Careful attention to Christian doctrine does not, in and of itself, produce deep devotion to our Lord Jesus, but such devotion can be expected to be served by a rich understanding of the universal scope of God's grace in Christ. With a view toward cultivating an ever- deepening love of God, daily devotional messages in book form have, in some measure, effectively served many individuals and families over the years.

In my humble opinion, though; in much such material, there has been an element of gospel distortion that can seriously mitigate the impact of the essential message that transforms human hearts and minds, namely, that God's love, and the purpose intrinsic to His love, will, without qualification, triumph over every enemy and all enmity until every knee bows in adoration before the Savior in Whom our Father has entrusted His eternal purpose.

Thomas Kissinger has been infused by the Spirit of God with a passion to make available a daily devotional that is free of those elements of contrariness to the true heart of the gospel of Christ that characterize much of conventional orthodoxy, and thereby free seeking hearts to know the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ as He really is. From this springs all true devotion to God and His cause. I am happy and honored to commend his labor of love to all my brethren in Christ looking for a book of daily devotionals as part of their spiritual discipline.

John R. Gavazzoni • Greater Emmanuel International Apostolic Team Ministries



This is a compelling work by Thomas Kissinger for whom I have tremendous respect. He understands that mankind needs inspiring words of Truth. This Daily Devotional will arrest your attention from the beginning. You cannot read it through one time and think you have it all figured out for underneath the top layer of truth are hidden more layers.

The author, with maturity beyond his years, has devoted himself to seeking out the best so the reader may have spiritual food every day.

These pillars of The Truth About God will make you strong. I highly recommend everyone read what Thomas has for you each day.

Dr. Harold Lovelace • Author, Read And Search God's Plan

The Glory Of God And The Honor Of Kings: A Daily Devotional That Proclaims The Unlimited Love And Power Of God

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THE GLORY OF GOD & THE HONOR OF KINGS

A DAILY DEVOTIONAL THAT PROCLAIMS THE UNLIMITED LOVE AND POWER OF GOD

by

Thomas M. Kissinger

Straightway Publishing Company Baton Rouge, Louisiana

To my wife Sarah, and our children Moriah, Makayla, and Micah. I love you all with all my heart!

To Dr. Harold Lovelace. Thank you for your stand for truth, and for inspiring me to put on paper the things that God has put in my heart!

To Louis Thompson. Your dedication to the things of the Lord has inspired me more than you will ever know. Thank you for teaching me of a position of testimony in Christ that will set the captive free. I hope to pass on God's divine nature and power to all I come in contact with!

To all those who have dared to seek for truth in a world darkened by the traditions and doctrines of men!

To Thomas St.Amant and Mary Cage. Thank you for your many hours of editing!

INCLUDING QUOTES AND EXCERPTS FROM THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

THOMAS ALLIN

GEORGE HAWTIN

I. PRESTON EBY

MARTIN ZENDER

RAY KNIGHT

LOUIS ABBOTT

A.P. ADAMS

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CHARLES SLAGLE

THOMAS B. THAYER

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SUGGESTED READING:

THE BIBLE, GOD

THE SECOND DEATH AND THE RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS, ANDREW JUKES

THE BIBLE HELL, J.W.HANSON

THEOLOGY OF UNIVERSALISM, THOMAS B. THAYER

READ AND SEARCH GOD'S PLAN, DR. HAROLD LOVELACE

THE WRITINGS OF BILL BRITTON

THE WRITINGS OF J. PRESTON EBY

THE WRITINGS OF DR. STEPHEN JONES

THE WRITINGS OF RAY PRINZING

THE WRITINGS OF JOHN GAVAZZONI

THE WRITINGS OF A.P. ADAMS

THE WRITINGS OF GEORGE HAWTIN

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THE WRITINGS OF L. RAY SMITH

THE WRITINGS OF DR. E.W. BULLINGER

THE WRITINGS OF GARY AMIRAULT

THE WRITINGS OF ORIGEN

AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF WORDS, LOUIS ABBOTT

CHRIST TRIUMPHANT, THOMAS ALLIN

THE WRITINGS OF CHARLES PRIDGEON

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Thomas Kissinger came to Christ at age 20 on the night of May 7th, 1994. His conversion took place on the campus of Louisiana State University. It was on the corner of Chimes Street that he was approached by two men who handed him a piece of literature about God's love. Having already been drawn by the Lord a few days earlier to surrender his life, he sensed that this was no accident but a divine appointment to repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. The next day he went to Family Worship Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. There he experienced for the first time in his life a delivering presence of God. Two weeks later he was baptized with the Holy Spirit and launched into a journey of seeking the One Who had sought and found him. He was ordained to the ministry on the 2nd day of July, 1997 and began the work of the ministry in the local prisons. In 2001 he had a dramatic revelation from the Lord concerning the reconciliation of all things. This glorious revelation did drastically change his life and ministry from that moment on.

GRAND STATEMENT

It is the Glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter.

Proverbs 25:2

FOR ALL OF YOU WHO SEE YOURSELVES AS KINGS AND PRIESTS UNTO GOD...

SEARCH OUT THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD.
SEARCH OUT THE TREASURE OF GOD'S TRUTH BURIED
UNDER THE RHETORIC OF MAN'S RELIGIONS.

SEEK AND YOU SHALL FIND!

INTRODUCTION

The spirit of prejudice stands in the way of all new views of truth. Prejudice has been defined as "a judgment or opinion formed without due examination of the facts or reasons that are essential to a just and impartial determination." It is prejudice that blinds the eye, stops the ear, misunderstands and misinterprets everything that comes its way. Its state of mind is not founded on facts but on some feeling of dislike or something of self-interest. There are those who will not accept any truth unless it is ministered in a certain conventional manner or supported by certain great names. Prejudice stands in the way of even a conservative and constructive advance. May God's Holy Spirit alone be our teacher.

Charles Pridgeon

January

- 1 O WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM!
- 2 REASON, THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS, THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
- 3 OVERCOMERS
- 4 MY TESTIMONY
- 5 THE BATTLE AND THE FIGHT
- 6 DESTRUCTION
- 7 WHY THE NEED FOR OPPOSITES?
- 8 LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD
- 9 I WILL ALSO ASK OF YOU ONE QUESTION
- 10 THINK IT NOT STRANGE
- 11 WHAT IS DEATH? TO PERISH?
- 12 OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD
- 13 THE PLAN OF THE AGES
- 14 THE LAW OF CIRCULARITY
- 15 CREATION, REDEMPTION, COMPLETION
- 16 WHAT CAUSES PERILOUS TIMES?
- 17 THE LAMB ON THE THRONE
- 18 TRINITY "?"
- 19 THE AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY "?"
- 20 THE TITHE "?"
- 21 ETERNAL TORTURE "?"
- 22 UNDERSTANDING GEHENNA
- 23 NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES
- 24 CHURCH
- 25 ALTAR CALLS "?"
- 26 WE ARE THE OFFSPRING OF GOD
- 27 RIGHTEOUSNESS
- 28 PEACE
- 29 JOY
- 30 CAIN AND ABEL
- 31 PROGRESSIVE REVELATION

February

- 1 THE 42ND GENERATION
- 2 HEAVEN
- 3 CHRIST IN YOU
- 4 SODOM AND GOMORRAH
- 5 LET THIS CUP PASS
- 6 WHO, WHAT, WHERE IS SATAN?
- 7 GOD GIVES THE INCREASE
- 8 OFF THE DEEP END?
- 9 LOST YOUR MIND?
- 10 KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDOLS
- 11 HE SHALL BE SATISFIED
- 12 ABRAHAM LINCOLN
- 13 FIRSTFRUITS
- 14 GOLD, SILVER, PRECIOUS STONES, WOOD, HAY, STUBBLE
- 15 THE RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS
- 16 METAPHORS IN SCRIPTURE
- 17 WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY?
- 18 THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST
- 19 THE CHASTENING OF THE LORD
- 20 TOP 25
- 21 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD
- 22 THE SECOND COMING "?"
- 23 AN EXCELLENT SPIRIT
- 24 GOING BACK TO THE BASICS "?"
- 25 THERE SHALL BE A RESURRECTION
- 26 THE PURPOSE OF GOD
- 27 THE WORD OF GOD
- 28 SPIRIT, SOUL, BODY

March

- 1 THE CORRECTIVE JUDGMENTS OF GOD
- 2 VENGEANCE
- 3 IT'S ALL GOOD
- 4 ISOLATION
- 5 I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT
- 6 I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU
- 7 THE PURPOSE OF THE AGES (OLAM, AION, AIONIOS)
- 8 THE APOSTLE PAUL'S MESSAGE
- 9 ORIGEN'S GRAND STATEMENT
- 10 EARS TO HEAR
- 11 COME OUT OF HER
- 12 FROM DELUSION TO DUNAMIS
- 13 HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM
- 14 WHAT IS GOD'S NAME
- 15 PROVE ALL THINGS
- 16 THE YEAR OF JUBILEE
- 17 RECONCILING THE WORLD UNTO HIMSELF
- 18 THE FATHER
- 19 THE JUSTICE OF GOD
- 20 GO AND LEARN WHAT THAT MEANS
- 21 SINNERS IN THE HANDS OF A LOVING GOD
- 22 A QUOTE FROM GEORGE HAWTIN
- 23 THE SPIRIT OF GOD MOVED
- 24 IN MY NAME
- 25 THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL
- 26 THE AGES OF THE AGES
- 27 THE FAITH
- 28 NUMBERS IN SCRIPTURE
- 29 THE DESIRES OF OUR HEART
- 30 THE TESTIMONY OF HANNAH WHITALL SMITH
- 31 GOD IS RESPONSIBLE, MAN IS ACCOUNTABLE

April

- 1 AS THE WATERS COVER THE SEA
- 2 MATTHEW 25:46
- 3 JOHN 3:16
- 4 JOHN 3:17
- 5 FORGIVENESS
- 6 AWAKE
- 7 RECONCILIATION IN THE HEAVENS
- 8 SEARED WITH A HOT IRON
- 9 O LOVE OF GOD
- 10 MAN'S FREE WILL VS. GOD'S SOVEREIGN LOVE
- 11 THE GARDEN OF EDEN
- 12 BECOMING A CREDITOR
- 13 ENTER IN AT THE STRAIT GATE
- 14 EYE HAS NOT SEEN
- 15 WHY?
- 16 THE GREATEST LIE EVER TOLD
- 17 A FORM OF GODLINESS
- 18 WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF RULING AND REIGNING?
- 19 THE MINISTER OF GOD
- 20 IT IS TIME TO SOAR
- 21 FLESH AND BLOOD
- 22 WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD?
- 23 SALVATION IS OF THE LORD
- 24 THE HIGH CALLING
- 25 SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD
- 26 THE VICTORY THAT OVERCOMES THE WORLD
- 27 CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD
- 28 GOD'S SACRED SECRET!
- 29 LOGOS AND RHEMA
- 30 THE AFFLICTIONS OF THE RIGHTEOUS

May

- 1 I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE
- 2 ENDURING TEMPTATION
- 3 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 1
- 4 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 2
- 5 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 3
- 6 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 4
- 7 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 5
- 8 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 6
- 9 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 7
- 10 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 8
- 11 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 9
- 12 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 10
- 13 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 11
- 14 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 12
- 15 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 13
- 16 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 14
- 17 THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART 15
- 18 I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE
- 19 THE CALL OF ABRAM
- 20 LOVE (BY EMMET FOX)
- 21 ORGE
- 22 THE TALE OF TWO CITIES
- 23 WHAT IS SIN?
- 24 A DEEPER LOOK INTO THE AGES (EONS)
- 25 TRUE SUCCESS
- 26 MERE HUMAN NATURE
- 27 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 1
- 28 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 2
- 29 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 3
- 30 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 4
- 31 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 5

June

- 1 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 6
- THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 7
- 3 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 8
- 4 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 9
- 5 THE LORD'S PRAYER PART 10
- 6 READ ROMANS CHAPTER 5... I DARE YOU!
- 7 PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 3 (THE PROCESS OF SALVATION)
- 8 ALL IN ALL POEM
- 9 PURE RELIGION
- 10 DAMN <u>"?"</u>
- 11 UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE
- 12 WHAT GOD HATES
- 13 NOTORIOUS SINNERS
- 14 UNBELIEF
- 15 PECULIAR PEOPLE
- 16 ARE YOU PREJUDICED?
- 17 DUNG
- 18 MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, AND JOHN
- 19 WE THE FOLLOWING PROCLAIM
- 20 #1 GOD THE CREATOR LOVES
- 21 #2 JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF GOD
- 22 #3 THE TRUSTWORTHINESS OF THE BIBLE
- 23 #4 CERTAIN, JUST RETRIBUTION
- 24 #5 THE FINAL HARMONY OF ALL SOULS WITH GOD
- 25 THE MYSTERIES OF GOD
- 26 THE MYSTERY OF BABYLON
- 27 THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY
- 28 THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS
- 29 THE MYSTERY OF OUR CHANGE
- 30 THE MYSTERY OF HIS WILL

July

- 1 THE MYSTERY OF FAITH
- 2 THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL
- 3 THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH
- 4 THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST
- 5 THE MYSTERY OF THE KINGDOM
- 6 THE MYSTERY OF GOD
- 7 THE MYSTERY OF ISRAEL'S BLINDNESS
- 8 THE MYSTERY OF THE FATHER
- 9 THE MYSTERY OF THE SEVEN STARS
- 10 THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE MYSTERY
- 11 THE LAKE OF FIRE
- 12 THE FIRST AND SECOND RESURRECTION PART 1
- 13 THE FIRST AND SECOND RESURRECTION PART 2
- 14 QUALIFYING FOR THE FIRST RESURRECTION PART 1
- 15 QUALIFYING FOR THE FIRST RESURRECTION PART 2
- 16 WHAT WILL THE RESURRECTION BE LIKE? PART 1
- 17 WHAT WILL THE RESURRECTION BE LIKE? PART 2
- 18 THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION PART 1
- 19 THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION PART 2
- 20 THE 1,700-YEAR NIGHTMARE
- 21 THE SPIRITUAL MIGRATION OF THE CHURCH
- 22 1ST CORINTHIANS 13 PART 1
- 23 1ST CORINTHIANS 13 PART 2
- 24 1ST CORINTHIANS 13 PART 3
- 25 1ST CORINTHIANS 13 PART 4
- 26 1ST CORINTHIANS 13 PART 5
- 27 GO IN TO POSSESS THE LAND
- 28 REFORMATION
- 29 THE PROBLEM OF PAIN
- 30 THE THREE GREAT TRAPS
- 31 GROW

August

- 1 LAY NOT THIS SIN TO THEIR CHARGE
- 2 HELL PART 1
- 3 HELL PART 2
- 4 HELL PART 3
- 5 HELL PART 4
- 6 HELL PART 5
- 7 HELL PART 6
- 8 HELL PART 7
- 9 HELL PART 8
- 10 HELL PART 9
- 11 HELL PART 10
- 12 THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS PART 1
- 13 THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS PART 2
- 14 THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU PART 1
- 15 THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU PART 2
- 16 SEEING THE KINGDOM
- 17 PERCEPTION AND UN-PERCEPTION
- 18 DEFINING THE KINGDOM OF GOD
- 19 THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON
- 20 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 1
- 21 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 2
- 22 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 3
- 23 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 4
- 24 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 5
- 25 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 6
- 26 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 7
- 27 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 8
- 28 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 9
- 29 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 10
- 30 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 11
- 31 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 12

September

- 1 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 13
- 2 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 14
- 3 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 15
- 4 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 16
- 5 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 17
- 6 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 18
- 7 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 19
- 8 THE ETERNAL PURPOSE PART 20
- 9 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 1
- 10 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 2
- 11 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 3
- 12 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 4
- 13 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 5
- 14 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 6
- 15 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 7
- 16 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 8
- 17 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 9
- 18 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 10
- 19 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 11
- 20 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 12
- 21 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 13
- 22 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 14
- 23 THE PURPOSE OF EVIL PART 15
- 24 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 1
- 25 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 2
- 26 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 3
- 27 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 4
- 28 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 5
- 29 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 6
- 30 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 7

October

- 1 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 8
- 2 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 9
- 3 THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD PART 10
- 4 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 1
- 5 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 2
- 6 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 3
- 7 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 4
- 8 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 5
- 9 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 6
- 10 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 7
- 11 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 8
- 12 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 9
- 13 PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE PART 10
- 14 PHYSICAL DEATH PART 1
- 15 PHYSICAL DEATH PART 2
- 16 PHYSICAL DEATH PART 3
- 17 JESUS, THE PATTERN SON PART 1
- 18 JESUS, THE PATTERN SON PART 2
- 19 IESUS, THE PATTERN SON PART 3
- 20 JESUS, THE PATTERN SON PART 4
- 21 JESUS, THE PATTERN SON PART 5
- 22 JESUS, THE PATTERN SON PART 6
- 23 IESUS, THE PATTERN SON PART 7
- 24 JESUS, THE PATTERN SON PART 8
- 25 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #1
- 26 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #2
- 27 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #3
- 28 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #4
- 29 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #5
- 30 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #6
- 31 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #7

November

- 1 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #8
- 2 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #9
- 3 TEN DANGEROUS POSSESSIONS #10
- 4 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #1
- 5 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #2
- 6 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #3
- 7 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #4
- 8 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #5
- 9 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #6
- 10 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #7
- 11 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #8
- 12 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #9
- 13 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SALVATION OF ALL #10
- 14 THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW PART 1
- 15 THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW PART 2
- 16 THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW PART 3
- 17 THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW PART 4
- 18 THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW PART 5
- 19 LEADING MEN TO REPENTANCE
- 20 BORN AGAIN... WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
- 21 THE FOUR MOST POWERFUL FORCES
- 22 WHAT IS ETERNAL LIFE?
- 23 THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SONS OF GOD
- 24 ANTICHRIST
- 25 IF I BE LIFTED UP
- 26 THE MARK OF THE BEAST
- 27 TORMENTED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LAMB
- 28 WHY DID JESUS DIE?... THE ATONEMENT
- 29 THE UNPARDONABLE SIN "?"
- 30 THE RAPTURE "?"

December

- 1 JESUS PREACHED TO THE DEAD
- 2 THE COUNSEL OF MEN OR GOD
- 3 THE SERVANT OF THE LORD
- 4 WE ARE GOD'S WORKMANSHIP
- 5 IOB
- 6 FIRE PART 1
- 7 FIRE PART 2
- 8 FIRE PART 3
- 9 FIRE PART 4
- 10 FIRE PART 5
- 11 FIRE PART 6
- 12 FIRE PART 7
- 13 THE TWO LIONS
- 14 THE FEASTS OF THE LORD PART 1
- 15 THE FEASTS OF THE LORD PART 2
- 16 THE FEASTS OF THE LORD PART 3
- 17 THE FEASTS OF THE LORD PART 4
- 18 THE FEASTS OF THE LORD PART 5
- 19 WISE AS A SERPENT
- 20 WISE WITH YOUR PEARLS
- 21 AVOIDING DEBATES
- 22 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #1
- 23 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #2
- 24 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #3
- 25 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #4
- 26 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #5
- 27 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #6
- 28 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #7
- 29 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #8
- 30 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #9
- 31 TEN REASONS NOT TO BELIEVE THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE #10

January 1

O WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM

Romans 7:18 gives us one of the most important revelations in the Bible. It states...For I know that in me (that is in my flesh,) dwells no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not...

What a statement! What an honest confession! What a revelation! In fact, this is the revelation of all revelations! This revelation tops the list!

Understanding this scripture is equivalent to the moment at which a pregnant mother's water breaks, for then she knows that the baby is on its way and sure to be born. After we come to an understanding that in our flesh dwells no good thing, we are surely on our way to delivering and birthing the very Christ-life. We must know what we are up against. We must identify our enemy. It is US!!! It is our flesh, our carnal mind, and the sin nature that we inherited from Adam. We inherited a corrupt nature that continually comes short of the glory of God. Realizing that our carnal mind is the enemy of God is probably about 98% of the battle (the other 2% being... realizing that God's divine nature is our power source, and learning to partake of His divine nature). Romans 8:6,7 states...For to be carnally minded IS DEATH; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the CARNAL MIND IS ENMITY AGAINST GOD: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be...This revelation on the surface seems to be very discouraging and could leave us with no hope. It causes a person to say...O WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM! WHO SHALL DELIVER ME FROM THE BODY OF THIS DEATH? That is a good question that we must ask ourselves. We must then see ourselves as wretched outside of the life of God, but we are not left without hope. The apostle Paul said that we are to thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Thank Him for what?

Romans 8:1,2 states...There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus...vs. 2...For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus HAS MADE ME FREE FROM THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH...We are to see ourselves as no longer under condemnation, IN CHRIST, walking after the Spirit, and FREE. Once you know the bad news, that there is no good thing in your flesh, you can have your eyes opened to the GOOD NEWS, which is IN CHRIST JESUS our Lord.

REJOICE AND BE THANKFUL!



January 2

REASON, THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS, AND THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

(The above theme taken from: Christ Triumphant, Thomas Allin)

It is impossible to establish a system of beliefs without at least three very important things. These three things are:

- 1. Reason
- 2. The Early Church Fathers
- 3. The Holy Scriptures

Those who study the Bible will notice the harmony of these three things. Let us take a look at each one of the above mentioned aspects. This will enable us to properly formulate a sound system of beliefs in God.

- 1. As far as reason is concerned, Isaiah 1:18 states...Come now, and let us REASON together, says the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. The word "reason" means: to debate a case in court. The connotation of legal confrontation is clearly attached to this word. You must confront your beliefs and put them to the test! Don't just simply believe something because everyone else does! Find out the truth for yourself!
 - 2. Let us take a look at what some of the most respected early church Fathers believed.

"We assert that the Word, Who is the wisdom of God, shall bring together all intelligent creatures, and convert them into His own perfection, through the instrumentality of their free will and of their own exertions. The Word is more powerful then all the diseases of the soul, and He applies His remedies to each one according to the pleasure of God - for the name of God is to be invoked by all, so that all shall serve Him with one consent." (Origen)

"The Son breaking in pieces His enemies is for the sake of remolding them." (Origen)

"All men are Christ's, some by knowing Him, the others not yet. He by the Father's will directs the salvation of all." (Clement of Alexandria)

"He saves all universally, but some are converted by punishment, others by voluntary submission." (Clement of Alexandria)

"Everything shall be subdued to Christ, and they shall be subdued by a full knowledge of Him and by a remodeling." (Gregory of Nyssa)

"All punishments are means of purification, ordained by divine love to purge rational beings from moral evil and to restore them back to communion with God...God would not have permitted the experience of hell unless He had foreseen through redemption, that all rational beings would, in the end, attain to the same blessed fellowship with Himself." (Gregory of Nyssa)

3. When a proper study is done of the Holy Scriptures, it will become undeniable that the truth of a universal salvation is taught and was purchased by the Lord Jesus Christ.

The scriptures speak of Jesus having saved:

All Men Every Man All Families
All Flesh
All Nations
All Things
The World
The Whole World
The Entire Creation

ENJOY YOUR SEARCH!



January 3

OVERCOMERS

He that has an ear to hear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches; To him that overcomes will I...This statement is made several times in the book of Revelation. It can be found at: Revelation 2:7, 2:11, 2:17, 2:26, 3:5, 3:12, 3:21, and also in chapters 11, 12, 13, 17, 21. Obviously God wants us to be overcomers. The promises in the book of Revelation are made to the overcomers only. Don't you think that we should look into this overcomer thing?

Here is a series of scriptures that will shed some light on the idea of overcoming. Colossians 1:16 tells us that Jesus Christ created all things, including, thrones, dominions, principalities, and powers. Colossians 2:14 tells us that Jesus blotted out the handwriting of ordinances (the law) that was against us...nailing it to His cross; HAVING SPOILED PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS, HE MADE A SHOW OF THEM OPENLY, TRIUMPHING OVER THEM IN IT. Ephesians 6:12 tells us that we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against PRINCIPALITIES, AGAINST POWERS, AGAINST THE RULERS OF THE DARKNESS OF THIS WORLD, AGAINST SPIRITUAL WICKEDNESS IN HIGH PLACES...

I thought that Jesus defeated principalities (rulers) and powers (authorities)? HE DID! NOW IT IS YOUR TURN! Jesus created all things, overcame all things, and then left all things for us to have to overcome. How could we be overcomers if there was nothing to overcome?

This is the reason for God creating good and evil and subjecting the creation to it. This was done that we might learn to be overcomers. We must understand that overcoming is not an activity, but a position (spiritually speaking). THIS POSITION IS IN CHRIST! The next logical question would be...where is Christ? For we must see that we are positioned in Who Christ is and what He has accomplished. Ephesians 1:20,21 says that...the Christ is in heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named. Ephesians 2:6 says that...God has raised us up together, and MADE US SIT TOGETHER IN HEAVENLY PLACES IN CHRIST JESUS...

This heavenly place is not a physical location, but a place in the Spirit that gives us a heavenly mind, WHICH ENABLES US TO OVERCOME. How do we get to this place? SIMPLY BELIEVE! Believe what? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. That is what makes you a believer and an overcomer. Believe what the Bible says about you. You are dead to the old man and alive to the new creation man by FAITH IN CHRIST. This is the victory that OVERCOMES THE WORLD, EVEN OUR FAITH. WHO IS HE THAT OVERCOMES THE WORLD, BUT HE THAT BELIEVES THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD (1ST John 5:4,5)?...Without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). YOU ARE IN CHRIST! BELIEVE IT! YOU ARE AN OVERCOMER!

BELIEVE, RECEIVE, AND WALK IT!



January 4

MY TESTIMONY

Many people think of their testimony in terms of how many bad things they once did, comparing that to how many good things that they do now. God definitely uses that type of preaching, but that is not really our testimony. Revelation 12:11 states...and they overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death...Revelation 1:2 also speaks of the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The word "testimony" means a witness or a martyr. Let us now formulate a proper understanding of what it is to have a testimony, or THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST. It speaks of being a witness to the cleansing blood of Jesus. As well, it speaks of a laying down of one's life (a martyr, whether physically or spiritually). OUR TESTIMONY IS THAT WE IDENTIFY WITH CHRIST, BEING IN CHRIST AND HE IN US! WE ARE WITNESSES TO HIS LIFE-CHANGING POWER! Our testimony is clearly stated in Revelation 12:11. It is the blood of the Lamb and that we love not our lives unto the death of self. Doesn't that sound familiar?

How about:

- ... lose your life for His name's sake...
- ... lay down your life for your friends...
- ... make yourself of no reputation...

Our testimony is THE CHRIST-LIFE INSIDE OF US. IT IS CHRIST IN US THE HOPE OF GLORY! It is the death of self and the manifested life of Christ. Jesus, Who was God manifested in the flesh, was a witness to the Father, becoming a martyr for the sin of the world. We must drink of the same cup. We are witnesses for Jesus and His Kingdom. This causes us to become a martyr in the Spirit, loving not our lives unto the death. We are of course speaking of the death of the self-

life. We are called to take on the same testimony that Jesus had. WE HAVE THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST! Jesus overcame, causing us to be overcomers in Him. WHAT A TESTIMONY!

THIS IS THE WORD OF OUR TESTIMONY!



January 5

THE BATTLE AND THE FIGHT

It is interesting to note that the Bible makes a distinction between man finding himself in a battle and a fight. It is important to understand the nature of our battle and of our fight. Those who understand the difference between these two will continually find themselves walking in the Spirit. The opposite of walking in the Spirit is a life of continually frustrating the grace of God. 1st Samuel 17:47 states, concerning David's encounter with Goliath...And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear: FOR THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S, and HE will give you into our hands...Now let us consider what the apostle Paul told Timothy concerning the fight in which mankind finds himself. 1st Timothy 6:12 states...FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH, lay hold on eternal life (the life of the ages)...

We are here faced with two things:

- 1. THE BATTLE
- 2. THE FIGHT

We are told that the battle is the Lord's and that the good fight of faith is ours. So as we can see, God plays a part and we play a part. The purpose of the ages is one that involves God and man, or you could say that it is the purpose of God to be manifested in and through mankind (the human race). In order for this to take place, God must perform that which only He is capable of doing. We are then called upon to recognize and participate in what God has provided.

Here are three key ingredients to a victorious walk in God:

- 1. THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S...
- 2. THE FIGHT IS OURS...
- 3. THE FAITH IS GOD'S GIFT TO US...
- (... God has dealt to every man the measure of faith...Romans 12:3)

Here is a grand revelation that you should take to heart. It is worthy of much meditation. THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH, WHICH IS OURS, IS TO CONTINUALLY BELIEVE THAT THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S!!! Let this thought become more than just mere words to you. Let it sink down deep into your spirit. It must become a way of life for you and a part of your thought

process. This revelation allows you to rest, causing God to work on you, in you, and through you. This is what it means to labor (be diligent) to enter into His rest. Every thought, situation, trial, and tribulation must be diligently offered up to God in faith, believing that God will always fight your battles for you. THIS IS VICTORY AND PEACE IN THE MIDST OF THE STORM!

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH!



January 6

DESTRUCTION

1st Corinthians 3:17 states...if any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple you are...The word "destroy" means: to waste, ruin, shrivel, wither, defile, to reduce a thing to useless fragments, and to extinguish. Now let us seek to understand what is meant when the Bible speaks of destruction, for the real question is, what is it that is going to be destroyed (as far as man is concerned)?

You must put on the mind of Christ to be able to grasp Bible terminology. The destruction that is going to take place in man is to be understood in a spiritual sense. Here is a quote from S. Ambrose of Milan (390 A.D.) concerning the topic of destruction... "What then, hinders our believing that he who is beaten small as the dust is not annihilated, BUT IS CHANGED FOR THE BETTER: so that instead of an earthy man, he is made a spiritual man, and our believing that he who is destroyed, is so destroyed that ALL TAINT IS REMOVED, and there remains what is pure and clean." This topic of destruction is further clarified in 1st Corinthians 5:5 that states... to deliver such a one unto Satan FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE FLESH, THAT THE SPIRIT MAY BE SAVED IN THE DAY OF THE LORD...

Now we can see that God wants our flesh (carnality) to be destroyed. That which is to be destroyed is NOT THE PERSON, but the flesh, the carnal mind, and the sin nature which separates us from the knowledge of God. God destroys the propensity within the sinner to sin, but He does not destroy the person himself. He destroys the wickedness in the wicked person, which in turn destroys the wicked. You could also say that God destroys the desire of the wicked, which in turn destroys His enemies, not that they cease to exist, BUT THAT THEY CEASE TO BE HIS ENEMIES!!!

So what is the result of the destruction of the flesh? The result is THAT THE SPIRIT WILL BE SAVED IN THE DAY OF THE LORD! AWESOME!

We must ALL have the man of sin in us DESTROYED by the brightness of His coming (presence). God must destroy, burn up, and consume the wood, hay, and stubble within man. This causes the gold, silver, and precious stones of the Spirit of God to be PURIFIED within us, making us partakers of the divine nature. Thank God for the...

DESTRUCTION OF THE FLESH!

January 7

WHY THE NEED FOR OPPOSITES?

(This theme taken from: Read and Search God's Plan, Dr. Harold Lovelace)

It is important to realize and recognize THAT WE LEARN ABOUT SOMETHING FROM ITS OPPOSITE. That is why God created opposing forces. Isaiah 45:7 states...I (God) form the light, and create darkness: I make peace and create evil: I the Lord do all these things...YES...God is responsible for having created ALL things, including things that do oppose one another. Some others to consider are: bitter and sweet, sorrow and joy, darkness and light, good and evil, law and grace, natural things and spiritual things, death and life, and bondage and freedom. Why would God create such drastic opposing forces?

We must see that it was necessary for God to create these opposites in order to teach us of His ways. How could we know what good is if there were no such thing as evil? We must recognize God's ways, His dealings with the creation, and His process of revealing His nature in man. So many times we pray for God to do something in our lives and then fight against Him when He brings us what we prayed for. WHY? We do this because we don't understand His ways. We don't understand His use of opposites to teach us. If you ask God to make you a loving person, He will expose you to hate. He does this that you might see hate and love for what they are and what they produce, whether in your life or in the life of someone else. That is just one example. There are many others that will prove the same point, as you are well aware.

It is impossible to learn something in God without being aware of its opposite. Let us humble ourselves and become aware of God's ways, understanding His use of opposites to mold us and make us into His image.

WHAT A GREAT AND WISE GOD WE SERVE!



January 8

LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD!

This scripture (Psalm 150:6), like many others in the Bible, speaks of the whole creation praising and worshiping God its Creator. It points to a reconciliation and restoration of all things. Here is a quote from Gregory of Nyssa on this very topic... "Such is the meaning of this final Psalm, in which after the complete abolition of sin, praise shall be sung to God; which praise contain (implies) our being incapable of turning to sin, when every created being shall be harmonized into one choir, and when, like a cymbal, the reasonable creation, and that which is now severed by sin, shall pour forth a pleasing strain, due to mutual harmony. Then comes the praise of every spirit forever, abounding with increase unto eternity."

WOW! What an incredible statement! What an insight this man had into the purpose and plan of God! Let us catch the fire of his zeal and love for the whole creation! We must understand that God is interested in nothing less THAN THE DELIVERANCE OF THE ENTIRE CREATION. THIS WILL INCLUDE EVERY PERSON WHO HAS EVER LIVED OR WILL EVER LIVE. ALL SHALL PRAISE GOD!

Another scripture which testifies to this grand truth is Revelation 5:13, which states...And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever (unto the ages of the ages)...

ALL SHALL PRAISE HIS NAME!



January 9

I WILL ALSO ASK OF YOU ONE QUESTION

Mark 11:29 quotes Jesus as saying...I will also ask of you one question, and answer Me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things...In verse 28 Jesus is asked a question by the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. They were always trying to find a way to trap Jesus in His own words, even though they never did succeed. It is worth noting, however, that Jesus answered their many questions. MOST OF THE TIME JESUS ANSWERED THEIR QUESTIONS WITH A QUESTION. Why this method of answering a question with a question? That is a good question. This was done for one simple reason. GOD'S NUMBER ONE GOAL IS TO ENGAGE MAN INTO THE PROCESS OF THINKING OR MEDITATING UPON HIM. As long as we are talking and not listening, thinking, or meditating, we are not learning. It would have been useless to answer most of the silly questions that Jesus had been asked. He knew the answers but refused to answer them. His method of answering a question with a question pricked the hearts of His listeners, causing them to search their own hearts and motives. In many cases it exposed their wicked ways to them, causing them to humbly walk away and ponder things they had never previously thought of. INSTEAD OF TRAPPING JESUS, THEY WERE TRAPPED! Because of God's infinite love, grace, and mercy, HE LOVINGLY TRAPS ALL OF US INTO THINKING UPON HIM. He does this for He knows the outcome. He knows that as we think upon Him, that we shall know the truth, and the truth shall...

MAKE US FREE!



January 10

THINK IT NOT STRANGE

It is built into the Adamic Nature of man to think it is some strange thing every time he goes through a trial, whether it be mental, physical, social, or otherwise. That is why the Lord gave this awesome revelation to the apostle Peter, which states...Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you: But rejoice, inasmuch as you are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, you may be glad also with exceeding joy (1st Peter 4:12)...WHAT A MUCH NEEDED WORD FROM GOD! Man in his carnal state needs to be assured that God loves him and is not mad at him. This passage of scripture gives us confidence in knowing that:

God is the One Who initiates our trials...

GOD IS THE FIRE that we go through...

God wants us to go through the fire...

Going through the CONSUMING FIRE OF GOD is the very thing that makes us into His image, for it is HIS FIRE that consumes our wood, hay, and stubble (carnal mind).

As a result of going through fiery trials, we become like Him, and do qualify to rule and reign with Him now and in the ages to come.

Here are some more scriptures that bring out this great truth...

Hebrews 12:6-7 states...whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives. If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons... (Read also Hebrews 12:6-13)

Hebrews 2:10 states...the captain of our salvation was made perfect through suffering..

Hebrews 5:8 states...Jesus learned obedience through the things He suffered...

2nd Timothy 2:12 states...If we suffer with Him, we shall also reign with Him...

James 1:2,3 states...count it ALL JOY when you fall into divers temptations...the trying of your faith works patience...

James 1:12 states...Blessed is the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love Him...

Romans 5:3 states...we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation works patience; and patience experience; and experience, hope... (WHAT A REVELATION!)

COUNT IT ALL JOY!



January 11

WHAT IS DEATH?

Matthew 8:22 is perhaps one of the most informative, interesting, and profound statements that Jesus made. It states...But Jesus said unto him, follow me; and let the dead bury their dead...Have you ever really stopped and thought about what is being said here? The question that must be asked is, have you ever seen someone who is physically dead bury someone else who is physically dead? I DON'T THINK SO! So what was Jesus referring to in His statement? It becomes obvious that Jesus was referring to spiritual and physical death. We are now able to come to the conclusion that death is first and foremost something that is spiritual, which then leads to a death that is physical. But remember, IT IS FIRST AND FOREMOST A SPIRITUAL DEATH! We must understand that physical death is only a final manifestation of a spiritual condition in which man finds himself in. So...What is death?

The beautiful aspect of the Bible is that it interprets itself. So let us look to the Bible for the exact definition of what death is. Romans 8:6 states...FOR TO BE CARNALLY MINDED IS DEATH...In other words, they are one in the same thing. So what is the carnal mind? The carnal mind speaks of and means: the corrupt nature, the mind that we inherited from Adam, the Adamic Nature, the sin nature, or the flesh. We must remember that the Bible does refer to man as being DEAD IN SINS AND TRESPASSES. Understanding this will also help us to comprehend what it means to perish, or to be found in a perished condition. When scripture speaks of God, Who is not willing that any should perish, it is referring to this very thing (the carnal mind). It is stating that God is not willing for any one of us to remain in the perished condition in which we currently find ourselves. Once again, this perished condition in which man is born into (subjected to by God) is THE CARNAL MIND (DEATH). In essence, this is what we are BEING saved from. So what is it that saves us? THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST, OF COURSE! We are being saved through death to HIS LIFE. This is all made possible by the life, death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, FOR HE IS LIFE! IN HIM WE LIVE, AND MOVE, AND HAVE OUR BEING (Acts 17:28)...God is not willing that any of us should remain in the perished condition of death (the carnal mind), but that we would be AWAKENED to His ABUNDANT LIFE!

ARISE, OH CHILD OF GOD!



January 12

OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD

Romans 12:21 states...Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good...This all-important scripture, which speaks of the triumph of all that is good over all that is evil, gives us insight into the method of Almighty God. This method must also become our method. God must

ultimately triumph over evil, or it must be said that evil has triumphed over God. PLEASE THINK ABOUT THIS! Here is a quote from Christ Triumphant (by Thomas Allin) to further establish this great point... "The question of universalism is usually argued on a basis altogether misleading, as though the point involved was chiefly, or wholly, man's endless suffering. Odious and repulsive to every moral instinct, as is that dogma, it is not the turning point of this controversy. The vital question is this, that the popular creed by teaching the perpetuity of evil, points to a victorious Devil, and to sin as finally triumphant over God. It makes the corrupt, nay, the bestial in our fallen nature to be eternal. It represents what is foulest and most loathsome in man, the most obstinate sin as being enduring as God Himself. It confers the dignity of immortal life on what is morally abominable. It teaches perpetual anarchy and a final chaos. It enthrones pandemonium as an eternal fact side by side with Paradise; and, gazing over its fetid and obscene abysses, it is not afraid to call this the triumph of Jesus Christ, this the realization of the promise that God shall be ALL IN ALL." (Thomas Allin)

If God is willing to cure all the evils of mankind, but is not able, this is an indictment against the power of God, and surely makes the thought of overcoming evil with good only wishful thinking at best. If God is able to cure all the evils of mankind, but is not willing, this is an indictment against the love of God, and surely makes Him out to be a cruel Creator and a hypocrite as well, FOR HE TOLD US TO LOVE OUR ENEMIES, BUT WILL TORTURE HIS ENEMIES FOREVER.

Let us shout from the mountaintops that GOD IS ABLE AND WILLING TO OVERCOME ALL EVIL WITH GOOD. To proclaim anything less than a salvation of all men, every man in his own order, is to declare Satan (the adversary) as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, making the cross (the atonement) of Jesus Christ a failed attempt to reconcile a lost world back to the Father again.

OUR GOD IS ABLE! OUR GOD IS WILLING!



January 13

THE PURPOSE (PLAN) OF THE AGES

Hebrews 1:2 states...God has in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, Whom He has appointed heir of all things, by Whom also He made the worlds...The English word "worlds" in this passage comes from the Greek word "aion" in its plural form, meaning AGES. This passage of scripture should have been properly translated...by Whom also He made the AGES...As we have just stated, the word "aion" means an age or ages, referring to a period or periods of TIME, whether short or long. The word "worlds" in this passage is a bad translation, not properly conveying or bringing out the correct meaning of the word "aion". With this in mind, let us now absorb what is being stated here in this passage.

This scripture states that Jesus Christ made the ages. We must understand that God's plan is a plan of ages which does have a beginning and an ending. Having an understanding of God's plan

of the ages will set you free from the empty teachings of religion, which offers no explanation of God having any PURPOSE for the creation, whether it be past, present, or future. What is God's plan of the ages? Does He have a PURPOSE and a plan? Here is a quote from Nathaniel Scarlett which addresses this very subject... "There are dispensations of salvation and restoration - these should not be confounded together: the scripture distinguishes them. The saved are represented as that they shall not come into condemnation, shall have a part in the first resurrection, shall reign in life with Christ, shall be priests or communicators of divine grace to others, having received abundance of grace for that purpose: whereas the restored will be condemned, cast into the lake of fire and brimstone (a spiritual fire for the purpose of divine purification) in the future age of judgment, wherein they will receive many or few stripes (spiritually speaking) in proportion to their criminality, and until subdued they shall not see the light: thus God may truly be said to be THE RESTORER OF ALL MEN, ESPECIALLY OF THE FAITHFUL." (Nathaniel Scarlett)

Once you can grasp the concept of ages and dispensations, including those that are still yet to come (Ephesians 2:7), you will see that God's punishments, judgments, and wrath are for a period of time, but not forever. They are for the purpose of correction and are age-lasting, or it could be said that they are "of the ages" ("aionios"). GOD'S WRATH AND MAN'S TORMENT ARE NOT FOREVER, BUT AGE-LASTING!

WHAT A LOVING GOD!!!

His purpose of the ages begins with Adam and ends when HIS CONSUMING LAKE OF FIRE has burned up all the wood, hay, and stubble in every man, for this is the SECOND DEATH. The good news is that the LAST ENEMY THAT SHALL BE DESTROYED IS DEATH, INCLUDING THE SECOND DEATH, WHICH IS DEATH AND HELL CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE. The lake of fire (God's consuming fire) is THE DEATH OF DEATH. It is the end of death and hell (the carnal mind and the triumph of the grave), SIGNIFYING THE TIME WHEN GOD SHALL BE ALL IN ALL!!!

Here is a list of the recognized DISPENSATIONS that are to be found contained within the AGES of time:

- 1. INNOCENCE
- 2. CONSCIENCE
- 3. HUMAN GOVERNMENT
- 4. PROMISE
- 5. LAW
- 6. GRACE (ALSO RECOGNIZED AS CHURCH)
- 7. KINGDOM (ALSO RECOGNIZED AS THE MILLENNIUM)
- 8. THE DISPENSATION OF THE FULLNESS OF TIMES (ALSO REFERRED TO AS THE AGE OF THE AGES)

Let God show you the awesomeness of HIS BEAUTIFUL PURPOSE! It consists of:

- 1. FORMER AGES (COLOSSIANS 1:26)
- 2. THE PRESENT AGE (MATTHEW 12:32)
- 3. THE APPROACHING AGE (MARK 10:30)

- 4. AGES TO COME (EPHESIANS 2:7)
- 5. THE END OF THE AGE (MATTHEW 28:20)
- 6. THE ENDS OF THE AGES (1ST CORINTHIANS 10:11)

HIS PURPOSE (PLAN) OF THE AGES IS BIGGER THAN YOU HAVE EVER IMAGINED!



January 14

THE LAW OF CIRCULARITY

(This theme and quotes taken from: The Law of Circularity, J. Preston Eby)

The following passages of scripture are key verses that unlock the idea or thought of the preexistence of man. When we say pre-existence, we are of course meaning that man was first created in the spirit realm before being placed and subjected in and to the physical realm (notice Genesis 1:26-28 and Genesis 2:7). In essence, we were with God in the beginning, before our physical birth, coming out from Him. Please notice the following verses.

Psalm 90:1-3 states...Lord, You have been our dwelling place IN ALL GENERATIONS. BEFORE THE MOUNTAINS WERE BROUGHT FORTH, OR EVER YOU HAD FORMED THE EARTH AND THE WORLD, EVEN FROM EVERLASTING (AGE) TO EVERLASTING (AGE), YOU ARE GOD. You turn man to destruction; and say, RETURN, you children of men...

Romans 11:36 states...For OF Him, and THROUGH Him, and TO Him, are ALL THINGS...

Romans 11:36 (Amplified Version) states...For FROM Him and THROUGH Him and TO Him are ALL THINGS - for all things originate with Him and come from Him; all things live through Him, and all things center in and tend to consummate and to end in Him...

Let us now try to summarize what is being said from these scripture passages. These verses tell us that mankind has its origin in God, and that ALL came from God. He is the Father of us ALL! It shows us the pre-existence of man. We were with God in the beginning, before time began, before the purpose of the ages was put into motion. We are then to derive that mankind was subjected to vanity, not willingly (Romans 8:20), in order to go through the purpose of the ages, and to be made in the image of God (for this is to be seen as a process). And finally, mankind (including ALL THINGS) shall be reconciled unto God in the dispensation of the fullness of times, for God shall be ALL IN ALL (Colossians 1:20, Ephesians 1:10, 1st Corinthians 15:28).

Have you ever considered the following words that begin with the prefix "re": REturn, REstoration, REnew, REdemption, REconciliation, REsurrection, and REpent??? The prefix "re" means back again, or anew. It speaks of something that left its place of origin and has now made its circuit and come back to the point of its beginning.

According to J. Preston Eby: "The entire universe is an infinite sphere and each galaxy's solar system, star and planet within it moves continuously and harmoniously in circular motion, thus, all worlds and suns have circles for their pathway. This principle has been referred to by scientists

as the "LAW OF CIRCULARITY." There is no such thing in the universe as an absolutely straight line of infinite length. All straight lines will be found to be portions of immense circles. Someone has said (a scientist) that if we were to build a telescope that could see into infinity, we would one day be looking at the back of our heads. We must see that this is also true of God's dealings with His whole creation. All that existed in Christ before the ages began, shall return into Him again that He may be the first and the last, the beginning and the end. All that came out of Him, lowered into the realm of the negative, completes its circuit and returns once more to its former estate - IN GOD! The first Adam had power to take ALL with Him into death, without their knowledge, or consent: therefore, the second Adam, the Lord from heaven, gathers up the same number in His redemptive work and man who came out of God shall return, that the circle may be unbroken." (The Law of Circularity, J. Preston Eby)

WE ARE ALL A PART OF THE CIRCLE OF GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE!



January 15

CREATION, REDEMPTION, AND COMPLETION

The following quote from A. P. Adams causes us to take a look at the true basis of man's creation, redemption, and completion... "The redemption of man is the completion of his creation, and depends for its final accomplishment on God and not on the individual." A statement such as this causes us to reflect on the GREATNESS OF ALMIGHTY GOD. It introduces us to the idea that our Heavenly Father is all-powerful and SOVEREIGN. This would then mean that God is in TOTAL CONTROL of the destiny of the human race. When we recognize THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD, we are set free from the foolish notion that we are responsible "to make" ourselves in the image of God. Many people do not recognize that God is responsible for their creation, redemption, and completion. The result of this is a life of condemnation, frustration, and failure. They place all the emphasis of their Christian walk on their "so-called" free will. In doing this, we absolutely strip God of His power and sovereignty, making His Spirit and His Word of none effect.

The scriptures are actually very plain concerning this subject. All we have to do is READ THEM AND BELIEVE THEM! Ephesians 1:11 tells us that God works ALL things after the counsel OF HIS OWN WILL...Ephesians 2:10 tells us that we are God's workmanship...HOW PLAIN CAN IT BE??? God is the One Who is working on us, FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP! Philippians 1:6 tells us to be confident of this very thing, that He which has BEGUN a good work in you WILL PERFORM IT until the day of Jesus Christ ...Who started the work? GOD! Who will finish the work? GOD! What work? YOU! YOU ARE GOD'S WORKMANSHIP!!! As well, Hebrews 12:2 states...looking unto Jesus the AUTHOR and FINISHER of our faith...Many people

do not realize that it is God Who is responsible for authoring and finishing their faith. WHERE IS THERE ANY ROOM FOR MAN TO BOAST? HOW CAN WE TAKE ANY CREDIT FOR THE WORK THAT IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED IN US, FOR WE ARE GOD'S WORKMANSHIP?

It must become clear to us that GOD is responsible for, in charge of, and in total control of the creation, redemption, and completion of man (mankind, the entire human race). This will result in a race that has been totally and completely conformed to the image of its Creator. It will also result in man having DOMINION over all things (except for God of course), for this was the purpose of God from the very beginning (Genesis 1:26). It is God Who has purposed the creation, redemption, and completion of man, AND IT IS GOD WHO WILL BRING IT TO PASS! The only part we play is one of recognizing, believing, and submitting to the very Spirit of God. WE CANNOT DO THE WORK! If we were able to bring this to pass, then why would God have sent His Son to be the Savior of the world? But rest assured, for our final outcome of being made into the image of our Creator depends on God, not the individual. This is good news!

BE CONFIDENT OF THIS VERY THING!



January 16

WHAT CAUSES PERILOUS TIMES?

2ND Timothy 3:1 states...This know also, that in the last days perilous (dangerous) times shall come...The fact that perilous times are here is no big secret. Just listen to the nightly news, read the newspapers, or watch television. All you will hear is a report of increasingly perilous times. Since it is not a surprise that we are currently in perilous times, the more important question concerning this thought would be, WHAT CAUSES PERILOUS TIMES? Have you ever considered what actually brings on or causes these dangerous times in which we live? The key to answering this question is to be found in the very next verse. Vs. 2 states...MEN SHALL BE LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES...So as we can see, the cause of perilous times is a LOVE OF SELF as opposed to a love of God! Let us now take a look at the UGLINESS of self and what it produces.

The love of self causes us to become:

- 1. Covetous
- 2. Boasters
- 3. Proud
- 4. Blasphemers
- 5. Disobedient
- 6. Unthankful

- 7. Unholy
- 8. Without Natural Affection
- 9. Truce Breakers
- 10. False Accusers
- 11. Incontinent
- 12. Fierce
- 13. Despisers Of Those That Are Good
- 14. Traitors
- 15. Heady
- 16. Highminded
- 17. Lovers Of Pleasures
- 18. Not A Lover Of God
- 19. A Form Of Godliness
- 20. One Who Denies The Power Of God

What an ugly list! Look at what the love of self produces. May we understand the disgusting results and fruit that the love of self produces. So what is the answer? The answer is the DEATH OF THE SELF-LIFE. This is obviously the opposite of the love of self. Bill Britton was a man with incredible insight into the things of God. Here is a quote from him concerning this very topic... "When you are forgotten, or neglected, or purposely set at naught, and you don't sting and hurt with the insult or the oversight, but your heart is happy, being counted worthy to suffer for Christ, THAT IS DYING TO SELF." (Bill Britton)

Let us realize that if the love of self produces perilous times, that the death of self will produce peaceful times. This is the very peace of God that the creation is longing for. Revelation 12:11 states...and they overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES UNTO THE DEATH...

LOSE YOUR LIFE FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE!



January 17

THE LAMB ON THE THRONE

As you read through the book of Revelation you will notice many startling things. It is interesting to note that Jesus, the Son of God, is portrayed as a LAMB Who sits on the throne. A LAMB ON A THRONE? Of all the symbols that could be used to typify a victorious king sitting on a throne, WHY A LAMB? Revelation 22:1 states...And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb...What comes to mind when you think of a throne? What comes to mind when you think of a lamb? Remember...The book

of Revelation is the revelation of Jesus Christ. It is not something to be looked at in the natural or literal sense, but in the spiritual. This is not to say that the symbolism in this book will in no way be played out in the physical realm, but the true purpose of this book in the Bible is to REVEAL JESUS THE CHRIST, WHICH CONSISTS OF A MANY MEMBERED BODY OF BELIEVERS WITH THE LORD JESUS AS ITS HEAD! This book is one that must be unveiled or revealed to you by the Spirit of God. As a matter of fact, the entirety of the Bible must be unveiled to you by the Spirit of God. It can not be understood with raw intellect. The dead letters on the page must be quickened or made alive to you BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD! With this in mind, let us attempt to understand how that a LAMB, or becoming like a lamb, could result in sitting on a throne to rule and reign with all power.

1st Corinthians 15:42,43 states...So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in WEAKNESS; it is raised in POWER...If you were to categorize a lamb as weak or strong, which one would you choose? WEAK, OF COURSE! A lamb is weak, gentle, and characterized as not putting up a fight but being easily led in one direction or another. Acts 8:32 states...He (Jesus) was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a LAMB dumb before his shearer, so opened He not His mouth...vs. 33...and WHO SHALL DECLARE HIS GENERATION?...Now let us consider the word "throne". What does it speak of or signify? It speaks of dominion and rulership, of course. So we can see that God's power is manifested through weakness, as strange as that sounds. 2nd Corinthians 12:9 states...God's strength is made perfect in weakness...vs. 10...for when I am weak, then I am strong.

The death of Jesus, the LAMB of God, was in weakness, but He rose in power as the SAVIOR OF THE WORLD, HAVING FORGIVEN AND CLEANSED THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE. NOW THAT IS POWER!!! THAT IS THE THRONE OF GOD! So the question still remains...Who shall declare His generation? The answer is...WE SHALL! We must see ourselves as part of the corporate LAMB that shall rule and reign with Jesus Christ. We must see ourselves as IN CHRIST, BEING SEATED ON THE THRONE OF GOD. Jesus is the head and we are His body...The LAMB slain from the foundation of the world. Remember...The MEEK (THOSE LIKE A LAMB) shall inherit the earth, ruling the nations with a rod of iron. He is bringing you from a LAMB to a LION, that you might possess the qualities of both, for meekness is not weakness BUT CONTROLLED STRENGTH. Every lion in God's Kingdom must start out as a lamb, FOR POWER WITHOUT HUMILITY IS A VERY DANGEROUS POSSESSION!!! Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord. In due season God will exalt you to the throne, for our God is...

THE LAMB AND THE LION!



TRINITY "?"

How are we to understand Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? Are there three Gods? Are there three separate beings that all make up one God? Is there a "so-called" trinity? Here is a big clue...THE WORD "TRINITY" IS NOT TO BE FOUND ANYWHERE IN THE CANON OF SCRIPTURE! As a matter of fact, it did not find a place formally in the theology of the church until the 4th century. The Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics records: At first the Christian Faith was not Trinitarian... It was not so in the apostolic and sub-apostolic ages, as reflected in the New Testament and other early Christian writings. So where did it come from a why did it surface? THE TEACHING OF A "SO-CALLED" TRINITY WAS BIRTHED OUT OF THE CARNAL MINDS OF MEN, ATTEMPTING TO TAKE THINGS THAT ARE SPIRITUAL AND TO CONVERT THEM INTO THE REALM OF INTELLECT AND THEOLOGY! It is imperative that we understand that that which is spiritual CANNOT be converted into intellect. We must grasp the things of the Spirit in the Spirit and by the Spirit. Let us also remember that the NATURAL MAN cannot discern, understand, or perceive the spiritual things of the Kingdom of God, even though he thinks he does. Bible college and theology will not teach you about the true God. It will only teach you its watered down version of God, leaving you with many traditions and doctrines of men THAT MUST THEN BE UNLEARNED! So...Is there one God or three Gods? Let us look to the words of Jesus.

Mark 12:29 states...And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; THE LORD THY GOD IS ONE LORD...Well...That did not take long. We are told straight from the lips of Jesus that God is ONE GOD! So how are we to understand the scriptures when they speak of this one God as a Father, a Son, and a Spirit? It is actually very simple. There is one God Who has manifested Himself as a Father, a Son, and a Spirit. He has manifested Himself in three ways, but that does not mean that this one God is made up of three separate beings. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not three separate beings Who all make up one God, but rather, they are three different manifestations of the same God.

To further clarify this simple point, think of your life and the different ways in which you are manifested to others.

Someone who is married and has children is a:

- 1. Father to their children
- 2. Son to their father
- 3. Husband to their wife

A person whose life is distributed in this manner is not made up of three different people, but is one person who is distributed in three different ways. In the same sense, God is to be seen as a Father, Who is a Spirit, and Who was manifested in the flesh. The true reality and identity of God is actually very simple, but has been greatly complicated by the traditions and doctrines of men. Let God reveal this simple truth to you. Remember when Philip asked Jesus about the Father? Jesus replied and said, "Have I been so long time with you, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He

that has SEEN ME HAS SEEN THE FATHER; and how do you say then, show us the Father? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but the Father that DWELLS IN ME, HE DOES THE WORKS!!! (John 14:9,10)

HEAR, O CHILD OF GOD; THE LORD YOUR GOD IS ONE LORD!



January 19

THE AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY "?"

Is there an age of accountability? What is the age? Is it the same for boys and girls? Does it come on your twelfth birthday? Does it come upon you right after you blow out the candles on your birthday cake (ha ha)? Let us look to the Bible to see if this teaching is of men or of God.

Well...GO FIGURE...THERE IS NOT ONE SCRIPTURE IN THE ENTIRE BIBLE TO SUPPORT SUCH AN IDIOTIC AND FOOLISH TEACHING SUCH AS THIS! So where did this teaching come from? Take a guess. How about...THE TRADITIONS AND DOCTRINES OF MEN! Of the teachings that belong to men, rather than to God, this particular one is quite fascinating, for it is totally and completely fabricated. In other words, it was invented, or simply made up, being grabbed out of the air to help proclaim the teaching of eternal torture, while trying to make God look not so bad in light of that false teaching. This "teaching", that an unbelieving child under the age of twelve, after dying, is declared righteous in the eyes of God due to it being under the age of twelve, has absolutely no scriptural evidence whatsoever. As man preached the false message of eternal torture down through the ages, he realized that according to this teaching it would mean that babies and young children would go to a hell and be tortured forever. In order to soften the blow of this horrific teaching while continuing to teach it, they simply MADE UP the idea of an age of accountability. This would in turn make God look good, and also would enable man to continue to preach his "so-called" good news of eternal torture. It is a "have your cake and eat it too" mentality. The question is then, does the Bible say anything about accountability? Well...Yes it does.

Romans 14:11,12 states...For it is written, As I live, says the Lord, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL CONFESS TO GOD. SO THEN EVERY ONE OF US SHALL GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF TO GOD...Well...The scriptures have once again cleared up the confusing babble that is to be associated with the teachings of men. The truth of the matter is, WE ARE ALL ACCOUNTABLE TO GOD! Man's accountability to his Creator will ultimately have absolutely nothing to do with the age at which he dies. Those who die as babies, or those who die at a young age will of course be ushered into the loving arms of God, but this will have absolutely nothing to do with the age at which they died. IT HAS EVERYTHING TO DO WITH THE LOVE OF GOD, FOR GOD GIVES UP ON NO ONE! AS A MATTER OF FACT,

THERE IS NOTHING THAT CAN SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD, NOT EVEN DEATH (Romans 8:38)!

Many of God's people, due to their lack of study of the Bible, are not aware that the Bible speaks of future ages to come. Within these ages to come, God will deal with every person who has ever lived. All will come to know him as Lord and Savior, including those who died as babies and young children. All will confess with their mouths and believe in their hearts. All knees will bow to Him in worship and adoration. This is all because THE LAMB OF GOD TOOK AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD. We are all accountable to come to the saving knowledge of our salvation THAT WAS PURCHASED THROUGH THE CROSS OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. This has taken place, is taking place, and will continue to take place in the ages to come, until God is all in all. So then...

EVERY ONE OF US SHALL GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF TO GOD!



January 20

THE TITHE "?"

Is it correct to teach that the New Testament Church is bound to a tithe? Most preachers think so. It is taught every Sunday in churches all over the world that if you do not give a tithe (10% of your money) to your local church that you are cursed by God. These well-meaning ministers mean no harm, but they are misleading the people, and they are keeping the people under the legalistic letter of the law, rather than introducing them to the law of the Spirit of LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS!

Oh yes, the people are giving, but many are giving out of OBLIGATION rather than to prove the sincerity of their love toward God. Many are giving of their money because they are afraid of what God will do to them if they do not give. Let us now take a look at the TRUE BASIS FOR GIVING to God according to the NEW TESTAMENT.

THE APOSTLE PAUL DID NOT TEACH THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH TO PAY TITHES!!! He did however teach the church to give, and to give with a cheerful heart. 2nd Corinthians 9:6,7 states...But this I say, He which sows sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which sows bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposes in his heart, so let him give; NOT GRUDGINGLY, OR OF NECESSITY: FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER. In actuality, this scripture holds us to a much higher standard of giving than the Old Testament law of tithing. God wants you to DO THE BEST THAT YOU CAN! No percentage is mentioned here. If the best you can do is 5%, then give 5%. If you are able to give more, then give 10%, 20%, 30%, or 40%. If you are able to give it all, then give 100%. The most important point in giving is NOT THE AMOUNT, but that you do the best you can, and that you do not give grudgingly, or of necessity, but as a cheerful giver. IT IS TIME TO COME OUT OF THE LEGALISTIC MINDSET OF THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW OF THE TITHE. When ministers quote Malachi 3:8-11 as a means to

put pressure on people to give, and as a means to teach them how to give, and as a means to make them feel guilty for not giving, THEY ARE OUT OF LINE, AND THEY ARE NOT RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH! This passage of scripture pertains to God's dealings with His people under the OLD COVENANT. WE MUST STOP TAKING PORTIONS OF THE OLD COVENANT THAT WE WANT TO INCORPORATE INTO THE NEW COVENANT, FOR IF YOU TRY TO KEEP ANY OR SOME OF THE OLD COVENANT YOU MUST KEEP IT ALL. IT IS ALL OR NOTHING!!!

According to Gary Amirault: "The apostle Paul did not quote a single tithing scripture to make people give, not one! The apostle Paul knew that only LEVITES could collect tithes. Paul introduced a new way of giving - OUT OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST IN YOUR HEART! When the writer of Hebrews used the word "tithe" in chapter seven, he was not dealing with tithing, but a higher priesthood than the Levitical Priesthood, that is, the priesthood after the order of Melchizedek. When Jesus spoke of tithing in Matthew and Luke, remember this: The New Covenant is not the set of books from Matthew to Revelation. The New Covenant was not ratified until Jesus offered up His blood in heaven which was after His resurrection. Prior to that, the Old Covenant, and the Levitical Priesthood was still in effect. Here is the conclusion of the matter: We should give, not from the letter of the law which kills, but from the Spirit Who prepares works for us to walk in. One comes from bondage to a set of laws, and the other comes from LOVE, which is the nature of God. The first usually produces pride and self-righteousness, and the latter produces joy. The higher ways of God are much better than the lower ways of the Old Covenant." (The Tithe Is Illegal, Gary Amirault)

GIVE BOUNTIFULLY WITH A CHEERFUL HEART!



January 21

ETERNAL TORTURE "?"

(This theme and quotes taken from: I Am A Convinced Universalist, William Barclay)

According to William Barclay: "When you think of God, what is the first thing that comes to mind? God is the Creator, Savior, Judge, King, Lord, and Supreme Sovereign Ruler of the universe. God is all these things, but above all, GOD IS LOVE! As well, God is our FATHER! So...GOD IS A LOVING FATHER! With that being said, let this statement sink down deep into your heart...No father could be happy while there were members of his family forever in agony. No father would count it a triumph to obliterate the disobedient members of his family. The only triumph a father can know is to have all his family back home. If one man remains outside of the love of God at the end of time, it means that that one man has defeated the love of God - AND THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE...!" (William Barclay)

Here is why we are obligated to condemn the teaching of eternal torture, which did come from the Catholic Church during the Dark Ages:

- 1. By believing it, we smear the character and nature of God, Who is our Father, Who is LOVE, Who is merciful, Who is FULL OF FORGIVENESS, and Who is GOOD.
- 2. By believing it, we must declare evil, Satan, and the will of man as STRONGER than God Who created all things.
- 3. As well, there are MANY mistranslations in the dearly beloved King James Version, which has been used to establish the doctrine of Evangelical Christianity. Of the MANY mistranslations to be found in the King James "VERSION" of the Bible, those that have done the most damage are the English words "eternal", "everlasting", "for ever", and "for ever and ever", which when researched will be found to be an INCORRECT TRANSLATION of the Hebrew and Greek words "OLAM", "AION", AND "AIONIOS", which do not refer to eternity, but rather to ages and time. The passages in the King James Bible that are translated to speak of eternal or everlasting punishment, in actuality do speak of AGE-LASTING PUNISHMENT (correction), or THE PUNISHMENT OF THE AGES. IT IS PUNISHMENT WITHIN THE AGES OF TIME FOR THE PURPOSE OF CORRECTION, BUT IT IS SURELY NOT ETERNAL TORTURE!!! We must also see that the purpose of punishment, judgment, vengeance, and the wrath of God is CORRECTION, NOT VINDICTIVE, ENDLESS, AND SENSELESS TORTURE. This type of punishment would have to be characterized as INSANE, and would serve no purpose.
- 4. The Bible is FULL of scriptures and passages that do declare the salvation of all men. This is taking place now and will continue in the ages to come.

Here are just a few:

Genesis 12:1-3

Psalm 22:27-29

Psalm 65:2

Psalm 66:3,4

Psalm 86:9

Isaiah 25:7,8

Isaiah 45:22-25

John 12:32

Romans 11:32

1st Corinthians 15:22-28

1st Timothy 2:4-6

(For a list of over 600 scriptures, refer to: Read And Search God's Plan, Dr. Harold Lovelace.)

The Bible clearly talks about the ultimate and complete triumph of God, when God will be everything to everyone (1st Corinthians 15:28). God is patient with His creation. He awaits the day when His love is answered by the return of love. The end result is this...

A UNIVERSE LOVED BY AND IN LOVE WITH GOD!

UNDERSTANDING GEHENNA

Matthew 18:8,9 states...Wherefore if your hand or your foot offend you, cut them off, and cast them from you: for it is better for you to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. And if your eye offend you, pluck it out, and cast it from you: it is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire...After studying the words "everlasting" and "hell" in the original Greek, this passage of scripture ceases to mean what many have tried to make it mean. For example, it does not mean that God is going to send people to a literal place called hell, and burn them there for ever and ever in literal fire. According to the King James "VERSION" this appears to be the case, but it is not so. LET US STUDY TO SHOW OURSELVES APPROVED!

The word "everlasting" in this passage comes from the Greek word "AIONIOS", which means age-lasting, or OF THE AGES. Instead of everlasting fire, it should be translated as THE FIRE OF THE AGES (Refer to the New Testament in Modern Speech). It means a period of time that BELONGS TO THE AGES. BUT IT CERTAINLY DOES NOT MEAN FOREVER OR EVERLASTING IN THE SENSE THAT WE THINK OF FOREVER AND EVERLASTING. To be blunt, IT IS A BAD TRANSLATION! The word "hell" in this passage comes from the Greek word "GEHENNA", which refers to the Valley of the Son of Hinnom (Ge - Hinnom) in the Old Testament. Jesus referred to this valley (the dump outside the city where garbage was burned day and night...because of the continual garbage being dumped into Gehenna, there was a continual fire burning to consume the garbage, and there were continual worms in the garbage) in His day to teach us something spiritual about God. He used Gehenna in a metaphoric way to describe what the fire of God was like. As well, when Jesus referred to cutting off our hands and feet and plucking out our eyes, He was OBVIOUSLY speaking in metaphoric and symbolic language, for He did not mean for us to literally do these things (Have you cut off any hands or feet, or plucked out any eyes lately?). This valley (Gehenna) that Jesus referred to symbolically spoke of the things in our lives that are fit for the spiritual garbage dump, such as wood, hay, and stubble (our carnality). Remember...GOD IS A CONSUMING FIRE. This statement is speaking of a SPIRITUAL FIRE, a fire that GOD IS, and a spiritual fire that does consume everything in us that is not pleasing to Him. As well, Gehenna was to be a fulfillment of Bible prophecy. This prophecy concerned the destruction of Jerusalem, which did take place in 70 A.D. - 73 A.D. This can be easily researched by studying the following scriptures: Jeremiah 7:30-34, Jeremiah 19:5-6, Jeremiah 32:35, Leviticus 18:21, Leviticus 20:2, Deuteronomy 18:10, 2nd Kings 16:1-3, 2nd Kings 21:6, 2nd Kings 23:10, Psalm 106:36-39, Matthew 23:33-36.

We now turn our attention to an in-depth explanation of Gehenna from: <u>Hope For All Generations And Nations</u>, by Gary Amirault... "Israel, during one part of its history began to mix the worship of Yahweh with some of the customs of the pagan nations around them. They molded a statue which was half man and half bull. They called this god MLK (The original Hebrew had no vowels). Molech meant King in Hebrew. Israel had made an image of Yahweh (their King) in the image of being half man and half animal. They felt this new practice was harmonious with the other religious traditions of the Hebrew faith. The Israelites took their own babies and placed

them in the hands of this statue. Beneath the hands was a pot under which was a hot fire. The child would fall out of the hands of Molech into the burning pot. As the child screamed with pain, the adults would go into a sexual frenzy as the sounds of the burning children mixed with the beating of drums. Molech was a fertility god. These things were done in the VALLEY OF THE SON OF HINNOM (Referred to as Gehenna in the Greek). The Lord spoke through Jeremiah that He did not command Israel to do this, NOR DID IT COME INTO HIS MIND THAT THEY SHOULD DO THIS ABOMINATION, TO CAUSE ISRAEL TO SIN (Jeremiah 32:35). IT HAS NEVER EVEN ENTERED THE LORD'S MIND TO BURN PEOPLE IN LITERAL FIRE FOR THE PURPOSE OF TORMENTING THEM. THAT IS AN ABOMINATION TO HIM (Think about it!)! IF GOD PREPARED A PLACE IN WHICH HE WAS GOING TO TORTURE BILLIONS OF THE HUMAN BEINGS HE CREATED, HOW COULD HE SAY IT NEVER ENTERED HIS MIND? When Jesus used the word Gehenna, the place He was referring to was this valley in which Israel burned their own children, not God. The place called Gehenna (Translated hell) was the Greek form of the Hebrew Ge - Hinnom. This valley became a disgraceful reminder to Israel of what their forefathers did. It became the city dump, Jesus warned the very generation in which He lived (Matthew 23:33-36), that if they did not repent, they would find themselves thrown into this valley of garbage which burned day and night. To tell a Jew something like this was the absolute worst of insult. It meant that their lives were worthless. A Jew's honor was very important to him especially at his death. It was not uncommon to hire professional mourners at one's funeral. Imagine paying someone to cry tears at your funeral. This is an example of how vain God's people were during Jesus' physical presence on earth. Jesus told some of the most religious people of His day, their lives were only fit to be thrown in the city dump! WHAT AN INSULT! AND WHAT A PROPHECY! The very people who heard these words would find their bodies thrown over the Southwest wall of Jerusalem during the siege against the city in 70 A.D. Because they did not follow Christ and participated in His crucifixion, THEIR LIVES TRULY DID BECOME WORTHLESS!" (Gary Amirault)

Although Gehenna did refer to the destruction of Jerusalem, and does symbolically represent the fire of God burning the wood, hay, and stubble (our carnal minds) in our lives, IT SURELY DOES NOT MEAN OR SPEAK OF ETERNAL TORTURE. Gehenna is a place located ON THIS EARTH (The Valley of the Son of Hinnom). It is extremely important that we understand and teach its true literal and spiritual meaning, for in doing so we will be found rightly dividing the Word of truth. Having a proper understanding of Gehenna will set one free from the FALSE TEACHING of eternal torture. What a joy it is to know...

THE TRUTH ABOUT GEHENNA!



NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES

Hebrews 10:25 states...Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is...The word "assembling" in this passage means: to gather together, collect, to gather together for corporate worship, our attachment to Jesus Christ and other believers, and not avoiding one's own responsibility as part of the body of Christ. As you can see, this passage of scripture speaks of more than just making sure that you do not miss a "church service", but rather, it speaks of THE BODY OF CHRIST. Many people who PRIDE THEMSELVES in the fact that they go to church every Sunday and Wednesday, and that they are there "every time the doors are opened", are not really assembling themselves together, but rather, they are just another warm body in the building. We must realize that what is being assembled is not a church service, BUT THE BODY OF CHRIST. It is not so much how many times that you "go to church", or where you "go to church", but it is recognizing that YOU ARE THE CHURCH, and that what is being assembled is the corporate BODY OF CHRIST. Many (especially preachers) use this scripture to load condemnation onto people if they miss a church service, not realizing that the assembling that God is talking about is not so much a physical meeting in a church building, but a spiritual assembling of the many membered BODY OF CHRIST.

So next time you "go to church", you must realize that you are being assembled together in the Spirit to become the BODY OF CHRIST. The mere act of you going to a building on a Sunday morning or a Wednesday night does not necessarily mean that you have assembled yourself together with Christ and His Body. It is the joining together of the BODY OF CHRIST, being in one mind and one accord with the MIND OF CHRIST, for the purpose of fellowship, worship, and teaching in the Lord. This can take place in a home, on the job, out in public, in a building, or ANYWHERE, FOR WE ARE THE CHURCH!!! We must STOP thinking that the mere act of going to a building twice a week or more is the only thing that constitutes the assembling of ourselves together with Christ and His Body. GO FORTH and attach (assemble) yourself to...

THE LORD JESUS AND HIS CHRIST (BODY)!



CHURCH

Ephesians 1:22,23 states...the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him that fills all in all...It is interesting to note that the Bible will always interpret itself. Ephesians 1:22,23 clearly defines what the church is. IT IS THE BODY OF CHRIST, THE FULLNESS OF GOD THAT FILLS ALL IN ALL!!!

Now that we know what the church is, let us talk about what it is not. It is not:

Any particular denomination...

A building made with hands...

Any particular religion...

A set of rules...

Something that we go to on Sunday morning or Wednesday night...

THE CHURCH IS YOU! YOU ARE THE CHURCH! The word "church" comes from the Greek word "ekklesia", which means assembly, or a gathering of called out ones. We have become SO BUSY "going to church" that we have lost sight that WE ARE THE CHURCH, THE CALLED OUT ONES! IT IS TIME TO STOP HAVING CHURCH AND TO START BEING THE CHURCH! WE have perfected the art of "having church". We know when to clap, when to sing, when to pray, when to preach, when to cry, when to laugh, and when to go to the altar. We know how to fit it all in within two hours so that we can get to lunch on time. We have put God in our nice "churchy" box with a lid on top and wrapped Him all up with our pretty denominational wrapping paper. We must WAKE UP to the realization that church is not something that we go to, rather, it is who we are in Christ. YOU ARE THE CHURCH! YOU ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST! YOU ARE THE FULLNESS OF GOD!

BE THE CHURCH!



January 25

ALTAR CALLS "?"

The modern day church service goes something like this:

The band leader starts up the music...

The people begin to praise and worship the Lord for about thirty minutes...

The preacher then exhorts the people for about fifteen minutes...

Someone sings a special song...

The collection plate is passed around to receive the offerings of the people...

The preacher preaches his message for the day (about thirty to forty-five minutes)...

Then the preacher PLEADS and BEGS the people to come to an altar where they can "get saved", healed, or delivered...Is begging the people to come to a man-made altar a scriptural thing to do? Let us look to the Bible.

How many "altar calls" do you find in the book of Acts-Revelation? Well... You guessed it. NONE! When the apostle Paul was asked by a man what must I do to be saved, what was his response? It was, BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST! Where was the altar call? Did Paul forget to lead him in a "sinner's prayer"? As a matter of fact, the Bible speaks nothing about accepting the Lord at an altar. We are not told to accept the Lord, but rather, we are told to BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. In actuality, HE IS THE ONE WHO HAS ACCEPTED US IN CHRIST! As you can see, the apostles of the early church had revelation truth from God. They did not have to resort to the SILLY man-made tactics that the modern day church has resorted to. The altar call, as we know it, has its roots in the person and ministry of Charles Finney (1792-1875). Finney's meetings involved huge crowds and multiple conversions, and altar calls were used as a means to lead people to Christ. As long as an altar call is used to symbolize something that is already taking place in our hearts, it does not become a problem. The problem is though, THE CHURCH HAS MADE A GOD OUT OF GOING TO THE ALTAR. What was an altar used for in the Old Testament? It was used to offer up a sacrifice to God. The higher spiritual truth for us today under the New Testament is to be found in Romans 12:1. It states...present your bodies a LIVING SACRIFICE, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service... We must understand that we are to BECOME AN ALTAR UNTO GOD, and that our life must become a sacrifice unto Him. It is not a matter of going to an altar as much as it is BECOMING AN ALTAR! We must STOP trying to force and manipulate people to come to a man-made altar, convincing them that walking an aisle is what saves them. Rather, we must help them to comprehend that GOD HAS ALREADY RECONCILED THEM TO HIMSELF THROUGH THE CROSS OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. As they are AWAKENED to this truth they will want to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved. When this takes place we BECOME AN ALTAR, and our lives BECOME A LIVING SACRIFICE unto God.

PRESENT YOURSELF AS A LIVING SACRIFICE UNTO GOD!



January 26

WE ARE THE OFFSPRING OF GOD

What does a dog give birth to?...A puppy, which turns into a dog of course. What does a cat give birth to?...A kitten, which turns into a cat of course. What does a cow give birth to?...A

calf, which turns into a cow of course. What does (a) God give birth to?...A son, which turns into a god of course. WHAT?...YOU MIGHT ASK! Don't take my word for it. Look to the Bible for yourself.

Psalm 82:1,6 states...God stands in the congregation of the mighty; He judges among the gods...I have said, YOU ARE GODS; AND ALL OF YOU ARE CHILDREN OF THE MOST HIGH...Jesus also quoted this same verse in the book of John 10:34-36. Well...There you have it! WE ARE GODS! How can that be? Because WE ARE GOD'S OFFSPRING!

Acts 17:27,28 states...the Lord is not far from EVERY ONE OF US: for in Him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your poets have said, FOR WE ARE HIS OFFSPRING...!!! The word "offspring" means: kind, race, nation, kindred, and stock. This describes who we are in relation to our Heavenly Father. Because we are ALL children of the Most High God, we are to see ourselves as His offspring, and destined to become like our Father, Who is God. What a beautiful truth! We are in the process of becoming GOD-LIKE (GODS). Everything that you go through is for this very reason and purpose.

Remember this:

- 1. WE ARE HIS CHILDREN!
- 2. WE ARE HIS OFFSPRING!
- 3. WE ARE GODS!

THIS IS OUR DESTINY!



January 27

RIGHTEOUSNESS

What is righteousness? Is it:

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what kind of clothes you wear...?
how long a lady's dress is...?
what kind of haircut you have...?
how long your hair is...?
whether or not a lady wears jewelry or makeup...?
fasting...?
tithing...?
praying...?
reading the Bible...?
going to church...?
giving...?
trying as hard as you can to be good...?
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The answer to all of these questions is...NO! It is none of these things. As a matter of fact, IT IS NOTHING EXTERNAL AT ALL. Here is the grand revelation of righteousness: RIGHTEOUSNESS IS NOT AN ACTIVITY, BUT IT IS A POSITION! It could also be said that it is a position of testimony. WHAT? Well...Let us take a look.

Philippians 3:9 states...and be found IN HIM (CHRIST), not having my own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness WHICH IS OF GOD BY FAITH...

So there are two kinds of righteousness:

- 1. YOUR OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS
- 2. GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS (Read Luke 18:9-14)

The word "righteous" simply means that which is RIGHT. There is self-righteousness, which is one's own effort and trusting in yourself, and there is God's righteousness, which is faith in Christ, Who He is, and what He has accomplished. So righteousness is being IN CHRIST! IT IS A POSITION OF TESTIMONY IN CHRIST! It does not come from anything that you do. The things you do are a byproduct of your faith in Christ. Someone who is self-righteous is right in his own eyes. Someone who possesses the righteousness of God is righteous in the eyes of God, and to be right with God you must place your faith in the person and the work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus the Christ is the only truly righteous one. You must see yourself as being IN HIM, FOR THAT IS HOW YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER SEES YOU. PLACE YOUR FAITH IN HOW HE SEES YOU, FOR THAT IS YOUR TRUE IDENTITY. This is the only righteousness that God honors. Our righteousness (self effort) STINKS IN HIS NOSTRILS! Genesis 15:6 states...Abraham BELIEVED in the Lord; and the Lord counted it to him for RIGHTEOUSNESS... Your righteousness is in Christ.

BELIEVE!



January 28

PEACE

What is peace? Is it never having a problem? Is it an absence of conflict? Is it smooth sailing at all times? Is it a life of total and complete perfection, never having a stressful moment? NO! The Bible speaks of two different kinds of peace.

They are:

- 1. PEACE WITH GOD
- 2. THE PEACE OF GOD

Romans 5:1 states...Therefore being justified by faith, we have PEACE WITH GOD through our Lord Jesus Christ...Philippians 4:7 states...And the PEACE OF GOD, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus... Peace with God speaks of believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, which causes you to be justified (declared not guilty) in the sight of God. The peace of God speaks of being careful for nothing, but bringing everything to God in prayer with thanksgiving, which causes your heart and mind to be at rest, making you to feel and know that God is in control of everything, and that everything will work together for your good. This is what takes place as the believer goes through the process of sanctification. PEACE WITH GOD IS A JUSTIFYING PEACE. THE PEACE OF GOD IS A SANCTIFYING PEACE. A life without these two facets of the peace of God is hell indeed, for the true definition of hell (Hades) is UNPERCEPTION. A person who is not able to perceive (grasp) God's peace is surely a person who lives in constant inner turmoil. BUT REJOICE, FOR WE HAVE A LOVING FATHER WHO HAS EXTENDED TO US HIS JUSTIFYING AND SANCTIFYING PEACE. God's peace is the very thing that gives us confidence and assurance in the midst of the storms of this life. It does not make the storm go away, but it is THE VERY PRESENCE OF GOD THAT BRINGS US THROUGH THE STORM. PEACE...PEACE...WONDERFUL PEACE...COMING DOWN FROM THE FATHER ABOVE! PEACE...BE STILL!

HE IS OUR PEACE! (Ephesians 2:14)



January 29

JOY

What is joy? Is it being happy all the time? Is it always having a smile on your face? Is it trying to put on a good mood at all times? NO! It goes much deeper than that! IT IS YOUR STRENGTH! Nehemiah 8:10 states...for the joy of the Lord is your strength...Notice that joy produces strength, and that joy comes from the Lord. It is not your joy that produces strength, BUT IT IS THE JOY OF (BELONGING TO) THE LORD THAT PRODUCES STRENGTH. The word "joy" means: rejoicing and gladness. So what does the Lord rejoice over? What makes Him glad?

Hebrews 12:2 states...Looking unto Jesus...Who for the JOY that was set before Him endured the cross...How was there joy for Jesus in enduring the cross? Jesus found joy in enduring the cross because He knew what it would produce. It has produced, is producing, and will continue to produce a crop in His image. Jesus was one Son to bring many sons to glory. The joy of the Lord is YOU! He endured the cross for you. YOU ARE HIS JOY! The Lord rejoices and is glad in you, for He knows what you will become after being made conformable to His death, and apprehending His resurrection life. Your strength is that God rejoices in making you in His image.

LET HIM FILL YOU WITH GLADNESS AND REJOICING!

CAIN AND ABEL

Most people are familiar with the story of Cain and Abel. It is widely known and recognized, even among people who know very little or nothing at all about the Bible. Cain was a tiller of the ground. Abel was a keeper of sheep. Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord. Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock unto the Lord. The Lord had respect unto Abel and his offering: But unto Cain and his offering He had not respect. So Cain was filled with wrath, and rose up against his brother, and slew him. The question is, what does this story represent, and what spiritual meaning does it have for us today?

Cain represents: self-righteousness, the flesh, selfishness, the sin nature, man and his efforts, and that which kills or brings death. Abel represents: God's righteousness, the Spirit, selflessness, the divine nature, the Lamb and His sacrifice, and that which willingly lays down its life.

We must see and understand that Cain and Abel represent the spiritual conditions that we find ourselves in. You will either be found trusting in your own efforts, or you will trust in the sacrifice of the Lamb of God. Remember...Cain slew his brother Abel. The flesh (man's carnal efforts) will ALWAYS seek to kill the operation of the Spirit (the force of God), whether in your life, or the lives of others. As we LAY DOWN OUR LIVES by trusting in the sacrifice of the Lamb of God, we receive the greatest honor of all. GOD DECLARES US AS RIGHTEOUS. WE ARE JUSTIFIED IN HIS SIGHT! Hebrews 11:4 states...By FAITH Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaks...

Jesus was the SUPREME SACRIFICE, and we are to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice. By putting our faith in the slain Lamb, and by laying down our lives in EXCHANGE for His life, we obtain witness that we are righteous. Let us leave the ways of Cain, choosing rather to join the ways of Abel. In Christ...

WE ARE RIGHTEOUS!



January 31

PROGRESSIVE REVELATION

Is there such a thing as progressive revelation? If so, what is it? Let us first establish that there is such a thing as REVELATION, and then establish what it is, and that it is progressive.

2nd Corinthians 12:1 states...I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord...Galatians 1:12 states...For I neither received it (the gospel) of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation

of Jesus Christ...Ephesians 1:17 states...the Father of glory may give unto you THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND REVELATION in the knowledge of Him...the eyes of your understanding being enlightened...

The word "revelation" means: to uncover or unveil, to make manifest that which was previously hidden, secret, or unknown. To see that God's revelation (unveiling of His purpose and plan to the creation) is progressive, we need only to look at the history of the Bible. God created Adam, who existed in innocence until his fall, which brought him into conscience, which led man into human government, and then to the promise to Abraham, and then to the law of Moses, and then to the grace or church age of Jesus Christ, which will culminate with the ages to come (the Millennium and the Age of the Ages), which will bring about the dispensation of the fullness of times, in which ALL will be gathered together in Christ. IS THIS NOT PROGRESSIVE? OF COURSE IT IS!!! God's great and mighty purpose of the ages is being unveiled step by step to the creation in a progressive way. This means that we must not camp out on past and present knowledge of God, but remain open to His progressive revelation, which will always line up with the Holy Scriptures when they are studied. Many people remain as IMMATURE CHRISTIANS because they refuse to keep an open mind to the progressive revelation of God. THEY THINK THEY KNOW IT ALL. Remember...God gives grace to the humble, BUT HE RESISTS THE PROUD. Humble yourself and ask God to open up to you the mysteries of His Kingdom. Ask Him to reveal to you the purpose of the ages. He wants you to understand and to be a part of His...

PROGRESSIVE REVELATION!



February 1

THE 42ND GENERATION

The 42nd Generation! What in the world is it? Get out your Bible and turn to Matthew 1:1-16. Notice that there are 42 generations listed, but that the 41st generation is Jesus, the son of Joseph. So who is the 42nd Generation? The key is to be found in vs. 17, which states...all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto CHRIST are fourteen generations...So the answer to our question is CHRIST. CHRIST is the 42nd Generation. Is there a difference between Jesus and Christ? That is a very good question! Who or what is (the) Christ?

1st Corinthians 12:12 states...for as the body is one, and has many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: SO ALSO IS CHRIST...Do you see it? Do you grasp what was just said? Christ is to be seen as a many membered body with Jesus as its head. The Christ is made up of more than just one man. IT IS A CORPORATE MAN! IT IS A MANY MEMBERED MAN. It could be said that Jesus is THE CHRIST (Anointed), and that we are HIS CHRIST (Anointed).