

-TRUTH FOR TODAY-

This ministry has a threefold purpose. Most of the churches of today have just one message, that of salvation. They seem to think that salvation is the end or goal that man should seek. But salvation is just the beginning. We do not go out and seek a job just for the position it will give us. We seek the job for the employment and wages it will furnish. It is reward we seek.

Salvation, meaning the obtaining of eternal life, is the first step. This is obtained by the acceptance by faith of the finished work, the one sacrifice of our Lord for sin. This, of course, means the acceptance of the person of the Lord as well. This action is not possible until one realizes that without Christ he is a ruined sinner worthy only of death and that there is nothing he can do to better his condition. I believe that even the heathen, if he realizes his sinful condition and throws himself upon the mercy of a God that he does not know, can obtain life. Read carefully Romans 1 and 2 in this connection.

The next step after salvation is a calling or outcalling. Today this calling is to become members of the church which is the body of Christ. The hope of the calling is to be manifested with Him in glory. The calling and its hope are inseparable. This calling and hope are accepted by faith. That presupposes knowledge. The knowledge comes by the Word of God. Not many have this knowledge. They are too busy with the things of the world. They cannot receive by faith something of which they know nothing.

The third step follows the second. It is the striving for a crown or the running for a prize. It is working in the calling for a reward. Not only is this reward called a crown and a prize, but it also is the privilege of reigning with the Lord after enduring suffering with Him. It is going on unto perfection.

-THE VILES OF THE DEVIL-

Satan especially attacks the integrity of God. He would have us become suspicious of God's motives. He would have us doubt God's goodness, mercy, and love. In doing so he may play upon those very terms.

There are some who insist that God is responsible for all sin in the world, that sin is necessary to work out His purpose with men. In fact, they tell us that Satan is really doing the will of God and that God will save Satan in the end as a reward for doing so much good.

In view of all this, they say that if God did not save all His creatures, He has then miserably failed. All of God's love, mercy, and grace are thus thrown on the junk pile, and God becomes merely an automaton Who does what He does because He cannot help Himself. In such case the life and death of the Lord were all in vain for God would have to save men anyway. We could do as we please. Nothing could be wrong.

Can you see where such a philosophy is likely to lead? If all people really believed such stuff, what would be the condition of society morally? We would have a chaos here on earth in short order.

Now when I plant a garden, I plant the seeds of things I want to grow and use. If other plants do spring up, such as weeds, I will have to destroy them to save the good plants. Do I have to save the weeds too in order to be considered a good gardner?

Out of His love, mercy, and goodness, God must destroy the bad in order to save the good.

There is a second death from which there is no return. The very last verse of the book of Isaiah tells of the lake of fire. It contains carcasses (dead bodies) of the wicked who are burned up and destroyed. They will not even be remembered when the new heavens and the new earth are ushered in. The same will be true of Satan. He will be as if he had not been. Beware of vain and deceitful philosophies of men.

-SELF-

The greatest hindrance for man receiving any kind of blessing from God is SELF. It was the love of self that brot forth the words, "I WILL," from Lucifer and caused his downfall and the entrance of sin into the universe. It was the thinking of self that caused the woman to be deceived by the great SHINING ONE in the garden. It was selfishness that caused the first murder. Even yet today it is still the first cause of crime and murder.

Coveteousness is idolatry. Yet coveteousness is nothing more than plain selfishness. This is the basis of all idolatries.

This SELF is the easiest door for Satan to get in. He would even deceive the Christians by this way. He would have us occupied with self and some experienc whereof we can boast instead of being occupied with the good works whereunto we have been created.

A woman once confessed that she asked for prayer for her unsaved husband, not because she loved him so that she wanted him to be saved, but rather so it would be easier for her to go to church and take part in such things with him agreeing. Self can so enter in, that our very repentance must be repented of. Self can make us take pride in humility.

It is self that deters a man from receiving the free life which God would give. He is too proud to receive a gift, but would prefer to work for it. It is pride that keeps the Christian from witnessing to the unsaved. He does not care to be seen in the company of Publicans and sinners.

It is pride that keeps many at an altar (so-called) tarrying, instead of walking worthy of their calling. We are to walk today, and not to tarry. Seeking experience hinders service.

Satan has many snares and devices. He uses them with most success on those who seem to be the most sincere and well-meaning. The reason; ignorance of the Word.

-FAITH-

In Gen. 22 we have one of the greatest stories of faith that has ever been told. Abraham had a son whom he loved very much. This son, Isaac, was miraculously born. His parents were much too old to have children naturally. It was in this son Isaac that the promise was made that all the nations of the earth should be blest.

Yet one day God appeared to Abraham and told him to offer Isaac as a sacrifice to Him. Isaac was about 33 years old at this time and was not married nor had any children.

What was Abraham to think? How could the promises of God be carried out? Would God ask him to sacrifice his beloved son? How would the program of God then be carried out?

But Abraham did not tarry. He very carefully and methodically beagn to carry out the instructions God gave him. It was not his to ask the why's and wherefore's, but as Job, he had complete trust and confidence in the Lord. Job had said, "Tho He slay me, yet will I trust Him." In Hebrews we are reminded that Abraham so believed the promises of God concerning Isaac, that he was confident that God would raise him from the dead.

After making a three day journey, Abraham went on alone with Isaac, leaving the servants behind. But he told them that he and Isaac would return. His faith was working. Then Isaac asked about the sacrifice, and upon receiving the truth, he was obedient, even unto death. How like Christ he was in this trial.

After all preparation was made, Abraham was ready to kill his son. In his heart, Isaac was as good as dead. But God stayed his hand. The test had been completed. God could now say to Abraham, "Now I know that thou fearest God, seeing that thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from Me."

If we would go on unto perfection, we must believe and trust God. We have an example of how far that trust and belief must go.

## -WHY?-

Why is it that Paul never had HELL as a subject of any of his preaching? He never used the word once in all his ministry as far as our record shows in Acts and the 14 epistles which he wrote. Paul very emphatically stated that he had declared the whole counsel of God, (Acts 20:26,27). If preaching HELL is as important as some think, why did Paul neglect it? Was it in the counsel of God?

Why did Paul never use the terms HELL FIRE, TORMENT, EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT, or GNASHING OF TEETH? In 1 Cor. 15:55 Paul, in the Greek, used the term HADES which is usually translated HELL, but in this place is translated GRAVE. Do you think Paul disobeyed God by not teaching these things? If not, would these be TRUTH FOR TODAY?

The heathen believe that man has a soul. Does the Bible say so? The Word does say that man is a soul (Gen. 2:7). Which is right, the heathen belief or the Bible?

The Bible says, "The soul that sinneth it shall die" (Ezek. 18:4). Why do so many Bible teachers, evangelists, and preachers keep talking about an IMMORTAL SOUL?

Why is death spoken of so much as a FRIEND when it is really our enemy? See 1 Cor. 15:26.

Why do men try to define DEATH as merely a separation from God while the Word plainly says that it is a return to the dust? See Gen. 3:19.

Why do not our church leaders today have the power of life and death as did Peter in the case of Ananias and Sapphira? Acts 5.

Why are Christians today not able to speak in languages like the apostles did at Pentecost? Acts 2.

Why is it that nobody today has the gift of healing?

Why can no one today take up serpents or drink poison with immunity?

The answers to all these questions are in the Word of God. If you cannot find them, come to our Bible class. Learn to apply 2 Tim. 2:15. We can help you.

## -THE SPIRIT OF ANTICHRIST-

In a booklet sent to me thru the mail, I find these words, "Jehovah God raised Jesus from the dead a spirit person..... After his resurrection he was invisible as a spirit, but he proved he was alive from the dead by materializing human bodies to reveal himself to his disciples and to build up their faith and hope."

You will notice that the writer uses the Lord's earthly human name, which is a denial of His deity. Of course this is prevalent in most churches today, especially in the music. The writer did not respect the Lord enough to capitalize the pronouns referring to Him.

In the A V the term JEHOVAH is used by itself 4 times and in combination with other words 3 times. All these are in the Old Testament. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the JEHOVAH of the Old Testament. The use of the name JEHOVAH today constitutes a denial of the deity of Christ and the fact that He was the Word made flesh. This is the Spirit of Antichrist. 1 Jno. 4:3.

But a greater blasphemy is the claim that He is now a Spirit being, that His body has been dissolved into gases, and that He assumed other forms in His appearances after His resurrection.

We are saved from the last error by the divine revelation of the answer to the problem of "another form" in Mark 16:12. Luke says, "Their eyes were holden so that they might not know (recognize) Him." Luke 24:16.

It is the plain teaching of the Scriptures that He was raised from the dead in a body that did not remain in hell long enough to see corruption and that He will come in like manner as He left.

"For many deceivers are gone forth into the world, even they that confess not that Jesus Christ COMETH IN THE FLESH. This is the deceiver and the anti-christ." 2 Jno. 7 ASV.

The best defense against such lies of Satan is a knowledge of the Word. The ignorant become a prey.

## -ELROY ROBINSON-

We were fortunate to have Mr. Robinson with us at Bremen Sept. 5th and at my house Sept. 6th. He has been studying with Mr. Otis Q. Sellers for some time and is now going to teach the class at Gila, Ill.

At Bremen Mr. Robinson stressed the practical side of the Word of truth. He chose Col. 3 as his basis of study and took the last verse first. There we are reminded that the saved may suffer loss. This is not being lost.

As we looked at the first part of the chapter we were asked to consider some questions. Some are;

Have I died (to the things of the world and to sin)?

Is my life hid with Christ in God?

Have I been raised with Christ?

Do I seek those things above where Christ sitteth?

Have I set my affections on the things above?

Mr. Robinson pointed out the fact that too many of us have been concerned with doctrine, sitting back and taking in all the good things, and have neglected the practice. Everyone must have a part in the ministry and teachers and pastors are to edify the members so they may build up the ministry.

At my home the text was, "For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." (Isa. 11:9).

What waters will cover what sea, was the question asked. As we study the chapter we find that the waters flow out from the sanctuary and some flow west to the Mediterranean Sea and some flow East and down to cover the Dead Sea.

This is symbolical also of the fulfillment of the promise made to Abraham that in his seed all the nations of the earth should be blest.

We further noted some of the great changes in nature that would take place during the kingdom as related in this same chapter. The animal kingdom as well as the plant kingdom will be affected.

## -EXPERIENCE-

Do people today have the same experience as they did at Pentecost? I have had this question put at me several times. I have been around quite a few who claim that they have this experience, but I have not seen the evidence yet.

I know that they do not have the experience because there is no need for it today. Such an experience does not fit in with God's program for the present dispensation. God does not do the useless things. There is reason back of everything He does.

The experience at Pentecost was the receiving of power for the GREAT COMMISSION which had been given to the 12 and their co-workers. The time was short. The KINGDOM was at hand. Nations, not individuals, were to be taught. All this was to be DONE in the lifetime of the apostles. The Lord was to return soon. He was to seat the 12 upon 12 thrones to rule over the 12 tribes of Israel during their lifetime.

For 19 centuries no one has had the gift of tongues. There have been a few cases where a person has been given the ability to speak in a language. But once is probably all that he ever did it. He was enabled for a special occasion by the sovereign grace of God. I have known of such instances.

No one today has the gift of healing. But God, in sovereign grace, does answer prayer and heal. It comes as a result of prayer and faith, not a gift.

Some claim to speak in unknown tongues. It is true that the jargon they put out is UNKNOWN, both to themselves or to anybody else. This is a false doctrine based upon a mis-translation. The word UNKNOWN is not found in the Greek anywhere in connection with tongues. In most Bibles UNKNOWN is printed in italics which indicates that it was added by the translators. If you take your Greek concordance and look for UNKNOWN, you will not find it listed in any of the passages which speak of tongues.

-FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK-

Finally we got some manila folders, some Rol-labels, and a cardboard box, and now we have a sort of file for your correspondence. We had hoped to get a regular filing cabinet, but that must wait a little longer, like lots of other things. Now when I answer your cards and letters, I can instantly look in the file and find all our correspondence in order. I make carbon copies of all letters and even postal cards I send you. If you are interested in making carbons of postal cards, let me know and I will explain the secret. Ruth has helped a great deal in this project.

We call the little Brown Swiss heifer TIPPY as a nickname (she walked on the tips of her toes when she first came), but we have not given her a regular name yet. She is growing nicely and likes to be petted.

I spent \$2 to have a new bar made for the Mimeograph so I could use regular stencils instead of the hard-to-get ones to fit the Neostyle 8-F. Am using new stencils on this copy, but still have some of the cheap ink left. Am using the last of my paper, and 3 kinds at that. Hope to have better paper from now on and also better ink when this is gone. I want to make the paper as readable as possible.

I tell these little experiences since there are others of you who are in similar work and have like problems.

At this writing I have made 50 broadcasts over WRSW. The subject has been the epistle to the Ephesians. I may be able to complete the study in two more broadcasts. If you live within 90 miles of Warsaw, tune in on the FM band every Tuesday night at 7:15 CST. You will find it at 107.3 on the FM dial.

Mrs. Baker's mother, Mrs. Anna B. Kuhn, is in the hospital very low at the present time. It is not likely that she will last until this paper is in the mails. She

has made her home with us for some time. She is past 83 and has been quite feeble.

I have a letter from Garrett Hazekamp of Grand Rapids, Mich. He is planning a conference to be held in his city Oct. 5-8 for those of like faith and hope. This will be a fine opportunity for fellowship and a discussion of problems common to all. This will in no way be an organization, but merely a fellowship. If you have any questions or plan to go, write to Mr. Hazekamp immediately. His address is 863 Dunham St., S. E., Grand Rapids 6, Mich.

If this paper is stamped SAMPLE in red ink on the front page, it may be the only one you will get unless you write a letter or a card asking for it to be sent regularly. There is no charge for it. Am glad to send it to you free. I am getting replies from it from all over the world. The latest was from Fiji. Whether you like the paper or not, why don't you sit down and write me a line about it. It helps me to know what to put in it and what does the most good. I got several comments about the recent article concerning Noah's faith. I am glad that it was helpful to some of you.

Lately some of the Bremen folks have been coming to my Tuesday nite class. I have been glad for this and hope that more may be able to come.

We had two families from Ft. Wayne at Bremen when Mr. Robinson spoke to the class there. If you live in or near Bremen, be sure to get in the class which Mr. A. O. Bowser teaches on Monday nights. It is at his home now, 404 West North St., at 7 CST.

We still have the class at my home each Tue. night at 8 CST. The place is 6 miles west of Warsaw on the Harrison Center Rd. From Warsaw go out on Rd. 25 to 2nd cross road, turn west and go 4 miles. It is on the south side of the road back a lane about 1/4 mile.

Address mail to Route 2, Warsaw, Ind. Telephone Atwood 394.

**-REBELLION-**

Rebellion against God shows up in many ways. But its prime manifestation is self-assertion. In the case of Lucifer it was the spirit of "I WILL." In man it is shown by inventions. When a man rebels against God, he wants to get away from all sense of dependence upon God. Hence inventions. "God hath made man upright, but they have sought out many inventions" (Eccl. 7:29).

Not only has man made all kinds of devices to ease his labor and try to escape the earning of his bread by the sweat of his face, but he also rationalizes. This is inventing excuses for his not doing the will of God.

This rebellion against God is often directed toward fellow beings. Man will take it out on his wife and the woman against the husband, which accounts for a great deal of the bickering and quarreling that goes on. Children will rebel against parents and even seem to hate them. In some it is just a hatred of society in general. But in reality it is rebellion against God, tho they may not realize it.

When any person knows what is the right thing to do, but does not do it and will not do it, he becomes one of those who just can't get along with anybody.

Is this your trouble?

**-STRAY THOTS-**

IT IS INTERESTING TO SPECULATE that if it were possible to mate a young couple IN WHOM THE OLD NATURE HAD BEEN ERADICATED, we could begin a new race as perfect as Adam before the fall. They would never need to suffer in any way or die. Alas! This must go the way of all other futile dreams!

The answer to the problem of growing up to the measure of the stature of Christ is not found in the theories of eradication or suppression. It is only in the renewing of the mind or the inner man. The one and only way to do this is by the Word of God ADMINISTERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT as our teacher.

Much prayer is just wishful thinking. It has no connection with thanksgiving and faith. The one who prays such a prayer does not even expect an answer from God. He just has the idea that IF he WISHES hard enough and PRAYS hard enough his selfish desires will become a reality. Men who pray in such a way can not believe that the prayer of the Lord for HIS ENEMIES was answered. But that prayer which He prayed on the cross was answered. If it had not been, we would never have had the ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.

When the Lord prayed for His Father to keep His disciples, did He pray for Judas? Did the Lord ever pray for the unattainable?

TRUTH FOR TODAY  
c/o Oscar E. Eaker  
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U. S. A.

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