NEW WINE JUNE 1971

"For every house is built by some one, but the builder of all things is God."

HEBREWS 3:4 (R.S.V.)

HOLY SPIRIT TEACHING MISSION 2310 S.W. 40th Avenue Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314

That the world is rapidly changing is obvious to any observer. This is also true of the dynamic ministries of the Holy Spirit to believers. New Wine Magazine is no exception. As we press on toward maturity in Jesus Christ, our vision gradually takes on new perspective and greater depth. We rejoice constantly in the inspiration of the Dear Readers: Holy Spirit as He continually leads us toward the fulfillment of our ministries. Effective with this issue (June) you will find that New Wine is reaching you early in the month of issue. To accomplish this we changed the May issue to June,

but you will still receive 12 full issues this year (at one month intervals). The New Wine staff is seriously contemplating a special year-end issue in

December featuring the "Best of New Wine" for 1970-71. This special oversize issue could be used as a gift to friends, costing only about a dollar each. If you are interested, send us a note estimating the number of copies that you might desire.

Neil Frank, Editor

BULLETIN

FRANCIS GARDNER HUNTER

WILL BE THE WOMEN'S LUNCHEON SPEAKER

AT THE

HOLY SPIRIT TEACHING MISSION CHRISTIAN GROWTH CONFERENCE

May 23-30, 1971

SHERATON BEACH HOTEL MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

AUTHOR OF

God Is Fabulous Go Man Go Hot Line To Heaven

and now My Love Affair With Charles



"SO THAT THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST MIGHT BE HONORED AND GLORIFIED . . . PRAISE LETTERS FROM OUR READERS."



Dear Brothers: Praise the Lord, and God bless all of you there at the Holy Spirit Teaching Mission.

God fulfilled His promise in releasing me from prison within 15 months, in fact, 14 months, one month shorter than His promise.

The testimony was well done and I thank God and all the staff there for publishing it at this very opportune time especially. The Lord has been opening doors for my testimony ever since November at places like weekend retreats, Air Force bases, Full Gospel meetings, schools, churches, home prayer meetings, coffee houses and jails. Just recently, the door has been opened that I may return to Jackson Prison as a servant of God. I just thank our precious Lord for giving me this walk and His work. I love working for my Lord.

Again brothers, thank you and God bless you all richly. May God be with you.

Love, In Jesus Name, Irving Eugene King

Ed-Irving King's testimony appeared in the January 1971 issue of New Wine Magazine, page 16.

Dear Friends: With new depths of praise and thankfulness to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for rich blessings being showered upon this family from new "openings" which come daily through New Wine Magazine. How we do praise the Lord and thank Him for these spiritual blessings being poured out upon us through the Holy Spirit.

We feel that a new ministry of family prayer is being opened up for which we return thanks as we go forth into each new day with confidence in victory through Christ Jesus, our Lord and in the power of His Holy Spirit.

W. Family Vermont

Dear Friends: Just wanted to tell you how much we appreciate the magazine. It seems that when a big problem has come up in our spiritual growth, each time an issue of New Wine has arrived in which God has outlined the answer. Praise the Lord!

G.M. Missouri

NEW WINE.

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EVANGELISM AND THE HOME

By Wayne Conrad

The Christian Gospel is evangelistic. Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Lu. 19:10) and He has commissioned His church to engage in this same mission (John 20:21). One primary responsibility of every believer and of every Christian family is to share the good news of Jesus Christ. The Christian home is to be a light set on a hill in this dark age. Let's study this subject from two viewpoints. Evangelism Within The Home: When a home is divided (Lu. 12:51-53) because of Jesus Christ then one must be loyal to Jesus. He demands total and exclusive allegiance! (See Matt. 10:37-39; Lu. 14:26,27) However, Jesus desires that every member of our households should be drawn to Himself in a living relationship as Lord-Saviour. Whenever one is seeking to win his own family to Christ then he must be as wise as a serpent and as harmless as a dove. (Matt. 10:16) Usually simply relating what you've experienced will not be enough. The following are principles which each person must adapt to his own particular situation. (1) Our first responsibility is to be an example of what the grace of God can do. (Ps. 101:2) When family members observe how Jesus can make a difference in one's integration of life they will take note of your experience. (See Luke 8:39)

- (2) The tendency to overtalk should be carefully watched. A few words at the right moment will do more than volumes at the wrong time. Wait for the Spirit to open up opportunities to naturally share Jesus.
- (3) Pray much for your family by name and need. This will keep your heart tender and will be used of God in their conversation.
- (4) Share Christian literature as it relates to needs and interests in their lives.
- (5) Let your experience with Christ stay warm, and permit Him to do the work within you that is needed. Do not



(6) If the first believer in a home is the husband then he needs to, in wisdom, begin to establish the authority of Christ in his own house.

Evangelism Through the Home: God desires that our homes be a replica of His Kingdom on earth. He wants Christian families to be of one mind and one heart in the Lord. One of the chief means of evangelism in the New Testament was the home. (See II Tim. 1:5; I Cor. 1: 16; Acts 18:8; Acts 16:32-34; Acts 2:46; Col. 4:15) Naturally our homes cannot be a witness unless they have experienced something first hand. Only as Jesus is a reality in the home and manifesting His life within the family relationships can they be a spiritual light. Through lived-out examples of the Christian life can Jesus find access to other homes. The kind of home which can be effectively used as a witness is the one that is in divine order and reflecting the love of Jesus. Unless family members have respect and mutual love, their witness will be void. Unruly children are a disgrace and can undermine a good family witness (I Tim. 3:12)



How To: Household evangelism begins at home with the children. They should be raised in the fear and nurture of the Lord under the prevailing influence of a family altar. Family worship is of primary importance to the church. Where the Word of God is taught, and lived in the home children usually come to know Christ and make Him their own Saviour. (II Tim. 1:15). Nevertheless, family evangelism is to extend to other homes and to those who come in contact with that center of Christian life. Indirectly our homes witness to Jesus as we make a habit of bringing our worries to Him and by letting Him be our Defender in every conflict with the enemy. (I Peter 5:7)

Christian homes should be places where Christians often congregate to fellowship with one another and Christ. An enlarged family worship time can be engaged in ever so often where the Word is shared and testimonies exchanged with neighbors and friends.

One New Testament principle of family evangelism is hospitality. God commands us to be hospitable and to welcome guest and strangers within our family circle. (Rom. 12:13; I Tim. 5:10; Titus 1:7; Heb. 13:2; I Pet. 4:9; III John 5-8; Matt. 25:34-46;Luke 14: 12-14) Through Christians sharing fellowship, the love of the Body of Christ is seen by the world; and by welcoming strangers and unbelievers——the warmth of Christ can penetrate into their own lives and by the Spirit can aid in their being drawn to Jesus. Let us join with Joshua in holy zeal: "as for me and my house we will serve the Lord."24:15

ADMINISTRATION AND RESPONSIBILITY

The principle of headship is essential to a Christian home. One reason for the demoralization of the American home is the breakdown of the masculine initiative in the home. God made man to be an overseer and in this capacity he reflects the image of God. (I Cor. 11: 3;7-9) The head of the Christian home is to be Christ the Lord and the husbands headship is a vested authority from Him. Thus, for a Christian family to be in divine order, the husband-father must be in continual submission to Jesus and led by the Spirit. When a man is in this relation to the Lord, the administration of authority will easily follow. (See Col. 3:18-4:1). The headship of the man as ordained by God must be recognized for the blessings of God to flow through the family life. As the chief natural authority in the household the husband should be the main disciplinarian and decision maker. The wife has delegated authority and in the areas over which she is the natural agent

she should do her task with joy and fulfillment. Being head of the house does not mean a constant display of authority. Real authority does not have to make a show!. Submission and authority are inner realities which the Lord must perfect in the Christian family. Every earthly head has a master in heaven who shall judge them and reward them according to their deeds. (Col. 4:1)

Divine order embraces responsibility as well as authority. In reality they cannot be separated. An overseer has the responsibility to see that all the tasks are performed well and if not then he bears the responsibility for it. In this area it is the duty of the man to provide a living for his wife and family; however, this natural provision must not be allowed to obscure the spiritual. Jesus has promised to supply all our needs if we seek His kingdom first. (See Matt. 6:25-34) The woman is the chief overseeer in the domestic daily routine. Minor problems she should handle promptly as the mother. However, all major problems should be reserved for the father to handle. The children's place is to be obedient to their parents and thus reflect the harmony and essential unity of the home.

SEXUAL RESPONSIBILITY

In the Biblical sense, a marriage does not in reality exist without physical consummation. God is the creator of sex and when it comes from His hand it is very good. (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:18-25). Thus it is not a necessary evil which must be endured to keep the race alive! Many marital conflicts can be traced to a wrong attitude toward conjugal relations. Guilt and an evil connotation are not in God's plan for right sexual expression. As mates God desires each to abandon themselves in expressing love to each other. (See Heb. 13:4; I Cor. 7: 3-5) Time wise the sex act consumes relative little time in a marriage; yet, it is essential as a spark-plug is to a car. This union involves the total person and from this surrender of one another's procreative powers to the other, children are to be conceived. Thus sex is a deep and fundamental giving of self to another and is reserved by a holy God for marriage. Christians should lift sex from the back alley to the honorable place God has for it.

There are two errors commonly found among Christians. First, there is often a subconscious attitude of evil. The element of truth is that man is easily aroused to lust which is an invention of Satan (I Cor. 7:9). Sex is not base or shameful. A second error is to overspiritualize it and exalt it to a pagan mystical rite! The total marriage relationship is a symbol of God and His people. Let's be realistic: sex is a pleasurable physical and emotional affair. (I Cor. 7:2-5) Sex is a down to earth affair and we need a realistic approach to it. There is creative power in sexual energy and a proper channeling of this energy can be a blessing to the world.

REFLECTION

- 1) Make a brief list of the practical situations where the headship principle can be seen.
- 2)What is the chief responsibility of the husband in the family? Headship involves provision, protection and authority.
- Considering God's provision for sexual fulfillment, cite the reasons for chastity prior to the married event.
- 4) Jesus was the perfect man − He is our example in all things. Consider HIM in this lesson.

You could measure by the wiggles of Bubu's tail his contempt for tadpoles who couldn't think. His experience as chairman of the Little Pond Philosophical and Debating Society had impressed upon him not only the importance of reason, but also the penetrative ability of his own mind.

Of course not everybody had Bubu's background. His years of Tadpole University had opened his eyes to a lot. There had been the free intellectual give-and-take of his undergraduate days. Later working on the staff as lecturer and research assistant, his book, "Tail Wiggle Co- efficients as an Index to Social Maladjustment" had (in Bubu's judgement) opened a new era in understanding aquatic behavior characteristics.

Largely unappreciated outside academic circles, the audacity of its revolutionary concepts had exploded powerfully among the intellectual elite. When the work was discussed, tempers flared and the friendships of years were broken. Yet the masterpiece failed to gain for Bubu the chair he had hoped. His had been the misfortune of developing ideas that were 50 years ahead of their time.

Yet hadn't the university's loss been society's gain? Hadn't the Philosophical and Debating Society, which he had founded, disseminated light among the inhabitants of Little Pond? The reflection comforted

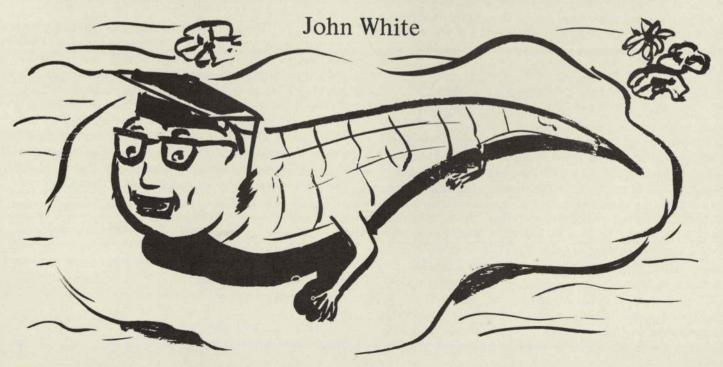
him as he wiggled gently among soft curtains of sunlight in cool green waters.

Not all Little Ponders had shown appreciation. The mental horizons of most of them were bounded by the pond itself. If life existed in the streams that entered and left it, it was a strange, foreign life. And who was to know what lay beyond in the lakes and oceans of which scientists spoke? Vast distances, infinite spaces. Empty and hostile? Filled with other forms of life? What life could inhabit the salty vastnesses that scientists described? While such speculation sent delicious intellectual shivers to the tip of Bubu's tail, they left most Little Ponders cold. Patiently Bubu tried to teach them the value of intellectual speculation checked by careful experiment and cold reason.

Powerful thrusts from his vigorous legs propelled a frog to Bubu's side. He was a new member of the Philosophical Society and therefore Bubu greeted him warmly. Though the frog appeared to Bubu to be bound by superstition and subjectivism, he nevertheless showed promise.

"Beautiful day," said Bubu. "Beautiful," agreed the frog. "And up above it's tremendous. I never knew such colors existed before my conversion."

METAMORPHOSIS



If Bubu was embarassed, he gave no sign of it. "I don't doubt your sincerity in the least,"he murmured smilingly, "though from my reading in psychology, I suspect that your conversion is merely a psychological phenomenon."The frog looked puzzled. "Well, it's a phenomenon, anyway. I know I'm different from what I was before."He looked at Bubu's quivering tail and then at his own powerful muscles. "For instance, I can do things now that I never used to be able to do."

Bubu grew solemn. Had he possessed eyebrows and fingertips, he would have raised the former, and placed the latter together. "You are different because you 'think' you are different. I personally have observed the difference, and it confirms all I have come to believe about the overwhelming influence of mind over body. Indeed, I might amplify my statements. Conversion is more than a psychological phenomenon. It's a psychosomantic phenomenon."

The frog looked mischievous. "I'm not sure what psychosomatic phenomena are, but if my legs are an example, then I'm all for psychosomatic phenomena." And as if to underline his remark, he vigorously propelled himself in a swift circle before settling down beside Bubu once more.

But then he asked Bubu, "You mean that my legs are in some way unreal?" Bubu was at home now. "Not at all. I'm not sure, of course, what you mean by 'real', but if you mean what I think you mean, I would say that your legs are the real result of your faith in something unreal. I noticed that you began to develop them about the same time you started talking about your fantastic 'world' of 'air' and 'sunlight' and 'insects.' I can only conclude that your belief in this unreal subjective experience of yours is responsible for the creation of your real legs."

The frog began to look interested. "You mean that unreality plus faith equals reality? It raises some interesting issues." Bubu was not to be put off. "Exactly," he cried, swelling visibly. "Take hypnosis, for instance. If I were to hypnotize you and then tell you that you had been drinking heavily, you'd start behaving like a drunken frog."

"But that wouldn't be real drunkenness and there would be no alcohol in me."

"No, but the change in you would be real. What's more, I could produce actual physical changes in you. I might, while you were still hypnotized, tell you that I was about to strike you a heavy painful blow. I could then touch you lightly, and my touch

would produce a real bruise."

"And my legs are like the bruise resulting from an imaginary blow?" - "Precisely."

The frog hated to say it, but he could see no alternative. "Then why, Bubu, don't you go to a hypnotist and get yourself a pair of legs? That would be better than a bruise and much more useful than your tail. I got rid of mine soon after my own legs began to function."

Bubu's swelling subsided. "It has to be admitted," he said, a shade too casually, "that there are at present, limits to what hypnotists and psychologists can do. But that's because our techniques haven't advanced sufficiently. The principle of the thing remains. Once we've developed more powerful psychotherapy, we shall be able to produce the same 'miracles' as you. Though for myself, "he continued, "I prefer to be intellectually honest. I refuse to exploit the cheap benefits that come from living in a world of fantasy. I cannot sacrifice my integrity and believe in what I know to be untrue, even if by doing so I could gain a pair of legs. In any case, your exhibitionistic cavortings don't appeal to me." The tiny tadpole's dignity seemed pitiful, as he quivered beside the frog's vigorous young body.

Something akin to pity filled the frog's eyes as he looked at him. "But Bubu," he said quietly, "the world up above that I talk about is real. I can't explain it, but in a sense it's more real than the watery universe we live in."

"More real to you."

"More real to anybody, Bubu."

"But not at all real to me."

The frog had lost his bantering manner entirely. "Bubu, the world would be there whether or not I could feel it. It's still there even though you don't believe in it. Right now, as we talk, soft breezes blow across the surface of Little Pond. A burning sun pours rays over the bodies of animals, birds and plants. Other frogs like me are leaping across dry ground."

"It's very beautiful," the tadpole said precisely, his tone belying his words, "but I don't even understand what you mean. What, for instance is 'dry'?—no, don't try to describe it again" (the frog had been about to interrupt). "You've failed to give

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me any but the most mystical concept whenever I've asked about it. Can dry be weighed? Does dry have length or depth? Can dry be touched? Does it have color? To all of this you answer "No".

"As far as I can gather, dry seems merely to be the essence of 'otherness', the opposite of all we've come to accept as being fundamental to the watery universe we know. I shall believe it when you can produce solid evidence."

The frog stretched out a webbed foot. "My legs, Bubu, aren't they evidence?"

The tadpole made a gesture of impatience, but the frog continued, "The universe we inhabit is evidence of the 'other world' as you call it. Our world grows grey when clouds cover the sun. The surface of our pond is thrashed into a fury when rain dashes upon it from the world above."

It was then that Bubu's eloquent tail wiggled its derisive contempt. "Ignorant people have always explained purely natural phenomena in terms of myth. Science has adequately explained these things. There's no need to postulate a 'dry' world populated by mysterious suns, moons, clouds."

"Bubu, I've seen clouds. I've been warmed by the sun. I——"

The tadpole's annoyance nearly choked him. "Show me!!" he cried. "Show me this sun. Show me a piece of dry!" There was a pause, filled only with soft underwater sounds.

"I have to admit," the frog said finally, "that it's impossible for me to show you the sun. If you are to see it, your eyes will have to change. There's a verse in the Sacred Book that says, 'Except a tadpole metamorphose, it cannot see the kingdom of dryness.' I'd like you to see and know. I hope one day to take you hopping with me between blades of grass. But if I took you right now, just as you are, you'd die. You couldn't stand the exposure. You don't have the right kind of life.

"A few moments ago you told me that my belief in these things had produced my legs and lungs. Maybe. But that's far from the whole story. It's just as true and far more important for you too see that without my lungs and legs I could never live on land. My conversion, or my metamorphosis, was a kind of gateway into a new world. The more I saw of it, the

more I changed and the more I changed, the more I was able to see!"

There was again no answer. The tadpole's tail was scarcely waving at all. "The vital question," the frog continued, "is whether you're willing to follow the evidence where it leads. You'll not be given more evidence until you use the evidence you have."

Bubu said something that sounded like "Humph." – Again there was silence.

The frog stretched his legs uneasily. "It's so stuffy down here," he said, "I have to go up for a gulp of air more frequently these days. So if you'll excuse me......"

Underwater etiquette is not very rigid and the frog darted away without finishing his sentence, thrusting powerfully upward through sunbeam curtains toward the surface of a world that did not exist

Several minutes passed before Bubu moved. The wiggles of his tail had ceased. Finally with another "humph" he slowly emerged from the cover of a weed and moved in the direction that the frog had taken moments before. Perhaps weighty problems occupying his mind accounted for the slowness of his movements. He might have been thinking of the brilliant remarks he could have made had he thought of them in time, or gloating over the masterly way he would put the thought of them in time, or gloating over the masterly way he would put the young frog in his place at the next meeting of the Philosophical Society.

His actual thoughts will never be known, for in his preoccupation he hadn't noticed the swiftly moving black shadow inches above him.

The duck's bill churned violently downward. Bubu was sucked by thrashing whirling eddies. Immense jaws clamped upon his tail, while his body tugged helplessly in the water. He felt himself jerked powerfully upwards. Upwards, and oh — unnameable dread, through the surface and into the "Great Beyond."

Terrible light and suffocating nothingness surrounded him for a brief second. Sounds of unbelievable intensity battered his tortued hearing apparatus. Then, with a swift toss of the duck's head — came hot darkness.

Scripture Reference: St. John, Chapter 3, Verse 3 (Jn. 3:3)

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Mid-Course Correction

By BILL POPEJOY
Pastor, Assembly of God, Belton, Missouri



The EIGHT MOST EXCITING DAYS of modern history ended July 24, when the Apollo II spacecraft splashed down in the Pacific Ocean. Two of the three men aboard had done what man dreamed of for centuries—they actually walked on the moon!

Their journey to the surface of a celestial body had been successful— so successful, in fact, that the return flight from that planetoid a quarter of a million miles away ended at the precise minute that had been planned months before!

Our hearts beat rapidly as we watched, via television, Neil Armstrong make the first human footprint on a non-terrestrial sphere. We watched it, and we believe it. But we had a feeling akin to that of the man who once said to Jesus, "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief." Our earthbound minds were not able to envelop the significance of that epic step. And we are still wondering how this achievement will affect our lives in the future.

The multiplied thousands of intricate details of space travel stagger the human imagination. For example, when the spacecraft is orbiting one sphere and is planning to go to another, it must fire its rockets for an injection into space on a precise trajectory toward its rendezvous with that other sphere. The firing must be at the exact spot, for the exact number of seconds, and with the exact amount of thrust. Every degree and every correlation must be determined by the computer. A small mistake could mean catastrophe.

But in trips to and from the moon (man has made three now) it is an accepted fact that somewhere along the way there must be a slight correction. This maneuver is as vital as any other part

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of the entire mission. Without it, all other successes mean little.

For all the precision and exactness of the insertion into space, scientists recognize that an indiscernible error at the beginning could mean total failure at the end. So it is written into the flight plan that, at a certain time, a mid-course correction will be made.

This minute realignment of a coasting vehicle in the black voids of space is not an admission of failure on the launching pad or anywhere else. It is a part of the overall plan. The success of any mission in space depends on its ability to make this correction.

Now why can't this good sense be applied to a thousand other details of our lives? Too often our pride refuses to allow for any slight error in our past? and, with closed eyes, we ignorantly assert that there is no need for us to change our course. We call it "honor," but the Bible calls it a "a haughty spirit" and predicts that it will be followed by a humiliating fall.

Why are there so many denominations? Long and detailed arguments may be given in reply to that oft-asked question. But in its simplest and truest terms, the answer in many cases is: men have stubbornly refused to make any mid-course corrections. They have considered it sacrilegious to even question the opinions of the early fathers of their organization.

For example, consider the Reformation. Luther did not want to break with the church of Rome. When his spiritual eyes were opened to the truth that men are not justified by doing penance but by faith, he wanted the church to accept this scriptural truth and make a mid-course correction. But tradition was more important to the dignitaries than was the Word of God. Their reply was, "We started right, and we will not change!"

What a tragedy! For that set the pattern for one church system after another. Arrogantly, religious leaders have closed their eyes to any further revelation of truth. Time and again when God has wanted to lead His people into greener pastures—into higher truths—they have set their heels. After all, to admit that other pastures are greener would insult the memory of our forefathers who chose this field.

Cattle have more sense. They will go where

the food is good. You can't keep a cow in a dried-up pasture with a fence of tradition.

Our Movement might never have come into existence had the holiness movements back in the early part of this twentieth century not closed their eyes and hearts to any need of a mid-course correction. Tradition meant more to them than Scripture.

There were people back in those days who were hungry for more from God. They were not seeking for any particular experience, nor did they have the faintest desire to leave the fellowship of their own denomination. It was their prayer that all saints would share in their hunger for a richer spiritual experience.

As they humbled their hearts and sought after God, He visited them and filled them with the Holy Spirit, just as in New Testament times. Many of them were not aware of any scriptural references to tongues, but when the Holy Spirit came the experience of Acts 2:4 was repeated. "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Those saints of a half-century ago were not rebels. Only ignorance of church history would make anyone call them insurrectionists or militants. The truth is that they loved their own churches and had no desire to leave them. But how were they to know that those who had shown them the way of salvation would refuse a mid-course correction? They were shocked and bewildered when their names were removed from church rolls.

They went to God again and again. Each time He confirmed the edifying experience to their hearts. For more than a decade they existed only as local groups, often meeting in the crudest places. Finally they organized for greater unity and fellowship.

It would be an understatement to say that the Movement was unloved. Organized religion publicly ridiculed them, and their meetings were often interrupted by flying objects like rotten eggs and overripe fruit. By the time I came along (about 20 years later) the persecution had abated a little, but because I was a "holy roller" I was stoned and beaten regularly.

We wondered why the existing churches hated us. Were we unscriptural? No—and that was the problem. We had committed the "unpardonable sin" of asking our churches to make a mid-course correction. We had not harmed anyone nor had we done anything to merit such wrath. Our offense was in our desire for more of God.

We have never said that other denominations

are all wrong, for we know better. With all our hearts we thank God for them. They got us off the launching pad and out into orbit. They fired the third-stage rockets and sent us on a good trajectory for another world.

It is no discredit to any to state that the church now needs a mid-course correction. In fact, that is part of God's overall plan. Until the day comes when we leave our foot-print in another world, there will probably be several corrective maneuvers needed.

You see, God reveals truth to men as they are able to receive it. The most dangerous point for any Christian or any church comes when the mind and heart are closed to more from the Lord. Eternity will not suffice for us to learn the fullness of God, so why should we think we know it all now?

Today's church is splitting up. On the one hand there are those who are opposed to greater revelation, and they will not leave their original course. If the astronauts had held that kind of attitude, they might have crashed on the moon, or gone into orbit around the sun, or even crashed into the sun. Churches that close their hearts to the leading of the Spirit are not going to last either. They are headed for oblivion.

On the other hand, the spiritual pulse of some churches is getting stronger. Preachers who once decried another experience in the Holy Spirit are recognizing a new glow in their hearts. In desperation they are praying, "Lord, if You have anything else for me, I want it!"God is hearing and answering their prayers. Their ministries are being transformed. A new fire is burning in their churches. They are having cottage prayer meetings and Bible studies.

It isn't too late to make a correction. Apollo 11 did not separate from its service module until just a few minutes before re-entering the earth's atmosphere. They were ready, right down to the last minute, to make any course correction that was necessary.

Read the Book of Acts again, and remember that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Miracles can take place in your church today if you are willing to make a mid-course correction. Dare to believe God. Read and obey His Word.

What would happen if you were to say, "Hallelujah," while your minister is preaching? Are you afraid to clap your hands as you sing songs of praise unto the Lord? If you feel like it, why not raise your hands and say, "Praise God!"

"Oh, we don't do that in our church," or, "we haven't done that for a long time." Why not? It's scriptural. No wonder the services are dead. You've been drifting in space and have not corrected your course.

Is your church losing young people? Perhaps they can look out the window of your spiritual spacecraft and see that you're off course. You offer few spiritual emphases, so they are turning to everything from astrology to dope. The church needs to get back on course!.

God has a mighty revival for His people in these last days. We are witnessing New Testament miracles. The Lord is confirming His Word with signs following. We can expect to see more and more of this as we near the end.

Soon we are going to get rid of our service module. We will lay our Bibles down and enter the gravitational field of another world. The Divine Computer will take over. We will make a soft landing, and will step into that celestial city.

That will be the most epic of all steps, and it will be taken only by those who forgot the past and made the necessary mid-course corrections along the journey to another world.

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"Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. -Psalms 55:22



ATTENTION FRESH BREAD TAPE LIBRARY MEMBERS:

There will be no tapes mailed out during the month of July. The month of July is being used to get the tapes back and in order. Please send in the tapes that you have. We thank you for your cooperation.

NEW WINE ELEVEN

The gifts of the Spirit are listed in I Corinthians 12:8-10. They are the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, the working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, kinds of tongues, and interpretation of tongues. For study purposes, these nine gifts can be divided into three groups of three each—the vocal gifts, the revelation gifts, and the power gifts.

These gifts are resident in the Holy Spirit, and therefore any and all of the gifts can operate through any Spirit-filled believer. Verse 4 says, 'Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit'. Verse 11 says, 'But all these worketh that selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will'. The Spirit does not divide the gifts, giving me one and you one, but he divides Himself. The same Spirit is in all believers, and the nine gifts are in the Spirit.

VOCAL GIFTS

'I would that you all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied.' I Corinthians 14:5.

'Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.' I Corinthians 14:13.

'For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.' I Corinthians 14:31.

The vocal gifts are prophecy, kinds of tongues, and interpretation of tongues. These gifts are spoken gifts. Verse 3 says, 'But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, exhortation, and comfort'. The purpose of prophecy is to 'build up, lift up, and cheer up' the hearer. Prophecy is for the encouragement of the brethren, to counteract the discouragement that Satan goes around sowing.

Verse 4 says, 'He that speaketh in a tongue edifieth himself'. So we see that tongues builds up the speaker, whereas prophecy builds up the assembly. There are 'kinds of tongues', which means that all talking in tongues is not for public interpretation. For instance, there may be praise in tongues, intercession in tongues, etc. When there is no interpreter present, we should talk to ourselves and to God and not to the assembly. When a message in tongues is brought forth and interpreted, it becomes like prophecy, and builds up the entire group.

God wants you to use the vocal gifts. I Corinthians 14:5 says, 'I would

that ye all spake with tongues'. That is God's will concerning talking in tongues. It is not just Paul's will for the early church, but it is God's will for Christians of this dispensation, as put in the scriptures by the Holy Spirit.

Then verse 13 says, 'Wherefore let him that speaketh in a tongue pray that

FAITH FOR THE **GIFTS** By Don Flora

he may interpret'. First, we are told that it is God's will for us to speak in tongues, and then we are commanded when we do it to pray for the interpretation! Did God tell us to pray for something so he could turn us down? No. He said, 'Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full'.

God wants us to use the vocal gifts. He said to 'earnestly desire spiritual gifts', and we know he will give us the desires of our heart. His desire is for us to speak in tongues, interpret, and prophesy. Jude 20 says that 'praying in the Holy Ghost' is a method of 'building up yourselves'. Praying in the Spirit is praying in tongues, because the Spirit gives us utterance. We cannot speak even one word in a language we do not know, without the Spirit's help.

I John 5:14, 15 says, 'And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him'. The test here, you see, is God's will. But if we know that we are praying according to his will, then we know that we have the answer.

Many have not given their own will over to God's will, in this matter of speaking in tongues. But if you want to get lined up with God, then you can talk in unknown tongues. The Holy Spirit will give you words to speak. I can promise you, on the grounds of scripture, that if you will accept and confess Jesus as your Baptizer, and will agree to speak the strange utterances that the Spirit gives, that you can begin talking in tongues right now.

Is it God's will for you to interpret? It must be. He said, 'Pray that ye may interpret'. After you have spoken in tongues for awhile, stop, and ask for an interpretation. Then immediately speak out in English whatever comes to you. It will be the interpretation. We know that we have whatsoever we ask, according to his will. If we ask for an interpretation, an interpretation is what we will get. It will not be a serpent.

God wants you to prophesy. He said, 'I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied'. He said, 'For ye may all prophesy—'. Prophecy is for the building up of the church. It is to help others. The key to learning to prophesy is to forget yourself, and to earnestly desire the upbuilding of your brethren. The word of God says, 'Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy'.

It is the will of God, and therefore of the Spirit, that the body of Christ be built up, through the operation of the gifts. I Corinthians 14:12 says, 'Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church'. If our motive is right—the uplifting of the church—then we are to seek to excel in the operation of the gifts. Prophecy is one of the best gifts, because of its encouraging effect upon the brethren.

Hebrews 11:6 says, 'But without faith it is impossible to please God'. The gifts operate by faith: faith based on the word. They do not exalt the person operating them, but are for the advancement of the whole church. Therefore, the person who pleases God in the gift realm, is the person who has faith to bring forth all nine of the gifts, as needed. That person could be you.

REVELATION GIFTS

'And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh? and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit'. Joel 2:28, 29.

As we know, Peter took up this prophecy on the day of Pentecost. 'This is that', he said. Joel's prophecy covers the vocal gifts and the revelation gifts. The revelation gifts are the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and discernment of spirits.

Joel said that this outpouring of the Spirit would be upon all flesh—sons, daughters, old men, young men, servants and handmaids. I want you to see that this is for everyone. The only qualification is to be 'all flesh'. Not only is the gift of prophecy, mentioned here by Joel, for everyone, but the revelation gifts, represented here by dreams and visions, are for everyone.

In Acts 2:39, Peter extended this even further by saying, 'For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call'. He was still referring to the prophecy of Joel, which includes the revelation gifts as well as the vocal gifts. The word 'prophesy', as used by Joel, covers all the vocal gifts. This is shown by the fact that Peter applied it to the speaking in tongues on the day of Pentecost.

In the same way, dreams and visions refer to all the revelation gifts, although we know that all revelation from God does not come in dreams and visions. I Corinthians 12:6 says, 'And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all'. Sometimes we just 'see'things in the Spirit, or we just 'know' what to do in certain circumstances. Spirits may be discerned by recognizing their typical manifestations, by seeing them in some form, by hearing their name, etc.

The word of wisdom tells us what to do, in various situations. The Bible says, 'If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God'. God will always give you a word of wisdom, if you really want it. If you do not get a direct leading after sincerely asking, then the word of wisdom for you is to do nothing. God does not need your help in that particular case.

The word of wisdom also tells the leaders of the assembly how the Spirit wants to move in the congregation. In a meeting where there is spiritual liberty, always do what the leading elders ask of you, even if it seems foolish. Remember, 'the foolishness of God is wiser than men'. The word of knowledge is simply the revelation of certain facts: and discernment of spirits is revelation in a specific area—that of the unseen world.

Revelations are given to be acted upon. If you have a word of knowledge or discernment of spirits in a certain situation, then ask for, and expect to receive, a word of wisdom as to how to proceed, and the right combination of vocal and power gifts to come forth, to meet the need. The gifts are given for the benefit of the church, and when that is your desire, they will come forth.

Not only are the nine gifts based upon the word of God, but their division into three groups is based upon the word. Revelation 19:10 says, 'Worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy'. The Holy Spirit has different functions, and here He is called 'the Spirit of Prophecy'. He gives testimony to Jesus, as Jesus said he would in John 15:26. 'He shall testify of me'.

If you have the Holy Spirit, then you have the spirit of prophecy; then you have the gifts of prophecy, tongues, and interpretation. The difference between tongues and prophecy is that we understand one, and one we do not. Joel called the tongues on the day of Pentecost prophecy, because 'every man heard them speak in his own language'. If we understand it, it is prophecy to us,

although it may be an unknown tongue to the speaker. If no one understands it, then interpretation is needed.

In Ephesians 1:17, Paul prayed that God would give unto you 'the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him'. If the Holy Spirit put Paul's prayer into the word of God, then it must be God's will. If Paul prayed for you to have the spirit of wisdom and revelation, then you can pray for the spirit of wisdom and revelation.

If we pray for anything according to God's will, we know that we have it. The Holy Spirit is the spirit of wisdom and revelation. There is only one Spirit for Christians. If you have Him, you have the spirit of revelation; and if you have the spirit of revelation, then you have the revelation gifts. You have the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and discernment of spirits.

I Timothy 1:7 says, 'For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind'. If God has given us the spirit of power, then we have the spirit of power. Believe it in your heart, and confess it with your mouth. If you have the Holy Spirit, then you have the spirit of power: and if you have the spirit of power, then you have the power gifts. You have the gifts of faith, working of miracles, and of healings.

POWER GIFTS

'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be condemned. And these signs shall follow them that believe: in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues: they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover'. Mark 16:16-18.

Here we have listed for us one vocal gift and three power gifts. The power gifts are the gift of faith, the working of miracles, and the gifts of healing. The vocal gift included here is speaking in tongues. God says that these signs shall follow them that believe. They are for all believers.

'He that believeth' it says, 'shall be saved'. 'Them that believe' it says, shall

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 13)

have these signs following them. 'He that believeth' is included in 'them that believe'. If you are saved, that proves that you have faith for the gifts. The reason we have not had more signs following is not lack of faith, but lack of obedience.

If you have saving faith, then you have tongue-talking faith. Speaking with tongues is included here in the Great Commission. In Matthew the Great Commission is stated, 'Go ye therefore and teach all nations.... teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you'. Is speaking in tongues a commandment? Under grace, it is. He said, 'I would that ye all spoke in tongues'.

Jesus said, 'If you love me, keep my commandments'. Speaking in tongues is included with the power gifts by Mark, because it is basic to our Spirit-filled Christian experience. It has been called, and rightly so, the 'initial evidence' of the baptism in the Holy Spirit. He that speaketh in a tongue edifieth himself. We must be built up ourselves, before we can have something for our brothers and sisters. If you do not feel that you have yet attained to the spiritual heights God has for you, then speaking in tongues is for you.

The power gifts of faith and working of miracles are represented by casting out demons and taking up serpents. To drink any deadly thing and not be hurt is a miracle, because it sets aside the natural law of death by poisoning. These signs are for all believers. Luke 10:19 says, 'Behold, I give you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you'.

We have been given authority to bind the powers of darkness. Psalm 149:9 says, 'This honour have all his saints'. In Matthew 8:9, the centurion said, 'For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me; and I say to this one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it'. And Jesus marvelled and said, 'I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel'.

A knowledge of how authority

works gives us great faith. When we obey God, then the devil and his demons have to obey us. When we were the children of darkness, we lived in the devil's world. We were under the authority of the prince of the powers of the air. But when we were translated into the kingdom of his dear Son, we became children of light. We were lifted into a new realm. In Christ, we are now seated on a heavenly throne, far above all principalities and powers.

Now we have the authority. Satan can no longer control us, but we can control him. We are in his world, but not of it. We have escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. We have the delegated authority to use the name that is above every name. In Jesus' name, we can cast out demons. In Jesus' name, we tell Satan to go, and he has to go.

In Genesis 1:28, God gave man dominion over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. Dominion means supreme authority, or rule. All living things have to obey us. Demons, you see, are living things. Germs and microbes are living things. Cancers, warts, and cataracts are living things. Serpents, scorpions, and wild beasts are living things. The cells in our own bodies are living things. All we have to do is tell them what to do, and they have to obey us.

Jesus said, in John 14:12, 'Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father'. Greater works than Jesus? Jesus turned water into wine; Jesus rebuked the wind; Jesus walked on the water; Jesus raised the dead to life; Jesus said we could do greater works than these, because he went to his Father.

If we cannot believe Jesus, who can we believe? Greater works are for 'he that believeth' on me. If you have believed on Jesus for salvation, then believe on him for greater works. It is the same thing. The reason we can do greater works is because he went to his Father. When he went to his Father, he sent the Holy Spirit. If we have the Holy Spirit, we have the same power that Jesus had. The same miracle gifts will work in our life that worked in his.

Revelation 11:15 says, 'The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ'. Jesus is the Lord, the Head of the body? we are the members of the body of

Christ. I Corinthians 12:12 says that Christ is not one member, but a body. Jesus is the Lord; we are his, the body. The kingdoms of this world are ours. The animal kingdom is ours; the spirit kingdom is ours; the mineral kingdom is ours; the vegetable kingdom is ours; the chemical kingdom is ours. All the kingdoms are ours. We have complete dominion and authority.

But if we are going to rule in these kingdoms, we have to learn to give orders. Jesus cursed the fig tree. He rebuked the wind and the waves. He taught that if a mountain was in the way, to speak to it. The word of God in our mouth is both negative and positive; it can be used to create, and it can be used to destroy. Provers 18:21 says, 'Death and life are in the power of the tongue'.

Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost. There are to be no alien life-forms there. Cancers, cataracts, warts, growths are to be cursed in Jesus' name. We are to be full of the Paraclete, not full of parasites. Cast out the infirm spirits, the deaf spirits, the dumb spirits, the blind spirits. Hang out the 'No hitch-hiking sign. Speak a word of health, of growth, of restoration, to the areas that need it. Glorify God in your bodies!

Finally, 'they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover'. Here we have the gifts of healing coming into operation. They are set into operation by the laying on of hands. Any of the other gifts may come into play at this time also, but the purpose is for healing. Healing is a process. We know that they shall recover, because God said 'they shall recover'. If they do not recover today, then they will recover tomorrow.

Physical healings take time, because of the soul healing involved. God has to make adjustments in our habits and thought-life, so that we can keep our healing. 'I pray that you....be in health, even as your soul prospereth'. The body is the safety valve for the pressures of the soul. Sometimes, after prayer for healing, something happens that really stuns us. That is God's anesthetic. Praise God! You asked for healing, didn't you? Then hold still for the operation.

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The Power of the Tongue

by Carter Foster

The tongue is something that everyone of us uses a great deal every day. We each use this gift many hours of each day without thinking of its significance. The Bible says that the tongue has the power of life and death. I want to talk to you about the power of your tongue. Of course, the tongue is only an instrument. What it does, speaking, confessing, or talking is the area of our concern.

The Bible speaks of three kinds of confession. We are usually aware of the first one, confession of sin, which is what most people think of when confession is mentioned. Confession of sin, however, is not directed as often toward those who do not know Jesus, as it is toward Christians. It is a Christian confession of sin that is needed. I John says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Once they are recognized, help from God is easily found. But, confession of daily sins is directed to the Christian more so than the unbeliever. The second form of confession, which is directed to the unbeliever, is confessing Jesus as Lord. We are so anxious to get people to confess their sins that we often neglect the more important confession of making Jesus Lord of their lives. Rom. 10 says "If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved."

The very backbone of our Faith is confessing Jesus as Lord. If you have never come face to face with Jesus in a personal way, maybe you have done as so many others, you have spent your time confessing sin without moving into the greater confession, confessing Jesus as your Lord. Turn to him in prayer, trust him, receive him, then confess out loud with your own lips, "Jesus is Lord of my life." On the promise of God himself, as you believe and confess, you will become a new being.

The third kind of confession is usually ignored completely. We not only need to confess our sins, and confess Jesus as our Lord, but we need to confess the Word.

Confession of the Word of God is a master key in building a life of Faith. In Mark 2 Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea', and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you receive it and you will." What we speak or confess either builds or destroys our faith. If we continually speak doubt, depressions, and fear, we will reap a life equal to our confession. If, however, we begin to confess what God has said to us regardless of our circumstances, our faith will be built. "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God," or

as the Revised Standard Version puts it, "by the preaching of Christ".

We use this tongue of ours almost all day long without realizing that we hold life and death, faith or doubt, strength or weakness in this small instrument. James says that the tongue is like the rutter of a ship, small as it is it controls the whole vessel, or it is like the bit in a horse's mouth, when you control the mouth you control the whole animal. Prov. 18:21 says that "Death and life are in the power of the tongue and those who love it will eat its fruits." I have seen fathers and mothers constantly rebuke their children until all the life or spirit was driven from them. If we continually tell them they are no good, will never amount to anything, and that we don't know what will ever become of them, we will probably get what we confess. But if we use that same instrument of power, the tongue, we can also build life, strength and faith into our children.

Jesus made it as plain as only He can in Matt. 12, when He spoke to the Pharisees, "You brood of vipers, how can you speak good when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgement men will render account for every careless word they utter; for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

What you speak will either produce faith in your heart and those around you or it will break their spirit. Prov. 15 says "A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit."

Begin to let your lips and tongue become the instrument of God so that he can speak life into your loved ones. Jesus made a marvelous confession that we can make ourselves by faith with Him. He says in John 6:63, "It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is of no avail; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Get into God's Word and let it penetrate your thinking and your speaking. You don't have to use the King James Version or the Revised Version, put it into your own language and speak it forth to those around you, for it brings life.

If you would like to be filled with the Spirit of God, Eph. 5:18 says, "Be filled with the spirit, speaking to yourselves, in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord". Begin confessing God's Word today. First to yourself, then to those around you.

Remember there are three kinds of confession. Confession of sin, which is for the Christians, Confession of Jesus as Lord, which makes you a Christian and Confession of the Word of God which builds Christian faith. Confess with me daily what Jesus said, "The words that I speak unto you are spirit and life."

GrapE Juice For

Alan stood near the gate and gazed intently toward the school building. What was keeping Roger so long? They had planned to run the obstacle course again today. Once more he searched the busy playground to see if he had missed Roger. The day was bright and the air was crisp— just the kind of day to make a school playground a wonderful place to be.

With Roger still nowhere to be seen Alan started ambling over towards the obstacle course. He was just a few feet away from the swings when he saw one of his classmates dash straight into the path of a swing. The corner of the swing caught Beth on the side of the head throwing her to the ground.

Both lay quietly on the ground as a crowd of children gathered quickly. Alan reached her first and forgetting himself and all those around him he stooped down beside her and prayed, "Jesus, help quickly! Jesus help Beth. Help her now, Jesus."

Then the teachers were there pushing all the children away and Alan looked up to see Roger standing there with a sneer on his face. "Jesus help Beth," he mocked in a high false voice. Then in a cutting tone he asked, "Do you really believe that 'Jesus stuff'?"

Alan's face turned white. He felt as if he had been slapped. Was this his friend Roger with whom he had played everyday now for two weeks? Finally he was able to find his voice and he said, "Yes, I believe in Jesus." With that he turned and walked away.

He saw the ambulance come and take Beth away and he stopped short and thought to himself——Do I really believe Jesus heard me?——suppose Beth is already dead! Then there came a soft, quiet feeling deep within him and somehow Alan knew that Jesus had heard him. He knew, but he didn't know how he knew, that Jesus was helping Beth.

On the way back to his classroom Alan caught sight of Roger talking to some boys in his

class. He saw Roger point to him and laugh. Back in class he noticed these boys whispering to some others and looking in his direction.

At the supper table that night Alan's mother quizzed him. "What's eating on you, Alan? You haven't said two words since you came in from school, and now you aren't eating any supper. Are you sick?"

"I guess.....in sort of a way.....but not really.....not like being sick at your stomach or anything."

Daddy laid his fork down and leaned over to Alan, "Can you tell us about it? Maybe we can help you. At least we can talk to the Lord about it."

Prayer on the Playground

by Anna Lee Carlton

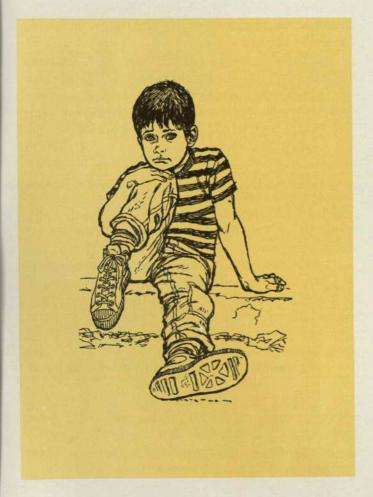
WIDTEN

Alan nodded, "Yes, I guess....maybe." Then he told them about the accident and how he had prayed out loud in his excitement and how Roger, his playground friend, had made fun of him.

Mother and Daddy felt Alan's suffering and for a moment neither of them spoke. Then Daddy smiled and said, "Well, son, you have good reason to be happy."

Alan gazed at his father in unbelief. What was the matter with him..... didn't he hear right? How could he say he had reason to be happy? You can't be happy when someone makes fun of you.

Mother smiled at Alan's questioning look. "I



know the scripture Daddy has in mind, Alan, but I don't understand all that it means. Perhaps you are going to teach us how it works."

Daddy reached over to the buffet behind him and got the Bible. He opened it to 1 Peter 4:14 and read, "If you are reproached for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory and of God rests upon you."

"What does reproach mean?" Alan asked.

"It means to insult, scorn, disgrace or make fun of someone. Peter says if you are made fun of because you love Jesus, then you are to be happy because you will have the Holy Spirit resting upon you. The Holy Spirit will comfort you and bring joy to your heart. Mother and I will pray with you about this."

Alan lifted his shoulders back and said, "You don't need to, now. Pass the stew, please, Mother. I'm hungry!"

Mother and Daddy looked at each other. Mother lifted her shoulders, too, as if a heavy burden had slipped away. "I've learned a big lesson tonight. I've learned that the Holy Spirit works fast sometimes. One minute Alan is all down in the dumps and can't eat and then before you can say 'Jack Robinson' he is feeling fine and is hungry as a bear."

"Sure," Alan grinned, "Just like Peter says, 'be happy'!"

The next afternoon Alan came dashing in from school full of excitement. "Guess what, Mother? Guess what?"

"Tell me quick, Alan!"

"My teacher went to the hospital to see Beth last night and she is going to be all right. She'll be back to school next week for sure. And that isn't all, either. Beth told Mrs. Brown that she heard me praying for her. She said she thought she was going to die at first, but when she heard me asking Jesus to help her she wasn't afraid anymore because she knew Jesus would do that. And then...guess what Mrs. Brown said? She told the class she was glad to have a boy in her room that was as brave as I was yesterday. She told me to never be ashamed to pray no matter where I was."

Mother nodded her head and smiled, "Praise the Lord! Isn't that just like the Lord? He heard your prayer for Beth and turned your reproach into praise."

"And something else, too, Mother."

"You mean there is more?"

Alan chuckled, "Yes! Roger asked me to run the obstacle course with him today."

Did you?"
"Yes, I did."

SEVENTEEN

HOW'S YOUR CROWD DOING?

by Wes Smith

A key to the abundant life is found in the story of Jesus feeding the 4,000. When used properly, this same principle brings nourishment in today's desert.

At the outset of this event (Matthew 15: 32-38, LNT) Jesus makes the statement, "I don't want to send them away hungry or they will faint along the road."

As in His encounters with groups of people, this episode is a microcosym of humanity on the road of life. Not only was Jesus concerned about those 4,000 fainting along the road because they had not eaten, but He is still concerned for all mankind in its struggle by the side of life's road. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. If He was interested in their need then, He is interested in people's needs today. This is a part of His unchangeable nature.

There are many people who question God's interest and love for humanity: "Why doesn't He do something about famine, war, sickness, etc.? If He is truly concerned, then why doesn't He act? Why the silent non-involvement?"

The answer to these questions is found in this passage and is a very simple, uncomplicated one. God has chosen to help people through people! And He does it by using the very principles set forth in this story of the feeding of the 4,000. Just as natural laws

consistently work when used (gravitation, heat, pressures, etc.) so these truths work when put to the test in the spiritual realm.

The first law to notice is found in what Jesus told His disciples, "I pity these people." There must be a genuine concern for those in need. Any other motivation will collapse the rest of the system. This first link in a powerful chain must be a strong one. The weakest link theory applies for spiritual truths as well.

Jesus didn't say, "I want to help these hungry people because everyone will see what a charitable person I am." He said, "I feel sorry for them. I pity them." He was motivated by a heart-felt concern. He was involved emotionally because He loved them.

The second point to observe is the reaction of the disciples. They, too, were touched in their hearts by the need; but all they could think about was the negative aspects of their predicament: what they did not have. "Where would we get enough food for all of them?" they asked.

Cold logic is good for many situations, but it is never a good substitute for naked faith. Concentrating on what you don't have will never give you what you need. Those disciples could have discussed the fact that they didn't have enough food to go around until doomsday. No matter how many seminars or discussion groups they would have

formed, this would never have filled the bellies of the crowd.

Jesus knew this, and so very pointedly He brought them to the third part of this lesson. "How much food do you have?" He asked them. God is never concerned with what you don't have. What you don't have will never help anyone. The real vital question is: What do you have? Is it insignificant? Is it unrelated to the needs around you? Is it so small in comparison with the aches and pains of all the crowds of humanity that you have not considered it?———Or perhaps not even noticed it?

Jesus asks the same question today. "What do you have?" The answer: "Hardly anything——just seven loaves of bread and a few small fish."

"Hardly anything?" Jesus answers. "What you have is exactly what I want to use!"

Thousands of wonderful Christian people are missing the great blessing of seeing others helped because they have never really believed that God could use them and what they have. In fact, they have never even considered it. They have passed through life talking about and enjoying what God was doing in someone else's experience, but have never dared to think that the miraculous could touch their own experience.

If you are one of these Christians, I challenge you to dare God to take your little bread and fish. Many shrink back in fear at this point and say in the private passageways of their minds, "He'll never accept me. He'll never take what I have to offer. I'm too small. I'm too unknown. I'm too weak. What I have is too little to amount to anything."

These thoughts come directly from Satan! He does not want the crowd helped. He does not want the world reached for Christ. During each Christian's life there is the opportunity to reach a crowd composed of thousands. Let the devil convince you that you're too little or that what you have is too small and you've lost your crowd to him and to hell. Believe the Devil at this point and you'll be that ever-watching-Christian —— always seeing the needs around you, but never really doing anything about them.

Forget about what you don't have; forget about how small the amount is you do have; and take action. Do something positive for once in your life. Get off of the negative aspects of your situation and give God your little portion of bread and fish! Inactivity and negativism will never get you anywhere in life.

God will not only prove the devil to be a liar by taking what you feel is insignificant, but He'll work a miracle with it to help someone else.

1. He took the seven loaves and the fish.

- 2. He gave thanks to God for them.
- 3. He divided them into pieces and gave them to the disciples,
- 4. Who then fed the whole crowd and had more left over than when they started.

Our task is not to meet the needs of others. All we have to do is take the first step and then just relax and watch the laws work. Give Him what you have. He will accept it. If you haven't been able to thank God for the little you've had, then Jesus will do it for you. Thanking God is a spiritual law that always causes Him to increase that which you have thanked Him for. After the increase He will give it back to you, blessed and full of power, (be it your life, money, talent, etc.) and you simply pass it on to the crowd, who, gets fed instead of going on in hunger and despair.

See the hungry crowds? See the need? Don't worry that you don't have the answer. Don't be concerned because of what you don't have. Be positive! Look at what you've got, be it ever so small, and give it to Jesus Christ. God used the small arm of Moses and the unseen wind to part the Red Sea for the deliverance of His people. The long hair of Samson, though seemingly insignificant, made him strong for God. Tiny David stood before Goliath and slew him with a small, smooth stone.

Ignore the devil's negativism. Get into the heat of battle. Give what you can,——not what you can't. Soon you'll find that miracles don't have to happen to a select few popular and famous men of God. They can and will happen in your life. Don't send your crowd away to faint for hunger by the side of life's troubled road. Let God meet their needs through your obedience to these principles: His spiritual laws for helping humanity.

To those who are blaming God for His non-involvement I merely ask, "What are you doing about it?" Are you brooding because you can't do anything? You can, if you'll do it His way.

You say, "Don't feed me that line. It won't work in my case. I don't have anything to give."

These spiritual laws will work in any situation because it is the Word of God! Six years ago I came to Jesus Christ with nothing but a broken heart and an awareness that I was a sinner. Since then He has taken my "nothingness," blessed it, and used it.

It is so simple. As we continue repeating this process of giving it to Him, watching Him work the miracles is most gratifying. Don't tell me it won't work. That's negativism. Of course it works! This is not a theory. I'm watching it work daily in the lives of thousands of people. This is experiential truth from Jesus Christ.

I dare you to put Him to the test.

A Personal Letter From One of Our Readers

Dear Brothers in Christ,

For many years the Lord allowed me to be a seeker and wander from one false religion to another weird cult. All of them has some truth, but none the Life Truth of Redemption through Jesus Christ.

One of these cults was a group called _______ I had stopped communications with this organization, but was questioned by them as to my reasons for doing so. After considerable thought and prayer I replied and gave them my answer, as honestly and Biblically as I could.

The original copy of this letter has gone to the organization. However, it occurred to me that this testimony may be of value to others also. If you think you can use it in one way or another, please feel free to do so.

In His service,

Mrs. Aubrey Beauchamp

By Mrs. Aubrey Beauchamp

hank you for your letter of inquiry as to my whereabouts. No, I have not moved nor intend to do so. I feel a little guilty of suddenly discontinuing all communications with your organization without explanation. Since this explanation is now long overdue, I'll attempt at this time to give you a coherent answer. It may take some time, but please bear with me and I'll be as brief as possible.

All my life I was a seeker. In the course of this seeking journey I joined and became interested in many religions, philosophies, movements, etc. etc. They all seemed to have some truth and yet never completely satisfied me in a lasting way. I then became interested in flying saucers and related subjects and the Unity church organization. Through them I got involved in psyanetics and your organization. Your publications I found very interesting and fascinating. It often mentioned the Bible and seemed to adhere to its guidelines. Not that I believed at that time the Bible was in its entirety the inspired Word of God, but I had always admitted that it did give one some basic directions. I accepted only that which my natural mind understood and appreciated.

Then, one night, when all was quiet and I was alone, a question was put bluntly and clearly in my mind. It disturbed me. I could not answer it satisfactorily, but it persisted and sort of came to live there. It said:

WHAT SIGNIFICANCE DOES THE DEATH OF MY SON HAVE ON YOUR LIFE???



I believed in Jesus. I liked His teachings and I thought He really was a great Prophet and a very highly advanced soul. But whether He had died from old age or from an accident or whether He was crucified for offenses He had never committed really made very little difference to me. Yet that question persisted and just would not leave me alone. It seemed too foolish that the death of a man some 2,000 years ago would have any effect on my life.

But then, to my dismay, I read:

"For Christ sent me to preach the gospel," Paul said, "not with words of wisdom, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us who are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? Where is the disputer of this age? Hath not God made FOOLISH the wisdom of this world? For after that, in the wisdom of God, the world BY WISDOM KNEW NOT GOD, it pleased God by the FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom. But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Gentiles FOOLISHNESS. But unto them who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the FOOLISHNESS OF GOD IS WISER THAN MAN and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For ye see your calling brethern, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God hath chosen the FOOLISH THINGS OF THE WORLD TO CONFOUND THE THINGS WHICH ARE MIGHTY." (1 Cor. 1:17:27)

My intellect stood stripped and shattered. I got to my knees and prayed something like this: "Lord, the Bible says Jesus Christ was Your only begotten Son and that He died on the cross for my sins so that if I believe on Him I should not perish but have everlasting Life. I really don't understand all the implications of that, but if it is true I WANT TO KNOW IT. Yes, indeed, if it is true I accept the fact that Jesus was God Incarnate, and that He died for me. Please show me and make me understand. I also want You to take my life, not just

part of it, but ALL of it and do with it whatever YOU want me to do. Thank You for taking me up on this commitment."

It was a simple prayer and nothing much happened at that moment. Later on I discovered I had acquired a tremendous appetite for reading the Bible. Things that never made sense before, suddenly came to life. I read John 3:16 again: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting Life." This said a lot. First of all, Jesus WAS God's only begotten Son and not just a highly evolved prophet and secondly, if we did NOT believe on Him we WOULD perish. But now why should we perish? Wasn't God a God of love? Unable to comprehend such apparent contradictions I searched the Word again.

THE NATURAL MIND "But the natural mind receiveth NOT the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, neither CAN he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." (I Cor. 2:14). All right, if they are spiritually discerned, HOW do you become spiritual? The answer appeared in John 3. There it clearly stated that we must be

BORN AGAIN. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. For except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."..."Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the WORD OF GOD which liveth and abideth forever." (1 Peter 1:12)

But if God wanted us to be born of His Spirit, then what were we in His sight without this re-birth or Spirit birth? In other words

WHAT IS MAN IN GOD'S SIGHT? "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags and we all fade as a leaf and our iniquities like the wind, have taken us away." (Isa. 64:6) "There is none righteous, no not one."and..."That every mouth may be stopped and ALL THE WORLD MAY BECOME GUILTY BEFORE GOD" (Rom. 3:10 and 19). "For ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23) and "The wages of sin is death." (Rom. 6:23)

BUT WHY, IF GOD CREATED US IN HIS IMAGE, WERE WE GUILTY?

Jesus spoke of the prince of this world. "Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world be cast out." (John 12:31) and "Hereafter I will not talk much with you, for the prince of this world cometh and hath nothing in me." (John 14:30) This was also mentioned in John 16:11 and Rev. 13:8. What did He mean by that?? Is the prince of this world the same as the devil, or Satan, or

(Continued on next page)

A Personal Letter From One of Our Readers

(Continued from page 21)

antichrist? I never really believed this character existed, but now I read some very revealing information about this personality. Isa. 14-12:17 describes the original fall of Lucifer from heaven and his banishment to the earth:

"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning. How art thou cut down to the ground, who did weaken the nations. For thou hast said in thine heart I WILL ascend into heaven, I WILL "exalt my throne above the stars of God, I WILL sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north. I WILL ascend above the heights of the clouds, I WILL be like the most High."

"Yet thou shalt be brought down to sheol, to the sides of the pit. They who see thee shall look narrowly upon thee, and consider thee, saying: 'IS THIS THE MAN WHO MADE THE EARTH TO TREMBLE WHO DID SHAKE KINGDOMS, WHO MADE THE WORLD LIKE A WILDERNESS AND DESTROYED ITS CITIES, WHO OPENED NOT THE HOUSE OF HIS PRISONERS?"

I noticed Satan had repeatedly said I WILL, while Jesus' constant assertion was that He came NOT to do His own will but HIS FATHER'S WILL. Jesus also confirms Satan's fall in Luke 10:18 where He said: "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."

Satan was disguised as the serpent. He tempted Eve who yielded and in turn tempted Adam and they both lost communion with God (or their spiritual birth)... "you shall die THE DAY you eat thereof"...God told Adam NOT to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, but he disobeyed. He said: "Not THINE WILL but MINE WILL be done in this," thus echoing Satan's own statement which caused his fall. "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all man, FOR ALL HAVE SINNED." (Rom. 5:12)

What else does the Bible have to say about this Lucifer? SATAN AS PRINCE AND GOD OF THIS WORLD:

Perverts the scriptures: (Matt. 4:6)

Opposes God's work. (Zech. 3:1)

Hinders the Gospel. (Matt. 13:19)

Also 2 Cor. 4:4 "In whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them who believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

Works lying wonders...,

"Even him whose coming is after the workings of Satan with ALL POWER AND SIGNS AND LYING WONDERS (2 Thess. 2:9) For they are spirits of demons, working miracles that go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." (Rev. 16:14)

Appears as an angel of light.

"For such are false prophets, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel, for Satan himself is TRANSFORMED INTO AN ANGEL OF LIGHT. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness whose end shall be according to their work." (2 Cor. 11:14)

Is the father of all lies. (John 8:44) (I Kings 22:22)

Desires to have apostles. "Satan has desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat." (Luke 22:31)

Character of Satan is subtle.

"But I fear, (Paul writes) lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his craftiness, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preaching another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another Spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him." (2 Cor. 11:3) and deceitful: "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." (Eph. 6:11)

So this is why we are sinners. We are born under the bondage of the chief of sinners who was cast out of heaven because of his I WILL. A spirit of rebellion. Are we all like him??? Do we ever consider Him who created us? Can we ever be free from our own self- centeredness? From this I WILL and I SAY and I THINK and I DO? Where had it lead us in the past? Looking around me I clearly saw the devastating results of a world full of I WILL people. Had our basic nature evolved one iota since the days of Adam or Abraham or David or Jesus? Aren't we all in need of deliverance? The I WILL is a disease from which we all suffer. It is called basic sin. "For by one man's disobedience many were made sinner, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." (Room. 5:19) The problem and the answer are clearly stated. And again: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal Life through Jesus Christ, our Lord." (Rom. 6:23) But then, WHAT is the full scope of this Jesus Christ?

JESUS, CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with

God, and the Word was God." (John1:1) "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." (John 1:14)

"Thou Lord, in the beginning, has laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands." (Hebr. 1:10)

"For it became Him, FOR WHOM ARE ALL THINGS AND BY WHOM ARE ALL THINGS...." (Heb. 2:10)

Having come thus far, suddenly my original question came into focus again:

WHAT RELATIONSHIP DOES THE DEATH OF JESUS have to my life?

Now I was beginning to see something. The word SALVATION, always brushed aside or ignored, appeared again and again. It smelled of the word SALVAGED. But then, if I already stood condemned before God without Christ, I needed to be salvaged, even though my human pride and dignity did not like to admit to it. But God says: "Do not rely on your understanding." (Prov. 3:5) and: "There is a way that seemeth right to man, but the end thereof is death."

DID JESUS DIE FOR MY SINS? DID THE SHEDDING OF HIS BLOOD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH MY LIFE?

"But God commanded His love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us, much more than, being justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, WE WERE RECONCILED TO GOD BY THE DEATH OF HIS SON, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only so, but also join in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received reconciliation." (Rom. 5-8:11)

"Who (Jesus Christ) being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the Word of His power, when he had BY HIMSELF PURGED OUR SINS, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." (Heb. 1:3)

"So Christ was ONCE OFFERED TO BEAR THE SINS OF MANY." (Heb. 9:28)

"Who (Christ) GAVE HIMSELF FOR OUR SINS that He might deliver us from this present evil age." (Gal. 1:4)

"In whom we have REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." (Eph. 1:7)

"And you hath He made alive who were DEAD IN TRESPASSES AND SINS. In which in times past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience...But God, even when we were dead in sins, hath made us alive together with Christ. For by GRACE are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the GIFT of God, NOT OF WORKS, lest any man should boast. (Eph. 2-1, 2, 5, 8:9).

"Behold, the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world."

Well, that was pretty plain language. Yes, I needed a Redeemer. Yes, the death of the cross and the shedding of His blood should have a great significance in my life, but

WHAT MUST WE DO TO RECEIVE THIS REDEMPTION?

2,000 years ago, just after Pentecost, a crowd of people asked Peter this very same question. And what did Peter answer?

"(1)Repent, and (2) be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive (3) the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:39)

By this time the Spirit of God, by His grace, had convicted me. I knelt down again and (1) repented. Repented for ignoring God's Word, for ignoring God's ways and trying to live by my own wits, my own intelligence, my own common sense. All my convictions were based on these faculties, but where was the PEACE, the VICTORY and the JOY the Bible promises? I certainly had experienced moments of peace and joy, but I could never honestly say it was a living reality.

Well, praise God, He heard my confession and truly gave me a NEW BIRTH experience. Why hadn't anyone ever told me about this???

"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation, Old Things are passed away. Behold, all things are become new!" (2 Cor. 5:17)

Shortly afterwards I was (2) baptised in water, affirming the washing away of the old things and emerging as a new creature in Him. All of a sudden I clearly saw the prince of this world at work in lives of all men and women not BORN AGAIN in Christ, since only He overcame the works of the devil. But, praise God, not I can say: "Greater is He that is in me, than he who is in the world." (1John 4:4)

But what about the (3) gift of the Holy Spirit? All four Gospels and the book of Acts record that Jesus will baptise us with His Holy Spirit, e.g. John 1:33: "Upon who thou shalt see the Spirit descending and REMAINING, on Him, the same

(Continued on page 26)



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BASHAM

REV. DON W. BASHAM was born and raised in Wichita Falls, Texas. In 1951 he left a promising career in commercial art in that city to enter the Christian ministry. He received his B.A. degree and B.D. degree from Phillips University and its Graduate Seminary in Enid, Okla. Following a five-year pastorate in suburban Washington, D.C., he became pastor of the Hillcrest Christian Church in Toronto, Canada, then went on to

serve as pastor of the East Side Disciples of Christ Church in Sharon, Pa. In both the Hillcrest and East Side churches, there was a marvelous outpouring of the Holy Spirit. At the present time, Rev. Basham is a freelance lecturer, teacher, author and evangelist. His ministry is international, He is best known for his first book, "Face Up With A Miracle." Rev. Basham currently makes his home in Pompano Beach, Florida, with his wife, Alice and their family.



MUMFORD

REV. BOB MUMFORD graduated from Northeast Bible Institute, attended the University of Delaware and completed his work for the Bachelor Degree at the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Married to Judy, they enjoy their four active children, two boys and two girls. Bob is very much in demand as a speaker on relating Christian living to our contemporary

times. His varied experiences as student, Navy enlisted man, teacher, dean and pastor give him a broad understanding of human needs. Bob, Judy and their family now make their home in Fort Lauderdale, Florida where he heads "Bob Mumford Bible Teaching and Living Tapes."



DERSTINE

REV. GERALD DERSTINE, spirit-filled former Mennonite evangelist, has traveled and ministered extensively across the fifty states of the U.S.A. since 1955. At that time a pheonmenal visitation of God took place in his rural Mennonite church in northern Minnesota. Rev. Derstine has ministered to the Chippewa Indians on the White Earth Reservation in

Minnesota for nearly five years prior to his inter-denominational world-wide ministry today. Besides his ministry to various Oriental national, Rev. Derstine has traveled to and ministered in nine European countries and different Caribbean countries, teaching the Christian truths pertaining to the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.



MOORE

REV. JIM MOORE is a native of Louisiana. He graduated from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1965 and pastored a Southern Baptist Church in Ruston, Louisiana for eight years. In 1967, he and his wife, Dottie, received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Since 1968 Jim has ministered to home fellowships in North Louisiana along with various conventions.

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NEW WINE TWENTY FIVE

A Personal Letter From One of Our Readers

(Continued from page 23)

is He who baptiseth with the Holy Spirit."Since Jesus as the living Son of God had become such a reality in my life, I asked Him in just a simple prayer to baptize me also with His Holy Spirit. After all, the Bible says He is the same yesterday, today and forever! (Hebr. 13:8)

Well...He did!!! He filled me to overflowing and I have been praising Him ever since. "Out of your belly shall flow RIVERS OF LIVING WATER." (John 7:38) What glorious liberty to be freed from the darkness of my own spiritual understanding. "If the Son therefore will make you free, you shall be free indeed!" (John 8:36)

Now Matthew 7:13-14 became crystal clear:

"Enter in at the narrow gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be who go that way."

"Because narrow is the gate, and hard is the way which leadeth unto Life, and few there be that find it."

I had always believed I was a born child of God. That, I found, is directly contrary to what God's Word says. It is the biggest lie ever invented and is written all over the broad gate that leads to destruction. We ARE a physical creation of God, but spiritually we are born children of iniquity, a self-willed people, and only through God's provision, His Son and His atoning death on the cross, can we come back into fellowship with Him again. Since I had to come through the narrow gate, I had to die to my own ego. But this enabled me to observe the prince of this world who so cleverly had disguised himself all these years.

What a deliverance!!!

What assurance!!!

What freedom and joy!!!

Our Lord said that He came so our JOY may be full. Well, my joy IS full. My cup is running over. It does not come and go but is the permanent heavenly peace from above which our natural understanding can never fathom. I'm a willing bondslave of Jesus, the LIVING Son of God and by His Holy Spirit He has given me of His power. (Acts 1:8)

WHY DID I STOP COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR ORGANIZATION?

These are some of the things I have come to appreciate

and understand as God's purposes and plans for this world. I never did find them presented like this by your group. Other principles and facts that your group teaches I do not find in the Bible either. Yet the Word of God closes with the admonition that nothing should be added or taken away from it.

Nowhere in the Bible do I find that Jesus was a reincarnation of Buddha or Moses or anyone else, as your group asserts (On the contrary, on the Mount of Transfiguration Jesus SPOKE with Moses.) It only states over and over again that He was the ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THE LAMB THAT TAKETH AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD. In this sense the Jesus Christ presented by your group does not have much in common with the Jesus Christ I now know so intimately.

Paul warns us in Romans 17:18 not to accept contradicting doctrines, for by GOOD WORDS and FAIR SPEECHES are the hearts of the innocent deceived. The spirit of antichrist as well as the Spirit of God is poured out upon all flesh. The spirit of anti-christ is NOT AGAINST Christ, but a clever imitator of Christ. By the way, it has taken me about two years to clearly see this in the world today. The great imitator of Christ is appearing today as an angel of light with great signs and lying wonders.

I believe the Holy Bible is, in its entirety, God's inspired Word to His people and is, as such, more up to date than tomorrow's newspaper. We are in the last days. Jesus' second coming is imminent. All the telltale signs are clearly manifested. I believe in the rapture, the tribulation and the Judgement Day. However, I doubt if the Lord needs a spaceship or any other vehicle to herald His second coming or catch up His Church, as stated by your group.

Lastly, it is this unspeakable joy and glorious experience of being born again and baptised in Jesus' Holy Spirit, giving me a direct hot-line to the Lord Himself, which has given me the absolute certainty and reality of the living presence of Jesus Christ as Lord and SAVIOUR of my life.

I am no longer a seeker.

I have arrived!

I can say with St. Paul: "I KNOW whom I have believed!"

"He that believeth on the Son of God had the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar, because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son." (1 John 5:10)

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Aubrey Beauchamp, 34692 Calle Los Robles, Capistrano Beach, Calif. 92624.

Breaking of Bread

By Charles Simpson



"And He took Bread, and gave thanks, and brake it and gave unto them. . ." (Luke 22:19) ". . .and they continued daily with one accord breaking bread from house to house." (Acts 2:46)

Continued from Gospel of John

Writer: Apostle John

Date: 90 A.D. (Approximately)

Origin: Ephesus Theme: 20:31

SUBJECT: The Word is. . . THE MESSIAH (The Evangelist)

(1) Jesus enjoyed a brief ministry in Judea. More and more people were coming to Him and soon He was making and baptizing more disciples than John the Baptist. However, the gospel points out that Jesus baptized no one, leaving this work to be done by His disciples. The reports of His successful ministry reached the Pharisees and this increased their hostility toward Him. (2) Further more at this time the word reached Jesus of the imprisonment of John by Herod Antipas. Because of the increased hostility of the Pharisees in Jerusalem, Jesus was led to go to a more favorable atmosphere in Galilee. (3) Jesus was not running from opposition, but He would chose His time and place to meet it. His hour had not yet come. (4) At the beginning of Jesus' public ministry His disciples baptized. Just before His departure into heaven Jesus commanded them to baptize. Believer's baptism (John 3:16) is the only kind referred to in the New Testament. Many people desired to be baptized. It is for those who sense their need and are confessing that faith that delivers them out of death into life. (5) "And he must needs go through Samaria." This was not a physical necessity since the customary route for Jews traveling between Judea and Galilee was to cross the Jordan River and journey north or south on its eastern side. The reason for this longer route was the stigma attached to Samaria, with its racially mixed people and polluted

(1) John 4:1-3

(2) Luke 3:19, 20
Mark 1:14

(3) John 8:20

(4) John 4:1-2
Matthew 28:19

(5) John 4:5

(6) II Kings 17:24-34 Nehemiah 4:1-3

- (7) John 4:5-8
- (8) John 4:7-9
- (9) John 4:10
- (10) John 4-14
- (11) John 4:15
- (12) John 4:17-19
- (13) John 4-20-24

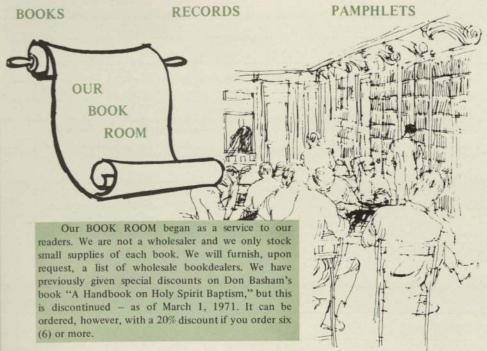
- (14) John 4:22 Numbers 24:17
- (15) John 4:25-26

worship. (6) The Samaritans were a hybrid race produced by a union of Israelites and other people sent into the northern kingdom following its conquest by Assyria. They later opposed the efforts to rebuild Jerusalem by the Jews following the Babylonian captivity.

Why was it that "He must needs go through Samaria?" The words written by John contain a spiritual meaning. The need was a spiritual compulsion because Jesus knew the experience that awaited him there. In ministry we need to heed those spiritual compulsions placed within us by the Holy Spirit. Jesus went through Samaria because there at noon He would meet a Samarian woman. It was an appointment of the Holy Ghost! (7) When Jesus and His disciples arrived at the well of Jacob, the disciples went into the nearby village to purchase food. Jesus sat down to rest. It was noon, the hottest time of the day. Usually the women came to draw water in the cool of the evening. A lone Samaritan woman came to draw water. She was a woman who lived a sordid life and could not associate with the decent women of the town.

- (8) Jesus began a conversation with the woman by establishing a common bond of need. The woman had come to draw water and Jesus was thirsty, so He said, "Give me a drink." It was a step of humiliation Jesus ignored the traditional barriers of race and sex and met her where she was. How often as those seeking to bring the good news of salvation we invite them to come up where we are rather than meeting them where they are.
- (9) Jesus contrasted the natural water in Jacob's well with the spiritual water which He could give her. The living water resided within Him. "If you only knew who asked you for a drink of water you would have asked Him for living water." God's gift of eternal life is wrapped up in Jesus Himself. Those who drink of the water from Jacob's well or any other religious site will thirst again. Religion, religious rites and symbols cannot satisfy. One may drink but he will thirst again.
- (10) Whoever drinks of Jesus will never, no, never thirst again. The reason is that the water from Jesus becomes a spring of water welling up within the one who receives Him. The water is no longer an external reality only. It has become an inner experience of satisfying, never ending life. (11) The woman desired this water but her first reason was only that her trips in the heat of the day could be ended. Jesus wasn't offended by her desire. He now moved to reveal to her, her deeper need for this eternal life. "God, call your husband."
- (12) The woman answered briefly "I have no husband." Then Jesus through a word of knowledge agreed that she had no husband but had had five and was even then living in adultery. His reply opened her understanding to His identity as a prophet. At this she sought to avoid the subject of her sinful life and turn the conversation into a theological controversy. (13) Towering above them was Mt. Gerizim where the Samaritans had their place of worship as over against the Jewish worship in Jerusalem. She sought refuge in this age old religious dispute. However, Jesus ministered life to her, not religious death. Jesus drew her back to the main question by pointing out that God is a Spirit whose true worship depends not upon the place but upon one's spirit in worship. True worship is found when the Holy Spirit overflows through our spirits in praise to Jesus.
- (14) Salvation is out of the Jews. The Messianic salvation was for the whole world but the Star would arise from out of the Jews.
- (15) The woman then brought up the question of the Messiah (anointed one, in Greek Christ). The Messiah was one who would reveal everything needful. Jesus then for the first time declared His Messiahship. "I that speak unto Thee am He." The WORD incarnate is the Messiah.

It is worthy to note that Jesus first disclosed His Messiahship, not to the theologians of His day, but to a wicked woman who needed deliverance.



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Dear Friend:

Just suppose . . .

You were told that you have six weeks to three months to live!

How would you rearrange your priorities?

Most of us never have this advantage . . .

We don't know how long we've got.

Not that one should be morbid about this...but death comes prematurely and unexpectedly to many.

In "Daily Readings from W.E. Sangster" (Fleming H. Revell), it is written - -

"You cannot count with absolute confidence on tomorrow. We are all mortal . . . It is just plain horse—sense to look at the conditions on which we hold life here.

"When you take a job you accept certain conditions of contract: a month's notice either way, or a week's. There is no such contract when you accept life.

"A moment's notice is all you may receive.

"A few years ago, in a restaurant not half a mile from here, at the annual dinner of a certain association opposed to religion, their chairman for the year was making an after-dinner speech.

"He was lampooning religion and guffawing over the vision the apostle Paul saw on the Damascus road. Presently - all the papers reported it the next morning - in the middle of a blasphemous sentence - he just went pale and sat down.

"He was dead. 'Heart failure,' said the coroner.

"The notice can be as short as that!

"The future is not ours."

Why not arrange your priorities on that basis?

"What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes . . ." -James 4:14 (RSV).

Cordially,

Richard C. Halverson

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