



HOUSE to HOUSE
HEART to HEART

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House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 2

WHERE to turn when there is NOWHERE to turn

Allen Webster

Abe Lincoln said, "I have often been driven to my knees by the sincere conviction that there was nowhere else to go."

The nobleman from Capernaum whose son was about to die had just about given up hope (John 4:46-54). The baby he had first held shortly after birth, the boy he had wrestled with on the floor of his living room, the son he hoped would care for him in his old age, was about to precede him through death's door.

Perhaps friends came by and told him about a miracle they had seen at a relative's wedding at Cana some weeks before. News about Jesus often spread fast to those who had needs (Mark 2:1-3; 6:54-56; 10:47). This Man Jesus could do some amazing things. Maybe He could help the boy.

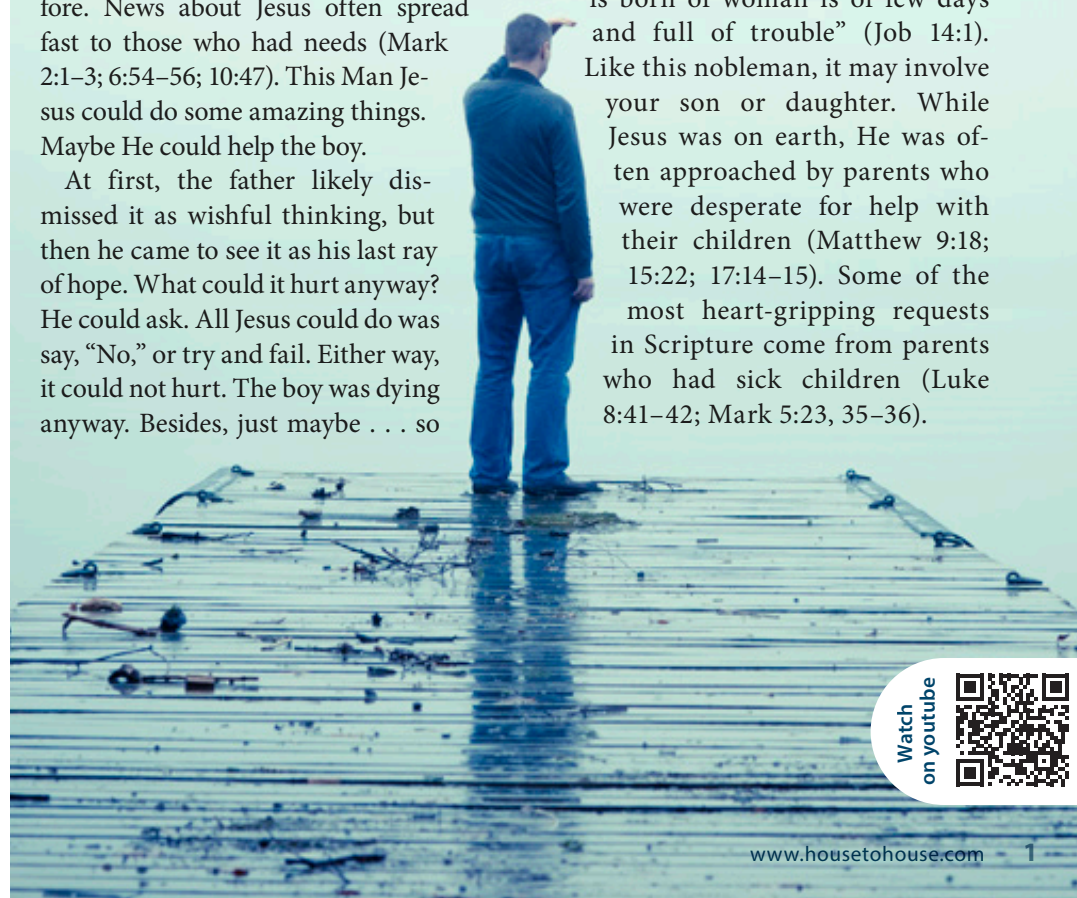
At first, the father likely dismissed it as wishful thinking, but then he came to see it as his last ray of hope. What could it hurt anyway? He could ask. All Jesus could do was say, "No," or try and fail. Either way, it could not hurt. The boy was dying anyway. Besides, just maybe . . . so

"when he heard that Jesus had come . . . into Galilee, he went to Him" (John 4:47).

YOU WILL GET THERE . . .

If you have not yet been to the place where you did not know where to turn, you will get there. You will be in a hospital waiting room or a funeral home or a police station or at the scene of an accident or a doctor's office or a bank or a courtroom—and you will know (perhaps for the first time) that you do not have all the answers.

"Man is born to trouble" (Job 5:7; cf. Genesis 3:17-19; Ecclesiastes 2:17; John 14:1-2; 1 Corinthians 10:13). "Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble" (Job 14:1). Like this nobleman, it may involve your son or daughter. While Jesus was on earth, He was often approached by parents who were desperate for help with their children (Matthew 9:18; 15:22; 17:14-15). Some of the most heart-gripping requests in Scripture come from parents who had sick children (Luke 8:41-42; Mark 5:23, 35-36).



The natural question at such a time is, “Why?” The word *why* is found 401 (נקי) times in the Bible. Job asked, “Why did I not die at birth?” (Job 3:11–12; cf. 3:16, 20, 23). Gideon asked it (Judges 6:13). The psalmist asked it (Psalm 42:9; cf. 27:9; 71:11). Jeremiah asked, “Why do You forget us forever?” (Lamentations 5:20; cf. 1:12). Jesus asked it: “Why have You forsaken Me?” (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34). It is still asked by thousands of passionate voices.

- From the sick room: “Why this illness?”
- From the cemetery: “Why this death?”
- From the blood-soaked battlefields: “Why this loss?”
- From the lips of the oppressed: “Why this suffering?”
- From the burdened: “Why this weight?”

“Why?” is an easy question to ask and a hard question to answer. God’s people live on promises, not on explanations. Nowhere in his book does Job deny the Lord, curse Him, or question His holiness or His power. In fact, God’s justice was Job’s real problem: How could such a holy God permit such awful calamity?

Riches, power, influence, station, and education do not exempt us from such trouble (Job 1:3; Deuteronomy 8:5–20; Proverbs 23:5). The father of the sick boy in Capernaum was a nobleman, yet his son still got sick. Think of Abraham, David, and Solomon, who all had both riches and troubles.

AND GOD WILL ALREADY BE THERE . . .

One day you may find yourself in a similar situation, and you will think, “I am in deep trouble. What am I going to do? Who can help me now?” There may be a parent or a friend to call or an elder to counsel you, but sometimes they are just as helpless as we are. Jeremiah said, “O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps” (Jeremiah 10:23).

God is everywhere; therefore, He is near everyone (Psalm 139:7–12). But there is a special sense in which God is with His children (1 Peter 3:12; Psalm 23:3–4; Isaiah 43:2, 4). Was God not present in Daniel’s den of lions (Daniel 6)? Was God not present in Shadrach, Meshech, and Abed-Ne-

go’s fiery furnace (Daniel 3)? Was God not present in Paul’s Philippian jail (Acts 16)?

It is at times like these that the Lord invites, “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me” (Psalm 50:15; cf. 78:34). God is there for His people in trouble.

The psalmist said, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1). God is a helper—a present helper, a helper who can be found, a willing helper, and a helper who is always near. We could not even invent a better helper: He knows everything, has every power, is everywhere, and loves everybody.

Jesus turned to the Father in prayer in life’s hard spots. While on the cross, Jesus addressed God three times—His first, fourth, and final statements. His first, middle, and last thoughts were on His Father. It does not surprise us that the first word that Jesus uttered on His cross was a prayer, for prayer had been His habit from youth. We expect to hear Him pray under these frightening circumstances. Even those who refuse to pray when the sea is smooth generally pray when a storm comes.

Jesus is the Physician who never disappoints (Job 13:4; Isaiah 1:5–6; Jeremiah 8:22; Matthew 9:11–12; Luke 8:43–48). “When dismayed or distressed with the fear of wrath, the force of the temptation, or the weight of affliction, we should appeal to the Physician of our souls, who never rejects any, never prescribes amiss, and never leaves any case uncured. To Him we may speak at all times.”¹

We should not give up hope, even when life gets dark. If we feel God is not paying attention, we should read the passages that say He remembers us (Genesis 8:1; Psalm 106:4; Luke 23:42). There are times when God seems to hide Himself, but we may rest assured that He is there (Job 23:3; Psalm 10:1; 13:1–3; 89:46; Isaiah 8:17; 45:15; 1 Timothy 6:16).

For Job, God seemed to stand at a distance and frown at him. Job thought he wanted to argue with God, but when he got the chance, he declined (Job 40:1–5; cf. Psalm 43:1). Where can we find God? (Job 23:3; Isaiah 55:6–7; 2 Corinthians 5:19–20; Hebrews 4:16). “Blessed be God, we may know where to find Him.

He is in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself; and upon a mercy-seat, waiting to be gracious.”²

BUT BEFORE YOU GO . . .

We need to develop faith in God before tragedy comes. Since trouble can come to any life at any time, now is the time to act. We must prepare for the storm while the weather is calm (Job 3:26; Psalm 143:11; Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5). Sometimes trouble comes when least expected (Job 30:26; 3:25–26; 29:18; Jeremiah 8:15; 14:19; 15:18; Micah 1:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:3).

If we refuse to listen to God’s Word in good times, He may refuse to hear us in bad times. One preacher began a popular talk by saying, “This sounds strange, but I do not want to hear God laugh. Why? Because it is always sad when God laughs.” The text was:

Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded, because you disdained all my counsel, and would have none of my rebuke, I also will laugh at your calamity (Proverbs 1:24–26).

This is not to say that we cannot turn to God when trouble comes. In fact, some Bible characters did turn to God because of trials (1 Kings 21:27–29; Luke 15:13–24) and were accepted. It does mean that if we turn to God only for aid, but without true repentance, we cannot expect God’s blessings.

So get to know God now, whether you are standing in the sunshine or the rain. He wants you in His family (Ephesians 2:19), to enjoy His blessings (John 10:10) and live with Him forever (John 14:1–2). You do have somewhere to turn!

Endnotes

¹ Henry, Matthew. *Matthew Henry Commentary on the Whole Bible (Complete)*. Vol. 1, 1706. Bible Study Tools, www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/matthew-henry-complete/. Comments on Job 13.

² Henry, Matthew. Comments on Job 23.



Dealing with CREDIT CARD DEBT



1. Americans are loaded with credit card debt. The average American household with at least one credit card has nearly \$9,200 in card debt, according to CardWeb.com. The average interest rate can run in the mid-to-high teens at any given time.
2. Some debt is good. Borrowing for a home or college usually makes sense. Just make sure you do not borrow more than you can pay back, and shop around for the best rates.
3. Some debt is bad. Do not use a credit card to pay for things you consume quickly, such as meals and vacations, if you cannot afford to pay off the bill in full in a month or two. There is no faster way to fall into debt. Instead, put aside some cash each month for items so you can pay in full. If there is something you really want, but it is expensive, save for it over a period of time before charging it, so that you can pay the balance when it is due and avoid interest charges.
4. Get a handle on your spending. Most people spend thousands of dollars without much thought to what they are buying. Write down everything you spend for a month, cut back on things you do not need, and start saving the money left over, or use it to reduce your debt more quickly (cf. Ecclesiastes 4:8).
5. Pay off your highest-rate debt first. The key to getting out of debt efficiently is first to pay down the balances of loans or credit cards that charge the most interest, while paying at least the minimum due on all your other debt. Once the high-interest debt is paid down, tackle the next highest, and so on (cf. 1 Corinthians 4:2).
6. Do not fall into the minimum trap. If you just pay the minimum due on

credit cards, you will barely cover the interest you owe, to say nothing of the principal. It will take years to pay off your balance, and potentially you will end up spending thousands of dollars more than the original amount you charged (cf. Proverbs 6:6–8).

7. Watch where you borrow. It may be convenient to borrow against your home or your 401(k) to pay off debt, but it can be dangerous. You could lose your home or fall short of your investing goals at retirement (cf. Nehemiah 5:4; Matthew 18:25).
8. Expect the unexpected. Build a cash cushion worth about three to six months of living expenses in case of an emergency. Without an emergency fund, a broken furnace or damaged car can be a serious setback (cf. 2 Kings 4:1; Proverbs 11:18).
9. Do not be so quick to pay down your mortgage. Do not pour all your cash into paying off a mortgage if you have other debt. Mortgages tend to have lower interest rates than other debt, and you can deduct the interest you pay on the first \$1 million of a mortgage loan. (If your mortgage has a high interest rate and you want to lower your monthly payments, consider refinancing.)
10. Get help as soon as you need it. If you have more debt than you can manage, get help before your debt breaks your back. There are reputable debt counseling agencies that may be able to consolidate your debt and assist you in better managing your finances. But there are also a lot of disreputable agencies out there, so proceed with caution.

“The borrower is servant to the lender.”

PROVERBS 22:7

HBO

To most people, the above letters mean something different from what is meant by them here.

H—means Hear the Word of the Lord. This is the beginning of obedience (Romans 10:17).

B—means Believe the Word of the Lord. This is essential if we intend to please our Creator (Hebrews 11:6).

O—means Obey the Word of the Lord. There is no substitute for obedience (1 Samuel 15:22; John 14:15).

In New Testament times, sinners heard, believed, and obeyed the gospel. As this was pleasing to God then, it is now also (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 22:16). Hear, believe, and obey is God’s simple plan for saving men. —Bill Dillon

God’s Plan for Saving Man

Divine Love: John 3:16

God’s Grace: Ephesians 2:8

Christ’s Blood: Romans 5:9

Holy Spirit’s Word: 1 Corinthians 2:12–13

Sinner’s Faith: Acts 16:31

Sinner’s Repentance: Luke 13:3

Sinner’s Confession: Romans 10:10

Sinner’s Baptism: Acts 22:16

Christian’s Love: Matthew 22:37

Christian’s Work: James 2:24

Christian’s Hope: Romans 8:24

Christian’s Endurance: Revelation 2:10





The Last Question

During my second month of college, our professor gave a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one:

“What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?” Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired, and in her 50s, but how would I know her name?

I handed in my paper, leaving the question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade.

“Absolutely,” said the professor. “In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do it smile and say ‘hello.’”

I have never forgotten that lesson. Her name was Dorothy.

“I say . . . not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think.”

ROMANS 12:3



Love, Pooh Style

“If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day, so I never have to live without you.”

—Winnie the Pooh (A. A. Milne)



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What Happened to the Flea?

—and other questions parents must answer

- Steven, age three, hugged and kissed his mom goodnight, saying, “I love you so much that when you die, I am going to bury you outside my bedroom window.”
- Brittany, age four, had an earache and wanted a painkiller. She tried in vain to take the lid off the bottle. Seeing her frustration, her mom explained it was a childproof cap and she would have to open it for her. Shocked, the little girl asked, “How does it know it’s me?”
- Susan, age four, got the hiccups while drinking juice. “Please don’t give me this juice again,” she said. “It makes my teeth cough.”
- Diana, age four, stepped onto the bathroom scale and asked, “So, how much do I cost?”
- Marc, age four, observed a young couple hugging and kissing in a restaurant. Without taking his eyes off them, he asked his dad, “Why is he whispering in her mouth?”
- James, age four, was listening to a Bible story. After his dad read, “Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt,” James asked, “What happened to the flea?”
- Tammy, age four, was with her mother when they met an elderly and rather wrinkled woman her mom knew. Tammy looked at her for a while and then asked, “Why doesn’t your skin fit your face?”

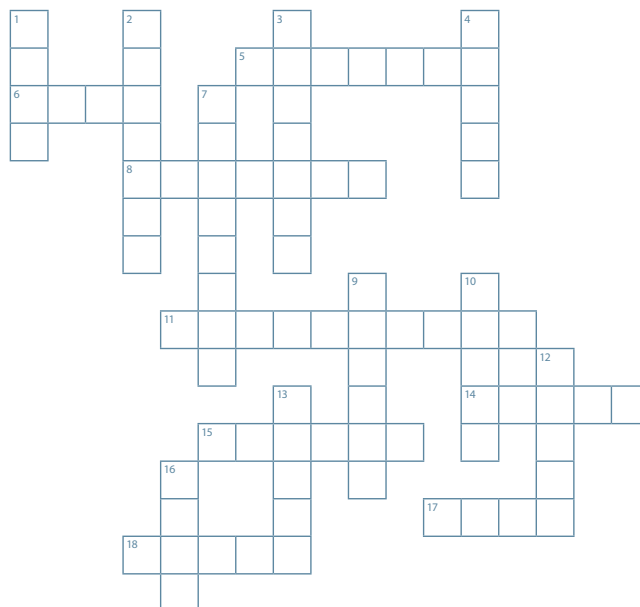
“He who is of a merry heart has a continual feast.”

PROVERBS 15:15



Just for Fun The Model Prayer Crossword

Instructions: Use the blue words from the Bible passage (words not in order).



“In this manner, therefore, **pray**:

“Our **Father** in **heaven**, **hal- lowed** be Your name. Your **kingdom** come. Your **will** be done on **earth** as it is in **heaven**. Give us this day our **daily bread**. And **forgive** us our **debts**, as we **forgive** our debtors. And do not **lead** us into **temptation**, but **de- liver** us from the evil one. For Yours is the **kingdom** and the **power** and the **glory forever. Amen**.

“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.” —MATTHEW 6:9-15

1. PRAY; 2. KINGDOM; 3. FOREVER; 4. DEBTS; 5. FORGIVE; 6. AMEN; 7. HALLOWED; 8. DELIVER; 9. FATHER; 10. POWER; 11. TEMPTATION; 12. BREAD; 13. DAILY; 14. EARTH; 15. HEAVEN; 16. WILL; 17. LEAD; 18. GLORY

Was the Jailer Saved before Baptism?



The account of the Philippian jailer is found in Acts 16. The jailer was in charge of Paul and Silas; they had been arrested on false charges by the owners of a slave girl. They had cast a demon out of the girl, depriving her owners of the money they made by exploiting her (Acts 16:18–21). So Paul and Silas were arrested, beaten, and put into the innermost prison with their feet in the stocks. The jailer was to keep them safely.

Beaten and bleeding, Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises to God, even at midnight (Acts 16:25). Suddenly an earthquake shook the prison. Awakening from sleep, the jailer was ready to kill himself because he was sure that the prisoners had escaped. When Paul calmed him by assuring him that the prisoners were still there, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. He brought them out, and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” (Acts 16:29–30).

They answered simply: “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household” (Acts 16:31). Since the jailer was not told to be baptized, does this mean that he was saved before baptism? Consider the rest of his story.

Paul and Silas had told the jailer that salvation would come from believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, but what did this jailer know about Jesus? It is unlikely that he had heard any of Paul’s sermons, which were the first preached in Europe. He probably knew nothing of Jesus, other than what he had learned from hearing the songs and prayers of Paul and Silas. Then, “they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house” (Acts 16:32). Did speaking the “word of the Lord” include baptism as necessary?

Luke records that the jailer “took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all

his family were baptized. Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household” (Acts 16:33–34).

When were the jailer and his household baptized? It was “the same hour of the night.” If baptism were not essential, why did they not at least wait until morning light before they were baptized? When did he rejoice—before or after baptism? They rejoiced after baptism, knowing they had truly obeyed the Lord, and their sins were forgiven.

The jailer had a saving faith, a faith that responded to the sacrifice of Christ by obeying Him. His faith was demonstrated in his baptism. The jailer was like all other Christians we read of in the New Testament (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Galatians 3:27; cf. Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21). He was saved at baptism. —**Bob Prichard**

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.



Bible Quiz

VOLUME 28:2

Send us your answers to receive a free Bible bookmark. We will grade and return your questions and enclose the bookmark “The Beatitudes” as a way of saying thanks for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

Name: _____
 Address: _____
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 Phone: _____

Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

Answers to Previous Quizzes

V. 27:12 Starts With the Letter “W”: 1. Wages (Romans 6:23); 2. Wait (Isaiah 40:31); 3. Walk (1 John 1:7); 4. Want (Psalm 23:1); 5. War (1 Peter 2:11); 6. Wash (Acts 22:16); 7. Washpot (Psalm 60:6–8); 8. Watch (Mark 14:38); 9. Water (Revelation 22:17); 10. Way (John 14:6); 11. Weak (Romans 15:1); 12. Wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18); 13. Weary (Galatians 6:9); 14. Week (Matthew 28:1); 15. Weeping (Psalm 30:5); 16. Wheel/wheel (Ezekiel 1:15–28); 17. Whelp (Genesis 49:9); 18. Whisperer (Proverbs 16:28); 19. White (Revelation 20:11); 20. Wicked (Proverbs 15:29); 21. Widows (James 1:27).

V. 28:1 Questions from Jesus’ Next-to-Last Sermon: 1. 8, 7, 5, 2, 2; 2. Scribes, Pharisees (23:2); 3. They say and do not (23:3); 4. Do as they do (23:3); 5. Too hard (23:4); 6. Rabbi (23:7); 7. Rabbi, Father, teachers (23:8–10); 8. Servant (23:11); 9. One who exalts himself (23:12); 10. One who humbles himself (23:12); 11. Widows (23:14); 12. Justice, mercy, faith (23:23); 13. No. He says, “these you ought to have done” (23:23); 14. Hypocrisy and lawlessness (23:27); 15. Abel, Zechariah (23:35); 16. Between the altar and the temple (23:35); 17. Hen, wings (23:37); 18. Jerusalem (23:37).

Starts with the Letter “U”

Find answers in: Genesis 11:31; Exodus 28:30; 2 Samuel 11:3; 2 Kings 16:10–16; Daniel 5:25 (not in order). Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

- One of the words written by the mysterious hand in Belshazzar’s palace was _____.
- Abram (Abraham) left _____ of the Chaldeans to go into Canaan.
- The husband of Bathsheba, _____, was murdered by David.
- King Ahaz commanded the priest, _____, to construct an idolatrous altar.
- The breastplate of the high priest had in it the _____ and Thummim.

Starts with the Letter “V”

Find answers in: Genesis 4:14; Esther 1:9–15; Psalm 23:4; Matthew 1:23–25; Luke 23:45; John 15:1; Acts 28:1–3; Romans 12:19; James 1:27; 4:14; 2 Peter 1:5; 1 John 5:4 (not in order). Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

- The wife of King Ahasuerus, _____, refused to show herself.
- The _____ of the temple was torn when Jesus died.
- “_____ is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.
- “And this is the _____ that has overcome the world—our faith.”
- Jesus is the true _____ and His Father is the vinedresser.
- The type of snake that bit Paul in Malta was a _____.
- Jesus was born of the _____ Mary.
- “Add to your faith _____.”
- Cain became a fugitive and a _____ in the earth.
- “Yea, though I walk through the _____ of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.”
- “For what is your life? It is even a _____ that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.”
- “Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to _____ orphans and widows in their trouble.”

What Howard Learned in Heartbreak

Howard Rutledge, a United States Air Force pilot, was shot down over North Vietnam during the early stages of the war.

He spent several miserable years in the hands of his captors before being released at the war's conclusion. In his book, *In the Presence of Mine Enemies*, he reflects upon the resources from which he drew in those arduous days when life seemed so intolerable:

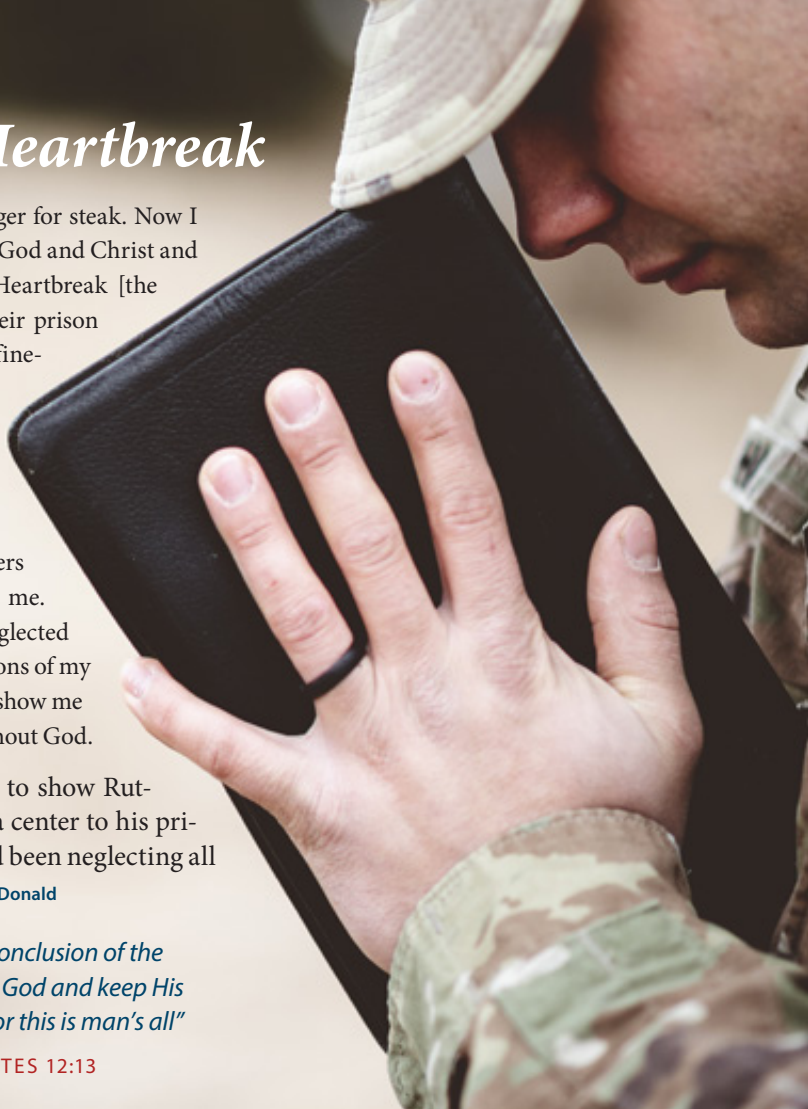
During those longer periods of enforced reflection, it became so much easier to separate the important from the trivial, the worthwhile from the waste. For example, in the past, I usually worked or played hard on Sundays and had no time for church. For years Phyllis [his wife] had encouraged me to join the family at church. She never nagged or scolded—she just kept hoping. But I was too busy, too preoccupied, to spend one or two short hours a week thinking about the really important things. Now the sights and sounds and smells of death were all around me. My hunger for spiritual food

soon outdid my hunger for steak. Now I wanted to talk about God and Christ and the church. But in Heartbreak [the name POWs gave their prison camp] solitary confinement, there was no preacher, no Sunday-School teacher, no Bible, no hymnbook, no community of believers to guide and sustain me. I had completely neglected the spiritual dimensions of my life. It took prison to show me how empty life is without God.

It took a POW camp to show Rutledge that there was a center to his private world that he had been neglecting all of his life. —Gordon MacDonald

“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all”

ECCLESIASTES 12:13



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Recommended Resource



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If you knew for sure that the religious path you are on would not get you to heaven, would you change? If there was the possibility of a doubt, would you investigate? Why not request a personal Bible study today?

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Prayer requests or comments: _____

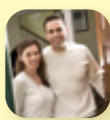
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- Don't Pay the Tuition and Fail to Get the Diploma
- Why Doesn't God Do Something?
- Is One As good As Another?



Noah by the Numbers



Overcoming the Challenges Blended Families Face



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Confess (5 Steps of Salvation)



Be Baptized (5 Steps of Salvation)



Look, There's God



In Pursuit of Hope



I'm Looking for a Church That Is Not So Negative



Don't Get Carried Away



Don't see the topic you need? Visit www.housetohouse.com for more subjects.

VOLUME 28:2



TYPES & ANTITYPES

The PASSOVER LAMB as a type of CHRIST



God is amazing. No one else could put the shadow of future things into the past. Types and antitypes are examples of God prefiguring the future. Types are the shadows in the Old Testament of things that were to come (antitypes) in the New Testament. Let us observe how this Passover lamb is a type of Christ (1 Corinthians 5:7–8).



THE PASSOVER LAMB TYPE

God “passed over” houses, taking away death (EXODUS 12:13).

It was a male lamb without blemish (EXODUS 12:5).

It had to be sacrificed before the salvation of Israel (EXODUS 12:5–13).

Blood must be sprinkled on the door posts and lintel (EXODUS 12:7).

It was to be killed by the whole congregation (EXODUS 12:6).

No bones were to be broken (EXODUS 12:46).

Passover was celebrated yearly (EXODUS 12:14–28).

The Passover feast was for the children of Israel (EXODUS 12:14–28).

Passover was until the end of the Jewish age (EXODUS 12:14, 17; 1 CORINTHIANS 5:7).

JESUS THE CHRIST ANTITYPE

“The Lamb of God” took away “the sin of the world” (JOHN 1:29).

Jesus was without sin (HEBREWS 4:15; 1 PETER 2:22).

He had to be sacrificed before man’s salvation (LUKE 23:44–46, HEBREWS 9:15–17).

Blood must be sprinkled on the heart (HEBREWS 12:22–24).

Herod, Pilate, the Gentiles, and Israel united in killing Jesus (ACTS 4:24–27).

No bones were broken (JOHN 19:32–36).

It is celebrated weekly (MATTHEW 26:26–29; ACTS 20:7).

The Lord’s supper is for the children of God (ACTS 20:7).

The Lord’s supper is observed until Jesus returns (1 CORINTHIANS 11:26).

Born in the House of Bread

Christ was born in Bethlehem. *Bethlehem* means “The House of Bread.” Jesus was not born in the house of royalty, the house of riches, or the house of celebrity.

Jesus was not born in Jerusalem, Rome, Athens, or Alexandria. He was not born in any political, commercial, cultural, educational, or socially significant city. When the Old Testament prophet Micah foretold of His birth, he emphasized its lack of significance. “You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting” (Micah 5:2).

Bread is one of life’s most common things; without it man would not survive. God’s Son is common in the sense that He is available to all. Without Him, there is no life. He said, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst” (John 6:35).

The Infinite came to earth as an infant; He who spans the heavens and holds the ocean in the hollow of His hand condescended to be nourished by a woman’s breast. There was no way to save us but by stooping to us. To bring earth up to heaven, He had to bring heaven down to earth.

In the incarnation, He had compassion, for He took upon himself our infirmities, and was made like unto ourselves.

—Brian Atwood

“The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

JOHN 1:14





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Why Christians Are One in Christ

We have the same Lord.

ROMANS 10:12; EPHESIANS 4:5

We were redeemed by the same blood.

EPHESIANS 1:7

We obeyed the same gospel.

ROMANS 1:16; GALATIANS 1:6-9

We were added to the same church.

ACTS 2:41, 47

We are heirs of the same promises.

ROMANS 8:17

We are united to the same head.

COLOSSIANS 1:18; EPHESIANS 1:22

We worship the same God.

JOHN 4:24

We all have the same Father.

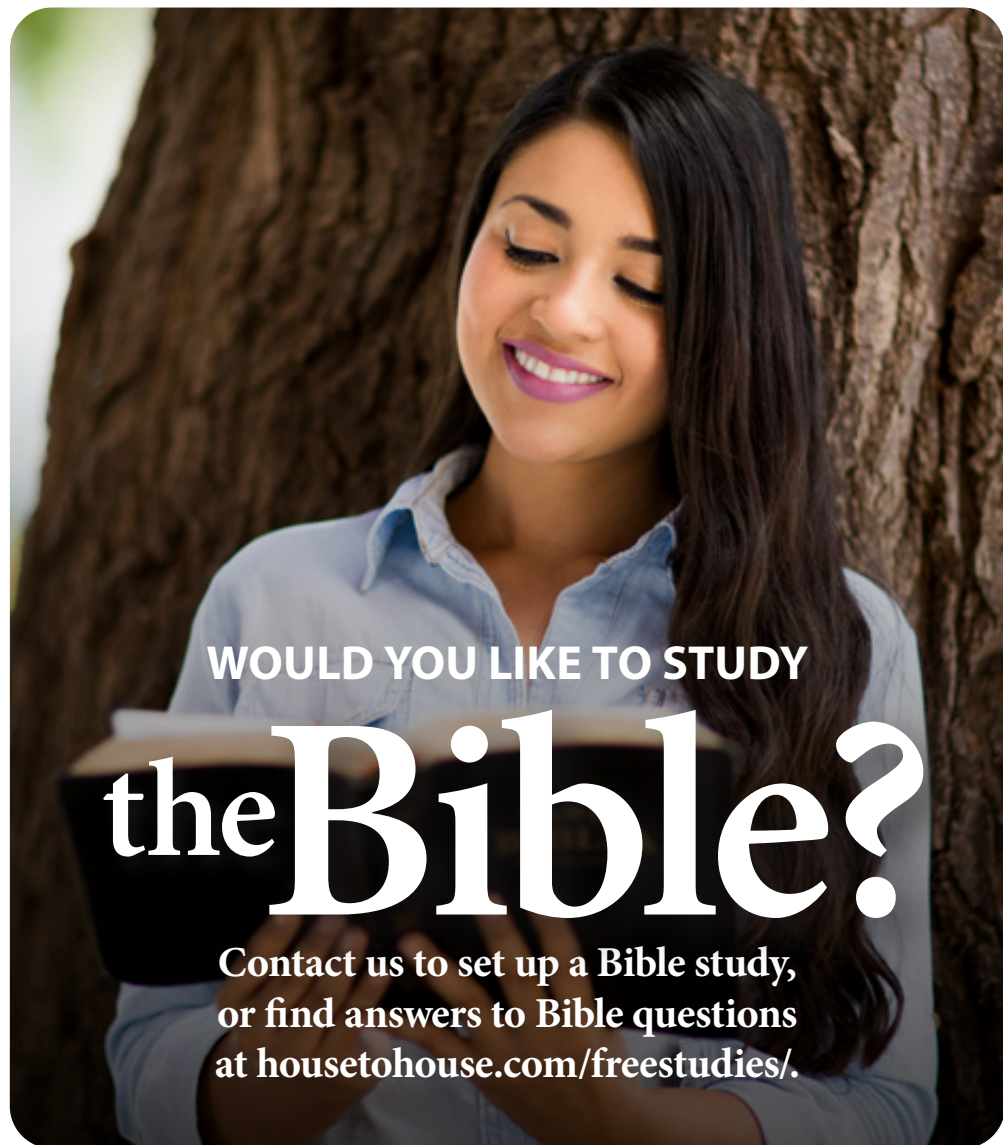
EPHESIANS 4:6; ROMANS 8:16-18

We hope for the same heavenly home.

JOHN 14:1-6; 1 PETER 1:3-5

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

GALATIANS 3:28



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