18). Hosea 6:3 exhorts, “*then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord.*” Paul also expressed this same principle in writing to the Colossians. He prayed that they too, would be “*filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding*” and that they would

“*walk worthy of the Lord... and increase in the knowledge of God*” (Col. 1:9-10). He prayed the same thing for the Christians at Ephesus that they might know “*... what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe*” (Eph. 1:19). The next words are telling: “*according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead*” (v. 20). It is the same principle—that they might know Him and the power of His resurrection. This is the strength that comes when walking in the likeness of His resurrection (Rom. 6:5). And what might that strength look like practically speaking? Certainly, it will manifest itself in boldness in our public witness for Christ or stepping out in faith to do great things for Him. It can mean the same thing for us with whatever task the Lord gives us to do. But if we are to expect to do great things for Him because of the great things He has done for us, it requires a strong connection to make sure the current of God's power and strength is flowing through us. “*Flowing through us, Thou canst use us, every day and every hour.*” For that to be done there might need to be some adjustments made to secure those connections.

No Connection?

We at Cornerstone Magazine when establishing this ministry, set the goals as seen on the cover page “*Exalting Christ, Equipping Believers, Evangelizing the World.*” Our goal is to proclaim the glories of our Savior, His wonderful Person and Work. We also have a desire to strengthen believers in their precious faith. But we also have as our goal to share the good news of the gospel to those who have not yet come to know Him. We are keenly aware of the fact that this magazine finds itself in the hands of many around the globe, some of whom do not know Him but are as busy as ever in religious activity. Like Paul before his conversion, they pride themselves on their religious affiliation and spiritual heritage (Phil. 3:4-8) as if that qualified them in the sight of God and connected them to the God of heaven. If this is your situation, we invite you to turn to Him by faith so that the light of Christ will instantly begin to shine in your life to the glory of God. 



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by Mark Kolchin

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Cornerstone Magazine does not intend to be the official voice of any group of churches. The editor takes responsibility for the content that is published. For any spiritual blessing, to God be all the glory.

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TO YOU WHO BELIEVE, THIS STONE IS PRECIOUS • 1 PETER 2:7



Disdain for Doctrine

J. Gresham Machen, a brilliant conservative theologian of the last century lamented on the “modern hostility to doctrine.” It seems that we need to continue this lament today as there is a growing hostility to doctrine and theology. It is fashionable now among many assembly believers—including youth and even elders—to speak ill of doctrine. They try to portray doctrine as “wooden,” “hard,” “dry,” “useless” and “boring.” They only like “practical” stuff; “simple” and “devotional.” Anything doctrinal (preaching, teaching, even songs that reflect the great truths of the Christian faith) is not easily welcomed. Their comments imply that doctrine is not practical.

This anti-doctrine attitude is manifested in various ministry forums including seminars and conferences. The sharp dichotomy between “doctrine” and “practical” is because of ignorance and biblical illiteracy. It comes from a theological vacuum. We did not encounter this problem in the previous generation, probably because of the great doctrinal preaching and teaching of great men of God and a community that was willing to appreciate profound teaching. Since there are not many to applaud the serious exposition of the Word, we shy away from doctrinal and expositional preaching. The demise of doctrine is a dangerous trend in contemporary evangelicalism. In general, Dispensationalists who were big on doctrine and theology at one time, have now become “light weights” in this field.

“Perhaps the modern avoidance of doctrine lies partially in the fact that doctrine has been understood too narrowly, like a doctrinal statement or a theological essay, rather than more broadly in the scriptural sense of biblical content” (John MacArthur). Every statement related to faith is a doctrinal statement. For example, “Jesus is Lord,” “we are saved by grace,” “God is love,” “Jesus is coming again,” are all doctrinal statements. These statements assume many heavy doctrinal truths. So doctrine is the summarization of the central themes of God’s Word. It tells us how we should think about God, sin, ourselves, salvation, church, Christian life, the end of the age, future events, etc.

Doctrine is the confession of biblical truth formulated. The daily practice of our faith is the daily living out of the doctrines which we believe. Our life has to demonstrate and express the truth (doctrine) of our faith. There is no such thing as undocctrinal Christianity. The Word of God is given for knowing, believing, obeying, practicing, living, preaching, teaching, and testifying. Doctrine is intrinsically wedded to all these various aspects of our faith and life. So do not believe the “lies” against doctrine.


The apostle Paul uses the term didaskalia (teaching, doctrine) eleven times in His instruction to Timothy and four times in his letter to Titus. Doctrine or teaching, which is so essential to Christian maturity, was the great need of the church. That is why Paul called attention to it frequently in his pastoral epistles.

The early church devoted themselves to the apostles’ doctrine/teaching (Acts 2: 42). Among the four pillars of the church mentioned in this verse, doctrine is the first. Doctrine is called “the faith” (the body of truth) entrusted to the saints (Jude 3; Gal. 1:23; 1 Tim. 3:9; 4:1). It is also called “the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4; 3:15; 2 Thess. 2:13). Paul calls it a deposit (1 Tim. 6:20; 2 Tim. 1:14) – a valuable treasure which has been entrusted to us for safekeeping. Christian doctrine is “sound doctrine” (Titus 1:9; 2:1).

It is made up of “sound words” (2 Tim.1:13), or healthy words (the word “sound” means “healthy,” “wholesome.” The English word hygiene is derived from this Greek word). Sound doctrine leads to sound/holy/spiritually healthy living, and the absence or neglect of it to unholy living.

We have the responsibility to translate sound doctrine into godly living.


Paul reminded Timothy to watch both his life and doctrine (1 Tim. 4: 16). The Word of God is profitable for doctrine (2 Tim. 3:16).

Christian doctrine is all about God’s Word, His revelation and His truth. In a postmodern world that denies truth, we must love the truth, know the truth, live the truth, and courageously proclaim the truth. Remember, doctrine is faith in its truth content. You can’t belittle it in any way. Lost ways of doctrinal thinking are to be retrieved. We really need reforming moments of doctrinal recovery; yes, another Reformation. 



Alexander Kurian is a commended full time worker serving the Lord for the last forty years in itinerant ministry of evangelism, teaching, training, writing, and equipping. He and his wife Valsa fellowship at their commending assembly, Edmonds Lane Bible Chapel in Lewisville, Texas.

by **Alexander Kurian**



THE REMEDY FOR RUIN

Human history records the rise and fall of many Empires. Some kingdoms reigned longer and better than others, but eventually all have crumbled into oblivion. Obviously, God is sovereign over such things, yet, there is an observable pattern of moral decline that, generally speaking, precedes each social collapse. Such was the case of the Southern Kingdom of Israel in sixth century B.C. The prophet Habakkuk informs us that the wonderful benefits of the great revival experienced during the reign of King Josiah had passed and the Jewish nation had again digressed into corrupt and depraved behavior.

Israel's Example

God first used the prophet Isaiah to indict idolatrous and worldly Judah (Isa. 1) and then others, such as Jeremiah, followed suit. Isaiah detailed the type of divine judgment the Jewish people would experience for their rebellion against Jehovah (Isa. 2:6-4:1). This severe chastening would be accomplished by Babylon invaders and leave so many dead that surviving women would be competing with each other to obtain a husband.

Isaiah was also careful to identify Judah's sins deserving of God's retribution and the chaos that would result when Nebuchadnezzar's armies destroyed Jerusalem. This foretold agonizing scene is then contrasted with Jerusalem's glory in the future Kingdom Age (Isa. 4). What message is the prophet conveying by this thematic arrangement? He is warning future generations that the same rancid attitudes that marked Israel when God summoned Babylon to destroy

Jerusalem will be prevalent again when the Antichrist is permitted to capture the city and ransack houses just prior to Christ's second advent (Zech. 14:2). There is nothing new under the sun and history tends to repeat itself because man does not learn from his past failings. Indeed, the same degenerate attitudes that marked the Jews long ago are again rampant today among many societies that have identified with Israel's God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Signs of Decline

We pause to consider an obvious question spawned from Isaiah's stern message to Israel long ago: How might God's displeasure for a particular society be displayed today? The answer is, in much the same way it was shown towards Jerusalem in Isaiah's day. The prophet identifies six clear signs of a society void of God's blessing, thus, in decline (Isa. 3):

1. The disappearance of solid leadership (3:1-3). The absence of judges, elders, prophets, and mighty men (soldiers) for which a society depends on for wisdom, justice, protection and its general welfare are removed.
2. The appearance of immature, impulsive, and unpredictable leaders (3:4). Leaders motivated by carnal impulses, unchecked emotions, and the fear of the people replace those who revered God.
3. A divided society (3:5). With the absence of godly leadership upholding an ethical compass to guide the actions of the people, those who crave to go their own way clash with those who either for conscious sake or for conviction to God's Word hold their ground.

4. An age-gap rift results (3:5). The younger generation rebels against their elders. A lack of respect for those older and wiser occurs and the younger then attempt to cancel the traditions of the past and forge a new social order.
5. Moral values are compromised as those despised take the initiative to transform the society (3:5). This is often accomplished through political venues where candidates having the least promise the most. Sadly, emotional or carnal enticements are employed to win the hearts of the undiscerning populace. In short, the one gaining office is who the people deserve, not who will best care for them. We should recall that in His anger, God gave King Saul to Israel to teach them not to lust for what displeased Him (Hos. 13:11). As our governmental officials are placed in office by the Lord (Rom. 13:1-2) we likewise must consider that, at times, God may be reproving us rather than seeking our prosperity.
6. An air of despair permeates the nation (3:6-7). Without God's blessings a society will decline economically, morally, and spiritually. Great wealth may delay the inevitable chaos and ruin to come, but our God is a God of order and righteousness and He will not bless a rebellious people. Consequently, the demise of any nation that has identified with Jehovah and His Son, Jesus Christ, is not caused by policy failure per se, but rather because of provoking God's righteous indignation through disobedience (3:8-11).

One can hardly deny that these same social features are already evident in many Western countries which once held to a Christian heritage, but now have a growing dissent population which is provoking the Lord to anger.

God Judges the Proud

From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible declares God's contempt for pride and His commitment to judge it. As the proverb says, "Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud" (Prov. 16:18-19). Both James and Peter proclaim that "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (Jas. 4:6; 1 Pet. 5:5). Solomon wrote, "When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble is wisdom" (Prov. 11:2). The psalmist declared, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart" (Ps. 51:17). The opposite of pride is a broken spirit and a contrite heart.

God Revives the Humble

Second Chronicles 7:14 conveys the timeless remedy for sin in any age – our humble repentance prompts spiritual restoration and revival: "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear

from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." Although the context of this verse clearly pertains to the nation of Israel, the Church today would benefit much from heeding it.

To be broken before the Lord is to be a qualified recipient of His grace. Our failures should lead to personal brokenness, which should then cause us to cast ourselves upon the Lord in a way that we were hesitant to do beforehand. The outcome of testing, then, is that the believer knows and trusts the Lord with a greater patience and confidence than he or she had before. This is why the Lord longs for us to come to Him with all of life's burdens.

For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones" (Isa. 57:15).

The One who is over all ages to come forever offers the humble and contrite the opportunity to experience full and continual revival in His presence! Spiritual revival is what Israel needed then, and what the Church desperately needs today. Christians today know the Word of God better than those before them, but few know the God of the Word. Our pulpits are filled with more highly-degreed individuals than ever before, yet we have little knowledge of the true God. We study rather than pray, plan rather than trust, boast rather than weep. The modern Church has gone from experiencing and expecting the supernatural to being choked to death by the superficial, or being captivated by sensory pomp and emotional appeals, or being lollied into a pampered state of lethargy.

As in the days of Isaiah, we desperately need revival and the conditions are ripe for it in the Church. What would happen if a few believers desperate for change would separate themselves from the world and consecrate themselves to God in prayer? Might the Spirit of God again wring out the arrogance and gaudiness from our calloused hearts and cause them to beat spontaneously for Him? Might the masses be converted to Christ as in past great revivals? Until the Lord's return for His Beloved, the only solution for social decline is a revived Church. **CM**



Warren Henderson and his wife Brenda serve the Lord full-time and currently make their home in Stevensville, Montana. Warren is involved in a writing, evangelism, and Bible teaching ministry and has written and published a number of books which can be obtained worldwide through online retailers.

by Warren Henderson



GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS *Lamentations 3:23*

One Thing Alone

The Testimony of Sherry Welch Coleman

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.” Matthew 7:7,8 (ESV)

Growing up in a conservative Jewish home was a unique experience. Outside of the synagogue, we were the only Jewish kids in the neighborhood. Our parents brought us to synagogue every Sabbath. We learned from an early age what was expected, how to worship the most Holy One and look towards the coming of the Messiah. My own journey was different than the rest of the family, a search for the knowledge of God and the elusive Messiah.

It was while sitting in my Economics class that a friend, Wendy, invited me to join her and others to play volleyball. The problem, the invitation was for Friday night, the Sabbath. After much thought and asking God’s forgiveness, just this once, the invitation was accepted.

Wendy picked me up just before sundown and I and my “guilty heart” jumped into the car and off we went. We passed the school, we passed the YMCA, and as we rolled up into the parking lot of Bethany Bible Chapel, I remember looking at Wendy and saying “hey, you tricked me, you didn’t say we were going to church.” Wendy’s response was “there’s an underground gymnasium where a bunch of us play.” To my utter astonishment, there were several of my schoolmates on the volleyball court.

An hour later, the ball dropped. Literally! Their youth leader, Bob Handwerker, came in and said, “time for Bible study.” My thought, “What! You’ve got to be kidding me?” Instinctively, the walls went up to not hear and observe a thing. And yet...

It seems the adage is true, where Christian’s gather, there’s always food. These Gentiles were not kosher and so while they ate and drank and laughed, there I was sitting to the side just watching, checking them out, who was real, who was not. Eight months later, I was still attending synagogue, still

seeking a personal relationship with God, and still looking for the coming of Messiah. Having graduated from Hebrew School, serving as president of United Synagogue Youth, and dating a rabbinical candidate, I was still sneaking off to those volleyball games.

An invitation went out for the youth to enjoy a day at a water park over in Seaside Heights, NJ. Joining in the fun, one of the many times down the waterslide, I lost control and hit my head and was briefly knocked out. Later on, we returned to the chapel, but I was not feeling well. Having been in only three rooms of the chapel, somehow, I found myself in the sanctuary upstairs. Walking to the center aisle, I turned around and saw two verses up on the platform: John 3:16 and Romans 10:9.

Suddenly, pages of scripture, Old Testament prophecies of the coming of the Messiah flashed before my mind's eye. Each passage pointed to this Jesus Christ. At that point, I cried out to God and asked that He might forgive me for my blindness, my hard-heartedness, and my sinfulness. You could say that this was my "Paul" moment on the road to Damascus.

My decision not to share this conversion experience was short-lived. Eventually, Wendy and I went home and at one point she said, "let's talk." So, sitting on the stoop outside my home, she asked me a question. "Have you ever considered Jesus Christ?" That is all she asked. My shocked look must have really thrown her. She sat back as I then related my experience.

I distinctly remember her sharing a precious verse with me that to this day is shared with everyone the Lord gives me the privilege to lead to Himself: *"Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents"* (Luke 15:10, ESV). Can you imagine?! If God was willing to pay that high a price, think how valuable each man and woman must be in His sight! This is why there is such rejoicing in heaven over each sinner who repents.

Of course, there is more to the story. While reading the scriptures at home, the Lord confronted me about baptism. A very telling action for a Jew. This was that outward demonstration that I now belonged to Jesus Christ, the Lord, my Messiah, and everyone would know. Shortly thereafter, my family disowned me. And yet God...

I soon learned that there was another Jewish believer like me. You read his testimony a little while back. Larry Kramer gave me encouragement and hope at a time when it felt like

I was all alone. One of the elders at Bethany and his wife, Charlie and Marie Myers, took me under their wing. They fed me, housed me, and taught me what the family of God is all about: love, compassion, understanding, and hope.




And so, life went on. I went to the local college. Then attended Emmaus Bible College and embarked on quite an adventure. Yet, in the passage of time, although my family had disowned me, my mind and heart said: "keep calling." And so, every few weeks, I would phone my parents and inevitably, they would disconnect. Until...

Through a series of circumstances, I was compelled to write my testimony for the family. We went on that journey from God's promise to Eve, right on through to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. King David's description in the Messianic Psalms and right on through to Malachi. The truth was there to be seen. The Lord Jesus Christ had fulfilled all those promises! I recall writing at the conclusion, specifically

for my parents, that they were loved and that the completion of my faith through accepting Jesus Christ as the Messiah was just that, the completion of what God intended all along for His chosen people. If only they would seek Him.

A short time after they received my letter, a phone call came to Emmaus Bible College. One of my professors informed me that there was a phone call for me down in the lobby. To my surprise, Mom was on the line with an invitation to come home. God, and God alone! The Lord worked things out for His good. He made me who I am today through those experiences. One thing alone, I know that my Redeemer lives, and it is He whom I love and serve.

Finally, for those who may think they are wasting time sharing God's Word. You are not. His Word NEVER returns void (Isa. 55:11). 



Sherry is a graduate of Emmaus Bible College and later from Rider College in NJ where she received her MBA through the Norm Brodsky School of Business. She was commended to the Lord's work by Bethany Bible Chapel (NJ) in 1989 and later married Patrick while on the field. Together, they operate the Christian Resource Center & Reading Room among many other mission-related programs.

by **Sherry Welch Coleman**

Report: Voices for Christ

Soon after Dwight Beavers trusted Christ as his Savior, he had a desire to collect, copy, and distribute cassette tapes of good Christ-honoring ministry. As a result, in 1972 Voices for Christ began in central North Carolina. Since then, many collections of cassette and reel-to-reel tapes have been donated. Early contributions included: the personal collection of speaker and author Harold G. Mackay; the personal collection of pioneer evangelist Lester Wilson; the personal collection of noted Bible teacher John Milton Mills; a substantial collection of reels and cassettes from Park of the Palms Christian Retirement Community; and a very nice collection of older reels from brothers Joe Skelly and Robert Eadie in the UK. Since then there have been hundreds of smaller collections of reels, cassettes, CDs, and MP3 files donated over the decades.

The early years involved enormous investments of time to transfer reels to cassettes and to duplicate cassettes for distribution. Processing reels is a painstaking process. Many reels contain multiple messages on various tracks, not necessarily all recorded at the same speed, and likely not fully labelled. It is time consuming and requires a lot of attention to detail. During these years it was common for Dwight to have 10-12 computers running at a time digitizing tapes, often seven days a week. It would be no exaggeration to say that he put in tens of thousands of hours doing the work of digitizing, labeling, and cataloging these messages. As reel players became rare, he developed sources that knew how to get parts, other sources that could make repairs, as well as an ability to get things to work when it seemed beyond reasonable to extract audio from a specific decaying reel. But just as the inexorable progression of technology led to the demise of

the reel tape, so it also led to the downfall of the cassette and later even the CD and DVD.



Dwight Beavers as a young man.



In 2002, thirty years after brother Dwight began pursuing his vision, he began with the Lord's help to assemble a small team. A domain name was registered that year and with the assistance of some tech-savvy supporters he began the transition to making materials available online. The initial idea was to offer a catalog of available audio messages and to ship custom made CDs of specific messages to those who ordered them. Dwight had previously been doing something like this, sending paper lists to various assemblies and interested parties for several years. He would duplicate and ship cassette tapes across the country. It was natural for this to transition to the internet where the catalog would be more widely available, and CDs could be shipped instead of cassettes. Duplicating cassettes and shipping them had been time consuming and expensive. Duplicating CDs and shipping them was a bit of an improvement with thousands of CDs ordered and shipped during this time. But it was still fairly time consuming, time that Dwight would have preferred to spend digitizing.

Around September of 2005 the initial version of the website that offered MP3 files for direct download went live with 20,000 selections. Soon after that the CD ordering system was taken down. As we learned together how to build and maintain the new system, the collection of MP3 files grew. As more files were added there was a need for larger servers. Increased interest resulted in more downloads which meant the need for more internet bandwidth. As the visibility of the website increased there was a need for more advanced



Voices for Christ webpages.



tools to prevent web crawlers (“bots”) from taxing our limited resources. Since 2005, the underlying web hosting has transitioned through several data centers and many computer and operating system upgrades.


Today the website at voicesforChrist.org has over 65,000 MP3 files and several hundred written articles by over 1,800 different speakers and writers. The audio messages and articles are in four different languages. The oldest audio message was recorded in 1939 and there are messages from every decade since then up to the present. The website has had visitors from every country who download or listen to upwards of 30,000 messages on a typical day.

It is amazing to think that some of these wonderful messages, preached to perhaps only a handful of believers, have now been heard on the remotest islands, in restricted countries, and by all manner of people who are distant in both space and time from the original setting. It is a blessing for many to hear the voices of beloved ones that they may remember from years past or to hear directly from those who learned and labored in the school of Christ before we did. Because God’s Word is perfect (Psa. 19:7), settled (Psa. 119:89), eternal (Psa. 119:160; 1 Pet. 1:25), and living and powerful (Heb. 4:12), it follows that preaching from decades ago, if it is true to God’s word, is still valuable and helpful for today.

Today the work is conducted by a small volunteer team distributed across North America. We maintain the website, prepare new digital offerings, digitize cassettes and reel tapes to produce MP3 files, and archive collections that might otherwise be lost to the ravages of time. It may seem strange, but most of those who have worked on Voices for Christ over the past 20 years have rarely (or never!) met each other in person. We continue seeking the Lord’s guidance and help in how to proceed with this project. There are still so many things to accomplish.

As the Lord permits, in coming years more archiving and digitizing is planned which will result in more audio messages becoming available. Audio collections of Christ-honoring

preaching in other languages is also being considered. Perhaps the website structure itself will be translated into other languages to help more people find something that will be of spiritual help to them. Some domain names were acquired several years ago and have been maintained with an eye toward this. Presently both vocesparaCristo.org and voixpourChrist.org redirect to voicesforChrist.org but perhaps in the future they could provide a translated structure of the main website. Operating system updates and server upgrades and migrations will need to continue as needed. When Apple shipped iOS14 in November 2020, it broke the audio player that is used on the website for some browsers. While some of these issues have been fixed there are still improvements and additional fixes to be made—thank you for your patience if you have experienced this.

With so much digitizing from partially labeled or mis-labeled tapes there are always errors in naming and ordering to fix. Please let us know if you find something that needs to be corrected! Integration and support for an in-progress iPhone and Android app is planned. Collections of tapes are still accepted for archiving and since the backlog of tapes and reels can sometimes grow large we are looking to the Lord for those able and willing to participate in the digitizing effort. Questions and comments may be sent to info@voicesforChrist.org. 



Mike Flester and his wife Cindy are in fellowship at Rockville Bible Fellowship, Gaithersburg, Maryland, where he serves as an elder. Mike is a computer scientist and programmer working in cybersecurity. Mike has been involved with Voices for Christ for over 20 years. Mike and Cindy have four grown children.

by Mike Flester

FOUNDATIONS

of the faith

THE CHRISTIAN'S SECURITY AND ASSURANCE IN CHRIST

That “Salvation is of the Lord” is a good thing, for if man had any part in it, it would be inherently unstable (John 2:9). If being saved were a cooperative effort between humans and God, then our moral frailty would engender eternal insecurity within us. Thankfully, well-known verses like John 3:16 promise that God saves people by faith in the person and work of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Another Scripture avers: “*That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*” (Rom. 10:9) Our deliverance, from sin and its merited judgment, to eternal life, stems from the unbroken, trustworthy word of God and His almighty, unfailing power (Titus 1:2; Heb. 7:25).

Not only can we receive the Lord and His salvation, we can also know that we possess eternal life in Christ (1 John 5:13). A nineteenth-century preacher exultantly declared: “It is delightful to get out of the realm of ifs and perhapses, and peradventures, and just rest upon the wills and the shalls of a God who cannot lie.”¹ The Son of God’s finished sacrifice, triumphant resurrection, and glorious ascension into the Father’s presence assures believers that the true way of life is now open through their great high priest (John 14:6; Heb. 6:13-20). It is a divine gift, completely flowing from God’s grace, irrespective of our works (Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7). Thus, the saints are eternally secure and can enjoy conscious assurance of their unassailable standing in Christ.

Safe and Secure from All Alarms

The Lord Jesus clearly taught the truths of eternal security and assurance of salvation, saying: “*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand*” (John 10:27-29). When one adds that believers are



sealed by the Holy Spirit, they have the amalgamated power of the triune Godhead perpetually preserving them until they reach their promised home in the Father's house (Eph. 1:13; John 14:1-3). Having begun the work of salvation in them, He will faithfully complete it (Phil. 1:6). Those who have redemption in Christ Jesus are saved from sin's guilt, penalty, and power; furthermore, they will one day be saved from its presence by the future redemption of their bodies at the Lord's return (Rom. 8:23).

The Lamb of God's blood cleanses them from all sin, for His sacrificial death as a propitiation paid for sin is the foundation of our justification (1 John 1:7; Rom. 3:23-26; Heb. 10:11-14). What is more, believers are positionally viewed as "in Christ," and viewed as already seated in God's presence (Eph. 2:5-7). They are described as "*the body of Christ*" (1 Cor. 12:27). These scriptures present these truths as unconditional and certain facts. To lose salvation would mean that God's unbreakable promise could be broken, the trinity's omnipotence could be vanquished, and the history of Christ's redemptive work be undone. Someone would need to amputate us from the intimate position that we have in Christ. In short, born-again believers cannot be lost!

Believers Who Don't Really Believe²

Of course, the Bible recognizes that not all professors are possessors. Put differently, one may say one is a believer yet not really have saving faith in Christ. In His parable of the sower and the soils, the Lord described these people as those who do not have root in themselves, because the word never penetrates the depths of their hearts (Luke 8:12-14). Eternal life entails knowing God through Christ—not merely knowing about Him (John 17:3; compare James 2:19). Repentance—turning from one's sinful and rebellious independence of God—and faith—complete trust in Christ alone to save—are both essential elements of receiving the gift of salvation (Acts 20:21).

Our Lord distinguished between true and false disciples (John 2:23-3:1; 6:70-71). On the night before His crucifixion, one would be hard pressed to discern whether denying Peter or betraying Judas Iscariot was a genuine believer; yet the Good Shepherd knew His own (compare Luke 22:31-34 and John 13:10-11). While there is no security for false professors who do not have faith in Christ in the biblical sense of that phrase, true believers can never be separated by any tribulation, problem, or catastrophe from God's love in Christ (Rom. 8:28-39). Like Peter, our great high priest prays us home to heaven, where our spiritual inheritance is secure (Heb. 7:25; 1 Pet. 1:3-12).


More Happy But Not More Secure

Salvation rests securely in God's immutably righteous character. Mackintosh cautions about looking for assurance of salvation anywhere but in God's word: "It is essential to the enjoyment of settled peace that the heart should rest

solely on the authority of Holy Scripture. Nothing else will stand. Inward evidence, spiritual experiences, comfortable frames, happy feelings, are all very good, very valuable, and very desirable; indeed, we cannot prize them too highly in their right place. But, most assuredly, their right place is not at the foundation of the Christian position. If we look to such things as the ground of our peace, we shall very soon become clouded, uncertain, and miserable."³ Our confidence lies not in feelings, but in faith in the Lord's word.

How can someone know if they are saved? The Bible adduces the following evidence of eternal life:

1. Trusting in Christ alone for salvation and continuance of belief in Him (Acts 4:12; 1 John 2:19-29; Col. 1:21-23; Heb. 10:38-39; 1 John 5:9-13).
2. Recognizing the authority of God's word (John 5:24; 1 John 4:6; John 14:23-24; Acts 2:42; i.e. "hearing His voice" John 10:16, 27; 2 Tim. 3:14-4:5; Rev. 1:3).
3. The indwelling Holy Spirit's assurance (Rom. 8:9, 13-17; Gal. 4:6-7; 1 John 2:24-27; 4:13.)
4. A changed life, exhibiting holiness and "*the fruit of the Spirit*" (Gal. 5:22-25; John 15:3-8; Matt. 13:23; James 2:20-26; 1 John 1:7; 5:3; 1 Thess. 5:4-11).
5. Loving other believers (1 John 2:9-11; 3:14; 4:12).
6. Hating and overcoming sin, loving God, and longing for heaven (Rom. 7-8; 2 Cor. 4:16-5:11; Col. 3:1-17; 1 John 5:1-5).

A classic hymn says: "On Christ salvation rests secure / The Rock of Ages must endure." God the Father has decreed salvation, His Son has become the sacrifice, mediator, advocate, and high priest who effects it, and the Holy Spirit applies, seals, and empowers it. The Godhead's promise assures all who believe in Christ that they have eternal life and shall never be cast out (John 6:37). Believers have an assured future in heaven with the Lord. 

1. Archibald G. Brown, "A Mighty Arm," *This God Our God: Creator, Judge, Savior*. (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 2013), 46. [Italics original.]
2. *I'm indebted to my late friend and brother in the Lord, Randy Amos, for this phrase.*
3. C. H. Mackintosh, *The Christian: His Position and His Work* (New York: Loizeaux Brothers, n.d.), 24.



Keith Keyser has served the Lord full-time in Bible teaching & preaching throughout the USA, Canada & other countries. Keith and his wife Naomi were commended to the Lord's work in 1999 and fellowship with the saints who meet in the Lord's name at Grace Gospel Chapel, Gilbertsville, PA.

by Keith Keyser

ZECHARIAH

COMFORT IN THE CRISIS

The Christian life provides many opportunities for service. It may be as “modest” as teaching a Sunday School class and changing forever the life of a student. It may be by bringing a casserole to a sick neighbor and altering forever the way they perceive someone who loves the Lord Jesus. Or it may even entail being a part of an enterprise that alters world history. Many examples of this are found in Scripture:

- the call of Moses to lead his people out of Egypt;
- the call of Saul on the road to Damascus.

The book of Zechariah describes such an historic opportunity when the remnant of Jews returned from their 70-year Babylonian exile. The 50,000 or so returnees to the Promised Land found their circumstances difficult and discouraging. Yet despite the harassment they endured from the nations surrounding them, they obediently set to work rebuilding the temple as God had asked them to do. It was not long, however, before this noble enterprise was abandoned. Finally, after several years God appointed two men to bring his people back on task—the prophets, Haggai and Zechariah (according to Ezra 2 & 3 the harassment came after they started the work and it led to its suspension).

The rather obscure book of Zechariah opens our eyes to one of the most startling interventions by the Lord of Hosts into the lives of His people. Yet it is from this very interaction that we are taught several wonderful lessons about the character of God. As circumstances unfold and God steps in, we wonder how the Creator of the universe will deal with a people who have been distracted and discouraged from doing His will? What possible strategies will He use for not only getting them back to work, but refreshing their spirits so that they would work with a will? How could He possibly make them eager to commit themselves to a task at which they had already failed so miserably—the rebuilding of the Jerusalem temple? As we examine His interaction with His people, we discover in it a kind of template for how God typically deals with His discouraged children—whether it be the Israelites of 520 B.C., or those of us in the 21st century dealing with the trauma of a worldwide pandemic.

The Strategy of the Lord of Hosts

We find as we read through Zechariah's prophetic masterpiece that the Lord uses a four-pronged approach.

- 1. Addressing Issues of the Heart:** Almost immediately, God reminds His people of their need to repent and return to Him, (1:3). Incredibly, this command is accompanied by an amazing promise—when they return to Him, He will return to them, with all the power and benefits that this entails. Later in the book, the Lord builds on this issue, giving them practical examples of how this change of heart will look in real life: *“to dispense true justice and practical kindness and compassion each to his brother and do not oppress the widow or the orphan, the stranger, or the poor, and do not devise evil in your hearts against one another”* (7:9-10, NASB).
- 2. The God of All Comfort:** Secondly, He offers words of comfort. For a discouraged people this must have been as refreshing as a drink of cool water from a bubbling brook. *“The Lord answered the angel who was speaking with me with gracious words, comforting words”* (1:13, NASB). Later in the same chapter the Lord Himself promises, *“I will return to Jerusalem with compassion”* (1:16, NASB).
- 3. The God of Action:** If comforting words were not enough, the Lord also promises that He will be with them not only in Spirit, but in deed as well. He will be working alongside them, encouraging them and protecting them. *“Sing for joy and be glad, O daughter of Zion, for behold I am coming and I will dwell in your midst,” declares the Lord* (2:10, NASB).
- 4. Looking Ahead as Conquerors:** Finally, He gives His people the opportunity to look beyond their present challenging circumstances to the bigger picture. The book of Zechariah is filled with reassuring prophecies regarding the wonderful blessings that await them and their descendants. Most precious of these promises are the many references pointing to the coming of the Messiah: *“Behold your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble and mounted on a donkey; Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey . . . and his dominion will be from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth”* (9:9b, 10b, NASB).

It would seem that one of the chief goals of the Lord of Hosts is to remind readers that the building of the temple was only a part of a great plan that God has for all of mankind. David Jeremiah writes; *“Everything Zechariah wrote to the Jews was to encourage them to anticipate the coming of [God's] Servant, the Branch (3:8) to accomplish the righteous will of God in Israel and the earth. Step one was the rebuilding of the temple.”* (The Jeremiah Study Bible, p. 1250).

The book of Zechariah is a testament to the way our God deals with people who are downtrodden and on the brink

of defeat. It proves to be a stirring testament of His love for His people, of His compassion, and the wonderful hope it provides.

You and I are living in a time almost like no other. A catastrophic pandemic has swept the world leaving death and ruin in its path. Some of God's people may be feeling as the children of Israel did in Zechariah's day: abandoned, lost, and frightened. Yet at the same time we know in our heart of hearts that even this dreadful disease is no match for the power of Almighty God. Isn't it encouraging to know that the God of Zechariah provides for us this practical, soul-restoring assurance of His presence and support for a troubled people during such troubled times?

Zechariah's Template

- 1. Address the Issues of the Heart.** Come before Him, confessing our doubts and sins to him.
- 2. Avail ourselves of God's comforting presence through:**
 - diligent prayer,
 - a daily reading of His word (especially the Gospels and Psalms),
 - where possible, the fellowship of other believers.
- 3. Know He is a God of Action.** Reacquaint ourselves with the promises of God as it pertains to His many assurances that He will never leave us or forsake us. (Heb. 13:5)
- 4. Look to the Future.** Study His Word to remind ourselves of what He has promised for the future. *“But, as it is written, ‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him’”* (1 Cor. 2:9, ESV) (the context is that He has revealed this to us by His Spirit - v 10).

The Lord of Hosts is perfect and unchangeable. He was faithful and true in the days of Zechariah, and so, too, He remains faithful to His Church during a fearful pandemic.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort” (2 Cor. 1:3). 📖



Born in Kirkland Lake, Ontario Nathanael was an elementary school teacher and principal for 29 years. Upon retirement in 2003 he and his wife, Joyce, moved to Peterborough where for three years they were hosts at Amicus House, a respite home for missionaries on furlough. They fellowship at Southdale Bible Chapel in London, Ontario. Nat has authored five books including *God of the Trees* (Everyday Publications) and *Visions of Eternity* (with his son, Joel Reed) (Gospel Folio Press).

by **Nathanael Reed**

JONAH

THE PROPHET WITH AN ATTITUDE

Introduction

Jonah has been called the wayward prophet. I would like to suggest that he is a prophet with an attitude! God gave him a clear command to do something and he did the exact opposite. Yet after chastening him, God, in grace and mercy, gave him a second chance. With that second chance, He did what the Lord commanded, but did it with an attitude. When God demonstrated His unfathomable mercy toward the people of Nineveh, Jonah got very angry with God and wanted to die.

The city of Gath Hopher in Lower Galilee was home for Jonah when he prophesied during the reign of King Jeroboam II (2 Ki. 14:25 - ca. 760 BC). The Lord told him to go in a northeast direction to the Assyrian city of Nineveh and cry against the inhabitants of that city because of their wickedness (Jon. 1:2). Instead, Jonah went in the opposite direction—southwest to the seaport of Joppa on the Mediterranean Sea. His intent was to flee from the presence of the Lord by going to Tarshish at the other end of the Mediterranean Sea.

While Jonah knew the Word of God he conveniently forgot, or ignored the words of a Davidic psalm: *“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea [like Tarshish], even there Your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me”* (Ps. 139:7-10; NKJV; brackets added by author).

God had to get the attention of His wayward, fleeing servant so He caused a great windstorm to almost sink the ship Jonah was aboard. When the captain and the crew discovered Jonah was running from his God, they inquired from Jonah what should be done to calm the sea. He matter-of-factly said that they should throw him overboard. Jonah acknowledged that the storm was used by the Lord as a tool to chasten him and to bring him back to the Lord (Prov. 3:11-12; cf. Heb. 12:3-13). Jonah, however, had been fast asleep in the bottom of the boat and did not want to be exercised by the chastening of the Lord (Jon. 1:5; cf. Heb. 12:11).

In the Belly of the Great Fish

God prepared a unique sea creature, simply called in the Hebrew text, a great fish (*dag gadol*). The Lord Jesus called it a “ketos” (Greek - Matt. 12:40). It was not a whale, but a special creature created by God that swallowed Jonah for His purposes.

After three days and three nights in the belly of the fish, Jonah finally came to his senses and prayed in faith to the Lord. His prayer was a psalm of thanksgiving that he composed with lines from a number of Davidic psalms (Jon. 2:2-9)¹.

This suggests that Jonah knew the Davidic psalms, and perhaps even had them memorized, so that in times of trouble

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ISSUES *and* ANSWERS

"Search The Scriptures..." John 5:39

Who were the Sons of God in Genesis Chapter 6?

This passage describes conditions on earth prior to the flood when the Lord determined that He was going to judge its inhabitants for their wickedness (Gen. 6:1-8). Verses 1-3 says, *"Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. And the LORD said, 'My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.'" (NKJV)*

There are two principal interpretations. First, that the sons of God were the godly male descendants of Seth, who intermarried with the female descendants of Cain. However, this is problematic for several reasons. First, it seems unlikely that all Seth's descendants were godly and all Cain's were wicked. Second, since chapters 4 and 5 detailed Cain and Seth's genealogies why wouldn't chapter 6 mention them by name as well? Third, verse 4 indicates that the Nephilim or giants were the offspring of these marriages. Why would the marriage of the wicked and the godly produce giants known for their mighty strength?


The more plausible explanation is the second view that they were angels who left their proper domain, coming down to earth and marrying the daughters of men, in direct opposition to God's creative order. Though it can also be used to refer to men, the term *"sons of God"* is sometimes used in scripture to refer to angels (Job 1:6; 38:4-7).

Jude's epistle is most likely referring to this incident when he says, *"And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."* (vv. 6-7, NKJV) He draws a similarity between God's judgment of these angels and His later judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah for their pride and sexual immorality. The word *"strange"* means of a different kind or nature. It is something that goes against

God's creative design. Both the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah and these sinning angels serve as examples, being judged by God for not keeping their proper domain and thus violating God's creative order.

The angels who participated in this sin were most likely a segment of the fallen angels (demons) that had earlier participated in Lucifer's rebellion in heaven against God. After being cast out of heaven these demons were free to roam around as well as visit earth. Some of them chose to add to their offense by participating in this wicked act. They are now kept in chains awaiting future judgment to the lake of fire (2 Pet. 2:4; Rev. 20). The rest of the demons who did not participate in this sin are still presently free to oppose God and His people until their future judgment.

Angels are spirits created by God (Psa. 104:4), to be uniquely different from humans. They can appear in human form but are not actually human. Therefore, it is likely that these fallen angels possessed willing human males, and it was through these human surrogates that they married women and produced children that were likely demon possessed themselves. Demons have always sought to inhabit bodies and we see them very active during Christ's time on earth.

God held these demons as well as humanity guilty for this sin. To prevent the total corruption of humanity, He judged these fallen angels by chaining them to the lowest part of hell while judging humanity with a world-wide flood and beginning over with Noah. 



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by George Ferrier

he could turn to them for comfort and encouragement. He also understood the principle that Solomon stated in his dedicatory prayer for the temple. In times of trouble, pray to the LORD in the temple in Jerusalem (Jon. 2:4, 7; cf. 2 Chron. 6:20-21).

The God of the Second Chance

After the great fish vomited up Jonah on dry ground, God appeared to Jonah a second time (3:1). He gave this wayward prophet a second chance to fulfill his commission. Jonah obeyed this time, but he still had an attitude. He proclaimed the message that God gave him, “*Yet forty days, and Nineveh will be overthrown!*” (3:4). God was merciful to the inhabitants of Nineveh and He withheld His judgment from them because they believed God (put their trust in Him) and turned from their wicked ways (3:5-10; cf. Matt. 12:41; Luke 11:32).

Jonah was extremely upset with God because he had prophesied that God was going to overthrow the city and he relished the thought of God nuking Nineveh. When he complained to the Lord in prayer he said: “*Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when I was in my country? Therefore, I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm*” (Jon. 4:2; NKJV).

Jonah understood these truths because the Lord had proclaimed them in Exodus 34:6-7. The first four attributes of the Lord—mercy, grace, longsuffering and goodness—were used by Jonah in his prayer. This suggests that Jonah knew the Torah as well. Yet he still had an attitude. He was angry because he did not want God to be God and show unmerited love and mercy to the Gentile world.

A Greater Than Jonah

The Lord Jesus, when confronted by religious leaders, was asked for a sign. He responded with the sign of Jonah being in the belly of the great fish for three days and three nights (Matt. 12:38-41; Luke 11:29-32). The sign of Jonah was a prophetic picture of the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. For the Ninevites, their faith in God led to their salvation. Jesus, referring to Himself, said that a greater than Jonah was here because believers in the Lord Jesus, like the inhabitants of Nineveh, should have been judged by God for their sins and wickedness, but God demonstrated His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Rom. 5:8). The Lord Jesus, unlike Jonah, had a different attitude toward the world around Him. He saw His mission as seeking and saving that which was lost (Luke 19:10) and giving His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45).


Life Lessons to be Learned from the Life of Jonah

There are at least four lessons we can learn from the life of Jonah. First, knowing the Word of God and its doctrines,

even memorizing the Scriptures, does not make one spiritual, or Spirit-filled. Jonah knew the Davidic psalms and also the Torah. He also knew the doctrine of God’s chastening of His wayward children. Yet he still had an attitude. The believer in the Lord Jesus needs to humbly submit to the Spirit of God and let Him use the Word of God to work in them (Heb. 4:12, 13; Ps. 119:11).

Second, when we sin and God disciplines us, we need to be exercised by that discipline. God chastens us to bring us back to His Word and Himself. Let us learn these lessons quickly so God does not have to severely scourge us, in His love (Heb. 12:3-13).

Third, Jonah had an exclusive view of missions. He thought God only loved the children of Israel and was reluctant to go to the Gentiles. This is in marked contrast to the Lord Jesus who said to Nicodemus: “*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*” (John 3:16; NKJV). Christians should see the world the same way the Lord does; people heading to a Christ-less eternity that we should seek to win to the Savior.

Finally, when we gather to worship the Lord Jesus at His Table, we do not come to remember our sins, nor our blessings, nor do we remember Jonah; but rather, we gather to remember a “*greater than Jonah*”—the Lord Jesus Christ. He was the One who, unlike Jonah, was obedient to the will of His Father. He was the One who died for our sins and was in the heart of the earth for three days and nights but rose triumphantly again from the dead. We should contemplate, like Jonah did, the Lord’s mercy, grace, longsuffering, and goodness because a greater than Jonah is in our midst (cf. Matt. 18:20). 

1. The lines of this psalm are taken from Davidic psalms (D); psalms of the Sons of Korah (K); psalms of Asaph (A); and unattributed psalms (U). Jonah 2:2a, cf. Psalm 3:4 (D); 120:1 (A); Jonah 2:2b, cf. Psalm 18:4, 5 (D); 30:3 (D); Jonah 2:3a, cf. Psalm 88:6, 7 (K); Jonah 2:3b, cf. Psalm 42:7 (K); Jonah 2:4a, cf. Psalm 31:22 (D); Jonah 2:4b, cf. Psalm 5:7 (D); Jonah 2:5a, cf. Psalm 69:1, 2 (D); Jonah 2:6b, cf. Psalm 49:15 (K); 56:13 (D); 103:4 (D); Jonah 2:7a, cf. Psalm 107:5 (U); 142:3 (D); Jonah 2:7b, cf. Psalm 18:6 (D); Jonah 2:8a, cf. Psalm 31:6 (D); Jonah 2:9a, cf. Psalm 50:14, 23 (A); 69:30 (D); 107:22 (?); Jonah 2:9c, cf. Psalm 3:8 (D); 37:39 (D).



Gordon Franz is a Bible teacher specializing in Biblical archaeology and geography. He has worked on numerous archaeological excavations in Israel and is in fellowship at Valley Bible Chapel in New Jersey.

by Gordon Franz

News & Notices



Hickory Knob Bible Conference

March 19-22, 2021

Hickory Knob State Resort Park
1591 Resort Dr., McCormick, SC 29835

Mr. Sam Thorpe will be the speaker for the conference that will begin Friday evening, March 19th, and end Sunday afternoon, March 21. Those who wish to participate in the full camping experience can plan to arrive on Friday, March 19 and depart Monday, March 22. Accommodation possibilities include bringing your tent, camper, or RV, or renting a cabin, bunkhouse, or lodge room. Contact Ms. Tracy Meehan (Hickory Knob) at 864-391-2454 or tmeehan@scprt.com for accommodations. For conference information contact Skip Elliott at 843.607.6990 or skip@elliottmarketingllc.com.

Men's Conference

Saturday March 20, 2021

Woodside Chapel in Fanwood, NJ & Online

Warren Henderson (Montana, USA) and Randy Hoffman (Ontario, CAN) will be the online speakers for a Men's conference hosted by Know the Word Ministries. It will be held in-person at the Woodside Chapel in Fanwood, NJ from 9:30AM-2:45PM on Saturday, March 20, 2021. To register, contact knowtheword@gmail.com and indicate whether attending in-person or online and to receive the Zoom link and password.

Tavistock Conference

Saturday April 10, 2021 • Online

10AM to 12NOON; 2PM to 4PM • This will be a virtual conference.

Details on connection link will be posted later on our news tab:

<https://cornerstonemagazine.org/news-and-notices/>

Speakers: Keith Keyser (Pennsylvania) - Authority and Reliability of the Bible. Harold Summers (British Columbia) - Elder's Responsibility to the Flock and the Flock's to the Elders.

"Authentic Faith" Youth Conference

Saturday April 17th and Sunday April 18th

Land O'Lakes Bible Chapel

1209 Livingston Road, Lutz, FL

All young people 13 years old and above are invited to attend the conference with the theme verse, "I am reminded of your authentic faith..." (2 Tim. 1:5, CEB). There will be two main and four breakout sessions during the weekend with Allan Dunlap from Dearborn, MI as the main speaker. Other gifted speakers have also been invited to minister the Word. Lunch will be provided and overnight accommodations are available. There is no cost to attend.

To register go to www.walkworthyweekend.com.

For more information please contact David Dunlap at daviddunlap100@gmail.com or 813-494-1680 or Edgard Carvalho at carvalhoeddie@gmail.com.

Ministry Opportunity

Full-time camp workers needed to serve at Camp Horizon in Central Florida. We are looking for couples or individuals with a heart to serve the Lord in Christian camp work. The positions are paid and provide housing. Interested candidates for maintenance or food service (this one could be part time) positions should contact Billy Skelton (Search Committee) at 352-536-3781 or doubleportion2@outlook.com.

Director of Resident Care (Senior Living Community) Pittsboro Christian Village

Pittsboro Christian Village (PCV) is seeking a Director of Resident Care to join our staff. PCV is a Senior Living Community in Pittsboro, NC. We have Independent Living Homes and Apartments, along with an Assisted Living Facility. The Director of Resident Care has the direct responsibility for the care of the Residents of our Assisted Living Facility. This person should have a heart for the elderly. For more information, contact Gerald Baker at gerald.baker@pcvnc.org or 919-542-3151.

A Bible Study Series for Deaf People and American Sign Language (ASL) Enthusiasts!

The Deaf Ministry at Land O' Lakes Bible Chapel in Florida is offering several eight-week Bible classes that will continue to be offered online (via ZOOM) for the rest of 2021.

For more information, please contact Brother Elias at eliasgoutoufas@gmail.com or David Dunlap at daviddunlap100@gmail.com or 813-494-1680.

We Want Your News & Notices!

Do you have a conference, event, or service opportunity you wish to advertise to print subscribers from across Canada and the United States, and to online readers on every continent?

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Submit online: cornerstonemagazine.org or by email: news@cornerstonemagazine.org

Low in the Grave He Lay

Low in the grave He lay—
Jesus my Savior!
Waiting the coming day—
Jesus my Lord!

*Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

Vainly they watch His bed—
Jesus, my Savior!
Vainly they seal the dead—
Jesus my Lord!

Refrain

Death cannot keep his prey—
Jesus, my Savior!
He tore the bars away—
Jesus my Lord!

Robert Lowry

