

**SUGGESTED
OUTLINES**

for

**SCRIPTURAL
STUDY**



By Roy Loney

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FOR
SCRIPTURAL STUDY



Prepared for Indoctrination and
Development work among the
Churches of Christ



BY
ROY LONEY
927 Louisiana
Lawrence, Kansas



“And the things which thou hast
heard of me among many witnesses,
the same commit thou to faithful men
who shall be able to teach others also.”
—II Timothy 2:2.

A CHRISTIAN'S BIRTH

A life begins with a birth or germination:
Genesis 1:11.*

A birth is the beginning of our spiritual life; and is essential to salvation.

John 3:3-5. In physical life there must be a begetting and then a birth.

WE ARE BEGOTTEN BY THE SPIRIT.

1 Cor. 4:15; James 1:18; John 1:18.

The Bible contains the words of the Spirit:
John 6:63; Luke 8:11.

The seed is sown into our hearts: Luke 8:15;
Acts 15:7.

WE ARE BORN OF WATER:

This is baptism:

Baptism is first a burial, and then a resurrection: Rom. 6:4.

A resurrection means a coming to life hence, a re-birth: Rom. 6:5, 6.

Baptism is a cleansing: Acts 22:16, Titus 3:5.

EVIDENCES OF THE NEW BIRTHS

a) A New Creature: 2 Cor. 5:17; Col. 3:1-3.

(b) A New Life: Rom. 6:4; Eph. 4:22-24

THE BLESSINGS OF THE NEW BIRTH:

(a) Freedom from sin: Rom. 6:16, 17

(b) Heirship with Christ: Rom. 8:16, 17

EXAMPLES OF THE NEW BIRTH:

(a) Lydia: Acts 16: 14, 15. She heard, believed and obeyed.

- (b) The Corinthians: Acts 18:8.
- c) The Jews on Pentecost: Acts 2:37-41

A CHRISTIAN'S GROWTH

2 Peter 3:18; Eph. 4:15

Since the creation of all first things, growth has been the law of nature. The tiny acorn grows into the mighty oak. The babe into the man.

3

Three stages of growth: Mark 4:26-28

- 1. Babyhood: 1 Peter 2:2
- 2. Childhood: Eph. 4:14
- 3. Manhood: 1 Cor. 14:20; 13:11; Eph. 6:10

The Essentials of growth

- 1. Right Atmosphere:
 - (a) Cleanliness: Psalms 1:1; 1 Cor. 15:33; 1 John 2:15
 - (b) Unity: Acts 4:32; Eph. 4:3
 - (c) Love: Malachi 3:16; John 13:35
- 2. Wholesome Food: In both the vegetable and animal world, food is necessary for growth. This is likewise true spiritually. Matt. 4:4; 1 Peter 2:1, 2; 1 Cor. 10:16. 21
- 3. Proper Exercise: Movement is characteristic of life. 1 Tim. 4:7; Phil. 2:12
 - (a) In Soul Saving: Acts 5:42; 8:4
 - (b) In Benevolent Work: Matt. 24:-36-40

(c) In Restoring the Wayward: Gal. 6:1; James 5:19

Many are spiritual dwarfs. Heb. 5:12.

We may not be able to regulate our physical growth, but we can regulate the spiritual. Some reasons for non-growth: Matt. 13:20-22

A CHRISTIAN'S GARMENTS

Man needs clothing: Gen. 3:7, 21

The old saying "Clothes make the man" is partly true. A man with self-respect will be fittingly clothed.

The Spiritual man is to be clothed:

God furnishes the clothes; Isaiah 61:10

We must be clothed with Christ's righteousness—Rom. 13:14

Our own righteousness is not acceptable to God—Isaiah 64:6; Phil. 3:9

We must put off the old "garments," and be clothed with the new: Eph. 4:22-24; Rev. 3:18

We are children of a king! Let us dress like royalty: Gal. 3:26; Matt. 11:8

We are priests. Rev. 1:6; 1 Peter 2:5

We should wear the priestly robes. Exodus 40: 13-15

Nothing is more beautiful than a righteous life.

We, as a church, are the bride of Christ. 2 Cor. 11:1, 2; Rev. 19; 7, 8

We should dress like a bride.

Proper clothing a condition of our acceptance with God. Matt. 22:11-13. Acts 10:34, 35

THE CHRISTIAN'S HOPE

We have a glorious hope: Titus 1:2

This hope is centered in Christ: 1 Tim. 1:1;
John 14:6; John 3:36

All blessings are in Christ: Eph. 1:3

We enter into Christ by baptism: Gal. 3:27;
Rom. 6:3

There is just one hope: Eph. 4:4

That hope is obtained through obedience;
Matt. 7:21-23; Heb. 5:9; Rev. 22:14.

Hope is our Helmet: 1 Thess. 5:8; Eph.
6:7. It protects us.

Hope is our Anchor: Heb. 6:17-19. It keeps
us from drifting away from God.

Hope is our Salvation: Rom. 8:24: It points
encouragingly toward the future.

Hope gives us courage: Rom. 5:5; Phil. 1:-
20 .

Hope gives us patience in tribulations: 1
Thess. 1:3

Hope brings rejoicing: Heb. 3:6

Hope reveals the difference between the
righteous and wicked: Prov. 14:32; Eph. 2:12
Psalms 23:4.

A CHRISTIAN'S BODY

Our bodies are made in God's image: Gen.
1:26; James 3:9.

Our bodies are not to be marred; Lev. 19-28

Our bodies belong to God: 1 Cor. 6:13

The body is God's temple: 1 Cor. 6-19

God is to be glorified in our bodies: 1 Cor. 6:20

Our bodies are to be kept clean: 2 Cor. 7:1

The body must not yield to lusts: Rom. 13:14; 1 Jihn 2:15, 16.

Our bodies must be controlled: 1 Cor. 9:27; Rom. 6:12, 13

Our bodies are to be used in God's service: Rom. 12:1

The body is doomed to die: Heb. 9:27; Gen. 3:19.

The body will be resurrected: Acts 24:15; John 5:28

It will be raised a changed body: 1 Cor. 15:51-54

After the resurrection, it will be like Chr'st's body; Phil. 3:20, 21

We will be like the angels: Matt. 22:30.

A CHRISTIAN'S TONGUE

The power of speech is a great blessing.

Given only to man; but it can be either a blessing or a curse.

How wonderful is the song the young mother sings as she rocks her baby to sleep. How terrible are the profane words that fall from the lips of the degenerate sinner! James 3:8, 9; Prov.12:18; Prov. 15:4; 31:26

The tongue can be a scourge: Job 5:21

The tongue can be kept from evil; Psa'ms 34:13

Life and death issue from the tongue: Prov. 18:21; Matt. 12:36, 37

It can be used in preaching the gospel: 1 Cor. 1:21; Acts 5:20.

It can be used to edify the church: Rom. 15-14; 1 Cor. 14:2, 3. 1 Thess. 5:11.

The tongue can comfort the sorrowing: 1 Thess. 4:18; Isaiah 50:4.

Even a slow tongue can be used for God: Exod. 4:10, 11. Case of Moses.

Like David, we should pray for God's guidance in the use of our tongue: Psalms 19:14

Moses "spake unadvisedly with his lips": Psalms 106:32, 33; Numbers 20: 7-10

May our words be as "apples of gold in pictures of silver": Prov. 25:11

A CHRISTIAN'S EYES

How wonderful is the human eye which enables men to behold the glory of God and the beauties of nature!

Man has two sets of eyes — the physical and the spiritual: Eph. 1:18; Acts 26:18.

Satan can blind our eyes: 1 Cor. 4:4.

This causes us to love darkness: John 3:19, 20.

If the blind are led by blind leaders, destruction awaits: Matt. 15:14.

Only God's word can enlighten our eyes: Psalms 19:8

The word is a mirror that enables us to see our imperfections: James 1:23-25.

We do not see ourselves as God sees us; 1 Samuel 16:7; Prov. 3:7; 16:2; Luke 15:16.

How to use our eyes:

1. To learn the truth: Matt. 13:15. 16.
2. To look for opportunities of service: John 4:35; Luke 10:2.
3. To look to the future with hope: 2 Cor. 4:16-18; Phil. 3:21; 2 Peter 3:11, 12
4. To learn of Christ: Heb. 12:2. Our interest will always be in the things at which we look.

The wrong way to use our eyes:

1. Not upon riches: Prov. 23:5; 1 Tim. 6:17.
2. Not upon lustful things: 1 John 2:15, 16.

Illustration — Eve Gen. 3: 6.

3. We must not look back to the things of sin: Luke 9:62. If we keep our eyes fixed on God, our future happiness is assured: Isaiah 45:22.

THE CHRISTIAN'S FEET

We should ponder the paths of our feet: Prov. 4:26

Our feet are the means of locomotion. In the Bible the word is used figuratively, referring to our manner of living. Example Psalms 1:1.

There are just two ways to walk: Matt. 7:13, 14. Rom. 8:4.

1. The Broad Way: Phil. 3:18, 19

2. The Narrow Way: Gal. 5:16; Col. 2:6

The Bible is the only safe guide to direct our feet: Psalms 119:105; 119:130

Man cannot guide his own steps so as to please God: Jeremiah 10:23

The necessity of controlling our feet: Matt. 18:8; Prov. 6:16-18

Walking in the ways of idleness: 1 Tim. 5:13

Walking in righteous activity: Eph. 2:10; 1 Cor. 15:58

We are to walk in Christ's steps: 1 Peter 2:24.

Where will those steps lead us?

We should go out in the byways seeking the lost: Luke 19:10

We should walk by the pool of Siloam to help the blind: John 9:7

Let us walk with him to Bethany to help the sorrowing ones. John 11:1-17

Our feet are to be shod. Eph. 6:15; Rom. 10:15

If we trust in God, our feet will not slip into the mire of sin: Psalms 40:1

A CHRISTIAN'S HANDS

How wonderful are human hands! They have built the hanging gardens of Babylon, the pyramids of Egypt, the Golden Gate Bridge. Made airplanes, skyscrapers, the swift trains, painted beautiful pictures, and performed life saving operations. They can also commit murder, steal valuable property and thousands of other acts that disgrace the name of man.

A Christian's hands are to be clean: Psalms 24:3,4; James 4:8, which means that they are to engage in nothing that is vile. Isaiah 56:2.

A Christian's hands are to be busy: Eph. 4:28; 1 Cor. 4:12; 1 Thess 4:11. They can be busy in—

1. Ministering to the needy and sick: Matt. 25:35-40; Gal. 6:10; Acts 20:35.
2. Lifting up the fallen: Gal. 6:1; James 5:19;

Christ's hands showed the wounds of his sacrifice (Zech. 13:6; John 20:27).

What do our hands show? Do they show the marks of real labor for Christ? Paul's bore the marks of Christ: Gal. 6:17.

A CHRISTIAN'S EARS

Jesus said, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear" Matt. 11:15.

The above admonition is used 17 times in the scriptures, indicating the importance of hearing God's truths.

We need both a hearing ear and a seeing eye: Prov. 22:12.

Consider the story of the Two Builders: Matt: 7:24-27.

A fool closes his ears: Prov. 23:9.

Hearing without obedience is vain: James 1:22; Prov. 28:9; 8:33 34.

Many have uncircumcised ears: Acts 7: 51, which means that they will not hear the truth.

As Christians we must hear Christ: Matt. 17:5; Heb. 1:1.

All who love the truth hear him: John 18:37.

We prove we are his sheep when we hear and obey him: John 10:27.

A CHRISTIAN'S AFFECTIONS

Man is a creature of affection. That which he loves or hates determines the conduct of his life.

Man's first obligation is to love God: Mark 12:28-34.

God's love for man is without limitation: John 3:16; John 15:13; Rom. 5:6-8.

Man therefore should love God because of his love for man: 1 John 4:19; Rom. 2:4.

Our affection is to be centered in spiritual, not material things: Col. 1:1,2.

We cannot divide our affection: Matt. 6:24.

Forbidden Loves:

Love of the world: 1 John 2:15,16; 2 Tim. 4:10.

Love of worldly pleasures: 2 Tim. 3:4; 1 Tim. 5:6.

Love of money: 1 Tim. 6:10, Prov. 23:5; Luke 12: 16-20.

The praise of men: John 12:42; 5:44.

Love of relatives in preference to God: Matt. 10:37; Luke 14:26.

Love of self: 2 Tim. 3:2; Matt. 16:24.

The proof of our love for God: John 14:21; 1 John 5:3.

The blessings of loving God: John 14:23.

A CHRISTIAN'S PURITY

Only the pure can enter heaven: Rev. 21:27.

God cannot tolerate impurity: Habakkuk 1:13.

God intends that his people should be pure: Titus 2:14.

We are commanded to be pure: 1 Tim. 5:22.

Only the pure can worship God acceptably: Psa. 24:3,4.

The different ways we are to be pure:

1. Our Hearts: Matt: 5:8; James 4:8; Matt. 12:35; 5:28; Prov. 4:23.

2. Our tongues: James 1:26; Matt. 12:36; Psa. 17:14.

3. Our bodies: 2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Cor. 6:13, 19,20; 1 Cor. 3:16 17; Rom. 12:1.

Only in purity can we properly serve God: 2 Tim. 2:21.

If our thoughts are pure, then all actions will be pure: Phil. 4:8.

A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE

Life is God's gift: Acts 17:25.

Life is a Responsibility: Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12.

Life is to be lived for God: Isa'ah 43:7; 1 Cor. 6:19,20; Rev. 4:11.

The Wrong Use of Life—

(a) The Rich man: Luke 12:16-21; Luke 12:22-23.

(b) Solomon: Eccl. 2:1-11.

The Right Use of Life: Matt: 16:24,25

(a) Christ: Matt. 20:28; Phil. 2:6-8; Heb. 12:2.

(b) Paul: Phil. 3:7,8.

The Shortness of Life: James 4:14; Job. 14:1; 9:25,26.

The rewards of a well spent life: 2 Tim. 4:6-8.

A CHRISTIAN'S PLEASURES

Man was created for God's pleasure: Rev. 4:11; Isaiah 43:7.

Man's highest duty is to please God: 1 Thess. 4:1.

Pleasing Christ comes before our own pleasure: 2 Tim. 2:4.

Christ pleased not himself: Rom. 15:3; John 6:38; 8:29.

We are to imitate Christ: Rom. 15:1.

We cannot please God if we walk after the flesh: Rom. 8:8,13.

We cannot please both God and man: Gal. 1:10.

Only obedience will please God: John 14:23; Heb. 13:16.

The pleasures of the world turn us away from God: Luke 8:14.

Our greatest desire should be God's pleasure: 2 Thess. 1:11.

God will provide eternal pleasures for us: Psalms 16:11.

A CHRISTIAN'S RESPONSIBILITY

Rom. 14:7

A Christian's responsibility is threefold:

1. To God: Rom. 14:12

(a) To glorify him: Rev. 4:11; 1 Cor. 6:20.

(b) To love him: Mark 12:28-31

- (c) To serve him: Heb. 12:28; Acts 10:34,35
2. To the Church
- (a) Faithfulness in attendance: Heb. 10:25.
- (b) Assisting the church in all it's work: 1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Chron. 15:7.
- (c) Contributing to it's financial needs: 1 Cor. 16:1,2; 2 Cor. 9:6,7.
3. To our Fellowmen:
- (a) To teach them the truth: 2 Cor. 5:11; 1 Cor. 1:21.
- (b) To help those in need: Gal. 6:10; Matt. 25:34-46.
- (c) To comfort the sorrowing: 1 Thess. 4:18.

A CHRISTIAN'S REDEMPTION

Man in sin is in bondage: John 8:34; 2 Tim. 2:26.

Man barter away his freedom for the pleasures of sin: Rom. 7:14; 6:16.

Ahab an example: 1 Kings 21:25.

This is a bargain of doubtful value: Matt. 16:26; Psalms 49:6-8.

To be freed from this bondage, a ransom must be paid: Isaiah 52:3.

A price has been paid: 1 Cor. 6:20.

What was the price? 1 Peter 1:18,19; Rev. 5:9.

Man's sins doomed him to death: Rom. 6:23; James 1:15; Rev. 21:8.

But Christ paid the penalty: 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18; 2:24.

Consider the redeeming power of Jesus's blood: 1 John 1:7; Eph. 1:7; Heb. 10:14.

The great price paid indicated the degree of God's love: John 3:16; Rom. 5:6-10.

It also indicates the value of man's soul: Isa. 13:12.

To reject this sacrifice is to be eternally lost: Heb. 9:24-28.

A CHRISTIAN'S FREEDOM

1 Cor. 7:22,23

God created man to be free—to be a ruler: Gen. 1:26-28.

But sin has enslaved him: John 8:34; 2 Tim. 2:26.

Man is not free when ensnared by Satan: 1 Tim. 3:7.

Case of Ahab: 1 Kings 21:25.

Service to the devil brings poor wages: Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:14,15.

To become free from sin's bondage, a ransom price must be paid: 1 Cor. 7:23; 1 Cor. 6:19.

What was that price? 1 Peter 1:18,19; Acts 22:28.

The price paid shows our value: Matt. 16:26.

Man's soul is made precious by the price paid for it: Isaiah 13:12.

We can now obtain freedom by obedience to Christ: Rom. 6:16 17.

Our continued freedom depends on our own will power: Rom. 6:12,13,14.

All temptation to sin can be resisted: 1 Cor. 10:12,13.

Christ gives us strength to resist Satan's wiles: Phil. 4:13; John 15:5.

All evil habits can be and must be conquered: Rom. 6:12.

The joys of freedom are eternal: Rev. 22:14; Rom. 6:23.

A CHRISTIAN'S SANCTIFICATION

The word "sanctify" means to "set apart" referring to that which is set apart for a sacred or holy purpose. This word is used 106 times in the Old Testament and 31 times in the new Testament. In order that we might get the proper meaning of the word, let us consider some of the things that were sanctified.

- (a) The seventh day: Gen. 2:1,2.
- (b) The firstborn: Exod. 13:2.
- (c) The priests: Exod. 28:41.
- (d) The Tabernacle: Exod. 29:43,44.
- (e) The church: Eph. 5:26.
- (f) All Christians: 1 Cor. 1:2; 6:11.

Next, it is important that we consider the means of sanctification:

(a) By the truth: John 17:17.

(b) By faith: Acts 26:18.

(c) By Christ's blood: Heb. 13:12.

(d) By prayer: 1 Tim. 4:5.

(e) We sanctify ourselves: Josh. 3:5;
Rom. 12:1,2.

(f) By the spirit: Rom. 15:16.

The Results of Sanctification:

Made useful unto God: 2 Tim. 2:21.

Sanctification does not mean sinlessness: The Corinthians were sanctified (1 Cor. 1:2) yet Paul showed that they were "carnal" and "walked as men" (1 Cor. 3:3). And they were warned that they were in danger of falling: 1 Cor. 10:12.

A CHRISTIAN'S ENEMIES

All Christians are called to be soldiers: 2 Tim. 2:4.

As soldiers we are required to fight the enemy: 1 Tim. 6:12.

We have four great enemies that must be conquered:

1. The World:

(a) The world hates Christ: John 15:18-20

(b) The world is God's enemy: James 4:4

(c) Loving the things of the world endangers our souls: 1 John 2:15, 16

2. The Flesh:

- (a) There is constant conflict between the flesh and the spirit: Gal. 5:16, 17
- (b) Following the desires of the flesh leads to death: Rom. 8:12, 13
- (c) The flesh must be conquered: 1 Cor. 9:27; Gal. 5:24

3. The Devil:

- (a) The devil is determined to destroy us: 1 Peter 5:8, 9.
- (b) Christ's chief purpose was to destroy the devil's influence: 1 John 3:8
- (c) Service to the devil will lead to eternal death: Rom. 6:16.

4. Self

- (a) Self always stands between man and God: Luke 12:15-20
- (b) To live for self is to be eternally lost: Matt. 16:24-26
- (c) Only when the body, soul and spirit is dedicated to God, are we safe: Rom. 12:1

These four enemies are strong and powerful; but with Christ's help, we can conquer them all: Rom. 8:37; Phil. 4:13.

A great reward is promised to those who overcome these enemies: Rev. 21:7.

A CHRISTIAN'S VICTORIES

Rom. 8:37

2 Cor. 2:14

In order to live a victorious life, three things are necessary:

1. We must have great convictions to live by:

(a) Abraham - Rom. 4:18-21 Isaac's birth. Heb. 11:27-29 Isaac's resurrection.

(b) Paul - 2 Tim. 1:12; 2 Cor. 5:1; 2 Tim. 4:8

Only men of deep conviction attain to greatness.

2. We must have great Purposes to live for:

(a) Chr'st - Luke 19:10

(b) Paul - Phil. 3:13 A great goal set before him.

(c) Moses - Heb. 11:24-26

(d) Rich Farmer - Luke 12:15-20. This man's only purpose was to live for self.

3. Great Resources to live from:

(a) Paul - Phil. 4:13. Chr'st was Paul's source of strength.

Christ's strength never fails, and it is sufficient to supply all of our needs Eph. 3:20; Heb. 4:16. The power that moves the material universe is the power that is available for our needs. Isaiah 40:31.

A CHRISTIAN'S WEAPON

A Christian is a soldier (2 Tim. 2:4).

A soldier is to fight the enemy (1 Tim. 6:12; 1 Peter 5:8, 9; James 4:7).

A Christian's weapon is not a carnal, material one (2 Cor. 10:4).

We are not to destroy people (Luke 9:56; John 18:10, 11); but the evil in people (1 Cor. 6:9-11).

That weapon is the Word of God (Heb. 4:12; 2 Tim. 4:2).

That word is a sword (Eph. 6:17; Rev. 1:16).

It is also a hammer (Jeremiah 23:29) to break down walls of error. (Hosea 6:5).

It is also a fire (Jeremiah 5:14) that burns away that which is evil (Rev. 16:8, 9; Rev. 11:5).

It is a powerful weapon (2 Cor. 10:5, 6).
Examples of it's power:

Case of Stephen (Acts 6:10).

Case of Apollos (Acts 18:28).

Case of Paul (Acts 19:20).

A CHRISTIAN'S ARMOUR

A Christian is a soldier (2 Tim. 2:3, 4) enlisted in Christ's army.

We must fight the fight of faith (1 Tim. 6:12), for we face a strong foe (1 Peter 5:8, 9).

In this fight we need the protection of an adequate armour (Rom. 13:12).

An armour consists of various parts, and we need each one (Eph. 6:13).

If one or more parts are lacking, we are exposed to the enemy (James 2:10).

The Different Items Of Our Armour:

1. The Girdle of Truth. It encompasses the true soldier (Eph. 6:14).

(a) God's word is the truth (John 17:17)

(b) We must obey the truth (Rom. 2:8; 1 Peter 1:22).

(c) We must speak the truth (Eph. 4:15)

2. The Breastplate of Righteousness: (Eph. 6:14; 2 Cor. 6:7).

(a) We must desire righteousness (Matl. 5:6).

(b) We must do works of righteousness (Acts 10:35; Rom. 6:18). Satan cannot tempt those who are always busy doing right.

3. The Helmet of Salvation: (Eph. 6:17).

(a) The Hope of Salvation is our protection (1 Thess. 5:8).

(b) It is hope that saves us (Rom. 8:24).

(c) The Hope we have (Titus 1:2).

4. The Shield of Faith: (Eph. 6:16).

(a) Faith conquers all of Satan's wiles (1 John 5:4).

(b) Faith can move mountains of temptations (Mark 11:22, 23).

5. The Gospel Shoes (Eph. 6:15; Rom. 1:16)
- (a) All Christians should carry the gospel (Acts 8:4).
 - (b) This is the world's most wonderful work (Isa'ah 52:7; Rom. 10:15) Feet busy in Christ's work cannot be led astray.

Notice: There is no protection for the back. Christians never turn their back to the enemy.

A CHRISTIAN'S INHERITANCE

Inheritance is defined as "that which is obtained by lot. A possession."

A promise of eternal inheritance made: Heb. 9:5; Gal. 3:29.

This promise is based on our relationship to God as his children: Rom. 8:16, 17.

It is God who qualifies us for the inheritance: Col. 1:12.

The Nature of this Inheritance:

1. Salvation from sins: Heb. 1:14; 1 Thess. 5:9
2. Eternal Life: Titus 3:7; Titus 1:2
3. All of God's possessions: Rev. 21:7; Deut. 10:14.

The Conditions of Inheritance:

1. Obedience: Rev. 22:14; Heb. 5:9.
 2. Faithfulness: Rev. 2:10; Matt. 25:21.
 3. Overcoming temptations: Rev. 21:7.
- Some cannot receive the inheritance: Eph. 5:5; 1 Cor. 6:9, 10.

A CHRISTIAN'S GUEST

A guest is at the door: Rev. 3:20.

Who is the guest?

The ever living Christ. The king of heaven and earth: Rev. 1:11, 18.

At what house has he come?

He appears at every human heart: Eph. 3:17.

Is the house sufficiently clean to receive a guest?

He will not dwell in an impure heart: Matt. 5:8; James 4:8.

Why has he come?

Not to be served, but to serve you: Matt. 20:28; Phil. 2:7.

He comes only to bless you: Luke 19:10.
How will you entertain him? Consider Luke 10:38-42

Martha wanted to give him a meal.

Mary wanted to give him her heart:
Which was best:

Will you give him just a small room?

He asks for the whole heart; Mark 12:29-31

He will not accept just a part of the heart: Rev. 3:15,16.

How long will he stay?

He wishes every heart to be his permanent dwelling place: John 14:23.

A CHRISTIAN'S WEALTH

Matt: 6:19-21

Man is too much inclined to measure wealth in dollars and cents, or in material possessions that are measured by the dollar sign. But material possessions do not make a man rich in the sight of God. We should seek for the "true riches" which make a person rich in present happiness with great hopes for the future. A person is wise if he can always distinguish between the true and the false (Prov. 13:7).

We should not seek material wealth because—

- (a) It is not permanent (Prov. 23:5; 1 Tim. 6:7).
- (b) In time we must leave it to others (Psalms 49: 6-10).
- (c) It is deceptive and a snare (Matt. 13: 32; 1 Tim. 6:9; Job 31:24-28).
- (d) It is unsatisfying (Eccl. 2:10-12).
- (e) It bars our entrance into heaven (Matt. 19:23).

The true riches of life consist of:

- (a) Good works (1 Tim. 6:18; Matt. 25:34-40). He who helps others, helps himself the most (Acts 20:35).
- (b) The wealth of a good name (Prov. 22:1). The respect, love and confidence of our fellowmen is beyond the value of material things.

(c) Faith in God (James 2:5). This faith brings happiness when all material things fail.

These riches, laid up in heaven's bank, are eternal (Matt. 6:20).

A CHRISTIAN'S SACRIFICE — OFFERING

It was God who instituted sacrifices as a means of worship: (Gen. 4:3-4).

All sacrifices must be of the right kind. (Heb. 11:4).

They must be unblemished. (Exodus 12:5; Lev. 1:3).

At least 33 times, God emphasized that the Jews offerings were to be unblemished.

Under the Mosaic law, only the priests could offer the sacrifice upon the altar (Numbers 18:1-7), and the priests must be of the seed of Aaron (Exod. 28:1).

All Christians are priests (Rev. 1:6; 5:10). Of royal seed (1 Peter 1:23).

The work of a priest is to offer sacrifices to God (Heb. 8:3).

A Christian's sacrifice is not material, but spiritual (1 Peter 2:5).

Paul specifies the offering we are to make (Rom. 12:1, 2).

(a) A living sacrifice - a sacrifice of service (1 Cor. 15:58).

(b) A holy sacrifice - unselfishly given to Christ, not for self (Rom. 16:18).

(c) It must be of a nature acceptable to God (Heb. 13:16).

The service we give, should be unlimited (2 Cor. 9:6).

A CHRISTIAN'S EDUCATION

A man is not born with knowledge like animals or birds are born with instincts which enable them to do things that he can do only through training study and experience. A bird can build a complicated nest without being taught; but man must be taught some knowledge of carpentry before he can build a house (Job 39:26-30).

Only the foolish will reject knowledge (Prov. 1:7).

There is the right and wrong wisdom (1 Cor. 2:6, 7).

It was the desire for wrong knowledge that led to the first sin (Gen. 3:1-6).

Let us now investigate the branches of knowledge we should seek:

1. A knowledge of God (John 6:45; 1 Chron. 28:9; Jer. 9:23, 24; 1 Cor. 1:21).
2. A knowledge of Christ (Matt. 11:28; John 20:30, 31).
3. A knowledge of the scriptures (Rom. 15:4; 2 Tim. 3:15-17).

4. A knowledge of Satan's wiles (2 Cor. 2:11; 11:13-15).
5. A knowledge of soul winning (Prov. 11:30; Matt. 10:16).
6. The wisdom of obedience (Matt. 7:24-28).

God and Chr'ist are the sources of all wisdom and knowledge (Col. 2:2, 3; James 1:5).

The blessing of proper knowledge (Dan. 12:2, 3).

A CHRISTIAN'S PRAYERS

Prayer is man's means of communication with heaven.

Only those whose minds are centered on heaven will pray.

Prayer is a duty because it is a command (Rom. 12:12) yet it is man's most gracious privilege. We can converse in intimate terms with the greatest Being in the universe.

We are to pray to God (Phil. 4:6). But not all prayers will be answered, for there are Conditions of Acceptable Prayers:

1. We must pray in Christ's name (John 16:23; 14:13).
2. Ask according to God's will (1 John 5:14). God gives us only what is for our good.
3. Ask in faith (James 1:6, 7; Matt. 21:22).
4. Be persistent in prayer (Luke 18:1-8).

The Need of Prayer:

1. To conquer temptation (Matt. 26:41; Mark 13:33).
2. To obtain needed strength (Heb. 4:16).
3. To help others (2 Cor. 1:11; Rom. 15:30, 31).

Christ our Example in Prayer: (Heb. 5:9).

THE CHRISTIAN'S SHEPHERD

Psalm 23

I shall not want -- supreme confidence:
Jer. 32:17; Job 42:2.

Lie down in green pastures - Ample provisions: 2 Peter 1:3.

Leadeth me beside still waters - Peace and contentment: Phil. 4:7; John 14:27.

He restoreth my soul - Stimulation and inspiration: Isa. 40:31; Phil. 4:13.

Leadeth me in paths of righteousness - Divine guidance: John 10:4.

In the valley of death - No fear in danger: Matt. 10:28.

Thou art with me -- Divine companionship: John 14:23; Exod. 33:

His rod and staff -- Divine comfort: 1 Thess. 4:18.

A table prepared -- Divine provisions: John 6:48-51; 1 Peter 2:2.

The anointing -- Divine confirmation: Psalms 125:1, 2.

The overflowing cup -- The plenitude of God's provisions: Luke 22:35; Mal. 3:10.

Goodness and mercy -- Divine assurance:
Psalms 27:13, 14.

Dwell forever -- Eternal security: Rev.
21:1-4.

A CHRISTIAN'S FOOD

Man lives by eating food (Gen. 2:16, 17;
Gen. 6:21). God provides it.

A man's spirit needs food as well as his
body (Matt. 4:4).

That food is the Word of God (1 Peter
2:1, 2; Jeremiah 15:16).

That food is pure (Psalms 119:140).

It is sweet to the taste (Ps. 19:18-10).

It is nourishing (1 Tim. 4:6).

It is a balanced food-variety of substances
(Heb. 5:12-14).

It is adapted to the varied needs of all:

(a) Babes (1 Cor. 3:2)

(b) Children (Eccl. 12:1; John 16:12)

(c) Men (Heb. 5:14).

We should eat it daily (Job 23:12).

We should develop an appetite for it (Ps.
119:97-104).

It keeps our spirits strong when the body
grows old and weak (2 Cor. 4:16-18).

A CHRISTIAN'S HEALTH

1 Cor. 11:30

The text reveals a spiritual condition; not a physical one.

We are not always able to control the health of the body, but we can control the health of the spirit. (2 Cor. 4:16)

Christ, the great Physician (Matt. 9:12) can prescribe a remedy for every ill.

We have a divine command to be strong (Eph. 6:10) which requires good health.

A Christian needs good health because: —

1. He has much work to do for Christ (1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Cor. 9:8; Col. 1:10).
2. He must oppose a terrible foe (1 Peter 5:8; 2 Cor. 11:13-15).
3. He has a great race to run (Heb. 12:2).

Conditions necessary to good spiritual health:

1. Plenty of exercise (Phil. 2:12; 1 Tim. 4:7).
2. Good nourishing food (Matt. 4:4; 1 Peter 2:1, 2).
- A man cannot be strong if he is starved.
3. Cleanliness (1 Tim. 5:22; James 4:8).
4. A frequent check-up (2 Cor. 13:5) using the divine X-ray (James 1:22-25).

A CHRISTIAN'S APPOINTMENTS

1. We have an appointment to meet Christ and the saints in worship; (Heb. 10:25; Matt. 18:20).

- (a) A specified time (Acts 20:7)
 - (b) A specified purpose (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:16; 1 Cor. 11:20-26).
 - (c) The proper attitude toward this appointment (Psalms 122:1).
2. We are appointed to endure trials and temptations (1 Thess. 3:3).
- (a) Temptations can be a blessing (James 1:2-4).
 - (b) They can be conquered (1 Cor. 10:13)
 - (c) The incentive to overcome temptations (Rev. 21:7).
3. We have an appointment with death (Heb. 9:27)
- (a) Death is a result of Adam's sin (Rom. 5:12).
 - (b) Death is not to be feared (Psalms 23:4).
 - (c) At death the true Christian is at rest with Christ (Phil. 23).
 - (d) Death is to be conquered (1 Cor. 15:51-55).
4. We have an appointment to meet God at the Judgment (2 Cor. 5:10).
- (a) This is a day of accounting (Rev. 20:12).
 - (b) It is also a day of rewards (Matt. 25:34).

A CHRISTIAN'S RECREATION

(Adapted)

1. Does it destroy your identity as a Christian? 2 Cor. 6:14-18; 7-1; Rom. 12:1; 1 Peter 2:11,12.
2. Is the practice questionable in your own mind? Rom. 14:23.
3. Is it a weakening influence or a stumbling block? 1 Cor. 10:23-33; 8:7-13.
4. Is it destructive to your body? 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; Rom. 12:1.
5. Does it cultivate an inordinate appetite (fleshly)? 1 Cor. 6:12; Col. 2:20-23; 3:5,6; Titus 2:11.
6. Does it bring you under a weakening association or influence? 1 Cor. 15:33; 1 Thess. 5:21.
7. Does it conflict with your duty as a Christian? Matt. 6:33; 2 Tim. 2:4.

THE CHRISTIAN'S CROSS

Matt. 16:24

No greater mistake can be made than to assume that the cross of Christ was and is the only cross needed. Christ offered himself just once upon the cross (Heb. 10:12), and no further offering for sin will ever be needed; but in order to obtain the benefits of Christ's cross, we must accept the cross he offers to all. The Christian's cross is the cross of—

1. Self Denial:

(a) Material Possessions: (Matt. 19: 21; 1 Tim. 6:17; Matt. 6:24).

(b) Personal Ambitions: Example of Moses (Heb. 11:24-26); Paul (Phil. 3:7-8).

(c) Unfavorable Relations: (Matt. 10:37,38; Luke 14:26,27).

2. Self Control:

(a) Of the Body (1 Cor. 9:27; Gal. 5:24; Titus 2:11,12).

(b) Of the Mind (Prov. 16:32; Phil. 2:6).

Dedication of Self to Christ:

2 Cor. 5:14,15; Gal. 2:20; Gal. 6:14

The blood-stained cross of Christ will avail nothing, unless our cross is stained with the blood of our consecration.

A CHRISTIAN'S PERFECTION

Col. 1:28

Absolute perfection is not attainable, for "perfection does not dwell in houses of clay;" but perfection is a laudable goal to strive for (Matt. 5:48).

To be perfect a man must:—

(a) Be instructed in the truth: John 8:32; Matt. 28:20; John 6:44,43; Acts 17:11.

(b) Have his affection centered on Christ: Col. 3:1-3; Mark 12:30

- (c) Have a will submissive to Christ:
Matt. 7:21; Like Christ, John
6:38; 8:29.
- (d) A body clean from all lusts:
Rom. 13:14; 1 Cor. 9:27; 2 Cor.
7:1; 1 Peter 4:1
- (e) Give his life into God's service:
1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Cor. 5:15; Gal.
2:20.

A CHRISTIAN'S LIGHT

Light was the first thing created (Genesis 1:1-3).

Life cannot exist normally without light.

This is true both in the material and spiritual world (John 1:1-5).

Christ is the source of all light (John 8:12; 12:46).

Sin is darkness (John 3:19; Rom. 1:21).

Satan is responsible for moral and spiritual darkness (2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 6:12).

Christians reflect the light of Christ (Matt. 5:14; Thess. 5:5; Eph. 5:8).

There are two ways in which we can give light:

1. By proper living (Phil. 2:15; 2 Cor. 3:2).

A reflector must be bright (clean) if it gives light.

Only a Christ-like life can reveal to the world (1 Peter 2:21-22).

Wrong influence brings darkness
(Matt. 6:23).

2. By good works (Matt. 5:16; 1 Peter 2:12).

A CHRISTIAN'S PILGRIMAGE

Hebrews 11:13

The word "pilgrimage" means "a journey or a sojourn."

That expression was used by Jacob (Genesis 47:9).

This world is not the home of the soul (1 Chron. 29:15).

Men of faith always looked for an eternal city (Heb. 11:8-10)

Life is the journey (Job 16:22)

The Bible our guide, and map to point the way (Psalm 119:105; 2 Tim. 3:16,17).

Like a compass, it always points to the north star—Christ (John 20:30, 31).

There are two roads for man to follow in life (Matt. 7:13,14).

Only one road is safe (Prov. 14:12).

We need provision for a journey:

(a) The Bread of Life (John 6:35)

(b) The Water of Life (John 7:37, 38).

Proper conduct on this journey (1 Peter 1:17; 2:11,12).

We must go through a dark valley (Psalm 23:4).

The end of the journey (Rev. 14:12)

The eternal home (Hb. 13:14; Rev. 21:10,27).

We should invite others to go with us (Numbers 10:29).

A CHRISTIAN'S STEWARDSHIP

A steward is described as "one to whom a thing is committed, or entrusted." One who controls another's property.

Joseph an example (Gen. 39:8).

All Christians are stewards (1 Peter 4:10; 1 Tim. 6:20).

Stewardship is illustrated by the parable of the talents (Matt. 25:14-28).

Regardless of the number of talents each received they were accountable for the use made of them.

We must give an accounting to God for that which is entrusted to us (Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12).

What Has God Entrusted to Us?

1. Life (Acts 17:25; Isaiah 42:5).

The proper use of life (Matt. 16:25-26).

2. Various abilities (Rom. 12:6-8). Small abilities will not excuse one for not using what he has.

3. Material possessions (Deut. 8:17,18; 2 Cor. 9:6,7).

4. Opportunities (Rev. 3:8; 1 Cor. 16:9; Gal. 6:10). Each day has golden opportunities.
5. The gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-4; 2 Tim. 1:14).

A CHRISTIAN'S COURAGE

Courage defined "to show oneself strong." It is the opposite of fearfulness or timidity. The word is found just once in the New Testament (Acts 28:15), yet no book in the world inspires such fearfulness as does God's word.

The Kind of Courage Needed:

1. Courage in the face of physical danger:
 - (a) The Apostles (Mat.: 10:28)
 - (b) Paul (Acts 20: 21:13)
 - (c) Christ (Luke 9:51). He knew what faced him in Jerusalem.
2. Moral courage in proclaiming the truth:
 - (a) The Apostles (Acts 4:29)
 - (b) Paul (Acts 18:9; 20:26,27; Gal. 4:16).
3. Courage in the midst of opposition:
 - (a) Paul (Acts 13:43-46; Acts 20: 26,27).
 - (b) Paul's Helpers (Phil. 1:14).
4. Courage to admit our wrongs: James 5:16.

A summation 1 Cor. 16:13

A CHRISTIAN'S FRUITFULNESS

Christ expects us to bear fruit (John 15:16).
Illustration—The Barren Fig Tree (Matt. 21:18-20; Jude 12).

We are expected to bring forth fruit unto God (Rom. 7:4).

The Conditions of Fruit Bearing:

(a) We must be in Christ (John 15:1-6).

(b) We must sow seed (Hosea 10:12; Prov. 11:18).

(c) We must keep free from sin (Rom. 6:22).

Sin like weeds will hinder growth.

(d) Must bear chastisement (Heb. 12:11). This is like pruning.

(e) We must do good works (Col. 1:10).

(f) Must add the Christian graces (2 Peter 1:5-8).

The rewards of fruitfulness (Prov. 11:30).

A CHRISTIAN'S RACE

Heb. 12:1,2

This is probably figurative of the famed races then held every four years in the Greek City of Olympia. Athletes from many nations competed for the great honor.

The king started the race and rewarded the winners: So it is with us:

Christ starts us in the race (Matt. 11:28) and rewards the winners (Rev. 22:12).

The Race course is this life.

The start of the race—our conversion (Rom. 6:4). A new life.

The end of the race—our death (2 Tim. 4:7 8)

The Conditions of Winning:

1. Lay aside very weight—sin (Rom. 6:12,13).

2. We must run with patience (Acts 14:22; Gal. 6:9)

3. We must keep looking to Christ for encouragement (Jude 24).

4. We must run according to the rules (2 Tim. 2:5; Phil. 3:16-18).

5. We must exercise self control (1 Cor. 9:25-27; Mark 9:43-48).

It matters not how swift (talented) we are; but how faithful (Eccl. 9:10,11; Rev. 2:10).

The Reward—Rev. 22:14.

A CHRISTIAN'S THOUGHTS

Man is a thinking creature. capable of creative thoughts

A man's actions are regulated by his thoughts (Prov. 23:7; Matt. 15:19).

Examples:

People before the flood (Gen. 6:5)

Paul (Acts 26:9)

Persecutors (John 16:1,2).

A man cannot hide his thoughts from God: Psalm 94:11; Luke 5:21,22.

God condemns evil thoughts (Prov. 24:9; 15:26; Psalm 119:113).

Our thoughts can be controlled (Prov. 4:23; 2 Cor. 10:5)

Our lives will be clean if our thoughts are clean (Phil. 4:8)

We should seek God's guidance of our thoughts (Psalm 139:23,24)

The reward of a clean mind (Matt. 5:8).

A CHRISTIAN'S THIRST

Man must have water to live. Nothing could bring greater suffering than to be adrift on the desert without water. A man can live several weeks without food; but he can survive only a few days without water. The scriptures often use the word thirst in the sense of strong desire. The desires of the heart indicate the nature of one's character: Prov. 11:23.

The thirstings a Christian must have:

1. A thirst for God: Psalm 42:1,2; 63:1. God can be found: Acts 17:25; Jeremiah 23:23,24.
2. A thirst for salvation: Isaiah 12:2,3; Acts 16:30; 1 Thess. 5:9.

Full salvation is to be found in Christ: Heb. 7:25.

Salvation will be found in obedience to Christ: Heb. 5:9.

3. A Christian must have a thirst for self-improvement in righteous living. Matt. 5:5. The mistake of the Laodiceans: Rev. 3:17. 2 Peter 3:18. Psa. 23:3.
4. A Christian must have a thirst to help others: Christ's example; Luke 19:10; Rom. 10:1; Gal. 6:10; 2 Cor. 5:10.

All thirsts can be quenched: Isaiah 55:1.
 Christ offers the Water of Life: John 4:10-14;
 7:37; Rev. 22:1.

A CHRISTIAN'S FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship may be defined: "At one with each other, a partnership, Oneness."

Fellowship with God, the Father (1 John 1:3)
 Sin separates man from God (Isaiah 59:1)
 Obedience alone brings man back to God
 (Acts 10:34,35; 1 John 1:6)

Fellowship with Christ (1 Cor. 1:9; 1 John 1:3)

Christ saves and accepts only those who obey him (Heb. 5:9; Matt. 7:21)

We enter into Christ, by obedience (Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:27)

We must remain in Christ to receive his grace (John 15:4; Heb. 3:14)

Fellowship with the Holy Spirit (Heb. 6:4; Rom. 8:16)

It is only through obedience to the words of the Spirit (John 6:63) that man can enter into fellowship with the Spirit. It is only when we are willing to be led by the Spirit (Rom. 8:13) that we can be in fellowship with him.

Fellowship with the Saints (1 John 1:7)

Only those approved of God can be fellowshiped (2 John 11; 1 Tim. 5:22) Our unity or oneness together is to be patterned after that of Christ and God. John 17:21; 1 Cor. 1:10; Phil. 3:16.

The Fellowship that is forbidden.

Works of darkness (Eph. 5:11; 1 Cor. 10:20; 2 Cor. 6:14)

A CHRISTIAN'S CALLINGS

A Christian is called by the gospel: 2 Thess 2:14.

This is a high and holy calling: 2 Tim. 1:9; Phil. 3:13,14.

To what are we called?

1. Called into fellowship with Christ: 1 Cor. 1:9.

This means we are partakers with Christ: Heb. 3:14.

This means to be partakers of his Holiness: Heb. 12:10.

2. We are called out of darkness into light: 1 Peter 2:9; Phil. 2:15; Rom. 13:12.

We can only walk in the light when we walk with Christ: John 8:12.

3. We are called unto liberty: Gal. 5:13; 1 Cor. 7:21-23.

Sin is bondage: John 8:34; Rom. 6:16 17.

4. We are called to be saints: 1 Cor. 1:2; Rom. 1:7.

A saint is a holy person: Heb. 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15.

5. We are called to be patient under trials and persecution: 1 Peter 3:9; Matt. 5:10.

Trials are to test our faith: James 1:2-4; Matt. 24:13; 1 Thess. 3:3.

6. We are called to imitate Christ in all things: 1 Peter 2:21; Matt. 16:24.

This means that we fashion our lives after Christ's: 1 John 2:6.

7. We are called into one hope: Eph. 4:4; Titus 1:2.

All hopes are centered in Christ: 1 Tim. 1:1.

A CHRISTIAN'S STRENGTH

A Christian is commanded to be strong: Eph 6:10.

Weakness is condemned: 1 Cor. 11:30.

Why We Need to be Strong:

1. We have to fight a terrible foe: 1 Peter 5:8,9.

2. We have much hard work to do: Ph'l. 2:12; 1 Cor. 15:58.
3. We must be strong because many others are weak: Rom. 15:1.
4. Only in strength can we conquer temptations: James 1:12.

Our Sources of Strength:

1. God is the Believer's strength: Job 12:13; 23:6; Psalm 27:1; 29:11; Isaiah 26:4.
2. Christ will always strengthen us: Ph'l. 4:13; Col. 1:11; 2 Tim. 4:17.
3. The Food of God's word strengthens us: 1 Peter 2:1,2; Heb. 5:12,13.
4. A pure life. Matt. 5:8; 1 Tim. 5:22.

If the glory of young men is in their strength (Prov. 20:29), how much more is it a glory for a child of God to be strong?

A closing exhortation: 1 Cor. 16:13.

A CHRISTIAN'S HUMILITY

Humility defined: "Lowliness of mind; freedom from pride."

Humility a divine requirement: Micah 6:8; Rom. 12:3.

Humility leads to exaltation: Luke 14:7-11; Prov. 18:12; James 4:10.

Self-exaltation leads to debasement: Prov. 6:16; Prov. 29:23.

Humility is learned from Christ: Matt. 11:28, 29; His example Phil. 2:6-8.

Pride is learned from the devil: 1 Tim. 3:6.

Humility is the mark of true greatness:
Matt. 18:4.

A true Christian seeks service rather than
personal exaltation: Matt. 20:20-23; 27:28

Humility is a cloak of much attractiveness:
1 Peter 5:5.

Humility leads to penitence:

A. The prodigal son: Luke 15:18-20

B. The publican: Luke 18:10-14

Humility is produced by trials: Deut. 8:2.

Case of Paul: 2 Cor. 12:1-10.

A pretended humility is condemned: Col. 2:23

Humility can never be paraded: Matt. 6:5,8.

A CHRISTIAN'S DEATH

Death is unavoidable—the lot of all (Heb.
9:27).

It is the result of Adam's transgression (Rom.
5:12).

That is not punishment to the human race,
but the inevitable result of Adam's sin.

When God separated man from the tree of
life (Gen. 3:22-24).

When man lost Eden, God began to provide
something better (John 14:1-3; Rev. 22:
1-5).

Who would want to spend an eternity in this
world? (Psalm 55:6).

To a Christian death can be a wonderful
blessing (Phil. 1:23).

Death is not something to be feared (Matt. 10:28; Psalms 23:4).

It means an end of struggling, for there will be no more temptations.

It is the end of fears, for then all enemies shall have been destroyed (Rev. 20:10).

It will be the end of affliction, for the physical body will be changed (1 Cor. 15:50-55).

Death will bring to us a spiritual, glorified body (Phil. 3:21).

We shall then be equal to the angels (Matt. 22:30).

Death will be the end of all sorrows, for death will be destroyed (Rev. 21:4).

Death will bring to all Christians the fulfillment of beautiful hopes (Prov. 14:32; 2 Tim. 4:8).

A CHRISTIAN'S HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION

The word resurrection is defined as, "A standing up or rising up."

The resurrection is a divine prediction (John 5:28,29).

It is a great hope to God's people (Acts 24:15)

The resurrection was believed in by the patriarchs:

(a) Abraham (Heb. 11:17-19; 11:8-10).

(b) Job (19:25,26)

(c) David (2 Sam. 12:21-23).

The Events Connected with the Resurrection.

- (1) It will be at Christ's coming (1 Thess. 4:6).
- (2) The trumpet shall sound (1 Cor. 15:52)
- (3) Our bodies will be raised and changed (1 Cor. 15:53,54).
- (4) We will become like the angels (Matt. 22:30).
- (5) We will become like unto God (1 John 3:3).
- (6) Death will be eternally abolished (Rev. 20:14; 1 Cor. 15:26).

A CHRISTIAN'S ETERNAL HOME

Man through sin, lost h's first home, the beautiful Eden (Gen. 3:22-24).

But a better home is promised (John 14:1-3)

God's people in the past have lived in expectation of such a home (Heb. 11:14-16).

It is a prepared place for a prepared people (Rev. 21:27; John 8:21).

What is Heaven?

- (a) It is a city (Heb. 11:10; Rev. 21:10-23)
- (b) It is God's dwelling place (1 Thess. 4:17; John 12:26; 17:24).
- (c) It is where the River of Life flows (Rev. 22:1,2; Psalm 46:4,5).

Condition in that Home:

(a) No night there—eternal day (Rev. 22:5; 21:23).

(b) No s'in there—eternal righteousness (Rev. 21:7).

(c) No death there—eternal life (Rev. 21:4; 1 Cor. 15:25,26; John 11:25,26).

(d) No sorrow there—everlasting happiness (Rev. 21:4; Isa'ah 25:8).

(e) No hunger there—heavenly food (Rev. 21:4; Rev. 22:2).

All are invited there (Rev. 22:17).