

THE LEVITE

www.HPCfamily.net

HOLY
BIBLE



Christ Centered Music

Ushering us into worship



Normalizing Sin

...being politically correct has morphed...



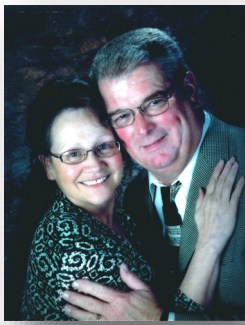
Mortification

Death to the old man

The Truth

*"But speaking the
truth in love"*

(Ephesians 4:15)



NORMALIZING SIN

Brother Ron Coldiron

*Sunday School Teacher - Pentecostal Tabernacle - Richmond, IN
(Pastor Ronnie Baker)*

Don't argue with me! I didn't write it!

In reference to society today we are expected to be "politically correct". This is a term of modern day "humanistic" thinking of not being offensive. In the recent past, being "politically correct" was retained in social conversation. Today, being "politically correct" has morphed not only in speech but also inclusive in judgmental action. Society expects us not to offend in our conversation but also expects their action to be the "normal status quo". As Christians, we cannot be lulled into "normalizing sin".

By human nature, constant exposure creates desensitizing, a mental acceptance, or a so-what attitude. Proverbs 14:34 states, "Righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people." This should be enough warning to any rational thinking person, yet we know rational thinking doesn't qualify as "politically correct".

Paul, in Romans Chapter 1: 20, wrote, "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and god head: so that they are without excuse." We know that the world in general is offended by the Bible. Rebuke and correction is not readily accepted by those at fault. Still, the reproach of sin affects all of us in today's world. Are we not obligated to make aware the reason for today's ills?

Absolute truth needs no defense in that truth will stand alone. We must understand and bare at heart that Biblical Truth is not an opinion. We must not accept the argument that believers are old fashioned, judgmental, or legalistic. It's just truth, absolute. Let us not be lulled into the perception that sin is "the norm".

Perverved lifestyles and actions are prevalent and oft

times close to home. The Rev. W.H. Wyatt, in a pastoral message several years ago, warned people to be aware that oft times we neglect to see warning signs, especially of those family members or those who we are close to. We are accepting of the actions and issues of friends and loved ones. Deception most often shows itself to be friendly, colorful, enjoyable, entertaining, and by today's judgment, intellectual. The exposed side is found to be harsh, dark, troubling, dissatisfying, heathen and demonic.

We might not be directly involved in the perverted "lifestyles" of today's society, but the caution is as Paul stated in Romans 1:32, "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, BUT HAVE PLEASURE IN THEM THAT DO THEM."

Hey! Don't argue with me! I didn't write it; I just told you what it said.

Normalizing sin...really?



DEBT

Brother Jerry Barros
Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

The dictionary definition of "debt" has basically all the definitions listing another word that is common to them all - the word *owed*, *owing*, *owes*, and not too far behind is another word - *money*! Other words mentioned in the definition are the court system, penalties for debts, prison terms, fugitives, bankruptcy, bond, collection, and more.

continued on page 11 ➤ ➤ ➤



THE CASE FOR CHRIST CENTERED MUSIC

Brother David Webb
Senior Pastor - Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

**Music has a special way of preparing
us for and ushering us into worship.**

Imagine, if you will, a church where the ladies wear clothing that is less than modest and the men attend because of the contacts they will gain and because they want their children to be around the "right" crowd. What if that church installed a stage instead of a platform, a lectern instead of a pulpit, and theater seating instead of pews? Maybe they installed some smoke machines and a flag team, as well? Brother and Sister, one of the gateways to that type of atmosphere is the music we use for worship. It is of the utmost importance that we strive to preserve the old time Pentecostal style songs and worship in our local church. We must remember who Lucifer is and who he was in heaven — the Archangel of Worship.

Music has a special way of preparing us for and ushering us into worship. It was invented in heaven for the worship of God. However, much of the music being produced today is shallow and fleshy because it comes from the wrong experience and perspective. Instead of being created by Christians for the purpose of lifting up God, it is produced primarily to entertain and to sell. Carnal lyricists living loose lifestyles are not capable of writing deep, spiritual, anointed songs. The music they create is *self-centered* instead of Christ centered.

Many of the lyrics of today's music are about "what I'm going through", "how I feel", "what I'm doing". Songs like "I Give Myself Away" are derived from a lewd saying that circulates among teens referring to have no intimate restraint. The name of Christ, the blood, and the other foundational doctrines have been traded for empty emotion, flesh promoting, and feel good fluff. It is a great concern that contemporary, apostolic, and positive message music is being mixed with REAL GOSPEL MUSIC and is confusing young people.

J.S. Bach said, *"All music should have no other end and aim than the glory of God and the soul's refreshment; where this is not remembered there is no real music but only a devilish hub-bub."*

The trends in many churches are not moving toward anointed music but toward emotion provoking music. Because of prayerlessness, the unspiritual have decided that if God is not moving then a manufactured move will do. It will not do! Songs should not sink to "how low I am," but lift up "how great He is"!

continued on page 4 ➤ ➤ ➤

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Normalizing Sin	2
Debt	2
The Case for Christ Centered music	3
Friendship	5
Answers in Holiness	7
Mortification	8
Inerrancy of the Holy Bible	9

Review Board and Advisory:

Pastor David Webb
Sister Genell Webb
Brother David Whelan

Editorial Staff and Advisory:

Brother Steve Dalton - Coordinator
Brother Dustin Ross - Sr. Layout
Brother Dylon Hedgespeth - Asst. layout

Editing and Advisory Staff:

Sister Beverly Whelan - Sr. Editor.
Sister Marsha Ross - Asst. Editor
Sister Sarah Astor - Asst. Editor

Administration and Advisory:

Brother Dale Yates - Contributor coordinator
Sister Teresa Yates - Asst. contributor coordinator
Brother Bolivar Toro - Webpage layout, electronic communication
Brother Austin Hawkins - Subscription coordinator
Brother Josh Astor (Josh Astor Portrait & Design) - Photographer



►►► The Case for Christ Centered Music - continued from page 3



Many become defensive and say it is extreme to preserve our heritage of conservative music, but when the church readily embraces the fringes of so called gospel music, they are also embracing that which is *the fringes of the world*. They are one and the same. The danger in mixing genres of music in worship is that it lends itself to an acceptance of other forms of worldly music such as country and rock. Like a gateway drug, it leads to the acceptance of any type of music no matter the style or content. We must not adopt the sounds of the world.

Bro. Gary Hampton said at Granite City Youth Camp in 1993, *"If the music you are listening to appeals to your flesh before your spirit, IT'S WRONG."* Furthermore, if the music this generation is listening to in their cars and in the privacy of their homes could not be sung on the platforms of our most conservative camp meetings, then why is it influencing the churches in the holiness movement and our homes on a personal level? Adults may be able to decipher the holy from the unholy, but ever so subtly there is an appetite being developed in children's ears by *"listening in"* to

garbage. It will choke out their sensitivity toward God. Children need help making this decision correctly.

Contemporary music is carnal. It is obvious the young people are listening to it for their outward appearance tells the tale of a rebellious spirit that is introduced through so called "Christian" music. This includes Holiness kids! Edward George Bulwer-Lytton said, *"Music, once admitted to the soul, becomes a sort of spirit, and never dies. It wanders perturbedly through the halls and galleries of the memory, and is often heard again, distinct and living, as when it first displaced the wavelets of the air."*

Young men with hair down on their ears, shaved sidewalls, a shock of hair standing on their head and a little two days growth on their face; some of our young ladies wearing a subtle French manicure, a touch of mascara, fetish heels and an immodest skirt always pushing the envelope — they are displaying the sensual spirit of the world. WHERE IS THIS COMING FROM? Sadly, music is shaping their culture, their standards, and their spirituality. Our enemy was created to use music, and he still is.



Important Dates 2016

- Men's Advance - May 6th - 7th
Camp Níkao (Elizabethtown, KY) www.mensadvance.net

A Generation that will NOT bow!

- Bluegrass Pentecostal Youth Camp - July 11th - 15th
Camp Níkao (Elizabethtown, KY) www.BluegrassPentecostal.com



FRIENDSHIP

*Brother Don and Sister Debbie Woolett
Kidz Church Directors - Hodgenville Pentecostal Church*

“A man that hath friends must show Himself friendly and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.”

There is a desire in us all to have a close friend that we can trust. Finding that kind of friendship can be quite a challenge at times. We need to guide our children in their choice of friends because the people they fellowship with will have an effect on their attitude, faith and even their future.

A faithful friend will give you advice and a perspective on life. Friends are there for strength and courage as well as laughter and encouragement. True friendships may be tested during life's tough moments, but will become strengthened when facing and overcoming adversity together. So we must use great caution when seeking/choosing a friend.

We all know that Jesus is the best "Friend" anyone can have. He is dependable, trustworthy, kind, faithful and genuine.

2 Ways to Meet Jesus or (anyone):

1. They come where you are. Ex. **Matthew 4:18-25**

They met Jesus because He came to where they were. Jesus knew right where they were, and He knows right where you are. Some of us knew so little about the Lord we had no idea we needed to meet Him. Therefore, He came to us. We have all met people because they came to the place we were. Friendships can develop from these casual meetings.

Or

2. You go where they are. Ex. **Matthew 9:20-22**

She met Jesus because she made every effort to get to Him when she heard He was coming to her area. Jesus completely healed her and changed her life. Some of us were raised in church or at least attended church enough to have the knowledge that we needed Jesus in our life. Therefore, we came to Him, and He changed our lives forever! We have all met people that later became a friend by meeting them at a place where they were.

Even if we are someplace and told that someone of importance (i.e. Jesus) is there, we may not officially meet them/Him if we don't show an interest or make an effort.

In our church services we need to have an interest and make the effort to worship and be part of what the Lord is doing. There are times it comes very easy; then there are times we have to make more effort to enter into the move of God. If we don't make the effort there will come a time we find we no longer have a desire or interest in the things of the Lord.

Many people tend to expect God to jump to their rescue when they call, but they are not willing to live in a way that proves it is not one-sided (self-centered). Many people have met Jesus, but they didn't/don't know Him.

To keep a friendship we must work at it. True friendship does not just happen. When a person gets saved and Jesus has become his faithful friend, how does he nurture that friendship? Below is a list of things we must do to build a relationship whether it is with the Lord or a friend on the earth, but first let's look at 3 types of friendships.

continued on page 6 ➤ ➤ ➤

Friendship - continued from page 5

1. Acquaintance
definition: a person one knows slightly; someone recognized by sight or someone known, though not intimately; a person you have met, but do not know.
2. Casual
definition: not regular or permanent; temporary; irregular; occasional; without definite or serious intention; apathetic.
3. Close
definition: denoting a family member who is part of the immediate family (close blood kin); someone you can talk to about everything; someone who is always there for you and cares about your well being.

Let us all study the above three types of friendships and determine what type of friendship we have with Jesus. Where does the Lord fit in your friend list? This can be an eye opening thought. If Jesus is not easily a "Close" friend we are in spiritual trouble, but it is not too late to do something about that. Jesus is looking for someone that "shows an interest" and "makes the effort".

Below is a list of 5 things we need to do to nurture a close friendship.

1. Keep conversations (communication) active by listening and responding.
- Pretty self explanatory when dealing with people, but applying this to the Lord would include regular times of "prayer" (conversations), "reading & becoming familiar with God's Word" (listening), and "showing by action" or living what we learn from the Bible (responding).
2. Spend time with your friend. Make friendship a priority.
- Applying this to the Lord we need to "Think upon the things of God", attend a Bible believing "Church", "Pray/Talk" to the Lord regularly.
3. Find ways to do things for your friend.
- Make sure it's from your heart. We all want to avoid a fake friendship. We may be able to hide things from others, but Jesus is all knowing so we can't hide anything from Him. He knows if we are for real! The way we do things for Jesus is first knowing what His Word teaches

then acting upon it. Doing/Living what it teaches. This is how we please Him — by obeying His Word. Also, when we do this we will become a part of helping others find the one and only Perfect Friendship/Relationship with Jesus.

4. Don't take friendships for granted.
- Friendship is a choice, not an obligation. When Jesus is not our priority other things become more important to us. If we ignore a friendship, it will drift away until one day we wonder what happened. It's the same with the Lord. If we ignore Him we drift further and further away from Him. We lose that friendship.
5. Don't call on your friends only when you want something!
- If the only time you call/talk to someone is when you want something, they soon realize that you are not their friend. You just want them for what you can get out of them. If the only time you call out to Jesus is when you're in trouble and want something from Him, you are not a faithful friend. He is not obligated to answer such prayers.

Seeing others in a close friendship can make us long for that kind of friendship as well. When people see someone in a close relationship with Jesus, it can make them long for that, too.

Let us all do our best to nurture healthy friendships with others, but most of all we MUST nurture our friendship and relationship with Jesus. It's a matter of spiritual life and death!

Proverbs 17:17, "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Proverbs 27:17, "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."

John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:14, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."



ANSWERS IN HOLINESS

Reprinted by permission from: pfyc.net/answers-in-holiness

Brother Jeremy Spurlock
Associate Pastor -
Hodgenville Pentecostal Church



Question:

I am an 18 year old preacher's boy and I've been addicted to pornography since I was 8. How can I get free from this? It's hard 'cuz everybody thinks that I'm a good kid... but nobody knows how I really am. I can't get free from it no matter how hard I try.

Acknowledge the Addiction:

Pornography can be just as addicting as heroin. It has been called the cocaine of this generation. Indulging in pornography is like getting a blood transfusion from Hell. It will contaminate and infect you, corrupt the way you think, and ultimately steal your value of life (your own life and the lives of others). The first step is to acknowledge that you have an addiction – which you have already done. The next step is to determine that you are going to do whatever it takes to beat this! It is possible to get to a place of victory where you do not fall to this anymore!

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy." - Jude 24

Isolation is your Enemy:

You can't fight this alone. You have to reach out for help and it has to be someone who is spiritually stronger! Confide in someone who is stronger than you, someone who will help keep you accountable, not someone who is struggling with the same problem. Don't be afraid to open up to someone you have confidence in. God puts people in our lives for this reason. You don't have to face this battle alone.

Find Comfort in Confession:

Listen, you no doubt really are a "good kid" but you must get over the self-loathing that pornography brings upon its victims, and the best way to do that is to confess your problem. Let it out and let it go. There is great Comfort in Confession! *"Confess your faults... that ye may be healed."* James 5:16

"We are only as sick as our secrets"

Burn the Bridges:

Next, you must cut ties with relationships, habits, people, past times, and places that put you in a position to be tempted. If it means going without your cellphone for a while – so be it! Desperate times call for desperate measures!

God breaks the chains of addiction, but in many cases, we must break the habits!

Number the Days:

As you begin to live in victory over your weakness, keep a calendar close and mark every day off. You will build momentum as you see each day pass and you will discover new confidence as the weeks mount up. You need to be able to say, "It's been ____ this long since God delivered me."

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Psalm 90:12

Dealing with Temptation:

When thoughts invade and memories of images come to your mind, you must take action to fight back! Don't give in. Fight! Immediately pray for God to strengthen you and to lead you out of the temptation. Sing spiritual songs and/or quote scriptures. **REBUKE THE DEVIL in the NAME OF JESUS CHRIST!**

Deal with it Daily:

Finally, ask God daily to renew your mind and help you forget what you need to forget!

"Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..." Romans 12:2

"Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto the things which are before..." Philippians 3:13

Make this battle a thing that you deal with DAILY! Jesus told us that if we are going to follow Him then we must do so on a daily basis...

"And He said to them all, If any man will come after me,

*let him deny himself, and take up the cross **daily**, and follow me."* Luke 9:23





MORTIFICATION: THE DEATH OF THE OLD MAN

Brother David Whelan
Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

Romans 8:13 - "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

I recently read a piece about Mortification (my life really isn't that dull) and realized how important that word is to the Christian.

The author, Bill Muhlenberg, points out in a recent article how the word Mortification has fallen out of use. Modern Christians who use the NIV and other texts will not encounter this word as used in the Bible. There are synonyms and euphemisms in place of the word mortification. It's root is the same as the words mortician and mortuary. Mort...refers to death in this context.

I think Bro Jeremy Spurlock was the first man I heard utter the phrase to me in reference to daily living "we have to crucify the flesh daily". He was talking about himself and me.....not Paul the apostle. I realize those words are not his entirely, but I appreciate the impact they had on me. You see, I had been raised to believe that we are sinners, that we could not help ourselves but sin often, and that since we were forgiven (saved), that forgiveness was a blanket justification for anything I might say or do. This almost inevitably leads to a pattern of sin and wrong thinking, and eventually to being backslidden, exactly where it got me.

Now anyone with any sense of justice that is thinking would know that I was just accepting an excuse and taking what someone else said for gospel. I would not have murdered someone and expected blanket forgiveness, but "small" things like impure thought and low grade living were just to be expected and OK, they fell under the blanket of forgiveness, after all, I could not help that. That makes no sense and does not line up with the nature of God or with scripture that says that NO sin will enter into heaven. Later, Bro Andrew Astor introduced me to the old axiom that says; "if you can take one step without sinning", and goes on to instruct,....."just keep taking that step and you will live sin free".

Unfortunately, there are a whole lot of professing and genuine Christians that live under this deception. It is a product of Calvinist thinking and is extremely common. In fact, there is a joint work that you and the Holy Ghost must work on after you are saved....that is sanctification. Your flesh must be mortified...it must die out. Some folks will use the expression..."let the old man die". This is not works salvation. This is the part of your salvation where you demonstrate that you can stay in line with the commandments God has given us. It is your responsibility as a Christian to do your part. God did not force you to be saved, and when he did save you, he did not change you fundamentally so that it would not require some effort on your part to get closer to him and stay out of trouble. He gave you some measure of the Holy Ghost to convict you (kind of like the cricket and Pinocchio) and he cleansed you with the Blood of Jesus, but left your free will intact. Not only that, mortification, and hence sanctification open up a whole new world of Christian experience that most "Christians" have never heard of, let alone experienced. I did not have knowledge of anyone that was filled with the Holy Ghost until I was an adult and someone told me about it. As a matter of fact, being introduced to the idea that one "must crucify the flesh" was a new concept to me that ultimately led me to being filled.

A Christian that I very much respect once told my wife that a relative had died. The person that had passed almost undoubtedly split hell wide open. The person was a reprobate. I know that is not popular to say, but maybe if we said it more, it might mean something. He scoffed at God, and cursed Him. He was a smoker, drinker, curser of God, unrepentant, and a lot of other things. However, this Christian was consoling himself because the man who passed had professed to be saved years ago. I have no idea what happened then, but it makes

continued on page 9 ➤ ➤ ➤

►►► **Morification** - continued from page 8

little difference in terms of the disposition of the man's soul. The Bible is very clear about sin and heaven...they don't go together. I wish I could get this person to see this error. I am looking for opportunities to present this idea of mortification and sanctification.

We often think of witnessing as talking to lost people about our faith. Have you ever considered how many of our friends and neighbors who are saved folk are kept from the deeper things of God by this deception? Your professing friends and family are hungry for a greater touch from God that is prevented by their lack of sanctification. Bro Zane Estis once pointed out to me that in reaching for people to help, often we reach right past the decent fruit and to the fruit that is the worst because we have conditioned ourselves to want to see the person is the most lost helped first. Perhaps he has something there. What if we testify about what the Holy Ghost has done in our life, the healings we have seen, etc...? Folks, even the driest of our Holiness Churches are amazing places to any nominal Christian that will come with an open mind. I promise you most of them have no clue what it means to feel the Holy Ghost, you will be doing them a favor. They, no doubt, hold negative opinions of you and The Holiness Way, but hearing your testimony, seeing your joy and peace, and witnessing there is something more to be had than what they have seen themselves may be the key. Brothers and Sisters, people we encounter are not generally Bible Readers (even if they profess to be Christian), you have to tell them this stuff.

My Grandmother recently passed away and I am glad to say that I was able to convince her before she died that she was not a sinner (in the sense that we cannot help ourselves but sin). She would refer to herself as a "sinner". I was able to help her see that she had lived her life daily in avoidance of sin, that if she sinned, the Holy Ghost would immediately convict her and she would repent, that either before hand or during the act of sin, she would have to actively suppress the feeling of conviction. It was a new idea to her too, she had been saved 87 years when she passed. It is a shame that she served Him so well, but missed so much of what could have been. Maybe you will have opportunity with someone to talk about how the Holy Ghost has sanctified you and how your flesh has been mortified.



INERRANCY OF THE HOLY BIBLE

Pastor Rusty Johnson
*Lighthouse of Hope Holiness Church
Irvington, Alabama*

Satan's subtle and sinister attack on the faith of the human family has nearly always centered on the Word of God. We see the premise

of the serpent's strategy in Genesis 3:1 when he says to Eve, "Yea, hath God Said?" From the Garden unto this present time, questioning the validity of what God said is one of Hell's foremost weapons to wage war against the people of God. All that we know and believe comes from the Word of God and it is the foundation upon which the church is built. Satan knows he has only to undermine that foundation and faith in the kingdom crumbles.

One of the firm footings of the church's foundation is the doctrine of inerrancy. Simply put, inerrancy is the belief that the scriptures are free from any error and are in perfect accord with truth. It's no wonder why Satan has consistently attacked inerrancy, using multiple means to cast shadows on such a radiant light by asking, "Yea, hath God said?" By highlighting supposed errors and mistakes, the enemy has succeeded in demeaning the Holy Bible to the level of "partial truth" or "just another book". Many pick and choose which part of scripture they think is true and disallow other parts as error by using whatever standard they choose, wearing away the foundation.

Inerrancy is a product of divine inspiration. Inerrancy is, therefore, not a fictional fantasy but is a verifiable fact.

continued on page 10 ►►►

►►► **Inerrancy** - continued from page 9

The Apostle Paul tells us in 2 Timothy 3:16, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God", and that means it was "God breathed". It is impossible that God would inspire or "breathe" anything less than a perfect text, absolutely free from error. The evidence of inspiration and inerrancy is plentiful and easily understood. The sixty-six books of the Bible were written down by at least forty different men over a period of fifteen hundred years. These holy men were specially selected and prepared by God to compose His Word in written form. Though these men wrote the scriptures down, God was the author of the Bible. As one musician breathes into several different wind instruments and they all give a separate distinct sound, so God breathed His Word into these forty different men and they wrote in their own style and personality what God had spoken to them. The fluid flow of common truths prevailing in such a vast and lengthy work, spanning so long a period of time and involving so many human penmen, is a tremendous testimony to the divine inspiration and inerrancy of the Holy Bible.

The penmen of the Bible wrote of things they had no ability to know or understand. Moses wrote of what happened in Creation before any human ever existed. Many of them stated facts of nature which could only be known thousands of years later, such as David writing of condensation and evaporation in Psalm 135:7. For years, many believed the earth to be flat but Isaiah correctly wrote in chapter forty verse two that the earth is a sphere, in a circular shape, long before he could scientifically know it. In the oldest book of the Bible, Job reveals in chapter 26:7 that the earth is suspended in space, and in chapter 31:13-14, the earth is rotating. Although in 130 B.C., Hipparchus counted 1022 stars and in A.D. 200, Ptolomony counted 1026 stars, in A.D. 1609, Galileo looked through his telescope and confirmed what Jeremiah had written in chapter 33:22 that the stars are innumerable. Samuel wrote in Judges 5:20 that the stars travel in paths and Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:41 that the stars differ in magnitude. Out of the many scientific claims of the Bible, not one has been proven false. The verifiable facts of science scattered throughout scripture prove divine inspiration and inerrancy.

The historicity of scripture also proves inspiration and inerrancy. The Bible is full of events, dates, leaders, kingdoms, places, nations, battles and natural catastrophes which can be verified as true or false. Archaeology has confirmed the accuracy of the name, time, and place of reign of over forty different kings mentioned on the Bible. In the early twentieth century, John Garstang excavated the walls of Jericho and concluded the biblical account as accurate in every detail. The Dead Sea stands as a memorial to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah along with first century historian Josephus who saw the pillar of salt that once was Lot's wife. The fossils of marine animals found all over the world, along with splintered fragments of bones of multiple species found together in caves of Western Europe, and the massive corrosion of places like the Grand Canyon, all testify of a global flood just like the one in Noah's day. Dr. Nelson Gluck, widely recognized as dean of Palestinian Archaeology, proclaimed, "It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever contradicted a biblical reference. Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or in exact detail historical statements in the Bible." History attests to the inerrancy of the Bible.

Prophecy is one of the strongest evidences of inspiration and inerrancy. The foretelling of unknown futuristic events in great detail can only come from an omniscient God. Whether it is Daniel prophesying of the four world empires to come, Isaiah naming Cyrus before he was born, or the multitude of prophecies concerning the coming of Jesus Christ as Messiah, not one prophecy of God in the scriptures has failed.

I challenge you to conduct your own experiment of inerrancy. Put into practice the principles of the Bible and see if they produce the intended results. Pray and see if God will hear you. Repent and see if God will forgive you. Pay tithes and give sacrificially in offerings and see if God will bless you. Put God first in your life and see if He adds all these things to you. Live holy and separate from the world and see if God will accept you. If the Bible is true and inerrant, let God himself prove it to you. You will not be disappointed.



►►► **Debt** - continued from page 2

A funny thing...one dictionary puts debt in between two other words: *debris* and *debunk* (debunk means to expose false pretensions or to show how something really is).

Proverbs 22:7, "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender".

Sometime ago I rented (which is a form of debt) a small farm house for close to ten years. When I moved out, the house was still not mine!!! My father-in-law, Paul Pearman (one of the smartest, hardly educated men I've ever known), used to tell me, "Renting is like throwing your money away; when you finish renting, you can't even take the first nail with you!" My mother was such a wonderful person; in the asking of others for whatever the need for her five infant sons and baby daughter. She was so grateful, so appreciative, and had such a meekness when talking to others that she was almost always granted her favor; but nevertheless she was still a borrower and in "debt" to the lender. After all, this was a wife, and a mother that in her adult life, while raising six children, her income stopped never to start again.

Are there ways to repay debts with haste so as to not get entrapped or feel like you are in despair or in obligation to some one? There are many types of debt: monetary debt, debt of honor, debt of record, debt service, bonded debt, book debt, judgment debt, public debt and many others. What I am talking about is paying back a "debt" to a person who does something for you! How do you repay this kind of "debt"?

First, consider the "debt" itself. Was it done in kindness out of love? Was it a temporary help for love like Jesus loves us? Was it done to help you grow so some day you will become self-sufficient? Or was it offered for the wrong reasons?

To pay back a "debt" (loan) as fast as possible we should use good judgment and not be delayed due to

wastefulness or forgetfulness. Most importantly, a sincere, humble, honest, and Godly "thank you" will suffice most of the time and they will recognize your Godly and honest attempt "to do right".

How do you pay back a "debt"? It's easy...look at "the One that paid the debt for us." We pay our debt with love, sacrifice, work, enduring will and with a fervent faith and prayer that He will help us pay our "debt" and set us free... just like He paid our "debt" (sin) and offers us His eternal love to join Him in Heaven! So basically, our "debt" is made free or forgiven by His love for us.

One thing I know for sure, debt, if not taken care of, will lead to a burden and ultimately a collapse due to the debt! The answer to the ongoing problematic question of "how do we pay a debt" is in His example. He paid the ultimate price (debt) for us at the cross so we can be sinless, saved, sanctified and full of Him (debt-free)... Remember, when Jesus was hanging on the cross there were two thieves also (sinners; debtors) on either side. One repented (paid his debt on-site) and Jesus saved him, the other did not! The one thief accepted salvation and went to heaven, the other rejected and went to hell. My friend, where do you find yourself on this "debt"?

The value placed on this "debt" ought to not be solely based on an "earthly thought or payment", but rather in a statehood of spirituality of which is the real matter; that which of value is priceless, limitless, never ending and will not fade away; Heaven. To some that would ask, "What experience do you bring to the table?" I would answer, "I've struggled for most of my sixty one years, and I've seen debts consequences and its terror up close; its dismays and its erosion on the individuals, and families.

Spiritual debt is worse than that. I have accepted the salvation of Jesus (his payment for my transgression). Now a final question my brothers and sisters. Won't you accept his plan of salvation today?



Services and Times

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday Night Worship 7:30 pm

25 **And there shall be signs...**

28 **And when these things begin to
come to pass...**

Luke 21:25, 28