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House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 5

A publication of the... churches of CHRIST

Founder: Christ – Mt. 16:18

Place: Jerusalem – Isa. 2:1-3, Acts 2:5

Time: A.D. 33 – Dan. 2:44, Acts 2

Head: Christ – Eph. 1:22

Organization:

Christ as head – Eph. 5:23

Elders oversee local church –

Heb. 13:17, Titus 1:5

Deacons as servants –

Acts 6:1-6, 1 Tim. 3:8-13

Members compose body –

Col. 1:2

Name (group):

Church of God – Eph. 3:15

Body of Christ – Eph. 1:22-23

Churches of Christ – Rm. 16:16

Bride of Christ – Rm. 7:4

Name (individuals):

Disciples – John 15:8

Saints – Rm. 1:7

Brethren – Lk. 8:21

Children of God – Gal. 4:26

Christian – Acts 11:25-26

Creed: Jesus/Bible – Acts 8:37

Rule of Faith & Practice:

Word of God – 2 Tim. 3:16-17

Worship: Jn. 4:24

Sing – Eph. 5:19

Pray – Acts 2:42; 1 Thes. 5:17

Teach – Acts 5:42

Communion – 1 Cor. 1:23-26

Contribute – 1 Cor. 16:1-2

Mission: Save Souls – 1 Tim. 4:16

Warning: Be Faithful – 2 John 9

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Jesus Made a Blood Donation for You

by Allen Webster

Most of us would be touched if someone volunteered to donate blood so that we might live.

In a spiritual sense, Jesus donated His own blood for each of us. No blood is offered by the world's other religions—no founder of a world religion ever offered his blood for his followers. Christ did.

Jesus' blood reaches men in every race and rank; every class and clime, every tribe and tongue (Hebrews 2:9-10; Revelation 5:9; cf. John 1:29; 12:32; 2 Corinthians 5:15; 1 Timothy 2:4, 6). He embraces every race (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Galatians 3:28). In the New Testament, we see people of all nations and circumstances responding to His love (Ethiopian, Acts 8; Jews, Acts 2; Gentiles, Acts 10; Europeans, Acts 16;

Lepers, Luke 17). God loves everyone. He "is not willing that any should perish" (2 Peter 3:9).

Have you been to give blood? Let's contrast our blood donations with His.

OUR PINT IS A DONATION; JESUS' GIFT WAS A SACRIFICE

After we give blood, we enjoy a snack and return to normal activities. After He gave blood, Jesus died. "And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost" (Mark 15:37). We give what we can easily spare; Christ gave His very life's blood. Man has sinned away his right to live: "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Since all have sinned (Romans 3:23), and sin demands the death of the sinner (Ezekiel 18:4), how can anyone be saved? The answer: >>



the blood of Jesus

... *cleanseth us from all sin*

hours (Mark 15:25, 34). The entire process for us—from the time we sign in to the time we leave—takes only an hour. For Him, the process took twenty-one hours—it began at 6:00 P.M. Thursday and did not end until 3:00 P.M. on Friday.

OUR PINT WILL BE EXPENSIVE TO THE RECIPIENT; CHRIST'S BLOOD IS FREE TO ALL

A pint of blood costs \$35, but it could cost ten times that much depending on how much typing and testing is done on it. On the other hand, you won't need to bring your checkbook to come to Jesus. Salvation is a "gift" (Romans 6:23; John 4:10); yea, a "free gift" (Romans 5:15–18). We are justified freely (Romans 3:24). The water of life is freely given (Revelation 22:17). The Spirit tells us of "the things that are freely given to us of God" (1 Corinthians 2:12). All of us can agree: "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

OUR DONATION GOES OUT-OF-DATE AFTER FORTY-TWO DAYS; CHRIST'S BLOOD IS ETERNALLY FRESH

U.S. blood centers often have difficulty maintaining even a three-day supply for routine transfusion demands. Christ's blood's life-giving power is as strong today as it was when it was given at the cross. We may give many times, but Jesus could give only once. It will never need to be replenished. It will remain effective until the end of time.

OUR BLOOD MAY BE REJECTED DUE TO DISEASE, CONTAGION, OR CORRUPTION; JESUS' BLOOD IS PURE AND SINLESS

Thirteen tests (eleven for infectious diseases) are performed on each unit of donated blood. Only 37 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to give blood (only about 10 percent do annually). Peter made four references to the

purity of Christ and His gospel in one passage (1 Peter 1:18–23):

- **Precious:** "Of much worth; that which is costly." Something that is flawed would not be precious.
- **Without blemish:** Absence of physical defect (Exodus 12:5; Leviticus 22:20–21; cf. Hebrews 9:14). Without any spot (*amomos*) as the paschal lamb had to be.
- **Without spot (*aspilou*).** Without stain, in a moral sense (1 Timothy 6:14; James 1:27; 2 Peter 3:14).
- **Incorruptible:** Corruptible seed results in decay and death; incorruptible seed leads to eternal life.

ONE PINT OF YOUR BLOOD CAN SAVE UP TO THREE LIVES; ONE DROP OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST CAN SAVE THE WORLD (JOHN 3:16)

The number one reason blood donors say they give is because they "want to help others." That is why Jesus came to make His donation (Luke 19:10).

There is no substitute for blood. Modern science has done much in the fields of medicine and hygiene, plastic surgery, and synthetic replacements. If a leg is lost, an artificial one is made; if a nose is broken or the face burned, plastic surgery is performed; if a lung collapses, it can be restored. Even the heart can be replaced, but no synthetic blood has yet been manufactured, nor is there any substance that will substitute for it.

The precious nature of blood is clear in the Old and New Testaments. Blood sacrifices were required for the forgiveness of sin. The blood sacrifices of animals never dealt with the sin problem permanently. That took the blood of Jesus. John declares, "the blood of Jesus . . . cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7).

Jesus made a blood donation for you. Won't you accept it? ❀

Jesus died for us. "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God" (Hebrews 10:12).

OUR DONATION IS IN COMFORTABLE AND STERILE CONDITIONS

In your mind, contrast the two scenes: First, a patient in a nice comfortable chair in an air conditioned building with the best of equipment; then Jesus on that cross, nearly naked, beaten, and bleeding while sinful men shout for Him to die. Our blood comes out of our arm via a sterile needle—Jesus' blood came out of His entire body via nails and a whip.

After Pilate ordered Jesus' crucifixion (Matthew 27:26), Roman soldiers viciously carried it out (Luke 23:33). It was customary for the criminal to carry the cross to the crucifixion site, so Jesus began carrying His to Golgotha (John 19:17). Under its weight, and in His weakened condition, His strength gave out en route (Luke 23:26). Quite a contrast from the medical clinic, isn't it?

OUR DONATION IS QUICK AND RELATIVELY EASY; HIS WAS DRAWN-OUT AND PAINFUL

Actual blood donation today takes about ten minutes. It took Jesus six

Jesus Loves Me

Karl Barth was a famous philosopher who spent many years studying the Scriptures. He was once asked, "What is the greatest theological discovery you have ever made?"

He thought and said simply, "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so."

Can you remember where you were the first time you heard those words? I can't, because, quite honestly, I don't remember not knowing it. The words are sung by children literally all over the world, and frankly, I do not know a message more needed by every child, and adult, than those simple words with the life changing message, Jesus Loves Me This I Know, For The Bible Tells Me So.

Jesus Himself said, "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:12-13).

Can you imagine that? Jesus loves me!

"What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

MATTHEW 16:26



The Preacher's Mother

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. A friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps.

"Where would you like to sit?" he asked.

"The front row please," she answered.

"You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The preacher is really boring."

"Do you happen to know who I am?" asked the woman.

"No," said the usher.

"I'm the preacher's mother," she replied indignantly.

"Do you know who I am?" the usher asked.

"No," she said.

"Good," he said as he disappeared into the crowd.

—Van Morris, Mt. Washington, Kentucky (adapted)

"Rejoice in the Lord always"

PHILIPPIANS 4:4



Happiest Verses

If you are feeling a bit down, take time to read some of Inspiration's inspirational words:

Psalms 23:1; 37:25; 127:3-5

2 Corinthians 5:1

Deuteronomy 33:27

James 1:17

Acts 14:17

Ephesians 3:20

Isaiah 26:3; 40:31; 55:7; 58:11

Luke 15:21-24

Job 13:15; 42:12

Philippians 4:4; 4:7; 4:13; 4:19

Acts 8:8; 8:39; 16:25-35

1 Peter 1:7-8

John 14:1-3

Hebrews 4:16

1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

2 Corinthians 2:14

Psalms 1:2

Ephesians 3:8-11

Romans 5:5; 8:28-39

—Johnny Ramsey (deceased)

God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace — Ephesians 2:8

Christ's Blood — Romans 5:9

The Holy Spirit's Gospel — Romans 1:16

Sinner's Faith — Acts 16:31

Sinner's Repentance — Luke 13:3

Sinner's Confession — Romans 10:10

Sinner's Baptism — 1 Peter 3:21

Christian's Work — James 2:24

Christian's Hope — Romans 8:24

Christian's Endurance — Revelation 2:10



About That Haircut

A teen had just gotten his driving permit. He asked his father if they could discuss his use of the family car.

His father took him into his study and said, "I'll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study the Bible daily, get your hair cut, and then we'll talk about it."

After about a month, the boy came back and asked if they could discuss his use of the car. They again went into the father's study where the father said, "Son, I've been very proud of you. You have brought your grades up, you've studied the Bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut."

The young man replied, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that. Samson had long hair, Moses and Noah may have had long hair, and even Jesus is pictured with long hair."

"Yes," his father said, "and everywhere they went, they walked."

"A merry heart doeth good."

PROVERBS 17:22

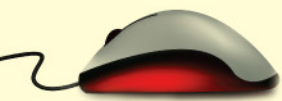
In the Toilet

My son Zachary, 4, came screaming out of the bathroom to tell me he'd dropped his toothbrush in the toilet. So I fished it out and threw it in the garbage. Zachary stood there thinking for a moment, then ran to my bathroom and came out with my toothbrush.

He held it up and said with a charming little smile, "We better throw this one out too then—it fell in the toilet a few days ago."

"Heaviness in the heart . . . maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad"

PROVERBS 12:252



For more material on the home and family, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, grandparents, and family finances, go to www.housetohouse.com.

Teach Them to Wait

Research indicates that early overindulgence is creating unrealistic expectations among today's teens that may lead to a lifelong habit of overspending.

Researchers at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research blame parents who overspend on their children. Few parents deny the accusation. What can parents do?

Teach the value of delayed gratification. In a compelling study about the power of delayed gratification, Psychologist Walter Mischel discovered that, when given a choice between an immediate reward and a better one a little later, children who could wait grew to be adults who were more confident, effective, assertive, and dependable. They also were better able to delay gratification in pursuit of their goals than the adults who couldn't resist the temptation of the immediate reward when they were children.

Teach through daily experiences. The Bible encourages teaching God's Word to children when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up (Deuteronomy 6:7). We should take the same approach in teaching them about money. Weekly shopping trips offer opportunities to teach children about everything from budgeting to making tradeoffs. Involve them in the process, helping them distinguish between needs and wants. Teach them to establish—and stick to—a budget.

Make it real. Surprisingly, less than one-third of children get an allowance. Children need hands-on experience; let

them manage real money of their own.

Be the marketing gatekeeper. In her book *Born to Buy*, Boston University professor Juliet Schor wrote that marketers have been successful at influencing children largely because parents are granting them direct access, with TVs and computers commonplace in children's rooms. According to a Kaiser Family Foundation report, 26 percent of 2- to 4-year-olds and 39 percent of 5- to 7-year-olds have TVs in their bedrooms. Both groups watch nearly two hours per day. Consider removing TVs and computers from children's rooms.

Be involved.

Successful families, according to Schor, are thoughtful and consistent in their rules and choices. They spend a lot of time with their children and offer alternatives to the materialistic activities suggested by corporate America. They proactively teach children how to



handle money and how to distinguish between needs and wants. They provide allowances, but they require that a portion of the money be allocated to savings and charity.

And, of course, Schor says parents need to walk the talk. Not surprisingly, highly materialistic kids are more likely to have highly materialistic parents. Preaching lessons on restraint are unlikely to connect if the parents' closets are stuffed with the latest fashions and a typical family outing involves a trip to the mall.

—Matt Bell (adapted)

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth . . . but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven"

MATTHEW 6:19-20

Is It Possible to Identify the Church of the New Testament?

With so many forms of “Christianity” today, one may ask, “How can I know I’ve found the church of the New Testament?” This is a valid question, and we can see why some are confused with over 2000 individual religious groups all claiming to be a form of Christianity. However, we can say with absolute certainty that it is possible to find the church revealed in the New Testament. As an illustration to show our certainty, consider the following:

As of August 15, 2009, I have been married to my beautiful wife for 22 years. Let’s suppose I decide to take her on a cruise to celebrate our anniversary. Shortly after boarding a ship filled with more than 2000 passengers, we become separated. My wife is a petite brunette. Suppose every other woman on the ship is a petite brunette; am I to despair that I should never find her among so many others? Of course not. Even though many on board are similar, I can easily



find her because she is unique among all others. She has specific characteristics that allow me to easily distinguish between her and all others.

The same can be said for the Lord’s church. Jesus promised: “I will build My church” (Matthew 16:18). Note that Jesus did not promise to build “churches” but “church” (singular). In Ephesians 5:22-32, Paul parallels the husband and wife relationship with that of Jesus and His church. As a husband is to have only one wife, and a wife only one husband, Jesus only has one church. In fact, throughout this text, there are twelve references to

the church, all of which are singular in nature:

In verse 23 we find “the church” and “the body;”

In verse 24 we find “the church;”

In verse 25 we find “the church” and “it;”

In verse 26 we again see “it” referring to the church;

In verse 27 we find “the church” and “it” (twice);

In verse 29 we find “the church;”

In verse 30 we find “His body;”

In verse 32 we find “the church.”

If it is possible for me to identify my wife among thousands of other women, though they share some of her characteristics, then it is equally possible for me to find the church Jesus built though there be thousands sharing some of its characteristics.

—Todd Clippard, 10655 US Highway 278,
Hamilton, AL 35570

To ask a Bible question or view previously answered questions, go to www.HouseToHouse.com.

Bible QUIZ

Send us your answers (address on front). We’ll grade and return all entries and randomly select one to receive a Bible, New Testament audios, or Bible Dictionary.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Directions: Without opening your Bible, fill in all the missing words and verse references you can. When you do all you can from memory, use these Scriptures to complete the exercise: Deuteronomy 6:7; Psalm 127:1, 3; 144:12; Proverbs 1:8; 13:20; 14:26; 19:18; 22:6; Galatians 6:7; Ephesians 6:4, 8 (not in order). Finally, memorize the verses together.

Questions Taken from the King James Version

One Dozen Scriptures for Parents

1. “Lo, children are an _____ of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his _____” (_____).
2. “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to _____; but bring them up in the nurture and _____ of the Lord” (_____).
3. “In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his _____ shall have a place of _____” (_____).
4. “_____ up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not _____ from it” (_____).
5. “Except the _____ build the _____, they labour in vain that build it” (_____).
6. “And thou shalt _____ them _____ unto thy children, and shalt _____ of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up” (_____).
7. “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man _____, that shall he also reap” (_____).
8. “He that walketh with _____ men shall be wise: but a _____ of fools shall be destroyed” (_____).
9. “That our _____ may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our _____ may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace” (_____).
10. “_____ thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying” (_____).
11. “My son, hear the instruction of thy _____, and forsake not the law of thy _____” (_____).
12. “Knowing that whatsoever _____ thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord” (_____).

Answers to Last Issue: One Dozen Scriptures for Couples: 1. Rejoice (Proverbs 5:18); 2. Burdens (Galatians 6:2); 3. Wives; husbands (Ephesians 5:24); 4. Leave, cleave (Genesis 2:24); 5. God, joined (Matthew 19:6); 6. Lie (Colossians 3:9); 7. Love, gave (Ephesians 5:25); 8. Body, wife (1 Corinthians 7:4); 9. Fornication, adultery (Matthew 19:9); 10. Honourable, bed (Hebrews 13:4); 11. Husbands, children (Titus 2:4); 12. Charity (love) (1 Corinthians 13:13).

World's Best Book

This book contains the mind of God, the state of men, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrine is holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter.

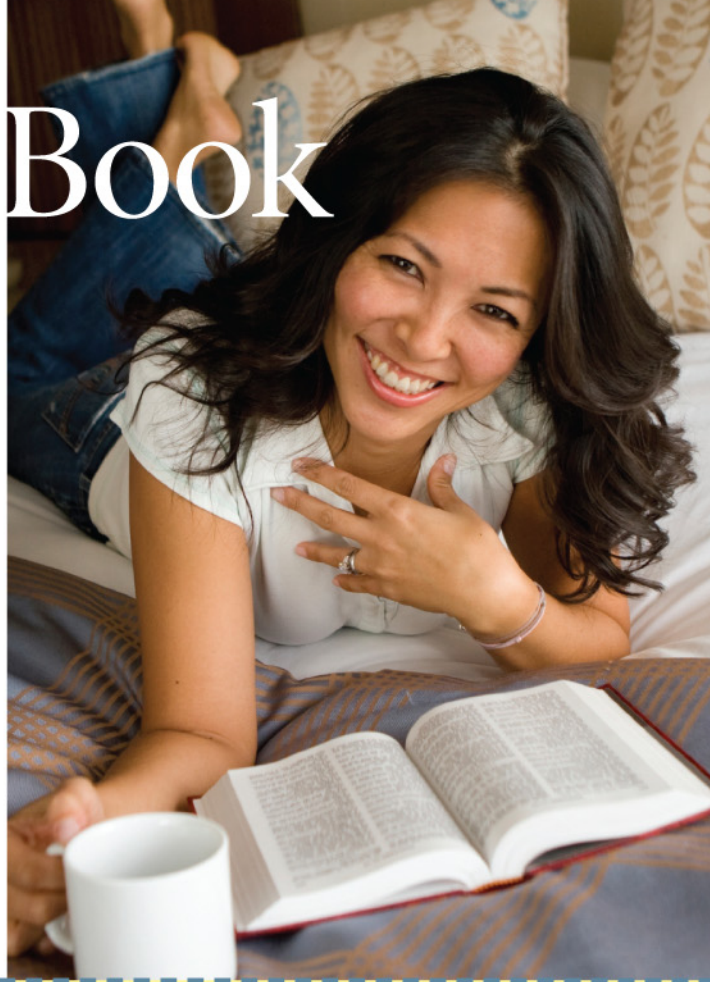
Here Paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the ways of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good its design, and the redemption of man its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, a river of pleasure.

It is given to you in life, will be open in the judgment, and will be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibilities, will reward the greatest labor, and condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

—Author Unknown

"How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God!"

PSALM 139:17



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- ▶ Mark 16:16 —Foy E. Wallace, Jr.
- ▶ Hollywood's Influence —Allen Webster

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More!

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- Quiero Recibir *Casa a Casa* en Español.
- I want to learn more about your Bible school and programs.
- I have a prayer request: _____
- I have a Bible question: _____
- I want to know more about what God requires for salvation. Please have someone schedule a personal visit with me.

I want to learn more about the Bible!

Name: _____
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- Enroll me in a Free Survey of the Bible Home Study Course. *Pressure-free . . . work on your own at home.*
- I want to see the *Visualized Bible Study* series (an in-home personal study). *These popular videos have been seen by people of all religions all over the world.*
- I would like a daily Bible reading schedule.

Tracts:

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- NEW!** How to Protect Yourself from Date Rape
- NEW!** Did He Not Also Die for These?
- NEW!** What Does God Do with His Trash?
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- The Doctor Who Never Lost a Case
- Jesus Was Not a Farmer . . .
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- Give Your Tobacco to a Billy Goat (teen smoking)
- Three Tears from a Savior's Eye
- How to Change Your Personality
- For Men Only. Solomon's Eleven Reasons to Avoid Loose Women
- Where the Omnipresent God Isn't
- Happiness Guaranteed!
- When Jesus Went on a Picnic
- The Irony of Calvary
- Looking for Love
- Seven Things God Hates (Lies)
- Don't Bet on It!
- Salvation Is Free, but Not Cheap
- What Teens Want
- Watered-down Baptism
- Death Hurts, but Jesus Helps
- Back issues of *House to House/Heart to Heart*

Come Let Us Reason Together

“All propaganda has to be popular and has to adapt its spiritual level to the perception of the least intelligent of those for whom it intends to direct itself” (Adolph Hitler, *Mein Kamph*).

The secret to propaganda, in other words, is to bring all of society down to the level of the lowest common denominator. It must appeal to the basest prejudices, the shallowest thinking. Hitler’s propaganda was a mix of fabrications and half-truths. It took Europe’s most organized and advanced civilization and dumbed it down till it was the dictator’s dupe.

What could be worse than a dictator who imposes thought control on his people? Here is a possibility. What about a society that imposes limitations on itself, a sort of ignorance by peer pressure?

It is said that early Christians out-thought their contemporaries. They didn’t say: “Be shallow, unthinking, gullible dummies.” They said: “Prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

They didn’t say, “Unscrew your heads when you enter worship. God doesn’t want you to understand His will; He just wants you to love Him with all of your heart.” Instead, Jesus told them to “love the Lord with all your heart, soul . . . and mind” (Mark 12:30). The Bible does not glory in ignorance.

They didn’t say: “That song’s words are too difficult. We want songs we can understand,” or “I loved your sermon; it was so simple.” They said: “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord” (2 Peter 3:18).

Bertrand Russell, the skeptic, once sneered, “Most Christians would rather die than think . . . in fact, most do.”

There is no contradiction between knowing God’s will and loving Him; those who love him will know his will! It’s not as if knowledge is cold and indifferent, while feelings are warm and loving! Ignorance of God’s word is the danger. Learning

half-truths and reinforcing prejudged conclusions of Scripture is a danger in the church!

The church is not in the business of leveling our understanding and service down to that of the average twelve-year-old. It’s in the business of raising all of us to God’s level!

—Stan Mitchell, Henderson, Tennessee



Two people were sitting on a park bench discussing what had made them failures. The first said, “I am a failure because I didn’t take anybody’s advice.” The second said, “I am a failure because I took everybody’s advice.” Among the greatest mistakes a man can make are these: (1) Never listen to anyone, and (2) Accept what others say without investigation and thinking for one’s self!

In religious matters, God expects us to listen (Romans 10:17), but He also expects us to think for ourselves. The Bereans were commended because, after Paul preached to them, “They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so” (Acts 17:11). In other words, they “checked up” on the apostle Paul! The message is obvious: Don’t accept anything religiously just because someone says it is so, but check for yourselves whether or not it is “true to the Book.”

—David Roper

What a Difference a Day Makes

In the year 1815, Napoleon gathered his French forces at Waterloo to battle against the Duke of Wellington. Of course, history informs us that Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo, but how did the people living in 1815 learn of the news?

To carry the news of the Battle of Waterloo to England, an English ship signaled to a man on shore, who then relayed the word to a man on another hill, and so on across England. The first word that was signaled was “Wellington.” The next word that was signaled was “defeated.” Then a fog rolled in, and the message stopped.

As you can image, all across England people wept and were disheartened by the two-word message, “Wellington defeated.”

But when the fog lifted, the message continued with two additional words, “the enemy.” Hope arose out of despair!

Now here’s my point. What do you think the world and even the disciples of Jesus thought when they saw the events that transpired on the Friday of the crucifixion? But Friday contained only a portion of the message. The rest of the message was shared on Sunday through an empty tomb. Hope arose out of despair!

“He is not here: for he is risen”

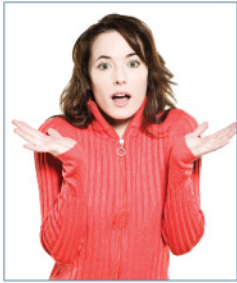
MATTHEW 28:6



Judgment Day Excuses That Won't Work

Jesus will come again (John 14:3). On the same day, He will judge all men. That day is called both "the last day" (John 12:48) and "the day of judgment" (2 Peter 3:7).

What excuses might be given that day?



"But, Lord, I thought . . ." This sounds like Naaman when he was told to dip in the Jordan to be rid of leprosy (2 Kings 5:11). He thought he knew how things ought to happen, but God thought differently. On judgment day it might be, "But I thought that all a person had to do to be saved was believe in Jesus as God's Son."

The Bible says, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone . . . by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" (James 2:17–24). Jesus will judge us by the Bible (John 12:48).

"But, Lord, I was always told . . ." In the religious realm, all kinds of faulty messages are given. Only God's word is truth (John 17:17). Some might say, "I was told that one church is as good as another." God's Word teaches that there is only one body or church (Ephesians 4:4), that Jesus promised to build one church (Matthew 16:18), and that He purchased and saves only one church with His blood (Acts 20:28; Ephesians 5:23, 25).

"But, Lord, my pastor always said . . ." It is amazing how many people hang their soul's destiny on what a preacher has to say. The only Pastor whom we should accept as final authority is "our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep" (Hebrews 13:20). He alone has all authority (Matthew 28:18–20). At the judgment, some may plead, "But my pastor said that it doesn't matter how you worship, just as long as you worship the Lord." The Master said, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24).

Think about it.

—Roger Campbell, Cleveland, Tennessee

