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**-THE TRUE WORSHIP-**

One time a woman was talking with the Lord at a well. She had a question to ask which is still a question with many today. She wanted to know what church she should join and attend. She wanted to know which was the true one.

The Lord had a very simple and plain answer. That answer is recorded in John 4:23. It should be sufficient for all today. True worshippers worship the Father in spirit and in truth. He is still seeking for such to worship Him.

The answer was in contrast to the problem of whether to worship on Mt. Gerizim or on Mt. Moriah. There was a temple on each. So it was a question of a place to worship. The Lord disposed of both and spoke of a worship in spirit and in truth.

God does not dwell in a place made with hands. To call a building made with hands a house of God is very foolish. God is not honored by such pretensions. Those who MAKE A UNITY and seek to have a place of worship end up in strife and division.

In every hamlet and town we see the buildings which are supposed to be the houses of God. They are but a relic of paganism and Judaism mixed. They have 3 things which are opposed to true worship. They are;

1. A temple, church or place.
2. A priesthood or mediators.
3. A ritual or ceremony.

These 3 things have nothing in common with true worship. On the contrary they minister to the flesh. The worshipper can be lulled into a feeling of false security by the nice buildings, the stained glass windows, the chanting of the priests or ministers, the beautiful music, and all the pomp and show of ritual and ceremony.

Satan has fooled great multitudes by these things and they have been led to think that by doing these things they are saved. Now think on this; If these three things were removed, how many would gather to worship together in spirit and in truth? What do you think?

**-WHOSE COMMISSION-**

Here at hand is a little card which speaks of EVERY SAVED PERSON and then goes on to state, "After we are resurrected we will have one thousand years of teaching and preaching to the masses."

Like so many, the author of this card has failed to see that there are various families of God and that they do not all have the same duties and hopes. The family which has only everlasting life has no such commission for they will not be resurrected till the Millennium is all over and the new earth comes into view. Neither is anything said about the 1,000 years in the Scriptures which are to those who are of the dispensation of the Mystery. Their calling is a heavenly one, and so they will not have a part in the affairs of the earth after resurrection. Then just who will have the commission of preaching to the "masses" during the thousand years?

In the prophecy concerning the New Covenant in Jer. 31 is made plain that the house of Israel and the house of Judah will be enlightened so that they can give out the message. Joel also speaks of the same thing which is quoted by Peter at Pentecost.

Many have misread this passage in Acts 2 and so have stolen Jewish property and converted it to their own use. God did say, "I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh." Peter had just addressed his audience as, "Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem." Then Peter limits the pouring out of the Spirit upon all flesh by saying, "and your sons and your daughters... your young men... and your old men..."

This is the common mistake of those who think that the church began at Pentecost. They do not realize that ALL can be limited by the context or by some related truth.

God chose Israel to be a priestly nation that would be a channel of blessing to the nations of the earth. When they do that, then they will be blessed.

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**-SATAN'S SNARE-**

Satan knows that he cannot touch the life of the believer. He knows that he can never cause the believer to lose the calling and the hope. But he can cause the believer to become a castaway as far as the witness and reward are concerned. He has three very subtle ways in which he may accomplish this.

1. The most common is to make the believer get the idea that he has completely eradicated the old nature and can do no wrong. Hence everything he does is right. We make no attempt to estimate the many thousands of lives that have been wrecked by this false foolosophy.

2. Another almost as common is the teaching that there is no sin; that all that exists is good. The result is the same as in the first. Whatever a person does can be no sin, for after all, they argue, sin is just a delusion of the mind.

3. The first two methods are in vogue mainly among those who apparently live for self and the pleasures of life. But a much more dangerous doctrine is creeping in among those who profess to rightly divide the Word of truth. It is the argument that the believer is perfect in Christ and therefore he needs not be too much concerned with his conduct. It is true that a member of the Body is perfect in his **STANDING** before the Father, but there is a walk that must be accounted for. There are good works that were before ordained that he should walk in them. We are to work out our salvation in fear and trembling. We are to note those who by their walk have become even enemies of the cross. They are the ones who have become careless about their conduct. Then in Col. 3:25 we are further warned that he that does wrong shall receive for the wrong and there is no respect of persons.

Even today we see lives and ministries wrecked by this neglect of the practical teachings for the members of the Body. The last 3 chapters of Eph. are the practice that should accompany the doctrine of the first 3 chapters.

**-SERVICE AND WORKS-**

Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity. Matt. 7:21-23.

Here we have a picture of the Lord judging His people Israel when He comes to set up His kingdom. This is not a resurrection scene, but when He judges His people and the nations on the earth. we can see that they are not approved because of good works that they may set up for themselves, but as to their obedience to the will of the Father.

We may have a parallel situation today. Many are busily engaged in good works. Some spend their whole lives in church work. But they have never taken the time to read and study the Word to see whether they are in the will of God. They may even put up big hospitals and give to the poor and do many great things in His name. Yet He may not know them. It may all be outside the will of the Father. It is not what we choose to do; but what He has chosen for us to do that will really count.

Each member of the Body is a new creation, created in Christ Jesus unto good works which God **HATH BEFORE ORDAINED** that we should walk in them. Eph. 2:10. It is our business to find out what these good works are and then walk according to them. They may not be in accord at all with our notion of good works and what we ought to do.

The walk that follows the doctrine of Eph. 2 is found for the most part in Eph. 4 and 5. There it is not service that is so much stressed as it is our daily living with our fellow men. The routine of the day in the family and in the street is the basis of judgment as to whether the walk is worthy. These are the testing ground. Let us seek first of all to do the will of the Father and be approved unto Him.

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-STUDIES IN JOHN- #25.

1. Who became sick? 11:1
2. Where did he live?
3. Who were his nearest relatives?
4. What did Mary once do?
5. Where was the Lord? 10:40
6. What message was sent?
7. How did the sisters speak of their brother?
8. What did the Lord say? 4
9. Was the Lord mistaken here and have to revise His statement in v. 14?
10. If the Lord loved these folks, why did He stay away?
11. How long did He delay His trip?
12. If Lazarus should be typical of Israel, then how does the "two days" fit in?
13. About how long has He already delayed His return to Israel?
14. If a thousand years is reckoned as a day, then about when should He come again?
15. Does the Lord return alone?
16. Why do the disciples try to get Him to stay where He is?
17. Does the Lord feel able to look out for Himself?
18. What does He say of those who walk in the nite? 10
19. What does He say of the condition of Lazarus in verse 11?
20. What did the disciples think He meant?
21. Is sleep commonly used as a figure of death in the Word?
22. Why was the Lord glad He was not there?
23. What did Thomas think would be the result of the trip?
24. How long had Lazarus been dead by the time the Lord arrived?
25. Which way from Jerusalem was Bethany? How far?
26. Did Martha and Mary have friends?
27. Which went out to meet Him?
28. What did she say?
29. What did she understand His reply to mean?
30. Do verses 25, 26 refer to earthly or to spiritual things?

Dear Young Folks; The less that any person knows about the Bible, the more critical he is likely to be of it. I once heard of a man who was an unbeliever. He thot it was absurd that 4 priests could carry the ark across the Jordan when it was big enough to hold 2 of each kind of animal as well as the family of Noah.

That's just a sample of what wild notions folks may get about something they do not know. You have to have a knowledge of the Bible as a whole and understand something of the purposes of God if you are to understand His ways. At one time I could not understand why God told Israel to kill all the Canaanites. At one time I could not understand why that God would bring a flood and wipe out the human race with the exception of 8.

Noah and his family were the only ones left that were perfect in all their generations. They had a good pedigree. All the rest of the human race had been contaminated and defiled by the fallen angels which were called "sons of God." Read Gen. 6:1-13. If this were allowed to continue, the whole race would have been defiled and the promised Seed of woman would not have come to redeem the world. Also notice the words "after that." This must refer to after the flood and would mean the Canaanites. It would seem so since there were also giants among them and men of renown, such as Goliath and king Og and others.

In contrast, you will note that they never were to treat other enemies in such a way as they were to treat the Canaanites.

Another thing I would have you note is this. When Saul disobeyed the Lord, it was in the matter of not slaying king Agag as he was commanded. This act of disobedience almost resulted in the massacre of the Jews in captivity at Babylon. If you will read Esther, you will find that the wicked Haman was an Agagite!

Is not that a good lesson on careful obedience to God? We never know how far-reaching our actions may be.

Sincerely in HIM, Oscar M. Baker.

**-THE EDITOR'S DESK-**

TFT is a ministry of the Word of God by printed page, radio, and class.

EACH MONTH we endeavor to put forth this little paper to encourage you to search and see what is truth in the Scriptures. There is no charge for it. It is sent free to those who ask for it or to those whose friends have sent in their names. Help us to raise the list to about 3,000. At present we print about 1,600 each month.

EACH TUESDAY NITE at 7 we have a 15 minute broadcast from station WRSW at Warsaw. Would like hear from any who hear it, especially from distant points. Visitors are welcome in the studios during the broadcast.

EACH TUESDAY NITE at 7:45, just following the broadcast, we have a Bible class at the WRSV studios. This is in the basement of the Times-Union Bldg. We make no appeals for money at any time. Would like you contribute questions for discussion.

THANK for all the cards and other remembrances of the season. We appreciate them, even if we did not take the time and money to reciprocate.

\*This is the last paper those who live in foreign countries will receive if they have not written to me at some time. This is no appeal for a gift. In fact the foreign currency is so low in value that it might be better for you to give to

some worthy project nearer home.

CALLERS during the last month were: W.B. Bailey of Griffith, Deenton Abbey of Mentone, Floyd Wilson of Chatsworth, Ill., and Virginia Hardesty of Hobart.

YOUR EDITOR was speaker in the absence of the pastor of the Mentone Methodist church Dec. 28th.

CATALOGS of the works of Chas. H. Welch may be had for the asking.

TAPE RECORDINGS will soon be going out to those who have asked for them. Glad to hear that the folks in Palmerston North, N. Z. have access to a recorder.

HEALTH is better again. Had a little setback about holiday time. Must have been intestinal flu. Had us scared for a little while. Mrs. B. has been kept in with old fashioned bronchitis. Better.

TWINKIE has a little daughter which we call Bossy. She is a Guernsey.

COMPANION BIBLES are about all gone. A few in leather at \$24 each.

BOOK LIST is same as last month.

BACK NUMBERS of TFT are still on hand to #38. Extra copies of current issues may be had for distribution.

BACK ORDERS are piling up for some Berean Publications which I have not received stocks of as yet. You will get these as soon as they arrive. Be sure to let me know if anything is not right about your order or if you do not get it.

THANK for the many, many letters.

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