

EXALTING CHRIST · EQUIPPING BELIEVERS · EVANGELIZING THE WORLD

CORNERSTONE

SEPT - OCT 2022

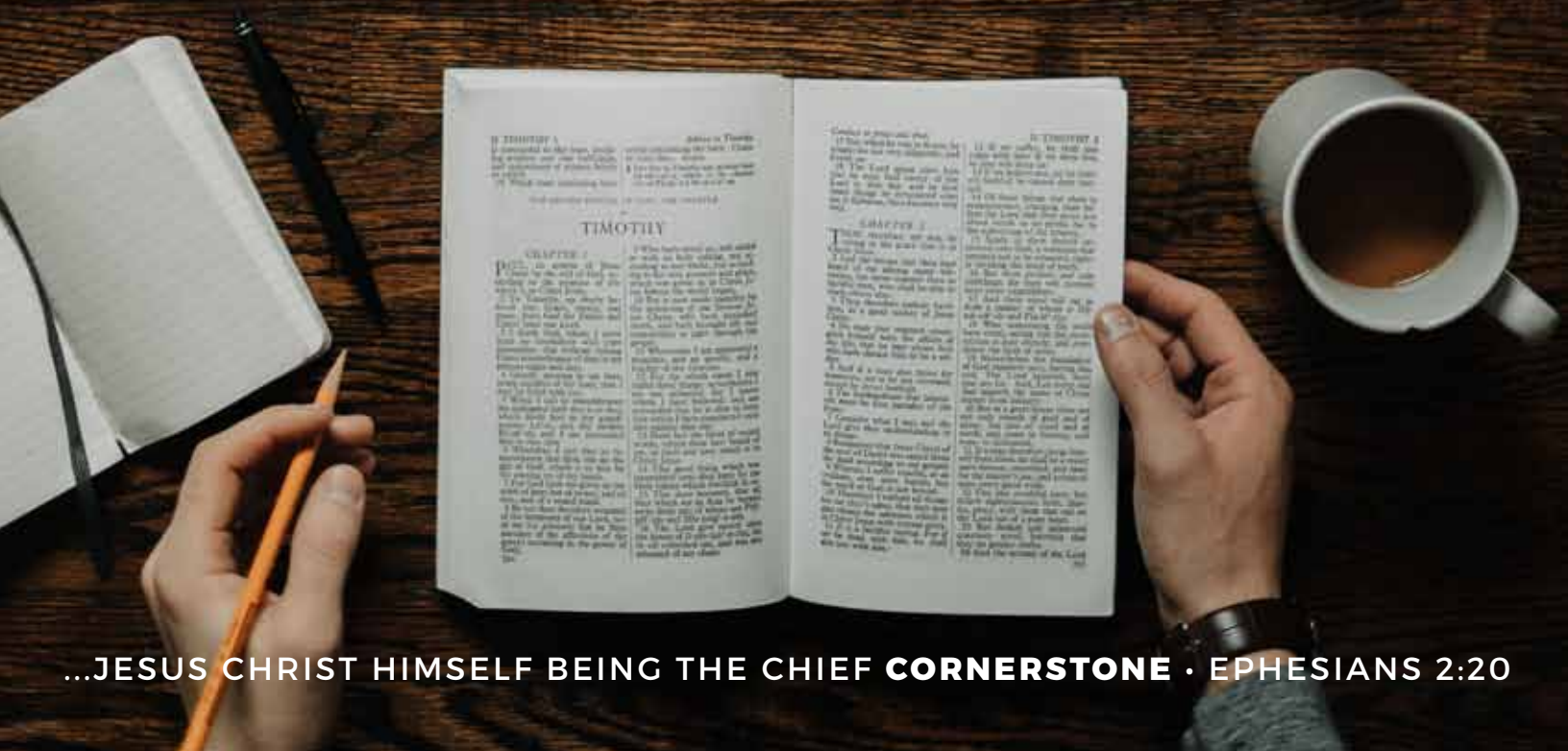
IN THIS ISSUE:

Worship: Emptied or Filled?

Restoration

My Experiences in Street Ministry

...and more



...JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE · EPHESIANS 2:20

It was King David who cried out, *“Help, LORD; for the Godly man ceases; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.”* (Ps. 12:1). A generation later, his son Solomon desperately proclaimed: *“But a faithful man who can find?”* (Prov. 20:6). And, when the Lord was instructing His disciples about future events, He gave this ominous prediction: *“...Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?”* (Luke 18:8). Faithfulness among God’s people has always been a problem—from before the time of David to the present day and will continue even until the time that the Lord returns to set up His kingdom. Faithfulness to God is hard to find! The amazing thing is that despite being reminded in Scripture and song of these words: *“great is thy faithfulness”* (Lam. 3:23), that He is *“faithful and just”* and *“a faithful Creator”* (1 Pet. 4:19) somehow, we find it hard to reciprocate.

The Example of Enoch, Joseph, and Daniel

Faithfulness to God is indeed a challenge, but certainly not impossible to attain. After all, the Lord has given us His promises and His power to live for Him. Some might say that it is too hard to maintain a vital testimony for the Lord in these dark days. But the example of Enoch who was faithful to the Lord should encourage us to think differently. He had a testimony that he pleased God despite the conditions that existed in his day. Joseph is another example of someone who was faithful to the Lord despite all that happened to him. Hated by his brethren, he was also tempted in private by Potiphar’s wife, and then thrown in prison by false accusation. From a human standpoint, Joseph could have easily “thrown in the towel.” But instead, he stayed faithful to the Lord without bitterness or resentment. Daniel was another hero of the faith who lived faithfully despite his surroundings. Though he lived in a foreign land, when he was commanded to partake of the king’s menu, he stood up for his convictions and did not yield to the prevailing culture. Yet, he still rose to the top but did so with a clear conscience before God. These and others were true heroes of the faith, who embraced the promises, and by their example challenge us to do better in our walk and witness.


The Example of Naboth

When it comes to commitment to the Lord, my mind always goes to the shining example of Naboth the Jezreelite, whose dedication to the Lord is recorded for us in 1 Kings 21. Owning a vineyard next to the palace of wicked King Ahab, he was approached by him to exchange it for a better vineyard (v. 2) or receive its value in money. What an opportunity, what a deal! It would mean a better piece of property than the one he had or payment from the king himself. Imagine

how that would have sounded to his family in years to come! But Naboth did not budge or negotiate a deal. He knew the law, that his inheritance should not change hands (Lev. 25:23; Num. 36:7). True to his convictions, he stood firm. If we were writing the story, we would make it a happy ending—rewarding the main character with riches and honor in abundance. But that is not how God’s Word has it. Instead, Ahab who sulked after his offer was rejected, was approached by his wife Jezebel, a person even more wicked than he. She concocted a plan to frame faithful Naboth, all under the guise of religious formality (v. 5–16; esp. 9). Unfortunately, the pattern of hypocrisy, manipulation, forgery, and the rest of the actions that comprised this charade are considered legitimate tools in the arsenal of those who do not fear the Lord. The result is that Naboth is murdered based on false testimony. Ahab’s attempt to obtain Naboth’s property, and Jezebel’s actions that secured it, are met by God’s answer to address this farce. But Heaven is not silent in these matters and divine retribution is surely in store for the parties involved for such a miscarriage of justice. It was the task given to Elijah, God’s man for the moment who did not mince words but told it like it was. He was not worried about being accused of “hate speech”! Ahab would suffer the consequences for his actions and so would Jezebel, even more so (1 Kings 22) as will everyone whose actions are contrary to God’s Word.

Our Example?

Where is this all leading? Well, here it is—what is our example in the world that continues to reject the Lord and His Word? Are we willing to stand firm in our witness for Christ or will we shift our stance? Will we set our face as a flint and stay the course, saying in the words of the psalmist: *“My heart is fixed O God; my heart is fixed”* (Ps. 57:7) or will we cave in to the culture?

Let us be sure that we do not cast away our confidence which has great reward (in God’s time), and let us remain unmoved in our faithfulness to the Lord. 



Mark has served as editor for Cornerstone Magazine since 2018. In addition to these duties, Mark travels throughout the US and Canada in a Bible-teaching and conference speaking ministry. He also heads up Know the Word Ministries Inc., located on the web at knowtheword.com. He and his wife Cindy were commended to the Lord’s work in 1993 from Bethany Bible Chapel in Toms River, NJ.

by Mark Kolchin

Editor: Mark Kolchin, mkolchin@cornerstonemagazine.org
Assistant Editor: George Ferrier, gferrier@cornerstonemagazine.org

Editorial Committee: Mark Kolchin, New Jersey, USA
 David Dunlap, Florida, USA
 George Ferrier, Ontario, Canada
 Brian Gunning, Ontario, Canada
 P. T. Tan, Maryland, USA

Advisory Council: Fred Schwertfeger (USA)
 James Comte (Canada)

Donations: For **U.S.** donors: please send gifts to
 Cornerstone Magazine Inc.
 PO Box 690096, Charlotte, NC 28227 USA
 For **Canadian** donors: please send gifts to
 Cornerstone Magazine Trust
 PO Box 246, Waterford, ON, NOE 1Y0
 For **online** donations, please go to:
www.cornerstonemagazine.org

For address changes or new subscriptions:
subscriptions@cornerstonemagazine.org

Design and Layout: Danielle Robins

Website Design: Matt Williams, Louise Street Marketing

Treasurer: Eileen Lee (USA) · George Ferrier (Canada)

Purpose: Cornerstone Magazine seeks to build up and encourage the Lord's people by publishing Bible teaching articles and reports of the Lord's work. Its aim is to present truth in words that are easy to understand in regard to the person of Christ, His church, and evangelism. 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.

Copyright: Cornerstone Magazine is copyrighted only to preserve the integrity of the material. All rights reserved. Articles may be translated into other languages and used in English periodicals, provided no changes are made to the sense of the article, while showing a credit line "— Cornerstone Magazine". Sorry, unsolicited manuscripts cannot be acknowledged or returned. Printed in USA.

Donations: Cornerstone Magazine is jointly published by Cornerstone Magazine, Inc., an United States Internal Revenue Service 501(c)3 tax-exempt non-profit corporation, and Cornerstone Magazine Trust, a charitable trust registered with Canada Revenue Agency. Cornerstone Magazine is dependent upon the Lord to provide for its needs. It is freely sent upon request, as the Lord enables. No subscription fees are charged. Cornerstone Magazine is supported by those who appreciate the aims and the work of this ministry. All donations are tax deductible in accordance to law. All funds received are used towards the ministry of Cornerstone Magazine. We are thankful to all who practically support the work of Cornerstone Magazine.

Table of Contents

- 2 Worship: Emptied or Filled?
Brian Gunning
- 4 Restoration
Rick Morse
- 6 Come & Hear: My Experiences
in Street Ministry
Joseph Frimpong
- 8 Report: Whatever is Going on
in the New Middle East?
Richard Strout
- 10 Foundations of the Faith:
Support for the Servants
of the Lord
Bruce Hulshizer
- 12 The Reasonableness of God
Warren Henderson
- 14 Voices from the Past:
"What is That in Thine Hand?"
William J. Hocking
- 15 Issues & Answers
George Ferrier
- 16 News & Notices

www.cornerstonemagazine.org

Israel is not the church, and the church is not Israel. But Scripture gives the church warrant to learn from Israel. For example, Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 10:

Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted (v. 6)... Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come (v. 11). Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall (v. 12).

And there are many other parallels between Israel and the present-day life of the Christian. One of these parallels is worship. The church can learn a great deal from Israel's worship from the Lord's instructions given to the nation on how they would approach God. Consider one such example. In Exodus 23 Israel was given instructions in keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread. One of those instructions was that "none shall appear before Me empty."

You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread (you shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt; none shall appear before Me empty)... (v. 15)

No self-respecting Israelite would dare to come before the Lord "empty." I wonder how many times I have appeared before the Lord empty as we meet to remember Him on a Sunday morning. The many silences indicate this problem is more widespread that we would like to admit.

Modern day worship in the church is quite different from what Scripture teaches. In many churches today, the worshippers attend with an expectation that the specialists of the worship teams will lead the congregation in worship and hopefully produce a worshipful atmosphere or feeling. But is that what Scripture teaches?

This is not a new development in church history. In fact, it is a return to a dark period of church history. Scott Aniol writes in a paper entitled "Return to Rome? The Need for a Modern Worship Reformation" delivered to the 2020 Chafer Theological Seminary Bible Conference, March 10, 2020:

Medieval worship also developed the error of sacerdotalism, the belief in the necessity of a human priest to approach God on the behalf of others. As a result of the drastic increase of church attendance in the fourth century, a strict distinction between clergy and laity had developed wherein the clergy did not trust the illiterate, uneducated masses to worship God appropriately on their own. Thus, the clergy offered "perfected" worship on behalf of the people. The pronouncement by the Council of Laodicea in 363 illustrates this: "No others shall sing in the church, save only the canonical singers, who go up into the ambo and sing from a book." While this was a local council, it illustrates what became common among most churches in the Middle Ages. The quality of worship became measured by the excellence of the music and the aesthetic beauty of

WORSHIP

EMPTIED OR FILLED?



the liturgy, and while this facilitated the production of some quite beautiful sacred music during the period, it resulted in “worship” becoming mostly what the priests did in the chancel, which eventually was often distinctly separated from the nave by high rails or even a screen. This clergy/laity separation was only exacerbated by the continued use of Latin as the liturgical language despite the fact that increasing numbers of people did not understand the language. By the end of the fourteenth century, members of the congregation rarely participated in the Lord’s Supper, and even when they did, the cup was withheld from them lest some of Christ’s blood sprinkle on the unclean. Roman worship had moved from the “work of the people” (leitourgia) to the work of the clergy. As even Roman Catholic liturgical scholar Joseph Jungmann notes, “the people were devout and came to worship; but even when they were present at worship, it was still clerical worship... The people were not much more than spectators. This resulted largely from the strangeness of the language which was, and remained, Latin... The people have become dumb.” The people became mere spectators of the worship performed by priests on their behalf.

Biblical worship requires that each worshipper come prepared to worship. Hearts and heads are to be full, not empty. In Israel, the worshipper would come with an offering. Such offerings were obtained through work. The rearing of the animal, the growing of the wheat, or in some cases the exchange of hard-earned money to obtain something to offer. In other words, their worship took work. Likewise, in the church age we too are called to worship and bring something. And it will take work. How then can we come full instead of empty? Here are some suggestions.

The content of our worship is already provided for us in our Bibles. In practical terms, to be a worshipper, is to bring before the Lord what He has already stated to be true about His Son in Scripture. Therefore, a prepared worshipper comes by meditating on what the Scriptures say about the Lord Jesus Christ and brings that out in prayer and meditation as believers gather together. The Scriptures are our source of worship material. Notice Luke’s observation: *“And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”* (v. 27).


As we read through all of Scripture, both Old and New Testament, we are presented with more than enough to occupy ourselves with worship. For example, we might notice various typological examples of Christ in the offerings and tabernacle. Or we could think about statements made about Him prophetically in the Messianic Psalms. Consult

a good study Bible which will identify those Psalms. You could notice the many references in the prophets about Christ. We can notice the direct statements made by the gospel writers and continue through the epistles ending with the “Revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Stopping to observe these statements to think and meditate on them, and if opportunity arises to audibly share these with fellow believers on a Sunday morning will equip us and fill us up as worshippers. We will not be empty. Another way of preparing for worship is to spend time reading through various hymns of worship. It is a good investment for a Christian to obtain a personal copy of the hymnbook used in your assembly for worship, so it is available to you throughout the week. Many hymnwriters capture in a beautiful way the truths of Scripture concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. It will enable us to inform ourselves and to fill up our baskets of worship. These things need to be intentionally scheduled and not left to chance opportunity. A habit of preparing for worship on a Saturday night or early Sunday morning or periodically throughout the week will prepare us to be worshippers.

But all of this, although within the grasp of every believer, will take work. Just as an Israelite in the ancient world would have to work in rearing his flock or growing his harvest—planting, feeding, cleaning, harvesting, and many other forms of work—so likewise this process of preparing for worship will take work. But what a reward this work will give us.

Are we empty worshippers? “Empty worshippers” is a contradictory expression. If we are “empty,” then we are not worshippers. If we are worshippers, then we are not “empty.”

The modern church often has church staff who are charged with the responsibility to bring the worship. The congregants attend with the expectation the worship team will bring a beautiful worship experience. But often in assemblies there are only a handful who are prepared to be true worshippers. It is easy to sit back and come simply expecting them to do all the work. 

WORSHIP TAKES WORK.



Brian Gunning is married to Marlene and they have four children and nine grandchildren. They make their home in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. Brian is a self employed accountant. He came to know the Lord at the age of seven and has been in fellowship at Brockview Bible Chapel since his early teens. He currently is an elder in that assembly. In addition to itinerant preaching he is on the boards of the Ontario Workers and Elders Conference, Gospel Folio Press Trust, Bible Conference Corporation and Cornerstone Magazine Inc.

by **Brian Gunning**



Restoration

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.” Galatians 6:1

During our short sojourn on this earth, there are several ongoing tasks which our God has entrusted to us. In His infinite wisdom, He leads us to the place of His choosing in His vineyard, and then both equips and enables us to do the work He calls us to do. Perhaps second only to the work of evangelism in importance, is the task of seeking those among God’s own people who have gone astray, and to see them restored to fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Principle of Restoration

Luke 15 gives us three very poignant accounts of restoration. In complete harmony with the blessed truth, we know as the eternal security of each Christian, we can readily observe that the sheep were still sheep, the coin was still a coin, and the son was still a son. They had each gone missing under different circumstances, but none of them ceased to be what they were. They were only lost in terms of their being away from their proper place, which is key to our understanding of Luke 15.

Whether any of us are carelessly lost (the sheep), hopelessly lost (the coin), or willfully lost (the son), we can take steadfast comfort in knowing that there is always One Who is looking for our restoration. He knows our frame, that we are but dust. And as the sparks fly upward, He knows that every human is few of days and full of troubles. So, whether the sparks are flying upwards, or we are degrading ourselves downwards, His omniscience never loses sight of us for one second... never. And it is only because of this truth that the principle of restoration exists. Without our Good Shepherd’s ever-watchful ambition in seeking our restoration, there would be no hope.

The Possibility for Restoration

On the night our Lord was betrayed, His disciples had accompanied Him to Gethsemane. No doubt their heads were spinning with all the information He had explained to them in the Upper Room. They had watched Judas depart to betray Him. They had participated in the institution of the Lord’s Supper. They had heard—if not fully understood—that He was about to leave and return to the Father. And as they witnessed His prayerful agony in the garden, the sound of approaching soldiers grew louder. In the heat of the moment, and at the height of their fear, we read that they all forsook Him and fled. So much for their trumpeted bravado only a few hours earlier!

Where they each ran or how far we are not told, and John is also included as a deserter in the word “all” which both Matthew and Mark use. We understand something of John’s humble disposition, as it was, he who had asked earlier “*Is it I, Lord?*” when they were told by our Lord that a traitor was in their midst. The following day, John describes himself as “*the disciple whom Jesus loved*” as he commonly did, while observing our Lord’s crucifixion at the foot of the cross. We do not know how far he ran the night before, but there was essentially only one step back to the Lord’s loving Presence. Beloved, we can be sure that no matter how far we roam or how low we sink, one step of repentance gives us the firm assurance that He loves us and welcomes us. Restoration is always possible, with no exceptions.

The Potential for Restoration

The great potential for restoration lies in His manifold wisdom. Paul assured the Philippian Christians that “*He Who hath begun a good work in you, will perform it unto the day of Jesus Christ*” (Phil 1:6). This work will eventually see that we

ration

are conformed to His own image, a purpose to which He has predestined every believer. During our time here, we can be willing or unwilling participants in this transformation, but it is indeed His work, and He will complete it.


How He works towards our restoration is a wondrous marvel in itself. Many of us can testify of those dry periods of our lives, where He worked through the many circumstances of life to remind us of His care for us. The ways and means He has used are far too numerous to mention, and well outside the realm of mere coincidence. He leaves us no doubt that He is speaking to us about our situation, and that the potential for restoration exists. Zechariah 10:6 gives us a thorough and very lovely description of restoration from God's viewpoint, in relation to His people Israel: *"And I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again to place them: for I have mercy upon them: and they shall be as though I had not cast them off: for I am the LORD their God and will hear them."*

The People of Restoration

Perhaps the greatest wonder is that He very often uses people—everyday Christians whom we know—to speak to us about our condition and His yearning for our return. We know this requires great wisdom, utmost humility, spiritual courage, and an investment of the whole person to do this work. It is little wonder that He entrusts this work to "ye which are spiritual." Although this is not soul winning as we know it, it certainly is soul rescuing; and it surely requires a similar measure of wisdom such as we read about in Proverbs 11:30.

Most of us know something of what it means to walk as spiritual men and women in trusting obedience. We know

that walking in fellowship with our Savior involves keeping short accounts about unconfessed sin, and daily contact with Him through prayer and reading the Scriptures. We also know where we can go to ask for wisdom and help in the times of our own troubles, or during the times of another's troubles. In short, there are no lack of resources available to us.

The real question is, do we care enough to be willing instruments of restoration in the Master's hands? Each of us can only answer that for ourselves in His Presence. By His ever-enabling grace, may He equip someone who is reading this article to seek the restoration of a brother or sister who has gone astray. And may you take joy in knowing that the Lord Himself will be working with you, with the warm smile of His approval upon you—yes, you!—for undertaking this most needful task. May He bless each one of us as we consider these things. 



Rick Morse lives in Berwick, Nova Scotia with Janie, his wife of 40 years. They fellowship at Bethany Gospel Chapel in Dartmouth, NS. Saved at age 21, he is active in his home assembly and frequently ministers in many assemblies in Atlantic Canada. Rick's speaking and written ministry centers on love for apologetics and earnestly contending for the faith once delivered to the saints.

by Rick Morse

MY EXPERIENCES

Preaching ON THE Streets



"COME AND HEAR, ALL YOU WHO FEAR GOD,
AND I WILL DECLARE WHAT HE HAS DONE
FOR MY SOUL."
PSALM 66:16

COME & HEAR

Introduction to Street Ministry

Shortly after I was saved in May 1991, a friend who led me to Christ took me to nightly gospel meetings conducted by Mr. Harold Paisley at Rexdale Gospel Hall. It was there that I learned that several believers from different gospel halls met at various locations on Friday nights and Saturday mornings to preach the Gospel on the streets of Toronto. This outreach occurred during the spring and summer months. Even though I was newly saved, I quickly became interested and joined them at the Yonge & Eglinton Square (Y.E.S.) location. It was often difficult to finish work in Mississauga and get there by 6:30 pm to prepare by praying, briefing, and sorting out gospel tracts before preaching at 7:00 pm. I participated in this outreach from 1991 until I was commended to the Lord's work in Ghana in 2002. During this time, I witnessed the Lord's amazing power at work in many situations. These experiences solidified and prepared me for the Lord's work in Ghana.

Encounter with "Satanists"

When I first joined the group at Y.E.S., there were several believers coming out each week from Eglinton Avenue Gospel Hall, but as years went by and the Hall dwindled in number, there were not many coming out anymore, except for one older man. Sadly, he was hit by a car while he was on his way to preach at Y.E.S., his hands and coat pockets filled with gospel tracts. He died a few days later and it was very hard for us to attend his funeral. After he died, I was mostly there by myself.

It was always windy at Y.E.S. due to the tall office buildings. One evening while I was preaching and handing out gospel

tracts to those passing by on the streets, a group of young men and women numbering about seven came and stood there, listening to the message. They were all dressed in black with hoods, chains, and spiked/studded leather jackets. Their leader introduced the group, telling me that they were "Satanist" who worshipped "the god of dreams." According to them, anyone who dreamed while sleeping worships their powerful god. I told them that they were deceived by the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4), who is the father of lies (John 8:44). I offered them gospel tracts; they took them, but their leader told them not to read the tracts. He decided to burn the tracts in front of everyone there. He tried several times, but his cigarette lighter would not work. He tossed it out, and he got another lighter from another one in their group, and suddenly, a strong wind began to blow. He tried, and tried to light the tracts, but it still would not work. Suddenly, out of frustration, he took off and the rest of the group followed him. Obviously, I was relieved as I sensed the presence and power of God knowing that they were more in number than me.

Encounter with Mr. Fool

Friday nights were known as nights of pleasure for many on Yonge Street. On one such night, a group of older men and women came by Y.E.S. where I was preaching. They stood for a while listening and then I offered them gospel tracts to take with them. Among them was a man who began talking with me, asking me to literally point to the God that I was preaching about, so that he could talk to Him in person like he was talking with me. He was speaking so loudly that everyone there could hear him. He went on further to


state that God does not exist and that we are all a product of evolution. Judging by his choice of words, I sensed that he was well educated and more knowledgeable about evolution than me. However, I was not there to debate him, but to preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified (1 Cor. 2:2).

I quickly sent an emergency prayer to heaven, and I believe the Lord heard and answered me immediately. I quickly told him that the God he did not believe exists is the Creator of the universe, and He also created all of us, and He knows each one of us by name. In fact, He has all our names written in His Book, the Bible, if he would care to look at his name. He asked if I knew His name and I answered, "No, I do not know your name, but God does." He said to me, "You mean my name is in the Bible?" I answered him, "Yes" and I quickly opened my Bible to Psalm 14:1 and offered it to him to read. He took the Bible from my hands, and I asked him to read it aloud so that everyone there could hear his name, which he proceeded to do. He read, "*The fool has said in his heart, there is no God...*" After he read it, I said to him, "That's you, Mr. Fool!" He, along with everyone there started to laugh and some of the people there began calling him, "Mr. Fool..." He quickly gave me back my Bible and took off, and the rest of the group followed him.

Encouragement from a Christian lady

One night, after a difficult night preaching at Y.E.S., I got home past midnight. When I got home, there was a message left on my answering machine by a Christian lady who did

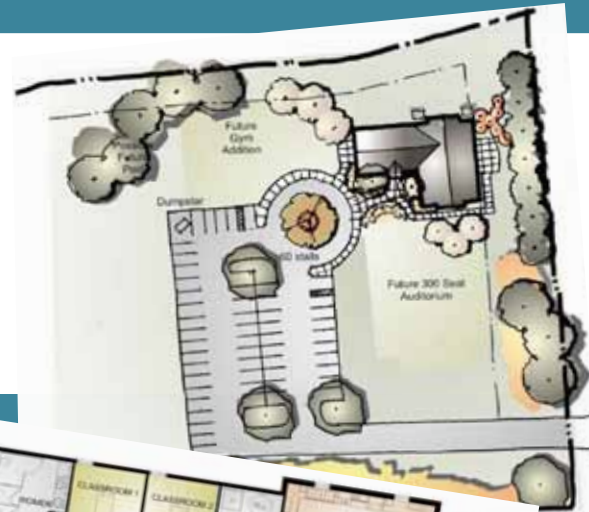
not want to be identified. I could tell from her voice that she was crying when she left the message. The message she left on my machine went like this, "Hello, Joseph. I just want to tell you that the Lord has answered my many years of praying for my husband tonight through you. I am not going into details. I just wanted to tell you this to encourage you to keep on preaching the Gospel. I am praying for you, Joseph." She then ended her message. Obviously, she must have gotten my phone number from the back of the gospel tracts I was handing out as I had stamped my contact details on the back of each gospel tract. I had no idea about her husband's spiritual condition—he could have been saved or restored to the Lord that night. Only eternity will tell!

What has been your experience witnessing for the Lord Jesus Christ? 



Joseph was commended by the believers at Shoreacres Bible Chapel (Burlington, ON, Canada) and has served the Lord in Ghana as a missionary since 2002. Joseph and Heather have three children (Emma, Jesse, and Hannah) and currently live in Burlington, ON.

by Joseph Frimpong



Since 1945, Stewards Foundation has loaned over \$108,000,000 for the purchase, construction and renovation of assembly facilities across the United States.

Unlike most commercial lenders, our loans require no personal guarantees, no application fees, or prepayment penalties, and we do not charge late payment penalties.

Contact us if your assembly is considering a project. Let us answer questions that will help your assembly prepare for a building purchase or construction project. We are ready to help!



Report: Whatever is Going on in the New Middle East?

Not all that long ago, readers of the magazine *Israel My Glory* were introduced to a different nomenclature, “A New Middle East.” The changes taking place in that part of the world are truly remarkable. By no means the least of these are several recent historic peace agreements with the surrounding Arab nations. These follow earlier ones established with Egypt and Jordan.

The ultimate answer to the querying title of this article is simply, the same old, same old. As the title itself suggests, what is going on today in the Middle East has ever and always been going on in that part of the world.

The cosmic battle between God and Satan, between good and evil, began and continues to this day in the New Middle East as it does throughout all of God’s creation.

It was in the Garden of Eden that God, speaking directly to Satan, said in the hearing of our first parents, guilty of disobedience: *“I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her Seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel”* (Gen. 3:15).

Referring to a yet earlier time and event, God said with reference to Satan: *“You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, until iniquity was found in you... Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground”* (Eze. 28:15-17).

We refer to these events as the Fall, that of mankind, recounted in Genesis 3, preceded by that of Satan, referred to in Ezekiel 28.

Though Satan remains powerful as *“the prince of the power of the air”* (Eph. 2:2) and *“the god of this world”* (2 Cor. 4:4), his ultimate fall is certain (Rev. 12:9). Even now, he is a defeated enemy according to Luke 10:17-19—*“The seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.’ And He said to them, ‘I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you authority to trample on serpents, scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you’”* (Luke 10:17-19).

The battle between the descendants of Isaac and those of Ishmael began long ago and continues today in the New Middle East.

Briefly put, we see the beginnings of today’s Middle Eastern conflict as far back as the book of Genesis where we read,

“And God said unto Abraham, ‘Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of Ishmael... for in Isaac shall thy seed be called’ (Gen. 21:12). Again, *“I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession”* (Gen. 17:8). And again, *“To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates”* (Gen. 15:18). God’s promise or covenant is an everlasting one, still in force today.

As for modern-day Israel, the descendants of Abraham through Isaac, the chosen seed, then through Jacob renamed Israel (Gen. 32:28) God is keeping His promise, carrying out His plan.

On December 11, 1917, General Edmund Allenby, commander of Britain’s “Egyptian Expeditionary Force” and a born-again believer, entered Jerusalem on foot, ending four-hundred years (1517-1917) of rule by the Ottoman Turks and 1800+ years of Jewish exile from their Promised Land. Jerusalem was liberated and soon to be in British hands. This followed on the heels of the Balfour Declaration of the previous month, a letter from the British Foreign Secretary favoring the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

Five years later, in 1922, the British Mandate issued by the League of Nations established British administration over the territories of Palestine and Transjordan, both of which had been conceded by the Ottoman Empire at the end of World War I. This mandate was in force from September 29, 1923 to May 15, 1948 at which time Israel declared herself a nation, reborn after nearly 2000 years.

These were by no means isolated, disconnected incidents as one can learn from reading Jonathan Cahn’s “The Oracle.”¹ In his book he convincingly argues for the case that many of these events can be seen as happening in Jewish Jubilee years. These are special, recurring 50-year time periods when a man’s possessions and heritage lands would be returned to him (see Lev. 25-27).

Fifty years before the Balfour Declaration, in 1867, well-known author, Mark Twain, toured Europe and the Holy Land together with a group of American travelers. The excursion was billed as a Holy Land expedition. Twain’s travelogue, “Innocents Abroad,” was published two years

later, becoming the best-selling of all his works during his lifetime. It sometimes appeared with the subtitle “The New Pilgrim’s Progress.” The book focused readers’ attention on the Middle East and Palestine as never before.

The year 1867 also witnessed the very first archaeological excavation in the City of David and the discovery of Warren’s Shaft, a vertical column descending to the Gihon Spring. This was the main source of water for Bronze/Iron Age Jerusalem, and the selfsame shaft up which David’s valiant men climbed to take the city from the Jebusites according to 1 Chronicles 11:4-7. The shaft connects to Hezekiah’s Tunnel, another of the must-see sights when visiting Israel. Both testify to the accuracy of the biblical account of Israel’s existence and history.

today we are prone to criticize Israel, what would we have said if we had been alive back then? We might do well to heed the warning expressed by Gamaliel, “*If it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God*” (Acts 5:39)

What ON EARTH is ever going on in the NEW Middle East?


God is sovereign! He is preparing and positioning Israel for her promised restoration. Satan, as ever, is doing his utmost to counter the divine work. As for you and me, instead of joining those who would “defund Israel” or otherwise oppose her, we must “*pray for the peace of Jerusalem*” (Ps. 122:6,7). And what exactly is that peace for which we pray? Nothing less than Israel’s ultimate acceptance of Christ their Messiah as intimated by the words of our Lord: “*And when*



Fifty years after the Balfour Declaration would bring us to the Six Day War of 1967, another Jubilee year. Land acquisitions as the result of this and the Yom Kippur War of 1973 are nothing more nor less than the fulfillment of God’s promise to Abraham and his seed. While the Palestinians have never and perhaps never will accept a peace plan with Israel, one thing is certain—Satan never will! And now we’ve come full circle. It is he who animates, and ever has since creation, all those who oppose God’s plans including those for His Chosen People in the New Middle East.

By the way, President Donald Trump issued a statement acknowledging the obvious, that Jerusalem is Israel’s capital. That was on December 6, 2017, another Jubilee year! Coincidental? One would hardly think so! Two years later, the United States embassy was, at long last, relocated to Jerusalem the Golden.

To those who may object to the apparent injustices committed by Israel against the Palestinians, and these may well exist, what about the “injustices” for which God Himself called and approved in Old Testament times? If

he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, if thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes” (Luke 19:41–42). 

Endnotes:

1. Jonathan Cahn, *The Oracle: The Jubilean Mysteries Unveiled*. Frontline 2019.



Richard Strout and his wife Virginia reside in Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada, where they have lived since being commended in 1970 by assemblies in the US to work among French Canadians. He is currently a teaching elder at Grace Chapel, Sherbrooke. The couple have four children, 14 grands and 4 great-grandchildren.

by Richard Strout

FOUNDATIONS

SUPPORT FOR THE SERVANTS OF THE LORD

Since the time of the early Church, saints have had difficulty being alert to participating in the work of the Lord and supporting His workers. Paul says that only the Philippian assembly gave financially to provide for his practical needs as he went forward with the gospel (Phil. 4:10-20). Other saints and assemblies were dull to this opportunity to be part of God at work. The Philippian believers had interest and it showed in their investment in Paul's labors. This action came from having hearts engaged in the gospel, being active participants in the gospel themselves (Phil. 1:5).

The Lord is interested today in people being saved through the gospel and being gathered into local assemblies. This is the work God is doing as seen in Paul's first missionary journey (Acts 13-14). We should share the Lord's interest and have His priorities be our priorities. If the Lord reviewed your life, would there be demonstrated proof that you have these as your priorities?

For the gospel to go forward, for new assemblies to develop, and for local assemblies to be healthy, saints need to invest in the work and its workers. Do we share this vision and enthusiasm, or has it waned? How about me personally? My family? My local assembly? May the Lord reinvigorate it!

We invest in what we find valuable.

Lack of investment shows lack of conviction of something's value. Over the last five years, what sacrifice is in your life that shows you long for the gospel and assemblies to go forward for the glory of Christ? How much have you invested personally and financially? When were you last on the front lines of a gospel effort? How much does your local assembly invest financially in this work and its workers? What practical decisions have you made so you are able and available to be part of and support the Lord's work?

We are to send workers forward in the Lord's work in a manner worthy of God.

Some saints have gone out carrying the gospel, trusting the Lord to provide for their needs like Paul did. They have the same costs in life as all of us, plus additional expenses for travel and ministering, such as publishing materials, having meals with souls to whom they are ministering, or hosting events. We are called to participate in their labors by helping them forward. As we know, life in many parts of North America is expensive. If a worker received a five hundred dollar gift every week, the worker would have about \$25,000 for the year before income taxes to provide for his family, home, utilities, vehicles, taxes, insurances, food, children's education, medical expenses as well as ministry expenses. Is this support worthy of God?

Do we only give to a person when they teach our assembly? Should we not give to those who are on the front lines seeking to forward the gospel and pioneer for the Lord? If they must invest time to earn money, they have less time for proclaiming the gospel, meeting with people, developing teaching materials, and many other efforts in the Lord's work. Do we see this work as valuable? If so, we will invest in it individually and corporately.

Alertness to others' needs is difficult for us naturally.

However, The Holy Spirit in us can stir up this alertness. Further, we are told to think about one another to see how we can stimulate one another to love and works that bless (Heb. 10:24). May we imitate the Philippians who perceived Paul's needs from many miles away and sent a valuable brother in their assembly to encourage Paul, as well as provide practical and financial help.

May our love and labor in Christ be stirred up! It is a wonderful joy to serve the One who loved us and gave Himself for us. May we be more alert to His present working! How good it is to be active participants in the work of God! Who are we to have such a privilege? What grace!

Could we be more alert to participating in and giving to the Lord's work?

Have I been willing to take risk and invest time to help gospel and assembly-building efforts? How much have I given to saints laboring to carry the gospel forward and

build up assemblies? Do I expect people to spiritually serve me at no cost to me? Do I try to get Christian materials at discounted costs, rather than give to the saints laboring to make the materials? When did I last give to a ministry which has been a spiritual help to me or someone I love?


AND LET US CONSIDER
one another
IN ORDER TO STIR UP
love and good works,
NOT FORSAKING THE
ASSEMBLING OF
ourselves together,
AS IS THE MANNER OF SOME,
but exhorting one another,
AND SO MUCH THE MORE
AS YOU SEE THE DAY
APPROACHING.
HEBREWS 10:24-25

Oh, to be more alert to the Lord's work and more invested in seeing the gospel go forward and assemblies built up for the glory of the Lord Jesus! May our spiritual alertness show in real ways. May we not love in word only, but also in action. May our Father in heaven help us to think beyond our own personal circumstances. May our eyes see as God sees, and thus invest cheerfully and lavishly in the Lord's interests today. What work or worker does the Lord want you to start participating in personally or giving to help forward? In what way does He want you to personally serve to help an assembly develop well for the glory of Christ? What front-lines gospel labor can you sacrificially join by God's grace? [!\[\]\(4b7a79268f6ba26c1471d4232fffa85a_img.jpg\)](#)



Bruce Hulshizer is active in shepherding, hospitality, ministering to college students, camp directing at Greenwood Hills, managing the Saints Serving music ministry and itinerant Bible teaching. He and his wife Amie fellowship at their commending assembly, Mechanicsburg Christian Fellowship, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

by Bruce Hulshizer



The REASONABLENESS of God

Some view Christians as being brainless zombies who simply believe whatever their religious authorities tell them. While this observation may characterize Christendom as a humanized form, the Bible encourages people to diligently seek understanding and commends those who do: *“The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge”* (Prov. 18:15).

Biblical Christianity is not a set of systematized teachings per se, but rather it is the opportunity to experience union with Jesus Christ. Oneness with Christ secures eternal life and affords the believer an opportunity to enjoy a life that is meaningful and pleasing to God (Luke 9:23-26). The main distinction between biblical Christianity and world religions is that it teaches a vital need to be saved from spiritual death by solely trusting in a Savior, whereas the world’s religions present a system of doings to merit salvation, to improve one’s spirituality, or to obtain a good afterlife. Biblical Christianity, however, is not a religion; it is a relationship with Jesus Christ. Apart from Christ, there is no forgiveness of sins, no life, and no hope.

Exercising Reason

Biblical faith is not blind belief as some skeptics claim. On the contrary, the Bible challenges its readers to test and reason out Scripture. *“Test all things; hold fast what is good”* (1 Thess. 5:21). Biblical Christianity has this distinction over the religious movements of the world—the seeker is

challenged to test Scripture to validate its truthfulness (Acts 17:11). Religion imposes propaganda without permitting an opportunity to validate its reliability against available evidence. God knows man will only faithfully live out that which he has first proven to be true.

Despite what some think, Bible-believing Christians have not been hoodwinked by religious nonsense. If individuals will put aside preconceived notions and intellectual bias to examine the evidence, there is more than sufficient cause to believe that biblical Christianity is a rational choice. To arrive at this conclusion, three assertions must be affirmed: First, there is a knowable supernatural presence. Second, there is only one holy God, who exists beyond the observable. Third, the Bible is God’s exclusive and accurate revelation to humanity and must be believed to enter into a right relationship with Him.

If these assertions are valid, then every individual is understood to have an inherited fallen nature which ensures that no one can behave perfectly, as God demands. The only solution the Bible offers man for falling short of God’s perfect standard of behavior is to recognize our need (sin) and accept God’s only solution, Jesus Christ as Savior (Heb. 2:9; 1 John 2:2). In so doing, we receive a righteous standing before God (1 Tim. 2:5). The above assertions cannot be accepted as true without first realizing that atheism and agnosticism are irrational as absolute positions.

Is Atheism Logical?

The atheist is generally governed by two principles: All beliefs must be supported by observational evidence; and beliefs that contradict this evidence cannot be accepted as fact. Yet, atheism states that there is no God, even though observational evidence indicates that the universe had a cause at its conception, but this cause cannot be detected observationally. Despite the lack of evidence for a naturalistic cause for the universe, the atheist believes that the universe has a naturalistic cause and also that there is no God. This conclusion contradicts the tenet that all beliefs should be based upon observational evidence, and this position violates the atheistic worldview—it is an irreconcilable dichotomy.

Although the atheist may present arguments for not believing in a Creator, he or she cannot offer a single irrefutable proof that He does not exist. The only undeniable means by which the atheist may emphatically say that, “There is no God anywhere at any time,” is if the atheist is omniscient (all-knowing), or omnipresent (all-present), and eternal. The only way to say, with surety, that there is no God is if the atheist has the wherewithal to exist eternally everywhere simultaneously or to have an eternal consciousness that permeates the universe.

The logic of atheism collapses on two fronts. First, no reasonable human being would claim to be omnipresent, omniscient, or self-existing independent of time. Secondly, if an individual did claim to possess these attributes, would not he or she be God? In fact, when the atheist asserts that there is no God, what he is really implying is that he is God. In either case, the claim of atheism is not logical. He cannot say for sure that there is no God, and if he does, he can only do so if he is God—meaning that in truth he is not an atheist but merely a humanist. Hence, it is illogical for the atheist to assert that there is no God.

Is Agnosticism Logical?

Aldous Huxley, Darwin’s bulldog, coined the term agnostic to describe a person who professed “not to know” about God. The agnostic being more sensible than the atheist, would conclude “I don’t know whether there is a God or not, but if there is a God, you cannot know Him.” Since neither the atheist nor the agnostic understands all of natural law, neither can logically say that “God has affected no influences within natural order—He has given no knowable revelation of Himself.” Unfortunately, many who say, “You cannot know God” have abandoned all hope of ever knowing Him. Such a biased conclusion is contrary to the very spirit of science which ever challenges man to plumb beyond the fathomable and to continue evaluating new evidence and new information.


The theist and atheist are similar in that they hold a position that is partially based on faith. As there is no known means of substantiating life having arisen from dead chemicals, the atheist requires a great deal of faith to believe a cell could

be randomly formed from primordial soup. The agnostic is different from the atheist in that he requires little or no faith to operate comfortably within a worldview of not knowing—ignorance being the acceptable status quo. In reality, both the atheist and the agnostic have chosen to ignore observable divine revelation and the possibility that future evidence may prove that God has uniquely influenced nature and, therefore, may be knowable.

Ignoring the Evidence

What evidence is being ignored by atheists and agnostics? The following are at least ten evidences for divine influence within natural order that should be considered by those searching for the truth:

- The Uniqueness of the Earth
- The Testimony of Nature
- The Authenticity of the Bible
- The Uniformity of the Bible
- The Prophecy of the Bible
- The Human Conscience
- The Human Spirit’s Need
- The Inflammatory Name of Jesus
- Miracles
- Changed Lives

Each of these statistically improbably evidences stimulate man to peer beyond his physical surroundings and to ponder the possibility of what lies beyond. Though reason is present, one cannot enter and emerge through these spiritual corridors leading to God without exercising faith. Thus, man is presented with a divine test. Faith compels a soul to stretch beyond what is verifiable through the five senses to actively trust in what God has revealed. We cannot please God without exercising this kind of faith (Heb. 11:6). Thus, a purely intellectual recognition of God is only a hypothetical possibility, for science cannot validate God’s existence and intellectualism can be easily swayed by philosophy, deceit, and traditions (Col. 2:8). In conclusion, it is illogical to state that there is no God (Ps. 53:1). It is premature to say a person cannot know Him; and, it is impossible to know God without reasoning out what is revealed and exercising faith for that which cannot be verified apart from God’s help. 



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



Voices from the Past

What is That in Thine Hand?

by William J. Hocking

You may recollect the common proverb that “a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.” This saying of the old folks arose no doubt because so many persons were in the habit of placing undue value upon some things they do not possess but ardently desire, while they discredit and overlook the things they have. Christians may easily fall into this snare, and Scripture warns against covetousness, while it exhorts us to be content with such things as we have (Heb. 13:5).

Have you realized that it is possible to lose sight of something you have which God would use in His service if you obeyed His word? An illustration of this danger occurs in the history of Moses. I refer to his behavior when he was instructed by God to go to Pharaoh and demand the release of the children of Israel from their bondage.

This task was a highly responsible one, and was attended by considerable danger to himself and others. Moses shrank from it. He foresaw the difficulties and made many excuses to God why he should not undertake this service. He considered the great civil and military power of Pharaoh, the mighty influence of the magicians and idol-worshippers of that great empire, and the waywardness of his own countrymen. Therefore, he said to God, “Behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken to my voice; for they will say, the LORD has not appeared to thee” (Ex. 4:1).

Now in considering the significance of these words of Moses we must not suppose that he had just learned for the first time that he was to be the deliverer of the Israelites and had only then become acquainted with the vast power wielded by the oppressor of that people. On the contrary, during the first forty years of his life he had been brought up in the court of Pharaoh and was “learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians.” He also knew in those early years that

God by his hand would deliver his brethren from their bitter bondage. Moreover, for another forty years, he had meditated in the desert of Midian upon the great problem of this deliverance.

My readers at this point will please note carefully that Moses was fully conscious of the importance of the step God would have him take. He also knew what was the right thing for him to do, but he held back because he anticipated failure and thought that men would not believe that he was sent of God.

The truth was that Moses himself did not believe, and he is far from being the only example of such unbelief. There are many persons who know very well what is the right thing for them to do, but nevertheless hang back, making a variety of excuses because they dread the consequences.

Thereupon Jehovah took His servant Moses in hand to instruct him. We can stand by as spectators, and observe the object lesson He gave him so long ago. Maybe we, as well as Moses, shall profit by it.

The Lord put a question to Moses which must at first have seemed a strange one to him, and one without any bearing upon the question uppermost in his mind, namely, the deliverance of the Israelites from the house of bondage. The question was, “*what is that in thine hand?*” Moses confessed he had but a rod— no weapon of warfare, no instrument of force, only a rod, possibly a shepherd’s crook.

Admittedly, a rod was a weak and despicable thing with which to undertake the emancipation of a nation. But by its means Jehovah was about to test the readiness of His servant to obey His instructions without hesitation or objection. Would Moses there and then use the rod exactly as God told him? To prove his obedience in service the Lord therefore bade him, “*cast it on the ground.*”

On the ground, the rod became in a moment a writhing, deadly serpent, a symbol of the god of this world, of the power of Egypt itself. A miraculous transformation took place, and Moses was shown that the rod of governmental authority, such as Pharaoh wielded, had become the great enemy of man.

In the second stage of his instruction Moses received a further command: “put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail.” This

Continued on page 17

ISSUES *and* ANSWERS

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

How Can I Know God's Will?

Believers look to the Lord for wisdom and guidance because we know that His will is best, leading to a fruitful, joyful, and abundant life (John 10:10). Psalms 25:14 says *"the secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him."* Therefore, we must spend daily time in His Word and prayer. When He becomes the focus of our life, our will shifts to align with His will, His desires becoming our desires (Ps. 37:4). We begin to recognize the Lord's working in our life as He manifests Himself through both His Word and our circumstances (John 14:21-23).

It is also vital that we confess and forsake any known sin when He brings it to our attention (Heb. 4:15-16; 1 John 1:9). We will not be able to discern God's leading if we have distanced ourselves from Him (Ps. 66:18).

When we ask the Lord for His guidance, we must do so believing He will answer our prayer. James 1:5-7 says: *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord."*


Believing in God's power and desire to lead us, the Holy Spirit will show us how to apply God's Word with wisdom to our lives. Hebrews 11:6 says that *"without faith it is impossible to please God."* And Colossians 2:6 reads: *"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him."*

Just as we admitted our need of Christ for salvation, similarly we are to walk by grace through faith looking in dependence to Him for direction in all areas of our lives. Paul prayed that the Colossians would be filled with the knowledge of His will (Col. 1:9). The Lord delights to fully lead us as we look to him for each step in life.

Moreover, we must be willing to accept His answers to our petitions. God knows our hearts and will not reveal His will to those who have already made up their minds (John 7:17). We must pair our desire to follow God's will with a determination to obey it. Psalms 119:105 says, *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."* The Lord

often does not give us the whole picture at once. He gives us only enough light to take the next step (Prov. 16:9). It is after we take that obedient step that He gives us light for the next one. We demonstrate an obedient heart by obeying God's already revealed will, His general will for all believers from the many clear commands in Scripture. The epistles are filled with exhortations that we are to apply to our lives (2 Cor. 6:14; 1 Thess. 5:16-22; 1 John 4:21; 5:21).

The whole process of seeking the Lord's will can bring the added benefit of drawing us into closer fellowship with Him as we wait upon Him. He may bring in hindrances and close doors to delay immediate answers. God has His own timing for our lives and He is always on time. When confronted with many options we can ask the Lord what would bring the most glory to Him and He will delight to answer our prayer. One of the many blessings of the Christian life is walking through life with the Lord Jesus and the ensuing peace that comes from being in His will. His will and desire for us springs from a God who loves us intimately, perfectly, and with complete knowledge of our design, for He has both created us and redeemed us.

The safest place to be is in God's will, near Him, communing with Him, seeking His guidance and wisdom for life. Even should difficult times come, we can enjoy God's peace if we know we are where He wants us to be. Psalms 91:1 says, *"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."* 



George Ferrier is a full-time worker commended by Bridlewood Bible Chapel (Ottawa, ON). In addition to itinerant preaching and teaching at assemblies and conferences in North America and overseas, he is on the board of Cornerstone Magazine Inc. where he also serves as assistant editor. He fellowships at Bethel-Park Bible Chapel in Brantford, ON.

by George Ferrier

News & Notices



Jersey Shore Weekend in the Word

September 9-11, 2022
Harvey Cedars Bible Conference
Harvey Cedars, NJ

Speaker: Keith Keyser (Birdsboro, PA) This Know the Word conference is designed for everyone in mind—singles, couples, families, and seniors with various types of accommodations to fit any need or budget (www.hcbible.org/accommodations).

Early registration is strongly encouraged in July. For more details and rates, go to knowtheword.com or email knowtheword@gmail.com.

Bible Conference on the Bay

September 12-16, 2022
Harvey Cedars Bible Conference
Harvey Cedars, NJ

Speaker: Jim Comte (Ontario, Canada). Conference will be in person. Cost: \$450 pp. To register, go to www.knowtheword.com or send the full amount to Know the Word c/o Mark Kolchin, P. O. Box 305 Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734. Registration strongly encouraged by Aug. 12th. Free overnight (Sept. 11th) for those who attend both conferences. knowtheword.com or email knowtheword@gmail.com.

Atlantic Iowa Bible Conference

September 23-25, 2022
Atlantic Gospel Chapel and Cass County
Community Center

The annual Atlantic Iowa Bible Conference will be held Sept 23-25, 2022. Sept 23 will be at the Atlantic Gospel Chapel, Sept 24-25 will be at the Cass County Community Center.

Expected speakers are Steve Price and John Heller. For conference or lodging information contact Brian Meyer at: call or text 712 249 6332 email roadrunnerfarms@icloud.com.

The conference is sponsored by Lyman Assembly, Sunnyside Bible Chapel, and Atlantic Gospel Chapel.

Reaching Higher

September 23-25, 2022
2751 18th Avenue, Wall, NJ

All young adults ages 20-39 are invited to attend CMML's Reaching Higher Conference at the CMML Guest Home. The speaker is Ali Farhadi and the theme is "The Simple Pursuit of Holiness." Space is limited to 50 participants. Register at CMML.us/reachinghigher2022. For more information contact Craig Fritchey at ccfritchey@cmml.us or (173) 244-9888.

CMML Youth Night

November 11, 2022
Maplewood Bible Chapel 127 Burnett Ave,
Maplewood, NJ 07040

CMML will hold their annual Youth Night at Maplewood Bible Chapel on November 11, 2022. The speaker this year will be Dr. Steve Price. The in-person event will also be live-streamed. Visit CMML.us/youthnight2022 for more information and to register.

CMML's 52nd Annual Fall Conference

November 12, 2022
Grace Bible Church 4041 Squankum
Allenwood Rd, Allenwood, NJ 08720

CMML invites all to join in-person or online for their 52nd Annual Fall Conference, scheduled for November 12, 2022. The conference theme is "Missions 101: Your Role," and will feature keynote speakers Dr. Steve Price and Tim Beer, along with 10 missionary reports, Zoom Q&A sessions, presentations from the CMML team, and musical performances. In-person attendees may also take advantage of a children's program, Chick-fil-A lunch, and a ministry expo. Visit CMML.us/fallconference2022 for more information and to register.

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? Submit 2-3 months in advance of the issue you would like it to appear in for print, or 3-4 months in advance for two months inclusion.

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

Bethesda Administrator (CA Licensed)

Bethesda is a Christian Retirement Home in Hayward, CA that is established to show the love of Christ by serving the elderly with quality and compassionate care that nurtures spiritual, physical and emotional needs with dignity and respect. They are seeking a qualified Administrator that will direct daily operations according to Federal, State and organizational standards. The ideal candidate embraces and fulfills the mission and vision of Bethesda and is a skilled leader with excellent critical thinking skills. Qualifications include: current California Nursing Home Administrator's (NHA) License, in good standing; Current Social Services Residential Care Facility for the Elderly (RCFE) License; at least 2 years of current experience as SNF Administrator; strong organizational and time management skills, and ability to prioritize; must be a self-starter and driven; excellent communication and interpersonal skills; strong problem-solving skills and analytical abilities. For more information please contact Dorothy Naidu at dotjyot@aol.com.

Emmaus Worldwide Employment Opportunities

Emmaus Worldwide is strengthening and adding to our support team as we enter new venues to grow and expand our ministry. Visit <https://emmausworldwide.org/pages/employmentopportunities> for more information.

Volunteers Sought for Voices For Christ

Voices for Christ (www.voicesforchrist.org) has an extensive backlog of cassette tapes (and reels) from several nations that is overwhelming our present team of volunteer digitizers, and we would love to train more ambitious young (or young-at-heart) servants for this ongoing work. Experience helpful but not necessary. For more information please contact Doug Engle at dougengle76@gmail.com or 620-200-2045

Book Offer

"Solving the Spiritual Dilemma—Why is Discernment Key to Receiving Eternal Life" by Michael Copple officially releases April 8. It reveals the problem of man's separation from God and how to fix it. To solve this eternal life or death issue the author explains how to be redeemed to God using Scripture and discernment. This book is written for seeking souls wanting to know who God is and how He invites one into His kingdom, and for parents looking to explain the truth about False Teaching; Indoctrination; Climate Change; Abortion; Transgender; Gay Marriage; LGBTQ+; and Peer Pressure to their children, and the evangelistic community in general. For more information visit Mike's website at <https://michaelcopple.com>.

Continued from page 14

act would require considerable courage at any time, and in this case the courage of faith in God who was speaking. To seize the serpent by its tail and leave its head free to strike with its poisonous fangs appeared unwise and perilous.


But God's directions, even when they apparently run counter to one's reason and inclination, are always the wisest and the best. In this instance, I think we shall understand the inner meaning of the command of God by referring to His prophetic word given in Eden. It was because the Seed of the woman would in due time bruise the serpent's head that His servant might without harm take it by the tail.

Accordingly, the serpent, upon the obedience of Moses to Jehovah's bidding, disappeared, and the rod of authority was in his grasp. It was an evident sign to Moses that the evil power of Egypt would be subservient to his hand, if he obeyed the voice of the Lord God. When later he stretched forth his rod, devastating plagues would fall upon guilty Egypt. When he stretched it towards the Red Sea, its proud

waters would provide a dry passage for the people of Israel but a grave for Pharaoh and his hosts.

Now you will observe that Moses had this equipment for his service from the first. The rod was in his hand at the very moment when the excuses were in his mouth. The eye of man saw only the rod, but God was working the mighty wonders through His servant.

Let us heed the lesson, and use what we have at God's direction, remembering it is accepted "according to that a man has, and not according to that he has not." The poor widow had only two mites in her hand, but she dropped them both into the box.

May each dear reader consider what answer to give to the question: "what is that in thine hand?" 

Stem Publishing: William J Hocking: Letters to Young Believers: New Series 16. What is that in thine hand?

by William J. Hocking

Great is Thy Faithfulness

“Great is Thy faithfulness,” O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*“Great is Thy faithfulness!” “Great is Thy faithfulness!”
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
“Great is Thy faithfulness,” Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Thomas Obadiah Chisholm

*It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.
They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*

Lamentations 3:22-23