What's Your Most Demanding Question?

John 1:1-2

I. You've faced some big ones, have you not?
A. What did you want to be? Why are you what you are--always wanted to be a doctor or did God give you a little shove. Aptitude Tests?
Evelyn always wanted to be a secretary--one of the reasons she's so good?
C. You surely have financial desires--what are they?
D. On what do you build values?

II. These questions are important, but above all --- "who is Jesus Christ?"
A. You will answer--here or later?
B. It affects your style of living. Patch pants--knee or seat.
C. You have to answer it in order to become a Christian, and how did you come about your answer?
D. Bible tells of men's searching questions.

Matt. 21:10 "Who is this?" (Riding donkey)

Mark 4:41 "What manner of man is this?" (as he calmed the sea)

Luke 9:9 "John I beheaded - who is this?"

Luke 5:21 "Who is this who speaks blasphemies - (Pharisees)?

1. Is He only a man--if so you can forget Him.
2. Is He God--demand obedience
3. What confession did you make prior to baptism?

III. Let's study what John wrote in the beginning of his gospel.
A. Things John didn't tell you.
   1. His birth.
   2. His baptism.
   3. Institution of Lord's Supper.
   4. No ascension.
   5. No parables.
B. Did alone tell you about
   1. Water made wine.
   2. Nicodemus interview.
   3. Woman at well.
   4. Raising Lazarus.
   5. Sermon to disciples last week of life. (Boice)
C. But he does tell you who Jesus is.

John 20:30-31 "And many other signs..

D. He wrote, "In the beginning..

John 1:1-2

   1. Who is Jesus?
   2. Question inescapable.

IV. John 1:1-2
   A. In the beginning-pre-existent
      1 John 1:1-3 that which was from the beginning..
   B. Second statement - He was with God.
      1. Separate personality.
      2. God head - diversity
   C. Was God - God was the word.
      1. Everything we say about God we can about Jesus.
      2. John 14:9 "He that hath seen ..
D. Significance of "Word."
1. Is it just a unit of language?
2. The uttered word.
3. Word not spoken or written-like our "reason."
4. The omnipresent wisdom by which all things are steered. (Adams)
5. Principle of great importance.

E. Became flesh.
1. Jesus is God.
2. Jesus is man.

F. Dwelt
1. Literally to dwell in a tent
2. Tabernacled among us.
3. Thus our perfect high priest.
WHAT KIND OF WITNESS ARE YOU?
John 1:15-18

I. What is a witness?
A. Define.
   1. One who testifies.
   2. One who gives evidence before judicial tribunal.
   3. Tells what he's seen & experienced.
   4. Good witness will lay down his life for his testimony.
B. You daily fill the role.

II. So did John.
A. Tell story of John 1:15-18.
   1. 1st recorded words of John.
   V. 15 "This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh"  
      (a) in historic time John before Jesus.
      (b) Jesus tho in higher rank than John.
   V. 30 "For he was before me"
   2. Of his fullness have all we received.
      (a) Dwelt among us = to pitch his tent - spirit in flesh (V. 14).
      (b) Grace to grace means one blessing after another inexhaustible source.
      (c) To him we give our gratitude via obedience.
   3. For the law was given by Moses but grace & truth came by Jesus Christ.
      (a) Jesus Christ used for 1st time in John.
      (b) Grace needs truth to join it.
      (c) Grace springs spontaneously from God with a desire for boundless generosity: truth makes it consistent, predictable, trustworthy.
(d) Law was holy but showed you can't earn salvation.

4. Jesus declares God.  
(a) We can't see him - Exo. 33:20. Jesus was always c Him & reveals Him. He revealed true essence of Father.

(b) Jesus a visible commentary on God. Word "declared" is exegetical, lead out, interpret.

(c) To be in bosom was way of saying perfect intimacy, close communion.

B. Twofold Nature of John's Witness.

1. Negatively; as he's investigated, who art thou?
   (a) Not the Christ (V. 20) - (now or ever)
      (1) Word for confess = to speak the same thing; agree.
   (2) He agreed c the truth.
   (3) Kept self in background.
   (4) Christ = anointed. Behold I send upon you & the prophet before the morning yet the spirit of the Lord.
   (b) Not Elijah (V. 21).
      (1) Tradition based on Mal. 4:5 that Elijah would come 1st.
         (2) At cross that Jesus called Elijah. Matt. 27:46-47.
   (c) Not the Prophet after Moses. Deut. 18:15-18. The Lord thy God will raise up to thee a prophet from the midst of thy people, of your brethren, like unto me, and thou shalt hearken unto him.  

2. Positively - what sayeth thou of thyself?
   (a) Voice in wilderness (V. 23). Isa. 40:3 "I am the voice of one crying. (1) Strong, forceful cry - Repent."
(2) Called in wilderness to a wilderness of wasted souls.
(3) Making road for a greater personage to travel.
(4) God always needs men.
(5) Multitudes came to hear "Repent — Kingdom at hand."
(6) John was faithful to his ministry.
(b) Why do you baptize? (3 qt. asked).
(1) It pointed to the coming Christ.
(2) It prepared the people.
(3) There stood among them one they knew not — Jesus (V. 26).
(c) Shoe latchet I am not worthy to unloose.
(1) Note humility.
(2) Note supremacy of Jesus in his mind.

III. Results.
A. 2 disciples follow Jesus.
   Jn. 1:36-39 "Behold the Lamb of God
   37 "And the 2 disciples heard him speak
   B. Andrew tells Simon.
   Jn. 1:40 "One of the 2 which heard
   41 "He 1st findeth his own bro. Simon
   C. What are yours? Any results?

Check End 7-29-73.
FIVE MEN CAME TO JESUS

John 1:35-4

I. It is early in the ministry of Jesus.

A. John the Baptist has been proclaiming Him.

1. John had been quizzed as to who he was. (John 1:19-34)
   a) Are you Elijah?
   b) Are you the prophet?

2. The day after their visit he said (v-29) he sees Jesus coming to him. "Behold the Lamb of God."

3. First reference in John's gospel to the appearance of Jesus.

Acts 8:32 "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth."

4. He was the sin offering.

Rev. 5:6
Rev. 13:8
Rev. 12:11
1 John 1:7

5. The forerunners baptized for remission of sins - in water.

6. John was the morning star - Jesus the sun of righteousness.

B. Now Jesus must call his own disciples.
II. The calling of five.

John 1:35 "Again on the morrow."

A. John tells his disciples who Jesus was.
1. No time is lost.
2. One was Andrew — the other John.
3. He heard what was said at the baptism.

Acts 1:22

4. Saw him (Jesus) as Lamb.
5. These who first were John's followers now follow Jesus.
6. We must move to the best.
7. They overtook Jesus who turned and waited for them.
"Where abidest those?"
"Come and see."
8. Tenth hour — 4 P.M. Jewish time.
10 A.M. Roman time.
9. Spent the day with Jesus.
10. What we seek for is very important more than likely we'll find it.
11. Andrew became an apostle.

Matt. 10:2

a) Brought Peter.
c) With Philip to tell of Greeks.
d) He diminishes "Simon Peter's brother."
12. Found Peter.
   a) First task.
   b) Teach own family.
   c) Aggressive guy.
   d) Son of John, Jonah (Matt. 16:17)
      Cephas, stone, Peter - lots of names.

B. When Jesus got home to Galilee he called Philip.
   1. He became an apostle.
   2. Not one of the seven who became an evangelist. (Acts 6)
   3. Same city as Andrew and Philip, house of fishing.

C. Nathanael called.
   1. Philip found him.
   2. Lived at Cana.

John 21:2
   3. Here and John 1 only mention of him.
   4. Was he Bartholomew?
      a) John never mentions Bartholomew.
      b) Matt. 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14 mentions Bartholomew and never Nathanael. Was one proper name, other surname?
   5. Can any good thing come from Nazareth?

John 7:52
6. Come and see.
   a) See for yourself.
   b) Remove doubts.
   c) We can investigate Jesus.
7. Israel of no guile.
8. Fig tree story.
9. Son of God, King of Israel.
10. He would see greater things than the fig tree discovery.

11. Jesus calls himself the Son of Man.

III. These thoughts from Elam's notes
1/10/1926.
ANDREW - THE CONDUCTOR
John 1:35-42

I. Some events of childhood I'll long retain - one the train.
   A. Open window & ashes.
   B. Butch & his apples.
   C. Conductor - Board! Ticket puncher, pull string, shiny suit - but he was always taking me somewhere

II. Andrew is the great conductor.
   A. Each time we meet him, he's taking someone to Jesus.
      1. Brother - Peter.
      2. Lad a 5 barley loaves.
      3. Inquiring Greeks.
   B. Dee Wilkinson made statement "we are never alone, always with people." So question comes what are we going to do with our associates?

III. Facts About Andrew.
   A. 1st meet him as John's disciple.
      1. Appreciated spiritual qualities. John taught repentance, baptism, & coming Kingdom - it appealed to Andrew.
      2. Long way from Galilee to where John was preaching - entailed effort.
      3. Listened to John tell of the coming Christ.
      4. Marvel at unselfishness of John the Baptist. Can we take 2nd place?
   B. He was fisherman from Sea of Galilee.
      1. Read acct. of Capernaum by Josephus "The Jewish Wars."
C. He was Jesus 1st disciple time-wise in choice.  
John 1:35-42
1. John pointed out Jesus.
2. Jesus asked, "What seek ye?" His 1st words after 12.
   (a) They that seek find.
3. Jesus invited them to "Come & See."
   (a) They'd ans., "Where do you abide." Was it all they could think of, or did they want more train?
   (b) They'd have opportunity for a full conversation.
4. Invitation accepted - but conversation's content we know not.
   (a) We do know Andrew was convicted Jesus was the Christ.
   (b) 1st to believe Jesus was the Christ.
IV. Andrew the Conductor:
A. He brot Peter to Jesus.
1. News is good - got to share it - with whom 1st?
2. Andrew is 1st believer & 1st personal worker.
   Dan. 12:3 "They that be wise shall shine
3. Would you go to your family 1st, or are you at outs?
4. Are we evangelizing? What about our personal work teams?
5. Read quote from "Last Days of Pompeii."
6. Why don't we do more?
   (a) Not believe?
   (b) Are men who never heard as well off?
(c) Afraid of defeat?
(d) Our life inconsistent c our plea?

John 15:16 "Ye have not chosen me, but I

7. Just as surely as Peter was invited to become a
    fisher of men, Andrew was, & he so became.
    Some go c a seine, like Peter, some c a line
    for individuals, like Andrew - but go!

8. What an announcement to make to Peter - we've
    found the Messiah!

B. He brot the Lad (John 6).
1. It was when the 5000 were fed.
2. Jesus under stress had withdrawn to rest Mk. 6:30-
    31.

    (a) Folk saw boat & followed on land. Boat about
        4 miles - by land 9.
    (b) Sea of Galilee 780' below sea level.

3. While resting saw crowd coming & had compassion
    Multitude virtually out went them. Mk. 6:33

4. Feed 5000.
    (a) Only miracle recorded by all 4 gospels,
    (b) Asked Philip where to buy bread as he from that
        area,
    (c) 200 penny worth wouldn't do it - even if all
        took little.
        (1) 200 days wages!
        (2) $37.00 - not much inflation.

5. Andrew resourceful while others pessimistic.
    (a) Saw lad c lunch.
    (b) He was observant.
(c) Lunch small - barley bread was cheapest food & 2 fish perhaps pickled.
(d) Barley bread - food for beast.
(e) Fish like sardines - dried or pickled.

6. Andrew recognized worth of a boy.
(a) 2 miracles - one Jesus did.
(b) One boy - he hadn't earlier eaten it & he would share what's left.
(c) To talk a kid out of lunch takes some leadership!
(d) Seriously, kids usually willing to give all they have.
(e) Andrew, "I'll see what I can do & trust Jesus to do rest - no one knows what will happen when you bring one to Jesus.

7. Method of feeding.
(a) Men sat on grass. Mark says garden beds (6:40)- multicolored robes on green grass.
(b) Gave thanks.
   (1) Blessed bread like father in family.
   (2) Jesus needs what we can bring him.
   (3) Little is much in his hands.
(c) Distributed.
   (1) Ate as they would - not small amounts.
   (2) Filled = word for animals, here glutted; sated, fed to repletion.
(d) Gathered 12 baskets.
   (1) Broken pieces - not scraps.
   (2) God inexhaustible & still not wasteful.
(e) Look to bigness of Lord's ability, not to bigness of our problems.
C. He brok the Greeks (John 12:20-22).
1. G K were at Jerusalem.
2. This is last Tues. of Jesus life, it seems.
3. Only John tells story.
4. G K liked to travel - also searched for truth.
5. Wise men came from East at birth; now wise men from West at death.
   Isa. 45:22 "Look unto me & be ye saved"
6. Verb form shows these Greeks in a habit of worshipping God.
7. Philip didn't know what to do - told Andrew.
8. Andrew took it to Jesus.
9. 1st faint hint of Gospel to others.
   John 10:16 "And other sheep I have, which are not
10. No man can shut the door to Jesus.
11. Nothing satisfies a soul like Jesus - Dean Sears & Joe Black.

Church End 1-27-74
College Ave. Medina, Ohio 1-29-74

Chapel Hill Church, Lumberton, Texas 10-27-74

2922 Myrtle St. Church, Wilna, Okla. 11-10-74
Pentecost Church 11-19-74
South National Church, Springfield, Mo. 3-19-75
Caledonia Church 7-28-75
It's a "new morality" that says that. It's Erich Segal of Love Story and Margaret Mead of modern anthropology and a few other popular philosophers of American life who say, "Marriage should only be temporary. Fifty years is too long to expect any two people to live together. Two-and-a-half years is about as long as most marriages retain their vitality--five years at the outside!"

"How To Love" – By Arthur A. Rouner, Jr. – Page 13

Mother Theresa says,

I have come . . . to realize that it is being unwanted that is the worst disease that any human being can ever experience. . . . For all kinds of diseases there are medicines and cures, but for being unwanted, except where there are willing hands to serve and . . . a loving heart to love, I don't think this terrible disease can ever be cured.

"How To Love" – By Arthur A. Rouner, Jr. – Page 19
If we are not doing what Andrew did, let us ask ourselves the reason why. There must be a reason why. There must be a reason. Do we no longer believe in Christ? Is a man just as well off who has never heard of Christ? Do we fear the world? Is there anything in our life that condemns us when we would bring another to Christ, to the Church, to the prayer meeting that mocks us with the cry "Physician, heal thyself"? These are searching questions, but they are questions which ought to be asked.

"Of Them He Chose Twelve" – By Clarence E. Macartney - *p.* p. 23-24
I. It is interesting to see the call of the apostles.
   A. It was in Galilee with Jesus.
   B. It was early in his ministry.
   C. Though John did not tell about Jesus' birth, baptism nor temptations, he did tell about the early apostolic call.

II. The Apostolic Call
   A. They hear first John the Baptist's statement about Jesus.
      1. Read John 1:19-23 about his earlier view of Jesus.
         a) John makes no claim for his own divinity--which he did not have.
         b) He told what others said.
      Deut. 18:15-16  
         c) They'd had no king for the last 400 years.
         d) John the Baptist had a mission.
      Matt. 3:3  
      Mark 1:2-3  
      Luke 1:17  
      John 1:27  
      e) John identified Jesus.
      John 1:35-36  
      Heb. 10:1-5
B. Now it's time for Christ to call disciples.
1. They are not now identified as apostles as this came later.

Matt. 10:1-4
2. John was now baptizing men.

Acts 19:5
C. Call of Andrew

John 1:37-42
1. Note only Andrew is named.
2. Was the unnamed one John?
3. Nowhere else do we learn of his call.
4. John does not write about himself.
5. He calls himself "that disciple."

John 21:7
:20
:24
6. They heard Jesus was the lamb but they asked no questions.
7. Jesus did: "What seek ye?"
8. They called him Rabbi feeling he could teach them something.
9. They followed him to his abode about 10:00 o'clock Roman time or 4:00 Jewish.

D. Andrew was convinced Jesus was the Messiah.
1. He went after his brother, Simon.
2. If you believe the truth, share it!
3. With whom better than your family?
4. Called Jesus the Messiah, Christ, Anointed—(even you do when baptized).
5. Jesus in turn called him Cephas or Peter in Greek. It's stone for English.
6. Jesus called him stone or rock later (Matt. 16:18).
7. Jesus helped this weak man become a rock.

E. Now the call of the fourth disciple.
1. This is the next day as he calls another Gallilean.
2. From Bethsaida—same town of Andrew and Peter—N.W. shore of Sea of Galilee—house of fish.
3. It was a wicked city (Matt.11:21).
4. Philip told Nathanael thus he's the fifth one.
5. John tells us something about Philip.

John 6:5
12:21
14:8
6. Is Nathanael the same as Bartholomew? (John never mentions Bartholomew and no other evangelist mentions Nathanael—maybe he had two names).

F. Go back to Nathanael.
1. He had doubts and needed truth to overcome them.
2. He'd accept truth.
3. Can any good come out of Nazareth? — Come and see!
4. Jesus said he was an Israelite with no guile.
5. He asked "How do you know?"
6. The fig tree convinced him.
7. Great confession "Son of God; King of Jews."

Heb. 10:12-13
I Cor. 15:25

III. What confession will you now make?
PHILIP--THE FELLOW LIKE YOU
John 1:43-48
I. "Man, I can relate to that guy": you've felt that about others, haven't you?
A. I'm a Jew with a Gk name.
B. My name means lover of horses & I don't have one.
C. The drama of others going after the Lord was not mine - He came looking for me.
D. At a moment of great possibility I said, "It can't be done" - I'd have made a great comm. chairma
E. At a great discourse, I asked a rather dumb question
F. At a time of break thru I didn't have either nerve or knowledge to push it thru!
G. Yet, lovingly, and w/o a word of criticism from Jesus, he became an apostle of the Lamb!
II. Things I Know about Philip.
A. Jesus came after him.
   John 1:43-48
   1. A simple invitation - "Follow me."
   2. A Simple Obedience - he did.
   3. A rather spirited search for a friend:
      Jn. 1:45 "We have found him of whom Moses"
      Jesus makes most startling statement
      "... for the Son of man is come to save souls..." (v. 10)
      "For the Son of man is not come to destroy..." (v. 50)
      "For God sent not his Son into the world..." (v. 28-30) "Come unto me all ye that labor"
B. He was at the feeding of the 5000.

Jn. 6:1-14

1. Philip was from Bethsaida (1:44) so naturally turn to a man about his own region.
2. He'd have local knowledge.
3. Jesus wanted to test disciple tho He knew what He was going to do.

James 1:2 "My brethren, count it all joy when ye 4. Jesus, like a Mother's love, has enuf substance for everybody.

5. Note some earthly reactions:
(a) "I'm hopeless - what can I do"
(b) I think not my earthly resources.

6. We need to look to the bigness of our Lord's ability; not to the bigness of our problem.
C. John (for only John tells of words he spoke) tells us about Grecian widows.
   John 12:20-22
1. His name is G.K. maybe he'll be sympathetic.
2. Hearts cry out today to know of Jesus - our mission to carry Him.
3. Like these Grecians they see something in Jesus better than what they have.
   (a) Grown weary of pleasure, world & canned religion.
   (b) Money loses its appeal.
4. When world wants to see Jesus it looks into your life - what if they can't see Him.
5. What do you see in Jesus?
   (a) Sin bearer?
   (b) Rewarder?
   (c) All in all?
6. While Jews were plotting his death, Gentiles were looking for Him.
7. Let's let folk see Christ.
   (a) In the Bible.
      Jn. 5:36 "But I have greater witness than that of John also.
   (b) Church.
      Jn. 17:20-21 "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also to whom I shall send thee.
   (c) Individuals.
      Col. 4:6 "Let your speech be always with grace, as though ye had God to judge to whom ye speak.
      Matt. 7:12 "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.
   (d) Homes.
      Eph. 5:25 "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.
D. Finally, John tells of Philip's q.t. at last supper.
   John 14:1-12
1. Picture a group of dreary men, and certain their teacher would die. Would they keep on--they left alone--would they survive?
2. Secret to quiet life: Faith in God.
3. Jesus had lived in Heaven, He could tell about it.
4. "exceeds no false expectations--never disappoints in alarms.
5. Our, the runner to Heaven
6. We the way to God.
7. The 'truth at God's redeeming purpose' in Christ, life's fountainhead.
8. At this juncture, Philip asks, "Let me show you the Father, if it suits."
10. P. wanted to see a natural eye; too subtle. P. a practical man.
11. Tangible God is at the root of idolatry.
12. Wooden stone can't represent God--but flesh a blood may incarnate Him.
9. Jesus makes a startling statement: v. 9. "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father's character; distance between God and man narrowed.

10. Jesus asked: v. 10. "Believest thou not that I am in the Father also?"

2) By experience, you see: I'm the Christ; by perception, you should know the Father also.

b) Some are baffled; the spiritual truths are indifferent to them.

c) Words and works are of the Father; I know the Father's voice, speaketh the Father's words.

"Never a man spake like this man."
11. Two tests - believe words, believe works 
   Read v. 11.
   2) Highest type of faith - you accept because He said it!
   b) If you can't do this, recognize words
      (1) They "Amen" words
      (2) Jesus convinces by what He said or what He did - words work.

12. How do you answer verse 10?

Mark 11:22-24

Judge Rose, Residency 3-3-74
MEET MARY
John 2:1-9

1. Bible introduces you to a great lady.
A. Handmaid of the Lord.
   Lu. 1:26-38 (Lu. 1:46-56)
   1. Virgin birth.
   2. Announced by angel.
   3. Jesus: great Son, throne, rule, no end to Kingdom.
   5. I am the Lord's servant—whatever He says I accept—not thy will be changed, thy will be done.
B. In her song 4 lines about self—rest look at God, not at me.
   1. He scatters the proud
      We see ourself.
   2. Casts down mighty—exalts humble. Call no man worthless for when Christ died.
   3. Fills hungry—rich sent away empty. We get to give!
C. Simeon told her about sword.
   (Lu. 2:25-35)
   1. He was watchful—are we?
   2. Instrument of salvation.
   3. Lite to Gentiles.
   4. Glory of Israel.
   5. Many rise—he'll lift up.
11. Look at times we meet her.
   A. When Jesus was 12.
      1. Tell story (Lu. 2:41-52)
         (a) 12 years old - 1st Passover.
         (b) Women would start home 1st as they were slower
         (c) Missed Jesus.
         (d) Listening & asking questions.
         (e) Your father vs. my father--not Joseph, but God
      2. Subject to parents (V. 51).
         Isa. 28:9-10 "When shall he teach knowledge?
         Heb. 5:8 "Tho he were a son yet
         1 Sam. 3:13 His sons made themselves vile & he renounced them.
         (a) Discipline isn't shouting; not warning but watching
         (Bigger piece of pie).
         (b) Kept things in her heart. (V. 51)
   B. Jesus at Cana miracle.
      John 2:1-12
      1. Wine is joy - drunkenness a shame.
      2. Woman, what have I?
      3. Whatsoever - do John 2:5
         (a) Complete confidence.
         (b) Turns instinctively to her son.
         (c) Contrast c Ann Lee & Joseph Smith.
      1. Sword now hers.
      2. Religious leaders rejected her son.
      3. Also note Jesus honors families.
   D. The Praying Mary
      Acts 1:14
      1. She's with body of believers.
1. She encourages others to be there.
2. She felt need to pray.

III. We've seen her (Lynn Anderson says Bible shows her to us 8x).
A. At conception.
B. At birth.
C. At temple.
D. At wedding.
E. At Cross.
F. At prayer.

G. What character unfolds?
1. Contemplative – do we tell others what we think?
   Afraid among elders & preachers to confide?
2. She was a disciplinarian.
3. She was prayerful.
4. She was selfless – God do it your way.
5. She was faithful & true.

Short End 7-15-73
Richland Hills, St. North, Ladies Bible Class 7-73
If the community were intensely religious, a special "revelation" from God was all that was needed for a change in institutions. Joseph Smith is reported to have received a revelation authorizing the adoption of polygyny at Nauvoo, Illinois, in 1843. The same God, however, was claimed to have revealed to Ann Lee, the founder of the Shaker society, the necessity for the adoption of celibacy.

"Sex and Marriage in Utopian Communities"
Raymond Lee Muncy
Page 10
BEST FOR THE LAST
John 2:1-11

1. Tell the story of Jesus' first miracle.
   A. Marriage in Cana--these facts:
      1. Jesus was invited and accepted.
         Matt. 11:19
         a. Marriage not second to celebacy.
      2. His mother there.
         a. We are not told her capacity. Know
            neither bride or groom--only that Jesus
            magnified.
         b. Don't know where Cana was.
      3. Wine grew short.
         a. Breach of etiquette--would have isolated
            family.
         b. How did Mary know it was short?
         c. What did she expect of Jesus?
         d. Was she rebuked? Same term for Mary
            Mag. (Jn. 20:15) and to his mother while
            on cross (Jn. 19:26).
         e. Did she feel he might do something and
            it be strange?
         f. Do servants take orders from guests--
            odd orders?
         g. Must Mary learn to see him as Lord
            not son?
         h. Remember feast went maybe one week--
            drink lot of wine.
      (1) Beth Kepley after WEBE--'next year. I
         won't have campers just "little cokes."
      i. Do we see Jesus delighting to do good?
4. Fill 6 waterpots. (Lot there so a lot of guest could)
a. A measure or firkin=8-1/2 gallons. Thus 17 to 25 gallons. Total a max. of 150 gal. 1/2 pint to glass=2400 servings. Supply many people many days.
b. Fill to brim.
   (1) Fullness of Christ miracles.
   (2) Sureness of it--nothing but H₂O. Clip on car.
   (3) Steward said it was good--compliment for excellency or rebuke for saving.
   (4) Miracle free from suspicion--full, servants (not disciples) acted, --gov. didn't know origin, no collusion.
5. Disciples believed in him.
a. He willed it and it was done--did he even touch the pots?
b. Times when your faith is stronger.

II. The Best for the Last.
A. It was governor's view that he'd saved best til now.
   1. We have same view on eating chicken--neck or breast first.
   2. Are there other things in which the best comes last?
B. Here are some.
   1. It happened in creation.
      John 1:1-5 "In the beginning was the word Gen. 1:2 "The earth was without form and a. Thus began the creative work of God--
(1) Light (night and day);
(2) Firmament;
(3) Yielding earth;
(4) Sun, moon, stars;
(5) Fish and fowl;
(6) Cattle, reptile and man.

Gen. 1:26 "And God said "Let us make
Gen. 1:27 "So God created man in his
Gen. 2:22 "And the rib, which the Lord b. It was his greatest work:
(1) Creative not evolving.
(2) Image of God—soul, spirit, and body.
I Thess. 5:23
(a) Conscious of God!
(3) He's called Father of spirits.
Heb. 12:9
Zech. 12:1 "The Lord which stretcheth
c. What God did with woman is called "a
building."
(1) Fashioning of a structure of some
importance.
(2) Involves constructive effort.
d. God had high purpose for woman—
(1) He said not good for man to be alone,
man not created unsocial.
(2) Lit. a help, not a helper, she's like
him, agrees with him, not inferior to
him.
(3) Lost a rib, gained a person.
e. Let woman live like she is the flower
and acme of God's building.
2. It happened in Revelation.
   Heb. 1:1 "God who at sundry times
   Jere. 31:31 "Behold the days come saith
   Heb. 8:6 "But now hath obtained a more ex
   Matt. 17:5 "While he yet spake behold
   John 16:13 "How be it when he

3. It happened to Jesus--will to me.
   a. Jesus' resurrection his vindication.
      Acts 17:30-31 "And the times of this
      Rom. 1:4 "Declared to be the Son of God
   b. Thrills with his current work and pre-
      John 14:1-4 "Let not your heart
   c. For me--now certainty.
      Prov. 14:12 "There is a way which seem
      Gal. 3:27 "For ye are all the children of
   d. For me--Heaven.
      Matt. 25:46 "And these shall go away into
      2 Cor. 5:10 "For we must all appear
      (our works are judged--not our sins)
      Heb. 10:17 "And their sins and inq. will
      I Cor. 3:11-15 "For other foundation can
      I Thess. 4:16 "For the Lord himself
      2 Pet. 3:13 "Nevertheless we according t
A man drove into the back end of a parked automobile. He stopped his car, wrote this note and left it under the windshield: "The people watching me think I am writing a note telling you who it was that ran into your car. Ho, ho, ho."

Later when the owner came to the car there was a second note under the windshield wiper and it said "We did see the car that ran into you--it was green, two door, had a license number that started with 8!"

The police broadcast the report.
**ARE WE GENUINE?**

**John 2:23-25**

I. "I can see through him like a pane of glass."
   A. Perhaps we've said it.
   B. We think we can detect hypocrisy.
   C. We are not always right—but Jesus is.

II. Let me tell you of a time he demonstrated this power.
   A. He came to Jerusalem.
      1. Chose proper place & time.
      2. First time in Jerusalem as adult.
   B. Passover time.
      1. Week long celebration.
      2. Great time of feasting, worship, fellowship, remembrance.
   C. Many believed in his name.
      1. Convinced in mind but not in heart.
      2. Believed same word for trust, see previous verse.
      3. Shallow appreciation of Messiahship.
      4. Faith neither deep nor appreciative.
      5. Difference between intellectual belief and heart belief.
   D. They Saw the Miracles
      1. He did many miracles not recorded.

Jn. 20:30
21:25
Jn. 3:2

2. Shows they had plenty of chances.
3. Not told what signs were.
4. Purpose of miracles to telegraph to man something of the power of He who does them.
5. Gave the certification of truth.
E. But Jesus did not commit himself unto them.
1. Men professed to believe but He saw through them.
2. He knew he could not depend on them.
3. How perfect is his understanding of the human heart.
4. Feelings excited but true commitment from them not there.
5. "It makes the hypocrite tremble." (Ryle)
6. We can deceive men but not Christ.
7. We should want the Lord to look at us--unless we have something to hide!
8. Lit. "he did not trust himself to them."
9. See the omniscience of the Lord.
10. They trusted him but he didn't them. (McGarvey)
12. He had no faith in their faith.
13. He knew they were not ready to admit his Messiahship.
14. He wants followers who are informed & solid in their convictions.
15. Lessons for us:
   a) Don't trust implicitly the appearance of kindness.
b) Be friendly with all.
c) Be intimate with a few.

F. Reason--He knew all men.
1. He knows via divine knowledge.
2. He reads thoughts, discerns character, saw their ambitions, knew passions that consumed them.
3. He weighs on the scale of heavenly realities.
4. Knowing man, He does not act doubtfully or in speculation.
5. His knowledge not surface appearance but reality.
6. He knows human nature with its fickleness, instability, sensationalism.

G. Needs now that man testify of man.
1. Doesn't have to have the word of others to inform him.
2. He knows our hearts.

Kings 8:39
3. We deceive each other, don't fool Him.
4. Many times he shuts off testimony of devils.
5. When they tried to make him King he sent them away.
6. He doesn't need our human testimony to guide Him to understanding man.
7. We depend on external help.

II. Jesus reads us like a book--what do our pages say?
5 AFFIRMATIONS: JESUS IS GOD'S SON

I. When one repeats a matter to you, what do you think. "You're just like my mother!"
A. He forgot he did it - not Holy Ghost.
B. He thinks I'm thick headed.
C. He's correcting reoccurring mistakes.
D. He wants to emphasize.

II. Whatever the reason - not only before Pilate - but repeatedly in John Jesus affirmed his identity. We look at 5 affirmations.

A. John 3 - Nicodemus story.
1. Jesus answered what was in his heart - not what he asked.
2. Whether he got it all, or whether it took 3 yrs. to grasp, he learned much:
   a.) Entrance into Kingdom.
   b.) Love of God Jn. 3:16
   c.) Purpose of Jesus V. 17-
d.) Necessity of faith
   e.) Identity of Jesus - V. 18

3. Flash back.
   a.) Pharisees asked many qts.
      (1) Divorce Matt. 19:3
      (2) Sabbath healing Lu. 6:7 Worked healing Sabbath
      (3) By what power do your acts Matt. 21:23
      (4) Why eat c tax collector Lu. 5:30
      (5) When does the Kingdom come Lu. 17:20
b.) N. a ruler - night - later buried him Jn. 19:38:42
c.) Born again or from above - baptism - not physical birth as GK only one preposition for both water & spirit - not of the water & of the spirit but of the water & the spirit.
d.) Christ died for our sins 1 Cor. 15:3
e.) Faith in Jesus - what keeps you from accepting; peers, prestige, price.

(1) It's not sin but unbelief that keeps you out - perhaps you are a good person.
Mk. 16:16 "He that believeth and is baptized shall be
(2) We persist in keeping our sins.
(3) Already - recorded but not executed judgment.
(4) Only Son - Name Jesus. V-18
Matt. 1:21 "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou
Rom. 8:32 "He that spared not his own Son, but deliv
Mk. 12:6 "Having yet therefore one son, his wellbelo
Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for
B. John 5 - Healing 38 yr. sick man.
1. Took place in Jerusalem.
2. Pool of Bethesda (House of mercy)
3. Man sick 38 yrs.
5. Angel disturbed water - 1st one in well.
6. Real sick couldn't get there 1st - yet came in hopes.
7. Healed on Sabbath.
8. Jesus left, reappeared, man told folk he knew Jesus did it.
9. Jesus claimed oneness c God.
10. One who believes not condemned.
Verily, v. I say unto you, the hr.

a.) Hour – measure of time.
b.) Repent & live.
c.) Hear – oriental expression for obey "do you hear me"
d.) He can reach worst sinner if he'll hear.
e.) Son of God – hear – live.


1. It brings up qt. of suffering & its cause.
2. Jesus now well known (Jn. 7:12-15).
3. Did sin cause suffering – more the sin, more the suffering. Or was it a discipline to restrict sin. Or was it Satan!
4. Hard for blind man to find way to Siloam – faith enuf to do it?
5. Sabbath day again.
6. Heated debate – story a lie, not born blind, etc. ask parents.
7. V. 24 "We know this man a sinner
Jn. 8:46 "Which of you convinceth me of sin
8. Threw man out – blind but now I see.
   a.) "Jesus heard" – great listener.
   Rev. 2:23 "I am he which searcheth the hearts
   b.) Jesus found.
   c.) Jesus said.
   d.) Jesus questions.
   (1) Dost thou believe
   (2) Will you confess?
   e.) Who is he, Lord?
(1) Asks for information.
(2) Willing to accept his teacher.
(3) Our sincerity rests on what we know however small it is.

f.) Seen him & he talks c thee.
(1) Sunlight & salvation both new to this man!
(2) Jesus has words!

g.) I believe - worship.
Jn. 6:69 "We believe & are sure that thou
(1) Worship came after faith.
(2) In private.

D. Jesus the Shepherd Jn. 10

1. Christ only the door.
   a.) All who hold out life otherwise are spiritual charlatans.
   b.) He knows his sheep.

2. Feast of Dedication (22-42).
   a.) Winter of discontent - was in Dec.
   b.) Give plain ans. Are you the Christ (V. 24)
      Tried to saddle Him c cause!
   c.) Attempt to stone because he made self son of God.
   d.) For which good works do they stone him.
   e.) "Ye are gods"

   1.) Scrpt. are permanent.
   2.) Scrpt. w/o dispute.
   3.) Men called gods - ordinary folk.

Ps. 82:6 "I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are

4.) Imperfect yet were.
5.) Jesus has lesser title!
6.) Put it to test.

V. 37 "If I do not the works of my Father
f.) True believer characteristics
   Sensitive – hear
   Fellowship – I know them
   Obedience – They follow me
   Life – I give them eternal life
   Assurance – never perish
   Security – no snatch

E. Lazarus – John 11
1. Name – God helps.
2. Tell story – Jesus not subject to schedule made by
   men – or even closest friends – only will of God.
3. One verse – #4.

V. 4 This sickness is not unto death
   a.) He foresaw all.
   b.) Our losses are stages in Chr. progress.
   c.) Joseph – coat, slavery, prison, court, chain of
      royal office, chariot, throne.
   d.) Don't attempt to Judge God's love via outward
      appearances.

Jn. 13:9 "What I do thou knowest not now
   e.) Sick or well we glorify God.

Rom. 14:8 "Whether we live we live
   f.) Son of God.
   a.) In bosom Jn. 1:18
   b.) Bear record – Son Jn. 1:34
   c.) Conception, work, resurrection, exaltation at
      rt. hand
   All things subject (Heb. 1:3-5)
Fullness of Godhead (Col. 2:9)
Revealed in truth from Heaven

III. Now who do you say he is - will you make the 6th affirmation?
THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CONVERSION
John 3:1-5
I. Once upon a time--
A. A lady called the bank about business.
   1. Do you want the Redemption or the Conversion section?
   2. She asked "What is this--the First National Bank or the First Baptist Church?"
B. So today we seek to use some old terms in their true scriptural setting.
II. Agreement and disagreement join in this battle.
A. Does any doubt that--
   1. A man must be born again.
   2. He must be born of the spirit.
   3. The Spirit does operate in a man's conversion.
   4. We can find what the Spirit does by turning to the N.T.
B. With this in agreement perhaps we can minimize our differences.
III. There is a sinful man to save.
A. Man chooses evil.
B. God chooses to redeem man by grace.
   Gal. 4:4 "When the fulness of time came
C. God saves by Jesus.
   Rom. 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel
   I Cor. 1:21 "For after that in the wisdom of God
   1. The gospel of Jesus is to be preached.
D. The Holy Spirit works on that man.
   Either:
1. He is spiritually dead, can do nothing, a miraculous manifestation of the Spirit above and beyond, separate and apart from the word regenerates him.
   a. It operates directly.
   b. It operates irresistibly.
   c. It operates on the sinner’s heart.
   d. Dangerous—makes word a dead letter, God becomes a respecter of persons, responsibility for lost is on H.S., no free will, encourages man to wait for what God’s not promised, can end in delusion.

2. Or the Spirit operates through the Word, uses this means or agency, reaches men and as they obey the gospel they are led to Jesus.

3. That the Spirit could via power operate either way is not the question—only which way does He?

E. Let’s hear the Lord’s word as to what the Spirit does.

1. He convicts the world of sin, righteousness and judgment.
   John 16:8 "And when he (the Spirit) is

2. To reject Jesus is death.
   John 16:9 "Of sin, because they believe no

3. To reject him is to reject God.
   Luke 10:16 "He that heareth you heareth me.

4. The Prince (Devil) is to be judged.
   John 16:10 "Of righteousness, because I g
2 Cor. 4:4 "In whom the god of this world 1
5. The Spirit offers the gospel to do this
work.

John 6:44-45 "No man can come to me, e
6. All his convincing He does via word.
a. Word and Spirit are never separated.
Nothing required of you that's not con-
tained in the Scriptures. See Thomas
card.
b. Never a case of conversion from Penta-
cost on where one is saved without being
taught word.
(1) See Thomas card.

Acts 2:36-38 "Therefore let all the house
Rom. 10:17 "So then faith cometh by hear
Acts 15:9 "And put no difference between
John 3:5 "Jesus answered, Verily, verily
I Cor. 4:15 "For though ye have ten thou
James 1:18 "Of his own will begat he us
P I Peter 1:23 "Being born again, not of co
Rom. 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the
Eph. 1:11-14 "In whom also we have obta

c. Never conversion apart from human
agency direct or indirect, personal or
written.

7. Why not hear the gospel, H.S. inspired,
obey it and be saved?
a. If there is one fact plainer than another
in Chr. history it is that Christ does
not fully reveal himself apart from and
independent of knowledge of study of the
Holy Scriptures. " Thomas
A friend called upon a guest at a hotel, knocked and asked him to open the door.

"Can't, the door's locked," the voice announced.

"Well, unlock it," the caller requested.

"Can't, lost the key."

"Great Scott, man, what'll you do if there's a fire?"

"I won't go!"

When a girl can see the handwriting on the wall, she's in the wrong restroom.
THE MAN THAT WAS BORN AGAIN

John 3:1-6

I. Perhaps no phrase is more popular just now than "Born Again Christian."
   A. It's in the Religious World.
   B. It's in the Cult World.
   C. It's in the Political World.
   D. It means a lot of different things but smacks of fundamental Pentecostalism with a huge emotional surge in most folks' mind.
   1. I now know Jesus.
   2. I'm a new man, etc.

II. I feel it's important enuf to ask you to study it with me a few Sunday nights.

III. Today we study "The Man That Was Born Again."
   A. Close of Chapter 2.
   1. It speaks of man.
   2. Can man, & man alone, inherit Kingdom of God.
   3. Can man work, "smart", "be" enough to earn heaven.
   B. Chapter 3 - (and originally there were no chapter markings) moves into a study of a certain man.
   1. He's a fine representation.
   2. Most of us would like to be Nicodemus.
   3. If man could do it, Nicodemus surely was the priz candidate to accomplish it.

IV. There was a Man.
   A. Details about the Man - His dossier.
   1. Pharisees.
      a.) About 6,000 strong.
b.) Close knit brotherhood.
c.) Separatist.
d.) Moral.
e.) Took pledge in front of 3 witnesses they'd give life to observing every detail of scribal law.
f.) He embodied best in culture, education, ethics, piety.
g.) They were the theological conservatives of their day.
h.) Had peculiar, literal interpretations of the law.
Barclay gives these illustrations.
(1) From law extracted multitude of rules to govern life.
(2) Illustrate c Sabbath. – Beth – Ἱεροο
(3) He'd define work – 24 chapters in Mishnah, 64 1/2 columns in Talmud.
(4) Couldn't tie a knot – it was work.
(5) Then define knot – sailor or camel knot was sin; anything tied c 1 hand was scriptural.
(6) Women could tie up girdle, scandal or skins.
(7) Journey – 1,000 yards – yet if he'd tie a rope across street whole street became his house & he could go 1,000 yd. beyond.
(8) Couldn't carry a burden.
Jer. 17:21-24 Neither carry burden on the Sabbath day
(9) "Burden" of food was a dried fig, enough milk for one swallow, honey enuf to put in a wound.
2. Name Nicodemus.
   a.) GK name "one who conquers the people."
b.) For a Jew to wear a GK name suggests he was highly educated & trained.
c.) Only John writes about him & that 3X.  
Jn. 3:1 "There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nic  
Jn. 7:50-51 "Nicodemus saith unto them, One that ca  
Jn. 19:39-42 "And there came also Nicodemus, which  
d.) Think of him as aristocracy.  Judge before it hear  
e.) Note he's courteous - he addresses the man from  
the uncouth North country c respect - Rabbi -  
Master.  
3. Ruler of the Jews,  
(a) Member of 70 Sanhedrin.  
(b) Like Supreme Court - last word to Jews.  
(c) Politician of great success.  
(d) Only member of Sanhedrin who came to Jesus  
during his lifetime.  
(e) He was learned, a "Master of Israel".  
4. More than likely wealthy via what he did for  
B. What have we then?  
1. A man who had everything: religion, name,  
   position, wealth, education, prestige, moral,  
   spiritual leader of his time.  
2. Most would exchange places.  
3. Most would like to be like him.  
C. But he (man) did not have the solutions to life!  
1. Racial privilege cannot give it.  
2. Neither can law keeping.  
D. The same came to Jesus.  
2 Cor. 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is  
1. The Ruler needed a Redeemer.  
2. To get well have to admit we are sick.
3. He had an inner need.

4. To the Christ all must turn for He alone has answer.

John 2:25 "And needed not that any should testify of me."

- Heath End, 9-12-76
- Hermitez Rd. Church, Richmond, Va. 2-1-77
- St. Ignatius, Little Rock, Ar. 10-27-76
- Bay Area School of Preaching Lectureship
  San Francisco, Calif. 4-6-79
  Newport, Ark. 4-19-79

- Fairlane Church, Shelbyville, Tenn. 6-16-77
- Echo Meadows Church, Oregon, Ohio 8-23-77

Manchester, Conn. Church 9-12-77
College St. Church, Lebanon 9-25-77

1. Whoever whatever you are alone—
   in this world—You've got to have more

2. The New Birth is a must

3. Christly—learn how
Discriminate for Jesus

Business directories that limit their advertising space to “born-again” Christians are being circulated nationally in an effort to capitalize on the new-found strength and popularity of conservative Protestantism.

The “Christian Yellow Pages” and other such publishing efforts represent an ugly side of religion that seldom surfaces in so blatant a fashion. The directories, circulated through churches and bookstores, are designed to direct Christians of the evangelical persuasion to businessmen with similar beliefs.

The Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith, a Jewish civil rights group, has filed suit against two Christian publishers in California, charging that businesses have been kept out of the directories because of religious discrimination.

The legal issues raised are complex. The Constitutional guarantees of freedom for the press and religion must be balanced with other laws on discrimination and unfair business practices. But whatever the final legal verdict, the directories do not represent born-again Christianity’s finest moment.

In modern America, the competing faiths that make up the religious fabric have learned to put aside their theological differences outside the church doors. The religious controversies that can still lead to warfare in other parts of the world are softened here by an overriding concern for social and economic cooperation.

The Christian business directories are a step backwards in that process—a path to inter-faith hostility in the name of religious freedom.

“Key ’73”, a national effort in 1973 among conservative Protestant leaders to evangelize North America, generated publicity but largely failed in its goal. The business directories, a less noble, profit-making endeavor, will also fail. Americans are not attuned to these kinds of divisive efforts.

The Christian business directories represent a pulling back from society, not an opening up to it. Jesus told the Apostles to “go forth to every part of the world, and proclaim the Good News to the whole creation.” He did not limit that order to the born-again, once-born, thrice-born or yet-to-be-born.
THE NECESSITY OF THE NEW BIRTH
Jn. 3:1-6

I. We've all met the "but I've just got to" situations.
A. Sometimes it's an appeal to a parent.
B. Sometimes it's the demands of an inflexible law.
C. Now we talk of the unalterable command of Jesus.

II. A Man Came to Jesus by Night.
A. So easy to see difference in faith & opinion.
   1. By faith - at night.
   2. By opinion - why at night.
      a.) Sigh of caution - Barclay. (Better to come at
          night than not at all) (Rabbi's said best time to
          study was night)
      b.) To spy (Hobbs).
          Avoid publicity
          Avoid enhancing Jesus reputation
          Knew Jesus schedule.
      c.) Afraid to come in day - Koglin
      d.) Leisure - Butler
          (Pleasure, or Privacy)
          (Jesus didn't reprove him for night visit)
      e.) Perhaps your idea is better.
B. We must not stifle thought - nor must we stuff our
   thought down someone else.

III. Complimented Christ.
V. 2 "Rabbi, we know that thou art
A. Rabbi.
   1. All who saw Jesus were impressed.
   3. Jesus never called a preacher - often a teacher.
B. We Know.
1. Jesus did miracles.
2. Miracles intended to prove sonship.
3. Since God sent Jesus, it makes sense to listen to Him.
4. Yet note the "we". He personally asserts nothing but what the group felt.

IV. The Shocking Answer.
V. 3 "Jesus answered & said unto him, "Sh..."
A. Was it shock therapy.
1. Does Nicodemus in a secondhand way admit a failure in life - we benefit from Dr. when we admit we are sick.
2. He was speaking to a most outstanding man - yet he needed the new birth.
3. One of 28 personal interviews c Jesus Bible records.

B. Born Again.
1. It's a radical change.
2. It's starting all over again.
3. Is it possible.

1 Pet. 1:3 "Blessed be the God & Father of our
1 Pet. 1:22 "Seeing ye have purified...
James 1:18 "Of his own will begat

4. Rebirth lets us:
   (a) Enter Kingdom.
   (b) Sonship c God.
   (c) Have eternal life.
5. See = Partake.
6. 3 words used for born again:
(a) From the beginning.
(b) Kindred spirit.
(c) Again.

7. Absolute necessity.

C. Added Fact of Life

1. Man's thought if he had ideal situation all would

be well:

a.) Plato's Republic ideal when people ruled by
philosophy & a philosopher - King!

b.) Thomas More's Utopia - man blessed if rightly
educated.

c.) Francis Bacon's New Atlantis - happiness via
science.

d.) Hitler - 3rd Reich via racial supremacy.

e.) Marx via classless society.

f.) Election promises of Ford & Carter.

2. Jesus said it's based on a racial change.

3. What's your MUST

a.) Family.

b.) Job.

c.) Jesus.

West End, 9/19-76

Hermitage Ed. Church, Richmond, Va. 2-1-77

Clyde Garden, Little Rock, 10-27-76.

Baptist School of Preaching Lectureship,

San Leandro, Calif., 4-6-77

Newport News. 11-10-77

Fairlane Church, Shelbyville, Tenn., 6-16-77

Coh-Operators Church, Oregon, Ohio 8-23-77
However, I set my alarm, and before I could get dressed the next morning, there she was. We went out into that indescribably beautiful Arizona morning, crisp and cool and quiet, and sat under a small mesquite tree. We began by just talking, and all of her questions tumbled out. Finally, about an hour and a half later, I opened my Bible and showed her how to become a Christian. She accepted Christ right there. Her prayer asking him to come into her heart and life was one of the most halting, yet precious prayers I'd ever heard. And then I thanked him for coming into her life.

As we began to leave, I said, "Happy Birthday, Sharon. This is your birthday, you've been born again today." Large tears began to roll down that girl's cheeks, and she asked if she might tell the camp director what had happened to her that morning.

"Speak Out with Marge" - By Marge Caldwell - Page 44

HOw can a man be born again when he is old? John 3:1-5

I. The New Birth eternally fascinates man.
   A. It did the day it was introduced.
   B. It does today.
   1. Bapt. Church on Clarksville Hiway has sign
      "Believe...& be saved" & "Ye must be born again"
   2. Marge Caldwell quote.
   C. Since so much interest is there it's imperative we
      know the how.
II. Jesus had startled Nicodemus with the necessity of
    the New Birth.
   A. Nicodemus' shocked response was How? All he
      could think of was obstetrics.
V. 4 "How can a man be born when he is
   1. It's imperative to know how because w/o it won't
      see Kingdom.
      a.) Kingdom is a society where God's will is done
         as perfectly on earth as it is in heaven.
      b.) In this citizens submit everything to God's will.
      c.) In it we are swallowed up in Him.
      Kingdom used on two times in John.
      d.) In fact, we aren't a son of God w/o it.
      Jn. 14:21 "He that hath my comm. & keep...love
   2. Whatever it is it is absolutely necessary!
B. What is it?
   1. Is it physical birth & the water of our being born?
   2. It is spirit & water is a metaphor?
   3. What does water of New Birth stand for?
      G. C. Brewer said it was "buttermilk."
    ~-----------~ short him-won't forgive
4. Should I be an incredulous individual?

5. Let's examine Scripture.

III. Scriptures Detailing the Birth.

1 Peter 1:22-23 "Seeing ye have purified your souls (Note begotten by the word)

1 Cor. 1:21 "For after that in the wisdom

Rom. 10:13-15 "For whosoever shall call

James 1:18 "Of his own will begat he us

Col. 3:10 "And have put on the new man which is renewed in knowledge; for the image of him that created him

Rom. 8:14 "For as many as are led

Rom. 10:17 "So then faith comes by hearing.

Gal. 3:26 "For ye are all the children

1 Jn. 5:1 "Whoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ, it being one that believeth on the name of the Son of God; and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him that is begotten.

A. Can you separate water & spirit?

B. Can you make them the same thing or are they two things?

C. Can we get into the Kingdom with only one of the two?

D. Can we deny early fathers that water was baptism?

E. Can you think of anything else water could be used for today in a spiritual manner.

1.) McGarvey, "There'd be no difficulty if the passage did not exclude the pious unimpressed."

2. Tenn. Baptist Pg. 5 Oct. 1886, "Born of water refers to the baptism of one previously born of the Spirit. It means nothing else and no Baptist that we ever heard or read of ever believed otherwise until Alexander Campbell frightened them away from an interpretation that is sustained.
by the concensus of all scholars of all
denominations in all ages."
F. Is there any reason for you not now to be born
again? Who established the necessity?
Ps. 39:7 "And now Lord what wait I for? My hope is
in thee.
2 Cor. 5:17 "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he i
West End 9-26-76
Hermitage Ed. Church, Richmond, Va. 1-2-77
6th & French, Little Rock 10-27-76
Daytona School of Preaching Lectureship
San Leandro, Calif. 4-6-77
Newport, Ark. 4-19-77
Fairland Church, Shelbyville, Tenn. 6-16-77
Echo Meadows Church, Oregon, Ohio 8-23-77
Manchester, Conn. Church 9-12-77
College St. Church, Lebanon, 9-25-77
Gallup claims every third American says he is born again

MINNEAPOLIS — One of every three Americans 18 and older — 50 million of them — say they have had a "born again" religious conversion experience, the Gallup Poll claims.

As incredible as it is, Mr. George Gallup says that among Protestants, about half (51%) say they are "born again" Christians and 18% of the U.S. Roman Catholics say they also have had a "born again" experience.

Referring to his just-completed survey of the evangelical movement, he said it is currently the "hot" movement in the church today, and the year 1976 can be considered the "year of the evangelical."

He believes that much of the current interest in the evangelical movement stems from Mr. Carter’s candidacy and public reaction to Mr. Carter’s public professions of personal piety.

"Baptists vote 3 to 1 for fellow Baptist, Jimmy Carter," he said. "Baptists, incidentally, have suddenly become a significant voter bloc in America, nearly matching the strength of Catholics."

Mr. Gallup listed the marks of an evangelical or "born again" Christian as including a literal interpretation of the Bible and a belief that one has an urgent duty to spread the faith — to witness.

"Four in 10 nationwide (38%), nearly half of Protestants (46%) and about a third of Catholics (31%) hold that the Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally," Mr. Gallup reported.

"So we see that fundamentalism is still a very powerful force in religion in America," he said.

To measure conversion efforts, or witnessing, Mr. Gallup’s pollsters asked their sample of the nation’s adults if they had ever tried to encourage someone to believe in Jesus Christ or to accept Him as his or her Saviour.

"A remarkably high proportion answered in the affirmative — 47%," Mr. Gallup said. "The figure is even higher among Protestants alone, 58%.

Speaking to Episcopalians, he said they trail all other major denominations in witnessing.

Only about one Episcopalian in 10 was reported to have a literal belief in the Bible.

"The church’s declining influence has often been blamed on the college educated and the young, but survey evidence strongly suggests that these groups could well be in the guard of religious renewal in this country."

"Levels of religious interest, belief and practice are remarkably high among young people in this country. In addition, persons with a college background in many respects are as religious as those with less than a college background."

Mr. Gallup said his findings on the evangelical movement "present a clear warning to mainline denominations which have been losing membership while the evangelical faiths have been experiencing a spectacular growth."

He said although most Episcopalians say they believe in a personal God, they are "curiously restrained."

"On the other hand, an evangelical who has had a profound religious experience is not about to keep it to himself. He or she feels compelled to share his joy and excitement with others," Mr. Gallup said.

Box 248 Ellicott St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14205

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Religion Still Stays Strong

PRINCETON, N.J. — The dramatic rise to political prominence of Jimmy Carter, a "born again" Christian, has focused attention on the evangelical movement in America.

The latest nationwide Gallup survey shows one person in three (34%) saying he or she has been "born again" — that is, has had a turning point in his or her life when they committed themselves to Jesus Christ. This figure projects to nearly 50 million Americans, 18 and over.

Among Protestants alone, nearly half (48%) say they are "born again" Christians, which projects to 43 million adults.

"Born again" Christians, accounting for one-third of the electorate, represent the core of Carter's support. Although this group tends to be more conservative in political ideology than the electorate as a whole, they currently support Carter over President Gerald Ford by a wide 58-33% margin.

Although a wide range of churches define themselves as "evangelical," a "born again" fundamentalist has an outlook or state of mind which pervades the membership of many churches, including the Bible, and witness to their faith.

The greater missionary zeal of the evangelical group of churches may be an important reason why these churches are experiencing a spectacular growth in membership while certain mainline churches are experiencing serious membership losses.

This question was asked first: "Would you say that you have been 'born again' or have had a 'born again' experience — that is, a turning point in your life when you committed yourself to Christ?"

Here are the results nationwide and by key groups:

**Have Had 'Born Again' Experience**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protestants</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholics</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Roman Catholic Church. About one in five (18%) of Catholics says he or she has had a “born again” experience.

A high proportion of “born again” Christians also have a literal interpretation of the Bible and a belief that one has an urgent duty to spread the faith — to witness. An evangelical or “born again” Christian also places great emphasis on the personal relationship between the individual and God. In addition, they believe in a strict moral code.

The survey shows four in ten persons nationwide (33%), nearly one-half of Protestants (46%), and about one-third of Catholics (31%) believing the Bible to be the actual word of God and to be taken literally. These results indicate that fundamentalism is still a very powerful force in religion in America.

To measure conversion efforts, or witnessing, the Gallup Poll asked a sample of the nation’s adults if they have ever tried to encourage someone to believe in Jesus Christ or to accept Him as their Savior.

A remarkably high proportion answered in the affirmative — 47%. The figure is even higher among Protestants alone — 58%.

A far higher proportion of persons of the evangelical group of churches than among the non-evangelical or mainline denominations have had a “born again” experience, hold a literal interpretation of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade School</th>
<th>18-29 years</th>
<th>30-49 years</th>
<th>50 and over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And this question was asked: “Have you ever tried to encourage someone to believe in Jesus Christ or to accept Him as his or her Savior?”

Have Witnessed?

| Nationwide   | 72%         |
| Protesants   | 58%         |
| Catholics    | 38%         |
| Men          | 40%         |
| Women        | 54%         |
| College      | 35%         |
| High school  | 47%         |
| Grade school | 65%         |
| 18-29 years  | 41%         |
| 30-49 years  | 44%         |
| 50 and over  | 54%         |
| East         | 38%         |
| Midwest      | 48%         |
| South        | 63%         |
| West         | 35%         |

A “hard core” evangelist could perhaps be defined as one who has all three basic characteristics — that he has had a “born again” experience, believes in the literal interpretation of the Bible, and witnesses for his or her faith. Of the total national sample, 18% can be classified as “hard core” evangelists.
THE 'MUST' WORDS OF JESUS
John 3:7
I. Do you know any words of Jesus that are unimportant?
   A. Which statement can you block out?
   B. Which word is inconsequential?
   C. What about his "must'words?
      1. Used it about 30 times.
      2. Used it when 12--late in life.
      3. Must is a must--let's see some times Jesus used it.
II. Business of Life or "be in my Father's house,"
   Lu. 2:49 "How is it that ye sought me, wist John 9:4 "I must work the works of him that
   A. Note this story of Jesus' first words.
      1. Obedient parents--yearly journey, yet amazed at what Jesus knew. Start home without Boy Jesus. Thought he was with kin or acquaintance. Sought first day, went back, 3 days in temple, where would we go today to learn? What amazed them--his company or his knowledge? NEB says Bound for Must.
      2. What holy compulsion is yours--how'd you use Lord's day? What do you have to do?
III. New Birth.
   John 3:7 "Marvel not that I said...ye must
   A. Nicodemus story.
      1. , Pharisee, Council member,
compliment, born again, question asked.
2. How possible—speak of what we know and testify of what we've seen.

Acts 9:6

IV. Acceptable worship.
john 4:24 "God is a Spirit and they that worship must worship in the spirit and in truth.
A. The hour of true worship.
1. It's come!
2. God sought the plan and the worshipper.
3. Spirit and truth are ingredients.

V. Now is Opportunity Time. John 4:43 "I must preach the kingdom of God to other sheep I have which are not these.
A. These observations.
1. Personal duty - I.
2. Holy compulsion - must.
4. We see he was so sent. Do we put compulsion on anyone?

VI. Facts to Accept.
A. John 3:14-15 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up. Nu. 21:1-9.
2. v-5 Dad's favorite "We loathe this light bread".
3. Folks complained--spoke against God and Moses.
4. God sent fiery serpents--Mary died.
5. People said they'd sinned, prayed, Moses too.
6. God said build fiery serpent--v. 8 Look an
B. Mark 8:31: "And he began to teach them . . . .
   killed and rise.
1. Our salvation involved suffering, rejection by leaders, murder and resurrection.
2. Peter rebuked such preaching as Jesus did it openly.
3. Jesus rebuked Peter -- called him Satan -- side of men not God.
   Acts 4:12: Neither is there salvation in
   West End - 3/14/65
   Sunset School of Preaching - Lubbock - 4/7/65
   Minnola, Kansas - 3/6/65
Ernest Stockton in a speech to the West End Civitan Club told this story. A man had been stirring his boat--it was necessary for him to get a little rest, he called a negro to him and said point her to the north star, keep her there, I am going to the bunk and get a little rest. While the master of the ship slept, drowsiness overtook the temporary pilot. After about two hours in frantic array he came rushing to the bunk to wake up the master of the ship and said "Boss, come quick--pick me out another star, I have done sailed plum past that 'n.
TEN COMMANDMENTS
FOR WORSHIP

1. As you first are seated in the House of God, breathe a silent prayer.

2. Do not talk before the Service begins, except when you talk to God.

3. Use the period during the prelude as a time of meditation and preparation.

4. Sing the hymns with enthusiasm, and observe the meaning of the words as you sing them.

5. Join in the Lord’s Prayer, the Apostles’ Creed, and the unison prayer with sincerity and devotion.

6. During the pastoral prayer, bow your head and close your eyes to shut out distractions.

7. Pray for the ministers, the organist, the choir leader and choir, the ushers, and all others participating in the service, and for your fellow-worshippers.

8. Listen attentively and expectantly to the reading of the Scriptures and the sermon.

9. When your mind wanders, bring it back by concentrating on the symbolism of the altar with the cross, candlesticks and flowers.

10. Ask yourself, “What is God saying to me through the music, prayers, scripture, and sermon in this worship service?”
CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPIRITUALITY
John 3:22-

1. Sometimes we want to over catalogue - a bin for everything.
   A. What's Spiritual?
      1. Song.
      2. Study.
      3. Worship.
      4. Pray.
   B. What's flesh?
      1. Eat.
      2. Drink.
      3. Be merry.

C. We then conclude there is no overlapping.

II. May I approach it differently--just study Jesus & see the spiritual ascendency.
   A. Text is John 3:25-36.
   B. Our task - just see the effects of this episode.

III. Points to Ponder.
   A. And after these things.
      1. Much happened.
      2. Cana Miracle, Nicodemus, etc.
   B. Visit to country of Judea.
      1. Now out of Jerusalem - so it's spiritual to change locations of work.
         a.) Stayed from May to Dec. 27. place--esp. we.
         b.) John further north.
      2. With his disciples.
         a.) Delight to enjoy the co. of men of kindred mind.
      3. They were all baptizing.
         a.) Tense of word shows they were & continued to do so.
b.) Jesus baptized none (Jn. 4:3).

c.) It's spiritual to manifest a spiritual concern for the souls of men. We need to talk to each other about our eternal qualities.

d.) Baptism of repentance & preparation.

e.) Contrasts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christ</th>
<th>John</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.) Name of Father, Son, HS</td>
<td>No formula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.) Permanent</td>
<td>Temp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.) Universal - all nations</td>
<td>Jews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.) Into Kingdom</td>
<td>Preparatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.) Rem. of Sins</td>
<td>Ibid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.) Gift of HS</td>
<td>No mention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.) Death of Christ</td>
<td>Still alive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. There he tarried.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a.) Can't do everything everywhere.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.) Settled to one task.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. There Arose a Kindred Ministry.

1. V. 24 "John was not yet cast into prison."
   a.) Matthew may not let you see the parallel works
   b.) It's spiritual to avoid giving any uncertain sound. (Keep coordinated events accurate.)

2. John at Aenon met success.
   a.) Much water - word means fountain - location unknown.
   b.) They kept coming to be baptized.
   c.) Spiritual to have partners in work - we are not the whole show!
   d.) Baptism shows man needs cleansing - else why wash.
3. "Then there arose a q:\n   a.) So it ever does.
   b.) It's spiritual to dispose of it a
   c.) Question between John's disciples & Jews.
      1.) Were they asking off cuff what Jesus was doing
      2.) Purifying not easy to identify.
   d.) Jealousy can spawn a religious argument.
   e.) Lots of people are good at stirring up controvers
   f.) Religious disputes often:
      (1) Over trifling matters.
      (2) Produced by inferiors (John's disciples).
      (3) Traced to sectarian jealous. TRADITIONS
      (4) Associate exaggeration - all men.
   g.) Some bitterness in words - you did much for
      him - now see how he's acting.
   a.) Humility is a virtue all men preach, none
      practice & yet everybody is content to hear" -
      John Selden, Eng. jurist 17th century.
   b.) "You've no idea what a poor opinion I have of
      myself & how little I deserve it" - Gilbert &
      Sullivan.
   c.) John's last days.
   d.) Luke tells us multitudes went to hear him.
      Matt. 3:5 "Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all.
      Matt. 16:18 "And I say also unto thee, That thou art
      Mk. 6:20 "For Herod feared John, knowing that he v
      (Herod wanted generalities, not specifics)
   e.) Now Jesus takes the crowds.
   f.) We feel injured & neglected.
g.) Say something to stop Jesus.
h.) Jealousy & anger arise. Note, wouldn't even name Jesus.

D. It's proper to quell the riot.
1. John shows what he is.
2. It's his last words.
3. We need:
   a.) Self awareness along c the sovereignty of God.
   1 Cor. 4:7 "For who maketh thee to differ from another?
   b.) Fix our eyes on Jesus. (Are we concerned about what others think of Him?)
   c.) Spare the joy of leading others to Him.
   d.) Delight in the ultimate joy that will be Jesus'.
4. Place neither John nor anything above Jesus.
5. Realize, with God, each of us has a place.

IV. It's S P I R I T U A L M O V E
A. Move on to OTHER T H A N S
B. Associate
C. BAPTIZE, OBEY, EVANGELIZE
D. REST
E. AVOID UNCERTAIN SOUND
F. HAVE PARTNERS
G. DISPERSE R I O N S
H. MAGNIFY JESUS

Kingwood Heights, Murfreesboro, Youth Forum
Sett End 10-9-82
HE MUST NEEDS PASS THROUGH
SAMARIA

I. Via introduction--
   A. It's baseball time.
      1. Babe Ruth--last one sounded high.
      2. Lefty Gomez once lived here.
      3. Hank Greenbury's contract.
      4. Rhyne Duran's fast fall.
      5. Bench so long called Judge.
      6. Super chief--be under it.
   B. Value of college.
      1. Bow-legged vs what manner of men are
         those who wear their legs in parathensis.
      2. 12 cups coffee.
   II. Bible one timers, or unique ones.
      A. Matt. 21 only time Jesus used an animal.
      B. Mark tells of naked man at arrest.
      C. Triumphant entry to Jerusalem only time
         used animal.  Only beast cites 2 animals
   III. Must Needs Go Through Samaria.
      A. He had to!  MK:13 wild beasts
      B. Shortest route--Bible world
         1000 x 500 miles--Palestine 150 x 80.
      C. Other Jews wouldn't.
      D. He was compelled.
      E. He ignored public opinion, tradition,
         rebelled and went.
         1. Looking for souls.
         2. Dearer than all costs.
         3. Gospel is for all? Or is it just some
pretty words.
F. What do you have to do?
1. Woe unto me if I preach not.
2. I'm ready not to be bound but die.
3. We cannot but tell.
G. What's your Samaria?
1. Jesus with you every step.
2. If that won't turn you on you ain't got no buttons!
IV. Conclusion.
A. Like man with multiple umbrellas—see you've had a good day.

Lebanon-Cumberland College 1-15-69
Julian, Alexander Hamilton Jr. High 4-26-69
Ihlen Univ.-Bennett Chapel 4-24-69
Stuart Hall, Atlanta 4-24-69
Mudhouse, Demme-Boad, Mene Zim, Zim 7-8-69
Charleston City, Charleston 9-25-69
Exchange Club, Ripley, Tenn. 11-4-69
Lupton Club, Staunton Park, 11-11-69
Men's Club, Kalamazoo 11-30-70
Kasner, Hobbs, Kwa, Kwania Club 2-12-70
Mountville Kwania Club 3-10-70
Muskellongue, Kwa, Kwania Club, 7-31-70
East Chicago School, Sheehan Co. Edic, assn.
Chicago, Dye Plaines ch., Breakfast 7-4-70
Fellowship Dinner 9-17-70
Kwania Club, Seattle, 1-14-71
Optimist Club Breakfast
Midland, Texas
Our New Decade

1. 203,000,000 tons

2. Soon 2 wk weather report
   a) Snow 6" partly cloudy

3. Dealers: how fast stop, tire load, pick up

4. Census coming:
   a) 8 out of 10 23? 15 min.
   b) 20% longer - 67? 45 min.
   c) Some 87? Neighbors

   (1) Own a dish washer
   (2) 2nd home

5. 2 yrs. to home video tape need

6. Rug in carpet

7. Paint that forms puts out fire

8. Car that yells loud 2 blocks aw

9. Income up, Education up

Just saved 9000$ joined 10 world tester-long term
10. Heinz drops "57"-get 1250
11. 20 hrs TV - Russian head in space-us deodorant
THE FIRST CONTACT WITH A SINNER

John 4:1-9

1. We want the church to grow.
   A. It does as we convert sinners.
   B. How do I interest folk in Jesus is our big question.
      1. Some don’t care.
      2. Some think they already have salvation.
      3. Some are turned off by our clumsiness.

11. Jesus can give us the perfect method as we see him win the woman at the well.
   A. Jesus came to Sychar.
      1. It’s great in Bible history.
         a) Here God appeared to Abraham.
            Gen. 12:6 *Passed thru the land unto the place of Sichem.
         b) Jacob dwelt here on return from Padanaram, earlier altar.
            Gen. 33:18
            Gen. 34:2
            c) Joseph fed flocks here.
            Gen. 37:12
            d) Israel took possession of Canaan & was city of refuge.
            Josh. 20:7-8
            e) Place of Joshua’s last address.
            Josh. 24:1
            f) Joseph buried here.
            Josh. 24:32
            Acts 7:16
            g) Abimelech history: prepare King Judges 9:1
h) Rehoboam met tribes, made King
1 Kings 12:1
i) Jeroboam dwelt there.
1 Kings 12:25
j) Mt. of blessing and cursing.

Josh. 8:33
2. Schechem & Neapolis other names.
3. 40 miles north of Jerusalem.
4. Jacob won & gave it to Joseph.

Gen. 48:22
5. Jacob's well there.

Gen. 33:18-19
a) 100' deep.
b) Percolates.
c) Don't know how it got its name.
d) Do know they accepted Genesis as fact, not fable.

B. See the Human Jesus.
1. He's one of us! Human nature.
2. He was weary.
   a) Tired.
   b) Life was an effort.
   c) Body like ours - tired, hungry, thirsty, sleepy, pained, knew our emotions.
   d) High priest that feels what we do.
   e) Weared to point of exhaustion, from labor.
   f) Been walking - never see him in carriage, only on beast one time.
3. He sat - even in presence of a woman.
   Humanity experiences infirmities.
4. He was thirsty - appealed for water on the basis of his humanity.
C. 6th Hour
1. High Noon (Jew) Evening (Roman)
2. Didn't draw water at high noon but rather cool of evening.
3. Is it likely Jesus would have a late afternoon conversation alone with a woman?

D. Women Came for Water.
1. There are barriers we must cross.
   a) Racial.
   b) Religious.
   c) Sexual.
   d) Economic - women did hard work.
2. Note Christ's approach. Note 7 Things
   a) Did not wait for her to speak.
   b) Started not with reproof.
   c) Opened by asking a favor.
   d) Approached with what was uppermost on her mind - water.
   e) Used something she readily understood.
   f) Practiced friendly aggression.
   g) Didn't expect her to come to him.
3. There is a handle to every mind; find it, grab it.

E. Disciples were away for meat.
1. He did not work a miracle to supply own need and want.
2. We have to spend some time in mundane matters.
3. Meat does not mean flesh - used 16 times - never exclusively flesh.
4. Could be flour, oil, incense.

Lev. 2:1-2

5. Meaning changed in last years, thus need of new translations.

F. The Contact - Give me to Drink

1. Note his equality.
2. He breaks the barrier.
3. He does not make her the aggressor.
4. He arouses her sympathy.
5. It's an appeal she can grant with little effort.
6. Common bond for both - both want water.
7. She will learn as body needs well water soul needs living water.
8. He's ever stretching out his hand in genuine interest.

G. The Response

1. Jewish man
   a) What do we see?
   b) Black or white? Didn't notice.
   c) Why think he's a Jew?
      (1) Speech, dialect.
      (2) Face.
      (3) Fringe on robe.
   d) One thing - he looked like ordinary fellow - no halo.

2. Remembered the hurt & typed him.
   a) Quarrel at least 400 years old.
   b) Samaritan treated with scorn.

   John 8:48. "Samaritan & had a devil!"
c) No dealings lit. "Use not anything together with".

H. Jesus spoke of Gift & Living Water.
1. He appeals to her conscious need.
2. He offers something superior.
3. He's asked a favor in order that he might convey a greater one.
4. Our whole life is made up of intermittent desire and partial satisfaction of passion and satiation. (P.C.)
5. When we talk to sinners what have we got that is to his advantage - cite it.

6. Gift:
   a) Something God's already given - his condenscension.
   b) Full discovery of personal relations with the veritable source of all life.
   c) Grace of God - not Holy Spirit, Christ, or opportunity. Reread sentence and substitute whatever you think the gift is, i.e. "If thou knowest Christ and that it is Christ who speaks."

7. Water
   a) Stands for everything Christ gives.
   b) All other gifts insignificant compared to God's.
   c) Some never see.
Ps. 4:6 "There be many that say who will show us any God?"
THE WONDROUS WORD - WORSHIP
John 4:16-22

1. Did you ever have a bombshell dropped in your lap?
   A. Sat in Don Denning's home for lunch and all of a sudden his daughter said "Guess what, our house is not paid for."
      1. Join the crowd.
      2. Who's is.
      3. I suspected such.
      4. What am I to do with this choice piece of information - just what are we supposed to say.
   B. Jesus did it with "Go call thy husband and come here" in response to "Give me this water."
      1. She'd opened a door with the request and the fleshly "neither come here to draw."
         a) He provoked an inquiry.
         b) She'll face her ignorance which is the cause of many failures. Also wrong desires and misconceptions.
         c) She did sense Jesus had something she needed.

2. Go call thy husband.
   a) Floored her.
   b) Suddenly she had to face herself.
   c) Christianity has two revelators: God and self.
2. 

d) It has been said no man sees himself until he sees himself in the presence of God.

e) Jesus put his finger on a sore spot - but we can't find peace if we make wrong right.

f) Jesus wants her to face her connections with a man - it will affect what she does.

3. I have no husband.

a) Answers in 3 Gk words - 4 in English.

b) Wants no investigation.

c) Shell change subjects quickly.

b) What she said was formally true but potentially misleading. (F.F. Bruce)

e) Some think God doesn't see!

(1) Achan & tent. Josh. 7

(2) Jeroboam's wife's mask. 1 Kings 14:5

(3) Cain & Abel

(4) Words in bed chamber. 2 Kings 6:12

f) Lit. husband (emphatic) have I none.

b) Did she make any effort later to reach this man?

Gott-sieht hinter deine maske =

Gott-sieht hinter die masker
h) Lewis Foster "She thought package best left wrapped up - he opened it with husband."

i) She didn't call him husband so maybe that says a little for her character.

4. Right - had 5 - this one not husband.
   a) Don't know why so many.
   b) Divorce her for something "unseemly". Deut. 24:1
   c) If she thought more husbands less work she's still drawing water.
   d) Her morality left much to be desired yet not beyond redemption.
   e) Jesus searches hearts. Rev. 2:23

f) We see our needs & the Christ who can meet them.

Heb. 4:13 "Neither is there any creature that is not"

5. His was a keen strategy - got things in focus.

6. Was her request a ruse or the natural inquiry of a soul face to face with one who knew perfectly the divine will?

II. Word - Worship - Where?

A. Prophet.

1. Change from water to the man.
2. Interest in Jesus grows.
3. When our moral position is challenged we seek an out by impersonal argument about religion.
Since talking to a prophet the conversation should take a religious turn.

Do you always bring up a matter of religious difference when you talk religion?

Sharp enough to know the prophet should be authentic.

B. Mt.-Question of Place

1. She won't move out of the limited region of her own thought.

2. She also has ancestry.
   a) "Daddy always right".
   b) Or cite ancestry and we do not imitate their piety.
   c) Incidentally Joshua told Ebal and they changed it to Gershom.
      (Deut. 27:4)

3. Place Lord had chosen - Samaritan view.
   Place Lord will choose - Hebrew. All
teterson presence or absence of "yod"
smallest letter in Hebrew Bible. (Read
Deut. 12:5-11)
   (Samaritans still say Gereshim tallest mt.
in the world - dogma vs measurement.)

4. Years will not excuse ignorance -
   "always done it this way!"

5. We are wedded to our error - we'll keep corrupt practices!
6. Profane heart wants tradition above revelation — Van Doven.

Eph. 2:10 "We are his workmanship, created in C. J. C. Jerusalem

1. Ever cited in first 5 books?
2. Can in:
1 Kings 9:3 Hallow house — put name there
2 Chron 3:1 Solomon — house of Lord — Jer.
3. Jerusalem is dear to us.

Lu. 24:47 "Repentance & remission of sins should be

D. Jesus answered.

1. Woman
   a) To the condemned he still offers hope.
   b) Note the Lord does not deal harshly with her.
   c) But not how factually He spoke.

2. Worship the Father.
   a) Worship — salute with profound reverence; to adore.
   b) New word — Father.

3. You know not what.
   a) Bigoted? Intolerable?
   b) Compromising? Vague? Ecumenical?
   c) Their worship rested on no divine ground — hence they knew not how, where, when, whom, or hope.
d) Will worship condemned.

Jer. 21:8
Isa. 1:13

Bring no more vain phythisy business is
on's behalf, and I can not take a gift.
Ignorance a fatal flaw.


a) This answers all anti-Jewish bias of
which we are accused.

b) Only place in gospels where Jesus
identifies himself with Jewish race.

c) Salvation - his atonement, his
purpose.

West End 2/17/85
Spiritual Growth Retreat, Gatlinburg, TN - 9/14/94
I. One of the thrills of Christianity is worship.
   A. It's vital.
   B. It's compulsory born of love.
   C. It's mysterious yet rewarding.
   D. It's to be studied alternatively in the use of W.

II. Worthy Worship

A. Only God

1. "Jesus is unique in human history. He is not merely one of the gods. He is God. He is not just a good man. He is the only man who is perfect in His goodness. He is not only a great leader. He is the only leader worthy of absolute devotion and allegiance. He is not only royalty, but He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Jesus is holy, righteous, and eternal. John called Him the Son of God, and Luke called Him the Son of Man. He is the God-man. He is in a class all His own."
   (Sammy Tippit)

2. "Jesus is not one of the group of the world's great. Talk about Alexander the Great and Charles the Great and Napoleon the Great if you will...Jesus is apart. He is not the Great; He is the Only. He is simply Jesus. Nothing could add to that."
   (Carnegie Simpson, in Basic Christianity)
3. Jesus is purest of all.
4. Jesus is King (9X in Matt. Son of David.)
   a) "One could take Mohammed out of Islam and it would remain a great religion. The same is true with Buddha and many of the other great religions of the world. However, it is not true with Christianity Christianity is Christ."
       (Sammy Tippit)
   b) C. S. Lewis, the great Christian philosopher and author, had this to say of Jesus' claims: "A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg--or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronising nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."
5. Worship arises out of gratitude for grace of God.

B. Defined
1. Worship God vs. Go to church.
Ps. 24:3-4 "Who may ascend into"
2. Arises from inner being and not mechanical or ritualistic.
3. We have mt. top and valley experiences.
4. It's expressive.
a) "The Devil hates music because he cannot stand gaiety...Satan can smirk but he cannot laugh, he can sneer but he cannot sing."
   (Martin Luther, in The Stories Behind Gr. Hymns)
   (1) Watch familiarity of songs.
   (2) Untrue & showcase songs.
b) Prayer
   (1) More that 10:00 A.M.
   (2) In faith
1 Tim. 2:8-y (Read)
Mk. 11:24 "Whatsoever things soever ye desire when ye pray...
(3) In purity
Ps. 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will
(4) In perseverance
Lu. 18:7 "Shall not God avenge his own elect which cry
III. Warnings of Waning Worship
Hosea 4
A. Wife does not want divided loyalty of husband.
Matt. 6:24 "No man can serve 2 masters for either
1. Kids leave church because of parents inconsist
2. Trivia's origin & Wall St Journal #102
B. Can't bow to gods of culture.
   1. Popularity—silver, sex & self.
   2. Lose our children.

Hosea 4:6
C. Cannot be priests

Hosea 4:6
4:1

D. Gods of today
   1. Pleasure—feels good do it.
   2. Possessions—what is success.

1 Tim. 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all
defilements. (ートザの著書)
3. Prestige

Prov. 29:23 A man’s pride shall bring him low;
   as the furnace for gold, so is a man to
   his praise.

Prov. 27:21

Hosea 4
1. Call to hear word (Campbell Morgan card)
2. Controversy (lawsuit)

3. No truth, mercy, knowledge of God in land
(Tozer card) #4

4. Swear, lie, kill, steal, adultery
   a) Apart from restraint of religion such would
      be our land today.
   b) History tells of 8th iest who moved from a
      mining camp where there was no semblance
      of religious. (Meyers)
   c) Break out—blood touches blood shows the
      frequency of crimes.

5. Land, People, beasts, birds, fish feel it

Rom 8:22-23
6. People destroyed for lack of knowledge
   a) Rejected
   b) Can't be the priests.
   c) Forgot law

7. Way of Priests
   a) As was " so became worshippers
   b) Not what we teach but what we are
      that affects people (Meager)
   c) Priest should have instructed folk in word.
   d) They are responsible for failure.
   e) Priest enriched self via people's sin offerings.
   f) Thus encouraged sin rather than check it - money in their pockets

   Read Ezek 34:1-10

9. Prospered from unrestrained willful sins of people.

III. Let's worship God in the beauty of Holiness - knowing Him via word and giving Him what we asked for.
A. W. Tozer said, "The yearning to know what cannot be known, to comprehend the Incomprehensible, to touch and taste the Unapproachable arises from the image of God in the nature of man."

WORTHY OF WORSHIP - Sammy Tippit, page 12

The word "trivia" comes from the Latin for "three ways." More specifically, it alluded to what we now call a three-way intersection. At such crossroads, people stopped to trade small talk. And so the talk itself came to be called trivia. — L. M. Boyd
The Wall Street Journal carried a series of articles by James Sterba about the rise of Islam throughout the world. Sterba described the process many young people in Indonesia have followed in their turning to Islam. The first step is one of disillusionment. "Amid drugs, pollution, pornography, greed and lawlessness, young Indonesians—especially those who have studied abroad—find much in Western society that is sick and disturbing. Returning from the culture shock of education in the U.S. and Europe, students feel like misfits." The second step is one of resolution. "Frustrated" by what they have seen of western religion, the young Indonesians "have turned to Islam," Sterba says, quoting another journalist who has studied the phenomenon.
The only way in which it is possible for us to "feed on Christ" is through the Word of God. Simply to study the Bible from an intellectual standpoint in order to know it, is not to feed on Him; and, moreover, such study is not sufficient. On the other hand, to attempt to know Christ and to feed on Christ apart from the Bible is impossible because God has ordained that as the vehicle of His communication to man.

(G. Campbell Morgan, in This Was His Faith)

WORTHY OF WORSHIP - Sammy Tippit - pg. 68

With the loss of the sense of majesty has come the further loss of religious awe and consciousness of the divine Presence. We have lost our spirit of worship and our ability to withdraw inwardly to meet God in adoring silence...It is impossible to keep our moral practices sound and our inward attitudes right while our idea of God is erroneous or inadequate. If we would bring back spiritual power to our lives, we must begin to think of God more nearly as He is.

(A. W. Tozer, The Knowledge of God

WORTHY OF WORSHIP, Sammy Tippit, page 18
WHEN WE COME TOGETHER, WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO DO?

John 4:22-26

I. Men assemble for multiple purposes.
   A. "Church" not a "religious" word.
      1. Simply "called out."
      2. Separated for many purposes - mob, religious, social.
      3. Men will assemble for political rallies, sports events, civic action.
   B. Why are we here now?
      1. Entertainment?
      2. 6:00 P.M. is sacred hour?
      3. No place else to go?
      4. Or worship God?

II. Story of Jesus & Woman at Well.
   John 4:22-26
   A. Latter section of story.
      1. V. 16 "Go call thy husband & come hither.
      2. She froze.
         (a) 3 words in G K.
         (b) 4 words in Eng., "I have no husband."
         (c) Sullen, short.
         (d) Wanted no investigation - especially by a Jew of this Samaritan.
         (e) Like all- when our moral position is challenged we take refuge in arguing impersonally about religion, said Tenny.
         (f) Hers was a quick diversiony tactic.
         (g) Yates said when woman saw in whose presence she stood she sought way of escape.
3. Jesus told her she had no husband - had had 5 - no benefit of marriage now to one she has.

B. Prophet - Tell me about worship.

1. Is place important?

V. 20 "Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ;
   (a) Place of little importance.
   (b) Worship a matter of heart, will, spirit, emotion not physical place - Butler.

2. True & False worship possible.
   (a) Barclay, "False selects what it wants to know & omits what it doesn't."
   (b) We must aim at total truth.

3. Ingredients of True Worship.
   (a) Knowledge.
   V. 22 "We know what we worship: for salvation is of
   (b) Spirit.
      (i) All done here must be real and sincere. (Can't sing a song I don't understand - can't pray c leader I can't hear).
      (2) God's a spirit - can't confine Him to things & places.
      (3) We need joyously to want to worship - Clip by D. Bradley.
   (c) Truth.
      (1) The emotions are in worship, "all done must be performed according to revelation God has given." Koglin.
      (2) Truth not found in tradition. (See Hazelip can
      (3) Main point of worship is not locality but one worshipped.
Matt. 15:9 "In vain do they worship me, teaching doctrines."

III. What Then Are Avenues We Employ?

A. Define worship.
   1. Read W. F. Lown clip.
   2. Worship is courtesy or reverence paid to that which is considered worthy of courtesy or reverence. It is reverence paid to worth.

Ps. 29:2 "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name.

3. If God's worth anything, then your worship is a natural & necessary response.

B. When they met, what did they do?
   1. 1st note they met. The worship is private, it still is a corporate experience. They gathered not because they must but that they might.
   2. They sang.

James 5:13 "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray
   (a) Are we cheerful?
   (b) Do we praise?

Heb. 13:15-16 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God, regularly offering the fruit of our lips.

3. They prayed.
   (a) They prayed while waiting.
   (b) They prayed while dispatching men.
   (c) They prayed while in need of courage.
   (d) They prayed w/o ceasing."
4. They ate the supper.
   (a) Gathered at the table & remembered.
   (b) Dangerous not to.

1 Cor. 11:17 "Now in this that I declare unto you I pray thee (1 Cor. 11:30) "For this cause many are weak and sickly.
   (c) Regularly there.
   (d) We remain clean.

1 Cor. 10:21 "You cannot be a guest at the Lord's table & at the table of Devils," Phillips.
   (e) It proclaims.

1 Cor. 11:26 "For as often as ye eat this bread, and dr
   (f) Not the Chr. Sabbath - Sabbath a day of rest -
     1st day is one of surging ahead.
   (g) Trueblood Clip.

5. They gave.
   (a) If one in need they rallied to his support.

6. They preached.
Rom. 10:14-17 "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?
2 Cor. 4:13 "We having the same spirit of faith, account...
Acts 6:7 "And the word of God increased; and the number of the
Rom. 1:15 "So, as much as in me is, I am ready to proclaim... 
1 Cor. 9:16 "For though I preach the gospel, I have not
   (a) Preaching to bring the worshipper under judgment thus creating faith & motivation.
   (b) Pulpit alive & current.
He who neglects worship, neglects that which separates man from birds, animals, insects and fishes. Unworshipful man is an anthropoid with a highly developed brain...a paragon of morality, but so are bees and ants...keenly intelligent, but so are wolves and foxes...provides for his family, but so do hyenas and the orangutans...successful in his affairs, but so are beavers and muskrats...artistic, but so are spiders and butterflies. Worship is the chief concern of highly developed human beings. - D Bradley quoted by David Poling, Christian Herald, 8-69.

The earliest post-biblical accounts of worship available to us indicate that the early church service was very informal, probably quite similar to the synagogue service except for the observance of the Lord’s Supper and the reading of New Testament books. Early liturgies indicate a rather heavy use of the Psalms as devotional literature. The influence of Greek mystery cults, with their sacrificial meals for communion with their gods, may have had some bearing on the gradual development of a sacrificial view of the Lord’s Supper, following the New Testament period.

In the fourth century Christianity became a state religion, making it no longer necessary to meet in private houses. The Lord’s Supper changed from a "family" or informal type of observance to a more formal, sacramental service "attended" by a congregation. Free spontaneous comment in worship changed to proper responses said at the specified times by the congregation.
The table became shrouded with curtains, the bread and wine began to be treated as sacred, and outstanding leaders began writing down the ritual they followed for the Lord’s Supper.

"The Wonderful Word in Worship" - by Harold Hazelip

From Ft. Worth Christian College 12th Annual Lectures, p. 114

Our worship of the Lord

In our English Bible some form of the word worship occurs 198 times. The term comes from the Anglo-Saxon “worth-ship” and means the ascribing of worth. Hence, worship implies the art of seeing the worth of God, and by contrast, evaluating other things in the light of His supreme worth.

The Hebrew word which we translate worship literally means to bow down. Five words in our Greek New Testament may be translated worship, and suggest the following ideas: to do reverence, to make obeisance, to do homage, to express awe or devotion, to honor, to render service, and to act piously toward. When we worship, then, we are paying reverent devotion and rendering service to God because we recognize His eternal worth.

Mr. Lown is president of Manhattan (Kansas) Bible College.

God’s worship is the base for church growth. While the elements we have discussed are intangible and largely immeasurable, little growth is likely without them. The assembly at worship can and does find the base for church growth. This fact is expressed by Elton Trueblood as he writes about the worshiping church, saying that it is “…a fellowship of consciously inadequate persons who gather because they are weak, and scatter to serve because their unity one with another and with Christ has made them bold” (“The Incendiary Fellowship,” New York: Harper and Row, 1967, p. 31).

*Scripture quoted from Phillips translation.

CHRISTIAN STANDARD
I. I have a question: Why are you here?
   A. Old answer - "Because I'm not there."
   B. But is there not a universal reason for our presence.
      1. Not warm, cool, or fed.
      2. Not company, curiosity, or culture.
      3. I'm here to worship God - the one compelling reason for our coming.

II. The next question could be - then what expectations do you have?
   What equipment did you bring for this heavenly assignment?

III. Our John text will show many things.
   A. The current imperative nature of worship and its meaning.
   B. The person who is to worship.
   C. The characteristics of worship.
   D. The one worshipped.
   E. The Revelation it brings.

IV. The Current Imperative & Definition of Worship.
   A. Jesus said it "now is".
      1. "Christian worship is the most momentous, the most urgent, the most glorious action that can take place in human life" - Karl Barth.
      2. There are three "musts" in John's gospel.
Jn. 3:7 "Ye must be born again"
Jn. 3:14 "The Son of man must be lifted up"
Jn. 4:24 "God is a Spirit, & they that worship Him"

3. Worship is worship.
4. It is of the Father.
   a) Beatitudes - Your Father.
   b) Lord's Prayer - Our Father.
   c) Lazarus' Tomb - Father.
   d) Gethsemane - My Father.

B. You engage in nothing more refining than worship - (so I wonder about "going to church")

V. The Character of Worship.
A. There is a true worship.
   1. Automatically admits a false.
   2. Jesus is freeing the Samaritan woman from place.
   3. Rids it of all that is transitory, national, local, ceremonial - Dumelow.
   4. No longer need Naaman's dirt. 2 Kings 5:17

B. 2 Criteria: Spirit & Truth.
1. Spirit
   a) Matter of heart, will, emotions - not physical place.
   b) Inward reverence (not John Riggins to Judge O'Connor, "Loosen up Sandy baby").
   c) Opposite of religion that is external - one of form & ceremony.
Jesus, whither they people meet  
There, they behold thy mercy seat  
Where're they seek thee, thou art found  
And every place is hallowed ground.  
William Cooper

d) Manner is important.
e) True devotion not confined to place.
   Noah - ark
   Abraham - Egypt
   Jacob - desert
   Moses - wilderness
   David - sheep
   Josiah - Throne
   Daniel - Den
   Heb. youths - furnace
   Thief - Cross
   Stephen - Stones

f) "Mere forms & rites cannot satisfy any
   more than incense can a hungry man" -
   Van Doren

Rom. 1:9 "For God is my witness, whom I serve"
g) Spirit shows intensity.
h) Body worship: right place; right things;
   right time; right position.
i) Major (above) on feelings - but that's
   not enough.
j) Rather your spirit meets with God's spirit.
2. Truth
   a) Truth is vital.
   b) Not found in traditions.
   c) Does have to do with outward form.
   Ps. 145:18 "The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon Him in truth."
   d) No rite can claim authority without thus saith the Lord.
   e) Without truth it's mockery.
   2 Tim. 3:5 "Have a form of godliness, but denying"
   f) Truth is more than sincerity - Godet
   Matt. 15:8-9 "Their heart is far... in vain" #2
   Jn. 17:17 "Thy word is truth" - PONYEXPRESS
   g) Truth is not only correct belief but it is practical piety.
   h) Has to do with our honest & wholehearted approach to God.
   i) Someone points out Jesus spent more time in preaching this sermon than he did in building the Alps.

   a) we find God everywhere.
   Mal. 1:11 (Read)
   b) Can't confine spirit to place.
   c) God became flesh with us; that we might become one spirit with him.
VI. The Revelation

A. Messiah comes.
1. Note progression – Jew, Sir, prophet, Christ - (are we growing?)
2. Samaritans called Messiah "Assaef" – from to return.
3. He will bring back, convert.
4. That conception better than that of earthly politicians.

B. Jesus said "I am He".
1. "He" added – he simply said "I am".
2. 7 times makes this claim in John.

4:26 "I am"
6:20 "It is I, be not afraid"
8:24 "For if he believe not that I am he"
28 "When ye have lifted up the Son"
58 "Before Abraham was, I am"
13:19 "That ye may believe that I am"
18:5 "I am he".

3. "Either Jesus of Nazareth is God’s Messiah, as he claims to be, or else there will never be a Messiah" (Boice)

4. "Any man that ever comes into this world professing to fulfill the conditions will be a liar and the child of the Devil". – Dr. Barnhouse.

5. Claims to be Diety – I Am = To Be.

Napoleon on Jesus #3
6. First recorded admission from Him that He was the Christ.
   a) Most explicit declaration he made about Messiahship.
   b) Passed over scribes & reveals 4000 yr. truth to an outcast.
   c) Next time to a blind beggar. (Jn. 9:37)
   d) He avoided all parade & excitement. (John 6:15)
   e) Ego eimi = I am - There is no one else.
The restoration of the truth, the first of these methods, is indispensable to our purpose. At recurring intervals throughout history man has felt the need of restoring the ancient and original doctrine of Christ. After long usage truth is likely to be obscured by, or lost in, accrued traditions and ephemeral obsessions. The church has often been plagued by a split of authority on vital issues and the acquiescence in this situation is inconsistent with the New Testament plea. The writings of men tend to replace the revelation of God as an authoritative statement of truth. It has always been difficult to get men to follow Christ rather than each other. But let us not deceive ourselves, if the writings of Martin Luther, rather than the teaching of Christ, resolve religious issues for you, you are a Lutheran. If the pronouncements of Alexander Campbell constitute final authority in the field of religion for me, I am a Campbellite. If
the conclusions enunciated by David Lipscomb comprise the touchstone of truth for any man, he is a Lipscombite. The very weakness of man, therefore, is sufficient justification for the perpetuation of the spirit of the Restoration Movement.

"Abilene Christian College Lectures 1957" - pp. 142-143

From "Abiding in the Doctrine of Christ" - By Alonzo D. Welch

41 Standard Equipment On Pony
41 Express

The pony express was a thrilling part of early American history. It ran from St.
Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California—a distance of 1,900 miles. The trip was made in ten days. Forty men, each riding 50 miles a day, dashed along the trail on 500 of the best horses the West could provide.

To conserve weight, clothing was very light, saddles were extremely small and thin, and no weapons were carried. The horses themselves wore small shoes or none at all. The mail pouches were flat and very conservative in size. Letters had to be written on thin paper, and postage was $5.00 an ounce (a tremendous sum those days).

Yet, each rider carried a full-sized Bible! It was presented to him when he
"I know men and I tell you that Jesus Christ is not a man. Superficial minds see a resemblance between Christ and the founders of empires, gods of other religions, that comparison does not exist. There is between Christianity and any other religion whatsoever the distance of infinity. We can say to the authors of every other religion, ye are neither gods nor the agents of deity, but ye are missionaries of falsehood, molded from the same clay as with the rest of mortals. Ye are made with all the vices and passions inseparable from them. Your temples and your priests proclaim your origin and such will be the judgement cry of everyone who examines the gods and temples of paganism but Jesus Christ astounds me and fills me with awe.

- Napoleon Bonaparte

33 Diminishing Age of Salvation
Nineteen out of every twenty who become Christians do so before they reach the age of twenty-five.

- After twenty-five, only one in 10,000
- After thirty-five, only one in 50,000
- After forty-five, only one in 200,000
- After fifty-five, only one in 300,000
- After sixty-five, only one in 500,000
- After seventy-five, only one in 700,000
I. Most of the time when you show an interest in others, blessings can be forthcoming.
   A. The disciples were solicitous about Jesus & his eating.
      1. Beautiful to see that concern - even as Mary at the tomb - she'll go get him.
      2. We learn to love his body too.
   B. True some will take advantage or even resent as an intrusion your overtures.
      1. On plane - returning from Florence, Italy - 8 hours long time in one seat.
      2. Returning service man, wife, 2 year old across from us. Excellent behavior - 2 word sentences - plane full, momma gone, helicopter black, etc.
      3. Stewardess brought child play planes - "what do you say?" Instead of "Thanks" as expected, it was "More, More".

II. About Jesus there was a real interest.
   A. "In the meanwhile" - v. 31
      1. Interval of time.
      2. Crucial - between time woman left water-pot & all folks came trouping out from city to see him.
      3. We must seize the appropriate moment.
   B. 'Prayed him'
      1. Word of intense desire.
2. Seldom for ordinary prayer is its usage—rather insist, urgently request, make inquiry.

C. Master, Eat
   1. Shows humanity of Jesus.
   2. Need to be interested in others' welfare.
   3. Some for Master have Rabbi—there seems to be a gradual increase of feeling for Jesus as later not Rabbi but Lord.

D. "I have meat to eat ye know not of"
   1. He introduces a new "meat".
   2. He shows there is something more important than food. Rom. 14:17 "For the K. of God is not meat & drink"
   3. Barclay "A great task can lift a man above bodily needs".

E. Disciples "Hath any man brought him ought to eat"
   1. They return to ordinary food in thought.
   2. Can't imagine anyone showing kindness in Samaria to Jewish man.
   3. Do we view some folks as all horns?
   4. Suppose disciples were whispering one to another about it?
   5. Augustine "What wonder is it if the woman could not understand our Lord speaking about living water, when the disciples could not understand him speaking about meat?"
F. The meat of Jesus - do the will of him that sent me & finish his work.

1. Before commenting on this please note the Bible speaks of various "meats".
   a) It's literal - Daniel & his food from King's table tho it may not mean "flesh" always.
   b) Gall
   Ps. 69:21 "They gave me gall for my meat & in my"  (Vinegar)
   c) Deceitful
   Prov. 23:3 "Be not desirous of his d... for they are"
   d) 4 things disquieting.
   Prov. 30:21 - servant reigning; fool full of meat,
   odious married woman - handmaid heir to her masters.
   e) Dust
   Isa. 65:25 "Dust shall be the serpent's meat"
   f) Salary
   Matt. 10:10 "The workman is worthy of his meat"
   g) Perish vs. Enduring
   John 6:27 "Labor not for the meat which"

III. Jesus & His Meat

A. His meat - do the will of him that sent me.
   1. It is intended to be enjoyed.
   2. Its purpose is nourishment & sustenance.
   3. His is spiritual.
   4. Obedience surely - but more - it's God's means of granting salvation to the world.

Children taught "Don't say, don't like - but I don't care for any"
5. "All laws go the way the King desires" - Spanish proverb & story.

6. Jesus delighted to do God's will.
Ps. 40:8 "I delight to do thy will O My God"

B. Keynote of his life - submission to Father's will.
   1. Only one who ever did it perfectly.
   2. He was sent by God - man under orders.
John 17:4 I have gloried I have finished
14:23 If a man love me he will keep

B. Finish His Work
   1. Some translate "accomplish".
   2. Bring work to predestined goal.
   3. Fulfill, finish.
Jn. 17:4 "I glorified thee on the earth - having"
John 19:28-30 "It is finished"
   4. Complete the fulfillment of the Savior's office.
   5. Not spasmodic but instant, constant.

IV. Our Meat
A. How keenly do we desire the will of God.
B. As did Jesus, do we want to do it more than anything?
   1. "Satan" wanted to be above his station - yet he was created with prominence - angel?
Ezek. 28:21 "Full of wisdom, perfect in beauty"
   2. SX I will - origin of sin. - King S + Babylon?
3. Exalted own way & found misery. Little girl wrote "Dear Grandma. Thank you for the pincushion. I have always wanted a pincushion but not very much!"

D. Boise - It is not "My food is to will the will of him that sent me - but to do the will".

E. Spurgeon quote.

F. Do we start & not finish?

G. Are we happy, enthusiastic?

Ecc. 9:10 Whatever thy hand findeth to do

West End - 4/28/85
Laurel Ave., Knoxville - 4/28/85 (p.m.)
In Spain there is a very old proverb which says, "All lays go the way that kings desire." Behind that proverb is an interesting story. About the beginning of the twelfth century there was a debate about whether the country's churches were to use Gothic or Roman prayer books in their services. The question eventually came before Alfonso VI, who was king at the time. Alfonso decided to leave the matter to chance, so he threw a copy of both prayer books into a fire declaring that the one that survived the ordeal should be chosen. However, when the Gothic missal survived the blaze, the king immediately threw it back into the fire and chose the Roman liturgies. Thus was the matter decided, and the proverb became popular throughout the country.
THE INGREDIENTS OF LEADERSHIP
John 4:31-38

1. That you are achieving is beyond doubt - we congratulate all lads & leaders.
2. That you point yourself to greater planes is further obvious. How will you do it?
3. In all things follow the pattern of Jesus. Let me take one event from His life.
   A. Setting is woman at the well.
      1. Jesus has His conversation.
      2. Sends men in for meat.
      3. Woman leaves water pot.
      4. Invites all to see Jesus.
   B. "In the meanwhile" (V. 31).
      1. This is our story.
      2. We want to see the ingredients of successful leadership.

IV. Jesus outlines it.
   A. Man must have a consuming ambition & finish it.
      V. 34 "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me
         1. Need enthusiasm. Squirrel in house
         2. Can't do work of Christ in perfunctory way.
         3. Will of Father supreme.
   B. 2ndly, there must be an alert readiness.
      V. 35 "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and th
         1. Harvest comes rapidly.
         2. Vast opportunity - world is God's field - 1st day at school.
         3. Back to 1 sandwich.
   C. 3rdly, There is a reward.
V. 36 "He that reapeth receiveth wages
   1. Gathers fruit unto life eternal.
   2. Best guide in Maine.
D. 4th, We are a part of a team...
V. 36 "He that soweth & he that reapeth
V. 37 "One soweth, another reapeth
   1. No premium put on either other than necessity.
   2. No envy or jealousy in Heaven.

Ladies to Leaders Awards Banquet, Hyatt Regency 4/10/82
EVERY ONE NEEDS TO KNOW OUR LORD
John 4:34-38
I. Most will agree that we are not getting the job done at home or abroad in reaching the world for Christ. Jim Lovell asks, "Does that disturb you?"
A. It's a big job (Mk. 16:15-16)
   1. 200 million vehicles on hiways - Carl Mitchell said if you plan to cross the street, you better do it now.
   2. Steve Botts said a smaller percentage believe every year 1/3 world has no convictions
      190,000 new souls daily
      132 per minute
      5,700,000 per mo.
B. The task is committed to us.
   1. Do you want to share the Christ with anyone?
   2. Does it mean enough to you to work at it?
Acts 1:8 "Ye shall be witnesses unto me
II. Who is the type to do it?
   A. One that has surrendered his life to God, enthroned Jesus. (I)
      1. No longer I live.
Phil. 2:5 "Let this mind be in you which was
B. One who has knowledge & is a true representative of Christ. (2) who being in the form of God
   1. Take knowledge been c Jesus.
   2. No inconsistency in message & messenger - validates in ethics & morality.
Acts 1:1 "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus (Girls at switchboard would handle call "with pleasur
3. Love for the cause leads him not advancement of hobby.

1 Cor. 9:16 "For tho I preach the gospel I have nothing
4. Willing to die in the cause.

(a) Some mission groups have more graves than converts.
(b) God's got the greatest investment - His Son - He will be interested!

5. No doubt in own mind you are a child of the King.

John 1:6 "There was a man sent from God, whose name
6. Has quality of high achieve - he labors for Master

1 Cor. 9:22 "I am made all things to all men

(a) Mind demands closure. "Pragnats"
Jn. 4:34 "My meat is to do the will of him who sent me"

4:35 "Say not ye there are yet 4 months, and then
(b) Old learning keeps no better than old fish.

7. Availability is more important than ability.

C. One who believes in the power of God to be used
by him.

1. Clarence Dailey told of man who quit praying because he didn't think God could hear in all languages.

2. Contrast c "Israel" who Harris Goodwin told was imprisoned for preaching.

D. We must believe that sin damns.
Rom. 5:12 "By 1 man sin entered into the world and death by sin, & so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned.

Gen. 4:7 "If thou doest not well, sin lieth E. Must know Christ is the remedy."
1. God via cross suffered c us.
2. This shows His love.
John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave
3. Why lamb? Bill Stephens said chose sweet
   innocent animal you are attached to even as God
   was His Son.
4. Tell scheme of redemption.
   John 12:32 "And I, if I be lifted up

Sheet End 11-18-73
Sam Blair

Doing Right
By a Legend

Tex didn't get into any big arguments with Avery. He just kept working, contacting people who could help, and waiting. Now Brundage, the world's foremost champion of amateurism has retired as president of the International Olympic Committee. This, plus the fact that Oklahoma is represented in Washington by persons of great political persuasion like House Speaker Carl Albert, seems to make this the right time for everything to happen.

A few weeks ago the Amateur Athletic Union voted to restore Thorpe to good standing from 1919 through 1912. Now AAU president David Riveneus will sponsor the Thorpe case at a meeting of the U.S. Olympic Committee in New York. Tex hasn't found USOC officials nearly as helpful as AAU figures like Riveneus and executive director Alan Cassell but he believes that sooner or later approval will come, particularly since the USOC has a certain awareness of Congress.

Once the USOC agrees, Thorpe's case will enter the home stretch. Lord Killarney of Ireland, Brundage's successor, has assured Tex that the IOC will listen with friendly ears.

If so, returning the gold medals which Thorpe received for winning the decathlon and pentathlon will be the next order of business. They have remained all these years in Stockholm because the athletes who finished second, a Norwegian named Fafel and a Swede named Bergstrom, refused to accept them.

Also sought are two valuable trophies which were presented to Thorpe and then placed in Lucerne, Switzerland, when he was stripped of his honors. One is a Viking ship, containing 34 pounds of gold and bearing King Gustav's famous words. The other is a bust of the Czar of Russia, who was still enjoying the good life in 1912. It contains 84 pounds of gold.

Despite what Brundage once said, it seems likely that all of this eventually will happen. Meanwhile, Tex will be busy helping implement Public Law 93102, which authorizes the U.S. Mint to strike 100,000 Jim Thorpe commemorative medals. Most of these will be offered for sale to the public at a nominal price and the funds will go toward building a Thorpe shrine at Yale, Okla.

It's happening for a lot of reasons, but first of all because Tex Brown has his own definition of no.

"All no's," he says, "are a conditional yes."

OL' JIM never was much for speeches, but ol' King sure knew what he was talking about. Thorpe won the decathlon AND the pentathlon at the Stockholm Games. That's 15 different events, friends, and most of them involved track and field, in which Jim really wasn't too experienced.

First time he represented Carlisle Indian School at a meet, an official read Thorpe a list of the events on the program. "Sign me up for all of 'em," Jim told him. "Ain't no fun watchin'".

But he was a wonderfully gifted athlete who excelled in competition. Perhaps he was too versatile.

Thorpe really got the build-up when he returned to the U.S. after his Olympic triumph. There was a ticker tape parade in New York and a White House reception. Then the AAU tore it down.

Thorpe was stripped of his amateur status when it was learned he had pitched semi-pro baseball for $15 a week in North Carolina during the summer of 1909. Even then some people thought the AAU over-reacted. Now a lot of people do, including the AAU.

"Plenty of young fellows were doing the same thing," says Harold (Tex) Brown, leader of the campaign to have Thorpe's name returned to the Olympic records. "Jim just signed his real name when he received his money. Another fellow signed Joe Wilson when his real name was Dwight David Eisenhower."

Tex Brown may be as remarkable in his way as Thorpe was in his. Member of a pioneer ranching family at Floydada, Tex is a lanky, folksy guy whose gangling cowboy appearance belies his considerable education (University of Texas, Harvard, Columbia) and a rare energy and instinct for getting people involved in his cause.

Since moving to Oklahoma 15 years ago, Tex stayed after the AAU about reinstating Thorpe, who was born on the Sac and Fox Reservation at Belmont, Oklahoma Territory, in 1888. To him the thought of having Thorpe's name cleared, his medals returned and a shrine built in his honor in his native state was no idle dream. It was simply the proper thing to do. Now it's moving closer to reality.

"Avery, Brundage always went up in smoke when I talked to him about Jim," Tex says. "He told me, 'There's nothing that you, the President of the..."
MEAT THAT’S HEAVENLY

John 4:34-38

I. Diets are interesting things to discuss.
   A. They exist for purposes: gain or loss.
   B. Jesus had one & we want to study His meat that is heavenly.

II. Conversation about Meat.
   A. Disciples encouraged eating.
      1. They prayed him.
         a.) Made curious inquiry.
         b.) Some folks get absorbed c food.
         c.) Be sought – verb for qt. & interrogation.
         d.) Used among equals.
   B. Jesus said he had meat.
      1. Some questions puzzly, "Won't you have a biscuit?" "Thank you" – do they or don’t they?
      2. Implied he had food.
      3. If body must have food, so must soul.
   C. Disciples puzzled.
      1. Woman didn’t understanding living water.
      2. Disciples don’t meat, said Augustine.
      3. All men are obtuse.

III. Jesus that spoke of his joy of Evangelism.
   A. My meat is to do the will of him that sent me.
      1. McGarvey says the characteristics of good food are: popcorn w/o swallowing
         a.) Enjoyment.
         b.) Satisfaction.
         c.) Refreshment.
         d.) Strength.

Dr. K. Kaplan “no water is salt” – 3 level teaspoons

Dr. C. Kaplan “after cooking is salt” – 3 level teaspoons
2. God's work should have all these characteristics.
3. To do the will of God is a perpetual and sublime activity.
4. Will of the Father supreme.

B. Urgency of Harvest.
1. It comes rapidly.
2. Vast opportunity - whole earth.

C. Joy in the Harvest (V. 36).
1. It demands a zeal for the good of others.
2. It's more than duty & pleasure - it's food & drink.

Job 23:15 "Therefore am I troubled at his presence: who is able among mortals to stand before God?"
3. Do it enthusiastically.

Ecc. 9:10 "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might.
4. We have enthusiasm in everything but religion.
5. Jesus approves zeal.
6. Can't do work of Christ in a perfunctory way.
7. 4 months from sowing to harvest.
8. Be alert.
9. Common joy among all the workers.
10. Great team of sowers & reapers. 1 lays 1 stone & 1 another.

11. No limits to the cycles of work.

D. There are Rewards.
1. There can be discouragements but there are wages to come.

Ps. 126:6 "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing p..."
2. There is a diversity of operations.
3. Some will not live to see the fruit of their labors.
4. Rewards mostly in future.
5. Soul reaper gets happiness, not money or fame.

IV. What then are our priorities?

[Signature] 11-21-82
FOUR MONTHS TOO LATE!
John 4:35-38, 39-42

I. None of us who preach know when we've selected the most crucial subject that's before us - but frankly I know few more imperative needs than this.

A. I want to speak about our being soul conscious.
B. Second, I want to talk of the Kingdom's enlargement.
C. Finally I want to speak about the power of one person.

II. Are We Soul Conscious - Conversion Considered?
A. Editorial San Angelo Standard with comments. #1
B. A Mother's Choice. #2
C. Priorities via Dr. Hendricks. #3

III. Are We Thinking of the Kingdom's Enlargement?
A. We turn to John 4:35-38.
B. We see:
1. 4 months proverb.
   a) Not actual time at the scene of this story but rather quotes a proverb.
   b) Johnson says it was the middle of Dec. when this took place.
   c) Proverb: 4 months between seed & harvest.
   d) Disciples had been thinking of food - Jesus thought of spiritual matters.
2. Lift - Look
   a) We are not at liberty to set our own priorities.
   b) They were 4 months too late via waiting.
   c) We are under marching orders - "GO" (Matt. 28)
   d) Not question of "whether" we go - but "where".
   e) Men & women are lost.
Eph. 2:12 "That at that time ye were"
Jer. 50:6 "Lost sheep - forgotten resting place"
f) Relation dulls our sense of missions.
g) Rich opportunities are now there.
h) Age of waiting is passed - it's now the time of eternal harvest.

3. White - Harvest
   a) Boice, author of above, says tragic to miss opportunities that are great.
   b) Otis Gatewood taught Personal Work Course - "let's not meet, let's go see your neighbors" he said - "No, we want a class to talk about it - not do it".
   c) There are times when we are more unusually sensitive to God.
   d) Erdman "Always there is a time of opportunity".
   e) Grain harvest may be 4 months away; Spiritual is Now.
4. Reap - Wages - Fruit
   Unto Eternal Life - Joy
   a) You are working "listening as to eternity" prayers.
   b) Soul reaper does not get money or fame but happiness.
   c) Clip on Joy.
   d) Ruskin clip.

5. Sower & Reaper Relations
   a) Debate over is it or is it not a proverb.
   b) Both sower & reaper are important.
   c) All workers are vital - but you may not be in on whole, entire operation.

IV. Believed on Jesus - 2 Methods
   A. "For the Saying of the Woman"
      1. Believed
         a) Weak faith? How much could they have known?
         b) Later many were baptized in Samaria.
   Acts 8:5-12
         c) No prejudice evidently.
      2. Woman's testimony so simple.
         a) See elevation of women in gospel.
         b) Barclay points out the pattern of gospel spread.
            (1) Introduction - word must be transmitted by man to man. God delivers it only by man - earthen vessels. Introduction made on strength of personal witness.
4. (2) No man can go thru an experience for another.
   (3) Discovery & surrender.
   c) Words of woman not profound just the simple truth.
   d) One woman so important.
   e) If woman had not spoken would Samaritans have believed?
   f) David's sling took a Goliath.
   g) Melancthon pointed out did not have to be clergy to convert someone.
   h) Clip on candy & pretty.

3. If you would win someone
   a) Be a friend - not an isolationist.
   b) Ask & answer questions.
   c) Offer something relevant.
   d) Stress good news.
   e) Ask folks to make a decision - is Jesus real?

B. 2nd Method - Because of his own Word.
   1. Everyone does not respond to the same method.
   2. Samaritans came & besought him to "tarry".
      a) Strange Samaritans extend the invitation and Jesus accepts the sent to Jews.
      b) Samaritans wanted to learn & Jesus wanted to teach.
c) Contrasts:
(1) Gergenes - "Depart".
Matt. 8:34
(2) Sam. - "Tarry"
3. 2 days - what did he say? Times wherein
Scr. are silent as to doings.
4. Capitalize on one time, unique opportunity.
5. Many More Believed
   a) Other Sam. rejected him.
Lu. 9:51-56
   b) What brings one may not another - but
come with the word.
d) Why so many Sam. & so few Jews.
d) Respond to held out hope.
6. His Own Word.
   a) Talk of woman contrasts with depth of
   Christ - we grow.
   b) Need personal contact with Jesus.
c) No miracles done here - only the word.
7. Now We Believe
   a) Morgan "He taught things more wonder-
   ful than what the woman told".
   b) They were eager for more truth.
c) Lit., "Not any longer because of thy
   saying 'do we believe' -- still no insult
to woman.
d) Now have a stronger foundation - we go
   beyond our parents teaching in growth.
C. The Savior of the World
   1. Great phrase.
   3. Same word for decorative, beautiful – thus cosmetics.
   4. Only here & I John 4:14 does Jesus have such a title.
   5. Jesus not just psychologist, pattern, example but Savior.
   6. No other title so fully describes Him.

West End – 5/12/85
West End – 5/19/85

Green Ridge Church, Greenbrier – 5/22/85
"At one time," said Martin Luther, "I was sorely vexed and tried by my own sinfulness, by the wickedness of the world, and by the dangers that beset the church. One day I saw my wife dressed in mourning. Surprised, I asked her who had died."

"'Do you not know?' she replied. 'God in heaven is dead.'"

"'How can you talk such nonsense, Katie?' I said, 'How can God die? Why, He is immortal, and will live through all eternity."

"'Of course,' I said, still not perceiving what she was aiming at, 'how can you doubt it? As surely as there is a God in heaven, so sure is it that He can never die.'"

"'And yet,' she said, 'though you do not doubt that, you are so hopeless and discouraged.'"

"Then I observed what a wise woman my wife was, and mastered my sadness."

—James M. Tulloch

Confidant; President Lefèvre
A man laid a piece of candy on the table and then picked up an ant and placed it on the candy. The little creature wasted no time running down one of the table legs to spread the news. The other ants seemed to understand the message. Soon there was a long train of his fellow citizens harvesting the prize. The ant hastened to spread the news because it was good news. What if the man had introduced the little creature to vinegar instead of sugar? The ant probably would have made haste to get away but not run with the message. Could that say something about why we are not more eager to tell of our discovery of Jesus? The apostle Paul had a life-changing encounter with the Savior and wanted everyone in the world to have the same. He was eager to tell the news because it was good news.

—Austin B. Tucker.

**IT COSTS TO BE PRETTY**

Of course a smart woman with enough time, money, and determination can de-uglify herself today with scientific help. Skin-deep beauty is one of the big businesses in the United States. So big that Revlon Cosmetics could afford to pay the nation's top model, Lauren Hutton, $200,000 a year for only 30 days of picture-taking to advertise one line of Revlon products. That is almost $4,000 a week all year long for only 30 days of work. Miss Hutton can blithely spend the rest of her royalties and moon drops.

There's an eternity in it, too. The average American woman reportedly spends two hours daily on grooming—not counting the time spent shopping or sewing. This means one-eighth of her waking hours. If she lives to the age of 70, it means at least seven solid years. Quite a tithe. Needless to say, putting beauty on the face can take time away from pursuits that put beauty into a face.
"THE BEST NEWS A DADDY CAN HEAR!"
John 4:46-50

1. This world's got its problems!
   A. Even wrestle with Scripture.
      1. Jesus went to Galilee.
         a) John almost ignores it.
         b) Why leave applause of Samaria & get abuse of Galilee?
         c) Man fails to value properly what he knows best. The nearer the church the farther from God.
         d) Surface welcome - spiritually another matter.
         e) Support a stranger & starve a son.
         f) Went knew it would be hard.
      2. A prophet hath no honor in his own country yet when he came to Galilee they received him.
         a) I read multiple explanations.
         b) Some said it was Judea, place of his birth.
         c) Others that "country" always spoken of as Nazareth.
         d) Didn't go to Nazareth to stay but obviously went to Cana.
   B. Family & Physical Problems - a nobleman's son is near death. This lets us see many things.
      1. Every life has its tragedies.

Job 5:6-7

(Sparks = sons of flame)
2. Baby starts life with a yell.
3. Rich suffer afflictions - silk & satin cover many a heavy heart.
4. The higher the tree the more the wind shakes it. 

II. Let's see the story.

A. Nobleman came from Capernaum to Cana due to desperately ill son.
   1. Parents are moved to great emergencies by children.
   2. Nobleman
      a) Nothing to suggest he was a Gentile.
      b) Royalty word, King or even petty King.
      c) Used only here in Bible.
      d) Story told only here in NT.
      e) Royal person - Christ reaches all strata of society.

3. How did he know to come - someone shared the good news. He heard Jesus was in Galilee.

B. Besought him to come down.
   1. 695' below sea level.
   2. 20-25 miles away.
   3. Need to be present to do me any good - "this I want you to do Lord & do it this way" attitude.

4. No sons came to Christ on behalf of daddies in all NT.
   5. Note earnestness of Noble - don't delay one second. 

6. Jesus into in (Domestic side: }
C. Son at point of death.

1. Sickness and death come to young.
2. Mike Moore called from Corpus Christi - death of brother-in-law - Sister nervous breakdown.
4. 1st grave ever dug was for younger man.
5. Never count too long on life.
6. Man rich - had servants.

D. Except see signs & wonders.

1. Only time wonder used in John.
2. Elsewhere too always associated with sign.
3. Rebuked but man had such emergency he reacted kindly. Christ has power beyond death.
4. Must learn seeing is not believing.

Heb. 11:1 "Faith is the substance of things hoped for"
5. Also learning benefit of afflictions.
Ps. 119:71 "It is good for me that I have been afflicted"
Heb. 12:11 "Now no chastening for the present seemeth John 4:49 "Sir, come down ere my child die"

E. Go thy way -- thy Son liveth.

1. Greatest words he could hear.
2. Man believed & went.
   a) But not that 1:00 P.M.!
   b) Anxiety left - no need to hurry home.
   c) Could now attend to other royal business.
   d) Christ's word is as good as his presence.
   e) Healed but not via method noble expected.
He selects best methods ones; our prayers.
3. See his faith grow - brought a spark, now a flame - but more to come.
5. Evidently went home next day - 20 miles in 4 hours in those days.

F. Servants met him. Evidently like their boss

1. Heard it again "Thy Son Liveth!"
2. When did he begin to amend.
   a) Used only here.
   b) Lit. had himself better, in more elegant order. To do nicely, handsomely.
3. Father knew it was same hour Jesus said "Thy son liveth" - (3rd time here said).
4. He believed.
   a) "Before believed about Jesus; Now believed on Jesus" - Woods
   b) Faith's stages: begin, increase; perfect.
   c) Won household. Father most effective

West End - 7/14/85
Western Hills Church, Temple, TX (weekday service) 8/20/85

Training For Service Series, Shawnee, OK - 10/8/85
Beltline Church, Decatur, AL = 11/17/85
Lindauer Rd. Church, Forrest City, AR - 12/2/85
So. Main Church (A.M. Class), Weatherford, TX 4/28/86
Central Church, Tuscaloosa, AL - 5/19/86
Lindale Church, Houston, TX - 6/29/86
Westmoreland Church, Westmoreland, TN - 7/20/86
East Hill Church (Mission Forum), York, NE - 9/10/86
Madison Church (P.M.) - 9/21/86
Eastwood Church, Hutchinson, KS - 9/28/86
Beech Grove Church, Columbia, TN - 10/9/86
Bumps and Bruises

It was inevitable. Sooner or later Ryan would get old enough to hurt himself.
Later came much too soon for me.
As a newborn, Ryan's life was the ultimate in comfort and security. Never venturing much beyond the confines of a well-padded crib or someone's loving arms, the only traumas he experienced were stubborn gas bubbles and soggy Pampers.
But things have changed. Ryan's world is now full of potential bumps and bruises. As he climbs and crawls and explores, pain is only a fall, pinch, or thump away. Motherhood has become a nonstop aerobics

-over-
class as I dash behind my speedy baby trying to prevent one catastrophe after another.

A kitchen cabinet is now a sinister trip for Ryan's chubby little fingers; a half-opened door begs for my little dynamo to lean his wobbly twenty-five pound frame against it. Around every corner lies another disaster waiting to happen.

And I feel so helpless. Sure, we've babyproofed our house, just like all the baby books suggest. In fact, short baby sitters and guests are out of luck around here if they want to get their hands on much more than some pots and pans, outdated magazines, a few sponges, and lots of old butter containers.

I've discovered, however, that all the babyproofing in the books can't keep Ryan from pain. How I wish it
could! Only a parent can understand the agony of watching a child hurt and the overwhelming desire to respond to that pain when it occurs. Speed has never been one of my biggest assets, but I'd put myself up against any Olympic sprinter when I'm dashing to the scene of one of Ryan's mishaps. Every fiber in me wants to hug and kiss all his pain away.

This natural urge is pushed to the limit during our too-frequent, trying trips to the pediatrician, especially when we're there to have Ryan's ears checked for infections.

My rational and immature mind tells me the doctor is a good guy (after all, he's dressed in white, isn't he?), but it's all I can do to keep from punching his lights out when he pokes around in Ryan's aching ears.
Watching my little buddy writhe and scream, even if only for a few moments, is just about more than my mother's heart can stand. It seems an eternity passes before the doctor is finished and I can finally wrap my son in love.

It's hard knowing I can't protect Ryan from everything that might hurt him. He must grow and learn and discover life — and growth often brings a measure of pain. At his age, that might mean a sore ear, a pinched finger, or a bumped head. Later, it might mean much more.

Watching Ryan hurt is so very hard. It always will be. But what a privilege to be there for him — to pick him up and to try, with all of the warmth in my heart, to somehow love the pain away.

Mary Ann Crum, A Giggle Goes a Long Way   pg. 27
I. Translations are tricky matters to discuss and this story of Jesus and the invalid is a case in point.

A. The question arises as to why translations vary from the King James Version.

1. It was long accepted as official yet it itself has been revised many times.

2. I have a reproduced copy of the original and it's hard to read as it goes back to 1600.

3. James I is on the throne and is a successor to much turmoil and changes.

4. Henry VIII had six wives—he beheaded a few of them, but no male heir.

5. He was Roman Catholic but wanted a divorce from his first wife Catherine—through many maneuvers he got one, but he did not desire the distribution of the Word—burned at the stake some who tried it.

6. James I at Hampton Court an earlier gift of the Archbishop to the King. (Why do you have a nicer house than me?) (cont'd)
6. (cont'd)

So I can give it to you, your Majesty, thank you and took it, used this court for scholars to translate into English a Bible.

7. They'd had the Cloverdale.

8. Now took Erasmus Greek text and used it for basic one.

B. As later MMS became available that are older and nearer to original autographs they are used—illustration Dead Sea Scrolls and Isaiah.

1. So as they are available, they are used.

2. There is no original autograph.

3. But it needs to be noted that in all the discoveries there is not one line that's been found that gives something essential to our salvation other than what we have.

4. We'll illustrate it by our study of John 5.

II. John 5 Miracle

A. It comes at a feast time and Jesus comes to the event.

1. Don't know the feast.

   a) Purim (March) one month before Passover???
1) Origin of this one that tells triumph over Haman in doubt.
2) Esther is read in the synagogue.
3) Applaud name of Mordecai and curse Haman as read.
   b) Some think it's Passover--if so, adds whole year to Jesus' ministry.
   c) Some say not a major feast, but allows John to give us a more personal insight into Jesus.

2. Pool in Jerusalem by sheepgate called Bethesda with five porches.
   a) Critic said no such place.
   b) Now unearthed and books have pictures of it.
   c) Without waiting for archeology, just know Word is true.
   d) Name means House of Mercy or House of the Stream.
   e) Pool deep enough to swim in.

   a) R.V. omits V-4, shows this in various translations via footnotes.
4. Troubling of waters—natural phenomenon or supernatural?
   a) Pool north of temple.
   b) This event public and downtown Jerusalem, and at a feast.
   c) No one denies the miracle.

B. A man there—38 years an invalid.
   1. Jesus saw him.
   2. Jesus knew about him.
   3. Jesus spoke to him.
   4. Jesus healed only one man out of the crowd—does he have his eye on you?
   5. Asked him a personal question—do you want to be made whole?
      a) Had he earlier done wrong?
      b) V-14 Go and sin no more.
      c) Does this show that even after conversion we will meet many temptations? Worse things can come!
   6. He evades the question! And says he has no one to help him.
      a) Friendless?
      b) Helpless?
      c) 38 years hopeless?
      d) Destitute?
      e) Yet who had carried him to pool to start with?
f) It's every man for himself.
g) Will you do anything to get well?

h) Jesus could heal them all, but only one man was benefited—like widows in Elijah's day.

C. Jesus gave a command: Rise, take up bed, walk!

1. To be cured:
   a) Accept responsibility.
   b) Obey - work.
   c) Be accountable.
   d) Don't be satisfied with your handicap!

2. Required faith—told to do the one thing he could not do.

3. Requires faith, desire, action.

4. Healing up to the man's acceptation.

D. Immediately made whole on Sabbath.

1. Made whole.

2. Criticized because on Sabbath.

3. Yet as long as we obey Jesus we please the Father.

4. Do we take advantage of our opportunity?

5. Pharisees had strangled Sabbath with 33 chapters of rules—yet!
   a) Women assist mothers in childbirth.
b) Boys circumcised on Sabbath.
c) Priests worked that day.
d) Cows pulled out of ditch.

E. Consult:
Mark 3:1-6
Mark 2:1-12
Matt. 9:2-8
Luke 5:18-26

1. No strong support of Verses 3&4.
2. Somethings preserved by copiest via tradition.
3. Read story without the addition and its complete.
4. Unlawful to carry bed on Sabbath but could if someone in it!
BUT YOU DO HAVE ONE TO HELP!

John 5:1-9

I. Are you alone?
   A. Anyone care?
   B. Single again?
   C. Lonesome in a city? Jesus knows the feeling.
      Let me tell you the story of a desperate man.

II. "After this there was a feast."
   A. Putting the pencil to it, I don't know the feast—
      why did John introduce it?
   1. Period recorded only by John.
   2. Identity of feasts tells the length of Jesus
      ministry.
   3. "Indifference of inspiration to chronology prove
      it of no especial use in teaching men the way
      of life." Van Doren

IV. Which feast was it?
   a.) Passover.
      1.) 2nd of 4 (Jn. 2:13 4:4) Van Doren
      2.) Hobbs - Jn. 2, 5, 6 Passovers.
      3.) Thomas - 2nd Passover.
      4.) Woods - 2nd Passover.
      5.) Clark - really don't know tho.
   b.) Weeks.
      1.) Palmer - 2nd Jer. visit.
   c.) Purim.
      1.) Godet.
   d.) Summary.
      1.) 3 Jewish feasts were ones of obligation.
      2.) Every male c/i 20 mi. of Jerusalem came.
3.) Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles.
4.) Late summer, early fall 27, or spring 28.
e.) Feast!
   1.) To Jesus - worship a delight, not an obligation.
   2.) Life has many feasts.

Ecc. 9:7 "Eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a cheerful mind, for God doth now accept thee'.

B. Up to Jerusalem.
   1. Great city.
      a.) 37 miles to Joppa (Tel Aviv).
      b.) 18 miles to Jordan.
      c.) 20 miles to Hebron.
      d.) 36 miles to Samaria.
      e.) 2500' above sea level.
      f.) 500' above valley of Jehoshaphat.
      g.) Moriah - 2429' hi.
      h.) Zion 2537
      i.) Aara 2610'
      j.) Hebrew or Heber great-grandson of Shem
         Gen. 10:24.
   2. Went "up."

III. Jesus came to a Pool.
   A. King James supplies market - rest say gate -
      literally "by the sheep."
   B. Pool - Bethesda.
      3. Crusaders built church over one.
      5. Some call it St. Ann's.
6. 360' x 130' x 75' deep.
7. Covers 1 acre; once supplied from Solomon pools 8 mi. away.
8. 5 porches - evidence of luxury, or for benefit of those to be healed?

C. Around it lay the afflicted:
1. Multitudes - as world is filled with troubles.
2. Impotent folk (atrophy - medically or emaciation.
3. Blind - our great affliction.
5. Withered - loss of power by paralysis or stiffness.

D. Waiting!
1. Sinners ever wait at mercy's gate.
2. Wait hopefully for a better day - even today.

E. Peculiar Verse 4.
1. Angel.
   a.) They can never save us, nor are we to worship.
   b.) They serve.
John 1:51 "And he saith unto them, Verily, verily I
Heb. 1:14 "Are they not all ministering spirits, ser
2. Troubled the water.
   a.) Pool either House of Mercy or House of Olive
   b.) Pool = to dive, thus deep enuf to swim in.
   c.) Beneath pool a subterranean stream.
      Occasionally it would bubble & disturb pool--
      (all above Barclay).
   d.) They that angel did & 1st person in would be
      healed.
   e.) Ancient people believed in holiness of water.
      I saw sacred pool in Okefenokee Swamp.
4. Must state this verse not in some of best MMS.
5. Palmer says 7 non-Johannine words in V. 4.
6. Note miraculous virtue lasted only for a season.

So today I battle troubles, superstition & time.
Always there is the opportunity!

IV. At the Pool, a Certain Man.
A. Among all He will get the blessing.
B. Infirmitiy - 38 yrs.
1. Literally w/o strength.
2. We don't know what his infirmity was other than its severity.
3. 38 yrs. = 456 months.
4. Yet some things worse than 38 yrs. suffering.
5. What's happened in last 38 yrs.
C. Jesus saw.

1. Sovereign of Mercy. at all the daughters of my joy
Lam. 3:51 "Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of
Heb. 5:2 "Who can have compassion on the ignorant,
Rom. 9:15 "For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy
Exo. 33:19 "And he said, I will make all my goodness

2. When Jesus saw & came, it made a vast world of
difference.

3. Shortly, the greatest change that man ever knew
would come.

4. Jesus deliberately chose to walk amid the sufferi
5. Jesus, the friend of the friendless.

D. Jesus Knew.

1. Means instant or immediate perception.
2. Jesus saw it all.
3. John's called "gospel of rejection."
E. Jesus asked - Wilt thou be made whole?
1. Sometimes we are so captured by a negative situation we can't hear a new cry.
2. Christ never contrary to the volition of men.
3. Do you want to be healed - 38 yr. sick - has hope died?
4. Invalidism might be easier than being well and having to make a living - enjoy being sick!
Pro. 8:36 "But he that sinneth against me wrongeth himself; and his name shall not be established in the congregation.
5. Do we want to get well, or is it easier to blame someone else?
Prov. 9:18 "But he knoweth not that the dead are the observations:
a.) Some will never think of leaving sin till disabled.
b.) Byron, "see their household gods dashed about them."
c.) Quit lets the diseased see his own condition.
d.) Jesus brings out our sense of need - strange question, huh?
Isa. 65:1 "I am found of them that sought me not."
e.) Amazing how careful we are our bodies but careless our souls.
f.) Take our bodies to the springs.
Take our souls to the sewers.
F. Man's Answer: "I Have No Man."
Phil. 4:6 "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing
1. States a desperate case.
2. Had no help, yet had given up coming.
3. Despair - I have no one.
4. System makes poor poorer; rich, richer, educated more so.
5. This man's inability would never let him be 1st.
6. Cripple's mind went back to only method of healing he knew in response to this act.
7. None put me in.
a.) Cast me with energetic promptness.
b.) Do we default our bros by too much for oursly
Rom. 12:10 "Be kindly affectioned one to another with a.
Matt. 19:19 "Honour thy father and thy mother: and, b.) World's selfish - always someone steps ahead.
G. Heaven's Commands: Rise, Take, Walk.
1. In absence of request & dialogue Jesus heals.
2. No evidence man had earlier obeyed any command of Jesus.
3. Jesus didn't trouble him a lecture on needless superstition, but just healed him.
4. Commanded 3 things he'd not been able to do.
5. Some in imperatives.
6. Please note he spoke in no name but his own.
H. Demanded of the Man!
1. He must obey.
2. Get up - man must couple his actions c God's.
3. Don't sit back & expect a miracle - cooperate.
4. Commanded to attempt the impossible, but did it... c...
5. Commands to rise shocks as man totally of himself unable to do anything.
a.) Mat, Pallet.
b.) Rug.
c.) For 38 yrs. it carried him, now he carries it.
d.) His obedience made the difference.
e.) Intensity of desire, determination of effort, power of Christ gives success.

7. Immediately.
a.) All men could see the cure.

Ps. 33:9 "Lord spoke & it was done"
b.) His love brooks no delay - he delights to show mercy.
c.) Word "immediately" adds emphasis - then in imperfect tense we see he went on walking.
d.) Cured by his word.
e.) Power to the powerless!
Stand - take - walk!

8. Why only 1 man healed?
a.) Did it grant greatest demonstration of Jesus power?
b.) Would others not respond?
c.) Jesus is concerned about all; sick in body or soul.

9. 2 tenses - took up bed once & for all (affliction over) but would continue to walk (thus blessed)

Matt. 5:16-17 "Let your light so shine before men,

ENDING 9-18-83

Episcopal Church 10/10/83
C.P. Bell, church, Sheffield, Ala. 11-1-83
On Feasts: 
Neh 12:4
Lev 23:4

1. Called: These are set feasts of Jehovah
   a) None in bondage
   b) Came when people delivered.
Ps 148:14. Peculiar treasure "people near to Me"
Nu 23:9. "Not reckoned among the nations—
   but dwelling alone"
Deut 33:29. "People saved by the Lord."
   c) Set - by His appointment or design.
   d) God not lonely - but God of fellowship
   e) Protects homes when makes away
Exo 34:22. "Neither shall any man desire thy land
   when thou shalt go to appear before me LORD
   Thy God thrice in the year.

"Then that honor me will I honor." 1Sam 2:30
"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God." Matt 6:33

2. 7 Feasts:
   Passover, Unleavened Bread, 1st Fruits, Pentecost
   (a) FeastTrumpets, Atonement, Tabernacles
   3 Required: Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles
Ex 23:14-19
   Where is name is repeat, put
   (Pentecost)
3. Feast - so you see, god, worship not a
weakness. Malachi 1:13
Lev 23:49Ye shall rejoice by the Lord's
4. Passover
a) strafe on spotless victim
b) lamb died that others live
c) blood of lamb only little shed.
d) folk fed on lamb.
5. Feast of Unleaven Bread - day after
Passover - 7 day - Perfect time
a) no leaven eaten, none seen, none allowed,
see Shem 119:150, and out houses.
6. Pentecost, Feast of Weeks
a) 50 days - 7 wk - week of weeks.
b) meat offering = 2 loaves of fine flour
and leaven.
c) Our sin needs his protection.
7. Atonement
a) word used 48x in hev = covering
b) Blood of Christ covers us
8. Tabernacles
a) hayv eet - soj
b) Zeos
COMPLIANCE BRINGS CONFLICTS
John 5:10-15

I. All of us in Christ know conflicts.
   A. Some c jobs & associates.
   B. Some will leave parents.
   C. Some bring us in conflict c religious leaders.
   D. These conflicts are as old as time.

II. Jesus healed a cripple man by Pool on Saturday.
   A. Earlier, he couldn't walk - now he could, & his
      carrying his bed brot him in conflict.
   B. Sabbath great to Jew.
      1. Made 5 points: Law, temple, circumcision,
         tradition, Sabbath.
      2. 1st X in Jerusalem Jesus violated their view of
         Sabbath. Mark 2:27-28
   3. He claimed authority over it.

Matt. 5:21 "Ye have heard that it was said by them of Old
Matt. 9:14-17 "Then came to him the disciples of John
Matt. 12:8 "For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath,
Lu. 6:5 "And he said unto them, That the Son of Man

4. Invented many Sabbath laws.
   a.) Women couldn't look in mirror. Might see
      gray hair & pull it out, thus guilty of shearing
   b.) Dragging a stick was plowing if left furrow.
   c.) Asked "Could you take saddle off donkey at
      sundown?"
   d.) Deposit food on Fri. - next day could walk to
      it because technically it was "home" - thus
      didn't violate 1000 yds.
   e.) Could spit only on rock - if hit dirt & made a
      furrow that's plowing or work.
f.) No work = carry no burden, thus sin to carry needle on robe on Sabbath.
g.) Argued about scripturalness of wearing artificial teeth or wearing wooden leg.
h.) Couldn't wear brooch.
5. Jesus often violated man's view.
   John 5:16 "And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus.
   6. He abhored all that's man-made in religion.
III. Jews Criticized Him.
   A. Jews.
      1. Rulers.
      2. Elite.
   B. Result of healing imposes a new crisis - he can walk & carry things he couldn't before.
   C. Does hostility deter us?
   D. Their use of carry was a triumphant testimony of enemies to real cure by Jesus.
IV. Man said Curer Told him to do it.
   A. The He.
      1. He made me whole.
      2. Didn't call name.
      3. Man's defense - he told me to do it.
      4. Didn't know name.
      5. Good man wouldn't command me to do evil.
   B. What man?
      1. Man? Jesus is divine.
      2. Intended to confuse rather than rejoice in his good fortune.
      3. Rather, sought to find fault.
      4. Some always inquisitorial.
5. Breach of law their one concern - not healing of the man.
7. Do we prefer convention or conversion.

C. Didn't know Jesus.
   1. Jesus hadn't finished work, so did not want to expose Himself.
   2. Note how closely Jesus is watched.

IV. Jesus Found Him.
   A. He finds us at worship surely.
      1. Later met at temple.
      2. Went back to tell him who he was.
   B. Made Whole.
      1. Whole is bigger than heal.
      2. Implies - something lost was restored.
      3. Great to be whole.
      4. Need to be whole physically, spiritually, morally.
   C. Sin No More.
      1. Our Lord knows our sins.
      2. Did sin cause affliction?
   D. Worse.
      1. To sin willfully.

Heb. 10:26 "For if we sin willfully after that we have
   2. Relapse more dangerous than the disease.

E. Told it was Jesus.
   1. Was he chickening out & thus weak?
   2. Was he praising him?
3. Do we recognize the source & thank God for our blessings?

Year End 10-2-83
I CALL MY FINAL WITNESS---SCRIPTURE!
John 5:37-39

I. Most interesting is the 5 chapters of John.
   A. Jesus calls witnesses to substantiate
      his claim to be the Son of God.
      1. It comes at the end of a long speech.
      2. He lists 3 witnesses
         a) John the Baptist
         b) Miracles performed
         c) Finally "I call the Scripture to
            the stand."
   3. These 3 are his star witnesses.
   4. Scripture (O.T.) his most important
      one.

B. Before seeing proper usage of Scripture,
   let's look at facts about them.
   1. One book—40 authors—no contradiction and it took them several
      centuries to write them.
   2. Obviously of Divine origin. (Do we believe that?) (Or do we appeal to
      tradition?)
      a) Council of Trent
         a) Scripture & Tradition equal.
         b) Anathama on all who use
            Bible without having priestly
            direction.
   3. Rationalism
      a) It's man's word about God vs
      b) It's God's word about man.
   4. Came by Inspiration
      a) Man wrote, used his own
         vocabulary, also style but Spirit
         guided.

2 Pet. 1:21
b) Boice points out Luke's usage of the word "drive"—and this is the say the Holy Spirit did the writers.

Acts 27:15  Let her drive
15  Driven
c) She did not cease to be a ship but it did cease to have control—the wind did.
d) Holy Spirit told them what to say.

5. Today man asks "Is it true?"
   a) Illustrate with 2 Kings 15:29.
   b) First said not a real person.
   c) Later found bricks at his city: "I Tiglath--pileser, King of the west lands, King of the earth whose Kingdom extends to the great sea."
      "Give me the plenary, verbal theory of Biblical inspiration with all its difficulties, rather than the doubt. I accept the difficulties & humbly wait for their solution. But while I wait I am standing on the Rock."

6. Have we all the Books—the apocrypha.
   a) Never considered inspired by the Jews.
   b) Never quoted by Jesus or apostles.
   c) Found only in GK language.
d) Contains doctrine opposed by inspiration.
e) Not included in any list of sacred books first 4 centuries.

II. Witnesses
A. Father is one
v-37 "And the Father himself"

1. Of course, He is—he sent Jesus.
a) 6X in this chapter Christ says he is the "sent" one.
b) Shows there was a previous existence and location.

2. But man neither heard nor saw.
a) His a stubborn rejection.
b) Spoke at his baptism.
c) Heard really means obey.
d) God continues to bear witness.

3. "Seen his shape"
a) Don't see God and live.

Exo. 33:20-22
Gen. 32:30
b) Shape, not God himself, but the manifestation of Him.

Nu. 12:8
Nu. 9:15-16
c) Paid no attention to the manifestation.
d) Jesus the manifestation.

John 14:9
3. Word did not abide—lacked permancy.
a) Birds ate.
b) Sun & briars got.
c) Must find lodging.
B. Would, or are we like these?

III. Calls Scriptures to the Stand.
A. Search Them.
   1. Keen scrutiny.
   2. Track down the message.
   3. Examination.
   5. Amplified "Pour over the Scripture diligently."
   6. Concedes they study them.
   7. Not commanding them to study but states the fact they did this.
   8. Scriptures will bear the most thorough investigation.

Is. 8:20

B. But they missed the point.
   1. Wanted Eternal Life--and this is great.
   2. Some had the right concept of busying themselves with Scripture as character for Eternal Life but missed the burden of them--they testify of Jesus. (Thomas)
   3. He alone gives Life.
   4. Great quest--yet it's only in Jesus.
   5. Instead of finding Christ they found a blasphemer!
   6. Great goal--but they rejected the giver of it.

C. Jesus said the Scriptures testify of Him.
   1. He is the one pointed to.
   2. The Messiah has come--say the Scriptures and Jesus is the Messiah.
3. That's the principal purpose of the Scripture--lets you see Jesus.
4. Witness is about Him.
5. They seek life and reject the One who brings it.

[V. Now a word of warning.
A. We can study but fail to see the true picture.
   1. Scribes compiled a mass of information:
      a) How many verses in each book.
      b) How many different letters in a verse.
      c) Which verse has all the letters of the alphabet.
      d) What is the middle verse of each book.
   2. But what good would this be to you?
   3. Are we seeking to win an argument or see Jesus?
   4. Don't focus on academic attainment rather than one's personal walk with Jesus.

B. False use of Scripture leads to rejection of authority (this shows itself in church attendance & growth today).
   1. We doubt Biblical authority.
   2. We can "greatly err."
   3. They did not yield to what He said.
   4. We, via false application, do not become what He wants us to be.

C. They failed to permanently let the Word abide in their hearts.
D. Stubbornly rejected--did not want to see.
1. It's the "feed my sheep" problem.
2. How feed what won't eat?
3. To deny Christ is to deny the Bible.

Concord Road - 12/25/94 (BC)
Have you seen this truth? Martin Luther is one who saw it clearly. In a sermon on this text preached only months before his death he argued, ‘Here Christ would indicate the principal reason why the Scripture was given by God. Men are to study and search in it and to learn that He, He, Mary’s Son, is the one who is able to give eternal life to all who come to Him and believe on Him. Therefore he who would correctly and profitably read Scripture should see to it that he finds Christ in it; then he finds life eternal without fail. On the other hand, if I do not so study and understand Moses and the prophets as to find that Christ came from Heaven for the sake of my salvation, became man, suffered, died, was buried, rose, and ascended to Heaven so that through Him I enjoy

(John 5:39) 

The Purpose of the Scriptures

reconciliation with God, forgiveness of all my sins, grace, righteousness, and life eternal, then my reading in Scripture is of no help whatsoever to my salvation. I may, of course, become a learned man by reading and studying Scripture and may preach what I have acquired; yet all this would do me no good whatsoever. For if I do not know and do not find the Christ, neither do I find salvation and life eternal. In fact, I actually find bitter death; for our good God has decreed that no other name is given among men whereby they may be saved except the name of Jesus (Acts 4:12).’”1
LOVE OR LOAVES
John 6:24-

I. Can Robert come out and play? Why?
   A. Robert has a ball.
   B. His mom always feeds us.
   C. We can beat Robert at the game.
   D. We love Robert.

II. They came seeking Jesus.
John 6:26 "Ye seek me"
   A. It was a fact.
      1. They assayed a situation--saw he was gone.
      2. Entered boats--came searching.
      3. Just flattered to have an audience--No! Why?
   B. Yesterday 5000 were fed--5 barley loaves and 2 fish.
   C. Today they came again.
   D. Read their thoughts.
      1. Great quartermaster--food a-plenty.
      2. No recruits--heal sick, restore dead.
      3. Food in abundance--fettled was like what cattle do.
      4. No work--he can feed me.
      5. No rivals--He's King of Kings.

III. Why Do We?
   A. Way
   B. Truth
   C. Life
   D. Salvation
   E. Service
   F. Spiritual--meat that is esteemed.

Chapel, Jackson Christian - 4/8/92
Chapel, DL Grand Day - 5/12/92
I. A man made a trip to N.Y.
   A. To see city he rode the subway.
   B. Returned home with worm's eye view of the town.
   C. Afraid some of us look only here.
      1. Dr. Keller described Jewish religion as no heaven, no hell, it's all right here.
      2. Is mine the same - let's see.
II. An event in Jesus' life. (John 6:22)
   A. Introduced as "the day following".
      1. On the day previous, fed 5,000.
      2. Sought to make him King by force. (6:15)
      3. Jesus departed into mt. alone.
   B. Night previous
      1. Disciples ship wreck - Jesus walked on the water, "It is I."
      2. As someone said, "No office hours kept in those days."
   C. Meanwhile back on the shore--
      1. 5,000 folks reassembled and were hungry again.
      2. Studied the boats in the marina - where was Jesus? - He didn't leave c disciples.
      3. Thot he must still be near - imagine the wild rumors of those who "saw" him.
4. Other ships came & they took shipping
to go to Capernaum. (6:24)
5. They were really looking for Jesus!
v. 25 "Rabbi, when camest thou hither?"
  (a) Why did they want him?
  (b) Who's going to turn down a free lunch?
  (c) Who's going to give it up once he has
      the chance?

III. Jesus makes them face Earth-Bound Point
      of View as Yates has it.
  A. Life has no time for chit-chat.
      1. He never answered their "searching"
         question.
      2. He did put the matter in focus.
  B. He stated why they sought him
v. 26 "V.V., I say unto you, ye seek me
  1. Chrysostom "Men are nailed to the
     things of life."
  2. Roman pictured it.
     (a) After A.D. 60, her luxury was
        unparalleled.
     (b) Feast of peacock brains & nightingale
        tongues.
     (c) Garments richly jewelled at costs of
        $100,000.00 dollars.
     (d) Looked for any new taste or thrill.
     (e) Appallingly rich, yet appallingly
         hungry.
3. People today get a free meal & want another.
4. "Ye saw the miracles."
   (a) Means they didn't grasp.
   (b) They did know bread.
   (c) You've seen miracles & should know God, yet all you think about is bread.
C. Labor not for the meat which perisheth (v. 27)
1. Not an absolute, but in a comparative way. Sure you can work!
2. Don't seek exclusively material gain - want more than an earthly King & free food.
3. Terrible when religion is for material gain.
4. Are some not conscious of the unsatisfied spiritual hunger they have?
D. Jesus gives enduring meat.
1. It lasts forever.
   (a) Physical food never satisfied spiritual hunger.
2. Do we hunger for truth, life, love?
3. His is the blessing that endures, thus shows the superiority of spiritual matters.
4. He has the real soul food.
E. Jesus satisfied because seal of God is upon him.
   1. Seal made document valid.
   2. Seal on mouth of sack would authenticate its contents.
   3. Made of pottery, metal, jewels.
   4. God made soul, he alone satisfies.
F. Only Jesus is the Bread.
   1. Nowhere else to get it - He is God's truth incarnate.
   2. Come to Him.

Date End: 6-22-69
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE BIBLE . . .

The above is a familiar quotation commonly heard among religious people today. It comes unapologetically from young and old alike, freely admitting ignorance of the grandest and most important book known to humanity. How is it that intelligent men and women can so neglectfully and unashamedly pass by the opportunity to learn from this book that could mean so much to them?

The young lady doesn't say to her fiance that she doesn't know much about cooking....the typist, applying for a job, doesn't say to her employer, "I don't know anything much about typing".....neither does the machinist admit his ignorance of the lathe, nor the carpenter of the saw; yet thousands daily freely admit their ignorance of a book that offers richer reward than any earthly vocation.

The Bible is written in understandable language. A copy is found in almost every home. It contains information where a man might obtain forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life. The Bible comforts in time of sorrow.....its exhortation will free one from the fear of sin and death; yet many are heard to say, "I don't know much about the Bible." WHY?

--Selected

BE IN BIBLE CLASS SUNDAY!
"WEEKENDING"

In recent years three things in our living standards have combined to create a great threat to the church. A problem exists. It is time to meet it head on. The three factors are:

1. **MOBILITY.** This is the jet age. People are able to move about rapidly. We have the ability to go.

2. **FINANCIAL AFFLUENCE.** We Americans are rich!! The poorest family has a better income than 9 out of 10 families in the world. We have money to go on.

3. **TIME TO SPARE.** The 40 hour week is standard. Vacations and weekends are getting longer. We have time to go.

**NOTICE SOME RESULTS OF THESE THREE FACTORS:**

1. Regular "weekending" mars the value of systematic Bible study. We are told that learning takes place best in regular sessions. Many "skin" Bible study altogether while away on weekends. The learning process of those who do attend while away is slowed. Could an algebra student learn effectively if he visited a different school each week and studied at a different place in the textbook?

2. Frequent absences can harm our influence with others in the local family of God. Christians are to strengthen one another (2 Thess. 5:11; Hebrews 10:24-25).

3. The loss of financial support by a large scale exodus at regular intervals. We are to give "as prospered" not "as often as in town."
(4) Soulwinning is deferred with regular out-of-town visits. It takes regular, orderly sessions of Bible study plus an example of dedication to lead a soul to Christ. Are we more interested in self-indulgence than we are in pleasing God? Meditate on 2 Timothy 3:4 and Matthew 6:33.

--Bob Barnhill

Let's be regular in our attendance.

JULY 24-25-26-27.......those are the dates of Eastside's summer gospel meeting. Bro. JAMES R. PETTY, minister at the Druid Hills Church of Christ, Montgomery, Ala., will be the speaker. PLAN TO ATTEND EACH SERVICE!!

Arrangements have been made with the publisher for all members of the Eastside congregation to receive 20TH CENTURY CHRISTIAN and POWER FOR TODAY by mail in their homes. It is hoped that all will find much spiritual food in these excellent publications.

Love and sympathy is extended to Sister Amelia Collazo on the loss of her father, Margarit Collazo, in Puerto Rico. We pray that God will comfort her in this time of sorrow.

Our special thanks to Charley Miller, Calumet, Okla., for his recent contribution to the Lord's work at Eastside.

[Pantry Shelf Item: APRICOTS]

DID YOU TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT JESUS TODAY?
"I'M FULL OF THE RIGHT THING?"

John 6:35-40

1. With the holidays you may be stuffed - but does it last? Full? Of the right things?

II. Jews asked a sign.

Jn. 6:30 "What sign showest thou then

A. Manna in wilderness.
   1. Bread not from Moses. 5000 fed only in 24 hours
   2. Bread from God. Sought him for love, not love.
   3. Better bread, true bread, from heaven, from the Father, gives life. 5000 fed 1 day 60 million years
   4. "Lord evermore give us this bread." (V. 34).

B. Never satisfied, selfish view.
   1. Audacious to ask for sign in view of what just seen.
   2. What you ask for tho is done.

III. I Am the Bread of Life.

A. I am
   1. 1st of 7.
   2. Others.
      a.) Light Jn. 8:12
      b.) Door Jn. 10:7-9.
      c.) Shepherd 10:11
      d.) Resurrection 11:25 (dies)
      e.) Life Jn. 11:25
      f.) Way - truth - Life Jn. 14:6
      g.) Vine Jn. 15:1

B. I am Bread.
   1. It's everywhere.
   2. It sustains.

FROM HEAVEN (33)
3. He makes life worth living.

 Isa. 25:6 "And in this mountain shall the Lord of hosts
ISA. 49:10 "They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither sh
4. He is everything man needs.

5. I'm giving you what you asked for & then some.

C. He that comes - never hunger.

 He that believes - never thirst.

1. How can any escape the conditional part - I must come, I must believe.

 a.) There is the "tulip" doctrine.

 b.) Belief embraces obedience.

 Jn. 6:29 "This is the work of God that

 c.) Sight of bread fed none - must be eaten.

 d.) W/o faith & obedience cannot properly appropriate the blessings.

2. Aura of the supernatural.

 a.) Jesus kept the eternal in his teaching tho he commonly lived.

3. Hunger & Thirst.

 a.) Everybody does it.

 b.) 2 strongest drives.

 c.) He gives full satisfaction.

d.) Only Heaven's bread does - pleasure, applause, pride, food won't. As Wm. Woodson said, "I've had all that! I want to serve God as best I can.

C. Some Saw & Believed Not.

1. He spoke in vain to man.

2. They were exposed, yet unconvinced.
3. He was not discouraged – knew some would believe even if they wouldn’t.
4. Their unbelief would not prohibit God’s plan taking place.
5. He saw their unbelief with sorrow but not surprise.
6. He was prepared of it.
7. They asked to see in order to believe now would not.
8. Some pressed around Him but never came.
Lu. 8:45 "And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all
Heb. 9:6 "Now when these things were thus ordained,

D. Where are you?
1. Believe?
2. Disbelieve.
   a.) God’s will to save all the lost.
   b.) Come – irrespective of previous guilt.
   c.) Son is bread to whole world.
3. About disbelief!
   John 18:24 If ye be not that I am he, ye shall
   John 12:39-41 Read
   John 16:9 "Of sin, because they believed not on me
   2Thess 2:12 "That they all might be damned which
Jude 5 Saved people out of Egypt afterward destroyed them that believed not.
A survey was made of high school students visiting the Hall of Free Enterprise at the World’s Fair in New York. It showed that 40% could name no advantage democracy has over communism; 60% thought the government ought to take over most of the nation’s industries; and 84% felt that patriotism is unnecessary.

"Happiness is Still Home Made" - By T. Cecil Myers - Page 124

Ever feel tired? Consider this item on a “Day In Your Life” and see perhaps a good reason why: The best and wisest of men make a botch of matters. But when God made man, He did it flawlessly. No other machine can absorb the abuse imposed on the human body and continue to function without fail. But, if you are an adult in the neighborhood of 175 pounds, here is your picture during a 24 hour period: Your heart beats 103,689 times. Your blood travels 168,000,000 miles. You breathe 23,040 times, and inhale 438 cubic feet of air. You eat 3 1/2 pounds of food, drink 2.9 lbs. of liquids. You lose in weight 7.8 pounds of waste, and perspire 1.43 pints. Your body gives off 2.6 degrees Fahrenheit. You speak 4,800 words. You will move 750 major muscles, and your nails will grow .000046 of an inch. You will exercise 7,000,000 brain cells. It is therefore no wonder that the Psalmist said, “I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."
Ps. 139:14.

(chosen)

From Western Heights Church bulletin, Dallas, 9-1-71
I. What makes you?
   A. I read a book because you talked about it.
   B. I ate food because you enjoyed it.
   C. I saw a play because I knew someone in it or read a review.

II. Christianity has magnetism.
   John 6:44 "No man can come to me, except the Father.
   A. Life has attractions.
      1. A person who seeks Good seeks God.
      2. God is the prime mover.
      3. He leaves man free.
      4. God an inducing power but not irresistible.
   B. The Draw of Divinity.
      1. Used another time.
   John 12:32 "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to me.
   Jer. 31:3 "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love.
   2. Man is invited by God.
      (a) God draws & teaches.
      (b) Man hears & learns.
   3. Man can resist:
      (a) Teaching is universal.
      (b) Man not be heard.
      (c) If heard, may not be learned.
      (d) No man could come if he could also not refuse to come.
   C. Prophets foretold this.
   Isa. 54:13 "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord.
   Jer. 31:34 "And they shall teach no more every man his brother.
   Joel 3:1 "For, behold, in those days, and in that time..."
D. God draws by teaching.
Rom. 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
Rom. 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
1. He sets provisions before sinner.
2. Resist word is to resist Christ.

III. But what are these Drawing Powers? We'll do an acrostic on DRAW.

A. D - ramatic.
1. The death of Christ is central fact of Gospel.
   (a) No one else dies & lives again.
   (b) Proved it by Birth, miracles, goodness, resurrection.
   (c) Jesus knew he was born to die.
Heb. 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.
2. He says there is no other way to be saved - he's an exclusive!
Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.
John 12:47-48 "If any man hear my words and believe not, I judge him not; for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

B. R - eal.
1. Nothing phony or frothy about Jesus & His way.
2. Look at any phase of His moral teaching.
   (a) Do good.
   (b) Be holy.
John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."
(c) Go & sin no more.
(d) Love neighbor.
(e) Family relationship.
(f) Sun never sets on your anger.
Eph. 3:20 "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding
3. Contrast c "Catch a falling star."
C. A - Iternative.
1. 2 ways.
Matt. 7:13 "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is
(a) Destruction - Life.
Matt. 7:21-23 "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord
(b) Heaven or Hell.
Luke 15:7 "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be i
2. He's able to propel me.
2 Tim. 1:12 "I know whom I have believed & am persu
Jude 24 "Now unto him that is able to keep you from
D. W - orth.
John 10:10 "The thief-cometh not but to steal & to kil
1. Nothing he touches but he improves it.
Heb. 2:18 "He is able to succor them that are tempted
2. He imparts happiness & joy.

Heath End 5-4-75
Catch a falling star and put it in your pocket
save it for a rainy day

Catch a falling star and put it in your pocket
never let it get away

For love may come and nestle on your shoulder

Some star-less night, and just in case you feel you want to
hold her,

You'll have a pocket full of starlight.

Catch a falling star and put it in your pocket
save it for a rainy day
Catch a falling star and put it in your pocket
never let it get away.
AN ALTERNATE
John 6:66-71

I. Define an alternate.
   A. The convention is held. The delegate gets sick. The alternate comes & votes. He's a substitute?
   B. The girl has two boy friends. She knows it - they don't! She dates one Tues. - the other Friday. It's an alternate - 1st one & then the other.
   C. The current flows - you change direction it flows the other way. It's alternating - it's a reversal.

II. To Jesus is there an alternate?
   A. If so, there's a substitute.
   B. If so, there is vacillation - 1st one & then another.
   C. If so, there is a reversal - you walk with Him & then later turn away. "I am the way, the truth."

1. I do not deny that there are subs, vacillation, & reversals for or from Jesus.
2. I do deny any alternate is a lowering of every value.

III. See the John 6:66-71 Story.
   A. Crucial time in Jesus ministry.
      1. This is a hard saying (v. 60).
      2. Who can hear it (v. 60).
      3. Disciples murmured (v. 61).
4. V. 66 "From that time many of his d.
B. Rubber meets the road.
1. Jesus knew there'd be defectors.
2. You don't challenge authority & not
   head for conflict.
3. Way of Jesus is way of cross.
4. We'd rather have a crown! Some
   things are not hard to grasp but are
   hard to accept.
C. That leaves 12 M.E.N.  Tyndale Ch. 19 but w. t
V. 67 "Then said Jesus unto the 12 will
1. Tenny says a poignant, heart-searching
   qt. "You do not w/draw too, do you?"
   (a) Emphasis on you.
   (b) Suggests He expects a "No" answer.
   (c) Emotion of the Lord shows thru.
2. Jesus expects an individual response.
3. Best of men could depart.
   1 Cor. 9:27 "But I keep under my body.
   Jude 24 "Now unto him that is able to keep u
D. Peter replies.
V. 68 "Lord, to whom shall we go?"
1. Where is our alternate? Substitute?
   Reversal? Off again, on again?
2. Is there any other place?
3. Peter had a deep loyalty to Jesus person.
4. He knew defection of some endangered
   the stability of others.
   Nu. 11:14 "I am not able to bear all this
   (a) Bad spirit in one difuses a whole churc
(b) Little leaven levens whole
Heb. 19:38-39 But we are not of them.

E. Peter Gives 2 Irrefutable Reasons for Continuance.

1. The insufficiency of man.
   (a) Tide destroys our sand castles.
   (b) World's both vast & minute. No matter how huge things get, they still are made of atoms--which in turn are composed of protons, electrons, and neutrons. When you think of minuteness, do you think of the tiny proton? It would take 25 trillion (which is 25 million million!) of them laid side by side to span just one inch. But as small as it is, the proton is nearly 2000 times as heavy as the electron.
   (c) World's empty.
   (d) Sin is bitter.

2. The Sufficiency of Christ.
   V. 35 "I am the bread of life
   V. 37 Him that cometh to me I will give est
   V. 40 I will raise him up at the last day
   V. 51 I am the living bread which--
   V. 58 He that eateth of this br. shall have
   Matt. 11:28-30 "Come unto me I am forev-
   Col. 3:11 But Christ is all & in all (a) Jesus is the Holy One of God.
   (1) Used only here in John He's Everything: Sponsors potlatch when u leave it out!
(b) Peter's was a settled conclusion rather than a single decision.
(c) It was a state of mind more than an initial act of will.
(d) Is yours that way begotten of word?
(1) Bible a human book?
(2) Bible word of God but can't trust all? Can't trust it in history & geo
(3) Inspired & profitable.

2 Tim. 3:16 All Scripture is given by
(a) Inspired = God breathed - all spoken by God - it is the product of divine breath.
(b) Profitable - infallibility & inerrai
(c) Doesn't deceive.

I Pet. 1:19 He deemed a problem

F. Judas took an alternate - like I told you one could!

1. Could have been a name of glory. Made it shame.

2. Peter was sure - personal response to Jesus; not theory, philosophy, intellectual persuits.

3. Apostles were sure, are you?
   Matt. 16:16 Thou art the Christ?
   Rom. 10:9 That if thou shalt confess
   Matt. 10:32 Whosoever shall confess

4. Will you turn back?
"Keep yourself pure," said the apostle Paul. What a challenge for our civilization! The very word "purity" sounds strange to our modern ears, for we are living in a time when "anything goes." Nudity is expected in today's films; obscene language litters the pages of "literature"; filthy lyrics of pop songs blare across the airways; college students live together without the benefit of wedlock and sin stalks about under the cloak of "freedom."

When one considers that we have laws in our cities forbidding open sewers and cesspools, it makes you wonder why we are willing to put up with pornography and obscenity. All too many of us have a tendency to condone these things by keeping silent, while advocates of smut, filth and degradation have a field day.

What will happen to our country? Arnold Toynbee, one of the world's great historians writes "Of twenty-one notable civilizations, nineteen perished, not from conquest from without, but from decay within." Will Durant goes even further: "No great nation has ever been overcome until it has destroyed itself." Centuries ago Soloman said, "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." We need to learn that "A house built on sand will not last; neither will a civilization built on dirt."

What will happen to our souls? In a vain desire to be thought well of, we are tempted to go along with the crowd, accept the verdict of the majority and abandon all moral standards. With acute short-sightedness we drift along with a hedonistic society to the precipice of disaster. But Paul warns that we cannot sin with impunity.

"The activities of the lower nature are obvious. Here is a list: sexual immorality, impurity of mind, sensuality, worship of false gods, witchcraft, hatred, quarreling, jealousy, bad temper, rivalry, factions, party-spirit, envy, drunkenness, orgies and things like that, I solemnly assure you, as I did before, that those who indulge in such things will never inherit God's kingdom." (I Tim. 5:19-22, Phillips)

If we continue to sow to the wind we will reap the whirlwind.

John Gipson, Little Rock, Arkansas

The Carbon Copy, a college newspaper at Frank Phillips College at Borger, came up with this food for thought for the youngsters who think they're getting away free with that first conviction:

"A youth was stopped for a traffic violation. The officer recognized the odor in the violator's car. The defendant had a few joints of marijuana with him.

"He was convicted of possession, a felony, and received a suspended sentence.

"Did he lose anything?

"All he lost was the right to vote, the right to own a gun, and the right to run for public office!

"He lost the opportunity of ever being a licensed DOCTOR, DENTIST, CPA, ENGINEER, LAWYER, ARCHITECT, REALTOR, OSTEOPATH, PHYSICAL THERAPIST, PRIVATE DETECTIVE, PHARMACIST, SCHOOL TEACHER, BARBER, FUNERAL DIRECTOR, MASSEUR, OR STOCK BROKER.

"He can never get any job where he has to be bonded or licensed.

"He cannot work for the city, county, state, or federal government.

"He can enlist in the military service, but will not have a choice of service, and will possibly be assigned to a labor battalion.

"IF THIS HAPPENED TO YOU, WOULD YOU THINK YOU HAD LOST ANYTHING??"
MUSIC—Pop Songs

Mom doesn't see any sense in the lyrics of those pop songs—but neither do most teenagers, according to a survey of Mich high school students. Youth don't care about the meaning, the study showed: they are mostly interested in the sound. The researchers did add that a good many of the students (31% in one of the two studies included, 20% in the other) understood explicit references to drugs in the songs. —*PTA Mag*, 1-70.

Unwilling Audience

I do not care to listen, but I have no choice. Through all the noise and racket I am just one voice. I might scream and holler, plead and loudly cry, My son just doesn't hear me; he has his FI too HI.

JEAN YAKSICH

what is Rock Music saying?

We are the firstfruits, supposedly, of the Electronic Age. As our patterns of sense perception are altered by television, we experience the world differently from our radio-bred elders. We hunger and thirst after experience-in-depth, total involvement. And we do so inevitably because electronics have left us no choice.

That, the new theorists say, is the message of pop music—immediate and total involvement. For the medium is the message, and the medium of rock music is all-enveloping sound. Amplified often to the limits of human endurance, the sound becomes tactile—it is felt. The atomized community of human beings on the dance floor, immersed in a pulsating environment of tangible sound, experiences an intensified sensuality.

Reprinted from *Eternity*
It matters not, according to communications philosopher Marshall McLuhan, what the song lyrics say—whether they incorporate the Lord's Prayer or the Fugs' piece of musical poetry, "What Are You Doing After the Orgy?" In either case, the medium is the message, and both suck the electronic children into a quest for fuller gratification of the senses.

But, if McLuhan is right, and the medium-is-the-message-is-unified-total-involvement, then today, even if not previously, we might reasonably expect the lyrics to reflect the message. For lyrics are an integral part of the total aggression of today's music upon the senses.

What are they really saying?

The task of finding out should not be difficult, for these modern minstrels have declared war on hypocrisy. Theirs is a shattering realism designed to pierce the defenses of an "inhibited and repressive" society and touch the actual life and problems of a generation. As Timothy Leary uses LSD, they employ themes about sex, love, and "trips" in order to shock people out of the "games" they play.

Simon and Garfunkel are not alone in scorning the emptiness of these adult games when they sing about "People talking without speaking, / People hearing without listening." While Bob Dylan thrusts at the older generation with the taunt, "... something is happening here / But you don't know what it is / Do you, Mr. Jones?" other songsters busy themselves with unabashedly telling us just what is happening.

Joy and grief

Love—tune in any Top 40 radio station and it is almost certain that the first song you hear will speak of love. The joys and heartbreak of personal relationship preoccupy young people, and themes relating to this search for the meaning of persons dominate the song lyrics.

Louis Savary in his book, The Kingdom of Downtown, tells of several senior high school teachers who played teen records and asked their pupils to write down the first personal experiences the lyrics brought to mind. "In 90 percent of the replies the students discussed difficulties in relating to others."

The researchers of Madison Avenue, with an eye to the $18 billion the teen set spends annually, are perhaps best attuned to young musical tastes and needs. Coca Cola, using a rock vehicle, sympathizes with the teen-ager's powerful drive to reach out and touch another life in mutual sharing: "Come with me and I'll buy you a big balloon / I'll be your friend and hold your hand / We'll share a Coke at the hot dog stand."

But love and meaningful personal relationships prove elusive and frequently painful. The Supremes lament the agony of a fruitless quest:

Falling in and out of love
In search for what I'm dreaming of... Can't seem to find that everlasting love That this heart of mine needs so much of.

With love comes pain, and with pain often retreat. Simon and Garfunkel, in "I Am a Rock," voice their grim determination to avoid future heartbreak by severing themselves from others:

I build walls, a fortress deep and mighty that none may penetrate,
I have no need for friendship Friendship causes pain...
I am a rock I am an island...
If I never loved, I never would have cried.

The Beatles, singing about love without pain, would retreat from life: "Yesterday, love was such an easy game to play / Now I need a..."
Love is sometimes treated with a certain sophistication and realism ("Love is like the flowers / takes a lot of hours") but often it degenerates into crude sex. Grace Slick, singer for the Jefferson Airplane, observed to Time magazine: "It doesn't matter what the lyrics say, or who sings them. They're all the same. They say, 'Be free—free in love, free in sex.'" The Rolling Stones have sold more than 40 million discs on straight sex ("Let's Spend the Night Together").

Rock music usually reduces love to a single dimension—desire. This desire includes a subject and an object—"me" and the object of my desire—rather than two subjects sharing and giving equally through all facets of their personalities. The emphasis on sex in rock music is only one aspect of what might be termed the "now ethic." Whatever is worth having, doing, or experiencing is worth experiencing now.

John and Robin and the In Crowd, after singing "Kiss me, I love the way that you kiss me," continue in the refrain to demand an unending sensation: "Do it again just a little bit slower / I just can't stand it when it's over / Baby, do it again just a little bit slower." From every phonograph, transistor earplug, and every neighborhood rock band the siren call goes forth: "C'mon, Baby, forget your hang-ups and let's go where things are happening."

We'll take it nice and easy, and use my simple plan You'll be my lovin' woman, I'll be your lovin' man We'll take the most from living, have pleasure while we can Live for today.

Sometimes the call to come where the action's at is muted, sometimes overt; but the message is clear through the lyrics, the insistent call to action in the beat, or the personal testimony of rock idols. Youth are told in no uncertain terms that unless they've been on a trip, they've never lived. And the time for a trip is now.

According to lead singer Mary Balin, the Jefferson Airplane's "White Rabbit" is "aimed at the 12-year-old junkie," and "Runnin' Round This World" celebrates "the fantastic joy of making love while under LSD."

This invitation to enter the drug fantasyland often manifests itself as a call to irrationality:

You gotta get outta your head You gotta get outta your mind You gotta be able to bend your brain if you wanna get on in this world You gotta be just a little insane if you wanna get on in the world . . .

Jump! Jump! Outta your head! Jump! Jump! Outta your mind!

Love, sex, loneliness, drugs—what are they really saying? The message fluctuates wildly from optimism to pessimism. It is intense, it is personal, it is felt.

Sometimes there is an air of wisdom and restraint, as when Petula Clark cautions:

The other man's grass is always greener
The sun shines brighter on the other side
Some are lucky and some are not
Just be thankful for what you got.

And sometimes only bitterness or fatalism: "Who cares what games you choose / Little to win, but nothing to lose."

But whether the words tell of love's ecstasy or the despair of loneliness, "the beat goes on," relentlessly pounding out the message that life must continue, and the meaning is in the experiencing.

Pop song lyrics converge at one point: sensitivity to the feeling of life. At that point, in unison with the medium of sound and the tempo of young lives, the lyrics ask, "Who am I?"

The question is as old as man—Solomon asked, "Who am I?"—but youth today are asking it with their gut. The answer is sought on the level of feeling, in the intensity of every sort of personal experience. The words express a heightened sense of self and social awareness, but it is a wrenching awareness of fragmented meaning and uncertain feelings.

And the question is the answer, or at least the only answer presently being offered. For in the intense sensuality of the music itself, listeners derive a fleeting awareness of personal identity. The music also lends a sense of generational identity. The distinctive, ever-changing vernacular of rock 'n' roll cements the unity of a whole generation, giving a feeling of being a part of something bigger than oneself.

In a larger sense, the radio stations and rock bands performing the music are themselves part of the medium and help to provide a source of identity. As Savary observes, "The pop station has community, a feeling of family, personality, identity. When you listen, you feel like a part of the thing. There's warmth and excitement and life. Things are young and happening."

Christian response to this whole "rock 'n' roll community" is confused and often destructive. The church's failure to confront the world in which youth are living confirms some of them in their conviction that Christianity has nothing to tell them.

The fast increasing intrusion of rock 'n' roll into our lives and our inevitable involvement in the questions and needs of our own generation force us to make decisions and take stands. Yet in the face of these challenges, we need mean-
ingful and relevant guidance from the church because our testimony to our questioning contemporaries is crucial.

There are many dangers in popular music, but the Christian's condemnation must carry with it a compassionate awareness that the younger generation is asking serious questions. And the answers are not easy. Our answers must, above all, be clothed in the flesh of authentic Christian lives.

We must acknowledge the help of God's revelation in our quest for self-discovery. Our answer to the question, "Who am I?" is given to us by God—a God who speaks through our hearts as well as our hearts and bodies. This revelation, based on a trust understanding of human nature than we can ever gain through analysis of our experience, warns of dangers and pitfalls often hidden to us.

Faced with the message of contemporary music, the Christian must display a love which represents, not undisciplined and shallow desire, but rather a depth of commitment to people which is possible only in Christ. We must present ourselves as living testimonies to the fact that divine revelation, rather than hindering and stifling the self, truly liberates us through a freedom, understanding, and fulfillment that is impossible outside God's grace.

**Playback**

1. In what ways has the science of electronics altered our age?

2. What are some favorite themes of “rock-n-roll” music?

3. Why is the idea of “now” so all-important to teen-agers today?
I. We enjoy reading some things for the unusual content of their message.
   A. Time for its crispness.
   B. Human Events for its Consecration.
   C. Wall Street Journal for its Reports.
      1. Wall St. has cemetery at one end & River at the other.
II. We enjoy John not only for the extras above other gospels but for the confessions.
   A. Which of these can you make?
   B. Which can't you make?
   C. Which will you make?
III. Will you make:
   A. Andrew's Confession.
      Jn. 1:41 "He 1st findeth his own bro. Simon"
      1. Is Jesus Messiah, Christ?
      2. Note Andrew went 1st for his brother.
      3. "I could not endure to be saved alone."
      4. "Found" like a treasure.
      5. If you had one thing to say about Jesus, what would it be?
      6. It's the nature of religion to want others to possess it with you.
      7. It doesn't wait for others to come, it goes after them.
   B. Samaritans Confession
      Jn. 4:42 "Now we believe not because of thy"
      1. To the fact he is the Christ they add he is Savior.
      Acts 4:12
2. On what do you rely to save you:
   a) Self?
   b) Goodness?
   c) Maybe won't know I'm there thus exempted from test?
   d) Kinspeople?
3. Devil gives many hindrances.
   a) See Sabot clip.
   b) Never despair of trying to do good even in an unlikely circumstance.
4. Tho Samaritans expected a Great Teacher, they did not allow tradition to blind them in accepting Jesus.
5. Also note they saw Jesus' presence as a unique opportunity; besought him to abide. He's susceptible to appeals.
6. Their faith grew after they heard Jesus - he's Savior of all, not just Jews.
7. Woman brought them to universality of Jesus.
8. Faith rests on testimony - leads to certainty.

   C. Martha said virtually the same thing. John 11:27 "Yea Lord I believe that thou"
   1. Direct, unequivocal, settled conviction, lit. "I have believed".
   2. It is emphatic - for my part, I believe regardless of others.
   3. Individually expressed herself.
4. "I may not grasp everything but I do this much and all makes sense" is the spirit she employs.

D. Philip felt he fulfilled every prophesy. Jn. 1:45 "Philip findeth N. & saith unto him"

1. Saw him as fulfillment of O.T. prophesy.
2. No other way to interpret them.
3. Note "son of Joseph" - respect tho not his father.
4. 1st time Jesus gives self the title "Son of Man" - N. calls him Son of God.
5. Found implies he had been seeking.
6. Accepted testimony of O.T. scriptures about Jesus.
7. Jesus:
   a) Name given in prophecy (Matt. 1:21)
   b) Pronounced by demons (Lu. 4:34)
   c) Nailed to cross.
   d) Uttered by angels (Mk. 16:6)
   e) Miracles wrought by it (Acts 3:6)
   f) Preached (Acts 10:43)

8. Note they spoke according to common apprehension - do we correct all misconceptions?

E. Nathanael knew him to be the Son of God.

Jn. 1:49 "Rabbi thou are the Son of God"

1. Do you believe this?
   a) George Tipps in Ft. Worth meeting told me of man who heard him preach, all time,
made his family come, but said, "I can't believe. I do not have the capacity to believe!"

b) Could this be true? I believe in mechanic at brakes, pilot at control, Dr. during operation.

2. Saw Jesus as Israel's fulfillment.
3. Called Rabbi 16X in Bible - means my master.
4. Son of God - Jesus never refused the title.
5. He was that expected King.
6. They put this title on the cross.

F. John said he was the True light.

Jn. 1:9 "That was the true Light which"

1. Origin & source - not reflector of light as was John.
2. One illumination for man.
3. True, as opposed to spurious, not as opposed to lying.
4. Every man - singularly not collectively - individuals.
5. We have within us a sense of right and wrong. We are responsible everywhere.
6. Christ creates our souls.
7. Continually lighting - used 11X in N.T.
8. You can follow his light everywhere - nothing false.

G. 7th confession is Apostles.

Jn. 6:68-69 "From that time many of"

1. Jesus got the answer He expected.
2. Some had gone away - not these.
3. Only Jesus has words of eternal birth.
4. Only the Holy One of God can give salvation.
5. Not just existence - that can be a curse - but life!
6. Science, literature, law, education, cannot produce it - only words of Jesus.
7. Christ does not coerce - you can go away - no value in forced service.
8. 2 turning points in Peter's life - this qt. and later the look of Jesus.
9. Go back to what?
   a) Form & tradition.
   b) Darkness & sadness.
   c) Superstition.
   d) Immorality.
10. Doesn't induce them to leave but does grant permission.

[V. Will you say:
   A. Jesus is the Messiah.
   B. Jesus is the Christ.
   C. Jesus is the Fulfillment of Prophesy.
   D. Jesus is the Son of God.
   E. Jesus is the true Light.
   F. Jesus is the possessor of words of eternal life.
   G. Jesus is the Savior.

Silver Point, TN - 7/19/92
Old Union, Castalian Springs, TN - 7/28/92
Sabot is a French word for a wooden shoe. Sabotage was the practice of throwing a wooden shoe into machinery to stop production. Later it came to mean any attempt to hinder production or spoil a product. Well, there is a wooden shoe which Satan would cast into the machinery of your soul to cause you to fail. In fact there are many of them, so be on the lookout. Some of them are worry, fear, doubt, resentment, laziness, and discouragement. Watch out for these.
JESUS AND THE WATER SPEECH  
John 7:37-39
I. There are some speeches that take on added strength when the emotional occasion of their presentation is known.
A. Martin Luther.
B. Patrick Henry.
C. Batsell Baxter replacing Clevenger.
II. So it is with Jesus' water speech.
A. Not 2 verses long. Perhaps more said--we got gist.
  John 7:37-39"Now on the last day, the great B. May we see the background to "If any man thirst" cry.
III. Feast of Tabernacles.
  A. Occasion of the Cry.
    1. One of 3 annual feasts, "3 in the year.
    2. Every male Jew within 20 miles (Exo. 23:17) of Jerusalem came.
    3. Called Feast of Ingathering, The Feast (since it was most popular of all), The Festival.
      Exo. 23:16"And the feast of harvest, the fi.
    I Kings 8:2"And all the men of Israel ass.
    Lev. 23:39"Also in the fifteenth day of the 4. Reinacted wilderness wandering.
      a. Law said build temporary booths especially for this event.
      b. Walls of branches and fronds, roof thatched but thatching wide enough to see sun and stars.
c. Once homeless wanderers without roof over head.
   Lev. 23:40-43 "That your generation may
5. Hastings Bible Dic. says last day of this
   Feast (and Jews added an 8th day) was not
   only end of feast but end of whole festive
   year--cycle completes itself.

B. Ritualism of the Feast.
   1. 1st day--13 bullocks offered, cut down
      one each day until 7th day--8th day 1
      offered making total of 70.
   2. On each day offered 2 rams, 14 lambs.
      8th day 1 ram and 7 lambs--just half.

C. Momentous 8th Day.
   1. It was great day of Feast--Jewish Harvest
      Home.
   2. Here are events concerned with it.
   3. Sunrise priest with golden pitcher,
      attended by joyous company went to Pool
      of Siloam.
   4. Filled pitcher--2 pts.
   5. Returned as sacrifice to altar.
      a. 7 days had prayed for dew.
      b. 8th day prayed for rain.
   6. Amid blare of trumpet entered Temple
      via water gate.
   7. People followed repeating Isa. 12:3.
      Isa. 12:3"Therefore with joy shall ye draw
   8. On east side of altar a silver basin into
      which wine offering poured.
   9. On western side one for water in this
ceremony of thankful remembrance.

10. Priest pours out water.

11. While pouring people sand and marched.

Ps. 113-118

a. At salvation words like:
   Ps. 118:1 "O give thanks unto the Lord; for
   Ps. 118:25 "Save now, I beseech thee, O L:
   Ps. 118:29 "O give thanks unto the Lord; for
   People shouted and waved palms toward altar.

b. Marched around altar 7x.

c. Also asked for help in coming year.

D. At that dramatic pouring moment Jesus spoke---stood and cried "If any man thirst
  let him come.

1. Words were relevant to occasion.

2. The crowd stopped to listen.

E. What Did Jesus Say?

1. Does any thirst?
   a. Instead of physical he offers spiritual water.
   b. Instead of ritual, reality (Lenny).
   c. Satisfies spiritual appetites.

Matt. 5:6 "Blessed are they that hunger a
Rev. 22:17 "The Spirit and the Bride
Ps. 42:2 "My soul thirsteth for God"
  as the hart for water brooks.

d. One spiritual requirement---are you thirsty?

2. Faith is necessary.
   a. I must believe in Jesus' ability.
b. If he came today what would he do different from 1st time?
c. Either or = Son of God or Blasphemy.
d. Either reject absolutely or accept fully — no middle ground.

3. Faith in Him is and imparts a blessing.
   a. He cites the unfound scripture.
   b. None exactly like he used. Could it be—
      Zech. 13:1 "In that day there shall be a feast for the Lord in the land of Joel 3:18 "And it shall come to pass in that day, says the Lord of hosts, in whom is no backsliding, and whose hand is not changed from the days of Jacob, that you shall be engraved upon the stones of a city, and your name shall be called the city of the Lord evermore.
      Isa. 44:3 "For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and streams in the dry waste: and his glory shall be as the rose."
      Isa. 55:1 "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters: and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." Ezek. 47:1 "Afterward he brought me again by the spirit of the, into the presence of the Lord: and behold, I saw by the vail that was by the loins of the sanctuary." Ps. 46:4-5 "There is a river, the streams thereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.
   c. Westcott says not anyone but whole general tone of Scriptures.
   d. Smith said not a quotation but an echo.
   e. Like Matt. 11:28-30 "Come unto me: (1) Imagine weary beast, thirsty and galled (2) Promised drink, kindly yoke, light burden. (3) Doesn't remove burden—have one always. (4) Now yoked with Christ—He works with us and shares our labors.
   f. He is a blessing to you and makes you one. (1) It flows from innermost nature of believer. (2) You bless others.
Regardless of whether Believer or Savior described both a blessing to earth!

IV. And now you?

A. Are you thirsty?
   1. Lose our sense of sin and its horrors we are lost.

B. Do you believe in Jesus?

C. Do you want to be a blessing?

D. Will you come?

West End - 5/7/67.
Mother...an Irreplaceable Treasure

Little girls, it is said, are made of sugar and spice and everything nice. By the time all the sugar and spice has worn off, they become mothers and all they have left is everything nice, but that lasts forever.

Still they are all different. Some mothers are chubby while others are little wisps, thin as an April breeze. Some are loud and others are mousy. Some are Esquimaux, Democrats, secretaries, D A R's, factory workers, Sioux, socialites and Red Cross Ladies, but mostly they are just mothers with husbands to clean up after, children to love and to spank, and houses to turn into homes...

The beauty of mothers is as indestructible as Faith, Hope, and Love because mothers are all these things and more.

Whether she be eighteen or eighty, Mother is an irreplaceable treasure. None other will ever love you half so well or half so foolishly. None other will be sure you are right, good and worthy. Of course, sometimes she is wrong, but God love her for it and keep her forever in His grace. — ALAN BECK quoted in Especially for Mother: An Affectionate Anthology by VANCE HYDE (Crowell).
THE PERFECT SQUELCH
John 7:45-53

I. Were you ever put down? Why?
A. Was wrong.
B. Was bullied.
C. Was timid and cowardly.

II. We've a perfect example of it in the story of the gathering storm.
A. Everyone seems confused and ill at ease.
   1. Jesus is now a celebrity—but who is He?
   2. He offered the great invitation.
   Jn. 7:37 "If any man thirst, let him come..."
   3. No one need be left out.
   2 Cor. 12:9 "My grace is sufficient..."
B. Up and down whole officialdom there was division—but not with the common folk.
C. This sets the stage for this event now to unfold.

III. Men sent to arrest Jesus.
v-44 "No man laid hand on Him...."
A. Why empty-handed?
   1. You had the commission.
   2. You had the power.
   3. Ans: Never a man spake like this man.
   4. Meaning: Only God could so speak and they caught the impact.
B. Rebuttal to officers.
v-47 "Pharisees, are ye also deceived?"
   1. Recognizes he's successful but calls it deception.
2. Reaction of contempt.
   a) Contemptuous of the common people who did not observe the 1000's of ceremonial regulations.
   b) Said only ignorant accepted Jesus.
3. Sad when man thinks he's so clever he's smarter than Jesus.
4. Any rulers—Pharisees believe?
   a) Note their bigotry—"If-it-was-right-I'd-be-there" attitude.
   b) Any big folks believe?
   c) Any religious leader in his camp?
   d) Show of contempt for common folk.

C. Jesus asks for faith in Him.
   1. Got superficial applause - v 40.
   2. Derision - v 41-44.
   3. Hostility - v 45-49.
   5. Some said He was a prophet. Deut. 18:15.

IV. Nicodemus enters.
   A. Bio--
      1. Sanhedrin.
      2. Came by night.
      3. Important man of fairness.
   B. His question.
      v-51 "Doth our law judge any man, before..."
      1. This is the one lone voice of defense and he'll find wrath poured on Him.
      2. Tho fearsome He seems to be a disciple at heart.
3. He's right in His question and proposal.
   a) Not a direct defense but only quoted law that's relevant.

Exo. 23:1
Deut. 1:16-17
   b) Let Jesus come and state His own case.
   c) Can't condemn a man on second-hand information.

Deut. 27:26 "Cursed be he that confirmeth not..."

C. Scornful reaction.

v-52 "Art thou also of Galilee?"
   1. Why did He speak in the first place--only to be swatted down.
   2. "Aristocracy of Jerusalem had a scornful contempt of rural Galileans."
   3. You talk like a Galilean! (It will later get Peter.)

v-52 "Search, look, for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet."
   4. His defense tho genuine was feeble. He didn't press His point.
   5. Mentioned Galilee and He became quiet--perfect squelch.
   6. He never spoke again in that session.
   7. Read Bible--any prophets?
      a) Should have known Elijah, Elisha, Hosea, Nahum, Anna
      b) Now Jesus' home there, Judea a cross.
8. By innuendo Nic. was jockeyed into position either to defend Jesus or remain quiet.
9. Fish or cut bait story.
10. His timidity not to be overcome.

D. Every man went to his own house.
1. What was solved?
2. Sleep on it?
3. He either is or isn't--what position will I take?

Devo, Skyline church - Jackson, TN 4/8/92
"LOST FOREVER! COULD IT HAPPEN TO ME?"
John 8:21-24

I. If only for the pleasure of men I preached, I'd never do this sermon.
   A. I declare: Some will be lost forever.
   B. I state why this will be.
   C. I proclaim it not out of vengeance or hatred, but begging you to believe in Jesus.
   D. I tell you His sermon.

II. The Contributing Factors.
   A. Late in his ministry.
   B. At Jerusalem.
      1. Introduces new scene, place, day. (P.C.)
      2. Liberty to speak still his and he uses it.

v-20 "These words spake Jesus in the treasury"
C. Spake Again
   1. It's another opportunity for them.

v-12 "Then spake Jesus again unto them"
   2. How many times have you been offered the invitation?
   3. He'll repeat himself with the offer of salvation.

7:34 "Ye shall seek me & shall not find"
   4. They will even ask the same question, in different form, to evade his challenge.

7:35 "Where will he go--dispersed"
8:21 "Will he kill himself--go can't come"
   5. Truly they are without excuse--aren't we also?
D. Before we go further--
1. If Jesus warned about using the present hour, must we not also?
2. Was He not fair with his repeated "again"--it was not the first time mind you.

III. What He Said Was:
v-21 "I go my way, ye seek, die in sins, whither I go ye cannot come"
A. Plain enough--what can they not understand?
1. He is going to leave this earth--they have this hour to right their wrongs.
2. His going brings dire consequences.
3. Jesus will choose his time--so must we!
4. As clear as a bell--I'm going away--no doubt about it.

B. You'll Seek.
1. Afterward they will search for him, realizing what they missed, but will not find Him, they waited too late.
2. They will seek the one thing they are now rejecting--but it will be too late.
3. At their death they'll seek Him and will fail.
4. Too late! Horrible words.
5. "True repentance is never too late, but late" is seldom true.
6. We can have many feelings about Christ and still be lost.
a) Fear of death.
b) Sickness.
c) Earthly failures--but not enough!
7. We can resist God till he resists us. Prov. 1:28-29
8. It's a false charity & morbid amiability that keeps us from preaching hell. (Ryle)

C. Barclay Statements
1. There are opportunities that come & do not return.
2. We can refuse Jesus & be lost.
3. Life & time are limited.
4. Since our time to accept Christ is limited, also no man knows his limitations.
5. Every reason to act now.
6. As certain as the opportunity is also the judgement.
7. The more we reject, the greater the judgement.

D. Ye Shall Die in Your Sins
1. Sin--miss the mark.
2. He who refuses Jesus misses the target of life.
4. Rejection of Jesus closes Heaven's gates.
5. Satan "Ye shall not die!"
Mk. 16:16 "He that believes"
6. It's the state of sin--their actual transgression was disbelief.

E. "Whither I go, ye cannot come"
1. Nothing angers us so much as to be told we can't come where Jesus is.
2. But it's Christ-like to warn men--
and I'm doing it.
3. Jesus was going to the Father He
perfectly obeyed--they couldn't
come because they had not.

IV. They Answered With a Joke
A. Levity their response--will he kill
himself?
   1. Spoke in jest.

Ezek. 3:18
18:18
2. They had not learned a bit more
from what He'd earlier said.
3. They scoff at following Him if the
route is suicide.
4. They thought none but a suicide
could pick the time of his departure.
5. Suicides were lost, they thought.
6. Earlier asked about disposia.

7:34-35
B. Do we dismiss with levity the serious
things?

V. Jesus Put Them Back on Course.
A. Beneath vs. Above: World vs. Not of
World.
   1. Draws series of contrasts.
   2. All that's human opposes all that's
divine.
   3. Earthly or heavenly--which for me?
   4. Bruce said above & below meet on
this earth, thus the conflict.
   5. Is our aim low?
   6. Which world is ours via affinity &
outlook?
B. Verdict: Die—Believe Not I Am
1. If we do not accept Jesus we will die in our sins.
2. Can't be saved from sin & live in it!
3. Believed not I am.
   a) Unbelief destroys.
   b) How indurated was the unbelief of the Jews.
   c) They were without excuse.
   d) True faith affects the soul.
4. Jesus the Great I Am.
   a) Divine name describes his identity ego Eimi.
   b) "He" is not in v-24.
C. What's your answer?

Woodbine - 4/13/92
Smithville, TN - 3/3/93
A Lack of Ethics

A lack of ethics in the workplace has been noted in a survey of 1,400 women by WORKING WOMAN magazine. Up to 70 percent of those surveyed say they have observed lying, expense account abuses, favoritism, nepotism, and taking credit for others' work. Fifty-three percent said that in order to be successful, you must sometimes lower your principles.

Executives' Digest
WHAT'S MORE PLEASANT THAN PLEASING? John 8:29

1. However you want to say it: it comes thru the same way - pleasing God is the most glorious thing in living.
   A. Jesus called it the 1st order of business.
   Jn. 8:29 "For I do always those things that please him
   1. Conscious of his union w God.
   2. Was knowingly obedient.

B. Paul taught it at Athens.
Acts 17:24-29 "God - dwells - worshipped - blood - seek
   1. Way is open - God's ready to be found.
   2. In Him - not in our lives - we live.

II. But even before we see what pleases or displeases Him, let's see what His pleasure has brought about.
   A. It pleased Him to have Jesus demonstrate Him.
   Col. 1:18-19 "He is the head... for it pleased
   1. Fullness (pleroma) = the totality of the divine power & attributes" Lightfoot.
   2. Sum total of the emanations of the Godhead.
   3. Christ is not one among many.
   4. Dwell - Abide permanently - as in a temple - can approach it.
   5. All that belongs to essence of God was present in Jesus.

B. It has pleased God to have a people:
   Ps. 149:4 "For the Lord taketh p... he will b.
   1 Sam. 12:22 "For the Lord will not forget
   Jn. 17:20 "Neither pray I for these
   "Other sheep I have
1. He gave Israel their being.
2. He's made us what we are.
3. He likes to do things for His people.
4. Marcus Aurelius card.
C. It pleased God to have a plan for getting people.
1 Cor. 1:21 "For after that in the wisdom of
1. Man can't come to true knowledge of God by
   natural gifts alone.
2. Preaching = message, bare facts of the gospel.
4. Above miracles & philosophy - Christ!
D. Pleased God to see the effectiveness of this
   preaching.
Eph. 1:3- "Blessed be the God & Father of our
1. Chosen - high honor - as we threw bat & took
   hands up.
2. Church not result of hasty, temporal expedient
   but part of eternal purpose.
3. No innovation but part of plan.
4. No blind destiny.
5. Good pleasure = eternal purpose.
6. End aimed for - glory of His grace.
7. All future ages of man were present in the that of
   God even before He made man.
8. Not indiscriminately save - but save the believe
9. Free, fixed, unalterable purpose to confer blessi
   on believers in Jesus.
10. Christ the Savior Card.
E. It pleased God to put the saved in His Kingdom.
Luke 12:32 "Fear not, little flock, for it is
1. Shepherd & sheep picture.
2. Few really followed compared to multitude who
   professed love for Him.
3. Tho small, need not fear.
F. He's pleased to vary the talents in that Kingdom.
1 Cor. 12:18 "But now hath God set the members
1. Multiplicity of gifts harmonized in unity of giver.
2. Ea. member has his peculiar form, place & use.
3. Because ear is less useful, does it then not belong
   to body - of course, it does!
4. Every member is dear.
5. All members are necessary to ea. other.
6. Middleton card on smiles.
7. Crabtree Card on Cousins.
8. Saigon Card.
G. He's pleased to grant a Prosperity to His members
Ps. 35:27 "Let them shout for joy

3rd End 11-23-80
Marcus Aurelius, the great Roman emperor and the stoic saint, used to say to himself every morning, "Today you will meet all kinds of unpleasant people; they will hurt you, and injure you, and insult you; but you cannot live like that; you know better, for you are a man in whom the spirit of God dwells."

The sense in which Christ is the Savior of the world may be thus summarized: His death secured for all men a delay in the execution of the sentence against sin, space for repentance, and the common blessings of life which have been forfeited by transgression; it removed from the mind of God every obstacle to the pardon of the penitent and restoration of the sinner, except his willful opposition to God and rejection of him; it procured for the unbeliever the powerful incentives to repentance presented in the cross, by means of the preaching of God's servants, and through the work of the Holy Spirit; it provided salvation for those who do not willfully and personally sin (i.e., those who die in infancy or those who have never been mentally responsible) and assured its application to them; and it makes possible the final restoration of creation itself. We conclude that the atonement is unlimited in the sense that it is available for all; it is limited in that it is
When you rise in the morning, form a resolution to make the day a happy one for someone. You will be glad that you stopped to speak to friends and fellow workers. You will leave them all with a warmer feeling in their hearts because you did so. By the most simple arithmetical sum, look at the results: You send a person, even if only one, happily through the day; that is 365 in the course of a year. And if you live only forty years after you commence this program, you will have made 14,600 human beings happy, if but for one day.

The Goodness of God by R. L. Middleton, page 63
The first recorded question from man to God is "Am I my brother's keeper?"

What is our responsibility to our fellow human beings? Someone has jokingly said, "Each person has 67 million 14th cousins."

One of the great teachings of the Bible is the responsibility of each human being for others. Each of us is a brother.

A story carried by one of the wire services crystallizes this truth. In a search-and-destroy mission a group of American soldiers came across a remarkable South Vietnamese girl who startled them with her capacity to care as a nurse for her people. Although limited in her formal training, she showed almost unlimited ability to help people—villagers, Americans, and Vietcong—in that hellish war.

Realizing that she had so much potential, the soldiers suggested to her that she return to Saigon where it would be safer and where she could receive further training. She refused. No matter what they said she insisted on being there in that particular village.

One day the soldiers were pinned down by a sniper; one was wounded and still lying in the middle of the road exposed to fire.

This young lady, scarcely more than a hundred pounds dripping wet, crawled out of the ditch to help the soldier. Putting him on her back, half stumbling and half rolling, she tumbled into the
ditch to safety. The soldiers, overwhelmed with gratitude, insisted all the more that she return to Saigon to safety with them, but still she demurred. Frustrated in their efforts, they asked her, "Why do you stay here when you could go to safety and further your career in Saigon?"

"I stay," she spoke softly, "because it is my business to carry the wounded."

"People Lovers" – By William S. Taegel – Page 70

These little neighborly virtues make life worthwhile. George Eliot said: "What do we live for if it is not to make life less difficult for each other?" We should take advantage of every possible chance to be kind, because some day there will be no more chances. How important it is that we make every effort to act and speak in ways that will encourage or comfort. As Grace Noll Crowell has written:

It takes so little to put back the heart
In any one: A loving word of praise,
Uttered sincerely, oftentimes may start
A light like sunshine running through the days.
It takes so little when the heart is sad
To lift it up—some bright encouragement
May reach the sorrowing one and make him glad,
Even when seemingly all hope is spent,
It takes so little, why should we withhold
That precious thing within our power to give?
Love, like a warm garment in the cold,
And sympathy for others while we live?
It takes so little, ah, dear God, I pray,
Help us to give it wisely day by day.

The Goodness of God by R. L. Middleton, page 65
THE QUESTION OF QUESTIONS
John 8:25-32

I. Questions come to us in varying propensity.
   A. Repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.
   B. Do you take this woman?
   C. Do you vow to tell the truth, the whole truth, etc.?

II. But one takes ascendancy above all of those.
   A. Jesus has just told men they will be lost.  
      Jn. 8:21 "I go my way--seek--die--come"
   B. It moved them:
      1. 1st to levity--kill self.
      2. Then to animosity.

III. "Who Art Thou?"
   A. If someone sentences you to hell would you not ask who are you?
      1. It perhaps was a term of contempt.
      2. Who are you to say such!
      3. Yet it begs for an answer.
         a) Son of God?
         b) Savior of man?
         c) Friend of his followers.
         d) Lord & Judge.
      4. What is the spirit of our questions?
         a) For knowledge, or is it
         b) A rebuttal.
   B. He didn't answer as they expected.
      1. Called the hardest verse in NT to translate.
      2. Some think it means "why should I even speak to you?"
3. Others "I'm the same I said to you in the beginning."
4. Who He is causes much comment today.
5. How could they ask what He had told them from the beginning.

C. Then we catch a glimpse of His being.
   1. "I have many things" to say to you --he didn't unload it all--much could be said.
   2. "I will judge you."
   3. "I speak to the world those things which I have heard of Him."
      a) He is true.
      b) I have been true to Him and He to me.
      c) Jesus is the Word Incarnate.
      d) He is for the Father's pleasure.
      e) Never offended Him in anything, nor went beyond His word.
      f) Jesus bears then the full authority of God. (Sadly they did not understand the relationship--they will die looking for the misunderstood Savior--note how prejudice blinded their eyes.)

D. Now states his mission.

v-28 "When ye have lifted up the Son"
   1. His cross was meant to destroy but it exalts.
   2. It was not his destruction but His glory.
Acts 5:31 "Him hath God exalted"

3. Gives plainest definition so far as to how He will die.

E. They then will know—but too late.

1. Cross & Crown will prove his words.

Acts 2:36 "What shall we do"

2. Conscience can stifle but not baffle—you'll know who I am.
   (Ryle)

F. Spoke Nothing of Himself—only the Father's word.

1. Other men are spasmodic in their obedience—Jesus was constant.

2. He is continuous, perfect, complete. What a preacher!!

3. "Our Lord was absorbed by the Father." (Meyer)

4. To honor Him, the passion of his life.

5. Perpetual communion is conditioned by perfectual obedience. (Ellicott)

6. He is the bodily expression of His Father's will. (Hobbs)

G. Father never left Him alone.

1. God is with him every minute.

2. Father would raise Him from the dead.

3. We cast ourselves on Him and believe He bears our responsibility.

H. Many believed—what do you say?

Pratt, KS = 4/21/92

If you see what God said of Him
Heb. 1:1-2 "God, who in sundry times in divers
A. Made Worlds
   1. Active in creation
   2. Existed before creation of all creation is His heritage.
B. Brightness of His Glory—Express Image of His Person
   1. Substantial image of God
   2. Called Son, God, Lord
   3. Absolutely righteous
   4. Heir of His estate.
C. Purged upholds all things Word
D. By Himself, Purged our sins
E. Set—Right Hand—Highest Honor
   1. Accomplished our salvation there
   2. God set Him there!
   3. Heaven His in preexistent state now there by vindication of task accomplished

Eph 1: 20-21
Rom 8: 34

E. Many of Them Believed—Do You?

Pratt 4/21/92
Tuscumbia, AL (BC) 8/29/93
I. No man can be a follower of Jesus and be ignorant of current conflicts and give himself either to an all negative or all positive position. John "Belonging to all."

A. Just as surely as we are for something--there are others we are against.
B. One of these is Communism.

I. Today we seek to show why we are opposed. Not just because its an ism--nor because its anti-American (they are self-avowed enemies); but because of a conflict with the truth of Jesus I must as a Christian oppose it. #1 Do not identify a any political a. Clip on Hoover's statement. #1 System.

II. About Communism we see:

A. It's new.
   1. Communist Manifesto 1848.
   2. 1917 Lenin took Russia.
   3. 50 years ago only 44,000, ruled no nation.

B. It's strong.
   1. 2½ billion folk in world, it has 1 billion (one out of 3 caught) 2 million % increase.
   2. It intends to take all the world--now has ¼ world surface.
   3. Khrushchev said "Your grandchildren will be communist."
   4. In America 10,000 to 17,000, less than 10%.
   5. In Asia and Africa they have 400,000 Comm. missionaries.

C. It's material, thus popular--see why.
   1. Promise the people bread and relief from poverty, illiteracy, hunger.

D. It's godless, totalitarian.

according to his ability and to each according to his work."

Finally--absolute classless society. So much surplus none want. Common store house--now "to each according to his needs." State dwindles away.

IV. Why should I oppose? [Redacted]

A. Here are several reasons.

1. Man alone cannot be good nor create utopia. He must have God.

2. The ends do not justify the means.
   a. By immoral means we do not reach a moral end. Violence, immorality, murder--
      (1) Lenin quote on morals.

3. Changing structure of society does not change men. It is God who redeems--not slum clearance.
   a. Comm. sees source of evil outside man--the economic system; salvation within him--communism. Christianity says evil within man and salvation outside him--God.
   b. Yet in USSR utter lack of human dignity.

4. Comm. is atheistic. There is no place for the transcendent. Man is at the center of the stage. No hereafter. Religion is opiate.
   a. No morals belong to the atheist.

V. Best answer--Living faith in God! (Malik quote)

A. Do you have a purpose?

1. Menniger quote.
   a. "Have fun--pay later"--Airlines slogan.
   b. To missionaries in India was said "It is not true, it is not new, it is not you."
Is this true of Christianity?

3. Is it difficult for you to be a Christian? Have we substituted the "standard of living" for the "good life?" 1 Cor. 10:14. "We are at all costs to avoid worshipping a false God." (Phillips)

4. We reach the mess by the individualist, we need to convert one to one.

5. Be faithful even if not successful.

6. Witness, a mummy, that we show the risen Lord & the gospel at least.

7. We are late but not too late!!

8. Comm. in "false secular religion" J.E. Hoover. He said:
2) Know what you believe as a Chr.
3) Attend services regularly.
4) Witness -- as African wrote me we must "out live, out think, out die" all.
5) Take seriously message of love & live it to all.
6) Like c. Optimism inherent in Christ. Don't be obsessed with no neuroses.

Kinston, NC 2/22/63
Hutchinson 3/14/63
Communism is, indeed, our paramount adversary, and it leans on its credo of invincibility and a concept of historical inevitability to accomplish its ends. The way to fight it is to study, understand it, and discover what can be done about it. This cannot be achieved by dawdling at the spring of knowledge; it can only be accomplished by dipping deeply into thoughtful, reliable, and authoritative sources of information.

--- J. Edgar Hoover

"The uninformed are easily misinformed." "Vomit the spirit of our people, & keep alive their attention... If once they become inattentive to public affairs, ye & I & Congress & Assembly, judges & governors & all become wolves." Thomas Jefferson
In a communist society, the part of lawyers will be abolished. Why have lawyers when there are no rights to defend?

See Harvey clip from Life line.
"Under communism, a tiny minority, perhaps ten or twenty men, would rule the United States. An open dictator- torship, called the 'dictatorship of the proletariat' would be established. The Constitution and all our laws would be abolished. If you owned productive property, you would be arrested as an 'exploiter,' hauled before a revolutionary court, and sentenced to a concentration camp—that is, if you convinced the 'judge' you were worth saving at all. All property used in production would be confiscated, thus leading ultimately to total communization, meaning state ownership. This confiscation would include your home, business, bank deposits, and related personal possessions. These would 'belong to everybody.' You have no 'right' to own them under the communist system.

"The revolution would affect every man, woman, and child in America. Communists do not propose to remodel our government or retain any part of it. They would tear it to the ground, destroy all opposition, and then create a new government, an American province in the Soviet world empire...

"Action would be drastic, immediate and without appeal. An armed 'Red Guard' would enforce the orders of party henchmen. Hotels, country clubs and swimming pools would be used for the benefit of 'workers,' meaning, in most cases, party bosses. The working man in the mines, factories and mills would be told to work certain hours for certain wages. Labor unions, as we know them, would be obliterated. All such organizations would be owned and operated by the communist government, and no laborer would be permitted to organize a union or to strike against his government.

"This picture of a communist America is not overdrawn."
The Hegel theory of the dialectic is this: Any thesis gives birth to its own anti-thesis; the result of the struggle between these two opposites produces a synthesis. This synthesis becomes another thesis, which produces its anti-thesis, which produces another synthesis and etc. This is the pattern of human progress. Communist today accept the idea that history is progress and that progress is dialectical.

This is because Marx and Engels demanded changes in economic structure as the one effective way of making society what they thought it should be. "The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles. Freeman and slave, patrician and plebeian, lord and serf, guildmaster and journeyman, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to one another, carried on an uninterrupted....fight that each time ended either in a revolutionary reconstitution of society at large or in the common ruin of the contending classes.

from "The Communist Manifesto"

page 12

Marx-Engels
And then will democracy itself begin to weaken, away due to the simple facts that feed from capitalism; slavery from the untold horror, savagery, infamies. The capitalists' exploitation people will gradually become accustomed to the observance, the elementary rules, social life that have been known for centuries & repeated for 1000. They will become less prone to observing them if force is compelled.
"There are no morals in politics. There is only expediency—salvation lies only along the road of international socialist revolution...promises are like pie crust: made to be broken." ---Lenin

* * * * * *

"Skeem, zig zag, retreat, anything to hasten the coming to power of communism." ---Lenin

* * * * * *

"There is room in life only for those who are not troubled by virtue."

---Lenin

* * * * * *

J. Edgar Hoover said "Evil is depicted as good, terror is justice, hate is love, and obedience to a foreign
master as patriotism."

We must remember Sin is Real.
Karl Marx and Friederich Engels, the initial instigators of communism, adopted this slogan as one of the fundamental tenets of communism:

"Communism abolishes all eternal truths."

Keep in mind that this was one of the principal foundations on which the menacing structure of communism was built.

Lenin, the twentieth century hero of communism, said:

"Be prepared to resort to every possible subterfuge, trick and illegal device to conceal the truth."

Another quotation is from Pravda, official Communist Party newspaper in Russia. Ironically, pravda is the Russian word for truth. As a further irony, this newspaper speaks the truth only when addressing itself to internal matters of policy, and then it is apt to reflect truthfully the thinking of the communist leaders. So Pravda says:

"The world-wide nature of our communist program is not mere talk, but all-embracing and an all blood-soaked reality."

Pravda's statement ties in with another quotation from Lenin:

"Those who cannot coordinate illegal forms of struggle with legal ones are very poor revolutionaries."

And, finally, a fifth quotation, again from Lenin:

"It would not matter a jot if three-quarters of the human race perished; the important thing is that the remaining quarter should be communists."
At least part of the same truth came to Hazlitt when he said: "Man is the only animal that laughs and weeps, for he is the only animal that is struck by the difference between things as they are and as they ought to be."

from "Christ, Communism and the Clock"
by G. Ray Jordan
pages 65-66

A living condition created in Russia when long-range planning program finally completed they will have 75 as for performance, let in 0/90 century concept is same among spaces we today celebrate as prismatic.
Or the Party poet who proclaimed:

We are young Bolsheviks,
Everything about us is like iron and steel:
Our thinking,
Our speech,
Our discipline!

Karl Marx said, "Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the sentiment of a heartless world, as it is the spiritless conditions."

from "Christ, Communism and the Clock"
by G. Ray Jordan
page 75
Gross is a third thought. He would have been an engineer in a factory. He would have been a man of science. He would have been a man of letters.

The suns of antonotfa. In front of the state, he was a mighty enigma. He was a man of letters. He was a man of science. He was a man of letters.
ULTIMATE GOAL—Communists in all countries—oppose religion because they do not recognize any authority beyond the human... The [Soviet] regime tolerates a limited number of open churches. But there is no doubt that this toleration is a temporary expedient, and that the ultimate goal is to eliminate religion as a force in the Communist society.

"Religion Survives Against Heavy Odds in the U.S.S.R."
Senior Scholastic, January 10, 1962, p. 20.
Without this Power we are defeated. Summing up the trouble that finally made us lose the League of Nations, C. J. Hambro, the Norwegian delegate, declared, "Here in Geneva we have every fear but the fear of God."

from "Christ, Communism and the Clock"
by G. Ray Jordan
page 92

"The man who regards his own life and that of his fellow creature, as meaningless is not merely unfortunate, but almost disqualified for life."

Albert Einstein
Dr. Charles Malik, of Lebanon, suggests how necessary this is. "Communism," he declares, "cannot be swept back only by negation. At the present rate of spiritual impotence, with the protective covering of the hydrogen bomb, it is only a matter of time before the whole of Asia and Africa, and maybe even Europe, will be engulfed by communism." How painfully prophetic his words seem to be!

"What is desperately needed," he continues, "besides the highest political wisdom, is a ringing positive message, one of reality, of truth and of hope. Communism exposes the inadequacy, if not indeed, the bankruptcy, of the Western-imperialistic and the smug-Christian approach of the past. Something infinitely more humble, more profound, more positively outreaching, something touching the hearts of men, touching their need for fellowship and understanding and love" is imperative. There must be "something providing them with real hope, hope for themselves and their children, hone in this life as well as in
the next. Something of this order is needed. This something is Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord."

from "Christ, Communism and the Clock"
by G. Ray Jordan
page 33

"Most Americans today exist without purpose and without significance. They have no articulate philosophy; they do not live with any framework of reference."

----Dr. Carl Menninger
The gospel is a much more powerful weapon for the renewal of society than is our Marxist philosophy. All the same it is we who will finally beat you. We are only a handful, and you Christians are numbered by the millions, but if you remember the story of Gideon and his three hundred companions, you will understand why I am right. We Communists do not play with words. We are realists, and seeing that we are determined to achieve our objective, we know how to obtain the means. Of our salaries and wages, we keep only what is strictly necessary and we give the rest for propaganda purposes. To this propaganda we also consecrate all our free time and part of our holidays. You, however, give only a little time, and hardly any money for the spreading of the gospel of Christ. How can anyone believe in the supreme value of this gospel if you do not practice it, if you do not spread it, and if you sacrifice neither time nor money for it? Believe me, it is
we who will win, for we believe in our Communist message, and we are ready to sacrifice everything, even our life, in order that social justice shall triumph. But you Christians are afraid to soil your hands. This is too true to be comfortable.

---from "How to Combat Communism"
by W. Earl Waldrop
page 46
The Telegraphing of a Name

John 9

I. I am in a quandry: Shall I talk about my predecessor or shall I talk about Marie? May I do both?

II. Ken Thompson— one of Marie's finest projects.
A. He is one of many who received gifts from her.
B. She admiringly saw his rich potential.
   1. Assisted with his schooling
   2. Saw him rise to Mr. ACU.
      a) Freshman speaker
      b) Student body president
C. She loved every bone of him
D. Gifts came to many
   1. Food at church - I'm going home - do my part
   2. Gave me a watch - what good under a glass dome.
   3. Poor and needy, family, friends blessed
   4. Here we stand - his first funeral - 1,000 for me
   5. Old and young and both loved Marie
   6. In Kevin an investment well placed
III. Now about Marie as a name telegraphed much.
A. Mary Blazer - Trail blazer
B. Marie Bos worth
C. Salient features easy to recall

IV. Bos Worth
A. Lady of definite answer.
   1. Kevin's great - "I know it."
   2. He will go far - never
      that's my opinion too -
      she indefinitely answered
B. Reminds me of John 9 and all
   the questions
   1. Disciples - who sinned?
   2. Clay of spittle - go, wash,
      went, washed, saw - Marie
      one of deficiencies.
   3. Neighbors - is not this he?
      (Marie loved her neighbors)
   4. Neighbors - how eyes
      opened?
      Man called Jesus - went,
      washed, received sight - she
      believed in doing God's will
      in worship and work.
   5. Where is he? Don't know.
      Marie not always right but
      never in death.
6. Pharisees asked how and were specifically told she was matter of fact – little gray.
8. Asked blind – what about man who opened eyes? Marie knew who Jesus was!
10. Harassed the healed – hear again? She was consistent in what she felt and did.
11. Worshipper of God and does His will. He hears Him.
12. Teach us? Cast out – she did not court the world's opinion

C. Encounters with Jesus
1. Believes in Son of God
2. Who is He?
3. Seen and talked with Him
4. I believe – worshipped Him

Funeral/Mrs. Marie Bosworth – 7/12/99
I. Things move logically.
   A. Reasons for success or failure.
   B. Reasons for victory or defeat.
   C. Reasons for blessings & curses.
      1. Graphically seen in hearing of blind man.
      2. Our task is to see the story.

II. Facts of it.
   A. Opportunities are fleeting.
      "And as Jesus passed by" 
      1. We must learn not to postpone.
      2. We must seize the opportunity that is present.
      3. Please remember they are limited.
      4. Jesus presents "Now" moments. Conversions after 30 yrs. are rare.
   5. To postpone is sometimes to paralyze - you get where you can't. 
      a.) Travel while you can.
      b.) Be together all you can, etc.
   B. Saw a man blind from birth.
      1. Think of what was robbed of that man.
         a.) Never saw a color, bird, pet.
         b.) Shut into a narrow world all his own.
         c.) A helplessness & dependency above normal necessitated.
      2. Blind need Kind attention.
         Lev. 19:14 "This is the law, when a man dieth in a tent Deut. 23:18 "Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore 3. Only miracle in gospels where sufferer afflicted since birth. (2 in Acts)
4. Note Jesus not so occupied c his own work &
travels He did not have time for others.
C. Brought up the origin of suffering.
1. Did sin of man or sin of parents cause the disease
or affliction?
   a.) No denying - sin's brought sorrow into world.
   b.) Who would know more about sin than Jesus?
      (1) Master - Rabbi in 5 other places.
      (2) Should cite of suffering be theme for speculation
or call to service?
2. Sin's origin.
   a.) No man lives to self - what I do does affect
      others.
   b.) Jesus more interested in cure than cause.
   c.) It shows we may look at things differently - he
      was a theological specimen to them; one who
      needed help to Jesus.
   d.) Some thot a diseased person a wicked one - not
      so.
Acts 28:4 "And when the barbarians saw the venomous
   e.) Tho parents not perfect no specific sin cause
the blindness.
D. Day of Duty.
V. 4 "I must work the works
1. Solemn lesson on opportunity.
2. Jesus sought to redeem the time.
3. Our time is very short.
4. The blindness was allowed to furnish God a platfe
to show his work.
5. God allows nothing to exist w/o a reason.
6. Capture the time properly - when Jesus is here it is day; when He's gone it's night.
Rom. 13:12 "The night is far spent, the day is at hand

E. Blind Man Healed.

1. Note Jesus saw him on his own volition & healed him - unasked & unexpected.
2. Note Jesus made the 1st move.
3. Note the man was within the reach of Jesus.
4. Note he did precisely what Jesus said do w/o realizing all he was.
5. Blindness tugged at Jesus heart.
   a.) Only John tells this miracle as is one of 4 told by John, all near Jerusalem.
   b.) Records 8 miracles - 4 in Galilee, 4 in Judea.
   c.) Galilee ones: water to wine, healing nobleman son, fed 5000, walk on water - chapters 2, 4, 6.
   d.) 4 in Judea: purify temple, heal impotent man, restore sight, raise Lazarus - chapters 2, 5, 6, 9, 11.
   e.) Restoring sight sign of Messiah.

Isa. 29:18 "And in that day shall the deaf hear the word
Matt. 11:5 "The blind receive their sight, and the lame

f.) Jesus had more to do c blindness than any other form of infirmity: 1 deaf & dumb, 1 palsy, 1 dropsey, 2 lepers, 2 fevers, 3 dead raised, 4 or 5 blind.

6. He did not always use the same method.
   a.) Spat on ground.
   b.) Make clay.
c.) Anoint eyes c clay.
d.) Jesus not tied to any one instrumentality.
e.) He has limitless power - can do the impossible.
F. Sent to See.
V. 7 "Go wash in the pool of Siloam
V. 7 "He went, washed, came seeing.
1. Jesus made 1st move.
2. Man was expected to do second.
3. Easy for blind to find Siloam? Walking about c dirty face?
4. Story of blind NYC teacher.
5. It's going to be a miracle too public to deny.
6. If we remain in blindness & sin, the fault is ours.
7. Obedience brought blessing.
G. Siloam
1. Landmark of Jerusalem.
2. Great engineering feat.
3. Jerusalem's water supply precious in seize time.
4. Came from Virgin's Fountain or Spring Gihon of Kedron Valley.
5. To spring was staircase of 33 rock cut steps leadin down to it.
6. There at stone basin folk drew water.
7. In seize it could be cut off.
8. Hezekiah built tunnel & conduit.
2 Chron. 32:2-8 "And when Hezekiah saw that Senan
32:30 "This same Hezekiah also stopped the
Isa. 22:9-11 "Ye have seen also the breaches of the o
2 Kings 20:20 "And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah a
9. Straight it was 366 yds. thru solid rock.
10. Zigzag & covered 583 yds. — avoid sacred places or else follow fiscue in rock.
11. At places only 2' wide — ave. height 6'.
12. Began cutting at both ends & met in middle.
13. Siloam was pool where it emptied.
14. Open basin 20' x 30'.
15. Siloam means sent — water was sent to city, thus pool got its name.

III. Lessons Taught.

A. Jesus saw a man c a destiny.

B. Service is superior to speculation.

C. Opportunity is a precious thing.

D. Jesus has many tools & methods.

E. Obedience is essential to blessing.

Lipscomb Senior High Bible Class 9-21-81
In the News

Ceinwen King-Smith, 36, a blind teacher whose students threw wads of gum in her hair, untied her shoes and stole money from her purse, sued the Pittsburgh School District in federal court in an effort to regain her job.

Ray Blanton, the former Tennessee governor who is appealing his conviction for using his influence to help friends obtain liquor licenses, sold his 4,000-square-foot ranch house for $170,000 in cash and lamented later in Nashville that he doesn’t “have a place to lay my head.”

Jere Vestal Ryder, 24, a convicted rapist on parole, was arrested in Portland, Ore., for allegedly breaking into a high school office and stealing files containing the pictures, addresses and phone numbers of male students.
The Pool of Siloam at the southern end of Hezekiah’s Tunnel, in the Kidron Valley. © MPS

Important water supply) through the rock Ophel to the reservoir called the Pool of Siloam. The earliest knowledge of this tunnel dates back to 1838 when it was explored by the American traveler and scholar Edward Robinson and his missionary friend Eli Smith. They first attempted to crawl through the tunnel from the Siloam end, but soon found that they were not suitably dressed to crawl through the narrow passage. Three days later, dressed only in a wide pair of Arab drawers, they entered the tunnel from the Spring of Gihon end, and advancing much of the way on their hands and knees and sometimes flat on their stomachs, went the full distance. They measured the tunnel and found it to be 1,750 feet in length.

The Siloam Inscription, in early Hebrew monumental script, dating about 700 B.C. Removed from the walls of the Siloam Tunnel, it is now in the museum at Istanbul, Turkey. © MPS
THE DAYLIGHT DOINGS
John 9:1-11

1. We have so few hours.
   A. I was sitting on the deck:
      "Hi, Roberta"
      "Hello - isn't my yard a fright. I plan to get to it immediately. I must rush as so few moments left where I can see."
   B. Light!
      1. The place to walk.
      2. The time to work.
      3. The contrasting burden of darkness - and so it was in Jesus' time. May I tell you that story.

II. All Great events start and close c Jesus.
   A. V. 1 "And as Jesus passed by he saw"
   B. V. 11 "A man that is called Jesus made clay, and
   C. Jesus passed by - saw blind man.
      1. We argue when this was.
         a.) Immediately after leaving violent temple scene of Chapter 8.
            (1) Afternoon of same day.
            (2) Do know it was Sabbath (V. 14).
      2. Or - don't know time lag.
      3. We do know Jesus still passes by:
         a.) Sees you as you are.
         b.) Sees you as you should be.
      4. He Saw.
         a.) Jesus very markedly observed this man (Godet).
         b.) Van Doren makes the point he was not seeking a blind man to heal but rather that the occasion presented itself.
   a.) Was he at temple gate - good place to beg.
   b.) 6 blind miracles - this only one from birth (Woods).
   c.) Blind apprehend danger from every object they approach.
   d.) Blind dependent on others for comfort.

III. What do you do with a burden? Investigate or Alleviate?

A. Disciples Investigate & propose a theological q. 
   "Master, who did sin?"

1. Admittedly, sin brings suffering and we sometime conclude every sufferer is a sinner.
   Luke 13:1-5 "There were present at that season some that criticized Jesus.
   Exo. 20:5 "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them."

2. How do we reason about suffering?
   a.) Anticipatory chastisement of future sins.
   b.) Punished for some fault committed in embryonic state.
   c.) Transmigration of souls.
   d.) Caused by parents.
   Ezek. 18:1-4 "The word of the Lord came unto me again.
   (We may suffer the consequences of the sins of our forebears).

2. But note the disciples' attitude.
   a.) Instead of pity it was a theological point.
   b.) Do we talk when we should be acting?
   c.) Seeing no reasonable solution, they asked Jesus for an answer.

B. Jesus Answer.
1. Neither.
   a.) All answers they had wrong.
   b.) Jesus did not deny the existence of sin.
   c.) Penalties come from personal sins.
   1 Jn. 3:4 "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth al
   d.) Doesn't say parents & man are free of sin but
       does say parents' sin nor his sin caused blindnes
2. Works of God to be manifest.
   a.) Don't search for cause but see the cure!
   b.) See blessings to be gained.
   c.) God's work is to make evil itself an occasion
       for good.
   d.) Jesus didn't come to explain evil, but rather
       triumph over it.
   e.) Don't argue about sin & suffering, but see
       blessings God gives.
   f.) God didn't create evil to show He had power
       to overcome it, remember.
   g.) Evil is permitted because God is glorified in
       its removal.
   h.) Cecil, "We see a fire - question is not how
       did it start, but how do we put it out?"
   i.) Work of God not to make men blind but to do
       something about it.
   j.) God conceals something.
   Prov. 25:2 "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing
   Job 11:6 "And that he would shew thee the secrets o
   k.) Jesus fixes his eyes and determines to help.
IV. Work - Day - Nite - Light.
   A. I must work.
1. He had not 1 moment to lose once the signal was given.
2. We are to help the world as long as we are in it.
3. The work we are to do is the Father's.
4. Where God sets up His altar & let us be ready our sacrifice.

Lk. 12:50 "But I have a baptism to be baptized with;
5. Work includes:
   a.) Definite detail.
   b.) Definite time.
   c.) Definite purpose.
6. Thomas, "A special work needs a special diligence to see its accomplishments."

B. Father Sent Him.
1. When he who sends gives the signal to start to work, we must do it as long as there is day.
2. We are not here by accident.
3. We have a divine work to do.
4. What better employment can one have than to work for God?

C. Limited time.
1. It's called - Day.
2. Day is short.
3. Divine limit is established.

D. Night ends it.
1. All tasks end in a little while.
2. Our day of opportunity short.
3. Must be busy till the sun sets.
4. Jesus did no miracles of healing after the resurrection.
5. No one can say his day will have 12 hrs.!
6. Nite's for wages - not work.
7. Jesus in heaven reaping what He's earlier sown.
   Jn. 4:38 "I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowe
E. Light of the World.
   1. His work - like the sun - enlightens the world.
   2. Jesus alone is light.
   3. All the beauty of earth is due to light.
V. The Healing Method.
   A. Spat on ground.
      1. Can heal by touch.
   Matt. 20:34 "So Jesus had compassion on them, and
      2. Some cases use extreme means.
      3. He enters personal contact c man.
      4. Jesus takes the initiative to heal.
      5. He works c clay & spittle - useless in itself.
   6. GK   Ptwo = spit - sounds like it.
B. Clay.
   1. He uses material to put a relationship c a blind
      man that just the word would not.
   2. Blind man must know the cure comes from the
      person of Jesus.
   3. Jesus the real fountain.
   Isa. 8:7 "Now therefore, behold, the Lord bringeth
      4. Does the clay suggest employment of earthen
         vessel?
C. Go wash.
   1. After anointing, sent.
   2. Do we laugh at scheme of redemption today.
3. Healing power in the command of Christ, not clay.
4. "Go" - test of faith, strong trial of it.

D. Siloam.
1. Sent waters go softly.
Isa. 8:6 "Forasmuch as this people refuseth the water of Siloam
2. Pool 53' x 18' x 19" deep.
3. Waters sent - from a higher source.
4. He didn't look on Siloam as Naaman did Jordan.

E. Came Seeing.
1. Did he return to thank him?
2. Why not - instead to own house. No search for Jesus.
3. Aorist tense - sight immediately his on washing.

VI. The Home Reaction.
A. Neighbors Question.
1. Knew him well & knew earlier he was blind.
2. They saw - scrutinize minutely - looked intently
3. The converted always arouse curiosity.
5. Offered no congratulations but wanted:
   a.) Identity of restorer.
   b.) How done.
   c.) Where is restorer?
6. Interested in the manner of the matter - not fact of healing was the qt.

B. Man called Jesus.
1. In the Flesh, the Man.
2. Didn't know him as the Messiah.
3. Significance in name - Jesus!
DUPLICATED COMMANDS WILL MEET
DUPLICATED RESULTS: John 9:6-11

1. Often times you have had people say to you "I cannot understand the Bible."
   A. Could it be God wrote a book incomprehensible?
   B. Could it be the mind of God does not intend to reveal itself to man?
   C. Could it be that if we really put our hands to the task we could understand it?

II. I would like to tell the story of Jesus healing the blind man.
   A. This is unusual because it is the only man in the gospels that was blind from birth--wherein a congenital defect occurred.
   B. He has just said "I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day--the night comes when no man can work."
   1. Isn't that easy to understand?

II. The Healing Occurs.
   A. The blind man did not ask for it.
   B. Jesus uses spittle.
   1. He did twice: here and the stammer. Mk. 7:33"And he took him aside from the
   2. Why was it used?
      a. Ancients thought spittle of distinguished persons possessed curative power.
      b. Jesus used the methods of his time.
      c. Blind man only knew touch and hearing --Jesus used both sensations.
      d. Perhaps, some say, it was a symbolic
action—Orientals went for these.

3. Anointed sightless eyes.
   a. Now really couldn't see!

C. Jesus Gave Command.

1. Go.
2. Wash.

a. Notes from Barclay's commentary and Harper's Bible Dictionary:

(1) As early as the Jebuside occupation of the hill on which Jerusalem was later built there was a surface canal that conveyed water from the Kidron valley to the inside of the city.

(2) The old pool of Siloam is the oldest open reservoir in Jerusalem. The phrase "the waters of Shiloah that go softly" (Isa. 8:6) may mean the flowing current of the channel brook flowing in its serpentine contrasting the turbulent Euphrates of verse 7.

(3) Siloam was landmark of Jerusalem.

(4) Great engineering feat.

(5) Jerusalem's water supply precarious in siege time.

(6) Came from Virgin's Ft. or Spring Gihon of Kidron Valley.

(7) To spring was staircase of 33 rock cut steps leading down to it.

(8) There at stone basin folk drew water.
   (a) Basin—11-1/2 ft. by 11 ft.
(9) In siege supply could be cut off.

(10) Hezekiah built tunnel or conduit -- 8th century B.C.

2 Chron. 32:2-8 "And when Hezekiah said to Isaiah...

2 Chron. 32:30 "This same Hez also sto...

Isa. 22:9-11 "Ye have seen also the bre...

2 Kings 20:20 "And the rest of the acts...

(11) If had gone straight would have been 366 yds. through solid rock.

(12) They zigzagged and covered 583 yds. Maybe avoided sacred places or else followed fissure in rock where the water trickled through.

(13) At places tunnel only 2 ft. wide, average height is 6 ft.

(14) Began cutting at both ends and met in middle.

(15) They finally met, as told in a remarkable contemporary inscription carved on a rock 19 ft. from the Siloam end of the aqueduct.

(16) Six lines, beautifully cut in classical Hebrew form one of the oldest Hebrew inscriptions known and are currently preserved in the Turkish Archaeological Museum at Istanbul.

(17) This inscription was discovered in 1880 by two boys wading in the pool. Here is the inscription: "The boring through is completed. Now this is the story of the boring through. While the
a. What about Naaman? 2 Kings 5:1-10
b. Or Exo. 12:22 "And ye shall take a bunch
c. Or Nu. 21:9 "And Moses made a serpent
d. Or Joshua 6:1-5 "Now Jericho was strait
e. Read these:
   Matt. 7:21 "Not every one that saith unto
   Heb. 5:8-9 "Though he were a Son, yet learnt
   Mk. 16:16 "He that believeth and is baptized
8. Do commands test faith?
9. From what happened to him was it
   apparent the man had been with Jesus?

IV. What about you?
A. Let me read some words of Jesus--
   particularly these of the great commission
   Mk. 16:15-16 "And he said unto them, Go ye
   Matt. 28:18 "And Jesus came and spake unto
   Lu. 24:47 "And that repentance & remission
   Matt. 7:21-23 "Not every one that saith unto
   Jn. 14:21 "He that hath my commandments, a
   Jn. 14:23 "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a
   Jn. 14:24 "He that loveth me not keepeth not
   Jn. 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments.
B. Don’t you think you can really understand
   what you must do to come to Christ—then
   why not do it?

West End 5/21/67

Downtown Searcy 9/6/67
When Lincoln was battling Stephen A. Douglas for the presidency, he said Douglas's arguments were as thin as "soup made by boiling the shadow of a pigeon that has starved to death."

Simplified

A precocious five-year-old son of a professor asked his father the exact meaning of the nursery verse beginning, "Jack Sprat could eat no fat."

"In simple terms," answered the professor, "it means Jack Sprat could assimilate no adipose tissue. His wife, on the contrary, possessed an aversion for the more muscular portions of the epithelium. And, so, between them both, you see, they removed or did away with all the foreign substances from the surface of the utilitarian utensil, commonly called a platter. Does that make it clear, son?"

"Perfectly clear," replied the son. "The lack of lucidity in these alleged Mother Goose rhymes is amazingly apparent to one with an intellect above the moronic grade."

Sioux City, Iowa   Becky

One Question

A long-winded after dinner speaker wound up his lengthy oration by saying, "Now, if I've failed to prove my point to everyone's satisfaction, I'll be glad to answer any questions."

A tired-looking gentleman leaned one elbow on the table and raised his hand limply.

"Did I fail to prove my point to you, sir?" asked the speaker in an eager tone.

"No," replied the bored one, "what I'm interested in finding out is, what was your point?"

Holly, Colo.   Frances
WHAT SAYETH THOU OF HIM?
John 9:13-17

1. That man must make the good confession is true.
Acts 8:36 "And as they went on their way, they came
Rom. 10:9-10 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mou
1 Tim. 6:13 "Christ Jesus...before P.P. witnessed a gr
II. That man will suffer for it is future, further truth.
Matt. 5:11 "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you
III. May I tell the story of one man who did – the
Healed Blind Man of John 9.

A. Neighbors confused over his identity.
   1. Is not this he that sat & begged.
      a.) To Pharisee was a tool.
      b.) How do we see men?
      c.) How are we known or remembered? Beggar?
   2. 3 groups:
      a.) Neighbors.
      b.) Pharisees.
      c.) Man & parents.
   3. We look different when we see – with our eyes
      open. (Recognize nose or feet of wife?)
   4. Neighbors are indifferent but not unkind.
B. How were your eyes opened?
   1. Jesus always doing things so good the unbeliever
      can't believe they are real.
   2. Cure undeniable.
   3. Easy to recognize a man who's been c Jesus.
   4. Man called Jesus - clay, anoint, sent, wash.
V. 11 "And I went & washed & I rec. sight.
   a.) Clay didn't heal but w/o it not healed.
b.) Siloam didn't.
c.) Going in obedience to Christ did.
5. God often effects his greatest works by opposites:
a.) Mud in eye - see.
b.) Storms - clear air.
c.) Snow - warms earth.
d.) Struck rock - bring water.
6. The "Sent" (Messiah) sends man to Sent (Siloam).
7. Don't stumble at commands - obey & be blessed.
8. We don't know how he knew Jesus name - any
more than we know the origin of many good things
9. No proof he knew any more than "man Jesus."
10. He didn't know where he was.
C. 2nd group (after neighbors) interview Blind Man
and its Pharisees.
1. It was Sabbath.
a.) Made many specifics beyond God's general
remember Sabbath; i.e. "If a man extinguish a
lamp on the Sabbath to spare the lamp or the oil
or the wick he is culpable" and "a man shall not
go out on the Sabbath c sandals shod c nail" (as
this a burden).
b.) Sought to honor God c rules.
c.) Condemn anyone whose idea of religion is not
like ours.
d.) Shows how little they understood sabbath if all
acts of mercy are judged wrong.
e.) Prejudice drives men to great lengths.
2. How did you receive sight - and he answered the
same.
a.) Benson testified at Magnolia – Waldo – do you mean this is the way you see Bible you know so little "I'd like to have a little Bible study c you." "Why here from Searcy?" "I'd go around world to save work of the eldership." "Have they done right?" "Precisely so" – "Any other qts." "Get him out & back to Searcy, never want to hear from him again." Stay c what you know.

3. Division among Phar.
 a.) He's not of God via Sabbath.
 b.) How can sinner do miracles.
 c.) Division – 3 X.
 Jn. 3:2 "The same came to Jesus by night, and said ur
 Jn. 7:51 "Doth our law judge any man, before it hear.
 Jn. 9:16 "Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man
 Jn. 7:43 "So there was a division among the people be
 Jn. 10:19 "There was a division therefore again among
 d.) Couldn't do anything c fact man knew to be true

4. What Sayeth Thou of Him?
 a.) He said a prophet.
 b.) Your affirmation can send others into a tailspin. They didn't even believe he'd been blind.
 c.) Who do you say he is?
THE SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP
John 10:1-10

I. Think of the things that Jesus used to identify himself.
   A. I am the light
   B. I am living water
   C. I am the way
   D. I am the door

II. In this paragraph He said, "I am the Shepherd of the sheep."
   A. Study it to deepen our appreciation of the Shepherd
   B. Study it to be sure we follow the shepherd and not the thief.

III. Characteristics of the Shepherd
   A. Jesus gives them
      1. "verily, verily"
         (a) One of 24 times the double "verily" is used by John
         (b) Characteristic of his writings.
      2. 1st he enters the sheepfold by the door
         (a) There is a legitimate door thru which sheep and shepherd pass.
         (b) Shepherd noes not ask sheep to go where he'd not go himself

Mi. 27:16-17
Ps. 23:2
(c) Thief and robber do not
(1) Thief—selfish—Judas
(2) Robber—violent—Barabbas
(3) Thief practices secret fraud and dishonesty
(4) Robber violently takes from another
(5) Deny true door & do not push Christ
(6) Only get the sheep by unfair means
(d) No true door to Church but by Christ

3. Porter opens to Him
(a) Was it God, Holy Spirit, John the Baptist, Word?
(b) In this story Christ did not tell us who it was
(c) Is this just the trappings of the parable
(d) Different word for parable=proverb or allegory

4. Sheep hear his voice
(a) Recognize
(b) Obey

5. He calls the sheep by name.
(a) knows flock individually
(b) It was not the program of a computer letter.
6. He leads them out
   (a) Goes before to show manner of life
   (b) Pastor carries idea of protector.
   (c) Takes them out for feed as interested
       in their well being.
   (d) Sheep are led—not driven.

7. Sheep follow for they know his voice
   (a) Sheep has to do something for himself
   (b) Opens the way for them.

8. Stranger they will not follow--flee--know
    not the voice.
   (a) Won't hear the false

I John 2:20

B. As there are characteristics of the shepherd
   so also of the sheep
1. Hear
2. Know
3. Follow
4. Flee stranger

IV. Jesus shifts and says "I am the Door"

A. Door of the sheep
   1. The one means of gaining God
   2. Door more for the benefit of the sheep above the shepherd
   3. He's only access to blessings God provides the sheep.

   Eph. 1:3

B. Sheep must enter
   1. Offers it to any man
   2. Must enter to receive

   Rom. 6:3-4
   Gal. 3:27

C. Sheep blessed via Door
   1. Be saved
      (a) Delivered from danger
   2. Go in and out to find pasture
      (a) Free use of abode by one who is at home in the house
      (b) Enjoy liberty
      (c) Hebrewism to be at home--"come and go as you please"
3. Thief comes to steal, kill destroy.
(a) Thief inspired by self advantage at the expense of theirs.
(b) "Before him" in time, place, dignity, substitution
4. Lord comes to give life
(a) He had a mission
(b) I'm the door--good teaching repeats itself
   (1) Strong door
   (2) Open "
   (3) Only "
   (c) Gives more life than they can really use.
   (d) Gave over flowingly
   (e) Thief come to take--Jesus to give.
   (f) Clearly will He let you see.
II. I know you know that what I say in the funeral services has nothing to do with the destiny of the deceased.

A. I, nor can anyone preach somebody into heaven or hell.

B. But Sunday at Neely's Bend we sang "Standing on the Promises." Surely I can do that in reciting some promises and thus encourage the faithful.

II. But before I do there is a most unusual story I want to tell.

A. I invite earlier in the week Neely's Bend families to be my guests for lunch.

1. They get a Wednesday letter.
2. Call Friday to accept or reject.

B. No call came.

C. Saturday it did from John Duke.

1. Do a funeral.
2. Expected you for lunch, tell me about the death.
3. Do you go to Neely's Bend?
4. Finally in my confusion I heard "Sis Moody."
5. I remembered Lynn who could raise one eyebrow.
6. Then the Moody memory flooded my soul.
7. If ever there was a kind family Dick and Oreen was it—with all their children.
9. Not opposed to put you up to something.
   a) Quarterlys on front row.
   b) Venetian blinds—folk love darkness because their deeds are evil.
10. Sister Moody was out of character—she boldly came to the front.
   a) Threw the longest softball.
   b) Skated like Sonia Henie.
11. All those children taught to love the Lord.

III. What can I cite relative to the promises relative to the faith in which she was reared?

A. Look at COLOSSIANS 1:9-11.
   1. Our part.
   2. Filled with knowledge of his will.
   3. Walk worthy.
   4. Fruitful in every good work.
   5. Increasing in the knowledge of God.
B. His promises - V. 11-14.
   1. Strengthened with all might.
   2. Patience.
   3. Long suffering.
   4. Made us partakers of the inheritance.
   5. Delivered us from the power of darkness.
   6. Transalted us to kingdom.
   7. Redemption through his blood.
   8. Forgiveness of sins.

C. More in Verse 22.
   1. Holy.
   2. Unblameable.
   3. Unreproveable.
   4. If ye continue!

Funeral, Mrs. Mary Eliz. Moody Duke Martin--

2/19/07
I. Leadership is vastly important. It influences and strongly affects me. It's unavoidable, its necessary.

II. We deal with 3 strong influences: Shepherd, Hireling, Wolf—and the destiny of the sheep is directly touched.
A. The Hireling
   1. The sheep are not his
      v-12 "whose own the sheep are not"

   2. Leaves the sheep when he sees the wolf.
      (a) Not wages that make him a hireling but his attitude toward the sheep.
      (b) First thought is for himself.

   3. Hireling flees
4. Cares not for the sheep.

B. The Wolf
1. Comes looking for sheep
   (a) Natural enemy of sheep
   (b) It is the Devil?

2. Wolf catches and scatters

C. Good Shepherd
1. Good
   (a) More than morally excellent
   (b) Goodness that is conspicuous, that
       shows and approves itself to the ex-
       perience and observation of all.
   (c) Earliest and best art of the shepherd.

2. Gives his life for the sheep (v. 11)
   v-15 "I lay down my life for the sheep
   (a) Present tense—I am laying it down
       right now."
(b) Distinguishing mark—He protects.
(c) He had rather die than lose one sheep
(d) Note how he brings in his atoning death
(e) No other works, except Bible have "laying down life"

 Isa. 53:10

(f) Note: he does not die for his doctrine but for his sheep.
(g) Gave life a ransom for many

 Matt. 20:28

(h) If shepherd didn't die, sheep would.

3. I know my sheep.
   (a) knows individual need of each sheep.
   (b) calls them by name
   (c) Mutual knowledge of Christ and his sheep is like the mutual knowledge of Christ and the Father.

4. He has other sheep to bring in
   (a) He dies for every body—not just elect.
   (b) Others--Gentiles
      (1) They hear
      (2) Should nerve every missionary.
      Tell the story, they come.

 Acts 18:10
5. One fold and one shepherd
   (a) Some say fold should be flock but it's still not lots of flocks in one fold!

6. Lay down life and take it again.
   (a) Jesus resurrection gave him superiority over all other shepherds.
   (b) Father loved him because of his sacrifice—God more interested in Jesus dying than any other phase of his ministry.
   (c) His death voluntarily
   (d) Love of sinner and not power of Pilate that caused his death.
   (e) "I" is emphatic
   (f) Jesus power was in his resurrection—
       He was not totally passive
   (g) Resurrection attributed to:
       (1) God
       Acts 2:24
       2:32
       (2) Holy Spirit
       I Peter 3:18
       (3) Jesus
       John 2:19
(h) All Godhead had a part
(i) Received commandments does not imply inferiority but rather keeping of the charge earlier agreed upon by Eternal Trinity to save man.

III. How do you feel about all this
A. Division among the Jews
   1. He has a devil
   2. He is mad
   3. Why hear him
   4. vs not the word of a devil
   5. Can a devil open the eyes of the blind
      (a) Doesn't sound like demon
      (b) Word-whole transaction
      (c) Blind is plural - of blind persons

B. Jesus creates division
Matt. 10:34
   1. Fault not with the Christ but those who hear him.
Rom. 8:7
I Cor. 2:14
   2. Foretold
Luke 2:34
Isa. 8:14
   3. Some blaspheme, some defend
   4. Modern Jew rejects because he did not bring peace universal
C. Prepare for similar treatment
Matt. 10:25
D. Fire melts wax, hardens clay
Sun warms and rots
Lipscomb High Senior Bible Class 9-25-81
The story is told of a lamb and its mother. It seems that the lamb passed a pig pen each morning on the way to pasture with its mother. Watching the pigs wallow in the mud seemed like fun, and on an especially hot day the lamb asked its mother if he could jump the fence and wallow in the cool mud. "No," she replied.

Then the little lamb asked the usual question, "Why?"

The mother simply said, "Sheep don't wallow."

This did not satisfy the lamb. He felt that she had "put him down," that she had "exercised force she shouldn't have," etc. So, as soon as the mother was out of sight, the lamb ran to the pig pen and jumped the fence. He was soon feeling the cool mud on his feet, his legs, and soon his stomach. After a few minutes he decided he had better go back to his mother, but he couldn't. He was stuck. Mud and wool don't mix. His pleasure had become his prison. He was hopelessly bound by his own folly. He cried out, and was soon rescued by the kindly farmer.

When cleaned and returned to the fold, the mother said, "Remember, sheep don't wallow."

Sin is like that. It looks so nice, thinking we can escape when we wish; however, it is not so, for pleasures become prisons!

copied - 11th Street Church of Christ
submitted by C.B. Daughtery
HOW CAN WE KNOW THE WILL OF GOD?

Phil 4:6 In everything by prayer and supplication let your requests be made known to God.

I. Holy Spirit guides us unto all truth.

II. Today, God speaks to us. How:

A. Via His Word. Lu 18:1 Men ought...

B. By answering our prayers.

1. Do we earnestly take time for prayer? Acts 12:5 He was made life

Ps. 31:4 "Free me from trap set for me."

Ps. 25:16 "Turn to me and be gracious to me for I am lonely."

Ps. 55:25 "His speech is as mooth as butter yet war is in his heart."

Ps. 56:5 "All day long they twist my words."

C. Spell out your perplexities in detail.

Ps. 10:1 "Why, O Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?"

D. Tell God exactly where you need guidance.

Ps. 143:8-10 "Show me the way I should go Teach me to do your will, Lead me on level ground."

E. Seek God's reconformation.

Ps. 40:1 "I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry."
Ps. 119:33-35 "Give me understanding and I will keep your law and obey it; Direct me in the path of your commands." 

Ps. 32:8 "I will instruct and teach you in the way you should go."

G. Consult experienced Christians.

Ps. 95:6-7 "Come let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker."

H. Expect an answer.

Ps. 5:3 "I lay my requests before you."

Lu: 11:9-13 "Ask - Seek - Find"

I Tim 2:8 That men pray everywhere (Words used by Mary Nelle Schaap)

James 5:18 Is any among you afflicted, let

1 Cor 14:15 I will pray with the

Rom 8:26

Phil 6:18 Pray always 1 Thess 5:17 "Who ceasing
I. As Spurgeon presented this text, he brought thoughts and facts I did not earlier know.

II. He began by saying:
"The presence of Jesus brings into prominence:"
A. The place: at Jerusalem.
B. The exact part of it--Solomon's porch.
C. The time--the season--"it was winter.'
D. The proceedings--it was the feast of the dedication.

III. The main feature in all history and all events in private life is the presence or absence of Jesus.
A. In America we have all those signs "George Washington slept here."
B. But one greater than all has come--the Lord.
C. It says Jesus "walked" among his people.
D. John 1 tells of Jesus walking in solitude.

Matt. 4:18 "Jesus walked by the sea."
John 14:25 "Jesus went to them walking."
John 11:27 "Walking in the temple."
IV. Let's check two things:

A. Feast of Dedication.
   1. Annual, lasts eight days.
   2. Celebrate restoration of temple.
   3. 25th of December—Josephus called it feast of lights.
   4. Celebrated with pageantry and joy.

B. Jesus in the winter.
   1. He's a man for all seasons.
   2. Are we subject to hot or cold in our work in the church?

C. Jesus in Solomon's porch.
   1. It was one of the large, open colonnades that surround the courts.
   2. The four sides of the outer court were 3/4 mile long.
   3. Eastern side was Solomon's porch.
   4. It was a vast gallery of columns in double rows.
   5. Each column 35 feet high consisting of one piece of white marble.
   6. Roof above was panels of cedar.
7. View through the columns eastward and outward ranged across the valley over the Mt. of Olives.
8. Inward view--into the court itself, planted with trees, and where at festival time, were crowds of people.
9. Invision Jesus walking there.

V. Questions were on their hearts: will he be there?
A. Is he in our assemblies?
2 Chron. 28:9
John 7:17
B. Does he come hot or cold, winter or summer?
C. Have we invited him--do we need to?
Matt. 18:20
Luke 24:20
D. Are we prepared for his presence?
Ezra 7:10
E. Do we have a need for him?
F. Will he assemble with brethren?
G. Will we be teaching his truths?
Ezra 8:21
8:22 "The hand of our God is upon all them..."
H. How will he feel about us?
1. Have we prepared to meet him?
2. Have we invited any sinners to come?
3. Will he find us penitent and obedient?
4. Will he see us growing spiritually?
5. Will he explain more fully his kingdom?
6. Will he finally take us where there is no winter?

Rev. 21:10-11

7. See these passages relative to:
   a) The temple
      Heb. 9:11
      Rev. 15:5
      b) The altar.
      Heb. 13:10
      Rev. 8:3
      c) The sacrifice.
      Heb. 9:28
      1 Cor. 5:7
      d) The shewbread.
      Heb. 9:2
      e) The veil.
      Heb. 10:20
      f) The mercy seat.
      Heb. 9:4-5
      Rev. 10:10
      g) The priest.
      Heb. 10:12
I. I know
A. Folks that have no TV.
B. Folk that limit TV.
C. Folk that have it everywhere.  
   (John Banister's 140 nations)
D. Folk that ever let it run.

II. Is it a Master or Mouse--and do I have a right to be concerned?
A. It's Powerful--Yesterday we went out for movies--couldn't come into our house, thus protected.
   1. Glasnost usage #1.
   2. Roger Mudd #2.
   3. Earl Weirich #3.
   6. Joe Hickman #6

B. It's Watched
   1. Peter Hart #8
   2. Bedroom TV #9
   3. Teenage #10
      a) 2-18 years spend 11,000 hours school, 20,000 TV.
      b) 94% all homes one TV
      c) 85% have bathtubs, thus more brains being washed than bodies.
      23,000 hours per year.

C. Does It Influence?
   1. Fred Rogers #11
   2. Spending hours in front of a TV screen does for the mind what a slipped disk does for the body.
      (Bruce Kafaroff)
3. Moorehead TV #12
4. Dr. Spock #13
5. Gayle Crow article #14
6. The only real thing television teaches is that sooner or later everybody gets cancelled. (Susan Pleshette)
7. Boy's prayer #15.
8. Turned off--don't want to miss #16.

II. Is there a solution: idiot can see the problem but how do we fix it?
A. Problem is real.
   1. Today's Family clip #17.
   2. Use of Time #18.
B. Let me talk to my children and explain why.
   1. With you I want dialogue.
   2. That means I listen.
      a) Feast of Lights--Hanukkah.
      b) Question asked "Lift up my soul."
      c) Earlier answered.
      d) Sheep--mine, listen, follow, never perish.
      e) I know, give, protect.
      f) All in principle I want to do for my "lambs."
      g) Clip on Listening #19 & A.
C. Some things are wrong!
   2. Gallup poll #22.
   3. Fred Rogers #23.
D. I want to know the children.
   1. Survey on worrisome things #24.
   2. Household--cross culture #25.
4. Heart pumps 1800 gallons over 62,000 miles daily #27.
6. Have you ever noticed that TV's perfectly happy families rarely are seen watching TV?

E. I want you pure--Camp Fire #28.

F. We'll practice:
   Discernment--high tech media vs. low tech family communication.
   Moderation
   Balance--media rich vs. communication poor.
   Integration

G. We'll answer:
   Who I am--M method #29.
   How Should I Act?
   What Will I Be?
   Bible shapes our beliefs, not TV.

H. Bright lamp clip #30.

Berry's Chapel, Franklin, TN - 3/13/95
The Glasnost movement in the U.S.S.R. is seen as a media phenomenon. The more one studies media in this country or anywhere else, the more one understands the revolutionary development that television represents. Television is being effectively used as the Soviet Union's first mass media form of communication. "Vremya," the nine o'clock news program, consistently reaches more than 150 million viewers each day, more than the combined viewing audience of the U.S. network news programs. Under Glasnost, the television medium is being used as an instrument of change and reform, exerting pressure on existing institutions to change their policies and procedures and to be more in line with perestroika. In the Soviet Union, television and its programming have been found to have a direct relationship to when people shop, the suicide rates in certain population groups, and to education and institutional reform.

TELEVISION
Our broadcasts have not improved. If anything, their quality has declined. The tube has become a trip, a nat'l opiate, a babysitter who charges nothing, something to iron by, and to shave to, and to doze over.—ROGER MUDD of CBS News in address at Washington and Lee Univ.

The Learning Channel
From "University Lecture Series;" Dr. Ellen Mickiewicz, Emory University
TRASHING THE TRASH

Parents who watch television with their children are becoming increasingly uncomfortable with what they are seeing on their screens. Many are either switching channels or turning off the set altogether.

These findings, described as a "clear warning" to producers and sponsors, are in a new survey by the Gallup Poll. Fifty eight percent polled said they are "frequently" or "occasionally" uncomfortable with TV they watch with their children. The leading cause of discomfort is programmers' preoccupation with sex, either sexual suggestion or flagrant and overt focus on sex. In this category, 46 percent said they were disturbed. Next was violence, with 37 percent of parents objecting. Foul language, swearing or cursing comprised the third category, with 17 percent of parents uncomfortable with it.

The discomfort factor was uniform across the nation: 52 percent in the West, 65 percent in the South, 54 percent in the East, and 58 percent in the Midwest. Seventy percent of parents watching TV with their children are either zapping channels in search of something less offensive or they are flipping off the set altogether.

— Earl Weirich, The CBN Family Channel, in *Quote*
A drastic shift in power in the United States has taken place and television is at the center of that shift.

Indeed, in all of human history, a more powerful instrument than television has yet to be devised.

It assaults two of our senses simultaneously — sight and hearing. It can integrate an incredible diversity of sounds and images and present them as reality itself. It can manipulate time and space. It does all of this and delivers the result to us almost anytime and anywhere.

Unlike any previous device in human experience, television serves as the central gatekeeper to awareness in our collective mind. It directs us toward whom to hate and whom to love. As in our individual personalities, it keeps us, collectively, from anxiety by withholding awareness of what just might be most important to consider . . .

Paradoxically, in the large measure because of television, it's a small world out there — nineteen inches small.

*Bishop H. Coleman McGehee, Diocese of Michigan, NFD Journal*

Television has become a political power unto itself, a Fifth Estate that can influence public opinion as can no other element in our society. It can establish ideas and change fashions practically with the speed of light. It can and frequently does decide nat’l and state elections. And like the laser beam, the concentration of its power multiplies the impact on every subject it touches. —Editorial, Nat’l Observer, 8-17-70.

TV has come a long way, baby. Sex, violence, profanity, drugs, nudity — it’s all acceptable now on TV — as long as they don’t smoke cigarettes.

*Joe Hickman, Contemporary Comedy*

*you’re bananas.*

*BILL COPLIN:* "TV is where people with nothing to do watch other people doing it."
by Peter D. Hart Research Associates also discovered the following:

- 63 percent often watch while eating dinner, including 76 percent of those between eight and twenty-four years old
- more than a third of viewers leave the set on for background noise
- 29 percent fall asleep with the tube on
- 42 percent turn on the TV when entering a room

42 percent of TV sets in the United States are located in bedrooms. Will these devices improve bedroom communication or deepen intimate relations? For many married couples, late nights in bed, after the kids are asleep and chores completed, are among the few times when they can discuss the important events of the day and share some of their deepest joys and concerns.

A Yankelovich survey commissioned by Nickelodeon and USA Today found that 45 percent of children in first through tenth grade in the United States had their own television sets. What possible family benefits result from these sets, except reducing conflicts with other family members over which shows will be watched?

**Scripture Commentary**

By the time the average teenager graduates from high school, he will have spent 15,000 hours watching television. That's 4,000 more hours than all the time spent in school. The only activity that has occupied a greater part of his life is sleep.

Over 98% of all American households have at least one television. (That's a higher percentage than those that have indoor toilets!) In the average home the TV set runs an incredible 2,300 hours every year—which is nearly seven hours a day.

Although they consume far fewer hours per week, movies have a huge influence on our clothing styles, our language, our morality, and our understanding of life. Obviously, the Christian faces a challenge here. Scripture calls us to watch carefully what we allow to enter our minds through the eye gate. If we are not careful our lives will prove true the computer slogan: Garbage In/Garbage Out!
Fred Rogers put it bluntly: "Television is really part of the extended family now in people's homes. It's right in the living room." Warns Bob Keeshan of Captain Kangaroo fame, "Ninety-nine percent of parents don't care what their children watch on television because the parents use it as a babysitter." If Rogers and Keeshan are correct, as I believe, we fool ourselves if we think the tube and other media are "only entertainment" for kids. 

Quentin J. Schultz--Winning Your Kids Back from the Media, pg. 122

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TELEVISION - Far more than 50% of adult Americans watch television in excess of 20 hours per week. They are accustomed to color, cleverness, concise communication, and clarity. When they walk into your church on Sunday morning, the demand for sharp, interesting, and colorful preaching is heightened greatly today.

THE GROWTH FACTOR - Moorehead - P. 68

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TELEVISION—Children

I now believe the only possible way you can bring up a child is according to your own philosophy...I also used to think if children were properly brought up TV violence didn't harm them. But research in America now shows that if adults or children see violent scenes they behave more violently in test situations afterwards. —Dr. BENJAMIN SPOCK quoted by LYNNE EDMUNDS, Daily Telegraph, London, 6-4-70.
The above title to the following article suggests the need to replace much of what we (and our children, especially) view on television with something good. Family activities, good readings, family devotionals, involvement in church activities are all good things. Positive learning and development can result. Compare these things to Gayle Crowe's article below.

From September's Christian Parenting magazine, a sampling of quotes from a timely article:

Dr. Neil Postman, professor at New York University, calls television a "disastrous influence" and says it "appears to be shortening the attention span of the young as well as eroding, to a considerable extent, their linguistic powers and their ability to handle mathematical symbolism."

Kate Moody, author of "Growing Up on Television,"
notes all research points to the fact that habitual viewing can negatively affect "a young person's basic outlook and sensibilities, predisposition to violence and hyperactivity. TV, reading ability, play, language patterns, critical thinking, self-image, perception of others, and values on general."

Dr. Thomas Lickona, developmental psychologist and professor of education at State University of New York, says these are the values children learn from TV:

1. If you're unable to get what you want, try violence.
2. Violence isn't anything to be upset about.
3. Put-downs are funny.
4. It's a rotten world.
5. Adults are dolts.
6. Women are inferior.
7. Life is entertainment.
8. Drinking is where it's at.

Nicholas Johnson, of the Federal Communications Commission, says, "All television is educational television. The question is, what is it teaching?"

Television is neither angel nor demon. It is a tool which can be used or abused. Who controls it at your house?

Galye Crowe
Via Cape Fear Church of Christ

**OUR GOSPEL MEETING**

**April 22 - 25, 1990**

**Speaker -- David Pharr**
Today's families live in a new electronic global city that is rapidly engulfing the home. Over the next few years parents will face a barrage of new technologies such as electronic mail, digital recording and fiber optics. The day before I wrote this introduction, Time magazine announced that it will soon make the periodical available on one of the major computer information services. Families will be able to read the magazine on their home computers before it hits the newsstands and arrives in mailboxes. It will not be long before many periodicals and even entire libraries are accessible via computers. Also, five-hundred-channel cable TV systems are just around the corner.

(Quentin J. Schultze) Winning Your Kids Back from the Media, pg. 12

According to the Americans' Use of Time Project, the single most dramatic increase in time usage since 1950 surrounds television viewing. The tube now dominates leisure, accounting for 40 percent of adult women's free time and 50 percent of men's. Although women as a group have more leisure time today than they did twenty years ago, all of the increased leisure has been dedicated to television, according to Robinson. Nielsen Media Research reports that children and teens watch about three hours daily, and adults over four hours. The typical family has the tube on for over seven hours daily! And these data normally don't include VCRs and video and computer games, only broadcast and cable television.
Real listening means taking some radical steps. Like putting the newspaper down. Or turning off the tube (horrors!). It means leaning forward a little. If the speaker is little, it may mean getting down on your knees. Just imagine yourself five-foot-five living in a world populated by nine-foot giants. It gets tiresome craning your neck all the time!

Gary Smalley & Dr. John Trent--Leaving the Light On, pg. 63

LISTEN WITH YOUR WHOLE BODY

It might surprise you to learn that you listen more with your eyes than you do with your ears. Communication experts tell us that words comprise only about 7 percent of communication! Body language is 55 percent and tone of voice 38 percent. So a huge portion of listening is with your eyes.

Gary Smalley & Dr. John Trent
Leaving the Light On, pg 63

Bradley Greenburg of Michigan State University estimates that American teens are exposed to up to four thousand sexual references every year on television and in movies. He discovered that R-rated movies have an average of seventeen sex scenes, with half of them featuring intercourse between unmarried partners. Even teen romance novels have become steamier in recent decades.

Quentin J. Schultze--Winning Your Kids Back From the Media, pg. 148

Temple University conducted a study revealing what sex acts appear on soaps with the frequency of 6.58 incidents per hour. A separate study by Dr. Bradley Greenberg of Michigan State University indicates that incidents of intercourse are almost always extramarital or premarital. 49% involve lovers, 29% partners. Viewers of soaps must inevitably conclude that married couples hardly ever make love (or love each other) while unmarried people fornicate joyfully and often.

FAMILY ISSUES - Bob Larson - P.263
A study by the Gallup organization turned up some interesting support for this practice. It found that if parents felt uncomfortable about something they were viewing on television with their children, only 11 percent would explain the situation to their offspring. Almost half of the parents said they would switch the channel, and another 24 percent would just turn off the set, presumably to "protect" the children but certainly not helping them to understand the standard behind the decision. Only 4 percent would even express their disapproval to the children, let alone explain it. Interestingly, 8 percent said either they wouldn't do anything or they were unsure how they would respond.

Fred Rogers of Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood fame nicely summarized this situation: "[Kids don't] really know if the family approves or disapproves of what is on [TV]. All they know is that mother and father bought it, brought it in there and set it in the middle of the living room. And how are they to know that it really does or doesn't reflect the family tradition?" The same could be said for each of the media, from radio to computers and cable TV.

In a survey of eight thousand students aged ten to twenty, the three most worrisome things they said they faced were school performance (56 percent), their looks (53 percent), and how well others liked them (48 percent). These findings from You and Your Adolescent say a great deal about teens in a media world.

--Quentin J. Schultze
Winning Your Kids Back from the Media, pg. 159, 160
One crosscultural study found that when a household acquires a television, personal communication decreases from about nineteen to around fourteen minutes per day. But in the United States, where TVs are in abundance, the situation is much grimmer. Americans spend between four and five minutes daily conversing with spouses and about thirty seconds with children, according to a report by Fortino & Associates. Estimates suggest that the typical married couple spends about seventeen minutes weekly talking, including such nonrelational remarks as “Please pass the salt” and “Would you take out the garbage?”

In her revealing book *The Overworked American*, Juliet B. Schor states that half the population says it has too little time for family. Feeling frazzled and frenzied, Americans say that they don’t have enough time to give to each other, including to close family and friends. “Today,” she says, “many families haven’t got the time to care.” One of the major culprits, she suggests, is overwork.

Gary Smalley & Dr. John Trent—*Leaving the Light On*, pg.

Each day our heart pumps over 1,800 gallons of blood through 62,000 miles of blood vessels. This constant flow of blood distributes life-giving nutrients throughout the body. As long as this flow remains unobstructed, the body will stay healthy and continue to grow. Yet even a minor constriction of the circulatory system can create major health problems. If we ignore these problems and allow them to continue, our very life can be threatened.

Communication within your family is a great deal like the circulatory system. In a healthy family, communication flows unobstructed.
A Camp Fire Youth Survey in 1992 found that only 69 percent of adolescents believe that a girl has the right to refuse sex, even at the last minute. Thirty-one percent aren't sure it's rape if a girl agrees to have sex but says no at the last minute and is forced to continue. When the cultural ideals establish the parameters for adolescent sexuality, these data are entirely understandable.

—Quentin J. Schultze
Winning Your Kids Back from the Media, pg. 150,151

Bob Keeshan, also known as Captain Kangaroo, put it this way: "Parents have to wake up and decide that their children come before work, recreation, social relationships or anything else. Until that happens, we'll pay the price."

—Quentin J. Schultze
Winning Your Kids Back from the Media
pg. 57
When it comes to the hurts we all face in life, the best place to turn is toward the lights of home. In fact, in the midst of our trials, God has designed a number of “home lighting” options that will bring warmth, brilliance, and beauty into our family rooms and dining rooms, bedrooms and play rooms. Bright lamps like unconditional affirmation, meaningful touch, hard earned wisdom, unquestioned character, and spiritual dependence. Together, they can move us past the darkness of our hurts and fears and safely on to the well-lighted regions of honesty, intimacy, and mutual respect. (Gary Smalley & Dr. John Trent, Leaves the Light On, pg. 11)
QUESTIONS ON TELEVISION:

1) TV morals undermine the morals I am trying to teach my children. Any specific suggestions other than getting rid of TV—which I am seriously considering?

2) Do I have to exclude all TV? What about news? Discovery & PBS? What's good about TV?

3) TV's use as a babysitter, what are we doing to our children? Does the multimedia direction of Home PC's offer an alternative?

WHAT CAN WE DO AS CHRISTIANS TO INFLUENCE THE TYPE OF TV PROGRAMING THAT WE ARE SUBJECTED TO?
THE 23RD CHANNEL

The TV is my shepherd, I shall not want...
   It makes me lie down on the sofa.
   It leads me away from the Scriptures.
   It destroys my soul.
It leads me in the paths of sex and violence
   for the sponsor's sake.
Yea, though I walk in the shadow of my
   Christian responsibilities,
   There will be no interruption;
   For the TV is with me.
Its cable and its remote control, they comfort me.
   It prepares a commercial for me
   In the presence of my worldiness.
   It annoints my head with humanism.
   My coveting runneth over.

(over)
Surely laziness & ignorance shall follow me all the days of my life. And I shall dwell in the house watching TV forever.

via Christian Light
Jackson, TN
Modern television and movies are far more explicit than they were 30 years ago. When the changeover started—many Christians felt—and some still feel—that certain things were not "fit to see," especially if they had rough language, sex scenes, or bloody scenes. Some Christians—especially older ones—are long for the sanitized (more TV (p. 2)

Unable to get Cable and being able to resist buying a satellite dish, the networks and what few UHF channels available, TV still takes a sizable bite out of our busy day. Our daughter's car even wears a bumper sticker that states "Kill your Television." Do you have any suggestion to further limit the lure of this powerful 'Attention magnet. The TV is.
JESUS AND FUNERALS
Jn. 11

I. It's a little hard for our Lord to be the pattern because:
   A. No one ever died in His presence.
   B. Whoever was dead arose when He got there.
   C. We do not have such powers.

II. But I can see what He did on approaching the problem - and thus chart my course. Jn. 11 is the best example.
   A. He examined the situation first.

Jn. 11:17 "Then when Jesus came he found
   1. I want to know what I can about the deceased.
   2. I may have to help make plans tho I do not recommend a funeral parlor or cemetery.
   3. What are the physical, emotional, spiritual problems involved.

B. Jesus came to the Family.

V. 19 "Many of the Jews came to comfort concerning the brother.

V. 20 "She heard that Jesus was coming.
   1. People are there for a specific purpose.
   2. I need to meet it head on.
   3. Can't do it by proxy.
   4. I need to know specific:
      a.) Favorite readings.
      b.) Songs.
      c.) Groups.
      d.) Pallbearer selection.

C. I need now as always to speak the truth & answer
any questions I can.

V. 23 "Thy bro. shall rise again
1. Where there is hope, give it.
2. Where there is a chance to radiate our faith &
   the reality of our religion, show it.
3. What's the margin granted in our faith?

D. I need to anticipate the behavior of a crowd.

V. 30 "Now Jesus was not yet come into the town
1. Prayer c family before service.
2. Many divergent opinions offered.
3. What to do at grave particularly in Dav. Co.

E. Jesus showed emotion, tho not shortest verse in
   Bible.
1. I'm not an unfeeling grave filler.
2. Neither can I preserve santity & relive every
death.
3. I want those with whom I serve to know they are
   loved.

F. I want to touch outsider.

V. 48 "If we let him along, all men will believe on
   him.
1. Preach to more there than any other.
2. Have quality to serve them in sermon & song.
3 TIMES JESUS WEPT - PART I

John 11

I. Jesus was a man acquainted c emotion.
   A. Three times He wept.
      1. Over the city.
      Luke 19:41 "And when he was come near, he beheld t
      2. In the garden.
      Matt. 26:39 "And he went a little further, and fell on
      Heb. 5:7 "Who in the days of his flesh, when he had c
      3. At Lazarus grave.
      John 11:35 "Jesus wept."
   B. We never read of his laughing.
   C. Once we read of his rejoicing.
      Lu. 10:21 "In that hr. Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit
   D. We want to examine the 3X he wept & we'll start c John 11.

II. Tell Story of John 11.
   A. Miracle not recorded anywhere else.
   B. See greatest power amid greatest sympathy.

III. Chronological facts of chapter.
   A. We'll deal c V. 1-6.
      1. Good folk & bad get sick.
         a.) All this story hinges on one man getting sick.
         b.) Little things of life make for its great events.
         c.) Village of Bethany well known to Bible, yet
great city like Memphis is not!
      2. Good deeds done for the Lord are not forgotten.
         Man may forget, God remembers the ointment!
      3. Jesus is a great friend to have in time of need.
         a.) It's also great to have praying sisters.
b.) Martha - troubled about many things.
c.) Mary - sat at feet.
d.) Laz. - we know nothing distinctive.
e.) All believers not of same mold.
f.) Jesus loves all His people.

4. Sickness not unto death - it would not have full
dominion tho he'll cease to breathe.

5. Jesus loved - agape.
a.) Sisters in V. 3 use a lower word.
b.) Jesus high, deep, excellent word.

6. Jesus stayed 2 days more at Bethabara.
7. He permits the pain of a few that will later bless
whole church.

B. Now look at 11:7-16.
1. Note the language of a leader has great impact.
   He leaves it as tho they can comment on what
   they want to do also.
2. Jews = leaders, principles.
3. No fear of life being cut off till his mission is
   completed.
4. "Every man is immortal till his work is done."
5. Jesus speaks tenderly of death of believers.
6. We've got a great friend in Heaven who cares for
   us.
7. Steep - not annihilation.
8. 3 step: (a) let us go to Judea, (b) Laz. sleeps,
   (c) Laz. is dead.
9. Fellow disciples used only here.

1. 3 encounters c death - Jairus daughter just died, Nain's story that day; Laz. 4 days.
2. 4 days of suspense for Mary & Martha.
3. 15 furlongs - less than 2 miles.
4. Friends who came to extend sympathy received a blessing.
5. "Wish you'd been here" - a tinge of disappointment yet love there too.
6. Watch how Jesus draws out the faith of his followers.
7. She misunderstood Jesus teachings.
8. "I am" - title of God + I need none to help me, I can do it!
9. Lit. "I have believed & do believe." This always my faith.
10. Note her confession - 3 Messianic titles: Christ, Son of God, Coming one.
11. What's your personal belief?
D. John 11:30-37.
1. We are blessed when we try to help others.
Ecc. 7:2-4 "It is better to go to the house mourning,
2. We have an age of selfishness & self indulgence.
3. Jesus wept. We've a God who cares!
  a.) It's not sinful to sorrow.
  b.) Need not be ashamed of deep feelings.
  c.) This same Jesus sits at God's right hand.
  d.) Jesus moved by sight of others & the co. of others moved him.
  e.) Groaned - 5X in NT. Sport c anger like wounded animal.
f.) Wept = shed tears, only place this word is used.
g.) Weeping of V. 33 means weeping accompanied by demonstrative lamentations.
h.) Why?
(1) Ravage of sin?
(2) Unbelief of Jews?
(3) Feeble faith of Martha & Mary?
(4) Things to which Laz. was returning.
(5) External proof He feels for us.
4. Note how critics will try to find fault - never satisfy wicked men.
E. John 11:38-46 3 imperatives - Take away stone,
Laz. come forth, Loose him, let him go.
1. Cave c stone.
   a.) Seldom hole in ground.
   b.) Cave hewn horizontally in Rock.
   c.) Or sloping, downward descent.
2. Take away stone.
   a.) Give man something to do.
   b.) Almighty power does not destroy man's responsibility.
   c.) They'd realize they were a part of marvelous event.
3. Stone removed, nothing seen, Jesus prays or prais.
4. Loud piercing voice.
5. They came as merciful & they obtained mercy!
6. Others hardened & enraged.
I. The word "now" brings us to many things.
   A. Greatest miracle of our Lord.
   B. Pertinency of His message – NOW
   C. Scroggie says five principles.
      1. Around the miracle.
      2. Occasion of the miracle.
      3. The approach to it.
      4. Performance of it.
      5. Consequences of it.
   D. Chapter 10 - "How long dost thou make us doubt." "If thou be the Christ tell us plainly."
   E. John alone tells this story as he does the most of the Judean ministry.
   F. The unbelief of the Jews was aggravated by the greatness of this miracle.
   G. We see the culminating act of power, of the supreme and self-revealing work of the transcendent tenderness and beauty of the Lord that was deeper and wider than the passion of hatred.
   H. The completion of the series of the seven greatest miracles with this one and it evokes a new sense of the glory of God.
I. We meet his fifth "I am."
J. Shortly before crucifixion in time.

II. We meet a special family.
A. Lazarus
1. Means God is my help or
2. He whom God has helped.
3. Not named in any other gospels though his sisters are.
4. Jew to John means ruling class, their family was influential.
B. Mary - more spiritually minded.
1. John knew some readers have heard of Mary--always at foot of Jesus.
2. Wiped Jesus' feet with hair - so extraordinary not likely to forget this.
3. Affluent by current standards.
   Lived in own house.
   Owned a tomb in a garden.
   Able to supply alabaster box of expensive ointment.
4. Five Marys in New Testament
   Mother of Jesus
   Mother of Mark
   Mary Magdalene
   Wife of Clopas
   Sister of Martha and Lazarus
5. First time she is named.
6. She was not woman who was a server.
7. Jesus close to this family.
8. Used aromatic balsam distilled from trees and herbs.

C. Martha
1. Housekeeper—burdened with much service.
2. Jesus had an inner circle of friends composed of those who loved him and responded beautifully to him.
3. Yet the friendship of Jesus does not protect us from human sorrow but it does give us assurance of sympathy and relief.

D. Town of Bethany
1. Near Jerusalem.
2. Other side of Mt. Olivet.
3. Less than two miles from Jerusalem
4. On Jericho Road.
5. First time John mentions it.
6. One of two Bethanys alluded to be John, one John 1:28 and this one of Mary and Martha.
7. We get town of special folk in mind

III. Sent word to Jesus about sick brother.
A. Sent
1. Jesus is what we need.
2. Points to not some future gift but present grace.
3. Not to a blessing but to himself the very blessing.
4. The affliction of Lazarus drove these sisters to Jesus thus affection often comes to God's people for the purpose of driving us to him.
5. Always an extraordinary dignity which Jews accorded their rabbi--same reverence shown our Lord.

B. Saying
1. No direct appeal, decision is left to Jesus as what to do.
2. Their need and Jesus' love of Lazarus are in the message itself and they left it there.
3. Faith saw no difficulty and anticipated no problem--it only remained to tell Christ and before they could call he would answer.
4. They well knew the price Jesus and disciples would encounter by coming to Bethany.
5. They knew he could heal by a word even at a distance so all they did was state the case that Lazarus was sick.
6. The statement of needs, the simple voice of our weakness and the infant's cry goes up to heaven.
7. The bleat of the lost lamb is enough to bring the good shepherd (P.C.).

8. What message Jesus gave to those who brought the tidings we are not told.

9. John does record what he said to bystanders.

C. The saying—"Behold he whom thou lovest is sick."

1. C.S. Lewis - "Pain is God's megaphone to rouse a deaf world. We are like blocks of stone out of which the sculptor carves the forms of men, the blows of his chisel which hurts us so much are what makes us perfect."

2. They leave everything to his decision.

3. They were confident of his love.

4. Do we ask ourselves "does Jesus love us?"

5. We believe Jesus is willing to enter our world of pain, come to us in our darkest hour, sit with us in our grief. He does not lecture us on the cause of suffering or the meaning of pain, but he joins his tears with ours" (McLarty).

6. Doesn't he love everyone--how could any person be described as "he whom you love."
7. Nature of sickness we are not told—only that it grows worse.
8. Love here phileo.
9. Agape is used, Jesus loved Martha and her sister Mary.
10. Jesus loved Lazarus yet no record of him bringing anyone to him or saying anything that would endear himself to the Lord.
11. When in trouble go to Jesus.
   a) Sisters did.
   b) Hezekiah spread letter (Isaiah 37:14-15).
   c) Disciples did over John's death.
D. Jesus's first reaction.
   1. "Sickness is not unto death."
      a) Idiom "not". . ."but" means not only but also.
      b) Raising of Lazarus is the last of the signs preceding passion of Jesus in which divine glory was manifested through him (but do remember the ear story at Gethsemane).
      c) He is saying the illness was not mortal literally, not unto death, is important.
   2. One would have thought Jesus would immediately leave for Bethany, but this was not to be.
3. God not only does the right thing, but he does it at the right time.
4. God sometimes is more able to respond to the prayers of his children by doing nothing it seems.
5. The issue is that it will not result in death—death will not be the final result.
6. He shall not fall prey to death.
7. The sickness was so timed that it shall be condensed to the glory of God.
8. The purposes of God are beyond our ken and suffering is an unexplained mystery.
9. But it is an absolute certainty that for a friend of Jesus the result of suffering will be some eternal good and some manifestation of the glory of God.
10. Death won't prevail, but God will be glorified.
11. Death is only a temporary slumber.
12. It is to the glory of God and that the Son of God might be magnified.
   a) Three times in Chapter 11 Jesus claims these events took place so that people might see the glory of God.
   v-4
   v-15
   v-40
13. See the majestic appreciation of the sublime perfection of God.
14. See the glorification of the Son of man.
15. Jesus had no intention on his part of refraining to test their love.
WHERE DO I GO WHEN TROUBLE CALLS?

John 11:1-6

1. What Bible chapter is more famous than John 11?
   A. It moves us to the 7th sign - from water to wine to resurrection.
   1. Purpose of signs.
      John 20:30. And many other signs truly
   2. Significance of 7 - completion.
   B. Brings us to the 5th "I Am" of 7.
      John 11:25 "I am the Res.
      10:9 "I am the Door.
      14:6 "I am the Way.
      10:11 "I am the Good Shepherd.
      15:5 "I am the Vine.
      6:35 "I am the Bread.
      8:12 "I am the Light.
   C. Jesus Greatest Miracle.
      1. Jairus daughter just died.
         Mk. 5:22-43
      2. Widow on way to grave.
         Lu. 7:11-17
      3. Laz. dead 4 days, thus no chance to be anything other than great miracle.
   D. Time setting.
      1. Shortly before crucifixion.
      2. Chapter not in time sequence.
      3. Saducee a slumbering volcano - erupts at last of Jesus life in destructive way - this chapter shows why - the resurrection.
II. This story shows Jesus' affection for one family.

A. The Bethany Family.
1. Bethany less than 2 miles from Jerusalem.
2. Across Olivet - East.
3. Homes provide release & relief.
   a.) Give others understanding.
   b.) Give weary rest.
4. Would Jesus pick our house? Would our luxuries shock?

B. Family Composition.
1. Martha.
   a.) Housekeeper.
   b.) House owner (?)
Lu. 10:38 "Now it came to pass, as they went, that h
   c.) Cumbered c much service.
   d.) Ever busy.
   e.) Named 2nd - unusual.
2. Mary.
   a.) Spiritually minded.
   b.) Introvert.
   c.) Always at Jesus feet - ever sitting or feildown
Lu. 10:38-39 "Now it came to pass, as they went, th
Jn. 11:2 "(It was that Mary which anointed the Lord w
11:32 "Then when Mary was come where Jesus w
12:3 "Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spik
d.) Memorial.
Mk. 14:9 "Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this g
3. Lazarus.
   a.) Brother.
   b.) Loved by Jesus (V. 3)
4. Obvious Jesus had special friends.
5. Obvious Jesus had divergent friends - allows us
to be individuals & c tastes. Not all alike -
variant personalities.
C. Trouble in the Family.
1. Lazarus was sick.
   a.) Name - God is my helper.
      (1) Eleazer.
      (2) Village there today named for him.
   b.) Deathly sick - tense of word shows getting
      progressively worse, had been sick some time.
   c.) Sickness can bring a blessing.
2. When in trouble - where do we go?
   a.) Hezekiah spread a letter.
      Isa. 37:14-15 "And Hezekiah received the letter from
      b.) Disciples distressed over John's death.
      Matt. 14:12 "And his disciples came, and took up the
      c.) These Sisters sent word to Jesus.
      Jn. 11:3 "Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying I
      2. Note the message sent (V. 3).
         a.) Their word for love is phileo.
         b.) Message is loving, but does not tell Lord what
to do.
         c.) Based their plea on Jesus love for them - not
            theirs for Him.
         d.) No demands, remembrances, or threats voiced.
         e.) Friends come to help when they get the message
         f.) We don't know what to ask for in prayers - just
            tell him the situation, He'll handle.
3. Purpose in sickness.
a.) Not to death but glory.
   (1) Laz. did die.
   (2) Death not permanent tho.
   (3) His illness for the interest of God.
   (4) Good can come from sickness.
       I am more sympathetic c others.
       I see my weakness.
       I see the world run w/o me.
       I see I'm loved.

b.) Glory connected c the cross.

Jn. 7:39 "(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they
   12:23 "And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour
   12:26 "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and
   (1) No other way to glory but by cross.
   (2) On Transfiguration - it the exodus.

4. Love walked a strange road.

a.) Jesus loved them (V. 5).
   (1) Their word phileo.
   (2) His word agape.
   (3) Can you love & not do what I expect of you?
   (4) Can you love & tarry?

b.) Why stay 2 days?
   1.) Doing good where he was in Perea - should he leave?
   2.) Give chance to see a greater miracle - raise decaying body.
   3.) Test Mary & Martha's faith.
   4.) Test disciples faith.
   5.) Father had not told him yet to go - awaiting an answer.
6.) Indifferent.
7.) Let him die.
8.) Knew he was already dead – why hurry.
    Seems he died about same time message came.
c.) Lessons.
1.) Left sisters in agony but He had something
    better in store.
2.) We get delayed ans. to prayer.
3.) We get unexpected ans. to prayer.
4.) God’s never in a hurry.
5.) But remember God is there?

West End 7-31-77
I. Recall modestly some of the nice things said about you.
   A. Things you thought of are important because of the one who said it.
   B. Also at the time in your life when the compliment came.
   C. Still further the extender of the compliment put teeth in it as in some way it blesses your life.

II. I want to see a compliment to a family and then how it resulted in a blessing.
   A. To Martha, Mary, Lazarus.

   John 11:5  "Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus."
   1. I can't think of anything for me and mine I'd rather have said.
   2. It resulted in the resurrection of Lazarus.

   B. Word Now
   1. Powell points out three things involved.
      a. First the Lord perceived.
      b. Second God permits suffering.
      c. Third the Lord has a plan for us.
C. Next words Jesus Loved.
   1. Word is agape.
   2. Word in v. 3 is phileo.
   3. They knew him well--after a guest in their home.
   4. We'll see them greet him in exactly the same way though they did not know what the other said: "If you had been here to my brother would not have died."
   5. We share kindred thoughts of Jesus.

D. Unit in the family--all loved Jesus.

III. Some question the action of Jesus.
   A. Heard Lazarus sick--stayed two days where he was.
   1. Delay in granting a favor is not a denial of it.
      a. Proves the occasion for a greater blessing.
      b. He wants that he might enlarge his blessings.
   2. He does not explain everything to us.
   3. It is questionable whether Lazarus was still alive when Jesus got the message. Perhaps died soon after the messenger departed.
   4. Please know the delays of God are as important as his answers.
5. Perhaps time was so short Jesus could not have gotten there prior to Lazarus' death.

6. Was he testing the faith of the sisters?

7. Or was the nature of the work he was doing making it impossible for him to leave immediately?

8. Just know every hour had its work and every work its particular hour.

9. We never find the Lord in haste. We question not the silence of the Scriptures. We'll see his courage later in "let us go."

10. Let Jesus do things in his own good time.

11. The sisters did not ask Jesus to come please note.

12. They sent no second messenger— it's enough to say we are in trouble.

B. His "Let us go" raises objections.

1. Jesus sought to show you.
   a. John uses Jesus "to show" those antagonistic to Jesus.
   b. This was a prominent family since many came and also they had a private grave.
c. At feast of dedication (John 10:31) said, "I and Father are one" and it provoked them.
d. Disciples saw no reason to venture into lion's den.
e. Could he not cure Lazarus from a distance?
f. They thought his plan to go was unwise and dangerous.

C. 12-Hour Sermon
1. 12 hours in day.
   a. Does this prove the 12 hour day?
   b. There is a definite time for us to do our work.
   c. This hour is not to be postponed or delayed.
   d. Threat of persecution or reprisals are not to hinder us.
   e. Don't go when God says halt.
      Don't delay when God says go.
   f. Every hour has its work and every work its particular hour.
2. Walk in the Day - at all times Jesus maintained the highest moral tone of his life.
3. Courage is being afraid yet walking on.
4. We have a limited time to do anything.
1. We stumble not if we walk in the light.
2. Light may mean knowledge of duty supplied by God's providence and the revelation of his will.
3. There is a limited amount of opportunities which the light lasts and work can be done.
4. Important time when stumbling is not necessary.

E. Night walking.
1. Two kinds of night.
   a. Night of death that arrests all labor.
   b. Night of ignorance of unbelief when he will stumble.
2. Do not shut your eyes to the true light.
3. The 11th hour comes--but are we squeezing out opportunity?

Funeral, Suzanne Davis – 8/26/03
DISCARD YOUR ROUND TUIT
John 11:7-10

1. Time is a precious and equal commodity afforded all of us.
   A. Most of us are its executioner.
      1. We kill it.
      2. We rob it.
      3. We strangle it.
   B. Is it Christian to make the most of a day?
      1. Elders postpone.
      2. Preachers procrastinate.
      3. Leaders have no priority.
   C. Let's see how the Lord taught.

II. Our lesson comes from the Lazarus resurrection story
   A. After a two day pause following the news of Lazarus illness He proposed the Judean journey.
   Jn. 11:7 "Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let
   1. This clearly shows:
      a.) Some delays are in the interest of a greater service - but you must know why & be also to substantiate your reason for postponement.
      b.) Eventually one must be moved to the "fulness of time action."
      c.) The leader has to say "Let's go."
   2. To a proposal for action expect a "No."
      a.) Some will object because:
         (1) No vision.
         (2) No real knowledge of the moment.
         (3) No courage for a change.
         (4) No time to appoint a committee.
b.) Note Jesus disciples.
Jn. 11:8 "His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews:
(1) They were dubious of Judea.
(2) Danger can delay duty in most of us.
(3) Jews sought to stone Jesus when there.
John 10:31 "Then the Jews took up stones again to stor
(4) Disciples didn't always understand Jesus - but
He was never wrong! Remember they were the
ones who had the best chance to know!

B. There are 12 Hours in a Day.
Jn. 11:9-10 "Jesus ans." Are there not 12 hours in the
1. This has several meanings.
   (a) God allocated Jesus "12 hrs." to do His work--
       no harm is going to come during that time of
       God's scheduled events.
       (1) God's never in a hurry.
       (2) Leave Jesus to do the things in His own prescrib
           time.
   (b) 2ndly, 12 hours is enuf time to get the job done.
       (1) Not only is it enuf - but also there are only 12
           hours.
       (2) We have a limited time to do anything.
       (3) God gives light to the right time.
       (4) We don't stumble in the day - we do in the
           darkness. There is just a certain time for
           tomatoes in Tenn.

C. Let's discard our Round Tuit.
1. What has to be done now?
2. What will you do now?
3. What's more important than your salvation?
Heb. 2:1-3 "Therefore we ought to give the more earnestly..."
THINKING OUT LOUD

You get a pretty good idea of eternity when you start paying for a five thousand dollar car on the installment plan.

Amelia (whose sunburn was in the peeling off stage) said, "I'm only four years old and already I'm wearing out."

Nothing makes you feel older than the discovery that today's children are studying in history class what you studied in current events."
I. The story of the resurrection of Lazarus yields a thousand secrets.

A. Not only will we see the power of Jesus and his supremacy over death.
B. We'll see how he regards death.
C. We'll also see the instructions learning and courage of his disciples.

II. Just now let's see how the word sleep emulates with death.

A. He softens the blow of death and his delay in going by saying Lazarus sleeps and we must go and awaken him.

B. Use of sleep.
   1. A metaphor for death became and remains a common Christian locution.
   2. We derive the word "cemetery" from it as a "sleeping place." The reference is to the body not the spirit.
   3. Death spoken of asleep as:
      a) Sleep soothes.
      b) Sleep strengthens.
   4. It is not a terminus, but a juncture.
5. Sleep is something from whence we expect to waken.

6. References to it:
   Gen. 47:30
   2 Sam. 7:12
   Matt. 27:52
   Acts 7:60
   I Thess. 4:13

7. Jesus promises to awaken him.
   a) As a close friend of Jesus do we instinctively turn to him when illness comes.
   b) Is he our first call in trouble?
   c) Recall divine love sometimes lingers.

8. Note disciples didn't always understand Jesus.

9. The dullness of them astonishes us. Does he find us equally? Stupid?

C. Jesus plainly says "he's dead."
   1. Death never occurred in the presence of Jesus.
   2. Death remains his great enemy.
   3. Jesus joyfully augments the faith of the disciples.

D. Let us go to him.
   1. Jesus asserts that he was given a task to perform and a time to do it.
1. (cont'd)

No enemy or accident could shorten a single hour allotted to his life.

2. Peril was only in deserting the pathway of duty.

III. The disciples part.

A. Thomas – Didymus spoke to fellow disciples.

1. Name
   a) Means twin.
   b) Seldom mentioned.
      Matt. 10:3
      Mark 3:18
      Luke 6:15
      Acts 1:13
   c) Name probably loaned to his childhood but have no record of it.
   d) We'll never know who was his twin.
   e) First time John mentions here.

2. To follow disciples.
   a) Conveys loyalty.
   b) Do we sometimes think we are either too young or old to issue a challenge?
c) Was it the language of despair and vanished hope?

d) Is death the end of all things? Certainly not in the messianic kingdom.

e) Some call it the mixture of fear and loyalty.

f) Life without Christ is worse than death.

g) Follow Jesus and the nation perishes; put him to death and the nation lives.

h) Courage is being afraid yet going on.

B. Tests will come to all of us--our first loyalty must be to Jesus.
I. When we must go to the grave because of the death of a loved one, it's a comfort to find our Lord at a similar situation.

A. Let's see how Jesus dealt with grief.
B. Let's see others who are suffering.
C. Let's take courage in the fact our loved one was loved by Jesus.
   1. All this is told in John 11:28-35.
   2. We pick up the story as the delayed Jesus comes to Martha and Mary due to the death of Lazarus.

D. These events have and are transpiring:
   1. Martha has gone quickly to see Jesus.
   2. They have discussed death and the resurrection for all.
   3. Jesus makes the marvelous revelation of himself.

John 11:25 "I am the resurrection and the life (and there is no other resurrection). He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"
4. Her confession unequivocal and direct.

v. 27 "I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."

5. Whoever keeps believing will be blessed is meant by this word.

6. We see Martha more famous for her business than this great confession.

II. Then comes these things.

A. Martha calls for Mary secretly. "The Master is come, and calleth for thee."

B. As soon as she sheard, she arose quickly and came unto Him.

C. Jesus still not in Bethany, but in the place where Martha earlier met Him.

1. This is one of three times in the Scriptures where Mary is mentioned (Luke 10, John 11 and John 12).

2. She is always found at the feet of Jesus.

3. Mary of Bethany did not go to the cross of Jesus.

4. Remember Jesus was hated by the religious leaders, but was loved by Martha and Mary.

5. Outside was enmity and hatred, opposition and envy.

6. Thus as he makes his way to their home it's a wonderful place of relief for him to be.
7. Please note that Mary understood whom Martha meant and quickly arose to go to Him.

D. The Jews misunderstood her action.
   1. They were in the house with her.
   2. As our friends today do, they sought to comfort her.
   3. Friends can be so helpful.
   4. They tried, but were not doing the right thing in the whole story.
   5. Sometimes we are so afraid we'll do the wrong thing we do nothing.
   6. Usually when John uses the word Jews refers to those antagonistic to Jesus.
   7. The numerous mourners shows the prominence of the family.
   8. Jewish tradition said there should be seven days of public mourning then 30 days of private mourning for prominent people.
   9. Sometimes the public can thwart intentions for good. At the same time they mean well by their actions.
   10. They thought she was going to the grave to weep there.
   11. Nothing hindered her from coming quickly.
E. When Mary saw Jesus!
1. Fell at His feet.
2. Martha more under control stood.
3. Her falling at His feet shows she was unconcerned about pride or appearances.
4. Pain in her heart overcame every other emotion.

F. She repeats Martha's words.
1. Suppose earlier these sisters had discussed their brother's death and Jesus' absence.
2. Grief speaks the fewest possible words.
3. Seems by words to imply a sad resignation.
4. If Jesus had been there, brother would not have died.
5. No one ever died in His presence.
6. Feel her words of disappointment.
7. Divine love lingers, but does not descent.
8. Unknowingly the sisters said the same thing.
9. What did they want Jesus to do?

G. What Jesus saw.
1. Mary weeping at His feet - now OK!
   a. No bitterness on her part via words.
   b. Earlier sat still in the house.
Were her feelings hurt that Jesus did not come more quickly?

c. Been here—did He have to be present to do a miracle?
d. She could freely express her thoughts away from ceremony and ritual.
e. Emotion too powerful for words—her lying at his feet conveys it.

2. Jews weeping—with hearts full of hatred they still can be comforters and cry with her.

3. Jesus groaned and was troubled.
   a. This the effect all these tears had on Him.
   b. Our pains get to Him.
   c. Groaned conveys idea of anger, indignation.
   d. Angered at what sin and devil has brought to this world.
   e. Troubled means to shake, shudder, intense feeling. Jesus so indignant He shook.
      Matthew 9:30
      Mark 1:43
      John 14:5
Conveys sharp admonition, or words in anger against a person or physical shudder, or answering to intensity of emotions.

4. Jesus asked, "Where have ye laid him?"
   Come and see.

5. Jesus emotional -- deeply agitated means to snort with indignation.

6. Death and its havoc troubled Jesus.

7. He was deeply moved.

H. Jesus wept.

1. Cry that was audible.

2. Sobbing.

3. Not shortest -- I Thess. 5:16 is.
   a. Here 16 Greek letters.
   b. I Thess. -- 14 Greek letters.

4. Jesus wept.
   Luke 19:41
   Hebrews 5:7
   John 11:35

5. Burst into tears.

6. He knows our sorrow.

Avis Irene Eaton funeral - 3/30/04
I. We are in that famous chapter that tells of Lazarus' resurrection.
   A. We come to the part where Jesus cried.
   B. He heard the comments of people who saw.
      2. Some felt Jesus who opened the eyes of the blind could have saved Lazarus from dying.
      3. Such caused Jesus to groan as He came to the grave.
      4. He's used (v-25) another "I am" statement--this time the resurrection.

II. The party comes to the grave.
   A. It was a cave and a stone lay upon it.
      1. Do you suppose Jesus envisioned His own to be?
      2. That they had a private tomb suggests the family was well off.
   B. He ordered the stone removed--but let's reflect on what we know earlier.
      1. The sisters use the term "my brother" and we love to cling to earthly love.
2. Martha was a woman of impulse, energy, practical duty. She as we'll see, was ready to give advice even to the Lord. She could put everybody in their rightful place.

3. Mary was contemplative, pensive, non-demonstrative, under ordinary circumstances.

4. Martha would burst out in excited feeling. She is yet to see Jesus full relationship with His Father.

5. With death old ties are snapped, the old ways are at an end. We go to the dead, he does not return to us.

6. The last day is too far off to comfort us.

7. Faith is eternal, death is only a momentary shadow upon a life which is far better.

8. Martha had great hope and wanted to share it with her sister

9. Jesus is aware that in a short time he will take upon himself the sins of man--no wonder he groaned and shuddered. (Pulpit Commentary)

10. Note Jesus has the folk do what they can do--he will do what they cannot.
C. Martha objects.

1. To her the putrification of the dead body suggests that nothing can be done.

2. It's the opposite Jesus never prayed any prayer but what it was answered and it would constitute a challenge to His followers.

3. But please keep in mind what Jesus does or does not do will always bring criticism from some.

4. Jesus reminds Martha He's earlier taught her that if she believed she'd behold the glory of God.

5. All that Jesus did was for the glory of God.

6. Then they took away the stone.

D. Jesus lifted up His eyes and prayed. "Father I thank thee that thou hast heard me."

1. This was not to provide help for Jesus but teaching the hearers.

2. Jesus and God were in perfect harmony.

3. He ever said he sought not his own will, but that of the Father.

4. Jesus loves to augment our faith.

5. His profound desire was for his apostles to know he came from God and ever did His will.
6. This the perfect example for us.

E. Then Jesus cried with a loud voice
Lazarus come forth.

1. Bystanders could hear.
2. Literally came out the dead man.
3. Call Lazarus only.
4. Stony silence as folk watched the
mouth of the grave.
5. If nothing happened it would be
the cry of a mad man.
7. He comes forth bound hand and
foot with grave clothes.
   a. Grave clothes nowhere else in
   b. Clothes to keep spices from
      falling out.
8. Loose him and let him go.
9. They knew they were seeing a
   miracle.

III. Many believed.

A. They saw more power than they'd
   ever seen before.

B. As Christians, do we run from
death or face it?

C. Do we see there is a way past
grief?

D. Some did not believe and went to
   the Pharisees to tell what Jesus had
done.
E. Amazing they all witnessed the same thing, but reacted in opposite ways.
F. No way to be neutral.
   1. Is Jesus divine?
   2. Is Jesus a blasphemer deserving death?
   3. I am and none other is the resurrection—do you believe this?
G. The napkin.
   1. Sweat cloth.
   2. Evidence of eyewitness.
   3. Jesus was buried with one.
   4. One could not doubt that this was a resurrection.
      a. They could tell he earlier was dead and had been properly buried.
      b. Yet this miracle sealed Jesus death—they could not tolerate a miracle two miles from Jerusalem.
I. Jesus walked the road all of us have traveled—the road to the grave of a loved one.

A. As is true in most of our eyes it was filled with a sadness and tears.
   1. We find a Lord who feels what we feel.
   2. He is burdened with that which humans are.
   3. And he openly shows his deep felt concern.

B. Jesus has now met both Martha and Mary and has had words of loving concern expressed to them.
   1. He has spoken of great things.
      b. "I am the resurrection and the life" — v. 25.
      c. "He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" — v. 25.
      e. "Believeth thou this?" — v. 26
2. It seems strange one so masterful of the moment would need to ask graveyard directions.
   a. I'd like you to know some of the places I've been:
      1) Hillsides in Maury County
      2) Horse lots in Tennessee
      3) Remove bluegrass in Kentucky
      4) Buffalo grass of Kansas
   b. Later we will be told more of its location.
   c. The humanity of Jesus often expresses itself reassuring us he feels what we feel.

II. Feel now the intense emotions of the moment.

   A. Jesus wept.
      1. Sad we've abused this as we quote our memory verse--one boy always said "Jesus wept."
      2. They have just said "Come and see" they propose to show rather than tell him. It kept him closer to thee.
      3. Abuse of this verse continues as classed shortest verse, but really I Thess. 5:16 is.
      4. I Thess. 5:16 has 14 Greek letters. John 11:35 has 16 Greek letters.
5. Others put the tears of Jesus to other causes--anger, frustration, the blindness caused by lack of faith he saw in those around him.

6. He loved this family and he cried. Love promoted other tears.

Luke 19:41 - "He beheld the city and wept over it."

Heb, 5:7 - "Offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared."

7. All these expressions join the "Jesus wept."
   a. Deeply agitated later to snort with indignation--reflects great displeasure.
   b. Troubled himself, literally shook.
   c. Deeply moved - violent.

8. He knows our pain--have you ever wept not knowing exactly why as tears do not always think.

9. We see the word become flesh and dwell among us.

10. These tears through the ages have now the grand testimony of the fullness of his humanity, also his divine relationship to the very heart of God.
11. Hear the audible cry of his heart, sobbing, wailing.

B. Reaction of Jesus "Behold how he loved him."
   1. Also, "Could not this man which.."
   2. Are words ironical, malicious, contemptuous as Guy Woods teaches as an effort to discredit Jesus.

C. As Jesus groans, he comes to the grave.
   1. He was joyful in the shadow of his own cross, but is sorrowful at the mouth of someone else's grave.
   2. Man can know exquisite sorrow and joy unspeakable.
   3. Guban conveys idea of anger, indignation at what sin the devil has brought to this world.
   4. Troubled—to shake, shudder, and at this point the intensity of feeling, so indignant was Jesus, he shook.
   5. The word groan as in verse 35, also in Matthew 9:30; Mark 1:43, which allows expression of self in sharp admonition, words of anger against a person or in physical shudder answering to the intensity of the emotion.
D. Came to the grave—a cave and a stone laid upon it.
1. The idea of a private grave leads one to think of an affluent family.
2. Jesus at home with the poor and the wealth.

E. Take ye away the stone—what they were able to do he always asks us to.

F. Martha objected.
1. To characterize her as sister of dead man is not for identification, but to justify or explain her intrusion upon the solemn direction of the Lord.
2. Her comments shows she had relinquished all hope he could be alive.
3. Bad ordor of decay feared.
4. Out of the deepest humiliation comes the highest hope of glory.

G. Jesus counters she would see the glory of God.
1. Jesus lived for the good of man.
2. And for the glory of God.
3. This would be proven by Lazarus living again showing God would break the power of death.

H. Stone is removed and Jesus prayed.
1. Lifted his eyes toward heaven.
2. Father.
a. Jesus was about to do what no one else could do.
b. He wanted always to do the will of the Father.
c. With the Father he desired perfect harmony.
d. He said he sought not my own will, but the will of the Father which sent me.

3. I thank thee that thou hast heard me.
   a. He thanks the Father for every prayer earlier answered.
   b. Remember he is about to do what no one else could, but wants them to do what they can - remove the stone.
   c. The disciples had believed something about Jesus' power before, but every act of faith prepared the way for another.
   d. The joy of Jesus is augmenting faith of his disciples--a great revelation of the gospel.

4. I know that thou hearest me always.
   a. He thanks the Lord in anticipation of the miracles as though it's already done.
   b. A continuous absolute communion is ever going between heaven and earth in the heart of Jesus.
c. His prayers--like yours--are ever heard.

5. But because of the people.
6. That they may believe that thou hast sent me.
   a. He thinks of us.
   b. He needs the reassurance himself.
   c. Angels at baptism, Gethsemane though strong God does not leave him without support.

I. Cried with a loud voice.
   1. This benefited by standing.
   2. Jesus is always praying and he and the Father are one.

J. Lazarus come forth, literally hither out.
   1. Providential he used Lazarus' name or other would have come forth.
   2. It was the shout of a multitude and implies loud, imperative command to death to give up his prey and relinquish the grasp he had in answer to prayer.
   3. Loud voice kept up the image that death is a deep sleep.
   4. People will know Lazarus came forth because of command.
   5. Come forth, brief, authoritative Damsel - arise Mark 5:42 Peace be still Mark 4:39
6. Literally, come out the dead man.
7. Had nothing happened, they could have known they were in the presence of a mad man.

K. He that was dead came forth.
1. No doubt he was dead.
2. Sisters said so.
   a. Bands and straps.
   b. Linen sheets thus fastened to the body.
   c. This would keep spices from falling out.
5. Men had to untie the napkin (sweat rag).
6. These hands that unwound the cerements would know he was dead.
7. Yet Mary at the feet of Jesus (Luke 10; John 11; John 12) did not go to the cross.

L. Loose him, let him go.
1. Faith in Jesus changes lives, families, nations.

M. Points to be made.
1. Are we far from our earthly grave-clothes to a heavenly walk with Jesus?
2. Some went off and told Pharisees what Jesus had done and implied they did not go with friendly intentions.

3. Yet can there be any reasonable doubt that Jesus is the Christ?

West 7th St., Columbia, TN - 7/30/03
Riverwood - 8/10/03
I. As in some many events there is not a sole witness.
   A. Combo of what others saw and say adds to the picture.
   B. God speaks of the "sum" of his word.
   C. That's the joy of a harmony.

II. Events Prior
   A. Jesus raises Lazarus.
      John 11:35-44
   B. Reaction to the event.
      John 11:45-46
   C. Hatching of Plots.
      John 11:47-52
   D. Jesus preserves himself.
      John 11:53-54
      1. Yet he will come for last Passover.
      2. He will do things at Bethany only John records.

John 12:1-11

3. It seems this last Sabbath he spent at Bethany.
4. Remember his disciples are with him.
III. Prior to the triumphant entry he does certain things.

John 11:55–57

A. He must die at right time, place and purpose.
B. Enemies cannot alter this.
C. Folks come to Passover, faced robbers.

Mark 12:41–44 Widow's giving.

1. Travel in groups.
2. Buy sacrifices.
3. Change money—not Margaret Shelton's funny money and cheating at toilets.
4. Hills and caves invested with robbers.
5. Procession grew as they came to Jerusalem.
6. 50,000 became millions.
7. Reason Zacchaeus could not see at Jericho and climbed a tree.

D. Rumors went wild about the arrival of Jesus.
E. He protected himself in the city via man, pitcher, upper room.

F. From harmony.
   "Consequence of raising Lazarus."
1. Popular belief, Phar. plots, departure of Jesus to Ephraim.
2. What is our greatest threat?
3. What is our solution?

IV. Text Study – John 11:47

A. Gatherine of religious leaders—V.47.
   1. "What are we accomplishing?"
      a) Good question for ourselves.
      b) Do you take inventory?
   2. Translations use Sanhedrin rather than council.
      a) Chief judicatory of nation.
      b) Usually met in hall of temple.
      c) 71 total, 23 could transact business.
      d) High Priest was President—served a year.
   3. Felt earnest desire to do something.
   4. Do we have that compulsion?

B. Admitted his miracles and their effectiveness.

C. Can't just stand by—do something!

D. Note they conversed with each other.

V. Caiaphas Entry (V-49 on).

A. Place and nation at stake—crisis.
   (Place was temple).
   1. Can righteous men give wrong council?
2. Can Christians devise evil?
3. Can we do evil and expect good to come?
4. Was Caipahas a Sadducees?
   Acts 5:17
5. Can God use bad men?

B. His speech.

"You know nothing at all: It's better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish."

C. Took council how to kill Jesus.

1. Only question--how do we do it?
2. Jesus' death sanctioned by religion.
   Jesus pursued with deliberation--cold blood.
   Jesus rerouted his journey.
I. The name of Jesus stirs hearts.
   A. TWA had in mag., rack on my K.C. trip a Bible
   1. Man visited it, turned away saying to stewardess -- "There is nothing there to read."
   B. Charles Smith announces today his return to the Philippines.
   1. "I go not to build church buildings -- the only thing I think we owe the Philippines is the gospel of Christ and how to live it."
   C. Warren Lewis said "I think Jesus was the 1st hippie."
   D. Mike Rucker stood here and said, "I believe Jesus is God's son."

II. Thus all hues of feeling voiced for the Lord.
   A. One of the strangest was from Caiphas
   B. May I tell you about this enemies confession?

III. Bit of the background.
   A. Lazarus raised from the dead.
   B. Had elements of strongest emotions.
1. Motive
   (a) Martha calls Mary secretly
   (b) v-28 "The Master is come and call-eth for thee"
   (c) No higher reason for any obedience.

2. Obedience
   v-29 "As soon as she heard that, she rose up.
   (a) Note immediacy.
   (b) See fullness of obedience
   (c) Came quickly

3. Influence
   (a) Jews saw her leave
   (b) Followed her (v-31)
   (c) She led Jews to Jesus--do I lead anyone to him?
   (d) They saw a miracle. You always ble someone when you lead him to Christ

4. Jesus troubled.
   (a) Mary fell at his feet reverently
   (b) He always felt what he did--never Mechanical.
   (c) She cried
   (d) Jews cried
   (e) Jesus groaned
5. Jesus wept (v-35) (This word used only here)
(a) Did at other times
Luke 19:41 "And when he was come near
(b) Here he literally burst into tears.
(c) Saw emotion in tears, body and no doubt voice.
(d) Mary wept, Jesus wailed.
(e) See the humanity of Jesus
(f) Some Jews impressed--how he loved him! (I hope He does me.)
(g) Some Jews criticized--same divided reaction today

6. Partnership
(a) Man couldn't raise dead--could move stone--do it--Jesus didn't waste power couldn't raise dead--but could burn
(b) Martha objected him--"where laid?"
1) Time (4 days) & odor (stink)
   heightens the miracle.
2) Don't think of corpse--think of me!!
7. Prayer
   (a) Loud voice—Father & Son worked together
   (b) Matt. 27:46 "And about the 9th—Eli
   (c) Matt. 27:50 "Jesus, when he had cried
   (d) Lu. 23:46 "And when Jesus had c
   (e) I Thess. 4:16 "For the Lord himself shall
   (b) Shouted 2 words "Hither out"
   (c) Simply "out came the dead man".
       Immediate results!
   (d) Power in word of God.
   (e) Crowd had seen and believed
   (f) "Many believed" (v-45)
   (g) "Some went their way (v-46)
   (h) Some told (v-46)
   (i) Keep in mind Mary had something to do with it—she brought them.

IV. The Jews have a Problem
A. Many went to Jesus
B. "What do we?" v-47
   1. Admitted "this man doeth many miracles

C. Delima
   1. Can't stand defections—his signs are convincing too many
      (a) Story of Grace in Phillipans—Shame
      family to turn from religion—mother
stayed three days—sat by bed—
wouldn't eat—at school go across
from her just stand and stare!
Weeped and wailed, "don't you love
me?"
"If we let him alone"
(b) If we don't ck. it "all men will
believe on him."
(1) What's slowed it down?
(c) They studied actions and accepted
the evidence.
2. Rome will hear
(a) Take away temple and liberties.
(b) Scatter Jews and take away power of
Sanhedrin.
(c) We'll loose our place!

D. Caiphas speech
1. Names means fortune teller, or
2. One who reads lines of the face.
(a) Tell good men by their white hats
3. Sly, crooked, selfish, rude—"You know
nothing at all" v-49
4. Said follow Jesus, nation perishes; put
him to death nation lives.
(a) exact opposite happened
5. Reality tho God's plan of salvation
Rom. 11:26 "These shall come out of Zion
Jn. 1:29 "The next day J. seeth Jesus
6. He'll make all people one
7. Unwittingly C. told great truth.
V. Their and Your Solution
A. They decided to kill him (v-54)
B. Will you decided to obey him?

West End 9/29/62
I. Can a man preach the truth and not know it?

A. Can an evil heart proclaim the gospel? Tell truth and not quasisprit?

1. Can I be used of God to speak his message when I am against it?
2. Can God sound out his truth when men are determined not to hear it?
3. As we consider these questions I'll lead you to see how this was done and lead you further to see the amazing power of God.

B. Setting for our story.

1. Jesus has just raised Lazarus from the dead.
2. There can be no doubt as to the authenticity of the event.
   a. Dead four days.
   b. Odor of corruption in evidence.
   c. Came forth with grave clothes on him, men had to touch him and help him. Laid aside these garments.
   d. Men left Bethany convinced Jesus was the Christ.
C. This presented a dilemma for Christ's enemy—something had to be done.
   1. We'll see the frantic extremes to which men will do to deny Jesus.
   2. We'll see how perverse is human nature.
   3. We'll see how stubborn men can be in rejecting the truth.

D. Lesson for me.
   1. Will I shut my eyes in face of overwhelming evidence?
   2. Am I so jealous of my position, I'll pay any price to hold it for awhile.
   3. "He that believeth not"—just how great is the power of unbelief?
   4. How can one man so truthfully proclaim the gospel, and at the same time design so diabolical a scheme—truly the Devil is a powerful being.

II. Someone pushed the panic button.
   A. Chief priests (note plurality—Caiaphas and Annas—probably Sadducees) and Pharisees (united only in opposition) took council (also a little barb—High Priest that year "when supposed to serve for life. Things are in foul shape).

Family traditions

But God is strong!
B. What do we? 

1. Ecclesiastical rules unhappy with Jesus. 
2. Leaders, foremost enemies of Jesus. 
3. Reflect their perplexity— if Jesus is not our Savior, who is? 
4. A necessary decision is demanded— neutrality impossible. 
5. They were aware of three things: 
   a. Christ's power cannot be denied. He did many miracles. 
   b. His preaching cannot be forgotten. Miracles support claim! 
   c. His presence can no longer be tolerated. 
6. What to do? 
   1. Can't wait. 
   2. Can't afford haphazardness. 
   3. Can't appear hopeless in face of his profession! 

C. I'll be exposed to several things: 
1. How men can possibly reject a truth which is so evident? 
2. How unbelief can legislate against faith. 
3. How in face of logic, truth, reason evidence, moral betterment, men can say no?
D. Fact—Let him alone, all mean will believe Romans will come, they will take away our place and nation.
1. How selfish we are.
2. I'll sacrifice everything to hold to my place.

III. Then came Caiaphas.

A. Powell called him a self-made deity worshiping at his own shrine.
   1. He had no qualms about killing Jesus.
   2. Two times said High Priest that year. \textit{v.49 ul 51}
   3. Really stayed the full ministry of Jesus. \textit{Mt all time of Jesus}

B. He's a gospel preacher and didn't know it!
   1. God used him as his instrument.
   2. "Ye know nothing at all" I know it all.

C. The gospel proclaimed. \textit{In 18:14}

\textit{V-50} — It is expedient for us that one man should die for the people and the whole nation perish not.
1. He didn't understand, but it was true Jesus should die for the nation.
2. It meant "he was about to die."
3. Savior would willingly die for the nation. \textit{Note that nation only}
4. Also for "children of God that were scattered abroad" - that lets me in.
5. His death would answer for their sins.
6. His dying love the loadstone of our faith.
7. Jew and Gentile can be made one in him.
8. Salvation is for all.
9. One fold.
10. Great shepherd of the sheep leads us all.

D. Gospel spoken and he knew it not.
   V-51 - This spake he not of himself.
   1. Don't tell me God is powerless.
   2. Makes his enemies tell his truth.

IV. Shameful end.
   V-53 - "Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death."
   A. Thou shalt not kill meant nothing to them.
   B. In agreement to murder Jesus.
   C. Will you die in stubborn rejection when the church says come - whosoever will.
Not for that worthless scribbler in my life who is dead and buried. Jesus should die for the elect

Now he did not know that he did not know... our authority.
Children of God are scattered for children of God around the world scattered family God (O.A)
Jesus' Spring Break

John 11:53-57

I. Unlike those spring breaks you know—vacation, or retreat, or mission trip, or time of indulgence—Jesus had a spring break.

A. It was the last few weeks before his crucifixion.

B. It was a retreat to an area that even today we don't know exactly where it was.

C. It was country—near the wilderness—at unknown Ephraim.

D. Let's see how he used it—read the text that describes it—John 11:53-57.

II. About this which we have just read
Ryle had some more interesting comments we here reproduce them.

A. He made these points:
   1. Presents a melancholy picture of man, human nature.
   2. It shows:
      a. Desperate wickedness of man.
      b. Stubbornness of man to admit the truth—Jesus did miracles in the raising of Lazarus.
c. The greatest objectors were Pharisees, Sadducees, chief priests.

d. Refused to be convinced.

e. Unbelief is so powerful they determined to put him to death.

3. Miracles alone cannot convert a man.

4. Inexplicable how men cannot see the truth when it so obviously appears.

5. Unbelief legislates against facts, logic, reasoning, morals.

6. See the results of blind ignorance

7. Persecution cannot stop the gospel.

8. Foolishness of ceremonies like purification, as they made much ado about washings and still could murder.

9. Lent is an example of extravagant strictness followed by extravagant excesses.

10. Religion that is all outward formalities is worthless. Not purity of water and washings but of heart.

11. Religious leaders often worst enemies of the truth.

12. They could not deny the miracles—20 centuries later we can't either.

13. When temper is lost so is reason.
15. Pharisees and Sadducees at dagger points yet agree in hating Jesus.
16. Testimony of Christ's worst foes can lead to seeing the truth.
17. See the complexity of human nature.

III. Let's see the event.
A. Since death sentence (v.53), Jesus walked no more openly among the Jews.
   1. It was not cowardliness.
   2. It was his right to choose the time of his death and manner of his execution.
   3. He later came openly to Jerusalem for the death week.
   4. He bravely chose his own timing.
   5. He would be the master of his fate—not them.

B. He went into a country they could not locate.
   1. Near to the wilderness.
   2. To a city called Ephraim.
   3. We can't locate it today.
   4. Quiet and secluded was his last abode.
      a) With his disciples for any final instructions.
b) We do not learn of one public work he did there.
c) Do not know how long was this spring break.
d) Here he could rest, teach, prepare himself for the Passion week.

IV. Meanwhile back in Jerusalem this happened:
A. Passover was nigh at hand.
   1. Busy preparing for the Feast of Passover.
   2. Still their thoughts were about Jesus—he forbids neutrality.
B. They were busy purifying themselves.
   1. Need to prepare ourselves to be in the presence of God.
   2. Purification had to do with washing and obtaining ceremonial cleanliness.
   4. Needed to purify self yet could still murder Jesus.
   5. Wash away "thou shalt not kill"??
   6. How do you prepare to meet the Lord?
   7. Note how the sins of the rulers can affect the people.
   8. Know of no law that describes the purification process.
C. Note they sought for Jesus and talked about him.
1. What think ye?
2. Will he come?
3. Sad sight—temple empty—Jesus not there.
4. Is he coming? And if he does what do you think of him.
5. Necessary question even for today.
6. Can't remain neutral.
7. City filled with suspicion and whispering.
8. Rumors stalk the pavements.
9. What preparation should we make if Jesus were coming today?
10. Can't afford to do nothing.

D. Command of Pharisees and chief priests tell us where he is that we may take him.
1. Turned city into a gestapho.
2. Did they have this jurisdiction or assume it?
3. Six days before Passover he came and we know what they did to him (John 12:1).

Neely's Bend - 7/5/03
I. The title Passover—Purity—Prejudice—do they go together?
   A. This is what was happening in Jesus' last days.
   B. Are there such glaring inconsistencies in our lives?

II. You are people to be admired—let me give you the summation of your quick responses to problems and solutions.

III. Now let's go to our text.
   A. People are streaming into Jerusalem to observe the Spring Passover.
      1. 50,000 becomes a million.
      2. Money charges can cheat—as we all wrestle foreign "funny money."
      3. Endured robbers and travel burdens—Mary came to be taxed heavy with child—many things not our convenience.
      4. Witch rumors about Jesus coming.
      5. Religious leaders have predeter­mined they must kill Jesus.
   B. From the text.
      1. Passover—see card.
         a) He became ours.

I Cor. 5:7
b) Their shadow our substance.
c) Their animal blood our Christ's.
d) Theirs to Jerusalem ours to throne of grace.

C. They come to purify self.
1. Can you at the same time, plan a murder?
2. Can we eat unleaven bread and leave here and do wicked things: drink, gamble, shoplift, cheat?

D. They stood in the temple area ready to turn him in if they saw him.
1. He had a price on his head.
2. Read verses 57, 53.

E. Where are we?

Prov. 28:28
I Cor. 5:10–11

1. Was this cowardice?
2. Paul not allowed in Eph. theatre.
3. Ephraim.

2 Chron. 13:19

a) Lost to us today, but perhaps 8 or 20 miles N. of Jerusalem.
b) Jerusalem lost him awhile.

4. Needed time with disciples.
5. Didn't want enemies picking time.
6. Can we have murder and worship in hearts at same time?
7. He hid from danger when duty did not require exposure.
8. In garden he'll ask whom do you seek and identify himself.
9. He gave them no chance to hurt each other--just left the city.
10. His hour had not yet come.
11. Jerusalem's loss; Ephraim's gain.

Acts 2:23

IV. Now a question--will Jesus come to our Christmas feasts?
A. Drinking.
B. Gluttony.
C. Social for all--spend much on self, little on poor.
D. Avanelle Baird called with her family adopting Chinese, African-American.
E. Will we invite him, worship him, or be too busy socially?
F. If he would not feel welcome at my party I better not have one.
G. Their earlier question, "What are we accomplishing?"

Heritage C/C - 12/21/08
Neely's Bend C/C - 12/28/08
PASSEOVER

1. Lamb without blemish, male, one year old. Exo. 12:5

2. Roast him.


4. Annual celebration, to remember and ask questions.

5. Ready to leave immediately.


8. After 430 years-600,000 males left - 2 million folk, half of Tennessee.


10. Jesus is God's firstborn.

11. If we are washed in his blood "angel" goes over us in judgment.
THE OTHER LAST SUPPER
John 12:1-9

I. The very title raises a question—can there be another Last Supper? (Also MK14:3
A. One highly "religious."  
B. This one beautifully social.  

II. Set the Stage
A. We are in the last days of our Lord.
B. 5 chapters will follow and in them Jesus is alone with the disciples to be with them in secret.
   1. People still divided over who is Jesus.
   2. Whoever comes in contact with Him will be moved—pentinence or anger.
   3. Six days before the death of Jesus.
   4. How sweet will be the memory He takes with Him to the Cross.

III. Events of the Other Last Supper.
A. It's at Bethany.
B. Lazarus there with sisters.
   1. He is object of deadly hatred since he was a living witness to the power of Christ and because of his testimony many believed. (Erdman)
   2. Witnesses of Christ hated today.
   3. People wanted to see Lazarus and it alarmed the Pharisees.
   4. Note dead—raised—that will be our experience also unless Jesus comes first. Raised 1st in 2nd year?

C. Supper
   1. Saturday eve before crucifixion.
   2. Jesus at supper shows his joy of being with his friends.
3. He is the Christ of every day and place. (Ford)
4. Reclined at table.

D. Martha - Practical
1. She expresses her respect and affection in preparing dishes for the table.
2. Here is no reprimand as earlier.

E. Mary--3 pictures at the feet of Jesus.
1. First sat listening.
2. 2nd seeking sympathy & help at brother's death.
3. 3rd anointing his feet.
   a) Pours precious ointment.
   b) Very costly.

4. We convey our love in individual ways. (Keep rest of it for Burial)

F. Judas - Responsible for actions.
1. Always the betrayer.
2. His greed stands out against Mary's devotion. Jesus the place of trust in Him
3. 1st recorded words--"sell, poor."
4. 300 pence--300 days work, $45.
5. Not caring for poor --- wanted to steal it. - Temptation rising
6. Study our emotions and drives.

G. Jesus Views can be warped
1. Let her alone.
2. Vindicate the extravagant gift.
3. Vast expenditure was his approval.
4. Anointed 1 week before buried.
5. Christ always defends his people.
6. Some opportunities never come again

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BUT WE WOULD SEE JESUS

John 12:21

I. Never a lesson like this one as it is either final or a prelude.
A. Elders and you decide
B. I would like to go to the final chapter of Luke and present "We Would See Jesus."
   1. I've written them about Acts as a possibility.
   2. Cleared it with Don.
   3. But I'd like to spend weeks on the final week of Jesus' earthly visit.
   4. Passion week—we know more than any other detailed week.
C. I'd like to call it "But We Would See Jesus."
   1. This lesson uses some "See" Scripture.
   2. Idea of "See" getting greater glimpse of Him.
   3. I realize some of "Sees" are in human

2 Tim. 1:1-4

4. Could not get Billy Shipman and Nancy off my mind.
5. Tell of College church.
   Immediate prayer requests.
   answered by
II. But there are passages to know better the Lord.

A. John 12:10-11
   Went away
   Understood not at first
   Things written
   Miracles
   Prevail nothing
   Greeks to Philip – Andrew
   Whom have we introduced to Jesus?
   Team work

B. Ephesians 3:7-10
   Know our mission
   Bob Brackett – 13 million--Amen
   Mel Gardner – five generations
   Crash at Crust
   What good word would you report?

C. Acts 2:33  Now see and hear
   Acts 8:6-8  Great joy know assuredly
   Texas church sued – bar
   construction
   Preditor within Hesson

D. I Corinthians 2:2-9
   Restored Leadocin--Farrer
   Keeble story

Neely's Bend C/C – 11/2/08
Heritage C/C – 11/2/08
Shunted Glory—The great preacher, Marshall Keeble, was once given a helicopter ride over a church member’s large ranch. The ranch owner asked Mr. Keeble, Brother Keeble, what do you think about my ranch? Keeble replied, I was just thinking, some day this will all be burnt up with a fervent heat. Thanks Ray for sharing this with us!

The Crash at Crush, Texas: On a slow day at the office in 1896, George Crush, ticket agent for the Katy Railroad, dreamed of a marvelous publicity event. Knowing that train wrecks drew large crowds, he submitted his idea to the railroad; publicize months in advance the crash of two trains. George’s superiors saluted his idea. Two obsolete engines destined for the scrap yard were reconditioned for the event. A special spur off the main tracks was constructed north of Waco in September, 1896.

Painted in contrasting red and green, and pulling boxcars covered in advertising, the locomotives were like aged gladiators painted with cosmetics for one final battle where both would lose. They were displayed in various towns before the event. . . At 5:00 p.m., September 15, 1896, the engines nosed toward each other and “shook hands” like prizefighters before backing into position. Approximately 40,000 people witnessed the spectacular collision.

(Quotes and information from www.texasescapes.com/TexasRailroads/Crash-at-Crush)

Texas Bar Sues Church: In a small Texas town, the local bar began construction on a new building. A church campaigned to block the bar’s opening with petitions and prayers. One week before the opening lightening struck the bar and it burned to the ground.

The church folks were rather smug in their outlook after that, until the bar owner sued the church on the grounds that the church was ultimately responsible for the demise of his building, either through direct or indirect actions. The church vehemently denied all responsibility to the building’s demise in its reply to the court.

As the case made its way into court, the judge looked over the paperwork. At the hearing he commented, I don’t know how I’m going to decide this, but as it appears from the paperwork, we have a bar owner who believes in the power of prayer, and an entire church congregation that does not.”

Parting Thought: How much better it is to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver! (Proverbs 16:16)
I. Strange? Why? I won't:
A. Describe street or throne.
B. Tell about Tree.
C. Delight in absence of sin & blessing of newness without decease.
D. All this is wonderful--but the Heaven I present is being with Jesus.
   1. This our magnet.
   2. This our drawing power of superior force.

II. Things That Precipitated His Speech.
A. Greeks came to see Jesus.
   1. Found him greatly attractive.
   2. Unbelief shuts out the Son of God.
B. My Hour is Coming.
   1. Day of savagery passed & day of humility comes.

Dan. 7:1-8
   2. Ready to break down middle wall of partition.

C. Glorified
   1. He sees its necessity but is not blind to its anguish.
   2. We see the shadow of the cross & words of victory.
   3. Glorification meant crucifixion to Him.
   4. He is willing to be expended that the Father may be glorified.
   5. Son of Man never after the resurrection.
III. His Speech
A. Double Amen
   1. Everything He ever said was true.
   2. Double Amen adds emphasis.
B. Picture of Wheat Germination.
   1. Grain falls into ground & dies.
      a) Change of grain called death.
      b) It does not take very long.
      c) Grain must go down into earth & lose its wrappings.
      d) God alone holds germ of life.
   2. Christ will duplicate this.
      a) His death necessary to life.
      b) As grain He puts off the mortal & thus makes possible the abundant life.
      c) Note how quickly change comes.
      d) His rescue would be our ruin.
      e) His death is our deliverance.
         (Scroggie)
      f) Not any type of death--his by accident would not help us, only by sacrifice of self.
   3. If grain not in the ground it abides alone.
      a) Seed corn in my deep freeze.
      b) Seed corn in my truck.
      c) Rosenbaum's jar of wheat seed.
      d) Useless preserved in the granary (or Gov. surplus). It neither reproduces nor is used for food.
   4. If it die--that's another matter.
      a) Sacrifice is the secret of productivity.
b) Fruit comes by dying not doing (?)  
c) Only by death comes life.  
d) Essential for grain to die for it to bear fruit—-to every appearance it does die.  
e) Otherwise it remains single, without increase.  
f) Cross comes before the crown.  
g) GK taught life was enjoyment & try to escape law of sacrifice.  

5. By death—Fruit.  
a) Little Restoration lesson first.  
(1) Put in wheat, get wheat.  
(2) Reap what you sow.  

Gal. 6:7  

(3) Restoration movement not like making over an old car—-rather sow seed. (Hodge)  
(4) Gospel makes Christian.  

b) Much Fruit  
(1) One prize ear of corn had 812 kernels.  
(2) If each kernel made 1 ear = 659,344 kernels.  
(3) 5 years—-150 billion tons—feed world.  

c) Fruitfulness comes by giving self away.  

d) Grain gives life & lives 100-fold.  

e) What great potential is one grain.  

C. The Cost of It All  

1. Tragically we love this life.  
a) Interests of the day capture us.
b) Flesh dominates us.
c) Love our own interest is our ruin.
d) We lose!

2. Hate--We Keep.
   a) Strange paradox.
   b) Aim higher than this world.
   c) Renounce present interests for sake of future inheritance.
   d) We give priority to God's Kingdom over earthly interests.
   e) Anti-thesis is between this world and world to come.
   f) By spending life we retain it.
   g) Life lived for Jesus is Eternal life both in its present nature & to its extent. (Hobbs)
   h) You make the choice.
   i) Eternal life is in opposition to this world.

IV. Now We Are About to Get to Heaven.

A. If Any Man Serve Me.
   1. Idea of personal attendant, not a bond slave.
   2. Implies action, waiting, reverence.
   3) "They also serve who stand & wait". (Melton)
   4. Not enough to "see" Jesus as asked Greeks--Serve Him.
   5. Service involves following Him.

B. Let Him Follow Me.
   1. We follow not in a que but professing his name, taking His cross, catching His spirit.
2. Beyond command it is adoration, love, attachment.
3. Walk in like unselfishness.
4. He has a reign of holiness, the happiness of humanity, the good of the universe, the glory & obedience of the Father.
5. Calls us to faith, obedience, & suffering.
6. To follow is to obey his will and exhibit his disposition.
7. It's a daily duty, not a one time act.

V. Now Heaven
A. Where I am—There Shall My Servant Be.

John 7:34
8:58
John 14:1

1. He will share the glory of his love.
2. Above description of a happy state.
3. We'll be with Christ forever in his glory as distinct individuals.

Rom. 8:29
B. Honored by God.

1. We'll have Heaven & God to honor us.
2. No greater plaque for your wall.
3. Honor comes to those who serve well.

Titus 1:2
1 Jn. 2:25

4. 3 Promises.
   a) Life Eternal.
   b) Be with Jesus.
   c) Honored by God the Father.
5. We must
   a) Die to selfishness.
   b) Follow Christ.
   c) Accept guarantee of His blessedness—
       God via Holy Spirit signs your
       note.

6. Do you want this?

Woodbury, TN 5/13/92
Kingwood Heights, Murfreesboro, TN – 6/3/92
I. I disbelieve some adages.
   A. Ignorance is bliss.
   B. What you don't know won't hurt you.
   C. If I've got it, I don't want to know it.

II. Knowledge is a blessing.
   A. Jesus wanted us to know truth.
   B. We spend to educate kids.
   C. We read to stay informed.
   D. We go to Dr. for exams to stay O.K.
   E. Knowledge brings a peace and self assurance.

III. In no story is it more pronounced than the one of Jn. 13.
   A. 1st the setting.
      1. Public ministry now completed.
      2. Thurs. eve - upper room - few hrs. before cross.
      3. Alone c disciples as we see in next 4 chapters.
      4. Ford "World shut out & they shut in c Savior."
      5. Some people are like porcupines - they have many fine points, but you can never get close to them.

B. Things Jesus knew.
   1. Knew his hour was come.
      (a) Many do not grasp time nor its brevity. Legend: Men 40 yr. - Horse, dog, monkey
(b) He knew hour of humiliation was near & hr. of glory shortly after.
(c) He knew this gave him little time to complete it.
(d) Gov. Ellington so rushed, "Afraid I'll forget somebody or something" 1-8-71 - went out 1-16-71.
(e) Do we become too "distinguished" to do the humble things? Like ft. washin
(f) Are we too imp. for menial tasks.
2. He knew he'd leave earth & go to his Father.
(a) Soon goodbye here & good morning there.
(b) Cross then crown.
(c) Shortly to take seat on God's throne.
(d) He knew he came from God & that he was returning there. Aren't we all?
(e) Often spoke of departure.
   Jn. 5:24
   8:23
   14:12
   14:28
   16:10
   16:28
   17:5
(f) As I get closer to God, do I get farther from service to man? He didn't!
(g) Closer to God, closer he was to man.
(h) Even did job of a slave.
(i) He's going far, man is inferior yet he loved him.
(j) Read V. 1 & V. 4.

3. He knew he loved his own.
   (a) Loved to end.
   (b) Loved to uttermost.
   (c) He who was so high, stooped so low to love me.
   (d) He loved fully conscious of his power. Jn. 19:11 "Thou wouldest have no
   (e) Called them his own - joy in "that's mine."
   (f) His love continues.
       Heb. 7:25

4. He knew he was about to be betrayed.
   (a) Would this turn you to bitterness & rejection?
   (b) Satan had already put betrayal in Judas' heart & Jesus knew it.
   (c) Jesus knew devil ever at work.

5. He knew his greatness but became a servant.
   Phil. 2:6-7

IV. What do you know?
   A. Time's lesson?
   B. Origin's history?
   C. Destiny's call?
   D. Earth's testing?
   E. Character's genuineness?
I. We don't always follow the teaching we've received.
A. S. P. Pittman trilled "Read the next verse."
   1. I haven't always!
   2. I got so absorbed in the foot washing story I failed to read the next verse.
   3. It gives the consequences of the teaching.
B. So with Paul Harvey let's go to Page 4 of Foot Washing.

II. John 13:12-17 cover this.
A. So after he had--
   1. John only tells this story so all our information is right here.
   2. It's our Lord's last action before instituting the Lord's Supper.
   3. Words "so after" imply there is more to come.
   4. Took his garments.
      a) Put on again the long outer robe.
      b) What we have to do, determines how we dress.
      c) Now in reclining position.
B. Asks question, "Know ye what I have done?"
   1. Possible to put the wrong meaning on Christ's words.
   2. Some things we don't know but will later grasp.
   3. Continual searching of the Master's teachings ever in order.
4. Man is man to know.
   a) Truth is within the realm of our grasp.
   b) Nothing purposeless in what Christ did.
5. Really what had He done?—tell the event.
   C. He accepts their designation of Him.
      v-13"Ye call me Master & Lord"
      1. Habitually called him Master.
      Jn. 11:28 The Master is come & calleth for thee.
      2. He's the great Rabbi.
      3. Lord
         a) The Lord & Master displaces all other.
         b) Jesus is Lord—not Caesar.
         c) Disciples never called him Jesus—rather used a title of respect.
4. What do we call Him?
   a) Is he our Lord?
   b) Does He occupy the chief position of our lives?
   c) Tell me the title you use.
5. He accepted it—ye do well.
   a) Endorses what they said.
   b) "I know who thou art—the holy one of God." Luke 4:34
   c) James 2:20.
   d) If he is Teacher we are duty bound to learn in His school.
   Lu. 6:46 "Why call me Lord and do not"
D. Binding Example

v-14 "If I then, your Lord & Master"

1. So much is said in these few words.
2. 1st lessons are taught.
   a) One is humility.
   b) Another is love.
   c) Another is service.
   d) Everyone can do this from the poorest to the most ignorant.
   e) If Jesus does menial tasks for his folks, we should too.
   f) We need mutual condescension and mutual love to all brethren.
   g) Men need to forget themselves and remember others.
   h) If the Lord deigned to die for us, we can surely serve each other.
   i) It's the call for consistency.

3. Secondly, I see Examples are binding.
   a) His example is to be regarded as an authoritative force.
   b) Words like:
      Learn of me
      Follow me
      Walk even as Christ walked
      Suffering leaves us an example

4. Thirdly—unless we are washed by Christ we are still in our sins.

1 Cor. 6:11 *But ye were washed, sanctified, justified*
   a) No one can be saved unless washed in his blood.
Acts 22
Romans 6

5. Fourthly, we see the practical side.
   a) Orthodoxy without practical love
      and humility is worthless.
   b) We are not asked to withhold our
      hand because we deem someone
      worthless & ungrateful.
   c) The work of copying the perfect
      model is a progressive one.
   d) We are not to attach undue
      importance to mere bodily action.

6. Note the "as". (V-15)
   a) Not the very thing he did but
      "as" he did.
   b) Not a once per year ritual on a
      clean foot.
   c) Old & feeble couldn't do this so
      not a required ritual.
   d) We are not to attach undue
      importance to mere bodily action.

7. He has the right to command:
   Servant not greater than Lord, nor
   one sent above him that sends.
   a) We are apt to dislike work that
      calls for self-denial and going
      down to our inferiors.
   b) In all society there must be
      authority & subordination. Some
      rule, some obey.
   c) Jesus' authority is over both
      men's beliefs, knowledge, and
      action.
   d) Word for sent same as apostle.
E. Hidden Beatitude

1. Jesus repeatedly marked those happy who shared his character, belief, & obeyed his will.
2. Man expected to be knowledgeable.
3. If Christ is not making you happy something is wrong.
4. Happiness demands we know certain things and do them.
5. Obedience necessary.
a) Religious knowledge not accompanied by practice is useless.
b) To know what we ought to be & do, without doing it, adds to our guilt.

James 4:17: To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not,
c) Never despise knowledge, but it's still useless if it does not touch our lives.
d) Without practicing our knowledge we are no better than the devil.
e) There is a blessing in knowing and doing.
f) Our nature is intellectual & active, not just contemplative without practice.
g) Those who believe there is a revelation should receive it.
h) Christ is not content with ignorance & unreasoned devotion.
i) Our creed and our conduct should be the same.
j) Our Lord taught, practiced, commanded.
Children's prayers are as special as children themselves. I've been reading a book of children's prayers called, "CHILDREN'S LETTERS TO GOD."

Here are some of the actual letters children have written to God:

“Dear God—
Please put another holiday between Christmas and Easter. There is nothing good in there now.” —Ginny

“Dear God—
Please send me a pony. I never asked for anything before... you can look it up.” —Bruce

“Dear God—
I wish you would not make it so easy for people to come apart. I had 3 stitches and a shot.” —Janet

“Dear God—
Maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each other so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother.” —Larry

“Dear God—
Are there any PATRIARCHS around today?” —Patrick

“Dear God—
I went to this wedding and they kissed right in church. Is that O.K.?” —Neil

“Dear God—
In Bible times did they really talk that fancy?” —Jennifer
NEVER A NIGHT SO DARK
John 13:21-
I. What is the darkest dark you ever recall?
A. My first visit to Mammoth Cave, guide with gas lamps, turned off all the lights—could almost feel it.
B. In a new motel room and lose orientation to find light switch, rake the wall—even have the wrong wall.
C. But none as dark as the night I'll describe.

II. Setting the Stage.
A. Jesus Troubled & Testified
v-21 "He was troubled in spirit & testified"
1. Now must reveal his betrayer.
2. It will greatly shock the disciples.
3. Judas must have been a great actor for them to have no idea of who it was.
4. So when you are troubled and burdened because of betrayal facts—He's been there.
5. Made no effort to hide this feeling—let it all hang out!
6. This pain crushed more than the cross.
7. He'll reach for a lost soul but will not win him.
8. As do we, He knew trouble.
Heb. 4:15 "tempted in all"
B. Finally it's an Open Statement.
v-21 "Verily, verily I say unto you that one"
1. They knew enemies without but one who walked with the Lord 3 years would do this? Unbelievable!
2. Out of the inner circle will come the classic hurt of all times.
3. Never taken by surprise.
4. Takes more than an example to save a man--Judas had it in Jesus.

C. Astonished Apostles

v-22 "Then the disciples looked one on another"
1. Though they were shocked Jesus was not.

v-18 "I know whom I have chosen"
2. With exception of John they did not know till Judas left.
3. Note the stares one at the other with the huge question in mind.
4. Announcement seemingly totally unexpected.

III. Now the Inquiry

A. John was next to Jesus.

v-23 "Now there leaning on Jesus' bosom"
1. John is never named by John.
2. He has second place of honor--on the right side of Jesus.
3. John leans back on his left side & puts head on fold of Jesus' garment, called bosom.
4. First place was not Peter because he will later beckon.
5. It could have been Judas, since Jesus could hand him the morsel without getting up from the table, as they reclined there.
6. John in position to whisper to Jesus, asked "Lord, who is it?" (v-25)
7. Peter had earlier beckoned to John—Tasker says beckon invariably implies a movement of the body unaccompanied by verbal utterance.

8. Sing "Nearer, Still Nearer, Close to thy heart, Draw me O Savior"

B. Jesus Give The Identity.

v-26 "He it is to whom I shall give a sop"

1. Sop is a piece of bread.
2. Dip in dish containing broth.
3. This gesture was one reserved for an honored guest.
4. Judas had thus another chance to change & failed.
5. Can you imagine such love as Jesus shows?

v-26 "He gave it to Judas Iscariot"

a) Need to add Iscariot to rescue the good Judas of life.
   b) Means man from Karioth.

6. I know there are variant readings.
   a) RV inserts "and took it" between "dipped" and "gave".
   b) They thought Judas not close to Jesus.

7. Other slow to grasp—how could Christ bestow such a favor on a villain?

8. But the traitor has been unmasked.

C. Judas accepted without a flinch.

1. Satan entered—full mastery.
2. He has no change of heart over what he has planned.
3. How many are the opportunities we fail?

4. But please note Jesus did not go after him when he left, one can wear out Heaven's patience.

5. Disciples thought of good & giving—not evil.

D. Jesus Speaks to Judas

v-27 "That thou doest, do quickly"

1. Knox --"Be quick on thy errand"

2. Disciples missed the point.
   a) He's the treasurer.
   b) Buy needs for the feast?
   c) Give something to the poor.

3. Had Jesus thus given up on him?
   What about me?

IV. That Horrid Night

v-30 "He having rec. the sop went immediately"

A. Evil can't remain in the company of good.

B. "And it was night" (v. 30)

1. Never one so dark.

2. Last vestige of day of grace faded.

3. Shadows give way to darkness.

4. For Judas never another dawn.

C. If you are going away from Jesus, it's tragic.

1. He is the light.

2. Satan is darkness.

3. Destiny eternal darkness with gnashing of teeth.

4. Which direction are you going?

Bethany, Olmstead, KY - 11/29/95
W. President - Greenwood, MS - 4/3/96
TO BE A PEOPLE PERSON
John 13:34-35

1. Over & over, we hear the need of goal & attitude identification.
   A. I'm a program person.
      1. "Tyranny of the Urgent" card.
      2. "Most men lead lives of quiet desperation" - Thoreau.
   B. I'm a project person.
      1. "Persons are to be loved; things are to be used" - Reuel Howe.
   C. I'm a people person.
      1. Nothing makes one better at this than love.
      Jer. 31:3 "With lovingkindness have I drawn thee."
         a.) "There is a God-shaped vacuum in every heart" Pascal.
         b.) Sweeting tells of contrasting services - good & bad. On later in Chicago truck driver held captive in cab of stalled truck while crowd robbed him of 20,000# of meat.
         c.) Man at war with himself will be at war with others - Hammerskjold
   2. One said nothing has so limited the church as man's inhumanity to man.
   3. Ours in age of "human relationships."
   4. Christ cited 2 commands as greatest.
         a.) "Love does not die easily. It is a living thing. It thrives in the face of all life's hazards, save one - neglect - Bryden.
II. About Love:

A. Let it be your goal.

1. Everyone needs goals.
   a.) Pete Rose & Reds.
   b.) Minority architects & suit.
   c.) TSU & MTSU in race balance.
   d.) Politics to win.
   "There is no more miserable human being than one
   in whom nothing is habitual but indecision" -
   W. James.

2. Goals demand discipline & determination.
   "When you have to make a choice & don't make
   it, that is in itself a choice" - W. James.

3. Follow after:
   a.) Strenuous word.
   b.) Fierce pursuit.

Phil. 3:14 Press toward the mark for the prize of the

4. Determine you will follow.

   "They decided only to be undecided, resolved to
   be irresolute, adamant for drift, all powerful
   for impotence," W. Churchill

5. Carlyle Card.

B. Know what love is.

1. Our language lets us love from onions to unity.

2. It's the more excellent way.

Rom. 13:10 "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: ther

3. It varies in GK.
   a.) Eros - self gratifying, passion seeking satisfyin
   self centered, short lived.
He who lives to benefit himself confers on the
world a benefit when he dies—Tertullian.
b.) Philia—companionated love, good friends,
family.
c.) Agape—unselfish, sacrificial. It prizes
Pagan world didn't use this word much.
2 Cor. 12:14-15 "Behold, the third time, I am ready
(1) Love is Kind 1 Cor. 13:4
It implies active services.
(2) Envy's not (V. 4).
Latin proves "Enemy of honor"
"Sorrow of fools
Prov. 14:30 Rottenness of bones
Shakespeare The green sickness
(3) Vaunteth not itself (V. 4).
(a) Aesop's fable on fly.
(b) Knowledge puffs up—short blast of wind
1 Cor. 8:1
(c) Pride translation
"The ears are too far apart"—big head.
(d) Geo. Crane compliment club.
(4) Rejoices not in iniquity (V. 6).
a.) I will not permit any man to narrow &
degrade my soul by making me hate him—
B. T. Washington.
b.) Delights not in evil.
B. Some great Scriptures to Read.
Deut. 7:7-8 "The Lord did not set his love upon you;
Song of Sol. 8:6-7 "Set me as a seal upon thine hear
Rom. 13:8-10 "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another. Gal. 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, gentleness, self-control. 1 Tim. 1:5 "Now the end of the commandment is charity.\) 2 Tim. 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, love, and a clear conscience. 1 Jn. 3:18 "My little children, let us not love in word, but in deed. 1 Jn. 4:8 "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.\) 4:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments. 1 Jn. 3:14 "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren.\) John 13:34-35 "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.\)
In his booklet entitled, "The Tyranny of the Urgent" Charles E. Hummel writes, "Our greatest danger in life, is in permitting the urgent things to crowd out the important." Pursuing God's love rarely seems urgent to us--but, my friend, it is desperately important!

The man who has not learned to say no will be weak if not a wretched man as long as he lives.

Alexander MaLaren

God's love is the lubricating oil for the frictions of life. Love can win over lawlessness. Love is the only cure for hate. Love is color blind to skin. Love is God's healing medicine for the individual soul as well as for the world. Love is God's answer to man's questions. Love is the supreme ingredient of life!
A man with a half volition goes backwards and forwards, and makes no way on the smoothest road; a man with a whole volition advances on the roughest, and will reach his purpose, if there be even a little worthiness in it. The man without a purpose is like a ship without a rudder—a waif, a nothing, a no man. Have a purpose in life and having it, throw such strength of mind and muscle into your work as God has given you.

Thomas Carlyle
In one of Aesop's fables, a fly sat upon the axle of a chariot wheel and said, "What a dust do I raise!" Empty trucks always make the most noise. The proud have an exaggerated idea of their own importance. Their primary interest is in themselves.

The ears of barley that bear the richest grain always hang the lowest.

Anonymous

"Love is the Greatest" - By George Sweeting - Page 58

Dr. George W. Crane, author and social psychologist, has written a pamphlet called "The Compliment Club" (available from the Hopkins Syndicate, Mellot, Indiana). To qualify for membership in this club, a person undertakes to pay three sincere compliments a day, one to each of three different persons, for a month.

"Love is the Greatest" - By George Sweeting - Page 71
A Proclivity of Promises

John 14:1-4

I. It would be difficult to find a better known, better lived passage than our test.
   A. Hard to find a paragraph of Jesus' teaching that contains more promises.
   B. Glorious promises leap from every utterance.
   C. So for our comfort and inspiration I preach John 14:1-4, A Proclivity of Promises.

II. See the background first.
   A. Last comments Jesus had with His disciples - tomorrow he dies.
   B. Finds disciples troubled because He must leave them—even Peter will deny Him, then flee.
   C. It's His last meeting with the disciples prior to His death.
   D. No wonder Walter Scott while dying asked for a reading of the passage.
   E. Jesus assumes responsibility to fulfill a great task.

III. A Proclivity of Promises
   A. First, "Let not your heart be troubled."
      1. But it is:
         a) I can't lift Betty
b) I can't contribute at work in talent with Barry and Winston.
c) I can't remember your name.
d) I can't walk well.
e) I can't preach as often as I'd like.
f) I can't change the direction of some churches.
2. "For Christians there are bitter cups to drink, but with grace and glory." - Ryle
3. Christ notices our troubled hearts.
4. Heart is singular, thus an encouragement to every disciple.
5. Trouble a strong word—means to shudder, throw into confusion—denotes heavy sea in the midst of wind and storm.
6. The shadow of the cross fell across their path.
7. Jesus knew trouble with Judas.
John 13:21 -- "He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, Most assuredly, I say to you, 'one of you will betray me.'"
B. The anecdote - Believe in God and me.
1. That's the remedy - trust God and lean not on thine own und.
2. Trust Him as the absolute truth.
3. You can say farewell without emptiness.
4. Take heart because Jesus knows what He's doing.

C. In my Father's house are many mansions.
   1. "My Father" speaks of love, family, joy of home, fellowship.
   2. Heaven is called.
      a) Country (Heb.11:16) - to show exposure, magnitude, far reaching greatness.
      b) Kingdom (I Pet.1:11) - blessedness under God's rule.
      c) City (Rev.21:1-2) - citizenship, a population, those who ultimately belong.
      d) House - every disciple will have a dwelling place, thus our individuality is not lost - we have a room.
   3. Mansion - abiding place, place of refreshment for traveler.
   4. Rooms - This is what mansion meant a long time ago.
   5. Many - room for all believers in spite of Robert Ripley.
   6. Mansion only here, v. 23 - "abode" there.
   7. From word remain, a place to stay.
   8. Not diversity of abodes, but to number.
   9. Idea is amplitude room for all.
10. House is spacious and they have access to it.
11. But not the idea of passing through stages - there permanently.
12. "Many" not diversity, but number--each possesses his own edifice.
    Here we have no continuing city (Heb.13:14).

D. I go to prepare a place for you.
   1. Love makes preparation - kids come from school, we get ready.
   2. Assurance built on virtuosity of His word.
   3. Prepared because Christ has procured the right for every child to enter there.
   4. Christ desires to build us up.
   5. When we arrive in Heaven, it is not a strange place, but we'll find we have been known and thought of before we got there.
   6. All places in the universe would not suit us--but Heaven will.
   7. Our Lord never raised false hope.

E. I will come again.
   1. Jesus is not gone forever.
   John 12:26 - "Where I am, there My servant will be also."
   2. His return as certain as His departure.
   3. Let "I am coming."
4. His return will not unsettle His disciples.

F. I will receive you unto myself.
   1. At the appointed time Jesus will be responsible for the saints removed from earth to Heaven.
   2. Won't be alone--Christ will be there.
   3. Heaven's real--a family, holy, harmonious, undying.
   4. We'll enjoy Christ's fellowship.

G. Where I am there ye may be also.
   1. A task Jesus will personally attend to.
   2. Won't be spectators of His glory, but we will share it.
   3. Can you be with Him there if you are not with Him here?
   4. Now's the time for those out of Christ to come to Him.
PEACE THAT'S POSSIBLE
John 14:25-31

I. I can't imagine one who does not want peace.
   A. Reagan's '88 Moscow speech. #1
   B. Our nation does
      1. Shultz Great Seal. #2
      2. Fanning & Smith. #3 & #4
   C. But finds it hard to keep.
      1. Epictetus. #5
      2. Napoleon.

II. So naturally we ask is peace possible?
   A. Not from man.
   B. Only from God.
   John 14:25-31 (Read)
   C. Let's study these words.

III. Time
   A. Last week for Jesus.
   B. Upper Room perhaps or else on way there.
   C. Conscious He is shortly to leave (v.25) lit. "while yet abiding."

IV. The Holy Spirit.
   A. Coming Comforter.

1:33 Baptize with the Holy Ghost
20:22 Breathed on them "Re-like te Holy Ghost

Here

2. His work: teach & remind, also testify, convince, guide, speak, prophesy.

3. Father sends in my name.
   a) Father, my Father 22X in this chapter--thus this chapter stands also.
b) Name—for my sake, in my room, as my agent.

c) Jesus came in Father’s name. Holy Spirit came in Jesus’ name.

Jn. 15:26 "I sent Spirit from the Father"

B. His work.

1. Teach

a) We have all truthful needful for for our salvation.

b) "He is a creative exposition of the gospel" new Com.

c) Shows one can’t confine Christian religion to words of Christ—need apostles’ writings.

d) Note two "all things"—"everything".

2. Remembrance.

a) Credibility of gospel rests on the awakened remembrance.

b) He is teacher & remembrancer.

c) Not a new gospel but what has been said.

V. Legacy & Gift of Peace.

A. Peace—stands for all that’s good.

1. He’s Prince of Peace.

Isa. 9:6

2. Yet no mention of Peace before in his final discourses.

3. You define it.

a) Beautiful sunset.

b) Pastorial scenery.

c) Fireplace scene.
d) Artist won who painted a bird in its nest, attached to a branch protruding from the edge of a thundering waterfall.

e) Dictionary negatively:
"A pact or agreement to end hostilities."
"Quiet"
"Freedom from civil disturbance or war."
"Freedom from fears."

f) Boice "In the mouth of Jesus, peace is positive—right relationship with God and all good things that follow."

Rom. 5:1 "Therefore being justified"

4. I leave it to you.

a) Clip on Matthew Henry.

b) His legacy.

5. I give you

a) His treasure.

b) Other gifts with peace.
   (1) Love (Jn. 15:9-10).
   (2) Joy (Jn. 15:11).

B. My Peace—Forgiveness.

1. Uses for emphasis.

2. In this word peace all the blessings of Heaven are comprised.

3. One I create.
4. He brought it in his flesh
   Carried it about in his own person
   Died to make it ours
   Left it as a heritage
   Implants & maintains by his spirit.
5. My—based on fact that his sacrifice
   made it possible.

C. Peace.
1. In general.
2. With God—reconciled by cross.
3. With your own conscience.
4. Angels spoke of it.

Lu. 2:14
5. Left to apostles & followers.
6. Not money, ease, or prosperity but peace.
   (Shalom never means absence of trouble but everything which makes for our highest good.)
8. Absence of spiritual unrest and assurance of salvation.

D. World Can't Give It.
1. Unsatisfying.
2. Unsettled.
3. Transcient.
4. World can neither give it nor take it away.
5. World concerned only with body and time.
6. Gifts are insincere, impotent, scanty, selfish.

VI. Then Use It—Let Not Hearts Be Troubled Or Afraid.
   A. Troubled.
      1. We pass turbulent scenes serenely.
      2. Made possible by the Cross.
      3. Distress comes for our eventual good.
      4. Active devil will not upset us.
   Jn. 12:31 Prince of this world cast out
       16:11
       13:27–30
   B. Afraid
      1. Don't give way to cowardice.
      2. New word here.
      3. Absence of discord.

VII. Final Truths — All seems related to PEACE
   A. I'll come again!
   B. Rejoice I'm going to Father.
      1. State with Father much more glorious than his present one.
      2. Better for Jesus himself to leave because he'd be one once more with Father.
      3. See his absolute exaltation.
   Phil. 2:5–11
      4. Holy Spirit will give them greater blessing to believe.
   C. Father is Greater.
      1. Used by cultist against Jesus—Unitarians, Jehovah's Witnesses.
      2. They deny absolute deity of Jesus and make him lesser than Father.
3. Lesser in days of Incarnation.
4. Below in terms of outward glory and official position but return would let him be what he was originally.
5. Jesus is part man, God all Spirit, As God neither is greater or less than the other.
6. Greater in Incarnation since being derived from Him.
7. Comparison of office & function, not personal worth or dignity.

D. Time is Short.
1. Faith will grow stronger.
2. Work, not talk, as it all hastens to an end.

E. Confrontation with Devil.
1. Devil will make his grand assault.
2. Ruler of this world to meet his downfall.

Jn. 12:31
16:11

3. Has nothing in me.
   a) Has no right, no claim, nor power.
   b) No personal guilt that gives him a hold.
   c) Satan finds weakness in all of us: Adam, Eve, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David.
   d) No sin in Christ for Satan to latch on to.
F. Proof of Love.

Isa. 26:3

1. Trust is essential.
2. I suffer the assault.
3. Spiritual determination to meet the Prince of this world.
4. Best evidence of our love is to do what Father says.
5. Love implies some insight into the heart and mind of person loved and some sympathy with him in hope and purpose.

Graymere Church - Columbia, TN - 7/5/95
There is a popular song in your country (Russia) whose evocative refrain asks the question, "Do the Russians want a war?" In answer it says, "Go ask the silence lingering in the air, above the birch and poplar there; beneath those trees the soldiers lie. Go ask my mother, ask my wife; then you will have to ask no more, 'Do the Russians want a war?'"

But what of your one-time allies? What of those who embraced you on the Elbe? What if we were to ask the watery graves of the Pacific, or the European battlefields where America's fallen were buried far from home? What if we were to ask their mothers, sisters, and sons, do Americans want a war? Ask us, too, and you'll find the same answer, the same longing in every heart. People do not make wars. Governments do. And no mother would ever willingly sacrifice her sons for territorial gain, for economic advantage, for ideology. A people free to choose will always choose peace.

President Ronald Reagan
Speech to Moscow State University students and faculty, May, 1988

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War and Peace

Peace is wonderful and rare. Only eight percent of the time since the beginning of recorded history has the world been at peace. In a total of 3,521 years only 286 have been warless.

The greatest curse that can be entailed on mankind is a state of war. All the atrocious crimes committed in years of peace, all that is spent in peace by the secret corruptions, or by the thoughtless extravagance of nations, are mere trifles compared with the gigantic evils which stalk over the world in a state of war. God is forgotten in war; every principle of Christianity is trampled upon.

—Sydney Smith
"Out of 3800 years of recorded history there have been only 268 years of actual peace, and during that period of time, there have been over 8000 peace treaties signed." There certainly has been a lot of tobacco wasted in peace pipes, hasn't there?

Only 8% of time that we've recorded.

"Throw Away the Garbage" - By Buckner Fanning - Page 40

Epictetus, 1st century pagan, "While the emperor may give peace from war on land and sea, he is unable to give peace from passion, grief, and envy. He cannot give peace of heart for which man yearns more than ever for outward peace."

If they want peace, men should avoid the pettiest that precede cannon-shots. Napoleon
VINE - BRANCHES - FRUIT
John 15:1-8

I. We come to the 7th "I Am"
   A. I am the Vine.
   B. Place.
      1. Upper room - could see fruit of vine, or golden vine over temple door or vineyard in distance?
      2. Or was it somewhere else?
      C. Time - 24 hrs. before death - thus serious moment

II. Vines.
   A. Often Of usage.
      1. Israel one.
         Ps. 80:7-14
         Isa. 5:1-7
         Jer. 2:6-21
         Ezek. 19:10
      2. Note it was always in degeneration.
   B. Jesus the True Vine.
      1. Emphasis on I.
      2. Took more than externals - you could belong to Israel & not belong to God.
      3. It's more than physical birth.
      4. No external quality sets a man right c God.
      5. Jesus now Vine.
         Jn. 1:17 "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."
         Eph. 2:13-14 "But now in Christ Jesus ye who once were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ."
         Rom. 3:6 "That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, wherein..."

C. Father is Husbandman.
   1. God cultivates.
   2. God prunes.
3. God purges.

III. Branches.

A. What are they?
1. Everybody?
2. Churches?
3. Christians?

B. Nature of Branches.
1. Attached to vine.
   Gal. 3:26-27 "For ye are all the children of God by tie
   Rom. 6:3-4 "Know ye not, that so many of us as were
      (a) Our spiritual being dependent on it.
      (b) Vine gives strength & sap to branch.
      (c) Branch is nothing w/o vine.
2. Produces fruit.
   Heb. 6:7-9 "For the earth which drinketh in the rain
   Matt. 7:20 "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know th
      (a) Note fruit, more fruit, much fruit.
      (b) Never little fruit.
   Rom. 7:4 "Wherefore my brethren, ye also are become
      (c) What is the fruit? Of Spirit (Gal. 5) or more
         Christians?
      (d) God won't allow a poor yield.

3. Cutting necessary. Dead wood harvests
   (a) Non fruit cut away, insects & disease
      (1) Wood from vine was good for nothing.
      (2) Just bonfire.
      (3) We become useless via
         (a) Refusing to hear.
         (b) Render lip service w/o deeds supporting.
         (c) Abandon Jesus.
(4) Uselessness invites disaster.
(5) If severed, he's lost - not once saved, always
   (Ford - as long as vine lives branches live - if
   trimmed away never true vine - false!)
(6) We wither - Jude 12.
(7) Chr. who profess but do not practice are useless
(8) Purge c word.
   Heb. 12:4-13
   1 Pet. 1:7 "That the trial of your faith, being
   James 1:2-4 "My brethren, count it all joy when
   (b) Even prunes good branches.
(1) To get more fruit.
(2) Won't produce potential unless cut & trimmed.

C. Must abide. **Used 10X= maintain embroked**
   Col. 2:6 "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus
   2. Evidence of it:
     1 Jn. 2:6 "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself
     10 "He that loveth his brother abideth in the love
     3:6 "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: when
   3. Christ dwells in us.
     Jn. 14:23 "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man
     Gal. 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I
     Col. 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly
   2 Jn. 9
   5. Man can fail.
     1 Cor. 9:27 "But I keep under my body, and bring it in.
     Heb. 12:15 "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the
     2 Pet. 1:10 "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give dil
6. Tense is keep on abiding.
7. W/o me - NOTHING (v. 5).
D. Methods for abiding:
1. Stay in contact via prayer.
2. Stay in contact via Word.
3. Stay in contact via association.
Matt. 4:4 "But he answered and said, It is written, Ma
Ps. 37:4-5 "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shal
1 Pet. 3:12 "For the eyes of the Lord are over the right:
4. Abide used 7x.
E. Severed branches:
1. Cast forth. 2 Cor. 13:5.
4. Fire. Matt. 7:19
Rev. 20:15
Mk. 9:43
F. Benefits of abiding:
1. Prayer answered.
2. God glorified.
Eph. 3:21 "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ J
Prov. 11:30 "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life;
James 5:19-20 "Brethren, if any of you do err from the
3. Bring others to God.

Final End Campaign Devotional: 8-14-75
ACTION AND REACTION TO MY RECEIPTION
Jn. 15:18-21

I. How will I be received?
   A. Warmly?
   B. Coolly?
   C. Hated?
   D. This chapter's para. shows love, abide, witness.

II. Reaction of the World.
   A. If the world hate you - V. 18.
      1. It's one of two entities: world & church.
      2. No fellowship exists.
      3. Warned - we are to be hated.
         Mk. 13:9-13 "But take heed to yourselves: for the
         4. "If" is not an assumption but a fact.
      5. (Incidentally, since the world hates us, it is
         essential that we love one another).
      6. If you line up c Jesus, do not expect the Devil
to ignore you.

2 Tim. 3:12 "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ
   B. Remember this:
      (a) You were never intended for pious isolation.
      (b) World's hatred must not deter you.
      (c) With Jesus you are on the winning side.
   8. World hated Jesus before it did you.

     1. March to a different drummer.
     2. If you were earthy, sensual, given to pleasure,
       wealth, ambition would it hate?
     3. You are "out of it" - so far as world is concerned.
     4. Rome said Chr. was disloyal.
        (a) Pax Romana (Peace of Rome) great blessing
therefore burn incense to Caesar as gratitude for the blessings brought. Do it 1 day in yr. -
get certificate that says you are loyal then go worship anything you like. Chr. called no man
Lord - Jesus is Lord - go put Christ 1st brings persecution.

(b) Mob believed slanderous things about Chr.
   (1) Insurrectionist.
   (2) Cannibals (Lord's Supper).
   (3) Immoral (holy kiss & it led to more).
   (4) Incendiaries - burned Rome.
   (5) Divided families.

Matt. 10:34 - Sword.

5. We suspicious of people who are different.
   (a) Chickens peck an off color one.
   (b) Jonas Hanway invented umbrella - pelted when he walked beneath it.

C. Servant - Lord comparison (V. 20).
   1. Remember the Word -
      (a) Powerful.
      (b) True.
      (c) Sufficient.
   2. What they did to Jesus you may expect.
   3. Perhaps facetious about "saying" - paid no attention to Him - won't you.
   4. If hated Jesus 1st, it puts you in excellent compar

D. For My Name's Sake.
   1. You receive hurt on account of Jesus - Rejoice!
   Acts 4:18 "And they called them, and commanded t
   2. Jesus works surpassed all others.
(a) He proved his point by argument & by miracles.
(b) Presented plea often & clearly; word & works!
(c) More in 3 1/2 yrs. than Moses, Elijah, & prophets combined.

3. They didn't know God.
4. Jesus the essence of God.
5. Men who scoff at Jesus do not love God.
E. Jesus DeFrocked Them (V. 22).
  1. Ignorance was inexcusable.
  2. Knowledge & privilege bring responsibility.
  3. He brot argument, "But he knows better."
  4. He exposed sin.
  5. We are judged in light of what we know.

Matt. 11:20-24 "Then began he to upbraid the cities
Lu. 12:47-48 "And that servant, which knew his lord
  7. Hated Jesus because message brought conviction
      of sin.
  8. We dislike those whose lives condemn us.
  9. Dangerous to be good.
10. World likes a pattern, a rut; not a non-conformist.
12. Hated W/o a cause.
Ps. 35:19 "Let not them that are mine enemies wrong!
      69:4 "They that hate me without a cause are more
1 Pet. 4:16 "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let
13. Sin to reject Jesus.
14. Our guilt in proportion to our light.

Matt. 11:20-24 "Then began he to upbraid the cities
15. Some live as the Christ never came.

16. Who has reason to hate Jesus? What injury has he ever done?

17. Recall unity of Father & Son.

III. God's Reaction.

A. Will send the Comforter. **1Co 2:7-13**
   2. Comes from the Father. **2Co 3:18**
   3. Another name is Spirit of Truth. **2Ti 4:21**
   4. He testifies of Jesus. **Jn 14:16-17**

Jn. 14:26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, **16:14-15**" He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

B. Apostles were to Bear Witness.
   1. It is born of inner conviction.
   2. It must be outwardly expressed.
   3. They were prepared to say they were true.
   4. All ends on note of **victory**.
   5. Jesus uses the experienced hand.
I. Sometimes Christians say:
   A. I know so little about the Holy Spirit.
   B. I never heard him preach but I do hear singing about him.
   C. I really can't tell another person what he does.
   D. I hold to fault previous generations because he was never preached.

II. May I correct and impart some things that will help this matter.
   A. I go to a First Quarter Lesson, Elam's Notes, January 27, 1929.
   B. Though it is not the impartation of a creed, it is the most popular thing the churches of Christ were studying at that time.
   C. I assume that E.A. Elam either wrote or at least edited this lesson and I seek to reproduce it as fully as I can.

1. Three Scriptures were used:
   John 16:7-11
   Romans 8:12-17
   Romans 8:26-27
2. Hear these read.
3. Supplementary ones will be offered.
III. Study of the Holy Spirit
A. Introductory thoughts:
2. This is the godhead (and he dared use the word Trinity).
3. The Spirit has several names:
   a) Spirit
   b) Spirit of God
   c) Spirit of the Lord
   d) Spirit of the Father
   e) Spirit of Jesus
   f) Holy Spirit
4. The Holy Spirit is mentioned in the Bible before Christ is.
   a) Genesis 1:1-2
   b) Some think Spirit of God means God's energy or power.
   c) God was the creator.
   d) Christ or the Word was the agent through whom all things were created.

   John 1:2-3
   e) The Holy Spirit organized and gave form to the material universe and functions in the same way in the spiritual creation.

B. The Holy Spirit's Advent to Earth
1. During the early history of man God, through representatives, visited man on the earth.

Gen. 3:8

2. God talked with Abraham, Moses, prophets.
3. God is represented on earth by angels and chosen men.
4. Christ came to earth for one-third of a century.
5. He went back to the Father and sent the Holy Spirit.
6. The Holy Spirit came first to the earth in baptismal form on first Pentecost after Christ's ascension.
7. Christ had promised him at the appointed time.

Acts 2:4

8. This marks the beginning of the Holy Spirit's mission on earth.
9. There had been manifestations of him all along.

2 Peter 1:21

10. Yet never before known as on Pentecost.
   a) Prophets had told it.
   b) John the Baptist said He's come.
   c) Jesus promised him.
11. Pentecost: right time, right persons prepared, right time, right place.
John 14:16-17
1 Peter 3:5

12. Spirit filled his house
C. The Holy Spirit a comforter.

John 16:7

1. Jesus said he must die first.

Matt. 20:19
26:2

Mark 9:31
10:33

Luke 9:14
18:33

2. Holy Spirit cannot come unless he dies first.
3. Man cannot be saved without death of Jesus.
4. Holy Spirit will not come unless Jesus goes away.
5. Apostles felt Jesus' leave a great calamity.
6. Jesus promised "another comforter.'
7. Apostles looking at only their own welfare.
8. But they were to learn more to gain by this departure.
9. Must learn his presence was not the highest benefit they could have.
10. Though he was great, still greater blessings were to come.
11. Comforting is just one part of the Spirit's earthly work.
12. He comes from the Father and is sent by the Son.
13. He comforts apostles and all people.
14. As he comforts he leads sinners to repentance and causes them to obey.
15. Does this through the Word.
16. Comfort comes as the Spirit dwells in Christians and comforts by following the birth.

Eph. 5:18
Col. 3:16
John 14:21

17. The man who keeps the commandments is the one to whom Christ manifests Himself.
18. He does it through promised blessings which all faithful children receive.

D. The Work of the Holy Spirit
John 16:8

1. Three things cited:
a) Convict the world in respect of sin.
b) Convict the world of righteousness.
c) Convict the world of judgment.
2. Spirit has convicting powers.
3. He did this on Pentecost.
   a) Sin - they heard they rejected Jesus.
   b) Of righteousness - saw the crucified Christ was exalted to right hand of God.
   c) Wrath - warned to flee.
4. Again:
   a) Of sin - you believed not.
   b) Of righteousness - I go to the Father.
   c) Of judgment - prince of this world is judged.
5. Sin comes from unbelief.
6. Destroy sin by piercing heart with sword of the spirit.
7. Man's wrong, Christ is right.
8. Christ's resurrection proves His power.

E. Being Led by the Spirit
1. Another work of the Spirit is to guide his people in the right way.
2. Can't become a Christian without his guidance.
3. He teaches sinners what to do.
4. Were told Jesus was Son of God.

Rom. 10:17
Acts 2:37
Acts 2:38
5. Under no obligations to the flesh.
Rom. 8:12
I Cor. 6:20

6. Can be Christians by following the Spirit.
Romans 8:14

7. Two Classes:
   a) Led by the Spirit
   b) Live after the flesh.
Romans 8:14-17

F. Holy Spirit our Helper
Romans 8:26

1. We are ignorant—He instructs.
2. We are weak—He strengthens.
3. We do not know how to pray—
   Holy Spirit through the Word teaches us and makes intercession.
4. We do not know what to pray for.
   a) These are our groanings—not the Holy Spirit's.
   b) God knows the heart and inner spirit of man.
   c) He knows what is in the heart.
   d) Knows what is in the heart as well as the spirit's mind and that the spirit pleads for the needs of the heart.
   e) All things are done both by man and the spirit according to the will of God.
f) Bible reveals the will of God thus we know what the pleadings of the Spirit will be.

G. Final Thoughts:
1. Coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost brought a new dispensation that lasts until Christ comes again.
2. We receive the comforting influence through the Word.
3. The cross is the judgment of the prince of this world. The power of evil is broken by the gospel.
4. The Holy Spirit leads all the same way, to the same church, to forgiveness, to peace.
5. Follow the Bible thus led by the Spirit.
I. Ever blue?
   Ever get a sad forecast?
   Ever wish what is true was not?

II. The Apostles were right there.
   A. About 3 days from Christ's death.
   B. Bewildered by all the events.
   C. Didn't want to lose anybody so he
      tattooed in their minds the same
      expression, "A little while" 7 times.
   D. Let's relive the situation and apply
      its strength to us.


IV. Then Comes: "A Little While"
   A. 1st of 7X.
      1. Is it ambiguous?
      2. Does repetition weaken it?
      3. Not a strange expression.
   
   Heb. 10:37
      4. It carries consolation--"it came to
         pass"--didn't come to stay.
   
   B. Ye Shall Not See Me
      1. Brings Sorrow.
      2. Realism is an important ingredient
         of the gospel. (Palmer)
      3. As 7X "a little while" here 2 "sees".
         a) One by sight from bodily or
            mental eye.
         b) Next "see" merely bodily sight.
   
   C. Yet a Little While--Shall See Me
      1. His death would come in a short
         time--the next day.
      2. 3 days he would arise from the dead.
3. Will be seen and sorrow turned to joy.

John 20:20

4. Had many times told them about the end.

2:19–22
10:11–18
12:7
32–33
14:19

5. Promises to return.

6. Are we always happy to see the presence of Jesus?

V. The Disciples Have a Question in their mind: What is this a little while--see me--go to the Father.

A. Yet they never phrased openly the question.

B. Promised to see Him.

Col. 3:4
1 Jn. 3:2
2 Thess. 2:1

C. Couldn't put it all together, "Whatever difficulty we meet with in Scripture we must not reject Scripture because of difficulties but pray, wait." (Van Doren)

D. Scriptural ignorance produces melancholy.

E. Jesus moves them to want to know the answer.

1. He got disciples to talk again.

2. They've been quiet since the news of Judas.

Jn. 14:22
3. Good for us to see our own ignorance.
4. He stimulates our thinking.

F. Repeated "a little while."
1. Laney wrote if the apostles had trouble understanding Jesus when they were with Him—think of our problem today.
2. Saw the cross as a little while that He would be away from them.
3. Jesus takes into account our frailties.
4. Finally admitted "we cannot tell what He said."

VI. Jesus Explains
A. Now Jesus knew they were desirous.
   1. He saw their problem.
   2. He watches over his own.
   3. He is not taken by surprise nor is He impatient.

B. Do you inquire?
   1. Quotes their thoughts—little while—not see, all.
   2. Verily, verily.

Lu. 24:21 "we had hoped!"

C. You weep and lament but world rejoices.
   1. Weep and lament vividly portrays the intensity of their grief.
   2. It's a deep sorrow because of personal loss—as we lose a loved one.
3. Also sorrow because of the world's attitude—you sorrow—world gloats.
4. Hurts that the world does not care.
5. Lit. plunged into sorrow.

D. Sorrow turned to joy.
1. We need help to work through struggles.
2. Jesus speaks words of encouragement.
3. Profound grief that results from failure is not the last word.
4. Prior to the resurrection it all seemed a tragedy.
5. May be delayed but joy is coming.
6. Sorrow endures just for a time and will be replaced by a joy no one can take from us.

Heb. 12:2

7. Resurrection brought:
   Greater freedom
   Greater intercession
   Greater revelation
   Greater triumph
   Greater goal—where I am
   Greater message.
   (Powell)

8. Sorrow turns to joy.
9. "But" shows great contrast. The disciples' sorrow over the crucifixion would be surpassed by their rejoicing over the resurrection.
10. Relationship changes—Christ always with us.
12. You will rejoice not only in the resurrection, but also his death in view of what it shall do for us.
13. The great calamity would be the source of their highest comfort.
14. If they could see the whole case they'd know how it was to be—same may be true with some of our problems.
15. Evil joys turn to mourning and Christian mourning turns to joy.
16. After the ascension not one apostle doubted for a moment that he had risen from the dead.
17. World’s joys always brief—suffering of Christ also brief.

VII. Jesus Uses the Birth Figure
   A. Woman in labor has sorrow.
      1. Travail = pangs.
   2. Delivers
   B. Pain becomes secondary
      1. Man
         a) Not a child.
         b) Man—human being.
         c) Present with all its hopeful destiny.
      2. Joy of maturity absorbs sorrow of childbirth.

1 Pet. 1:8
Gen. 3:16

3. Something new about to be born into the world.
4. Sufferings of Christ brought relief.
C. Christ will see them again.
   1. Shall see—promise of return.
   2. See—more clearly than ever before.
   3. Joy no man can take from you.
WISE MEN KNOW THEIR HOUR
John 16:19-22

I. No person ever lived that rivals our Lord.
   A. His purity.
   B. His plan of salvation.
   C. His perfect sense of timing.
      1. It's this latter that fascinates me.
      2. He knew when to make his move.
      3. To me, it's one of the clear evidences of his divinity.

II. We have an overall look at Gospel of John & see the adroit handling of "the hour."
   A. I want you to see opportunities denied because the hour hadn't come.
   B. I want you to see his perfect recognition of it when it arrived.

III. Movement toward the Hour.
   A. Marriage at Cana  John 2:1-11.
      1. Marriage in Cana.
         a.) Marriage symbol of Heaven's joys.
         b.) "He who does not have me to his marriage will not have me to his funeral." Insult not to go.
         c.) Jesus mindful of physical, social & intellectual needs of man.
         d.) His presence rebukes the foolish fears that rob religion of its happiness.
         e.) Loyalty to Christ is not inconsistent with an exhuberant spirit & innocent pleasure.
         f.) Sourness is not a sign of sainthood nor gloom a condition of godliness.
      2. His mother there.
a.) Imperfect form - showing she'd been there sometime.
b.) John never calls her by name.
c.) "Woman" shows no lack of respect or affection - title often used in addressing people of rank.

3. She makes request.
a.) Felt Jesus could remedy the situation.
b.) Makes a request of which she was not the mother.

4. His answer.
a.) Woman - used again Jn. 19:26.
b.) Only 2 X in John does Jesus speak to his mother.
c.) Relationship no longer genetical but spiritual.
d.) Son didn't exalt her - neither should we.
e.) His hour's not come.
   (1) Not here to meet social emergencies.
   (2) Not time nor place.
   (3) Denial amends the truth he is the Messiah & one day must so declare.
   (4) His hour - the cross.

B. We move on in John.
1. Woman at well.
   Jn. 4:21-23 "Woman, believe me, the hour cometh"
2. Healing at Bethesda.
   Jn. 5:25 "Verily, verily, I say unto you the hr. is co"
   a.) Proper worship.
   b.) Power over death - yet neither of these his hour.

C. Jesus proposed Jerusalem visit (Jn. 7).
1. Jews sought to kill him (V. 1).
2. Feast of tabernacles at hand.
   a.) One of 3 annual feasts - Oct.
b.) Dwelt in booths.

   a.) Jesus had brothers (Matt. 13:55-56).
   b.) They did not believe in Jesus.
   c.) Go openly to Jerusalem.
      (1) Unbelievers can oftentimes give wrong advice.
      (2) He later went secretly.
      (3) Do we organize ourselves w/o reference to
          God's purposes.
      (4) Ulterior - I'm brother of a famous prophet.
      (5) Did they seek to catch him in unguarded
          moment.

4. Rejected suggestions.
   John 7:6 "My time is not yet come
      a.) He knew beforehand the exact time & nature
          of his death.
      b.) Frequently called it "My hour."
      c.) Jesus couldn't please everybody - you aren't -
          just keep being right.

D. Jesus in the Temple  Jn. 8:12-20.
   1. Just finished encounter c woman & adultery.
   3. Makes claim "I am light of world."
      a.) Intellectually - art, music.
      b.) Moral.
      c.) Spiritual.

4. We are to walk where the light leads.
5. Temple lights but for a day in this ceremony
   (see Barclay), but Jesus for life.
6. Follow - 5 usages of word.
a.) Soldier following his captain.
b.) Slave accompanies his master.
c.) Accept a wise man's counsel.
d.) Give obedience to law of state.
e.) Follow teacher's line of argument.

7. Jews said he was not light because
   a.) Insufficient witnesses (Jesus said he needed
       none but himself & he did have a 2nd witness -
       God.)
   b.)

8. He told them he had the rt. to Judge.
V. 20 "These words spake Jesus in the
E. Come to last wk. of his life.
   2. Jesus now saw the cross.
   3. Hear the bitter cry & also the words of victory.
   4. Hear God for 3X acknowledges Him.
Jn. 12:28 "Then came there a voice from heaven, say
Jn. 13:1 "Jesus knew that his hr. was come that he sh
Jn. 17:1 "These words spake Jesus & lifted up his eye:

End 9-6-81
the offering had been bought or made, or anything extra which they wished to offer. Clearly the Temple treasury would be a busy place, with a constant flow of worshippers coming and going, for there would always be a stream of devout Jews desiring to give their offerings to God. There would be no better place to collect an audience of devout people and to teach them than the Temple treasury.

If is in this passage that Jesus makes the great claim: ‘I am the Light of the World.’ And it is very likely that the background against which Jesus made this claim made it doubly vivid and impressive. The Festival with which John connects these discourses and arguments was the Festival of Tabernacles (John 7: 2). We have already seen (John 7: 37) how the ceremonies of that Festival lent drama to Jesus’ claim to give to men the living water. But there was also another ceremony connected with this Festival. On the evening of the first day of the Festival there was a ceremony called The Illumination of the Temple. It took place in the Court of the Women in the Temple. The Court was surrounded with deep galleries, erected to hold the spectators. In the centre of the court four great candelabra were prepared. When the dark came the four great candelabra were lit and, it was said, that they sent such a blaze of light throughout Jerusalem that every courtyard in the city was lit up with their brilliance. And then all night long, until cock-crow the next morning, the greatest and the wisest and the holiest men in Israel danced before the Lord and sang psalms of joy and praise to God while the people watched. The Festival of Tabernacles was a time then that the blaze of the Temple lights illumined the city and pierced the darkness of its squares and courts and lanes. Jesus is saying: ‘You have seen the blaze of the Temple illuminations piercing the darkness of the night. I am the Light of the World, and, for the man who follows me there will be light, not only for one exciting night, but for all the pathway of his life. The light in the Temple is a brilliant
light, but in the end it flickers and dies. I am to men the Light which lasts for ever and for ever.”

THE LIGHT MEN FAILED TO RECOGNIZE
John 8: 12-20 (continued)

Jesus said: “He who follows me will not walk in darkness, but he will have the light of life.” The phrase the light of life means two things. In the Greek it can mean, either, the light which issues from the source of life, or, the light which gives life to man. In this passage it means both things; Jesus is the very light of God come among men; and Jesus is the light which gives men life. Just as the flower can never blossom when it never sees the sunlight, so our lives can never flower with the grace and beauty they ought to have until they are irradiated with the light of the presence of Jesus Christ.

In this passage Jesus talks of following Himself. We often speak of following Jesus; we often urge men to follow Him. When we speak of following Jesus, what do we mean? The Greek word for follow is akolouthein; and when we investigate its meanings they combine to shed a flood of light on what it means to follow Jesus and to become a follower of His. Akolouthein has five different but closely connected meanings.

(i) It is often used of a soldier following his captain and his leader. On the long route marches, into battle, in campaigns in strange lands, the soldier follows his captain wherever the captain may lead. The Christian is the soldier whose commander is Christ.

(ii) It is often used of a slave accompanying his master. Wherever the master goes the slave is in attendance upon him. Always the slave is ready to spring to the master’s service, and to carry out the tasks the master gives him to do. He is literally at his master’s beck and call. The Christian is the slave whose joy it is always to serve Christ.
I. We make no effort to answer all possible questions on prayer and there are other types of questions you have asked. If we later need to come back to some of them we will, DV. For instance:

   1. Elders need to answer this.
   2. If asked to comply what will you do?

B. May we pray to Jesus?
   1. One did when dying.
   3. Songs
      Jesus take this heart of mine, make it pure and wholly thine, thou hast bled and died for me, I will henceforth live for thee.
      Savior Lead Me
      Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior
      Only In Thee Dear Savior
      One Step at a Time
      O to Be Like Thee
      More Love to Thee O Christ, more love to thee
      Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee
      Master the Tempest is Raging
      Lead Me to Some Soul Today
      Just As I Am
Jesus Lover of My Soul
Jesus Keep Me Near
Have Thine Own Way, Lord

C. Hermeneutic
   1. Old command, example, inference, common sense.
   2. New one I don't understand.

II. Let's go to posture.
   A. Lifting eyes
      John 17:1
      John 11:41
      I Timothy 2:8
      Luke 24:50
   B. Spread hands
      Ezra 9:5
      Isaiah 1:15
      Exodus 9:33
   C. Kneel
      Acts 7:59-60
      Acts 9:40
      Acts 20:36
      Acts 21:5
      Psalm 95:6
   D. Unique
      Psalm 63:6 Bed
      I Kings 8:54 longest
   E. Bow
Ps. 95:6 "O come, let us worship and bow down."

Esther 3:2-5

Prov. 5:1 "Attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding."

Micah 6:6 "Wherewith shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before the high God?"

Romans 11:4 "Who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal."

Romans 14:11 "Every knee shall bow to me."

Eph. 3:14 "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father."

Phil. 2:9-10 "Exalted every knee."

Exo. 4:31 "Bowed head and worshipped."

Exo. 23:24 "Thou shalt not bow down to their gods."

E. More on faces

Num. 20:6 Fell upon faces—Mose
I Kings 18:42 Face between knees
2 Chron. 20:18 Jehovah bowed face ground

F. Stand

Mark 11:23-25

G. Public prayer

John 11:41
John 17:1
H. In Jesus name -- sneeze story
   1. Valedictorian speech--no mention of Jesus
   2. At end all 93 seniors have a message.
      a) And we say all sneezed.
      b) After all said God bless you.
Christians "walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Cor. 5:7). Faith comes by hearing the word of God. (Rom. 10:17). To "walk by faith," is to follow the direction found in the Bible--to follow the lead of the inspired word. It excludes walking by one's opinion of what is right, as well as determining by reason what should be done, and how to do it or doing something because it appeals to one's senses! To walk by reason, is rationalism; to walk by one's senses has led to heathenism. To walk by "faith" is to do that which the Lord commands and to do it in the way he commands, when he directs the way. "It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." (Neh. 10:23)

-- C.R. Nichols
The Lord's Supper, Prayers, Thanksgivings pg.62

If you are asked to express "THANKS" at the Lord's Supper, do not engage in a prayer. Express thanks and quit.

--C.R. Nichols
The Lord's Supper, Prayers, Thanksgivings pg.71
A young mother said to me: "I prayed to God for my child to live, I prayed earnestly, but my prayer was not answered. I hate God! I despise Him!!" Such ranting comes only from one who is so self-centered, that he thinks of himself as though he knew what would be best for him and others, as well as what the future holds for them. Until more study is given to prayer, many petitions will not be heard.

--C.R. Nichols
The Lord's Supper, Prayers, Thanksgivings

It is unbecoming and distracting for the leader of prayer to be extremely or conspicuously loud. On the other hand, how can the Christians be led in prayer, or say "amen" to it, if they cannot hear what the leader says? Either extreme is likely to do more harm than good.

--C.R. Nichols
The Lord's Supper, Prayers, Thanksgivings
Quite often, the congregation remains seated while prayer is led. In some places the leader also remains seated, or kneels in the adjacent aisle. In either case it is difficult for him to so speak as to be heard by all. Often the prayer becomes but a confusion of sound. This is definitely wrong. The whole purpose of public prayer has been defeated.

--C.R. Nichols
The Lord's Supper, Prayers, Thanksgivings

pg. 103
Avoid threadbare, stale expressions. Such expressions show lack of thought, and disturb rather than lead the minds of thinking people in prayer. One often hears such worn out expressions as "sins, both of omission and commission," "we trust that we have met here for no other purpose than to worship Thee, the only true and living God," "be with those who are distressed either in body or mind," and many others, including, "save all the faithful," or "at last save us in heaven, if we have been faithful until death." After one has heard a certain brother use one of these several hundred times, he almost winces when he hears it.

A careful study of prayers recorded in the Bible will reveal to us that they differ according to the needs, conditions, and desires of the people, and also the time or occasion. There may be occasions on which we would pray somewhat as Ezra (Ezra 9) but not always. Acts 4 records a prayer suited to a special condition and time. Many recorded prayers are extremely brief (Neh. 4:4,5). Often a prayer of few words is not only best, but more words would be vain and irreverent. In leading prayer (anywhere) use as many words as necessary to express the ideas, but always be stingy with words.

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C. R. Nichol

The Lord's Supper, Prayers, Thanksgiving.
MORNING DAWN

The camel at the close of day,
   Kneels down upon the sandy plain,
To have his burden lifted off,
   And rest again.

Then, too, O Traveller, to thy knees,
   When daylight draweth to a close,
And let the Master lift thy load,
   And grant repose.

Else how wouldst thou tomorrow meet,
   With all tomorrow's work to do
If thou the burden all the night,
   Dost carry through?

The camel kneels at break of day,
   To have his guide replace the load;
Then rises up anew; to take
   The desert road.

So, pilgrim, kneel at morning dawn,
   That God may give thee daily care;
Assured that He no load too great,
   Will make thee bear.
   —Author Unknown

*******
the wording, content and presentation of public prayer.

Some expressions have found their way into the prayers in the churches which are either trite or unscriptural or both. "Remember the widows and orphans in their afflictions", is a good thought. With many it has become but an empty phrase. Word your petition for them in such a manner as to indicate real concern for them. I think it certainly right that we pray that God bless the speaker, but when to his petition one adds, "Give him a happy recollection of thy word," the prayer becomes unscriptural. God has promised no preacher a "ready recollection" since the days of inspiration. If the speaker does not know his lesson, the lesson will not be well delivered. To meet this objection the expression has in some instances been changed to, "May he have a ready recollection." What is the difference?

For what should we pray? Certainly not for everything and for everyone in prayer. Many seem to think it necessary to petition God for everything that can be thought of. Prayers become long drawn out, tiring, uninteresting and ineffective.

**SUMMARY**

Prayers are an integral part of worship in the Sunday morning service. They should be from the heart, offered intelligently, in words easy to understand and in such manner as to be heard by all. Sincerity, brevity and scriptural request should mark every prayer. Strictly speaking prayer and thanks are different

--C.R. Nichols

The Lord's Supper, Prayers, Thanksgivings
GLORY HERE & HEREAFTER
John 17:1-5

I. That magnificent Prayer of Jesus.
   A. Time--just before crucifixion hour, after sermon & supper.
   B. Place--Upper room, courtyard (Judas is now gone) on in Temple Court.
   C. Person--Jesus & disciples but preserved for you.

II. About the prayer.
   A. "There is no voice which has ever been heard, either in Heaven or on earth, more exalted, more holy, more fruitful, more sublime, than this prayer offered up by the Son of God himself."
      (Melancthon)
   B. "Here we enter the holy of holies of the NT as we have the most profound revelation of the heart of Jesus."
      (Erdman)
      1. No disciple could utter these words.
      2. It leaves us with only these possible explanations--insanity, blasphemy or deity.
   C. Prayer of assured trust. (Meyer)
   D. His fullest recorded prayer. (Henry)
      1. Family prayer.
      2. Parting prayer.
      3. Intercessory prayer.
   E. Posture--lifted eyes to Heaven.
   F. How does all this compare with our prayer life?
   G. 3 Parts.
      1. Self (1-5)
      2. Disciples (6-19)
      3. World (20-26)
III. The Prayer for Himself.
   A. It will give us a better grasp of Jesus.
   B. Allows us to see the inner workings of the Godhead as we see fullest contact between members of it.
   C. We see how God & Jesus talked to each other.

IV. Parts of the Prayer.
   A. The Hour is Come.
      1. Not come.
      2. Near.
      3. Now is.

   Jn. 2:4 *Time has not yet come*

   Jn. 7:6 *My time is not yet come*

   Jn. 12:23 *The hour is come that the Son of Man should be glorified*

   Jn. 17:1

      a) God's will to be fulfilled in this moment.
      b) Timing of utmost importance.

   B. "Glorify thy Son that thy Son also may glorify thee!"
      1. Glory from doxa verb do Keo = to seem, to appear, to have an opinion.
      2. We get orthodox--right opinion.
      3. Later meant praise, good standing, renown.
      4. Glorify me--so I can you--not selfish.
      5. To glorify is to make known, Jesus desires to make known in true character as the Son of God as the Messiah is the Savior of the world.
      6. Glorify now in death as I have in life.
7. "In the Cross of Christ I glory."
8. Note he stresses relationship--Son.
   a) Jesus revealed the essential character of God: truth, holiness, grace, power, knowledge--do we?
   b) Do we show his glory in our obedience?

C. Jesus had all Power.
1. Said in it Commission.
2. Glad to have this authority--he'll use it to give life!
3. Power given him--he did not usurp it.

Jn. 5:27 Not only given him authority to execute judgement
5. Power in Forgiveness.

Mk. 2:10 Ye may know the Son of man hath power on earth
6. Over all flesh--as he is intended for all mankind.

D. Jesus Gives Eternal Life.
1. End of our religion--eternal life.
2. Life open via his death.
3. Given to those who accept salvation's offer.
4. God gave Jesus:
   a) Men who followed.
   b) Words he spoke.
   c) Works he did.
   d) Name he bore.
   e) Now salvation to the obedient via his grace.
5. Via life we know God.
   a) Not merely act of the mind as demons know.
   b) But love, obedience, faith and response to the entire being.
   c) We know Jesus in sweet obedience.

F. Jesus Glorified the Father on Earth & finished the work.

1. Satisfying to do a job well.
   a) Some folks never get anything completed.
   b) Jesus' example of not stopping incomplete—he did it.

2. How few of us feel under the shadow of death that life is complete and work finished?

3. "Much seems to be incomplete: only 3 years of ministry, only a few sick healed, only a few sermons preached, only 11 disciples secured, no book written, no organization formed but the work may be finished, we need not linger longer here, the cross remains, the glory." (Erdman)

4. The Work

Col. 1:16-17  All things created by him & for him
Gen. 16:7-14
Exo. 3:2

   a) Atones for Sin.

Jn. 12:27  Thou art the Christ, the Son of God
Rev. 13:8  Lamb slain from the foundation of the world

   b) Sin punished, penalty paid.

Jn. 3:16
c) We can't add to it by our good works.
d) Will we tell others?
e) Will we take comfort in what we've done?
f) Will we persevere to the end?

G. Give Him Back His Former Glory.
   1. Had it with God before world was.
   2. Own self--at thy side.
   3. Possessed it with God before incarnate.
   4. He'll share it with us.

V-22 Glory given me I have given them.
V-24 Before me--may be folded my glory.

South Harpeth - 12/6/92
FOR THINE IS THE GLORY!
John 17:5-6

I. We come to the last of our Lord's Prayer study — the Doxology.
   A. I know in some of the ancient MSS it does not appear.
   B. I know it's not in Luke.
   C. I know it's in some of the older versions.
   D. Doxology from Doxa = possessing dignity, worthy of praise, opinion, estimate, honor resulting from a good opinion.

1. Thus anything to increase the praise of God is worthy.

Ps. 8:1 "O Lord Our Lord how excellent is thy name"
Ps. 24:7-10 "Lift up your heads, O ye gates"
Ps. 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God"
1 Chron. 29:10-13 (Read)
Ps. 96:8 "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto"
E. Moses' request.
Exo. 33:18 "I beseech thee, show me thy glory"

1. We need then to know God that we may be like Him.
2. Cor. 3:18 "But we all, with open face beholding"
Rom. 8:29 "Predestinate to conform to the"

II. We see then first the Kingdom.
   A. It is thine — not ours.
      1. Elders do not lord it.
      2. Preachers do not own it. Brother Holt told Virgil Bentley Harper was the David of the church.
3. Here in town a church house is in a man's name.
B. Made His own Son the King.
C. Note it is the Kingdom.
   1. It has no rivals.
   2. What offends must be cast out.
D. Seth Wilson had a great article on the Kingdom.
   1. Used 140 times in N.T.
   2. Prophets spoke of its coming.
   3. Jesus spoke more about it than anything.
      a) Pray for it (Matt. 6:10)
      b) Greatest treasure -- sell all to gain (Matt. 13:44-46)
      c) Seek first (Matt. 6:33)
4. What is it?
   a) Essential idea is the reign or government of God over the lives of men.
   b) Submission of man's will to God.
   c) Whole community of men who on this earth obey God.
   d) Heaven -- everlasting (2 Pet. 1:11)
5. Presents reign in various stages -- blade, ear, corn (full grain).
6. Time
   a) At hand with John.
   b) Come before generation died.
Mk. 9:1 "There be some of them that stand here, which'
7. Enter by obedience to gospel.
John 3:5 "Except a man be born of water"
Eph. 5:26 "That he might sanctify and cleanse"
Titus 3:5 "Not by works of righteousness which we"
1 Pet. 1:23 "Being born again, not of corruptible"
Acts. 20:25 "I have gone preaching the kingdom of"
8. Least is greater than John.
Matt. 11:11 "Among them born of women"
9. Here now.
Acts. 8:12 "But they believed Phillip"
Col. 1:13 "Who hath delivered us from the power of"
10. Not a democracy but Christ absolute monarch.
Eph. 1:22 "And hath put all things under his feet"

III. Now the Power.

A. It's the ability to act, capable of strength.
   1. Demonstrated in creation.
   2. Demonstrated preservation of government.
   3. Demonstrated special ways.
Heb. 11:3 "Through faith we understand that"

4. Galaxy illustration
   a) Common as blades of grass in meadow.
   b) One contains 200 billion stars.
   c) Over 100 million known galaxies.
   d) One million galaxies are seen inside bowl of big dipper.
   e) Light travels 186,282 miles per second.
   f) Earth to sun represented by one sheet of paper (93 million miles - 8 light minutes)
   g) Nearest star 4 1/3 light years or 71 feet stack of paper.
h) Diameter of our galaxy 310 mile stack!
i) Take a stack 31 million miles high to reach edge of our known universe. (That stack is 1/3 of way to sun)
j) Discovered quazars -- in one second one throws off enough energy to supply earth's electrical needs for billions of years.

5. Obviously God can do what he says.
Heb. 7:25 "He is able also to save them to the uttermost.

B. Trust his strength.

IV. Glory - Amen
A. In this time our everlasting destiny is decided.
   1. Separated from or
   2. United with God
B. Amen
   1. Luther says Amen the greatest martyr on earth -- we say without thinking.
   2. Means so be it.
   3. Old as Moses -- people said Amen.
1 Chron. 16:36 "And all the people said"
Neh. 8:5-6 (Read)
   4. Early church it was like a rolling wave.
   5. Jesus is the Amen, the Faithful witness.
   6. Amen the test and mirror of our sincerity.
Rev. 3:14 "These things saith the Amen, the faithful"
2 Cor. 1:20 "All the promises of God in him are yea"
An explorer in a remote area of Africa came upon an unusual scene. In a small clearing he found sticks of wood laid out as if for a fire, and yet there was no evidence that anyone had ever actually started a fire. Perplexed, he decided to find out who had laid out the wood so neatly. After several hours of waiting, he was surprised to see some chimpanzees come into the clearing carrying more sticks. These they neatly arranged as if for a fire. Then they sat down around the sticks just as men would sit about a campfire. It soon became obvious that the chimps were imitating the actions of men. They had observed enough to know how to gather the wood, arrange it neatly as for a fire, and then sit about it. But one thing was lacking—that spark that would ignite the wood—and so there was no campfire.

For centuries man had placed the “sticks” of God’s will in proper order in the Old Testament. But Christmas was the Spark that ignited the “sticks” and brought forth the Christian church.
I. Do you say this is an absurd qt.? But really answer it.
   A. Is he right about human conduct?
   B. Is he right about home & family?
   C. Is he right on moral conduct?
   D. Can you trust his teaching? Have you found him wrong on anything? What doctrine is today outmoded?

II. Could he be right about everything and "off" on the Bible's evaluation.
   A. Can I believe him about marriage but not about Moses?
   B. Can I take him on deeds but think he's wrong about David?
   C. I believe he's trustworthy in every sphere! I think I'm safe in believing the same thing about the Bible he believed! Purpose of this lesson is to show what it was.

III. About the Bible Jesus stated these things:
   A. Its origin is divine.
      Mk. 12:36 "David himself said by the Holy Ghost, 1 Gen. 2:24 "Therefore shall a man leave his father and Matt. 19:4-5 "Have ye not read that he which made Jn. 14:26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Gho Jn. 16:13 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is c Jn. 17:17 "Sanctify them thru thy truth: thy word is B. God used human agency via inspiration to impart this truth.
Jn. 5:46 "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me; for he wrote of me.

Matt. 15:7 "Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, These people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

Luke 20:42 "David himself saith in the book of Psalms, The Lord said unto my Lord, Seated on my right hand, etc.

Jn. 7:19 "Did not Moses give you the law, and yet no tradition had ye, until the coming of Jesus Christ?"

C. He accepted the Scriptures as accurate.

1. Creation.
   Matt. 19:4 "he which made them at the beginning made them male and female.

2. Abel.
   Matt. 23:35 "the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of the Son of God which was slain.

   The coming of the Son of Man.
   Matt. 24:37 "But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.

   Matt. 8:11 "Many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

5. Lot & Sodom.
   Luke 17:28 "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot, etc.

   Jn. 3:14 "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so shall the Son of man be lifted up:

7. Manna.
   Jn. 6:49 "Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness;" (Bill Walker 360-0524)

8. David & Shewbread.
   Matt. 12:3-4 "Have ye not read what David did, when he and they were hungry, etc.

9. Queen of Sheba.
   Matt. 12:42 "The queen of the south shall rise up in the day of judgment, etc.

   Luke 4:27 "Many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eloi;"

   Matt. 12:40 "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly;"

D. He accepted the Scripture as authority.

Matt. 21:16 "Have ye never read?"

Matt. 12:26 "Have ye not read in the book of Moses..."
Matt. 4:4 "It is written"

Matt. 5:17-18 "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it."

Luke 16:17 "It is easier for heaven & earth to pass, than for one law to fail."

John 10:35 "The Scripture cannot be broken"

1. Yet you can abuse.

Mk. 7:13 "Making word of none effect through your transgression:"

Mk. 12:24 "Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, nor the power of my Resurrection?"

E. He believes its doctrines.

1. Resurrection.

Luke 20:37-38 "Now that the dead are raised, even N." (Read)

2. His Sonship.

Matt. 22:43-44 "How then doth David in spirit call him my Lord, and say,"

3. His mission.

Luke 24:44-47 (Read)

III. Do I accept the same thing about the Bible Jesus did.

A. Its divine origin.

B. Inspiration & Human agency.

C. Accuracy of Scriptures.

D. Authority of Scriptures.


IV. I want: C corruptible thing, as silver...

A. Redemption. from your conversation, receiv'd the word revelation.

Matt. 25:34 "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand ...

1 Peter 1:18-19 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed ...

B. It was revealed & communicated.

2 Tim. 3:16-17 "All scripture is given by inspiration ...

1 Cor. 15:1-2 "Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you...

C. It was a word revelation.
Heb. 1:1-3 "God, who at sundry times and in divers m
(how would I ever understand seeing Pink Panther
unless had earphones on in flight) 4 drive ins
D. It was written.  go at once at Tucson
Rev. 1:11"Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first a
Luke 1:3 "It seemed good to me also, having had perfe
E. It's final. What thou seest write in a book
Rev. 22:18 "For I testify unto every man that heareth
Matt. 5:17 "Think not that I am come to destroy the la
Mountain Ave. Church, Tucson, Ariz. 1-20-80
A young American at a banquet found himself seated next to the eminent Wellington Koo, a Chinese diplomat. Completely at a loss as to what to say to a Chinese, this young man ventured, "Likee soupee?" Mr Koo smiled and nodded. Later when called upon to speak, Wellington Koo delivered an eloquent talk in exquisite English, sat down while the applause was still resounding, turned to the young man and said, "Likee speechee?"

A well known American professor once spoke at a Chinese university where an interpreter translated his talk into Chinese symbols on a blackboard. The professor noted that the interpreter stopped writing during most of the speech and at its conclusion he asked why. "We only write when the speaker says something," was the blithe reply.
"TILL I COME, GIVE ATTENTION TO READING, TO EXHORTATION, TO DOCTRINE."
1 TIMOTHY 6:13

AN AGELESS RESTORATION-PLEA PRINCIPLE

"We have no knowledge of what is well pleasing to God, in worship, save as God has revealed it to us in the New Testament. The New Testament is at once the rule and limit of our faith and worship to God. ... This is the distinctive difference between us and other religious bodies. Others accept the New Testament as their rule of faith, but do not make it the limit of their faith. They add other things as articles of faith and acts of worship than those contained in the Bible. We seek for things authorized, they for things not prohibited. Our rule is faith - theirs is loose... Ours confines us to God's appointments. Theirs opens the worship and service of God to whatever will please men. Our rule limits man's worship to the exercise approved of in the Bible. ... The true and safe ground is: What has He authorized? Not what has He condemned?"

--David Lipscomb
GOSPEL ADVOCATE, Sept. 11, 1873
JUST WHERE DO YOU STAND?
John 18:1-5

I. No word stirs the emotions quite like Gethsemane.
A. "O, Calvary does!"
   1. No, Calvary is agony, suffering, heartbreak one has resigned to accept.
   2. But Geth. is pressure - pure pressure of an impending decision.
   3. Calvary is where a mind is made up - it's having open heart surgery c full resignation; Gethsemane is deciding whether it's needed & will you do it.
B. Gethsemane is also decision. Before the die is cast there must be pattern selection. Choice - selection - routing.
   1. After all Geth. is oil press.
   2. Pressure accompanies our choices.
   3. I want to lead you in John 18:1-5 - to ask you one question - with whom do you stand?

II. Early events from John of Gethsemane.
A. "When Jesus had spoken these words" - (V. 7).
   1. Hour is now come that the captain of our salvation must engage the enemy (Henry).
   2. Our Lord took the field first.
   3. He'd said all that needs be said as a prophet. Now puts on priestly robes in order that later he could the Kingly ones.
   4. Jesus leaves the city - didn't want to start a riot & involve others in His troubles.
B. "He went forth c his disciples"
   1. Disciples 3X in 1st 2 verses. Shall we stand c them?
2. John an eye witness.
3. Disciples need further education.
C. Cedron.
   1. David crossed the Brook.
2 Sam. 15:23 "And all the country wept with a loud vo
   30 "And David went up by the ascent of mou
2. Now David's son does.
   a.) Either from darkness of valley thru which it flowe
   b.) Or water that ran in it colored c cities' dirt.
4. RV has "winter torrent" - didn't flow tho in dry
   weather.
D. "Where there was a garden."
   1. Sin started in Garden of Eden. There also a
      Redeemer was promised.
2. Many Gardens in Bible.
   a.) Christ was buried in one.
   b.) To this garden others tell us Jesus went to pray.
   c.) When others go to bed, He went to pray.
E. Tragic words "And Judas also" (v. 2).
   1. Also think of betrayal.
      a.) Lit. "which was betraying him."
      b.) Now in progress.
      c.) Present participle.
   2. Baseness of Judas seen in that he'd violate the
      privacy of Jesus.
   3. Used the Kiss.
Matt. 26:48 "Now he that betrayed him gave them a si
   4. Mastered his scruples.
   5. 30 pieces of silver - slave's price.
7. Why did Jesus go where he'd know to look?
8. Deeper - why did Judas do it?
F. Judas had an organized group.
   1. Band.
      a.) Only John uses.
      b.) Cohort, detachment of infantry.
      c.) 600 men.
      d.) A commissioned multitude - law!
      e.) Matthew "great multitude."
      f.) Band was Roman - like Cornelius. Technical word.
   2. Officers.
      a.) Jewish.
      b.) Temple servants.
   3. Note:
      a.) Judas represents tyranny of world - tainted by evil, using physical force to get what they want.
      b.) Jesus opposition best politics & religion could throw at him.
      c.) Christ's friends few - enemies many.
4. Weapons - Lanterns, torches, weapons (His spiritual).
   a.) Others "staves & swords".
   b.) Folly to light a candle to seek the Son (of God)
F. Jesus Knew all things.
1. Modernist deny this.
2. We don't know what is coming - sufficient to day is evil thereof.
G. The Conversation.

1. Note he "went forth".
   (a) Open.
   (b) Courageous.
   (c) From Shadow to open moonlight.

2. Whom seek ye?

3. Jesus of Nazareth.
   a.) Not Messiah but used despised term.
   b.) He could have said "I'm Jesus of Bethlehem." 

4. I am he.
   a.) Voluntary surrender.
   b.) 3X "I am".
   c.) Refused crown.

Jn. 6:15 "When Jesus therefore perceived that they wo
   d.) Volunteered for Cross.
   e.) Lays down his life.

Jn. 10:18 "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down
   f.) God went looking for Adam – Jesus declares
      himself.
   g.) We must never be ashamed of him.
   h.) Jesus identifies self – nothing Judas needed to do
      yet he had to earn his blood money, thus the
      Kiss.

5. Fell backward.
   a.) Courage so frightened captors they fell back.
   b.) Chance to repent if they would.
   c.) Jesus else could have "escaped."
   d.) Remember this is action of hardened soldiers.
   e.) Beats whole band of the thief by word of his
      mouth.
III. Judas Stood c them.

A. Disciples vs. them.
   1. Chief priests, captains, elders were close by
      Lu. 22:52.
   2. It was a dividing line occasion.
   3. He who used to stand c Christ now stood c them.
   4. Last of the apostles now 1st of the 600!!
   5. There he stood c no role to play.

B. Where do I stand?
   1. Which group?
   2. Was I once c Him?
   3. Have I always been alien?
WHAT IS TRUTH?
john 18:33-39

1. The man wouldn't wait for an answer.
   A. Jesus was before Pilate in the most important trial of the world.
      1. Pilate knew he was innocent.
      2. Yet he did not want to offend the Jews.
      3. He tried various escapes:
         (a) v. 31 "Take ye him & judge him according to your laws."
            (1) Shift the responsibility to someone else.
            (2) No one can face Jesus for me - I have to!
         (b) Release a prisoner - like Barabbas.
            (1) Each man must decide what he personally will do with Jesus.
         (c) Compromise - have his whipped.
            (1) Can't serve 2 masters - if not for Jesus, against him.
         (d) Appeal - shall I crucify your King.
            (1) No one else can make my decision - I must!
            (2) Binger Card #0. (crossed out)
         (e) Relative - what is truth?
            (1) Are you a King? Jesus asked did you discover it or were you told?
                Disdainfully "Am I a Jew?" I don't bother c your affairs.
            (2) Where from.
(3) What is truth
(1) Bacon "said jesting Pilate & would not stay for an answer"
(2) Did Pilate muff his one chance?
(3) Did he see all he'd missed & yet walk away?

B. Does the question come to mor as

II. Let me answer what Pilate refused to stay & hear. of men, it is in truth. The 1.
A. What is truth? of God, which effectively worketh
1. It is the word of God, also in you that believeth.
Jn. 17:17 "Thy word is truth"
I Thess. 2:13 "Ye received it not as the word of man"
Gal. 2:5 "Truth of the gospel"
(a) Vance Haver Clip #1.
(b) Criswell quote #2.
(c) Carl Henry quote #3.

2. It is Access.
(a) By this word I reach the Lamb of God.
James 1:18 "of his own will begat he us...
Eph. 1:13 "In whom ye trusted after that ye
2 Thess. 2:13 "Chosen you to salv. thru sanct
Clip on Mad Hatter #4 of the Spirit & soul of the
Jn. 1:23-24 "But the hr. cometh & now is
Eph. 4:15 "But speaking the truth in love...
Eph. 6:14 "Stand therefore having your loins
3 Jn. 4 "I have no greater joy than to
Rom. 2:8 "But unto them that are cont...
Gal. 5:1 "O foolish Gal. who hath bewitched James 5:19 "Br. if any of you do err from the
done Convert him...let him know that he..."
3. It is Freedom.

Jn. 8:32 "And ye shall know the
Clip on Grandpas #5 - Deed
Jn. 17:17 "Sanctify them thru truth
Jn. 17:19 "That they also might be s.
(a) Clip on Youth Songs #6.
(b) C. W. Brister "Dealing c Doubts"
Pg. 14 "Since the choice is ours we can flee,
fight, fold up, fume or face it. Yet anxiety
is always the companion of such freedom."

4. It is Jesus.

Jn. 1:14 "And the word was made
Jn. 14:6 "I am the way, truth
Jn. 8:40 "A man that hath told you
Jn. 1:17 "Grace & truth came by

B. Summary.

1. Truth is Word, Access, Freedom,
Jesus.

2. Won't you obey?

Hattie End 10-4-70

Franklin Ky Church 10-12-70
Hastings Church, Stearns, Arbe. 1-14-71
Allieona Church 8-31-71
My father, a majestic Victorian gentleman with great warmth and humor, died when I was a boy of fourteen. He used to tell a story about a man ordering dinner in a restaurant. For dessert, he found rice pudding listed on the menu; so he said to the waitress, "Is the rice pudding hot or cold?" "We have both, Sir," she answered. "Well, then I guess I'll have some apple pie." I cannot say that I learned a lesson from this story alone, but the point was not lost on me. Do not waver and agonize too long between two alternatives. Make a decision, if you can, even if you have to settle for a third choice. And, above all, having made your decision, do not cast lingering backward glances and repine over what you didn't get.
They tell us that we must not begin by quoting Scripture, but by telling our own experience. I seem to remember something about faith coming by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

"Seasonings" - By Vance Havner - Page 66
The Scriptures so often quote, "And God said," or "The Word of God came, saying." This kind of formula is said by some to occur no less than 3,808 times in the Old Testament.

"Why I Preach That the Bible Is Literally True" - By

W. A. Criswell

Page 25

If the Bible is in fact the Word of God written, what authority independent of Scripture will accredit it as the self-attesting truth that God speaks through chosen writers? From outside sources we can derive only confirmations of or challenges to the biblical claims, and in the area in which archaeology is able to attest the historical facts the record is one of amazing endorsement in the face of critical doubts.

"Answers for the Now Generation" - By Carl F. H. Henry

Page 87
Remember the mad tea party scene from "Alice in Wonderland"? The March Hare is concerned because his watch has stopped. He shakes it, opens it up, and dashes in some butter. Still it doesn't work. "I told you butter wouldn't help it," the Mad Hatter comments wisely. "But it was the best grade butter," the March Hare replies wistfully.

"The Emerging Church" - By Bruce Larson and Ralph Osborne

Page 47

Somebody asked Grandfather, "Do you sleep with your long beard under the covers or outside?" He hadn't really given it any thought. That night he tried sleeping with his beard under the covers and couldn't sleep. Then he tried it outside the covers and fared no better. He lost a whole night's sleep over a foolish question that didn't matter. Hours have been wasted over other issues just as unimportant.

"Seasonings" - By Vance Havner - Page 29
Young people reflect the world's uneasiness, its uncertain future. Their songs betray the agony of agnosticism. "Where is the something, where is the someone that tells me why I live and die? Where do I go? Will I ever discover an answer?" their music asks. Their poets advise them to follow any guide—a river, sea gulls, the city's glitter, thunder, wind, a hand or heartbeat—in order to discover a purpose for life. Drugs permit temporary escape from reality. Wistfulness marks their quest for love, truth, peace, and a meaningful future.

"Dealing with Doubt" - By C. W. Brister - Page 22
QT. C PILATE
Jn. 18 & 19

I. Pilate best known for 1 act – cowardice.
   A. More weak than wicked.
   B. Did have sense of Justice.
   C. Most friendly face to Jesus at trial.

II. Many Qt.
   A. Jews would not go in lest defiled.
      1.) Already "tried" – he’s a malefactor.
      2.) You rubber stamp.
      3.) Take and judge him then.
      4.) Death – want to kill him too.
   C. Art thou a King  18:33
      1.) Must investigate.
      2.) Foolish to be ignorant.
   D. Sayest this of thyself  18:34.
      1. Am I a Jew.
      2. Kingdom not of this world.
      3. A King then?
      4. What is truth?
   E. No Fault at All.
      1. Who release?  18:39
      2. Sent to Herod.
      4. What do c Jesus?
      5. Scourge him - half kill.
      6. Behold the man.
      7. Die – Made himself Son of God.
   F. Afraid – Son of God?
1. Whence art thou? 19:9
2. Speakest thou not?
3. Sought to release him.
4. Behold your King! Shall I crucify your King?

G. Wash hands.

Cam WEBE 8-5-81
BEHOLD THY MOTHER

John 19:25-26

I. What do you call your mother?
   A. Mother, Mom, Mama, Mommie?
   B. Does anyone say "woman?"
      1. Husbands do – little woman, etc.
      3. Did you ever address her as "woman?"
      4. Yet Jesus did – in one of his dying utterances from the cross
      5. Only John tells us the story – let's go to the text.

II. Jesus is in the throes of death and suffering – 7 utterances and perhaps this is the 3rd.
   A. Read the text.
   B. We'll divide the lesson into two parts: things we don't know, things we do.

III. Things unknow to us.
   A. Mary's age.
   B. Mary's finances
   C. Mary's other children
   D. Who had been supporting her – was it Jesus?
   E. How did society feel about her.
   F. How did she feel about this disaster.
   G. Was anything pre-arranged?
IV. Things we do know.
   A. Many women were there – even afar off.
      Matt. 27:55
      Mark 15:40
      Luke 23:49
   B. Only one man was – thus a tribute to courage of women
   C. Was it 3 or 4 women that drew near?
      1. Were they closer than other women
      2. Word in v. 25 that implies courage and tenderness and that Mary, his mother, led the group.
      3. In spite of rough men & soldiers these women were there.
      4. To the mob, He was a criminal remember.
      5. Thus we know we can experience and appreciate the courage of women.
   D. Second thing we know is that life has its severe interruptions.
   E. Thirdly we know John records three of the seven statements from the cross:
      1. Look woman
      2. I thirst
      3. It is finished
   F. Fourthly, life to the end via the example of Jesus has the belial responsibilities
      1. Woman, behold thy son
a. Why "woman" rather than mother?
   1) Didn't make heartache as bad as "mother" would.
   2) It is no time of disrespect but she is not the mother of what he is doing.
   3) Death ends all earthly ties.
   4) Who is his mother?

Mark 3:25

5) His elevation will allow her to place all cares on kin.

1 Peter 5:7

6) Though greatly distressed He did not forget his responsibilities.
7) He honors 5th commandment
8) Woman is honorific title
9) Mary is feeling Simeon's prophecy
10) Shows He was not thinking of himself
11) Human relationships involve special duties
   b) She "stood by" - we all need this - feel it when no one does - she is self-controlled, doing all she can.
   c) Mary never intended to be worshipped. How can she help us when she needed help?
   d) Never called Virgin Mary.
G. Son looks at thy mother
   1. Shows his confidence in John
   2. Why not brother or husband?
      a) Joseph dead?
      b) Brother did not believe in him
   3. Shows one generation must support another
   4. No time to explain what neighbors might think.
   5. We never outgrow family responsibilities
   6. Every plan may not suit everyone involved, but are we loving in arranging
   7. John understood and did it.

V. All this shows something.
   A. Family unity
   B. Need to have one stand by
   C. Willingness to carry on life
   D. Some will have heavier duties in life than others.
   E. He who lights the sun and holds the stars forgot not his mother.

Green Hill C/C 7/26/96
II. Standing by the Cross.
A. The RV states it this way.
B. Significance of it.
   1. Verb shows they kept standing continuously.
   2. Heroism personified.
      a) Scarcely could they have placed themselves in a more perilious position.
      b) Love is the root of heroism.
      c) Dangerous to be associated with a man Rome thought a criminal.
      d) Also dangerous to love one the orthodox think is a heretic. (Barclay)
C. Mark records some stood at a distance--moved?
Mk. 15:40 (READ)
D. Do we stand by those we love? Those that need us?
E. Cross
   1. Crucifixions were public affairs as a warning they wanted everyone to see.
   2. Are we ashamed of the Cross?
   3. Of Jesus who died for us?
   4. Do we thank Him at the Supper or say "Help us?"
III. Four Women

A. Mary His Mother

1. Never dismissed the humanity of Jesus.
2. Simeon's prophesy comes true.

Luke 2:35

a) Rachels the world over weep for their children & refuse to be comforted.
b) Her Son in the prime of life & dying violently.
c) No suffering can quench love.
d) Eve stood by the tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil.
e) Mary stood by the tree of the cross.
f) Former resulted in death; the latter in life.

3. Natural a mother would be there.

B. His Mother's Sister.

1. John never mentions his own mother, Salome.
2. Is this 4 women of 2 pairs?
3. Or is his mother's sister & Mary wife of Cleopas one person? Scholars differ.
4. 3 women here named Mary? (Story of Beaten child) #2
5. 4 believing women match 4 gambling soldiers. £Salome or
6. Mary the mother of James the Less.

Mk. 15:40 (RV does it as 2 pairs)
7. Barclay says it's Salome.
Mk. 15:40 Names MM; Mary of James; Salome.
Matt. 27:56 Ibid
   a) Mother of James & John.
   b) Received stern rebuke.
Matt. 20:20 "Do you know what you are asking"
   c) Great story that Jesus still loved her and she him.
   d) R. E. Lee Clip #3
C. Mary, wife of Cleopas.
  1. Of her we know nothing.
  2. Was she Mary, mother of James the Less?
  3. We are told nothing of what the other women did, said or was said to them.
  4. Annie Forgot Your Baby #4
D. Mary Magdalene
  1. Magdala a town on west slope of Galilee.
  2. 2 or 3 miles north of Tiberias.
  3. No evidence she was a loose woman.
     (Cards on Semitism - #5)
John 20:1 -- 1st to Tomb
  4. Not woman of:
Luke 7:39
  5. Had 7 demons exorcised.
Mk. 16:9 -- 7 demons
  6. She could never forget what he did for her.
IV. Jesus Saw His Mother
   A. Lessons taught. (7 Habits) #6
      1. We are not to forget or neglect domestic duties.
2. Mary did not need worship; rather help.
3. N.T. teaches all Christians are to care for their own.
4. Jesus thought of others in his hour of greatest need, not himself.
5. Jesus loves everyone but each one in an individual way.
6. He looked ahead for the welfare of his mother.
7. While fulfilling prophesy He still has time to take care of his own.

B. The Love Disciple
1. John does not name himself.
2. Evidently it's John alone at the cross.

C. The Commitment
1. Woman
   a) No record of Jesus calling Mary his mother.
   b) John never calls her by name thus not confusing her with other Marys.
   c) NEB uses Mother.
   d) Would she have been ridiculed had he said Mother?
   e) Woman term of Esteem.
2. Son--(were brothers unfit?)
3. "That Hour"
   a) Full & complete obedience.
   b) Lit."into his own things".
   c) Perhaps he took her home & came back as she's not listed with the women at death.
Matt. 27:56

Skyline, (Ladies Class), Jackson, TN - 4/7/92
Flat Rock, MI - 4/26/92
Oxon Hill church, Temple Hills, MD - 5/20/92
As we were coming home from Sunday school and church, our three sons were having a lively discussion about what each had learned.

"My teacher told us to always mind your parents," said 6-year-old Melvin.

Never wanting to be outdone by his older brother, 4-year-old Billy responded, "My teacher said to always be good to your mommy and daddy."

Our youngest son, Randol, ended the brotherly competition as only a 3-year-old can. "Well, my teacher said, 'Be quiet!'"

But we got away from child psychology, which also works in powerful ways on grownups.

When her son Mike was about 4, Georgia Sells stood in a throng outside the Washington County courthouse. It was January, bitter cold, and everybody was there to be assessed and get new licenses — some sort of annual primitive procedure.

The courthouse steps were steep. Georgia Sells warned her son repeatedly, "Mike, do not go up the steps. You'll fall and hurt yourself."

Next thing she knew, there went Mike again.

Georgia caught her son from behind, jerked him across her knees and began whaling away at his bottom.

The more she whaled, the better she felt — "I told you and told you and told you..."

From the corner of her eye, Georgia became aware that a small figure on the steps below was watching the assault with intense interest.

The small figure was Mike Sells.

Georgia tried to faint, but couldn't.

An older women stepped up and took the beaten child, who was wearing a jacket and hood identical to the one on Mike Sells.

The older woman said, "He's been needing that. I'm his grandmother and his mother won't let me whip him."
In his book *Lee: The Last Years*, Charles Bracelen Flood reports that after the Civil War, Robert E. Lee visited a Kentucky lady who took him to the remains of a grand old tree in front of his house. There she bitterly cried that its limbs and trunk had been destroyed by Federal artillery fire. She looked to Lee for a word condemning the North or at least sympathizing with her loss. After a brief silence, Lee said, “Cut it down, my dear Madam, and forget it.”

It is better to forgive the injustices of the past than to allow them to remain, and let bitterness take root and poison the rest of your life.

—Leadership

*When a mother came home from the hospital with her second baby, she hired Annie, a live-in nurse, to come along and help out for the first few weeks. Having read up on sibling rivalry, the mother watched her 18-month-old daughter for signs of jealousy or insecurity. But Robyn adored her little sister from the start. She loved to help Annie feed and bathe the baby, and she even offered to share her toys.*

*Several weeks passed and the mother, convinced that Robyn was suffering no ill effects, decided she could manage without a nurse. As she watched Annie walk out to her car that last day, she heard an unmistakable cry of distress.*

*“Annie!” yelled Robyn, running after her. “You forgot your baby!”*

—Contributed by Wendela Whitcomb Marsh
Such a turn of events might suggest a new day of tolerance. But record shows otherwise. Though Luther was a friend of the Jews in his early ministry, roundly castigating the Roman church for its Jew-baiting, his charity did not last long. He was never known for his patience with the obstinate. When the Jews refused his offer of salvation by faith alone, he lost patience with them and joined his enemy John Eck in vilifying the race. His tract, "Concerning the Jews and Their Lies" (1542), denounced them as a wicked, accursed race whose synagogues and sacred writings should be reduced to ashes. He advised Christians to "destroy the houses of the Jews," the clergy to "fill the minds of their hearers with hatred of Jews," and that princes should expel them from the country. Historian Heinrich Graetz gives
a succinct summary: "As Jerome had infected the Catholic world with his openly avowed hatred of the Jews, so Luther poisoned the Protestant world for a long time to come with his Jew-hating testament. Protestants became even more bitter against Jews than Catholics had been." This notion that Christianity could be force-fed down Jewish throats was a delusion afflicting both branches of the church.

In 1202, for instance, Pope Innocent III issued "an edict which required Jews to wear special clothing, or a red or yellow badge, on the front and back to distinguish them.... As a result, the Jews were constantly jeered, mocked, insulted, stoned, and pelted with mud. In seeking to escape these indignities they frequented back alleys and little traveled roads or came out only at night."
THE 7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PEOPLE

Twenty years in the making, “The 7 Habits” presents a holistic, integrated, principle-centered approach to solving personal and professional problems. It provides penetrating insights and pointed anecdotes which reveal a step-by-step pathway for living with fairness, integrity, honesty, and human dignity, principles that give us the security to adapt to change, and the wisdom and power to take advantage of the opportunities that change creates.

Though Mr. Covey presents a great deal of material with attendant points on each subject, these are his seven principles which also serve as chapter titles:

* Be proactive, principles of personal vision.
* Begin with the end in mind, principles of personal leadership
* Put first things first, principles of personal management.
* Think win/win, principles of interpersonal leadership.
* Seek first to understand, then to be understood, principles of empathetic communication.
* Synergize, the principle of creative cooperation.
* Sharpen the saw, principles of balanced self-renewal.

Readers working in an organization will be particularly interested in the author’s paradigms of interdependence. They include and illustrate the six major deposits that build an Emotional Bank Account, including: understanding the individual; attending to little things; keeping commitments; clarifying expectations; showing personal integrity; plus an explanation of the laws of love and the laws of life.

On the book jacket, the editor of Success! magazine, Scott DeGarmo, claims it will be the leadership handbook of the decade.
From knowledge as to the method of crucifixion we may imagine what was done to Jesus. He was stripped naked and caused to lie flat on His back on the ground. To render Him helpless His arms and legs were jerked out of joint. His arms were then stretched out along the cross piece which had been placed on the ground. After His hands had been nailed to this piece it was then fastened to the upright piece which previously had been placed in a hole in the ground. It is possible that His feet were placed on a small shelf about two feet above the ground. Or He may have been suspended by the nails (cf. Ps. 22:17). In either case His feet were crossed and then nailed to the wood. There Jesus was left to hang for hours. Sometimes it took days for the victim to die. In Jesus’ case He was on the cross for six hours, 9:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M., before death released Him.

Hanging there He was so stretched out as to enable one to count His rib bones (Ps. 22:17). Every point in His body was in agony. His nerves throbbed in pain. The sunbeams like hungry leeches sucked the fluid from every pore in His skin. Thirst became unbearable. Fever mounted, His lips were parched and cracked, His tongue became dry and swollen, and His vocal cords became so inflamed that the voice became raspy. The flow of blood was hindered, causing excruciating agony. Gradually the body stiffened and the strength ebbed. And in Jesus’ case, mental and spiritual suffering was almost beyond endurance. No mortal can fully understand His suffering. But a reading of Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 helps to see that which the Saviour suffered for our sin.

"An Exposition of the Gospel of John"—H. Hobbs—pg. 263
A MOTHER AND HER SON
John 19:25-27

I. We come to the 3rd word from the cross – it has to do with Jesus and His mother.

II. We have to respect women.
   A. Last at the cross.
   B. 1st at the tomb.
   C. None ever betrayed Him.
   D. We know of none who railed, rather they sympathized.

III. This does not mean she's sinless.
   A. Mary.
      1. Given her name to more women than most anyone
      2. Peculiar in Jesus ministry.
         a.) Sword to pierce.
         b.) Cana.
   John 2:3-4 "And when they wanted wine, the mother
   c.) Ministry.
   Lu. 8:20-21 "And it was told him by certain which said
   d.) Remember he did not become the Son of God as
      the Son of Mary – He was 1st the Son of God, then became Son of Mary.
   e.) Never 4th part of Godhead.
   f.) Usually joined c. bro. & tried to influence Jesus
      away from Messianic course.

IV. Events of this moment.
   A. Now there stood by the cross.
      1. Place of power.
      2. Place of purity.
      3. Art to know where to stand; to stand by silently
         when needed.
B. By the cross stood women.

1. §nail percentage of Ulves held touched.
2. Group of Galilean pilgrims.
3. Wonder what thots were in Maryis mind?

C. By-the cross the disciple whom he love!!.

1. He's only one.
2. His faith stronger than others.

D. The command.
1. Woman - thy son.
2. His faith stronger than others.
3. Wonder what thots were in Mary's mind?
2. Group of Galilean pilgrims.
1. Small percentage of Ulves held touched.

B. By the cross stood women.

!!) James 1:27.
(;) It. take Mary as your mother for my sake.
H.) After the resurrection - His half bro.
9.) Perhaps James is Jude did not believe on Jesus.

f.) "Behold! was Jewish word in marriage contract.
Lu. 9:58. And Jesus said unto Him, Foxes have holes, Jesus had so little - wild animals more.
e.) Jesus had so little - a burden to you?
d.) Are you a needed a burden to your?
c.) Where's Joseph, other brethren?
b.) Take care of her.
a.) Take my place.

2. Son! - Thy Mother.

2. In that relationship on her out of hatred for Him? He's her Savior!

E.) Why "woman"? (To keep crowd from turning

f.) "Woman" in place.

g.) Perhaps James was Jude did not believe on Jesus.

h.) James 1:27.
E. From That Hour --

1. Only 1X more mentioned was Mary

Acts 1:14 "These all continued with one accord in pr

2. Never called Mother of God, head of church, intercessor.

3. His hands were tied to the cross - needed ours - then & now.

4. Can't shirk love's responsibilities.

5. John seems to have had more to do c Jerusalem than other apostles.

6. In every situation Jesus gives the best solution.

7. In using word Mother in address to John we see he had not lost his tenderness.

8. Jesus concerned c our physical & spiritual int.

9. When we make our journey to Father some things we have to sever in ties.

West End Inst. Night College Class 4-28-82
Woman, behold thy son! ... Behold thy mother!
John 19:26, 27

“Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother. ...” We may assume from these words that Mary was there watching, all through the agony of Jesus to the end. Did Jesus send her away home early in order to spare her the pain of witnessing his final ordeal? There are some who think so. They imagine that John left the place of execution at the very moment when Jesus committed his mother to his keeping, and came back later to join some of the other friends who, according to Luke, “stood afar off.”

It is more likely, however, that Mary would tend to come closer to the cross as the day wore on. By this time, jeering crowds who had at first thronged around him with such a show of enthusiasm, had dispersed, having seen enough of their fallen hero’s shame to satisfy their morbid curiosity.

A MOTHER’S THOUGHTS

What an agony it was for her to watch him—her son—enduring all this! Her very helplessness in face of his need made her burden all the more unbearable. “She saw His head lifted in anguish and falling on His breast in weakness, and she could not gently take it in her hands and wipe the sweat of death from His brow. She saw His pierced hands
and feet become numbed and livid, and might not chafe them. She saw Him gasp with pain as cramp seized part after part of His outstretched body, and she could not change His posture nor give liberty to so much as one of His hands.” Mary refused to let herself break down in his presence. Afterwards, perhaps, she could release her anguished feelings in solitude before God. But now everything stood as still as possible in her heart. For months, as the situation about her Son had grown more dangerous, she had foreseen the inevitable crisis. Therefore she had disciplined herself to expect such an end.

As Mary stood by the cross, giving over in her mind the events of the past year or two, she recalled her many anxieties and how fearful thoughts since the day he had started out on what he had called the work which his Father had given him to do. She thought of the people of Nazareth, of the heartbreak they had caused her, with their harsh criticisms and ceaseless talk about him. She thought with sorrow and pain they had accused him of ambitions of greatness. Now they had said it was impossible for him to be a true prophet and at the same time to consort with the wise and religious whom he seemed to make into his companions. His talk about the coming kingdom of God was sheer humbug, they had said, since the Romans were still as much as ever in power, and there were no signs of a new age.

There was the memory of that day when he returned to Nazareth, and the hostility had been so great that he had not attempted to cure even one sick person—he had hardly ever come near the old home after that! She remembered, too, the day she had accompanied his brothers, who were trying to save him from what they believed was a touch of madness, and they had stood outside the house where he was preaching and had sent him a message that they wanted to talk with him. It was a strange reply he sent back, “My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of
God, and do it” (Luke 8:21). She recalled other strange things he had said when she had tried to assert her own will over his, when he was conscious only of his Father’s will. These things all took her mind back to the strange experiences and circumstances of his birth, and the prophecies that had been made to her when she held him as a babe in her arms in the temple—especially Simeon’s word about the sword that would pierce her own heart.

Now the climax was here. Now she was beginning to know to the full what all this had meant. She had come to feel the burden of being so closely bound up in life with a man. Now, there was by the cross of Jesus—his death.
"I THIRST"
John 19:28-29

I. The text is significant.
   A. Shortest of all words on Calvary - two in our language, 1 in the G.K.
   B. Asked for water, got gall & vinegar.
   C. 5th Utterance - it stood done.

II. We see many things:
   A. Humanity of Christ.
      1. I thirst - the complaint of man.
      2. Read Spurgeon clip.
      3. Angels, phantoms, spirits do not thirst.
      4. Thirst caused by loss of blood, fever, wounds.
      5. None of us feel the dew of death on our brows, thus a thirst unknown to us.
      6. Needed one to help him - could not help himself common lot of us all.
      7. Human frame dissolves.
      8. Jesus knows our frailties.
         "His life is parallel c ours"
      9. If He had His hurts & wants, so will we - don't then complain.
     10. Do we shamefully indulge our appetites.
   B. See His Substitution for us.
      1. Thirst is dissatisfaction - craving of the mind for something it has not.
      2. In hell it's there - Rich man lifted up eyes in torment - I'm tormented in this flame Lu. 16:24
      3. He did not say anything for Himself until He knew "that all things were now accomplished."
Ps. 69:21 "They gave me also gall for my meat; and i
Heb. 4:15 "For we have not an high priest which can make
Heb. 5:7-8 "Who in the days of his flesh, when he ha
2 Kings 6:30 "And it came to pass when the king heard
C. We See how Man Treats the Lord.
1. We serve Satan too much.
2. Gave gall & vinegar.
3. He came to save & man denied him hospitality.
4. Manhood left to itself grows the more terrible.
5. At that time the soldiers "mocked him."
6. Mercies of the wicked are cruel.
7. Do we give Him vinegar today?
9. He refused it - already accepted Father's cup!
Matt. 27:34 "They gave him vinegar to drink mingled
Mk. 15:23 "And they gave him to drink wine mingled
Lu. 23:36 "And the soldiers also mocked him, coming:
10. He was rejected.
John 1:11 "He came unto his own, and his own receiv
11. God at the mercy of men!
12. Yet last act of kindly service he accepted tho
would not end life in stupor.
D. Desire His Heart.
1. He thirsts in a higher sense.
2. Wants to save us.
3. Wants communion c men - He loves us so.
4. World could not see He would conquer by dying.
5. Don't judge history on the present.
E. Pattern of Death.
1. Heart not content til "I am wholly lost in thee."
   Sweet will of God!
2. Do we reach out to man.  
Rom. 10:1-2 "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer  

3. Do we want perfection.  
Ps. 42:2 "My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God.  
Rev. 22:17 "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come.  
Jn. 4:14 "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I s
Jesus said, "I thirst," and this is the complaint of a man. Our Lord is the Maker of the ocean and the waters that are above the firmament: it is His hand that stays or opens the bottles of heaven, and sends rain upon the evil and upon the good. "The sea is his, and he made it," and all fountains and springs are of His digging. He pours out the streams that run among the hills, the torrents which rush down the mountains, and the flowing rivers which enrich the plains. One would have said, If He were thirsty He would not tell us, for all the clouds and rains would be glad to refresh His brow, and the brooks and streams would joyously flow at His feet. And yet, though He was Lord of all, He had so fully taken upon Himself the form of a servant and was so perfectly made in the likeness of sinful flesh, that He cried with fainting voice, "I thirst." How
truly man He is; He is, indeed; "bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh," for He bears our infirmities.

"Christ's Words From the Cross" – By Charles H. Spurgeon
pp. 70-71
The Son of God has been made man. He has lived a life of perfect virtue and of total self-denial. He has been all that life long despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. His enemies have been legion; His friends have been few, and those few faithless. He is at last delivered over into the hands of them that hate Him. He is arrested while in the act of prayer; He is arraigned before both the spiritual and temporal courts. He is robed in mockery, and then unrobed in shame. He is set upon His throne in scorn, and then tied to the pillar in cruelty. He is declared innocent, and yet He is delivered up by the judge who ought to have preserved Him from His persecutors. He is dragged through the streets of that Jerusalem which had killed the prophets, and would now crimson itself with the blood of the prophets' Master. He is brought to the cross; He is nailed fast
Goethe's remark that the four things he detested most in the world were garlic, lice, the smell of tobacco, and the cross of Christ, is simply another expression of the blind reaction of man's own wisdom to the extreme weakness which God has assumed in saving us from the stubborn perversity of our own thinking. "The foolishness of God is wiser than men" (I Cor. 1:25).

"Words of Triumph" - By Ronald S. Wallace - Page 64

An eminent sociologist recently made the statement that the Bible is the most powerful weapon for the renewal of society that the world has ever seen. That's quite a statement in light of the fact that in the past 30 years we have had the greatest explosion of education and technical know-how in man's history. Today we have jet-age travel, allowing a person to cross a continent in a few hours; we have space exploration, taking man into the unknown; we have government and national welfare programs; education grants; foreign-aid programs--but down where we live in the hard, bitter world of reality, are these things really changing lives for the better?

"Guidelines for Living" - By Harold J. Sala - Page 11
I. How many have you seen die?
   A. Were they conscious?
   B. In coma?
   C. Thoughts collected & composed.
II. Jesus a great demonstration of:
   A. Memory.
   B. Judgement.
   C. Wisdom & consciousness.
III. His 6th Statement - It is Finished.
   A. What does it mean?
      1. All types, prophecies, promises are complete.
         a.) Said 2 X in 3 verses "accomplished" V. 28 then "it is finished."
         b.) All accomplished in 1 person.
         c.) Who else but Jesus could do it:
            (1) Prophet like Moses.
            (2) Champion like Joshua.
            (3) Tender like David.
            (4) Slain lamb, unslain goat, turtle dove dipped in blood, the altar, the tabernacle, the shewbread, the mercy seat.
            (5) All Kings came - yet despised & rejected of man.
            (6) Virgin born.
            (7) W/o sin.
Ps. 34:20 "He keepeth all his bones: not one of them
d.) Unlike H P at atonement Jesus had no sins to confess.
2. All sacrifices completed.
   a.) Aaron's priesthood over.
   b.) Not a victim but a victor!
Jn. 10:18 "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down.
c.) Completed life – Rafael's "Transfiguration" 1/2
done – funeral thru Rome had 2 men carry
canvas before casket; Beethoven "Unfinished
Symphony; Kipling's suspense story not completed.

3. Perfect obedience finished.
a.) Not "I am finished" but "it is."
b.) No more purpose left for Him to stay on the
earth.
Lu. 2:49 "And he said unto them, How is it that ye so
Jn. 9:4 "I must work the works of him that sent me, w

c.) He gave us everything we need to know.

4. Satisfaction of justice finished.
a.) Nothing to hurl against child of God.
b.) Silenced is the Thunder of the Law.
c.) This we can't do in hell – punishment goes on &
on.
d.) No sacrifice today, priest in mass c back to
audience lifting host on high, c "unbloody
sacrifice."
e.) Our righteousness is filthy rags.
f.) Can't improve what's "finished."

5. Power of Satan.
a.) Shame & humiliation is over.
b.) Jesus did nothing by halves.
d.) Finished is the struggle.
B. What's for me.
1. He's the Author & Finisher.
Heb. 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher
2. Negative "shall not" gives way to position.
3. A new way:
   expel cruelty
curb passion
drive out darkness & evil
Rescue the gladiator
Free the slave
Nurse the sick
Shelter the orphan
Elevate woman
Protect the child
4. In every region of life see ameliorating influence
   work honorable
marriage blessed
Purity desirable
5. We cannot leave Jesus on the Cross - take down the crucifix.
6. It's finished.
Gen. 2:1 "Thus the heavens and the earth were finish
Rev. 21:5-6 "And he that sat upon the throne said, B
7. Egyptian "We build like giants, we finish like jewelers."

West End Mens Right College Class 6-9-82
Fairlane Church, Shelbyville, (Ind) 6-12-82
THE BURIAL OF GOD
John 19:35-41

I. It sounds odd to talk of the burial of God—yet this is a vital part of the gospel.

I Cor. 15:1-4
A. It has an impact on life.
B. How can you resurrect that which does not die?

II. It has a vital witness as to the death.
Jn. 19:35-36 "And he that sae it bare"
A. Who is the "he"?
   1. Jesus?

1 Jn. 3:5
3:16
2. Holy Spirit?
3. John
   a) He saw blood & water of death.
   b) Blood pouring most decisive proof of death.
   c) John is only one who records this—he was a witness.
   d) John often speaks of self in 3rd person.

B. Knew it was true.
   1. Knew his own mind.
   2. Had no doubts.
   3. Death was real.
   4. Purpose was in sincerity to lead others to believe.
   5. He knows God knows he is telling the truth.

C. Knew the Scriptures were accurate in prophesy.
   1. Not a bone broken.
a) Offering perfect.
   b) Met qualifications.

I Cor. 5:7

2. They (Jews) look on the pierced.

Zech. 12:10

a) Conscious of the deed.
b) Met the prescribed Scripture.

III. The Lord's Undertakers

A. Joseph--about him we know a lot.

1. Arimathea
   a) Unknown
   b) May be same as Ramathaim Zophin.
   c) 60 miles from Jerusalem.

2. Member of Sanhedrin.

Mk. 15:43

3. Rich

Matt. 27:57

4. Good & just

Lu. 23:50

5. Didn't agree with Sanhedrin.

   a) Fear, why? Stop us?
   b) Can't keep long this secret!

7. Waited for Kingdom of God.

8. Thus we move from ministry of enemies to that of friends.

B. Besought Pilate for Body of Jesus

1. This is a part of Scrp. fulfillment.

Isa. 53:9

2. His request.
   a) Reverent treatment of the body.
   b) Had to "pluck up" his courage to do it as out of character.

Mk. 15:43
c) Out of character for a "secret" one.

d) Yet showed great courage because it seemed cause of Christ was also dead.

e) It's hard to be old & openminded.

f) Easy to stop learning & close mind

g) Joseph acted foreign to his natural temperament, boldly to Pilate.

h) Cross brings out curious contradictions of character.

C. Pilate granted it.

1. 1st checked to see if Jesus was dead.

a) Illegal to take a body from the cross until certified.

b) Centurian did it--and he was experienced.

c) Thus reality of Jesus' death established.

d) Centurian unbiased, competent, experienced in these matters.

2. Leave granted.

a) Body protected from enemies.

b) Governor, as some did, did not ask for ransom.

c) God preserves the righteous.

Acts 3:44

d) Request freely granted--slap at the Jews.

e) Pilate got to the cross before soldiers finished almost (v-31).

f) We do not know how they took it down, nor where it was they prepared it.
D. 2nd Undertaker—Nicodemus
1. Meet him Jn. 3 & John 7:20.
2. Came by night—now he is racing against the night.
3. He too showed timid caution.
4. All gospels speak of Joseph, only John of Nicodemus.
5. 1st either early ministry of Jesus or at the 1st of several subsequent visits.

IV. The Burial

A. Brought a Roll (Mixture)
1. Word for confection

Ps. 45:8 "All my garments are myrrh"
2. Myrrh a gum.
3. Aloes—wood, sawdust type.
4. This gum mixed with powdered wood.
5. Myrrh is the birth of Jesus—now burial.

B. 100# weight
1. Costly gift
2. 12 oz. to English pound
3. 75#
4. Immense amount
5. Normally use 1#.
6. 100# embalm 200 folk some say—twice as much.
7. Demonstration of great love.

C. Body of Jesus
1. Mary Magdalene was watching.
2. Reverence shown.

D. Wound it in linen clothes.
1. Wound or bound.
2. Bandages, swathes
3. Narrow bands not to be confused with linen cloth used later for wrapping.

Mark. 15:46
4. Napkin over face.
5. Pack doubts small strips.
6. Linen noted here &:

John 20:5–7
Luke 24:12
7. Swarthed then wrapped in outer coat of clean linen.

Matt. 27:59
8. Spices scattered in folds.

E. Questions
1. Would friends do all this if not dead?
2. Friend & foe confirm so that resurrection can come.
3. Why not anointed?
   a) Already had! Mary

Mk. 14:8
Matt. 26:12

b) Reason John does not need to tell about women coming Sunday to do it!

F. Manner of Jews
1. Egyptians moved parts of the body--virtually cooked what was left.
2. Jew did not cremate.
3. Jews later discouraged the planting of trees in a cemetery.
G. Place: a Garden
   1. Sin started in a garden—1st Adam.
   2. Betrayal came in a garden.
   4. Resurrection in a garden.
   5. Only John mentions it.

H. Tomb: New
   1. Hewn out of rock.

Mk. 15:46
Matt. 27:60
Lu. 23:53

2. Near—as time important with coming Sabbath.
4. Accessible only at entrance & rocked place there. Sealed!
5. New
6. Little matters where it was, it is now empty.
7. Buried like a King.

I. Never man yet laid.
   1. Rode where never a man sat.
   2. Laid where never a man laid.
   3. Not brought in contact with corruption.
   4. No mixed identity as to who arose.
   5. Not intended to be final resting place.
   6. No hope of resurrection on part of any.
   7. Jewish law didn't allow "criminal" to be buried in family plot.
J. Undertakers leave.
   1. Watched by women.
   2. Only 2 friends came in this solemn hour.
   4. We do our deed & move to other spheres.
I. Have you ever thought how closely God relates us with the soil?

A. Bible talks of:
   1. Mountains. 
      Ps. 131:2 "Let the mountains yield
      Their strength to God." 
   2. Valleys.
      Ps. 89:50 "Every valley shall be lifted up;"
   3. Plains.
      Job 6:7 "Let us meet together... in the
      plain of Manah." 
   4. Rivers.
      Gen. 2:10 "There is a river..."
   5. Trees.
      Gen. 2:8-9 "It was planted in a
      garden..." 
      Gen. 3:17-18 "The dust of the earth..."
   7. Harvest.
      Matt. 9:16 "The harvest is plentiful..."
   8. Dust.
      Gen. 3:19 "Cursed is the ground that
      cursed thee..."

B. God even sent his Son to this earth, buried Him here, and lifted Him from it.

II. But the purpose of our lesson is to see 3 gardens of God's revelation.

A. Each has a bearing on man's life and destiny.
B. Great moral battles were fought there.
C. Lessons are ours to see.

III. Now, 3 Gardens.
A. Garden of Eden.

Gen. 2:8 "And the Lord planted a garden east...
1. Gurney poem.
2. Tragically Adam and Eve came nearer the heart of Hell than Heaven.
3. They stopped walking in fellowship with God in the cool of day--hide themselves.
4. They sought fellowship with lies, deceit, sin, disobedience.
5. In center was tree of Life.

Gen 2:9 "To him that overcometh I will give...
   a. 'Overcometh'
   b. 'Do his commandments'
   c. Life is suspended, communion with God on condition of obedience.
6. Here man said "Yes" when should have "No."
   a. Man saw desirable things when God saw death.
   b. Man allowed distrust of God to rankle his mind.
   c. He chaffed at restrictions.
   d. "Essence of all sin is selfishness" observed John H. Johansen on sermon on same subject, Pulpit Digest.
7. This garden a scene of defeat. Gen 3:22-24


John 18:1 "Jesus went forth with his disciple...
1. Here was victory.
2. Above was full passover moon.
3. Prostrate form there:
   "Nevertheless not as I will but
4. Here we see:
   a. Our peace
   b. Our picture of submission.
5. Jesus "went forth and prayed" and in the
   employment of this weapon found victory.
6. His prayer was:
   a. Honest.
      "My soul is exceeding sorrowful"
   (1) Lit. "My soul is ringed in or encircled
      in sorrow."
   (2) No possible avenue of escape.
   (3) The only break is overhead--none on
      any side!
   b. Beneficial.
      (1) Way upward is open in prayer.
      (2) Prayer turned the tide of battle.
      (3) Loose this battle and there is no
         Calvary, empty tomb, salvation for us.
7. Have we learned this prayer?
   a. Paul did in his 3 times asking for
      removal of thorn.
      "Nevertheless not my will"
      "Most gladly he suffered"
   b. Such victory can only be when we let go
      and let God.
   c. Read poem and John Parker statement.
C. 3rd Garden--1 sentence.
   John 19:41 "In the place where he was crucified the cross is empty."
2. In one garden man rebelled and brought sin and destruction.

3. In another our Lord surrendered to God's will.

4. In this one life and immortality were brought to life.

5. When you obey God it means life! Eternal life!

6. The reunion came to Mary as she changed from grief to "Rabboni."

7. For all of us there is eternal reunion.
   a. Calvary and Resurrection are just 3 days apart.

8. Men died for this faith.
   a. James.
   b. Stephen. Acts 7: 56 "Behold I see the h. 59" Lord Jesus, reply. (60) He fell asleep.
   c. John in banishment, drinks the cup.

9. Christianity is no "insubstantial pagent faded" but the most stupendous fact of history.
   a. Today "Christ lives" in me.

10. Yielding self to Him gives:
    a. Peace.
    b. Fellowship with God.
    c. Communion with Christ.
    d. All things are made new.
    (1) Clip by Mathesen.
WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU FOLLOW JESUS?

You must have a:

1. Dream
   Matt. 4:18-22 (note width)
   (a) Tax collector
   (b) Fisherman
   (c) zealots
   Dan. 12:3
   Nu. 24:17

2. Interest
   John 1:35-51
   (a) What attracted them?

3. Ability
   What did Peter have

4. Challenge
   Matt. 4:18-22
   (a) Leave nets
   (b) Some didn’t → Luke 18:18-23

5. Commitment
   Matt. 4:19,22
   (a) What do you know about fishing
6. Training
   Luke 5:11

7. Assignment
   Matt. 10:1-15
   Matt. 28:18-20
   Acts 1:8
THROUGH FOUR WINDOWS  
John 20

I. The two essentials that admit no excuse or avoidance are:
   A. Christ died for our sins.
   B. He arose for our justification.
      1. One sign Jesus gave the Jews.
         Matthew 12:30  
         John 2:19–21
      2. Proves ransom accepted, victory
         over sin obtained.
      3. Delivered for our offense, raised
         for justification.
      4. Lively hope
         Romans 4:25
         1 Peter 1:3
      5. Pledge of our resurrection.
   C. John 20 grants 4 windows.
      1. We see first as spectator.
      2. Then we enter picture--what do
         we believe? (McLarty)
Rom. 1:2–4
      3. Look outside then inside to self.

II. First Window--Mary--2 parts.
John 20:1–2
John 20:11–18
   A. First of several times these all said,
      "We have seen the Lord" (v–18).
      1. Resurrection not first in her
         thoughts.
      2. First day of week, first mention by
         John of stone, first to know of
         resurrection.
3. Andrews said in one day
   a) Mary saw angels.
   b) Mary saw Jesus.
   c) Mary first to see Jesus.
   d) Mary 1st dispatched to tell it.
4. Keeps saying "taken away".
5. All Jews had to disprove Christ—
   show the Body!
7. Ryle:
   a) Those who love most rec. most.
   b) All fears are needless.
   c) All have not same degree of faith.
   d) Jesus speaks kindly of followers:
      brethren, their God, compassion
      to dissector.
8. See her alone, weeping, speaks
    to angels.
    Rev. 3:4; 7; 9.
10. Why weep—stir up mind?
11. The Lord to Peter & John,
    My Lord to angels from Mary.
12. Not sin to touch his body.
    a) Other women did (Matt. 28:9)
    b) Thomas could (John 20:27)
    c) Yet alone with Mary—don't
       fasten, hang on, lay hold, grasp.
       (Liddell & Scott)
    d) It's word for prohibition of a
       habit—words work.
13. Spend time in usefulness—tell others.
14. First time calls them "brethren".
15. Ascension to come.
III. Second Window--Peter & John.
John 20:2-10

A. They ran to grave.
   1. Anxious, excited.
   2. No body--only clothes--no thief would take time to disrobe--100# aromatic powder.
   3. 2 personalities that vary.
   4. Napkin--deliberate order.
   5. Linen wrapped with myrrh would stick like glue.
   6. John 1st apostle to believe.
   7. Yet ignorance remains.
   8. To home lit. "to themselves."

B. Facts
   1. 1st appearance to apostles.
   2. AM--Mary, women, Peter, 2 on Emmaus Road had seen Him.
   3. Now evening.
   4. Don't know place of locked room--not told how he entered.
   5. Peace, not excommunication.
   7. He's alive--all's OK.

IV. Window #3--Apostles.
John 20:19-23

A. We'll see:
   1. Remarkable greeting--Peace (2X)--not blame or reproof--words at his birth.
   2. Remarkable evidence supplied by Jesus himself.
   3. Remarkable commission conferred. (Ryle)
9. No single absolution by apostles.
10. Can transmit without error, confirm with miracles, write part of NT—no successors.

V. Window #4—Thomas
John 20:24–29

A. See honesty of Bible.
B. See loss by absences.
C. See gentleness of Jesus to slow of heart.
D. Jesus called God! and no rebuke, it's true.
E. We learn:
   1. Great variety of temperament in disciples.
   2. Catholic Bishop wrote men should not read Bible, shake faith.
   4. Don't know why he was absent but unwise to miss.
   5. Yet fellow apostles nor Jesus found fault.
   6. Others "we've seen the Lord."
   7. Thomas did not dispute this.
   8. "Within"—note Jesus knew who was present!
   9. Peace—1st word—no exception Jesus was kind.
   10. Yet wants Thomas to do better.
   11. But remember every one may not yet believe all you do—don't throw them out!
VI. Last Window—You
v 30-31--do we believe?
Turn view inward!

Double Springs, AL (BC) - 11/9/97
ONE WORD'S ENOUGH
John 20:11-18

I. The resurrection of Jesus the all confirming fact of his genuineness.
   A. All concede the grave was empty.
   B. How did it get that way?
   C. We see it as He appeared first to a woman, Mary Magdalene.

II. Story opens with Mary alone at the grave.
   A. She'd been there earlier.
      1. 5 women came.
      2. 3 are named - Luke 24:10.
      3. 1st day of the week--yet dark.
      John 20:1
      4. Evidently she left these women w/o looking into grave, or seeing angels and went to tell Peter & John.
      5. They came and she followed.
      6. They left the grave, she remained.
   B. See Mary in the early morn there alone.
      1. She's determined to see what happened to the body.
      2. She cannot conceive of the resurrection.
      3. We do not know how long she stood there alone.
      4. Standing--weeping--with Jesus missing/what direction could she possibly travel.
   C. She decides to look into the Sepulchre.
      1. Saw word as John's looking.
      2. 1st time she's looked into it.
D. She Saw Two Angels

1. Before God created Adam he made angels.
2. Older than humanity and still a young man.

Mark 16:5

3. Powell says see the agelessness of Heaven.
4. Angels used on great occasions.
   a) Birth of John.
   b) Birth of Jesus.
   c) Baptism & Temptation of Jesus.
   d) Gethsemane
   e) Now resurrection.
   f) Later ascension.
   g) Return (2 Thess. 1:9)
5. We are not told Peter & John saw them--can they make self invisible?
6. Could they be near & we not know?

Heb. 1:14

7. God devised no scheme of redemption for them--just for you.
8. In white
   a) Pure
   b) Lit. white robes, flowing.

Mark 16:5

Rev. 3:4

9. Sitting--work is done.
10. Head & Feet
   a) No striving for place.
   b) Great protection while Jesus slept.
c) Like cherubim at mercy seat.
d) No one could steal this body as 1 angel killed 180,000 of Sennacherib's army.

E. Conversation with Angels
1. Why weep—stir up self inquiry.
2. They do not tell her of the resurrection—no need to—Jesus is there.
3. They do not answer her statement.
4. She said body was taken.
   a) Hard to overcome prejudice—resurrection foreign to her.
   b) By open grave & still can't see resurrection.

F. Now conversation with Jesus.
1. She turned—what caused it?
   a) Did angels arise at the coming of Jesus?
   b) Did she hear Him?
   c) Was his movement changing the scene so that she turned?
2. Jesus asked the same question plus whom seek?
   a) Woman
      (1) 1st sinner—brought death.
      (2) Birthed the Savior.
      (3) 1st at tomb.
      (4) 1st convinced of resurrection.
      (5) 1st to announce it even if men disbelieved.

Mark 16:11

b) Weep
   (1) Hard to see through tears.
(2) Do we weep when we have no cause to?
(3) Life is full of false fears.
(4) With Jesus close how can we go on weeping?

3. Supposed he was gardner,
   a) Buried in a garden.
   b) Did they want to get rid of body --in her mind.
   c) We see v-16 she turned from him.
      (1) Hard to see Jesus when we are facing the wrong direction.
      (2) She's looking now at tomb.

4. Borne hence--where--I take.
   a) Refers to Jesus as Him--does not call his name.
   b) Take--how?
      (1) She's one of ingenuity & means.
      (2) Love takes on great burdens.

G. The Recognition Scene--greatest of all literature. (Barclay)

1. One word--Mary.
   a) Marvelous communication.
   b) 1st appearance.

Mark 16:9

c) 1 word all He needed.

2. Mary turned
   a) Earlier turned from "gardner" to grave as woman would from a strange man.
   b) Now face to face.

3. Rabboni (Mark 10:51).
   a) Instead of dead body the living God.
b) When Jesus speaks no longer desolate.

c) Means "my dear Lord", same as Rabbi, my great Teacher, says various authors.

H. Touch Me Not

1. Mary evidently holding Him.
   a) Hug or
   b) At feet

Matt. 28:9

c) Clinging, hang on, fasten to, grasp.

d) Women held him in presence of several—not allowed alone.

2. Why?
   a) Thomas could touch (John 20:20-25)
   b) We are not to know Christ by physical means.
   c) She'll have adequate time for confirmation of resurrection during the next 40 days.
   d) Don't spend all time in adoration—work to be done. Dad "Kissing's a private institution."
   e) Some said wounds tender—wild!
   f) Don't impede progress of the Lord.

I. Ascension

1. Completes the resurrection—nothing partially done—ascension shows fullness of power.

2. Brethren
   a) 1st time so called.

Ps. 22:22
b) Servants--disciples--ministers--apostles--friends--brethren.

3. Father & God
a) Yours & my--different.
b) Since go to Father & you have the same God don't be troubled.
c) Great assurance to know God is yours.

J. Commission
1. Go--Tell--hasten to it.
2. She sensed urgency & came.
3. Obedience was prompt.
4. Disciples continually on the run--Peter & John to grave--Mary to tell, so must be today. I have seen the Lord
5. Told what He said. expresses certainly
a) Evidence of faithful servant.
b) She apostle to apostles.
c) She understood the brethren to be the disciples.

Walnut Street, Dickson, TN - 4/15/90
College & North, Mt. Home, AR - 11/20/91

Beville Rd., Daytona Beach, FL - 2/29/92
Central, Birmingham, AL - 10/30/91
Skyline - Jackson, TN - 4/5/92
Pratt, KS - 4/19/92
FEAR VS. PEACE—THUS EVER HAS IT BEEN
John 20:19-23
I. It was evening of the 1st day—and you can expect something great! Because at even time:
   A. Jesus Born.
   B. Jesus instituted Lord's Supper.
   C. Jesus taken prisoner.
   D. Jesus arose—in dark.
   E. Jesus instituted a ministry.
II. Appearance No. 5.
   A. Mary early.
   B. Emmaus noon.
   C. Apostles late.
   D. Jesus presents self by degrees.
   E. 1st time all apostles seen him together since Galilee—
      1. Thomas absent.
      2. Judas dead—no apology for either.
      3. Before this did not believe.
Mk. 16:14 "Upbraided—unbelief—hardness
III. Picture the Disciples.
   A. Assembled.
      1. Did in spite of fear, discouragement, weak faith
      2. Comfort in company; what would you do if lost a loved one—at home alone or with folk?
   B. Doors Shut.
      2. Plural—two leaved doors.
   C. Fear of the Jews.
      1. Felt life in danger.
      2. Left cross early.
3. Empty grave - Rome & Jews would want a scapegoat
4. Someone burst in asking "where is the body?"
5. Read:
   John 15:18-21 "If the world hate you, ye know that it hate me also."
   John 16:1-4 "These things have I spoken unto you, that ye might have peace."
7. Fear & Terror theirs.

IV. Suddenly Jesus Stood in Their Midst.
   A. Doors can't stop Him.
      1. Body superior to gravitation & material resistance
      2. Shut doors show His appearance was supernatural.
         a.) This a mystery - caterpillar to butterfly.
         b.) We are changed in a moment.
   3. Lord in all sorts of places - and will manifest all sorts of needs.
   B. Spoke - Showed - Sent.
      1. Spoke -
         a.) Peace.
            (1) All heard earlier His promise of peace.
            John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you."
            (2) Even this terrified - that a spirit (Lu. 24:36-37)
            (3) Shalom: health, wholeness, salvation, peace.
            Eph. 2:17 "And came & prayed, peace to you which were everywhere.
            (4) 1st & last word - Peace & yet they had none
            via disbelief! Troubled trying to put all the resurrection stories of "We've seen the Lord!" together. They hadn't!
            (5) We must have peace - no president sends an ambassador who is at war with himself!
            (6) Anything but peace ruled their minds.
(7) F. B. Meyer was told he'd die. He wrote a friend: "I have learned today of my impending death. Before you receive this letter I may already be in His palace. Don't bother to write. I'll see you in the morning."

2. Showed.
   a.) Shows marks of His death.
   c.) John only records pierced side. Is Luke account same mtg.?
   d.) Glad - believed not for joy (Luke).
   (1) We see the continuation of life & we are glad.
   Zech. 14:7 "But it shall be one day which shall be kn
   (2) Chapter had not ended - He was alive.
   (3) There is hope!
   e.) Spoke peace again.
   f.) Hard to reconcile this all c Luke.

3. Sent.
   a.) We all have tasks.
   b.) He identifies apostles c Himself as He is c Father
   c.) Maybe a little play on words - Steve Parham
      says not - Jesus the apostle - embassy for self, 
      sent for them.
   Heb. 3:1 "Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the
   d.) He needs us:
   e.) He sends - obedience necessary
   f.) Breathed - Holy Spirit.
   1.) Nowhere else in NT.

Gen. 2:7 "And the Lord God formed man of the dust
   2.) Communicates life.
3.) Gift of the Spirit came after Jesus glorified. 

John 7:39 "(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe are guided by him.

16:7 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that one man should depart from this world, and another should come in.

4.) With coming of Holy Spirit comes unchangeable realities – Palmer.

4. Sins.

a.) Remit,

(1) His triumph over death necessary to our salvation.
(2) Salvation His main business.
(3) Their acts not creative but declarative of the preceding acts of Christ & the H. Spirit – Schaff.
(4) No priest can forgive unless an apostle, sent by Christ, receiving HS & staying c word.
(5) It's unchangeable gospel - not whatever is current need.
(6) Sinner not too far gone for hope.
(7) God pardons at point of obedience.

b.) Retain.

1.) Jesus does not compromise His own authority.

Matt. 28:18 "All power is given unto me in heaven &
2.) Sin, unforgiven, will be punished.
3.) If salvation His business, punishment His necessity.

Sheet End 7-25-82
Baptist Church 7-26-82
THE MOODS OF THOMAS OR "THE LAST BEATITUDE"
John 20:24-28,
I. Closely interwoven are Thomas and the Last Beatitude.
  A. Let's set the stage by seeing Thomas.
     1. 4 times in N.T. -- always gloomy. He's always in trouble.
        a. 1st listed with 12.
        b. 1st speech on way to Laz. grave.
           (1) All go to Jer. and die with Him.
        c. John 14--we don't know where you go.
        d. After resurrection--didn't believe.
        e. John 21 with 6 who fished with Peter.
     2. Yet in it all he loved Jesus.
II. One has well shown us in this last event his moods.
  A. 1st he was absent.
     v-24 "But Thomas, one of the 12" -term they used although now only 10.
     1. Wonder why he was absent?
     2. Could he have been there?
     3. As one of 12 he should--position imposes some duty.
     4. What keeps us away?
        a. Sorrow--since we've failed when we ought to have been faithful and succeeded
     5. Wonder where he went? Eph. 2:14 "he is a Col. 1:20 "Made by blood
        a. When he need folks worst he turned away. Do we?
6. He missed a lot (Jesus brought "Peace"
   He raised the peace--nervous, restless).
   --this Thomas who was absent as a
disciple! So do you! Do we know how
much we loose?

B. Thomas Adamant.
1. Wonder how his week went?
2. One week later he's there!
   a. They go after him?
   b. Did they inspire with "We have seen the
      Lord!" in repeated utterance?
   c. Have we seen anything? Watch for any
      body? Care for any soul?
   d. Do we animate drooping spirits.
   e. Refreshing to note he hadn't broken
      with the 12.
3. Perhaps in same spot--now comes contest
4. He'd laid down terms and conditions,
   defiant, stubborn; double negative used.
5. Cruel in unbelief--dictated demands--
   "see prints, touch place, handle scar."
6. None so blind as those who won't see.
7. Jesus came through shut doors.

C. Thomas Adoring.
1. Did Jesus rebuke? Ignore? no gave in to
   his arrogance--then perhaps=next.
2. He wanted "Peace" for all.
3. Jesus did exactly what Thomas asked.
   a. Mary couldn't touch him.
   b. Thomas could--he deals with us as
individuals with private needs.

c. Honest doubt to all perhaps but the abundance of evidence is there too! This He gives.

d. Jesus quoted Thomas' words--this can bring shame to repeat what you said.
(Tho absent Jesus knew what Thomas had said--read thoughts?)

4. Thomas saw.

a. Record never says he touched.

b. We can persist in own willfulness and be lost. Now no demands--Jesus is Lord

c. "My Lord and my God"

(1) Double appealation to same person.

(2) Climax of all John's gospel.

(3) Strongest representation of Divine majesty.

(4) You can make it too.

II. The Last Beatitude.

v-29 "Blessed are they that have not seen, A. He meant us--Greater than ocular evidence

1. Was it a question to Thomas--did you believe because you saw--sense experience. All can't see but can believe.

2. Are we worthy of these words?

3. Faithless (he almost was) Faithful (we must be).

4. Higher blessedness can be ours.

5. Evidence to overcome all doubt.

6. What we see sometimes confuses--but believe in Jesus!
I. In the Churches of Christ there is rightfully a reverence for the Scriptures; because——
A. It's author - the Holy Spirit
B. It's presentation - Jesus, the Son
C. It's purpose - my salvation
D. All the above is exclusively of the Scriptures. No other book can do it.

II. Purpose of this lesson is to restate the purpose of the Scripture and ask your daily devotion to them.
Jn. 20:30-31 "And many other signs truly

III. From our text we see——-
A. Ampleness of God's Declaration
   1. "Many other signs"
      (a) Signs were miracles
      (b) " indicate the higher nature of Jesus
      (c) For "truly" some versions have therefore thus pinpoints the fact miracles were a might with a muscle!
      (d) Note writer is selective - no gospel claims to be a complete record.
      (e) It was not a day to day biographical account of Jesus
(f) Think of some of the signs because it means not just the resurrection but the whole ministry of Jesus
(1) water to wine--Jn. 2
(2) Feed 5,000 --Jn. 6
(3) Blind man sees--Jn. 9
(4) Lazarus raised--Jn. 11

2. Done in presence of disciples.
   (a) Not a veiled mystery.
   (b) "Before the disciples" and it had a great hold on their minds.

3. They were written
   (a) Not left to uncertainty of traditional recollections.
   (b) We must value the Scriptures, since Jesus is not here in person but his proof is!

B. Now see the Purpose - Believe in Jesus
   1. Scriptures exist for a reason - that's why God preserves them and Satan seeks to destroy them
   2. Their objective - ministry of faith.
   3. Some books are written to destroy faith; this one to build it
   4. John sought not demolition but up building.
   5. Bible does not exist to bewilder but to believe

C. Power of Faith
   1. I must believe that Jesus is. Heb. 11; Mk. 16
2. Faith brings me into fellowship with God.
3. This gospel about to end even as it started - claiming deity!
4. This faith is essential Gal. 2:20
5. Scholars argue over tense of the word but it seems it is written to lead you to continue to believe and thus disarm enemy.

D. Who is Jesus?
1. Scriptures say he is the Son of God - what do you?
2. It minces no words - Jesus is the Son!
Romans 1:4
3. Without Jesus if accident or disease gook one away I wouldn't know where he goes or what happens to him.
4. Again - what do you say about Jesus?

E. God wants you to have life!
1. Design of Scriptures - Salvation
2. Aim not to give information alone but to give life - no wonder the devil hates the Book!
3. Scriptures want you to see the Person of Jesus and thus truly seek after God.
4. This life is dual:
   (a) Spiritual life here (not natural one)
   (b) Eternal life hereafter.
5. No greater advantage could be offered you than life.
Acts 5:20
6. It's life "through his name".
   (a) not in just naming of the name but via the power represented by the Person who bears it.
   (b) Name in the Scripture means all that the person really is
7. Note the connection between faith and life.

IV. Thus at this Point will you accept the Scriptures proclamation and come in obedience to Christ.
West End 1-2-76
Mr. & Mrs. Odie Benson - Pest.
WHY READ & STUDY THE BIBLE
John 20:30-31

I. Congregations do various things to encourage daily Bible reading.
   A. How many are?
   B. How many chapters read?
   C. How much time spent?
   D. Daily Bible reading - 3 chapters weekday, 5 Sunday.
   E. Man came & quietly stood by me counting during class at Goodlettsville.
   F. Why is this & Sunday Bible study so important?
      1. Campbell article - #1.
      2. Strom Thurmond - #2.
      3. Thomas - #3.

II. John says it better than anyone.
   Jn. 20:30-31 "And many other signs"

A. Other Signs
   1. Shows the immeasurable fullness of Christ's life.
   2. All they can do is present a selection.
   3. Life has to bow to selective method.
      a) Food
      b) Clothes
      c) Reading
   4. Not exhaustive - "when I said hello I told you all I know".
   5. 20 to 40 days covered by John.
      a) Peter dominant - 12X named.
      b) John never named.

Critique by what not said? Roy Osborne never mentioned Rep. at WC.
2.

c) James never named - his brother.
d) Daddy of John mentioned 1X.
6. Sign supported his claims.
7. Recognizes book other than his own.

B. Jesus in Presence of Disciples.
1. They played a prominent role.
2. They are accredited witnesses.
3. World also saw signs.

Jn. 12:37: *The last great many miracles by*
4. Never saw a child behave - #5.

C. These not written.
1. Silence on many points that excite our curiosity.
2. We are to remain ignorant of what the Scrp. conceal.
3. Respect the silence - Luther said anything not prohibited was OK - Swingley said silence meant it was prohibited.

III. Things Written
A. God Speaks
1. Written in a clear style.
2. Lit. "have been written" - no additions expected.
3. He writes for a purpose.

B. Purpose - Believe Jesus is Christ, Son of God.
1. Believe
   a) The 1 great purpose.
   b) "We have believed and are sure". (1 Pet. 2:6)
2. In every act of learning believing must be presupposed.
   a) Science is this way.
   b) "He who believes nothing knows nothing."

Heb. 11:1 *Now faith is the substance*
   *of things hoped for, of things not seen.*

Rom. 10:7 *So then faith cometh by hearing*
   *and hearing by the word of God.*

   c) John's aim is faith & obedience.
   d) Question: To create faith or help you hold what you have? Both surely (Bruce).
   e) Faith is always a verb with John.

3. Jesus is the Christ
   a) All subjects, however interesting, are secondary to this.
   b) Christ refers to his office.
   c) Messiah.
   d) Anointed.

4. Jesus is the Son of God
   a) He is both Christ & Son in full sense.
   b) Son is his person.
   c) Wants to lead you to Thomas' statement - Lord & God.
   d) Wants readers to have same faith he does.

C. Result - Life Thru His Name

1. Teach way of salvation is primary object - Humanism card.

2. No creature need be ashamed of help from Christ & Creator.
2 Tim. 3:15 And this frame child, Tari has
2 Pet. 1:4 He gives us exceed as great prev

3. Faith produces Life.
5. Possible thru Name.

Red Boiling Springs, TN (B.C.) - 8/7/88
Nashville Road (B.C.) - 8/14/88
Oxon Hill church, Temple Hills, MD - 8/28/88
Collegeside, Cookeville, TN (B.C.) - 9/18/88
Highland church, Columbia, TN (BC) - 10/2/88
Granny White church, (B.C.) - 10/30/88
Washington St., Fayetteville, TN (BC) - 11/6/88
Cedars church, Wilmington, DE (BC) - 11/13/88
Central church, Cincinnati, OH - 11/20/88 (BC)
First Colony church, Sugar Land, TX (BC) - 1/5/89
W. President church, Greenwood, MS (BC) - 1/22/89
Dardanelle, AR - 2/26/89 (B.C.)
Pratt, KS - 3/19/89 (B.C.)
Cox Blvd., Sheffield, AL (B.C.) - 3/26/89
Auburn, AL (B.C.) - 4/23/89
"I am greatly concerned about this issue (of integrity)" said Thurmond. "For in the gradual erosion of our nation's integrity, I see a tragic crumbling of America's strength..." Psychologists have offered many reasons for its demise—television and its cynicism; the breakdown of the family and religion; the growing philosophy that all things are relative and there is no right and wrong; an educational system that emphasizes product rather than process.

"All of these theories are valid, but I think there is still a deeper explanation—and our society has somehow lost its appreciation and understanding of the God who made this nation.

It does not take much reading in the Scriptures to realize that God values very different things than our
society values today. There He says, 'My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways.'

"He tends to work in a different way than we do today, often using people of integrity and faith rather than those of wealth and power. Consider the manner in which He used a shepherd boy and his slingshot to slay a mighty giant in his armor; tumbled the walls of Jericho with a silent procession of unarmed men, women and children; or the way He used a man who could not speak to lead thousands of Israelites out of Egypt.

THE DEATH OF ETHICS IN AMERICA - Cal Thomas-P.151-152
There is virtually no acquaintance at all with Scripture today, even among many Christians, and that is the major source of our present difficulties.

The central attitude of modern secular humanism is personal preference as the highest norm. As Dr. Francis Schaeffer put it, the culture now pursues only two objectives: that of personal peace, by which is meant "You have your life to live, I have mine. You leave me alone and I'll leave you alone" and affluence, by which is meant the pursuit and acquisition of more and more material things.
1. More than 100 yrs so eight hands of
   every body. My
2. Little children - believe
3. Was it a stranger wanted to
   buy fish
4. Bread 153 shows how men come
   will catch lobes
5. Put in heavy coat to go swimming
   or swimming deep
6. Water deep or shallow

Henry. Scott

7. How hard to care for their coats?
8. Do we get discouraged?
9. See the Comparison - children
10. Nothing is hidden from the Lord

Job 26:5
11. Do we accept advice?
12. Do we love anything by doing
13. John - most stranger
14. Very stern reproof
14. How does God dispense gifts?
15. Christ pleads compassion to both men
16. Called to be far after He^
17. False
18. Lord no false love was not broken
19. Jesus interested in our body
19. Not immediately following but after several days.
20. Shot a destructive arrow
   "Manifest" seldom used.
21. Only John was taken up.
22. """"Thomas
23. """"""""
24. """"""""
25. Do not take the fishing at
    avondoonest
26. Jesus stood in their midst
    appearance
27. Word life last; toys
29. Little to strangers?
30. Put on girdle. This garment
    used only here.
31. Shift a coat, words interchanged.
32. Peter goes up because Jesus
    commanded him.
33. No mysterious word or sign
    that catch as a sound to hear it.
34. See Spirit's great release.
MEET THOMAS, THE HONEST DOUBTER

John 21:1-2

I. Thomas a most unusual apostle.
   A. We meet him as an honest doubter.
   B. We meet him several times in John -- anywhere else?
   C. We've dubbed him the "doubting Thomas."
   D. Was he a gloomy man? Or do you see him as one who grows in faith when given the evidence?
   E. Does the alternate listing with the apostles signify promotion of him?

Acts 1:13

II. Let's study his John appearance.
   A. Ready to follow Jesus even to death.

John 11:15

   B. Searches for the true way.

John 14:5

   C. Does he rely more on sense than faith?

John 20:24-29

   D. Was he anxious to see the resurrected Jesus?

John 21:2

   E. Did he believe there are greater things to come?

Acts 1:13
III. Notice his apostolic listings.

Matt. 10:3
Mark 3:18
Luke 6:15

A. Only John tells details of his life.
B. In Acts nearer to head of list.
C. Four appearances in John.

IV. The John Appearance
A. John 11:14–16
   1. Jesus left Judea due to impiety.

John 10:40

2. While here Lazarus dies.
3. Jesus delays return and then decides to go.

John 11:7

4. Disciples remind him of the danger.
5. Tells them he must go and awaken Lazarus.
6. Thomas says go also--as he sees Jesus unafraid to face death.
7. Jesus unafraid to face his task. He will not desert his duty.

B. Search for Truth

John 14:5–8

1. This in upper room after supper is instituted.
2. Told abour room prepared here-after.
3. Thomas said didn't know the way.
4. Jesus is "the way."
5. It's fine for us to look for the way. We need to search.
6. We may have our doubts--keep looking!

C. Thomas Convinced

John 20:24-29

1. Jesus made 40 days post resurrection appearance.
2. First Sunday night appearance Thomas not there.
3. Heard what others said but could not believe it--must see the nail prints.
4. But he would accept evidence.
5. Week later he is there with them.
6. Reverent awe as Thomas gazed on Jesus.
7. Jesus told him to be not faithless.
8. At full tide of faith: "My Lord and my God."
9. Blessed are those who have not seen but believe.

D. Thomas and Peter together.

John 21:1-2

1. No more hesitations or disbeliefs by Thomas.
2. Seven apostles (?) together.
3. Peter first named; Thomas second.
4. Didymus means twin.
5. Next listing (Acts 1:13). Thomas higher on list than the earlier catalogue.
6. Grateful send only to Peter here.

V. We meet those who doubt today.
   A. We must grow.
   B. Accept Jesus.

2 Cor. 5:7
   C. Accept truth.
I. Have you ever said "I'd know him anywhere?"

A. Tell story of party game when wife's feet was under sheet and nose thru it to see if recognized.

B. It's interesting to think of what causes non-recognition.
   1. Unexpected place.
   2. Unexpected companionship.
   3. Moved out of step with sight of loved one.
   4. Could be we don't know enough about them!

II. I want to tell you of the stranger on the seashore -- John 21:1-7.

A. Post resurrection appearance at Galilee.
   1. Group of disciples returned to old ways. They went fishing.
   2. Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, James John and two other disciples were the group.
   3. Peter had suggested it--peer pressure--"we go with thee."
   4. Went "immediately."
   5. Caught nothing.
      a) Hard and empty to go back.
      b) Jesus gave fuller life.
B. At morning Jesus appeared on the shore.
   1. It means he stood forth as having come from some unperceived place.
   2. It's like a curtain of fog had been around him—withdrawn—now they see.
   3. Disciples didn't understand it.
      a) Sleepless night.
      b) Foggy morning.
      c) Failure of efforts.

C. Jesus spoke.

V-5 "Children, have ye any meat?"
   1. Failed to perceive by sight but sound of his voice awakened something.
   2. Children—young people, lads, yet not too familiar term.
   3. His question about food shows he was interested in their daily toil.
   4. They told him they had no meat.

D. Some fishing instructions given.

V-6 "Cast the net on the right side of the ship."
   1. It was quite a task to bring in net from left side and cast it on right.
   2. Yet they obeyed at once.
   3. He was always right.
   4. Caught more fish than they could handle.
E. Stranger recognized.

1. John said, "It is the Lord."
   a) John knew.
   b) He'd earlier been acquainted.
   c) He'd been to that empty tomb.

2. Peter accepted.
   a) He moved when he heard--two voices--Jesus and John.
   b) Never said he too saw.
   c) Threw another coat over him and jumped in.
   d) Net of fishes meant nothing--he wanted to see Jesus!
   e) Others came in little boats making the 100 yards.

F. Breakfast at Galilee

1. Had a charcoal fire ready.
2. Christ, as today, was meeting their needs.
3. Christ prepares for his own--he's ever done this.
4. Jesus told them to bring fish they'd caught.
   a) Peter went up--like embarking a vessel.
   b) 153 shows authenticity.
5. Jesus invites to breakfast.
6. They knew it was the Lord.

Heritage C/C - 11/25/07
BREAKFAST AT GALILEE
John 21:9-14

I. Recall all the unusual places; people; products you’ve eaten.
A. 1st automat in NYC.
B. Nile Yearwood & Billy Sol Estes at Abilene.
C. Cliff Ganus & straw egg in China.
D. How about breakfast in Galilee, with Jesus, & have broiled fish - let me tell you that story.
John 21:9-14 - Read.

II. You remember earlier events of John 21, the fishing of Peter & disciples.

III. Now our story starts.
A. All on land.
   1. Saw fire.
   2. Saw fish.
      a.) Jesus knows our temporal necessities.
      b.) He could have put the fish in the ship, or made it so they did not get hungry but did none of this:
      c.) Bread & fish show his tender care.
      d.) Christ met their needs - still does.
B. Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.
   1. Simon & the net.
      a.) Quickly obeyed - 1st one.
      b.) He seized net for Christ's use.
   2. 153 great fishes.
      a.) Cyril - 100 Gentiles, 50 Jews, 3 Trinity.
      b.) 153,000 of 2 Chron. 2:17.
      c.) 153 species of fish in lake.
d.) We go to seed in some of our over interpreting.
3. I do know this is the only recorded miracle after
   the resurrection, but I know of no significance for
   the 153.
4. Breakfast almost ready & he asks for their fish too.
   a.) We make our own contributions to work of Christ
   b.) His blessings come in great abundance - let's
       share same way!
   c.) Bringing your own fish assures them of the
       reality of the miracle.
   d.) He invites you to eat c him now.
5. Come & dine.
   a.) He's solicitous of man.
   b.) It is Christ that takes & gives.
   c.) He's host.
   d.) One does not eat c a hallucination.
   e.) He extended invitation.
   f.) None ask who art thou.
1.) Ask = prove, inquire.
2.) Waited for him to make 1st move at eating.
3.) Doesn't say Jesus ate.
6. Remember (Erdman).
   a.) Jesus is ever ready to give.
   b.) We all stand in need of directing hand from the
       Master.
   c.) Miracle shows all things subject to Him - even
       fish.
   d.) Jesus supports his servants c great abundance -
       153 fish.

West End 8-29-82
BREKKFAST ON THE BEACH  
John 21:1-15

I. We deal with Jesus' third presentation to 
disciple group - it resulted in Breakfast 
on the Beach.

II. Set the story
   A. Were told to go to Mt. and He'd meet 
   them.

Matt. 28:10
   1. Why to sea? 
   2. Mentioned by Matthew, told by John 
   B. Can't set exact date in appearance 
      sequence. Week day? What day? 
   C. Are we implicitly following Jesus?

Matt. 28:16  Success comes if we do! 
D. Sea of Tiberias - Galilee - only here 
in John called Tiberias.

E. 7 men are there.
   1. Peter always first. 
   2. John mentions him. 
   3. Only place where John names his dad. 
   5. Note Thomas stays close. 
   6. Gospel of Peter says it was Andrew 
      and Matthew. 
   7. Never told other 2.

III. Peter Proposes a Fishing Exercise.
   A. This has sparked varied reaction but 
it is still conjecture. 
   1. Peter the leader. 
   2. Why fish? - At least did it - #1. 
      a) Wanted to be useful.
b) Antidote for idleness.
   (1) Employment indispensable to man.
   (2) Awaiting development.
   (3) Waiting tiresome.

Gal. 6:9 Let us not be weary in well doing

c) Only means of support.
   (1) Do we see Christ's work as No. 1?
   (2) Useful or idle - which?
   d) Tho' apostleship terminated so returned to old life.
      (1) Dangerous to return to old ways - Have to come back #2.
      (2) Do we act on our own decisions?

B. All Immediately Complied.
   1. Failed - Fished (it was experienced men) all night - nothing.
   2. Night best time - fish can't see nets.

C. Morning - Jesus - Knew Him Not
   1. Jesus never on sea after resurrection.
   2. Called 100 yrd!
      a) Friendly
      b) Interested
      c) Children
         (1) Not affectionate children but colloquial "boys".
         (2) Question like that of neighbor who wanted to buy something.
         (3) Lad - does not convey youth.
d) Meat
   (1) Anything eatable.
   (2) Now only flesh.
   (3) Int. in our success.
3. "No" - Who wants to broadcast failure?
   a) Disappointed they've nothing to sell.
   b) What do we have to show for our labors?
   c) Negro "Spent yo' money to ride merry-go-round - got off where you got on - ain't been nowhere"
4. Cast net on Rt. side.
   a) Evidently net in boat.
   b) Bell shape or not?
   c) Cast & pull in circle with boat.
   d) Jesus becomes Fishing guide.
   e) Sometimes able to see school of fish from shore.
   f) Why do it? Senseless?
      (1) Once before toiled all night and caught nothing.
      (2) Luke 5
   g) Shoot the net to starboard (NEB)

IV. Jesus is Recognized
A. 1st by John - It is the Lord - (he does not use his own name).
B. Peter heard and acted - NOW emphasized.
   1. John contemplates.
   2. Peter acts.
   3. All he needed was a spark.
   4. Naked
      a) Had stripped upper garment so he could work.
b) Only partially naked – apron.

5. Gird Coat
   a) Blouse of a workman now over apron demanded for decency.
   b) Gird – put on, fasten.
   c) Reverence caused him to put on coat – clip on clothes #3.
   d) Swim or wade? How cold was water – had fire.
   e) Fisherman’s coat only here.

6. Cast Self into Sea.
   a) Earlier net – now me!
   b) Impulsive – minute he heard Lord he acts.
   c) Swim or wade?
   d) Left "waterpot".
   e) Love of Christ drives men thru fire & water.
   f) Earlier knew sin (Lu.5:1-11) then denial – now freedom to come to Christ.
   g) Did he forsake his end of load?

C. Other Disciples Brought in Boat.
   1. They restrained self but got to be with Lord too – back seat of air-plane as soon as 1st class.
   2. Large vessels carried little punt.
   3. 200 cubits out.

V. Breakfast on the Beach
A. Charcoal Fire
   1. Fish on coal shows he had not come to buy but supply.
   2. Fire like one Peter knew.
John 18:18 They made 2 lists of foods. Pseudo-Threnody

3. A vision would not make a charcoal fire - the resurrection is real.

B. Fish & Bread
1. Provides food.
Ps. 78:19 Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?
2. Cares for body & soul.
3. Harvest of earth & sea.
4. Catacombs show fish & bread - no crucifix.

C. Bring Yours
1. Add what you have to mine.
2. Jesus could have had enough but they must learn their joint responsibility.
3. We make a contribution too.

D. Peter Drew in Net
1. Not shirking now.
2. What 6 couldn't - he did.
3. Loyd Douglas "Big Fisherman".
4. 153 fish.
   a) Massive catch
   2 Chron. 2:17
   b) Don't allegorize.
   5. Net didn't break.
   a) Gospel net will never break.
   b) Church can't get too big for results of fishers of men.
   c) Christ big enough to handle all.
   d) All kinds of fish - and us!

E. Come and Dine - Woman & coat #4
1. He often fed them

Jn. 13:26
2. Felt for weary bodies.
3. Fed on his riches.
4. W-e-l-l-i-n-g-t-o-n detected then fog came & sadness - lifted the e-n-e-m-y.
5. None asked.
   a) Note state of mind. 
   b) He felt for them.
6. Took Bread
   a) He didn't need any - only to demonstrate.
   b) Offer thanks
7. 7th appearance - 3rd before group.

VI. Will we:
   A. Fish for men?
   B. See we do no good without Him?
   C. Not obedience brings success?
   D. Is He manifest to you - without doubt?

Nashville Road - 8/16/88
Oxon Hill church, Temple Hills, MD - 8/27/88
Highland church, Columbia, TN - 10/4/88
Old Hickory, TN church - 10/10/88

Maul Road, Camden, AR -- 10/23/88
Washington St., Fayetteville, TN - 11/8/88
Beville Road, Daytona Beach, FL - 1/16/89
West President, Greenwood, MS - 1/22/89
Cox Blvd., Sheffield, AL - 3/26/89

Philippi church, Smithville, TN - 7/2/89
Northside, Terre Haute, IN - 8/20/89
Cave-In-Rock, IL - 8/27/89
College St., Waxahachie, TX - 9/17/89
Dalebrook Lane, Nashville, TN - 10/22/89
Erin, TN - 5/6/90
Lindale church, Houston, TX - 6/3/90

Hilton Head, SC - 8/8/90
Middleton, TN - 7/23/90
SAME QT.: CHR., LOVEST THOU ME?
John 21:13-17
1. "It was the best of times; the worst of times" - contrasts & comparison.
A. Denials & Confessions.
   1. Both around coals of fire: one fire of enemy, one
      of Christ's. How can I turn from any fire on any
      man's earth? (Props: Alleluia) The
   2. 3x for both. Words of Jesus that went to build
   3. Jesus looking on.
B. Events of the morning.
   1. Jesus ready to leave earth, so words of great
      importance.
   2. Best time to talk is right after a meal.
   3. Lord knows our constitution; restore body before
      talking to soul.
Ps. 103:14 "He knoweth our frame; he remembereth th
   4. Guy Woods thinks they ate in silence, then Jesus
      popped the qt.
II. The Confessions.
   A. This seems to be in order - there had been 3
      denials.
   John 18:17 "Art not thou also 1 of this man's disciple
   John 18:25 Peter warmed - I am not
   John 18:26 "Did I not see thee in the garden with hir
B. Qt. & Ans. Start.
   1. 1st Qt.
   V. 15 "Sim., son of J., loveth thou me more than the
   a.) Jesus in presence of others always treated Peter
      like an apostle.
   b.) Jesus wants Peter "restored."
(1) He "looked" (at denial).
(2) He sent word - tell d. & Peter.
(3) He visited on Sunday.
(4) He sent witnesses.
(5) He appeared c him alone.
(6) Now he presents personal qts.
(7) Well to ask, "How much has been invested in us as good folk want us loyal to Christ."
(8) Uses old name - earlier promised a new one.

c.) Love - Agape.
(1) Two Kinds; Agape & Phileo.
(2) Peter never reaches as high as Jesus qts.

d.) "These."
(1) Everyone asks the identity of "these."
(3) Earlier claimed superiority.

Matt. 26:35 "Tho I should die c thee yet will I not de
26:33 "Tho all men shall be offended because c
John 13:37 "Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I

(4) Our boasting is sinful - "no one loves Jesus
more than me."
(5) Peter ignored the these & agape.
(6) It was a simple, yet searching qt.
((a)) Do we love Christ more than these?
((b)) Don't we really feel his simple - not
complex qts.
((c)) Jesus interested in our current, present
decision.

e.) Peter answers - reducing the impact.
f.) Feed my lambs.
1.) Lambs need special food.
2.) "Feed" will come several times - collectively & privately apply.
3.) Not thy lambs, but my lambs.
4.) Lambs the weakest of the flock.

2. Qt. No. #2.
   a.) Same qts. - only skips "these."
   b.) Same answer.
   c.) "Feed my sheep."
1.) Nothing dearer to Jesus than his sheep.
2.) Mature of flock.
3.) Feed = shepherd my sheep.
   ((a)) Idea of lead.
   ((b)) Denote government of his people.
   ((c)) Tend some translate. Perform all the duties of the shepherd.
   ((d)) Indicates authority - exercise discipline.
4.) No affront to have our sincerity questioned.

3. Qt. No. 3.
   a.) This time Jesus lowers it to "phileo."
   b.) Answer.
   1.) Grieved - if no affront to ck. our sincerity, it is painful to have our love questioned.
   2.) Peter puts self under penetration of omniscience.
   3.) Refuses to lay claim to exalted love.
   c.) Feed my sheep.
   1.) Elders do too.
   Acts 20:28 "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and
   2.) Hard to get old folks to eat.
   3.) In feeding don't forget the individual member of the flock.
4.) Service was proof of love.
5.) Jesus accepted the best Peter could do tho that was not tops.

West End 9-5-92
Broadway Church, Lubbock, Tex. Ladies Bible Class 9-29-92
Central Church, Lubbock, Tex. Ladies Bible Class 10-13-92
OBSERVATIONS OF A STRANGE TWO
John 21:11-19

I. It's the interval time between the resurrection and ascension.
   A. It involves the apostles, especially Peter.
   B. But two are with them and never identified.
   C. I want you to be with the silent two and see how much you can learn.

II. Come with the identified.
   A. With Jesus was Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, sons of Zebedee (James and John as John does not name himself), and "two of his disciples.
      1. Never identified.
      2. Who where they?
      3. Not apostles? Maybe reason not named, but they surely had an experience.
   B. There are times when oddly we are at the right place at the right time and have great company and a very rich experience.
   C. Remember that Jesus has made many appearances.

Acts 1:1-3 "The former treatsie have I made."
1. Mary Magdalene.  
Mk. 16:9  "Now when Jesus was risen."
2. Other women.  
Matt. 28:5-9
3. Peter  
I Cor. 15:5
4. Two disciples  
5. Ten apostles, Thomas absent.  
John 20:19-21
   (All above on day of resurrection).
6. Eight days later apostles, Thomas there.  
John 20:26-29
7. Perhaps our story is the next appearance.  
Matt. 26:32  "I will go before you into Galilee."
8. Earlier women to tomb.  
Matt. 28:7-10

D. During this waiting Peter went fishing, company with him.  
1. Surely not in doubt because he'd seen the Lord.  
2. Need money?  
3. Killing time?  
4. Too restless to be still?
E. Toiled all night -- nothing.
1. Daybreak - Jesus.
2. Right side of boat nets dropped.
3. From 0 to 153.
4. All recognized him.
5. Accepted breakfast invitation.
6. Received bread and fish he had prepared.
7. He always knew what he was talking about!

III. Then comes play on words with Peter, (V-15-17).
A. Three times denied, now three times affirm.
B. Love me more than these?
   1. Your fish business?
   2. Your fellow apostles?
   3. Most devoted to me of all?
   4. Are you as stout as you think you are?
C. Agape or Phileo as we have only one word for love--Greek has several.
   1. Explain difference.
   2. Sheep care: feed lambs, tend sheep, feed my sheep.
   3. Peter hurt by it.
D. Future for Peter (V-18,19).
E. How expansive is our love? Would we pass the test--love me, keep commandments.
THE INEVITABLE & YET THE COMMISSION
John 21:20-

I. At times there are circumstances that seem so demanding; yet in spite of it all there remains an overriding duty.
A. You are weary but the baby remains ill.
B. You are out of work but the bills come due.
C. You want longer to be with loved ones to visit, but duty calls for a return.

II. So it was c Peter:
A. He'd just been told of his martyrdom.
B. Twin evils of our time, meddlesomeness & rumor, cropped up.
C. There remained one consuming duty: Follow Thou Me.

III. 1st, let's see those ever present twin hindrances.
A. We are tempted to meddle in the affairs of another
1. Peter saw John who fully describes himself.
   a.) Disciple whom Jesus loved – 5X calls self a disciple.
   b.) Leaned on his breast at the supper.
2. Peter asked,"Lord, what shall this man do?"
   a.) We are always interested in other fellow's busyne
   b.) After all, had John followed w/o being invited?
   c.) Was Peter's qt. indiscreet?
   d.) What prompted the qt.: Envy, bitterness, curiosity, concern?? (They were the closest of friends, remember.)

3. Facts to remember.
a.) What happens to others does not control our destiny.
b.) Don't look into another's life & weaken your own.
c.) Ea. man individually has a position before God.
d.) We get more concerned about future than the present.
e.) Don't get too concerned over others lot.

2 Cor. 10:12 (Read)
Deut. 29:29 "The secret things belong unto the Lord of...

B. Second drawback is rumor.
1. Jesus ans. John 21:22, "If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me."
   a.) It's Heaven's business.
   b.) He will properly take care of it.
2. Rumor: The disciple should not die. (Mormon still teach John's living on this earth).
3. Facts.
   a.) Value of oral traditions are uncertain.
   b.) Immensely important to know exactly what God has said.
   c.) Peter knowing how he would die could not believe Christ would come in his lifetime.
   d.) Clip on Rumor.

IV. The Overruling Imperative: "Follow thou me."
A. Last precept of Jesus recorded in last gospel, thus great finale.
B. "Thou" - pronoun for emphasis.
C. Actions not speculations is what he wants.
D. Our position before the Lord is an individual responsibility.
Rumors are unverified pieces of information from an uncertain source spread by word of mouth, in letters, over the telephone, in whispered confidences, even in media.

Rumors are so prevalent—and so plausible—that most of us don’t stop to consider how rumor mongers are communicating with us, and how we may be guilty of doing the same thing with others.

Have you ever decided to bypass a movie because someone said it was no good? Bought stocks or bonds because you heard a new product was going to send the manufacturer’s stock skyhigh? Turned down a job interview because someone said the company was niggardly with promotions? Decided not to buy a car because someone said he’d heard it had defective brakes?

If you’ve ever made decisions like these, you may have been influenced by unfounded rumors based on hearsay.

People who spread rumors delight in the titillation that grows with each repetition. Sometimes the rumor even creates the event. Rumors get started for all kinds of reasons, because there’s status in being someone in the know, out of hostility or jealousy or some repressed need.

A rumor may help achieve a desire, or even set standards of behavior. When Johnny wants to stay up until 10 p.m. he tries to convince his parents that his friend Tommy doesn’t go to bed until then. And his teenage sister wails that all the girls are getting new formals for the prom in hopes that the rumor will help her get the gown she wants.

Some rumors spring up and die down very quickly; others seem to hang on forever and gain strength with age. Rumors about such anxieties as health, death and disaster tend to flourish and gain validity as they are passed along. Unfortunately a negative rumor outlasts a positive one. That’s why an erroneous statement in a newspaper remains in a reader’s mind even after the retraction has been published.

You’re treading on dangerous ground when you communicate with rumors. Spreading defamatory or untruthful stories is a good way to make enemies—and you might end up in court.

Good communication is not easy, but depending on rumor is irresponsible, and even malicious.

Rumors spread like brush fire because they’re sensational. And because they add spice to sometimes humdrum days, we’re as eager to hear them as others are to pass them along. Keep in mind that a rumor is just that—a rumor. —Vivian Buchan
**Record**

In 1915 the world’s record for the mile run was four minutes 14.4 seconds. On April 12 of that year Noah Young, an Australian, ran around a Melbourne track for the length of a mile in eight minutes 30 seconds, and established a world’s record. How come?

Well, Young was carrying a man on his back. The runner weighed 198 pounds; the lad he was lugging along weighed 150. It was quite a performance.

The Withers Stakes for horse racing is 107 years old—as is the Preakness. The Withers is a mile race for 3-year-olds. It has generally been overlooked for all those years because it is run just a week before the Preakness. Rarely will a colt compete in the Withers and then ship to Pimlico for the middle leg of the Triple Crown.

Tarja Koho, a freshman at Guilford College, in North Carolina, has won 24 consecutive tennis matches this season without the loss of a set. At the NAIA District 26 tournament she won the singles championship and was named MVP.

The best matador was the elegant, icily formal and mortally wounded Manuel Rodriguez y Sanchez, otherwise known as Manolete, killed in a Linares bullring in 1947.

**Ancient Art**

Fencing is based on the ancient art or craft of killing your fellow-man. But there’s a lot more to it than that. As a sport it shifts the focus from killing to the various ways of doing the deed without causing death. By blunting the swords it transforms aggression into creativity. Fencing has the closeness and intensity of boxing. Like boxing it places value on technique and tactics. It is different from boxing in that its object isn’t to punish one’s opponent physically or to destroy him, but to undo him. This heightens the importance of technique and strategy.

A certain preacher was chagrined by the fact that one of his friends and golfing companions invariably beat him. His companion, an older man, said, “Don’t take it too hard. You win in the end. You’ll probably be burying me one of these days.”

“I know,” said the preacher, “but even then it will be your hole.”

There is nothing as good as body-building to get your body tuned up and totally in shape. The only activity that can build the entire body evenly and uniformly is progressive weight-resistance training.

*Arnold Schwarzenegger*
H\OW WELL DO WE SUIT UP FOR MARTYRDOM?
John 21:18-23
I. Let me tell you about tailoring.
A. I needed a brown shirt. Went to nice shop in
   Dallas - 16 1/2 33. "Say what?" "Hardly have
   ordinary shirt - ours tailor made."
B. Aunt Lula to get a suit. Cost too much - bury in
   it. Couldn't sleep till 3:00 A.M.
II. But what about being suited up for martyrdom?
A. Let me tell you of Jesus & Peter.
   1. He's just made 3 confessions.
   2. Conversation is over - Jesus tells what will
      happen.
   3. Peter told how he will die, shall we examine the
      statement made.
B. It begins Verily, Verily.
   1. Death - life won't be a bed of roses.
   Ps. 34:19 "Many are the afflictions of the righteous
   but the Lord delivereth him out of them all."
   2. "My times are in thy hands" Ps. 31:15.
C. Change coming for Peter.
   1. As young man did what he wanted to - this
      period of his life to end.
   2. Older it gets rougher - perhaps middle aged
      here.
      a.) Some that it forecasting crucifixion.
      b.) Godet says no - not a forecast but gesture of
         passivity face to face c violence.
      c.) It does show a personal surrender to another.
4. Another gird.
   a.) Self will annihilated.
   b.) We naturally revolt against suffering.
   c.) Easier for Peter to act than to wait.
5. Death & Glory.
   a.) Death by divine appointment.
Rom. 14:8 - Whether we live, we live
Rev. 1:18 I have the keys of hell - death
Ps. 116:15 Precious in the sight of
   b.) Glorify.
   (1) Martyrdom can glorify God.
1 Pet. 4:11 "If any man speak
   "If any man minister
   That God in all things may be

D. Follow Me
1. Follow me - sum & substance of Christian life.
2. It makes no difference how tough - change not.

Matt. End. 9-19-82
THE APOSTLE WITH 3 NAMES AND 1 SPEECH
John 24:18-24
1. Strange -- about some apostles we know so little
   for them to be so important in the church!
A. We study one thrice named who asked one qn. --
   beyond that we know nothing!
B. 3 names.
   1. Lebbæus = (Heart?) Matt. 10:3
   2. Thaddæus  Mk. 3:18
      Tad = Breast -- one close to the heart of
   3. Judas of James  Lu. 6:16
C. The question  Acts 1:13
   1. One of 4 asked Jesus the nite of the Last Supper.
II. Since I know nothing more of the man, let's consider
   his qn.  John 14:18-24
A. It's the Upper Room Scene. May we see some
   great points in Jesus' speech.
   1. I will not leave you comfortless (V. 18).
      (a) They knew trouble was ahead.
      (b) Jesus will not leave them forlorn.
      (c) Lit. I will not leave you orphans. RSV
         "desolate." Knox "friendless."
      (d) Meant one w/o a father; or disciples bereft of
         beloved teacher.
   2. I will come to you (V. 18).
      (a) What does this mean?
         (1) Second coming? Literal sight of him?
         (2) His resurrection?
         (3) Come so they would fully & spiritually understand him?  See poem.
(d) In person of Holy Spirit?
(b) Does doubt belong to the disciple?
(c) Can the world understand Jesus?
(d) Is there not a perennial advent of Christ?

Rev. 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door, and know
(e) Need we await the rending Heavens
2 Tim. 4:17-18 "And the Lord shall def.
Matt. 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in
(f) We sing song "Illume in me."

3. The World's Blind.
V. 19 "Yet a little while & the world seeth
(a) World never saw him after he was placed in
tomb.
(b) After res. appeared only to His own.
(c) World & church never see eye to eye.
Ps. 25:14 "The secret of the Lord is c them that
fear him."

4. But ye shall see me, because I live ye shall also.
(a) Life's more than an existence.
(b) We too may feel the shadows - but really He's
there.
(c) Jesus works out the harmony.
V. 20 "At that day ye shall know that I am in my

5. Definition of love.
V. 21 "He that hath my commandments and keepe
(a) John & Jesus based it all on love.
(b) Obedience is only proof of love.
(c) Obedience leads to safety.
(d) Obedience leads to fuller revelation.

B. Judas asked a qt.
1. Who was Judas
   (a) Gk. form of Judah.
   (b) Latin form is Jude
   (c) R.C. says Bro. of James
   (d) Gk. lit. Judas of James & this usually means Son of
   (e) AV says Bro. of James.
2. 7 Judas in Bible.
   (a) Bro. of Jesus
     Matt. 13:55 "Is not this the carpenter's son? Is
   (b) Ancestor of Jesus
     Lu. 3:30 "Which was the son of Simeon, which w
   (c) Troublemaker
     Acts 5:37 "After this man rose up Judas of Galile
   (d) Paul's home & host
     Acts 9:11 "And the Lord said unto him, Arise, an
   (e) Barsabas
     Acts 15:22 "Then pleased it the apostles and elder
   (f) Iscariot.
3. Note his qts.
   V. 22 "Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyse
   (a) They'd been on both sides of the issue
     John 7:4 "For there is no man that doeth any thi
     Lu. 16:31 "And he said unto him, If they hear n
   (b) Some men today dissatisfied c words Jesus spoke
     They want them weaker or stronger.
   (c) Judas thot Jesus should reveal himself to every­
     body. We are always telling God what to do.
   (d) Men often pick one word from a conversation,
     misinterpret it & ask erroneous qts.
C. Jesus answered.
V. 23 "If a man love me, he will keep my
V. 24 "He that loveth me not keepeth not my
V. 24 "And the word which ye hear is not
1. Love & obedience go together.
2. Evil men do not receive the revelation of God.
3. The disobedient one is insensitive to God's will.
4. Love is the condition of revelation.
5. Love is vital - it's obedience.
Heb. 5:8-9 "Though he were a Son, yet learned he of
1 Pet. 1:22 "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obe
Matt. 7:21 "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord,
6. God's love precedes & follows ours.
7. The form of the statement in V. 23 makes every
man ask himself the qt. - do I love Jesus?
8. God & Jesus make home in us - close relationship
9. What better time than now & what other way is
there to show our love than to obey our Lord?
Huss End. 5-19-74
Jesus, these eyes have never seen
That glorious form of Thine;
The veil of sense hangs dark between
Thy blessed face and mine.

I saw Thee not, I hear Thee not,
Yet art Thou oft with me;
And earth hath ne'er so dear a spot
As where I meet with Thee.

Like some bright dream that comes unsought,
When slumbers o'er me roll,
Thine image ever fills my thought,
And charms my ravished soul.

"Of Them He Chose Twelve" - By Clarence E. Macartney -
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