



"THUS SAITH THE LORD..."

FREE GENERAL NEWSLETTER

Encouraging people to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)

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PAGE 1

Counsels From Proverbs 7 (Proverbs 7:1-27)



Verse-by-verse study of Proverbs chapter 7

By popular request, the following article

contains the notes for the sermon by the same title, which is a line-by-line spiritual study of Proverbs chapter 7. At face value, we are counseled to keep God's Word and His Commandments and thereby remain true to God, but the symbolic representation gives greater detail.

Proverbs 7:1 My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee.

What is meant by keeping God's Words? "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me" (John 14:23-24). How much do you love Jesus? Enough to open up His Word on a regular basis and follow it?

What is meant by laying up the commandments? "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love" (John 15:10). "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). And if you wonder which commandments, Jesus was quoting the Old Testament. "And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments" (Exodus 20:6). It is the Ten Commandments.

Proverbs 7:2 Keep my commandments,

and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.

What does it mean to live if one keeps the commandments? "And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? [there is] none good but one, [that is], God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments" (Matthew 19:16-17). The topic is eternal life. Even the Bible states it in Revelation 22:14, "Blessed [are] they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Now be careful not to think that keeping the commandments earns heaven, but rather it is the fruit of belief.

Is that in the Bible? "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, [even] our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:1-5).

Proverbs 7:3 Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of thine heart.

Who does the writing? "This [is] the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no

WE ARE NOT A CHURCH BUT ENCOURAGE ALL TO ATTEND CHURCH NOT AS A PEW WARMER BUT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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Strengthen faith in God's Word.

MISSION FOCUS:

To strengthen the faith in God's Word by reaching out to the communities through our newsletter (since 1998) as well as through our evangelistic seminars (since 1994). It is to help keep those that are discouraged about things they see inside the church from leaving, to ground those that are new or have not heard of these things before, and to strengthen those that are already grounded. And to reach out to those that are searching for a meaningful relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ.

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Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

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* Please pray for the time I need to accomplish this by December.

more" (Hebrews 10:16-17). The reason they are on the heart is because of the requirement of "loving service" for God and not just "service" for God. One is under "Christ Righteousness" while the other is "legalism" but both live in obedience.

Proverbs 7:4 Say unto wisdom, Thou [art] my sister; and call understanding [thy] kinswoman:

Wisdom and understanding are to be as close as a sister and kinswoman but those that have these are also very close to God. *"For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother"* (Mark 3:35).

Proverbs 7:5 That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger [which] flattereth with her words.

Who is the strange woman? A woman is symbolic of a group of people. God says, *"I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate [woman]"* (Jeremiah 6:2) and Zion is found in Isaiah 51:16, *"And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou [art] my people."* Now this is a comely and delicate woman that is called God's people or the church. A strange woman would be the opposite and commonly referred to as an apostate group of people or those that are religious but in error. They simply may claim to be of God, but are not. Israel fell into this description. *"And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also"* (Jeremiah 3:8).

Proverbs 7:6-7 For at the window of my house I looked through my casement, And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding,

A spiritual youth that is void of understanding would be any that cannot see the consequence of actions nor the small steps that Satan leads. Typically these react with, "What's wrong with...?" Nothing at face value but the underlining result is that it is the first step towards Satan's side. For example, there is nothing wrong with a television especially while in the off position.

But having it in the house causes many to be tempted one program level at a time to be looking and listening to things one is told not to feed the mind with. Those that are hooked on television, movies, and the like will say, "What's wrong with..." They are but youths void of understanding.

There are two things that create such people: Those who do not listen to counsel (Deuteronomy 32:28) and those that *"followeth vain persons"* (Proverbs 12:11). Ask for a "Thus Saith the Lord" for your counsel.

Proverbs 7:8 Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house,

What house? *"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth"* (1 Timothy 3:15). Evidently the apostates have houses of worship or churches.

Proverbs 7:9 In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night:

What happens in the dark? *"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil"* (John 3:19). This also explains why the Bible remains closed. *"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them"* (Isaiah 8:20). So why patronize churches where there is no light in them for they preach that the law has been nailed to the cross or some portion of the commandments have been changed or removed.

Proverbs 7:10 And, behold, there met him a woman [with] the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart.

This matches *"And upon her forehead [was] a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH"* (Revelation 17:5). While the mother of harlots is specific, a harlot in general is more inclusive and involves the whole world that is in apostasy.

Proverbs 7:11 She [is] loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house:

The thing she is loud about is described in 2 Chronicles 15:14, *"And they swore unto*

the LORD with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets." To cover up the lack of law abiding with God, worship services have become rock concerts. God is not well pleased here.

The thing she is stubborn about is "That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments: And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation [that] set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God" (Psalms 78:7-8).

Proverbs 7:12 Now [is she] without, now in the streets, and lieth in wait at every corner.

Some cities have a church on every corner.

Proverbs 7:13-14 So she caught him, and kissed him, [and] with an impudent face said unto him, [I have] peace offerings with me; this day have I payed my vows.

Peace in a spiritual context is that between us and the Father through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:2), so when she paid her vows and offered peace, she is offering another peace outside of Jesus' prescribed path and the most popular is to speak up on justification and let sanctification fall away quietly.

And paying the vows can be compared to dropping a twenty-dollar bill in the collection plate thinking that it appeases God.

Proverbs 7:15 Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee.

Hopefully she, the apostate influence, will not be able to say that about you.

Proverbs 7:16 I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved [works], with fine linen of Egypt.

Evidently she is working her way to heaven, but what is Jesus going to say? "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:22-23). Why? "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord,

shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). What is the will of the Father? "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law [is] within my heart" (Psalms 40:8).

And what is "fine linen"? "And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints" (Revelation 19:8). It is Christ's Righteousness given to the saints thus creating right doing. Fine linen of Egypt would not be Christ's but a pagan or man-made righteousness. And what is that good for? "But we are all as an unclean [thing], and all our righteousnesses [are] as filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6). It is good for nothing.

Proverbs 7:17-18 I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves.

And what does God say about being filled with the wrong type of love? "Love not the world, neither the things [that are] in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2:15).

Proverbs 7:19 For the goodman [is] not at home, he is gone a long journey: He hath taken a bag of money with him, [and] will come home at the day appointed.

Who is the Goodman that left home for a long journey and is coming back at the day appointed? "[For the Son of man is] as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch" (Mark 13:34-37).

And the coins in the bag are those resurrected when Jesus ascended to the Father (Matthew 27:52-53), for coins represent people (Luke 15:8-10). When He comes back at the day appointed, He is coming back for the great harvest of coins that are reflecting His image. Whose image is on you?

Proverbs 7:21 With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with

IN THE CHILDREN'S NEWSLETTER

PAGE 1 — New Testament Lesson in children's language.

PAGE 2 — Old Testament Lesson in children's language.

PAGE 3 — Character Lesson — Application of character attributes from both Bible lessons.

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BIBLE STUDY



Revelation's Conglomerate Beast Part 5 (Revelation 13:2)

1. What do the thighs of brass represent, which matches the leopard in chapter 7 and the piece of the beast in Revelation 13? **Daniel 2:39** (second half)
2. What two beasts did Daniel see in chapter 8? **Daniel 8:3, 5**
3. What did the first beast represent? **Daniel 8:20**
4. What did the second beast represent? **Daniel 8:21**

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

Revelation's Conglomerate Beast Part 4 (Revelation 13:2)

1. What does the breast and arms of silver represent, which matches the bear in chapter 7? **Daniel**

(Continued on page 5)

the flattering of her lips she forced him.

The fair speech can include sentimentalism and compromise. It can include excusing oneself from precepts of the Bible. Or it may be something else. But those that are not into studying God's word are going to seem to disappear as if forced, when in reality it is a result of their own unprepared state.

Proverbs 7:22-23 He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it [is] for his life.

Many just do not realize the weight of religious matters. They are careless. They do not see that every action weighs either for heaven or hell. And that is why so many are ensnared.

Proverbs 7:24 Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth.

It is time to get off of man's opinions and into the Word, and that includes many sermons. The so-called "old message" was sound Bible expounding. Today's sermons are not even the milk but water. There is no substance. Of course holding ministers to some artificial time limit prevents in depth Bible study during the sermon time but that is exactly what the Bible calls for. When gross darkness is to cover the earth, we do not even have to leave our churches to see this fulfilled. Each of us is to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). How sad that we have degraded when the very last days depends upon His church to lead the

great multitude in! No wonder God will have to finish the work.

Proverbs 7:25 Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths.

This is a direct appeal. God says to stop participating in the activities that are not of God, even if the reason given is to win souls. Not all is wrong but what is right is being mixed with the impurity as well and we are patterning after the world. One true example is that a woman stood on the capital steps preaching the word. That is a good thing, right? It was reported by the local radio station that she did it in the nude. That is not so popular of an activity to avoid, but churches have succumb to the "excitement age" of winning souls while using very little Bible.

Proverbs 7:26 For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong [men] have been slain by her.

Not only physically according to Revelation 18:24 ("And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.") but spiritually. If any want to "argue" the Bible on points of doctrine, run the other way. Many of our earlier church leaders that thought they were strong in the Word and went after debate soon left the church. Pray for them but seek after "searching" souls.

Proverbs 7:27 Her house [is] the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.

God said it. Do you believe it?

TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO: AND WHEN HE IS OLD, HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT (Prov. 22:6)



Character Examples From the Bible – Joseph and his trials

"And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped Joseph out of his coat, [his] coat of [many] colours that [was] on him; And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit [was] empty, [there was] no water in it." (Genesis 37:23-24).

Bad things do happen to good people.

Joseph was not deserving of any harsh treatment, but as a test of faith, he endured many trials. First, Joseph was thrown in a hole in the ground (Genesis 37:23-24), faced possible death from his brothers (Genesis 37:20), was sold to a caravan (Genesis 37:28), was sold as a slave (Genesis 37:36), was falsely condemned for rape (Genesis 39:17), was placed in prison (Genesis 39:20). Each time it apparently got worse and appeared that God was not with him. God was actually preparing him for something better.

So bad things do happen, but God uses those things to teach and to convict. "We know that all things work together for good

to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose" (Romans 8:28).

(Continued from page 4)

THAT THOU MAYEST PROSPER AND BE IN HEALTH, EVEN AS THY SOUL PROSPERETH (3 John 1:2)



HEALTH SNIPPET:

Topic: Dangers of chills

"And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself." (John 18:18).

Allowing the body to get chilled causes the blood, which provides life throughout the entire body, to not go to the extremities. That means the mechanism of nourishing the body parts and removing waste matter from the area is hindered, causing tissue and skin damage. This is why when the body is cold, typically finger tips, nose, toes, and the like feel it first. So bundle up appropriately keeping the life sustaining system flowing.

HEALTHY ALTERNATIVE RECIPE:

Banana Bread

MIX Together:

- 3 c. spelt flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 c. chopped walnuts or pecans
- 2 mashed bananas

COMBINE and ADD:

- ¼ c. almond butter or tahini
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ c. honey
- 2 tbsp. Yeast
- ⅔ c. hot water

Mix gently: ⅔ cup hot water. Pour into sprayed pan. Let rise 45-60 minutes. Bake at 300° for 1½ hours.

2:39 (first half) *"And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee"*

2. Who was ruling in Daniel chapter 5 and what did he rule? **Daniel 5:7** *"The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. [And] the king spake, and said to the wise [men] of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and [have] a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom."*

3. What joint kingdom rose up after the first kingdom fell? **Daniel 5:28** *"PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."*

NEWS FOR CHILDREN OF LIGHT (1 Thessalonians 5:5)



The following are "sudden destruction" news items that appeared between August 16 and September 15, 2004.

[Preview future "sudden destruction" news snippets at www.tstl.net/suddendestruction.]

▶▶WorldNetDaily, September 3, 2004 - At least 100 dead

A three-day standoff with suspected Islamic Chechen terrorists armed with suicide-bomb belts at a Russian school erupted today in explosions, gunfire and the screams of fleeing children as commandos stormed the building. A reporter with Britain's ITV News said his cameraman saw up to 100 bodies.

COMMENT: *"These six [things] doth the LORD hate: yea, seven [are] an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood"* (Proverbs 6:16-17).

▶▶AP News, August 27, 2004 - Russia Blames Terrorism for Downed Jet

One of two Russian airliners that crashed nearly simultaneously was brought down by a terrorist act, officials said Friday, after finding traces of explosives in the plane's wreckage. An Islamic militant group claimed responsibility for the attack in a Web statement.

COMMENT: Luke 21:9 *"But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end [is] not by and by."*



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ANSWERS FOUND IN THE SCRIPTURE OF TRUTH *(Daniel 10:21)*



QUESTION #1 – Northumberland, PA – Is the Holy Spirit a real person of the trinity?

ANSWER #1 – The Bible says, *“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come: He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew [it] unto you.”* (John 16:13-14). The Spirit guides, speaks, shows, and hears. All of these actions are not performed by a non-person. Evidently the Spirit listens to someone else before speaking. It is not Jesus for that is who the Spirit is to glorify. That means the Father does the speaking to the Holy Spirit. Why would God the Father speak to Himself if it were a mere spirit? He would not. Therefore we conclude that the Father speaks to the Holy Spirit who testifies of the Son. All three of the Godhead are involved.

But let us go a step further. Let us look at Satan’s activity in Revelation 16:13. *“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs [come] out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.”* Satan counterfeits three persons. Satan being the dragon, counterfeits the Father. The beast or Antichrist counterfeits the Son. The false prophet counterfeits the Holy Spirit. If Satan is spending time counterfeiting all three persons, we conclude that the Holy Spirit is a person, loosely speaking.

QUESTION #2 – Duncannon, PA – What can we learn from ants?

ANSWER #2 – Proverbs 6:6-11 reveals the answer, *“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, [and] gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? [Yet] a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.”* Now this is not referring to normal amounts of sleep but to those that sleep the day away, i.e., lazy people.

God says look at the ants. Who did they elect as president? No one. Who is their king? No one. Who tells them what to do and not do? No one. What union do they belong to? None. They simply know what needs done and they do it. If all humans did that instead of focusing on how little work they can do to keep others off their back, this world would not see half its problems.

And in regards to preparing for the winter, God must want us to be prepared for it is stated twice. It is stated in Proverbs 6:8 as well as Proverbs 30:25. Both refer to the fact that during nice summer days, they are not basking in the sun and taking life leisurely. They are busy working preparing for the winter. Brother, sister, how is your preparation going? Are you prepared for the winter or are you basking in the sun? And when the seasons are applied to human life, it is not referring to December through March; it is referring to the barren situation spiritually speaking. When the blizzards of heresies abound, how are you standing? Without studying for yourself during times of ease, God says you will come to poverty and also be wanting. Do not stay asleep from studying, not just reading, but also studying the Word for yourself. Depending on others to feed you can prove to be dangerous.

QUESTION #3 – Harrisburg, PA – How successful was Paul in Athens?

ANSWER #3 – According to Acts 17:16, Paul noticed that the people were mostly given over to superstition and idolatry. In verse 22, Paul tried to meet them on their terms. They liked debates. He began with, *“[Ye] men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.”* And proceeded to tell them of the true God and His Son. But by Acts 17:32, something had hit a cord for *“when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this [matter].”* Now all was not a total loss. According to Acts 17:34, *“certain men clave unto him, and*

believed: among the which [was] Dionysius the Areopagite, and a

woman named Damaris, and others with them." So though Paul was not

too successful in Athens, it was not a total loss.

WHO HATH BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM IS THE ARM OF THE LORD REVEALED? *(Isaiah 53:1)*

- COMMENTS ON ITEMS IN THE NEWS -



The following are news items that appeared between August 16 and September 15, 2004. [Preview future news snippets at www.tstl.net/news.]

▶▶The Japan Times, Sept. 14, '04 - 12th Case of Mad Cow Confirmed

Japan has confirmed its 12th case of mad cow disease, an official said Monday. Japan finds it difficult to accept a U.S. demand for excluding cattle aged 24 months or younger from testing for mad cow disease, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said Monday. The top government spokesman told a news conference that Japan should take into account that the brain-wasting disease was detected in cows aged 21 months and 23 months in Japan. Japan placed a ban on beef imports from the United States after the first U.S. case of mad cow disease was found last December and insisted that all beef cattle there be tested for the disease, as is the case in Japan.

COMMENT: God's answer? *"I have given you every herb bearing seed, which [is] upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which [is] the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat"* (Genesis 1:29). Become a Vegetarian. Does it not concern you that cattle under 2 years of age are not tested in the US? Does it not concern you that the animals that are tested are but a sample and not actually testing every animal?

▶▶AP, September 14, 2004 - Gambling Linked to Good Health in Elderly

According to a surprising Yale University study, older recreational gamblers seem to be healthier than non-gamblers. But the social aspects of gambling - whether it's slot machines at a casino, poker games with friends or bingo at a church hall - may be an explanation for how the study turned out, Desai said.

COMMENT: In big bold headings, gambling is encouraged for good health. Deep in the article, the real reason is the social aspect -- even though it appeared as being associated with gambling. In reality, the more active one is, the better health. The sin of gambling does not have to be associated with it. *"keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane [and] vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called"* (1 Timothy 6:20).

▶▶Sun Sentinel, September 1, 2004 - Hurricane Frances closes in on Bahamas with 140 mph winds

Floridians confronted fears of getting hit by two powerful Category 4 hurricanes within weeks Wednesday, a one-two punch not seen in at least a century, as Hurricane Frances closed in on the Bahamas with 140-mph winds, forecasters said.

COMMENT: Luke 21:11 *"And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven."*

▶▶My Way, August 24, 2004 - Study Links Soda, Women Having Diabetes

Women who drink more than one

sweetened soft drink a day are slightly more likely to develop diabetes than women who drink less than one a month, according to a new study. But critics of the study noted the same conclusion might be drawn from examining eating habits involving other forms of junk food, too.

COMMENT: The answer is true - all sugary foods and drinks will contribute to diabetes. Sugar is not good for the stomach. It causes fermentation, and this clouds the brain and brings peevishness into the disposition. The free use of sugar in any form tends to clog the system, and is not unfrequently a cause of disease. What are these statements based upon? "[It is] not good to eat much honey: so [for men] to search their own glory [is not] glory" (Proverbs 25:27). Small amounts of sugar is not the problem. It is the large quantities in ice cream, soda, pastries, sugared cereals, etc.

▶▶Haaretz.Com, August 24, 2004 - JDate (Jewish Dating Service) banners feature pictures of porn models







The use of porn models' pictures in JDate's banners is not in keeping with the declarations appearing on JDate's international site, which appeals to religious people as well. The site claims its purpose is "to help to find real people for real relationships" and "to help strengthen the Jewish community and insure Jewish traditions are carried on for many generations to come."

COMMENT: History is just repeating itself. Traditional Jewish women, or for that matter a reserved Christian, are not sensual to look at because a truly reserved Christian will have those enticing areas of the body covered up. So then they

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turn to the non-religious for such pleasure. *"And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab"* (Numbers 25:1). While on the edges of the Promised Land, they were enticed sensually. How is it today as we near the heavenly Promised Land?

►►WorldNetDaily.Com, Aug. 16, '04 - John the Baptist's cave found

Archaeologists say they have found a cave in Israel where they believe John the Baptist anointed many of his disciples, marking one of the most important discoveries of biblical archaeology in the Holy Land. Archaeologists presented to the press ancient wall carvings they said tell the story of the John the Baptist, as well as a stone they believe was used for ceremonial foot washing. The cave contains 28 steps leading to an underground pool of water. Archaeologists also pulled about 250,000 pottery shards from the cave, the apparent remnants of small

water jugs used in baptismal ritual. "It apparently was adopted by John the Baptist, who wanted a place where he could bring people to undergo their rituals, pertaining to his ideas of baptism," Gibson said. At the bottom of the steps, they would have placed the right foot onto a stone with an imprint of a foot, about shoe size 10.5. A small depression to the right of the imprint would have contained oil, to be poured over the foot for cleansing, Gibson said.

COMMENT: Do not get too excited about this story. There is no mention of a cave in the Bible associated with John the Baptist. Further, there is no specific pool of water down 28 stairs for the ritual. What the Bible says is, "And John also was baptizing in AEnon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized" (John 3:23). John used water - not oil. Additionally, John baptized in public for that is where he could engage in conversation with the religious leaders (Matthew 3:1-12).

BIBLE THOUGHT

Blessed vs Ungodly

Psalms 1:1-6 *Blessed [is] the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight [is] in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly [are] not so: but [are] like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.*

There are only two sides on earth though we deceive ourselves into thinking there are more. We either are law abiding and blessed, or we are not law abiding and will not be blessed, will not stand in the judgment, and will perish. Will you be a law abiding citizen today?