

**SUGGESTED
OUTLINES**

FOR

**SCRIPTURAL
STUDY**

No. 2



BY ROY LONEY

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Prepared for Indoctrination and
Development work among the
Churches of Christ

BY
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“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.

THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

The Bible begins with God, Gen. 1:1, who is the creator of the world and mankind, Psalms 33:6-9, Jer. 32:17, Rev. 4:11, Ex. 3:14. He is the self-existent, unoriginated one who inhabits eternity, Psalms 90:1, 2 and everything begins and ends with him, Rev. 1:8. Only fools deny his existence, Psalms 53:1. God can be found even though many profess ignorance of him, Acts 17:27. Why many fail to find him, Psalms 10:4; An example, Ex. 5:2. Even if many claim they can't find God, yet God can always find them Jer. 23:23, 24; Psalms 139:7-11.

Material nature proclaims God, Psalms 19:1, Rom. 1:19, 20. In the material universe there is motion, plan and design. There can be no motion without a mover, no plan without a planner, nor design without a designer. Who can believe that our great solar system, with the planets revolving in orderly array around the sun, each in its own orbit, at exactly the same rate of speed, never pausing, never stopping, came into existence by blind chance? The planets are all under definite laws and regulations. Who made those laws and regulations. Dr. Jan Schilt, of Columbia University, an expert on star systems, says: "The greatest shock to me would be to find it all happened by chance." Dr. Paul Kerr, famed Columbia

Mineralogist says students now have more evidence than ever before of the work of God—"We can say, 'God must be'." The existence of a watch proves there has been a watchmaker. The universe could no more exist by chance than could a watch. When ever we see a statue we know that a skilled hand, guided by an intelligent mind, made it. Look into the star decked sky at night and then "Be still and know that I am God." *Psalms 46:10.*

The Scientist Liebig was asked if he believed that the grass and flowers that grew around him, grew by mere chemical forces. He replied: "No more than I could believe that the books on botany describing them could grow from mere chemical forces". If it requires human intelligence and physical power to write a book, is it not just as easy to believe that divine power and wisdom created the world of nature? Surely the nature of man itself is proof of God's existence. A human mind that can write a book, build the Brooklyn bridge, erect the great skyscrapers, invent the airplanes, compose the music of Beethoven, find the causes and cure of diseases unleash the power of the atom, and compose the Declaration of Independence, could not have come from a power that has no intelligence. Can intelligence come from purely physical matter?

You had just as well say that the great Streamliners that glide with the speed of rockets over the steel rails, is an accidental combination of mineral elements! Or that it evolved from a rock rolling down the mountain side!

The mind of man has conceived the idea of a GOD—a great, eternal self-existent one, who can hold the waters (of the world) in the hollow of his hand, comprehend the dust of the earth in a measure, weigh the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance.” I say a mind that can conceive of such a Being, could come only from God.

Can you believe that the mind of man, that can conceive of heaven, believe in the immortality of the soul, look forward with confident expectation to a land of pure and unalloyed delights, and a reunion with all the great and good of all ages past, came from inanimate forces devoid of emotion, love or affection? To believe that would require greater credulity than to simply believe that “in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

THE NATURE OF GOD

He is a Spirit, John 4:24; Luke 24:38, yet he has a body. Some say he is without body or parts. But Paul teaches that we shall have a body like Christ's, Phil. 3:21, I John

3:2. There is a spiritual body, I Cor. 15:40-44.

Moses saw God's back, Ex. 33:18-23 and God has a face, Ex. 33:20, and hands, Psalms 119:73, Job 10:8, and arms, Deut. 5:14, Jer. 23:17, and eyes, Prov. 15:3, II Chron. 16:9, Heb. 4:13, who then can deny he has a body? Christ is the *image* of God, Col. 1:15. There can be no image of what has no visibility. Man was created in God's image, Gen. 1:26. It was man's body that was created or fashioned. Some use the statement that God is invisible to prove he no form: I Tim. 1:17; but he is only invisible to man because of man's weakness and is explained by Ex. 33:20. But a spirit can take a visible form, John 1:32.

Others say that God is only a principle—"God is love," I John 4:8. But God is the *embodiment of love, for love comes from him*, I John 4:7, and God loves, John 3:16 and manifested his love by actions; God also hates, Prov. 6:16; God knows, Math. 6:32, God proposes, Eph. 1:9, II Tim. 1:9, Eph. 3:00; He repents (changes His purpose), Gen. 6:6; He grieves, Heb. 3:17; becomes angry, I Kings 11:9—thus he possesses all the attributes of a personality. Read what a heathen king said of him, Dan. 4:34-35. David said: "Be still and know that I am God," Psalms 46-10.

THE POWER OF GOD

HIS OMNIPOTENCE

His power is unlimited, Dan. 4:35, Luke 1:37, Matt. 19:26.

HIS POWER IN CREATION: Gen. 1:1, Psalms 33:6-9; Astronomers say our sun is just one of 100 million suns in our galaxy alone, each with their planets and satellites. The vast number is beyond the comprehension of man, yet God made them and calls their names, Psalms 147:4, Jer. 32:17.

HIS POWER IN NATURE: Heb. 1:3. What we call the milky way, is a mighty river of stars, planets and suns, each held in their orbits by God's omnipotent power! The earth has no material foundation, Job. 26:7. God's power alone upholds it and moves it. His control of the oceans, Job. 38:8-11 and He can control all Nature, Psalms 107:25-31; Isaiah 40:12, Psalms 104:1-15.

HIS POWER IN SALVATION: (Through Christ) Isaiah 63:1 "Mighty to save"! Heb. 7:25. The nature of that salvation, Isaiah 1:18, I Cor. 6:9-11. The extent of that salvation, Rev. 5:9-12.

HIS POWER TO FULFILL HIS PURPOSES, Numbers 23:19, Job 23:13. An example: Rom. 9:17-20; Ex. 7:3-5.

His greatest purpose, Eph. 3:11, I Thess. 5:9.

His final power over Satan: Rev. 20:10.

If the devil's doom is certain, what of your fate if you follow Satan rather than God? Matt. 25:40, 41. Consider Job's statement, 42:2.

THE WISDOM OF GOD

HIS OMNISCIENCE

He knows the end from the beginning: Isaiah 46:9, 10; 48:4,5; Acts 15:18, I John 3:20.

He always knows man's whereabouts: Psalms 139:1-12, I Sam. 10:20-22; II Kings 19:27; Prov. 15:3.

He knows all of man's actions: Prov. 5:21; Job 31:4; Jer. 32:19; Rev. 2:2; Psalms 139:3.

He knows all of men's thoughts: Psalms 94:11, Job 42:2, Heb. 4:13.

His knowledge will enable him to reveal all secrets: Eccl. 12:14, I Cor. 4:4, 5, Rom. 2:16.

He has perfect knowledge of all that's in Nature: Psalms 147:4; Isaiah 40:26, Matt. 10:26.

His wisdom compared with man's: I Cor. 1:19-31; 3:19, Rom. 11:33, 34.

Man is wise only when he follows God: Matt. 7:24-27, I Cor. 3:18, 19.

THE HOLINESS OF GOD

God is "The Holy One," Job 6:10, Isaiah 12:6, Ezek. 39:7, Rev. 15:4.

His name is "Holy", Isaiah 57:15, Luke 1:49.

He dwells in a Holy Place, Psalms 11:4-7, Heb. 2:20, Isaiah 57:15, Zach. 2:13; for He is holy: I Peter 1:15, 16, Lev. 19:2. Isaiah 6:3. Because of his holiness, he cannot sin: Job 34:10, Numbers 23:19. He will not associate with sinners: Isaiah 59: 1,2, yet he loves the sinner: John 3:16, II Peter 3:9, hence it is his desire that man should be holy. Heb. 12:14, for only a cleansed and purified soul can approach him. Psalms 24: 3, 4; Heb. 10:22; Prov. 15:9. We can only worship God in Holiness, Psalms 29:2; John 4:24. The degree of holiness we must show to please, I Thess. 3:13.

THE WRATH OF GOD

God's Wrath is against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of man Rom. 1:18. God loves righteousness, but hates iniquity (Heb. 1:9). He loves the sinner (John 3, 16) but hates Satan (I John 3:8).

There is power in God's love (I John 3:1) and in the provisions he has made for our happiness (II Peter 1:3). All good things come from him (James 1:17) and no good thing will he withhold from men, (Psalms 84: 11); but there can be no real love for goodness, purity and honesty without hatred of the thing that is degrading; so in God's heart there is both love and wrath. Read carefully Rom. 2:4-10. An illustration of both love and wrath—II Chron. 36:15, 16.

There is life in obedience, Rev. 22:14, but death in disobedience, Rom. 6:23, and the choice is man's, not God's, Ezek. 18:31, 32; Jer. 21:8, and man must abide the consequence of his own choice, Heb. 10:29 Christ's death if accepted will save man from every sin; but if rejected will bring every sorrow. The justice of God's law must be upheld, Exod. 34:6, 7, there is no injustice in his wrath, Rom. 3:5, 6.

Satan is the arch-enemy of both God and man (I Pet. 5:8, Rev. 12:7, 8). To give aid and comfort to an enemy in time of war is treason and punishable with death, and if we permit ourselves to be brought under the power of Satan (II Tim. 2:26) we must share his fate (Matt. 25:41, Rev. 20:20 Read also II Cor. 5:11 and Heb. 10:31.

THE JUSTICE OF GOD

Justice and Judgment are the habitation of God's throne. Psalms 89:15.

God has ever been just in his dealings with man: Sodom an Example, Ge. 18:23-32.

His just and righteous dealings revealed: Jer. 18:1-10.

He is no respecter of persons, but deals impartially with all: Acts 10:34, Rom. 2:6-11, I Peter 1:17.

Under the Gospel, all races are on the same footing before Him. Gal. 3:28, 29, Col. 3:11.

Some say he was unjust in driving man from Eden (Gen. 3:22-24). Man had violated God's law. God cannot uphold the majesty of his law and withhold punishment, Rom. 3:5, 6. He sent man forth with the hope of something better, Gen. 3:15, Gal. 4:4-6.

Others say he was unjust in requiring Christ's death as an atonement for man's sin, II Cor. 5:21. Is it unjust for you to require the death of an animal to satisfy your hunger? Christ's death an exhibition of divine love, John 3:16; 15:13. When a mother sacrifices herself for her child we honor her.

Others say it was unjust to create man and then make a Hell in which he must suffer. Hell was not made for man; but for the devil, Matt. 25:41. If man deliberately chooses the devil's service in preference to God's he'll have to share the devil's fate.

It grieves God for man to perish, II Peter 3:9, Ezek. 18:31, 32. Christ came to save man from hell, Matt. 18:11, and all provisions for man's salvation are provided, and salvation is offered, Isaiah 55:6, 7.

PROPHECIES CONCERNING CHRIST

LUKE 24:44

Isaiah 7:14—Born of a Virgin, Matt. 1:22, 23

Micah 5:2—Born in Bethlehem, Matt. 2:1-6

Jer. 31:15—Slaughter of infants, Matt. 2:16-18

- Hosea—Called from Egypt, Matt. 2:14, 15
 Isaiah 9:1, 2—Christ a Light, Matt. 4:16
 Isaiah 35:5, 6—His Miracles, Matt. 11:4, 5
 Zach. 11:12—30 pieces of silver, Matt. 26:15
 Psalms 41:9—Betrayal by Judas, John 13:18
 Zech. 11:6—His sufferings on Cross, I Peter
 2:24
 Psalms 69:20, 21—Drink on Cross, Matt.
 27:48
 Psalms 22:1—Cry on the Cross, Matt. 27:46
 Psalms 22:18—Casting lots, Matt. 27:35
 Psalms 18:6, 7—The Earthquake, Matt. 27:
 50, 51.
 Amos 8:9—Darkness at noon, Matt. 27:45
 Isaiah 53:9—Rich man's grave, Matt. 27:
 57-60
 Psalms 16:10—His Resurrection, Acts 2:
 24-27
 Daniel 7:13, 14—His Coronation, Acts 2:
 24-36

THE DIVINITY OF CHRIST

- Was he the Son of God? Matt. 22:42-45
 The testimony of the Bible, Col. 1:15-18,
 Phil. 2:6, Heb. 1:1, 2, John 20:30, 31, I Cor.
 8:6, I Tim. 3:16, John 3:16.
 The testimony of the Angels, Luke 2:11
 The testimony of John the Baptist, John
 1:32-34; 5:32,33
 The testimony of Christ's works, John 5:
 36; 10:25, 36-38; 15:24, Matt. 7:16. What
 are the fruits of Christ's life? John 3:2.

Napoleon said "I know men and I know that Christ was not a mere man. No man could have established such a kingdom as his, solely by the power of love." Was not Peter right? Matt. 16:16.

His own testimony, Luke 22:67-70; John 10:36; 17:1-5; 14:9, 10.

The Father's testimony, Matt. 17:5, John 5:37, Matt. 3:17.

The testimony of his resurrection, Rom. 1:3. Who witnessed his resurrection? I Cor. 15:3-8. With all this testimony should we not all say with the Centurion "Truly this was the Son of God," Matt. 27:54.

THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST

He was both God and man, John 1:1, 2; Phil. 2:6, 7; I Tim. 3:16; Heb. 2:14-17.

FACTS OF HIS HUMANITY:

1. Seed of the woman, Gen. 3:15, Gal. 4:4
2. Seed of Abraham, Gen. 12:3, Gal. 3:16
3. Seed of David, Psalms 132:11, Isaiah 9:6, 7, Acts 3:29-32
4. Seed of a virgin, Isaiah 7:14, Luke 1:31-35

REASONS FOR HIS HUMANITY

1. To reveal God to man, Ex. 33:20; Man cannot directly approach God nor hear him, Ex. 20:19, John 1:18, I John 1:1-3, John 14:8, 9; Matt. 11:25-27.

2. To reveal man's duty, Phil. 2:5, 6, I Peter 2:21, Teaches us by example. He was God's ideal man, Heb. 4:15.
3. To provide a sacrifice for sin, Heb. 2:9, 16, 17; Heb. 10:4-10; Col. 1:20-22.
4. To conquer death, Heb. 2:14, II Tim. 1:10, I Cor. 15:20-23, 51-56.

CHRIST—HIS PRE-EMINENCE

COL. 1:18

Pre-eminence defined "to be first"—"over all-above all".

He was pre-eminent in Creation, Col. 1:15-17, John 1:3, Heb. 1:2.

He was pre-eminent in Holiness, I Peter 2:21, 22, Heb. 7:26.

He is pre-eminent in Salvation, Matt. 1:21; 18:11; Heb. 10:9-12; Heb. 7:25; John 14:6, Rom. 5:6-11. He paid for our redemption, I Peter 1:18.

He is pre-eminent in Authority, Eph. 1:20-23, Matt. 28:18.

For He is King, Rev. 19:16 and Head of the church, Col. 1:18.

He will be pre-eminent in the Judgment, John 5:22, Acts 17:30, 31; Rom. 2:16; Matt. 25:31-46.

He should be pre-eminent in your heart, Col. 3:11, Matt. 10:37, 38.

Why we should give him the pre-eminence, Phil. 2:5-11, Rev. 4:11.

CHRIST—OUR PROPHET

God spoke to Israel through Moses, Ex. 20:19. The Jewish law was all given by Moses, Ex. 24:12, John 1:17.

Moses was a very great prophet (Deut. 34:12) but he predicted a greater one would arise who would reveal God's will. Deut. 18:15-18.

Christ was that Prophet, John 4:25, 26, Acts 3:22-24.

He spoke God's words, John 8:26-28; God now speaks through him, Heb. 1:1, 2, And we are commanded to hear him, Matt. 17:5.

As a prophet and teacher none ever spake as did he, (John 7:46) for he spake with authority, Matt. 7:28, 29.

His word is the law by which all will be judged, John 12:48-50.

His word given to the apostles, John 17:8, Heb. 2:1-4, and we must receive their words, in order to receive Christ, Matt. 10:40, John 13:20, for they were guided by the spirit, John 16:13; 14:26; Acts 2:4, I Cor. 2:12, 13; 14:37.

The importance of hearing and believing their words, Matt. 7:21-27; Heb. 12:25.

CHRIST—OUR MEDIATOR

There is one God and one Mediator, I Tim. 2:5, 6.

A Mediator is a peacemaker—a "go-between".

Man was alienated and separated from God through sin, Isaiah 59:1, 2. And God had pronounced judgment against man, Ezek. 18:4, Rom. 3:23, 6:23; 1:18. Thus, man was doomed for he had refused to heed God's warnings, Rom. 1:21-25. This shows the need of a second party—a Mediator to reconcile the difference. This was Christ's mission in the world, Matt. 18:11, Luke 9:56—to save doomed man! For this work he was pre-eminently qualified, for he was both God and man, Heb. 2:14-18, Heb. 4:15, 16. God could trust him fully, because he was his son. Man could also trust him, because he took on him the nature of man, and could understand man's feelings. He acknowledged the justness of God's judgment against man, Luke 13:3; Rom. 3:3-6; then he performed the greatest deed the world has ever known—He paid man's debt to God, II Cor. 5:21, I Peter 2:24, Rom. 5:6-9. If man will now accept, through obedience, the blood of the cross he will be restored to God's favor, John 3:16, Rom. 5:10, 11, Eph. 2:11-17. Only through Christ is there pardon and access to God, John 14:6; 5:24, 40. Heb. 5:9. He stands between man and hell.

CHRIST—OUR KING

He was born to be a king, Luke 1:31-33. He acknowledged himself as a king, John 18:37, but his kingdom was not of this world—

not material, John 18:36. He was crucified as a king, John 19:19-22. He was crowned on entrance into heaven, Eph. 1:2-23, Acts 2:34-36, Psalms 110:4, I Peter 3:21, Heb. 10:12, 13. He was to be both king and priest, Zach. 6:12, 13. He is now our priest, Heb. 8:1, therefore he is also now our king, Col. 3:1, Rev. 19:28, 29.

The church is his kingdom, Col. 1:13, and Christians are spiritual Israel, Gal. 3:28, 29, Rom. 2:28, 29, 4:16 which fulfills Luke 1:31-33. As King, he has all authority, Matt. 28:18, Eph. 1:20, 21 and he is Head, or ruler of the church, Col. 1:18.

When will his reign end? I Cor. 15:23-28. After the resurrection. But many people say it begins then. Modern teachers contradict Paul: Heb. 10:12, 13 makes it plain that he is now ruling and will continue to rule till death, the last enemy, is destroyed. Death is conquered at his second coming, John 5:28, I Thess. 4:15-17, I Cor. 15:50-56.

CHRIST—OUR HIGH PRIEST

We have a High Priest, Heb. 8:1, 2

He is a priest after the order of Melchisedec, Heb. 6:20.

The former priesthood was from Aaron, Exodus 28:1, Heb. 5:4

Christ was made a priest by God's oath, Heb. 7:20-24

The Aaronic priesthood was imperfect, Heb. 7:11 as also was their sacrifices, Heb. 10:1-3.

Christ was qualified as a priest, Heb. 4:14, 15; 2:16-18. As a God he understood man's needs: As a man he could understand man's weakness. The law was changed when the priesthood was changed, Heb. 7:12. His is an unchangeable priesthood, Heb. 7:24. As a priest, he must offer a sacrifice, Heb. 8:3. What sacrifice did he offer? Heb. 10:5-9: His body, Luke 22:19. This was a perfect offering, Heb. 10:14; 9:13, 14; 7:25.

Offered only once, Heb. 7:27; 9:25, 26.

To reject this sacrifice is to be lost, Heb. 10:26-30.

The blood of his offering accepted in heaven, Heb. 9:11-14.

It can cleanse from all sins, Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:14, I John 1:7.

Where is our High Priest now? I Peter 3:22, Heb. 8:1, Zech. 6:12, 13.

What is he doing as priest? Heb. 7:25. Maketh intercessions for us.

What should we do in view of all this? Heb. 10:21, 22.

THE DEATH OF CHRIST

1. A manifestation of love. John 3:16, I John 3; 1; 4:10.

2. A Ransom, Matt. 20:28, I Peter 1:18, Isaiah 52:3, Rom. 7:14, a price must be paid for redemption, I Tim. 2:6, Gal. 3:13 (Lev. 25:47-49)
3. A Propitiation (making satisfaction for wrongs done), Rom. 3:25, I John 2:1, 2; 4:10, An atonement, Rom. 5:11.
4. A Reconciliation, Rom. 5:10, II Cor. 5:18, 19, Eph. 2:16, Col. 1:20, Heb. 2:17. Drawn to God for reconciliation, John 12:32.
5. A Substitution, Isaiah 53:6, I Peter 2:24, II Cor. 5:21. God accepted his death as a substitute for ours, that was demanded because of our sins, Rom. 6:23.

THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

The resurrection of Christ is a fundamental belief of the church: II Tim. 2:17, 18; I Cor. 15:12-15.

It was predicted in prophecy, Psalms 16:10

It is a part of the Gospel, I Cor. 15:1-7

It is a proof of Christ's divinity, Rom. 1:3, 4

The apostles all preached it: Acts 2:24, 3:15, 4:10, I Peter 1:21; Christ confirmed it, Rev. 1:18.

The many, infallible proofs of the resurrection, Acts 1:3.

(a) The empty tomb, John 20:1-8

(b) The enemies explanation, Matt. 28: 11:15. Was this credible?

(c) The many witnesses, I Cor. 15:4-8. The record of his appearances, Matt. 28 ch. Mark 16th ch., Luke 24th ch., John, 20th ch. Was their testimony credible? Most of them suffered the bitterest persecution, and many of them, cruel martyrdom for this belief. What could have been their motive in teaching a falsehood? Do men willingly suffer such things for what they know to be false? The Nature of Christ's resurrection. Not spiritual, but physical as the following scriptures attest: John 20:20, 26, 27; Luke 24:36-40.

Christ's resurrection is an assurance of our resurrection: Rom. 8:11, Phil. 3, 20, 21, I Cor. 15:20-26, I Peter 1:3.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

HIS NATURE

The Holy Spirit is a person even as God and Christ. There are three that bear record in heaven—Father, Son and Spirit, I John 5:7. We are baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit, Matt. 28:19. There is one God, one Lord and one Spirit, Eph. 4:5

At Christ's baptism, God was in heaven, Christ in the water, and the Spirit descended to abide on Christ, Matt. 3:16, 17. Thus we have three distinct personalities. These

three are one in their purposes and work, even as a husband and wife are one, Ge. 2:24.

The Spirit has a Mind, Rom. 8:27

The Spirit knows, I Cor. 2:11.

The Spirit teaches, I Cor. 2:13

The Spirit can be grieved, Eph. 4:30

The Spirit speaks, I Tim. 4:1

All these scriptures show that the Holy Spirit is a distinct personality co-equal with the Father and Son.

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A Promise to be received. Matt. 3:11. Acts 1:5. This was to the Apostles.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS BAPTISM:

1. *A Guide to all truth.* John 14:26; 16-23. This truth is revealed in the New Testament, II Cor. 2:12, 13; 14:37, II Tim. 3:16, 17. Bible contains the words of the Spirit John 6:63 and reveals the way of salvation, II Tim. 3:15, John 17:17 The Apostles indowed with the Spirit became Christ's Spokesmen - Ambassadors, II Cor. 5:20, Matt. 10:40
2. *To Give Power to Perform Miracles.* Luke 24:49, Mark 16:17, 18. These miracles were to confirm the word preached: Mark 16:20, Heb. 2:4, John 5:36, 3:2. These miracles established the official character of the

Apostles: II Cor. 12:12. Miracles always accompanied the baptism of the Spirit.

The Baptism of the house of Cornelius: Acts 10:44. This baptism was not to convert them, Acts 11:14. They were converted by Peter's preaching. It was to convince the Christian Jews that the Gentiles were acceptable under the Gospel, Acts 11:15-18. The Baptism of the Spirit was never promised to all believers. But the Spirit does dwell in the hearts of the obedient believers, Rom. 8:11, I Cor. 6:19.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CONVERSION

Man must be "born of the water and of the Spirit, John 3:5. Born of incorruptible seed: I Peter 1:23. Seed is sown into hearts, Luke 8:4-15. The "seed" is the word of God. And the word of God is the words of the Spirit, John 6:63; Begotten by word of truth, James 1:18. We are begotten by the Gospel, - Cor. 4:14, 15. The Gospel is God's power unto salvation, Rom. 1:16; Men are saved by preaching, I Cor. 1:21.

Men must be "drawn to God", John 6:44—this drawing is through teaching: see verse 45; when taught they are drawn to God. On the day of Pentecost the Jews were "pierced to the heart", Acts 2:37 and this

resulted from the apostles speaking "as the Spirit gave them utterance," verse 4. The Spirit operated through the apostles to bring his truth into their hearts.

Men are made free through the truth, John 8:32. The New Testament contains this truth, John 17:17.

In conversion, the heart is purified by faith, Acts 15:9; 10:43. Faith comes by hearing the word of God, Rom. 10:17.

Through the Word the Spirit reveals all knowledge necessary to produce faith and incite man to obedience. Jesus said "If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me," John 12:32. In the gospel is told the story of his death, and this story, revealed by the Spirit, produces faith, brings repentance and leads to obedience. The Spirit was in the prophets—Nehemiah 9:30, and that same Spirit was in the apostles, John 16:13, Acts 2:4.

THE WITNESS OF THE SPIRIT

The Spirit bears witness *WITH* our spirit that we are the children of God, Rom. 8:16. Much misunderstanding about this passage. Some teach that the Spirit works an emotional change in our hearts, which change is evidence that we are saved. The Spirit does not bear witness *TO* us, but *WITH* us—in other words, his testimony is given in con-

nection with ours that we are saved. Consider the two words "witness" and "testimony". A witness testifies by words either written or spoken. The words of the witness is his testimony. Christ was a witness (Rev. 1:5) and he testified by word, Rev. 1:2. The testimony of his life is given us in written words, so that we may believe on him unto salvation, John 20:30, 31. Christ had the witness—testimony, of the Father that he was the Son of God—compare John 5:37 and Matt. 3:17, 17:5. Thus Christ and the Father bear witness together that he is the Son of God.

The Apostles were witnesses, Acts 1:8. Their testimony was given in connection with the Holy Spirit, Acts 5:32. When the Spirit came upon them, they spoke as the Spirit gave them utterance. Thus words were uttered in testimony, Acts 2:40. The Spirit's testimony is in the Gospel, Acts 20:24 and our salvation is in the gospel, Rom. 1:16. When I obey the Gospel, I have the testimony of the Spirit that I am saved, Mark 16:16. What greater evidence could we ask? Feeling are deceptive and so is the heart, Jeremiah 17:9; Prov. 28:26 and so is conscience, Acts 26:9, but the joint testimony of Christ, the Spirit and the apostles is given to attest to our salvation when we obey the gospel, Heb. 5:9.

THE INDWELLING SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is promised to all believers, Acts 2:38, 39, John 7:37-39. This is not the miraculous gifts of the Spirit, but the Spirit himself into our hearts, Rom. 5:5.

The Spirit dwells in us, Rom. 8:11, I Cor. 3:16. We are "sealed by the spirit", II Cor. 1:22, "earnest" means a pledge, Eph. 4:30, and as God's sons, his spirit is in our hearts, Gal. 4:6, and thus we are filled with the Spirit, Eph. 4:18.

What does the Spirit do for us?

1. It comforts, John 14:16.
2. Helps our infirmities, Rom. 8:26
3. It strengthens us, Eph. 3:16

How does he do these things?

1. Through the word, I Thess. 2:13, I Thess. 4:18
2. Providentially (I know not how else to express it)

We know that Satan implants evil thoughts, ideas and desires in our hearts. By what exact means we do not know. I can and do believe that the Spirit operates on our minds and hearts, in the same way mentally to bring good thoughts, impulses and desires. Compare John 13:27 and Rom. 8:26. The Spirit can entice us to do good, even as Satan entices us to evil.

We can "Quench the Spirit," I Thess. 5:19—that is to keep him out of our hearts (ref. Rev. 3:20) even as man "resists the spirit," Acts 7:51, Isaiah 63:10. But when we make him a guest in our hearts, great results are obtained. Study the Fruits of the spirit, Gal. 5:22, 23.

THE CREATION OF MAN

Man was created in God's image, Gen. 1:26, 27, I Cor. 11:7, James 3:9, Malachi 2:10. And is the "Offspring" of God, Acts 17:29. He was created for God's pleasure and glory, Rev. 4:11, Psalms 100:3. Woman was created for man's benefit, Gen. 2:18-25, I Cor. 11:7-9. Both are to live for God—in obedience to Him, Eccl. 12:13.

Man was given dominion over the earth, Gen. 1:26-28. Hence he is a king. Man was created both a physical and spiritual being. The "breath" breathed into his nostrils was his spirit, which makes him a living being, James 2:26, Zach. 12:1. God the Father of our spirits, Heb. 12:9. "Body, soul and spirit," I Thess. 5:23, The soul is the life that exists when the body and spirit are united.

At death the spirit returns to God, Eccl. 12:7, Acts 7:59, Luke 23:46. Man was created a responsible being, with ability to choose either good or evil, Deut. 30:19, Jer. 21:8. He decides his own destiny. There is

an "outward" (physical) and "inner" (spiritual) man, Rom. 7:22, II Cor. 4:16, Eph. 3:16. The physical man is changed in the resurrection, Phil. 3:21, I Cor. 15:42-44, II Cor. 5:1-4. The spiritual man is changed in conversion, Eph. 4:22-24, Col. 3:9, 10, II Cor. 5:17.

All races of men are of "one blood", Acts 17:26, Gen. 10:32 and all races are on an equality before God, Acts 10:34, Gal. 3:26-28.

THE FALL OF MAN

Man was created pure—sinless; but placed under the law, Gen. 2:16, 17.

THE TEMPTER—Gen. 3:1, Rev. 12:9, John 8:44

THE TEMPTATION—Gen. 3:1-6. God had provided the man and woman with everything they needed; but Satan tells the woman they need more, I Tim. 2:13, 14. God's law was plain, and the penalty revealed. Hence, they sinned. What is sin? I John 3:4, James 1:15. The woman is deceived and believes Satan's lie. Her sincere belief did not turn the lie into truth. Only truth can save John 8:32. Man's sin was deliberate, yet he gives an excuse, Gen. 3:12. God accepts no excuse, Rom. 1:18-20; 2:11, 12, Matt. 22:11, 12.

THE CONSEQUENCES—Gen. 2:17. They

were now dead in sin, Eph. 2:1, I Tim. 5:6, Ezek. 18:4.

THE PENALTY—Gen. 3:22, *A three-fold curse:*

To the Serpent: Gen. 3:14, 15. His final doom, Rev. 20:10.

To the Woman: Gen. 3:16, Eph. 5:22, I Peter 3:1-6.

To the Man: Gen. 3:17-19. Separated from the tree of life.

The Consequences to the entire race: Heb. 9:27, Rom. 5:12.

But all that man lost through Adam's fall, we can regain through Christ, I Cor. 15:21, 22.

MAN'S CONDITION UNDER SIN

1. He is dead in sin. I Tim. 5:6, Eph. 2:1, Col. 2:13
2. He is Lost. Matt. 18:11, Luke 15:32
3. He is alienated. Eph. 4:18. Col. 1:21, Isaiah 59:1, 2.
4. He is an enemy of God, Col. 1:21, James 4:4, Rom. 5:10
5. He is in Bondage. John 8:34, Rom. 6:16
6. He is without hope. Eph. 2:12, I Thess. 4:13
7. He is in darkness, Matt. 4:16, Acts 26:18, Col. 1:13, I Peter 2:9
8. He is blind. Luke 4:18, II Cor. 4:4, John 12:40

THE REDEMPTION OF MAN

Man in sin, is in bondage, John 8:24, Rom. 6:16, II Tim. 2:26

Man barter away his spiritual freedom for the pleasures of sin and material possessions: I Kings 21:25, Rom. 7:22.

This is a bargain of doubtful value, Matt. 16:24, Psalms 49:6-8; Rom. 6:23. Death is a poor reward for a life-time of service. To be freed from this bondage, a ransom price must be paid, Isaiah 52:3.

The price has been paid, I Cor. 6:20. What was that price? I Peter 1:18, Rev. 5:9, Acts 20:28, Matt. 20:28.

This was the greatest price ever paid, John 15:13

Man's sins doomed him to death; but Christ paid the penalty, II Cor. 5:21, I Peter 2:24. The redeeming power of his blood, Eph. 1:7, I John 1:7, Heb. 9:14, Rev. 7:14.

This price indicated the great degree of God's love for man, John 3:16, Rom. 5:6-10, and it also shows the value of man's soul, Isaiah 13:12.

To reject this sacrifice is to be eternally lost, Heb. 9:24-28; 2:3.

THE DESTINY OF MAN

On this subject, let it be understood that man's only source of information, is God's word, II Tim. 3:16, 17.

Man's existence does not end at the grave, Heb. 9:27, Acts 24:15. He must face the judgment, II Cor. 5:10, Acts 17:31, Rom. 2:16.

There are two alternatives before every man:

1. **ETERNAL LIFE.** John 10:27, 28, Rom. 2:7, Titus 1:2
This is in heaven with God, John 14:1-3, Rev. 21:1-5
2. **EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT.** Matt. 25:46, II Thess. 1:9, Psalms 9:17.

Righteousness has a reward, while sin has a penalty, Rom. 6:23.

The words eternal and everlasting are from "aionios"—same word with exactly the same meaning—age lasting. Both are used interchangeable with reference to both righteous and wicked. Matt. 19:29; 25:46 and John 3:16—Luke 18:30—both words used with reference to the same place. Hence, man's punishment will endure as long as everlasting life. Word "everlasting" used with reference to the punishment of the wicked, is also applied to God, Rom. 16:22, hence, of the same duration as God himself. Some say the word "destruction", II Thess. 1:9 means annihilation—to be blotted out and etc. but this is not destruction of the individual, but "from the presence of the Lord". Man will be eternally sepa-

rated from God. Death means separation. Man is physically dead when the spirit is separated from the body, James 2:26, he suffers the "second death" (Rev. 21:14) when separated from God. All men now have access unto God (Eph. 2:18) but not after the judgment.

Man decides his own fate, Acts 13:46, John 5:40, Matt. 11:28, Rom. 2:6-8, Jer. 21:8. It is not God's will that man should die, II Peter 3:9, Ezek. 18:32. But if man chooses the service of the devil, he must share the devil's doom, Matt. 25:41.

THE GREAT SALVATION

Christ came to bring Salvation to man, Matt. 18:11, I Thess. 5:9. Paul says it is a great Salvation, Heb. 2:3.

1. It was great in its cost, I Cor. 6:19, Isaiah 53:3-6, I Peter 1:18, II Cor. 5:21. John 3:16. It cost God his Son and Christ his life. This indicates man's worth Matt. 16:26.
2. It is great in its saving power, Isaiah 63:1, Heb. 7:25, 8:12. A case illustrated, I Cor. 6:9-11, I John 1:7. The power that saves, Rom. 1:16, I Cor. 15:1, 2.
3. It is great in its adaptation to all races and nations: Matt. 28:18, Gal. 3:28, Titus 2:11, Matt. 11:28, Rev. 22:17.

4. Great is the danger of neglecting it. Heb. 2:1-3, I Peter 4:17, II Thess. 1:7, Heb. 10:28.

THE PLAN OF SALVATION

I THESS. 5:9, JOHN 3:16

The Father originates the plan, Eph. 3:11, 1:9, I Tim. 1:9, Rom. 8:28.

The Son executes the plan, Isaiah 53: 3-8, Matt. 20:28, Heb. 10:5-9, John 12:32, 33, II Cor. 5:21, I Peter 2:24, John 14:6.

The Holy Spirit reveals the plan, John 16:13, 14:26, I John 2:27, II Tim. 3:16, 17.

The Apostles were commissioned to preach the plan, Matt. 28:19, II Cor. 5:18-20, John 17:8.

In order for the plan to be effective, man must accept it, Heb. 5:9, Matt. 7:21-23, John 5:40, Acts 2:40, II Thess. 1:7, I Peter 4:17, Rev. 22:14.

THE ONE AND ONLY WAY OF SALVATION

This way is in and through Christ, John 14:2, Eph. 1:7, I Tim. 2:5.

This is God's way; not man's. Isaiah 55: 8, 9, Proverbs 14:12, Jeremiah 32:39, Jer. 10:23.

This is God's way; not man's. Isaiah 55: 8, 9, Proverbs 14:12, Jeremiah 32:39, Jer. 10:23.

It is the way of Obedience, Heb. 5:9, Matt. 7:21, Acts 2:40, Rom. 6:16-18.

It is the straight and narrow way, Matt. 7:13, 14, Psalms 27:11, Luke 13:24.

It is the way of Holiness, Isaiah 35:8, I Peter 1:15, 16.

It is the way of Love, John 3:16, John 14:21, I John 5:3

THE CONDITIONS OF SALVATION

There is nothing more plainly taught than that salvation is conditional—dependent on man's obedience. Christ saves only the obedient, Heb. 5:8, Matt. 7:21-27, Acts 2:40. Man must save himself through obedience. Christ came that men might have life, John 10:10. But man must come to him to receive it, John 5:40.

Salvation is through the Gospel, Rom. 1:16 and man must obey it to be saved, II Thess. 1:7, 8, I Peter 4:17, Rev. 22:14.

What are the commands to be obeyed?

Man Must Believe on Christ: Acts 16:30, Heb. 11:6, John 3:36, 8:34.

Man Must Repent of His Sins: Luke 13:3, Acts 2:38, 17:30, 31; 11:18.

Man Must Confess Christ: Matt. 10:32, 33, Rom. 10:9-10, Acts 8:37.

Man Must Be Baptized: Acts 2:38, Mark 16:16, Matt. 28:18, 19, Acts 22:16, I Peter 3:21.

And He Must Be Faithful in Christian Living. Titus 2:11, Rev. 2:10, Rom. 2:7, I Cor. 15:58.

THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Paul speaks of the "Full Assurance of Faith," Heb. 10:22. Can we have absolute assurance that we are saved? If so what is that assurance?

THAT ASSURANCE IS NOT IN STRONG EMOTIONAL FEELINGS: Prov. 28:26, Jer. 17:9. There is nothing more undependable than human emotions. False news can work the most astonishing changes in our emotions, and a glass of whiskey will distort a man's mental balance. Jacob's heart was broken at the sight of Joseph's torn coat, but he was sadly deceived, Gen. 37:31-25).

THAT ASSURANCE IS NOT IN AN APPROVING CONSCIENCE: Paul persecuted the church with an approving conscience, Acts 23:1, 26:6, yet he later regarded himself as the "chief of sinners," I Tim. 1:15. Read Matt. 7:21-23. These people thought they had an iron-clad guarantee of salvation, but were doomed to disappointment.

THAT ASSURANCE IS IN OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST, Heb. 5:9, "He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me," John 14:21. Hereby do we know that we know him, if we keep his

commandments" I John 2:3. No guess work there, but absolute assurance. Jesus said "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," Mark 16:16.

If we believe in Christ and obey him in baptism, then we have his word as our assurance. Can we ask for more? Rev. 22:14, I John 5:3, II John 6. The Jews on Pentecost asked what they must do to be saved, Acts 2:37, and Peter told them to repent and be baptized." When they obeyed, did they not have divine assurance that they were saved?

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CHURCH

THE CHURCH IS CHRIST'S BODY

Col. 1:18, Eph. 1:22, 23. Christ is the Saviour of the Body, Eph. 5:23. Hence those in the Body are saved.

To be in this Body is to be a "New Creature", II Cor. 5:17.

Where we live a "New Life" in Christ, Rom. 6:4, Gal. 6:15.

Ponce de Leon sought for the "Fountain of Youth" in America, but did not find it. But endless life is found in Christ's Body, the church, John 11:26; 8:11, I John 5:11.

THE CHURCH IS GOD'S FAMILY.

Eph. 3:14, 15, Rom. 8:16, 17; Only children are heirs, Gal. 3:26.

We are born into this family, I Peter 1:23.

THE CHURCH IS GOD'S HOUSE, HIS TEMPLE.
God dwells therein, Eph. 2:19-22, and there we can meet him, and worship him.
II Cor. 6:16, Rev. 21:3.

THE CHURCH IS THE ONLY PLACE OF SALVATION.

Eph. 5:23, Christ saves the Body. There the "Saved" are found, Acts 2:47. It is like the Ark, I Peter 3:20, 21.

THE CHURCH IS A PLACE OF HAPPY FELLOWSHIP

I John 1:7, I Cor. 12:25, 26, I Cor. 1:9.

THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH

Christ's church to be built upon a Foundation, Matt. 16:18.

Some prophecies regarding the Foundation, Isaiah 28:16, Psalms 118:22, Isaiah 8:14.

These prophecies were fulfilled in Christ, Acts 4:11, Matt. 21:42, Luke 20:17, 18, I Peter 2:4-7.

Thus Christ is that "Rock" or Foundation: I Cor. 3:11, for the great truth that he is the Son of God, is the fundamental fact upon which we obtain salvation, Rom. 10:9, 10.

Some teach that this "rock" of Matt. 16:18 was Peter; but Peter is only a part of that foundation, Eph. 2:20-22. It is belief

in Christ, not Peter, upon which our salvation rests, John 3:36.

The apostles, including Peter, together with the prophets all revealed the truth of Christ's Sonship, through the word, I John 20:30, 31, Acts 2:36.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

God has a purpose in all his works, Eph. 3:11. So when Christ built his church, there was an an object, plan or purpose for it.

THE FIRST PURPOSE WAS, TO PREACH THE GOSPEL, Eph. 3:10, for the saving of precious souls, Rom. 1:17, Mark 16:16, I Cor. 1:21. A scriptural example, I Thess. 1:8, and the church's duty, Rom. 10:13-18, Acts 13:1-3.

The church to uphold the truth, I Tim. 3:15, and spread it as did Paul, Acts 26:16-18, Col. 1:23.

THE SECOND PURPOSE WAS TO PROVIDE A HOME FOR THE SAVED. Acts 2:47 with food, I Peter 2:1, 2, I Tim. 4:6, and spiritual watch care given to all members. The church is God's House, I Tim. 3:15. We are his children. He has abundant provision for his own, Eph. 3:20. Evangelists and Elders to care for the flock, as a father cares for his children, Titus 1:5, Acts 20:28, I Peter 5:1-5.

THE THIRD PURPOSE: A Training School for Christians, where they can develop ability, strength and courage for life's battles. II Tim. 2:2, Rom. 15:14, I Thess.

5:11, Eph. 6:10, I Tim. 4:7, 8, Heb. 5:12, II Peter 3:18.

THE FOURTH PURPOSE: A place to meet and worship God, Heb. 2:12, Heb. 10:25, Acts 20:7. There we meet our Lord and receive from him his heavenly benedictions. Psalms 122:1.

THE GLORY OF THE CHURCH

EPH. 5:27

1. It was glorious in its origin: Built by Christ, Matt. 16:18, Heb. 3:4-6; 8:2.

2. It is glorious in its ideals: Phil. 3:13, 14. It leads men to always strive to improve their lives in purity and holiness, Matt. 5:8.

3. It is glorious in its ministry. In imitation of Christ, Matt. 20:28. It has ever strived to help and bless mankind, Matt. 25:30-46. And to carry its message of salvation to the lost, Acts 26:17, 18.

4. It was glorious in its past. Its history of conversion—turning men from idolatry to God, is the most thrilling story in human history. I Thess. 1:9, Col. 1:23. It claimed one million converts by the end of the first century.

5. It will be glorious in its future. Rev. 21:1-4. Redeemed, saved and exalted to the highest heaven.

Is it glorious today? That depends on us. The church is only what we make it. Let's make it glorious by:

1. The deep love we show for each other.
John 13:35.

2. The zeal we show for the lost. I Cor.
15:58.

3. Purity of our lives. I Peter 1:15, 16,
II Cor. 3:2.

4. By the sacrifices we make for the
Cause. Matt. 16:24, Phil. 3:7, 8.

THE STRENGTH OF THE CHURCH

Christ wishes His Church to be strong.
Eph. 6:10.

Human wisdom says:

1. There is strength in numbers, Matt. 7:13-14
2. There is strength in education, I Cor. 1:26, 27
3. There is strength in popularity, Luke 16:15
4. There is power in wealth, I Tim. 6:8-10

But Divine Wisdom says:

1. There is strength in boldness in the faith, Acts 4:29
2. There is strength in liberality and sacrifice Phil. 3:7, 8
3. There is strength in purity and holiness, I Peter 1:15, Heb. 12:14.
4. There is strength in the unity of the spirit, Eph. 4:3, I Cor. 1:10

THE CHILDREN OF GOD

“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus,” Gal. 3:26. To be God’s child is the greatest honor one can enjoy. Let us consider the following facts:

1. **WE BECOME CHILDREN BY BIRTH.** “Ye must be born again,” John 3:5, John 1:12, 13, I Peter 1:23.

2. **AS CHILDREN WE MUST BEAR THE FAMILY RESEMBLANCE,** I Peter 1:15, II Cor. 3:18. Do we look like God? The apostles were reminders of Christ, Acts 4:13.

3. **AS CHILDREN WE LOVE THE ENTIRE FAMILY OF GOD,** John 13:35, I Peter 1:22, I John 3:14. This is the badge of discipleship.

4. **AS CHILDREN WE MUST BE INTERESTED IN OUR FATHER’S CAUSE.** Matt. 6:24, James 4:4, I John 2:15, Matt. 12:30.

5. **AS CHILDREN WE SHOULD LOVE TO COMMUNE WITH OUR FATHER.** Matt. 6:9-13, Phil. 4:6, Heb. 4:16, I Thess. 5:17.

6. **AS CHILDREN WE SHOULD BELIEVE IN OUR FATHER’S ABILITY TO PROVIDE FOR ALL OUR NEEDS.** Psalms 103:13, 14, I Tim. 6:17, Matt. 7:9-11, Eph. 3:20, Matt. 5:6.

7. **AS CHILDREN WE MAY LOOK FORWARD TO A WONDERFUL FAMILY REUNION.** Heb. 11:14-16, Rev. 22:1-5. “When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing

that will be. When we all see Jesus and reign with him eternally."

A CHRISTIAN'S ASSURANCES

We live in an unstable world with no assurance of life nor of safety. But Paul says we can have "full assurance of Faith" (Heb. 10:22) What are our assurances?

1. God's Love. It never fails, John 3:16; 15:15:13, Rom. 5:6-8, I John 3:1.
2. We are assured of Salvation, Heb. 8:10, 11; 7:25; 10:14
3. Sympathy in time of trouble and sorrow, John 11:25, Heb. 2:16-18, Heb. 5:1, 2; 4:15, I Peter 5:7, Isaiah 43:2.
4. Strength for all our needs: Heb. 4:16, Deut. 33:27, Matt. 6:32-33.
5. Assured of happiness now if we submit to God, Malachi 3:10, Psalms 23:1, I Peter 1, 8, 9.
6. We are assured of eternal life: Titus 1:2, John 10:10. And an eternal home, John 14, 1-3, Heb. 11:16.

CHRISTIAN GROWTH

When people first become Christians, they are babes, I Peter 2:2

Christ wishes all to grow, II Peter 3:18, so that they may be strong, Eph. 6:10.

CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR GROWTH:

1. Good nourishing food, Matt. 4:4,

I Peter 2:2. This requires teaching,
II Tim. 2:2, Matt. 28:18.

2. Proper exercise, Phil. 2:12, I Cor. 15:58, I Tim. 4:7, 8. This is development work of the church, Eph. 4:16. And this is for all members, not just the preacher.

3. Cleanliness, I Tim. 5:22, Heb. 12:14. This concerns both the individual and the church, I Cor. 5:6, 7, A corrupt church cannot produce strong, healthy Christians.

An illustration of growth, Mark 4:26-28, First the blade, then the ear, then the ripened grain.

No one should feel they have reached the proper height or growth until they reach the stature of Christ, Eph. 4:13.

Undeveloped members are unacceptable to Christ, Heb. 5:12-14.

CHRISTIAN PURITY

Purity a divine requirement, I Tim. 5:22, Heb. 12:14.

OUR THOUGHTS MUST BE PURE, Matt. 15:9; 12:25, Prov. 4:23, 23:7, Matt. 15:19; 12:25; 5:8, I Cor. 13:5. What to think, Phil. 4:8

OUR SPEECH MUST BE PURE. Col. 3:8, Eph. 4:29, Col. 4:6, Eccl. 5:2, Prov. 18:21, Matt. 12:36, 37, Titus 2:8.

OUR ACTIONS MUST BE PURE, I Peter 4:1-4, James 1:21, Col. 3:5, 6, Eph. 5:1-3.

OUR ASSOCIATIONS MUST BE PURE, Psalms 1:1, II Cor. 14-18, Prov. 4:14.

OUR DOCTRINE MUST BE PURE, Matt. 15:9, Titus 2:7

OUR INCENTIVE TO PURITY, II Tim. 2:19-21, Titus 2:13, 15.

CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY

The Lord's church is an active church, I Cor. 15:58

Lack of Activity brings spiritual death, Rev. 3:1-2. We can please God only through active service, Rom. 12:1, Phil. 2:12

Let us consider the nature of the activities we must engage in to please our Lord.

1. SOUL SAVING. II Cor. 5:11, Prov. 11:30
The Saviour's example, Matt. 18:11 which we should follow, Acts 8:4. This was individual work. Are we truly interested in men's souls? Psalms 142:4. The Apostles example, Acts 5:42
2. IN EDIFICATION. Rom. 15:14, I Cor. 14:12, Rom. 14:19, I Thess. 5:11. There is no greater work than to speak unto edification, Eph. 4:16. This is our means of helping our brethren to attain to a better life, Mal. 3:16
3. IN PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT, II Peter 3:18, II Peter 1:5-9. Unless we are always growing we stagnate and die, Heb. 5:12:13. Paul's example, Phil. 3:13, 14,

May we ever say, "Lord plant my feet on higher ground."

5. IN CHARITABLE WORK. James 1:27, Matt. 24:34-45. Gal. 6:10, Christ's example, Acts 10:38.

ANGELS

Defined as "Messengers" They are Created Beings, Col. 1:16, but above man, Psalms 8:5. The chief difference is probably their bodies. Consider I Cor. 15:40, for in the Resurrection, man will be like unto the angels, Matt. 22:30.

Men, sent of God, are sometimes called angels, Gen. 18:2, Heb. 13:2.

There are different orders of angels, II Peter 2:11, Jude 9, I Thess. 4:16, Dan. 12:1.

Angels have, in the past sinned, II Peter 2:4, Jude 6, Eph. 6:12, I Tim. 3:5, and will be eternally destroyed Matt. 25:41.

THE WORK OF ANGELS—Appeared to Abraham, Gen. 22:11, 15, Gideon, Jud. 6, Zachariah and Mary, Luke 1, and the Shepherds, Luke 2:9-13 and to many others. They cheer and strengthen God's servants, I Kings 19:5-8, Matt. 4:11, Luke 22:43, Acts 12:8-11.

Angels are subject to Christ, I Peter 3:22 and they worship him, Heb. 1:6, and we believe they are near us today, to help us in our fight with Satan, Heb. 1:14, Psalms 43:7.

They are deeply interested in man's conversion, Luke 15:10 and will accompany Christ at His coming, Matt. 25:31, 32, II Thess. 1:7,8, Matt. 13:39-42.

A VICTORIOUS LIFE

Many lives are failures—only a few are successes. All people can be victors in the battle of life (Rom. 8:37) and great victories won for Christ (II Cor. 2:14). But to attain such victories, three things are necessary:

1. GREAT CONVICTIONS TO LIVE BY. II Tim. 1:12 "I know!" II Cor. 5:1 "We know." Heb. 11:17-19, 24, 25. We can "assuredly know" Acts 2:36; and have "full assurance of faith" (Heb. 10:22). People without deep convictions are weaklings. The evidence of Christ's resurrection is substantiated by "many infallible proofs" (Acts 1:3).

2. GREAT PURPOSES TO LIVE FOR: Rom. 1:14, 15. Paul's only interest in life was to "preach Christ" (I Cor. 2:2). This was the all-consuming passion of a wonderful life. Phil. 3:12-14. His one and only purpose. This was true of Christ, Matt. 18:11. What we are to live for, Col. 3:1-2; II Cor. 5:14, 15.

3. GREAT RESOURCES TO LIVE FROM. Phil. 3:13. We can ever have the assistance of Christ in all our struggles. Jude 24, I Cor. 10:13, Heb. 4:16; the supply of God's grace is unlimited, Eph. 3:20 and spiritual

strength is available for our needs through prayer (Matt. 26:40). "When we pray we link ourselves with the great inexhaustible motive power that spins the universe. We ask that this power be apportioned to our needs. Even in asking our human deficiencies are filled and we arise strengthened and repaired."—DR. CARREL.

THE MANY DIFFERENT GODS

Paul spoke of "many gods", although there is to Christians only one God and one Christ, I Cor. 8:5, 6.

1. THE GOD WHO MADE YOU. Gen. 1:26, 27; Malachi, 2:10, Isaiah 43:7. Acts 17:24-29, Psalms 139:14, Rev. 4:11.

2. THE GODS WHOM YOU MAKE. Rom. 1:21-23, Jer. 16:20. An example—I Kings 12:28.

(a) The god of wealth: Luke 12:16-20, I Tim. 6:6-10.

(b) The god of pleasure: I John 2:15, I Tim. 5:6.

(c) The god ease and comfort: Amos 6:1-6; Isaiah 22:13.

What can these gods do for you? Judges 10:14, Rom. 6:16, 23.

3. THE GOD WHO CAN REMAKE YOU. II Cor. 5:17; I Cor. 6:9-11; I Thess. 1:9; Titus 3:3-5. A regenerated soul is heaven's greatest interest, Luke 15:10; Col. 3:7-10.

EVERY MAN PERFECT IN CHRIST

COL. 1:28

To present a perfected Christian personality, the following things are necessary:

1. **INSTRUCTED IN THE TRUTH.** John 6:44, 45; 8:32; Matt. 28:20; Eph. 4:20, 21. Growth in knowledge, II Peter 3:18; 1:5.

2. **AFFECTIONS FIXED ON CHRIST.** Col. 3:1, 2; Matt. 22:37-39. Misplaced affections, I John 2:15; Consider, Matt. 6:24.

3. **A WILL SUBMISSIVE TO GOD'S WILL.** Christ's example, John 6:38, 8:29; Matt. 26:39; John 5:30; Rom. 15:3; Matt. 7:21; Eph. 5:17.

4. **A CLEAN BODY.** Rom. 12:1; I Cor. 3-16, 17; 6:19, 20; II Cor. 7:1.

5. **A LIFE USED FOR GOD.** Col. 3:3; Rom. 6:11-13; I Cor. 15:58; I Peter 4:1, 2.

UNITY IN THE BIBLE

There is only:

ONE GOD: I Cor. 8:6; Eph. 4:6 who created
ONE WORLD, Gen. 1:1 and formed

ONE PAIR of Human Beings: Gen. 2:7 to
people the world with men who are of
ONE BLOOD, Acts 17:26, and he sent into the
world just

ONE SAVIOUR, Matt. 1:21, Eph. 4:5, I Cor.
8:6, who taught just

ONE WAY OF SALVATION, Matt. 7:13, 14 and
built just

ONE CHURCH, Matt. 16:18, which is the—
ONE BODY, Eph. 4:4 and the
ONE FOLD, John 10:16. And he prayed that
all believers might be
ONE PEOPLE, John 17:21, I Cor. 1:10; Guided
by his
ONE LAW, II Tim. 3:16, 17; I Peter 4:11 into
UNITY—ONENESS.