



"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)

VOLUME 08 ISSUE 04

APRIL 2005

PAGE 1

Jesus Said Unto Him, Friend, Wherefore Art Thou Come?

(Matthew 26:50)



Examining Jesus, a friend of sinners.

Jesus on more than one occasion is found calling a practicing sinner a friend. Take for instance what Jesus said to Judas during the act of betraying Him. "And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him" (Matthew 26:50).

You and I can answer with something like, "We come from the earth. Born in sin and needing converted," especially if you really do not know Jesus.

When is Jesus called a friend?

In Matthew 11:19 and in Luke 7:34, it is stated, "The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children." Jesus is falsely associated as a friend of publicans if friend is in the context of condoning their activity. In reality, He was their friend because He was offering them a better life.

During an exchange of words with the greedy, Jesus "answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?" (Matthew 20:13)

After inviting guests freely to His marriage celebration and providing the right clothing, Jesus finds someone not dressed right. "And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was

speechless" (Matthew 22:12).

These plus the one verse regarding Judas reveals that Jesus was not only a friend of those that followed Him, but He was a friend of sinners as well.

How much of a friend?

Jesus Himself never purchased peace by compromise. His heart overflowed with love for the whole human race, but He was never indulgent to their sins. He was too much their friend to remain silent while they were pursuing a course that would ruin their souls--the souls He had purchased with His own blood. He labored that man should be true to himself, true to his higher and eternal interest. The servants of Christ are called to the same work, and they should beware lest, in seeking to prevent discord, they surrender the truth. They are to "follow after the things which make for peace" (Rom. 14:19); but real peace can never be secured by compromising principle. And no man can be true to principle without exciting opposition. A Christianity that is spiritual will be opposed by the children of disobedience. But Jesus bade His disciples, "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul" (Matthew 10:28). Those who are true to God need not fear the power of men nor the enmity of Satan. In Christ their eternal life is secure. Their only fear should be lest they surrender the truth, and thus betray the trust with which God has honored them.

But what are we seeing?

We are to keep silent when there is

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

The "Thus Saith the Lord..." General Newsletter is published monthly by "Thus Saith the Lord..." Ministries at PO Box 10607, Harrisburg, PA 17105.

MISSION STATEMENT:

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.

MAILING ADDRESS:

700 Clay Street
Carlisle, PA 17013

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

Voice - 717-249-8785 (TSTL)

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Info@tstl.net

COPYRIGHT:

This publication is **free** and free to copy, however, your tax-deductible donations are needed and greatly appreciated.

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.

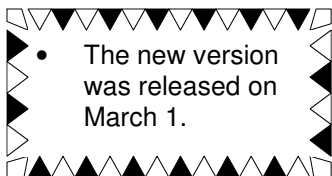
WEB SITES

We host the following websites:

- www.tstl.net
- www.tstlstore.com
- www.tstlseminars.com

UPDATES LAST MONTH:

WWW.TSTL.NET:



- Additional transfers include:
 - 📧 January 2001 adult newsletter
 - 📧 January 2001 children's newsletter

All remaining web pages to be transferred are identified in the menu system as "Coming Soon".

ADD TO THIS FREE GENERAL NEWSLETTER

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Send to TSTL, 700 Clay Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

blatant sin in the church. So a couple living together not only should not be addressed, but let us make him a board member? A person not dressed modestly (1 Timothy 2:9) like our Master should be a head deacon or deaconess, elder?

A friend is not to let a friend drive drunk, and everyone agrees. A person caught in a suicide attempt is told to stop and "let's talk". But a practicing, unrepentant sinner is to be allowed, without mentioning they are living a sinful life, to continue as is with the final destination of eternal loss?

How much more precious is it to help someone out of sin and into eternal life than it is to save the physical body?

How did Jesus win sinners in sin?

He helped them out of sin or made them at least face reality and left them choose. He did not come down into sin to save them.

Remember the woman at the well? *"The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw. Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly. The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet"* (John 4:15-19). Jesus could have easily stated that He was the Messiah, go and tell the people in town. No. He revealed how unready she was. From her reaction, though not stated explicitly, the woman more than likely ceased her adulterous life.

Remember the rich young ruler? After Jesus told Him that He needed to keep the Ten Commandments as evidence of a converted heart for entrance into eternal life (Matthew 19:16-19) *"The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go [and] sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come [and] follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions"* (Matthew 19:20-22). Sad? Absolutely. Did Jesus compromise? Absolutely not! So when someone says it is no big deal about jewelry (1 Peter 3:3),

should they be baptized? No. It is not the jewelry. It is the lack of taking on the humility of Christ. Should Pastors tell candidates to take it off for the baptismal service and then they could put it back on afterwards? That is a betrayal of Christ. Should the church accept smokers (compare Deuteronomy 29:18 to Revelation 8:11 and you find that poisonous plants, such as tobacco is, is not to be amongst us as a people) as members thinking in time it will drop off? Absolutely not. True, many can state that there are other practicing sinners, but it is no excuse for allowing a misrepresentation of the church in this manner to be placed on the books. If they love the Lord that much, it would not be an issue.

How about the prostitute? *"When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee"* (John 8:10-11). And this is where many stop reading. It is willful misrepresentation of the Lord to stop. What is the rest of verse 11? *"Go, and sin no more."* So when a couple lives together and refuses to get separate places, including ceasing from marital activity, disfellowship is necessary. When a member refuses to cease from any outwardly recognized sin and is aware it is a sin, disfellowship is necessary. When such people desire to join the church, the answer is no. May they attend? Absolutely. That is where they should be.

Remember the impotent man? *"And he that was healed wist not who it was: for Jesus had conveyed himself away, a multitude being in [that] place. Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee"* (John 5:13-14). What is worse than the results of sin on the body? Hell. Why are we afraid to tell people, "Listen, I'm concerned that you are continuing this awful practice. You do know that the end result is hell, don't you? How can I help you?"

It is sad to hear various news media report the awful things some Christian churches do in regards to the homosexual community such as protesting the

lifestyle. Not always is the right tactic used, but keep in mind that these churches are up against the militant homosexuals. Such are not open to a Bible study. So strong means such as declaring the church will not budge and not allow that community to progress without a confrontation may be necessary. We absolutely do not advocate physical abuse of any sort nor the destruction of property of a practicing sinner. Though the intention to stop the progress may be right, the means are Satanic. Satan uses force. Jesus calls the person or calls it a sin. Never did He kill or maim a person while in the form of Christ.

And there are other examples of how Jesus really dealt with sinners of the world.

Imagine

Imagine a world church that held high standards. On this side of eternity, that still does not mean a perfect church.

Sometimes people have a bad day and sin the sin of anger. The Bible addresses that with the responsibility going both ways. The hurt party must be willing to let go of retaliation and hurt. But despite such

incidences, it would be refreshing and probably a thriving church without special affects. The world lacks direction. The church for the past few decades have allowed "anything goes". So what does the public think? There is no right church, which is a change from a century ago, when there were more churchgoers, each thinking their church was the right one. God was able to work with such people then, even if they were wrong. But today? *"So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth"* (Revelation 3:16).

Conclusion

Will you be a friend of sinners? Will you strive to lead a life that holds a high standard? Will you call others to a high standard? Will you support the church that holds a high standard even if uncomfortable over sad choices?

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17).

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 – Nathanael

"Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph. And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see. Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee. Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and

the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man." (John 1:45-51)

Many people miss out on things because they have listened to rumors, lies, and gossip. A child should learn to hear what a person needs to say before believing what they want. This is not only for simple relationships with people but for tasks at hand. If for one week you asked your child to change into their pajamas and it was immediately then time for bed, a child still should not assume the two together. There is still a possibility that plans will change. After changing into the pajamas, there might be time for a bedtime story. So to get upset because it is pajama time is wrong for a child to do. Just as assuming Jesus, coming from a place that Nathanael was unable to identify with one good person, was also wrong. Each person and each event must be judged on its own individuality.

WWW.TSTL.NET

On March 1, 2005, the new version of our website www.tstl.net was released. Not yet containing everything we wanted from the old website, it does have more than the old.

- 📄 Over 87,000 key word searchable paragraphs.
- 📄 Our personal testimony
- 📄 On demand website statistics
- 📄 Most of the old website content except:
 - ▶ General NL's from February 2001 to present
 - ▶ Children's NL's from February 2001 to present
 - ▶ Bible studies
- 📄 Ability to easily E-mail, comment, and print web pages.
- 📄 Home page summary at a glance for popular pages such as news, newsletters, devotionals, and more.
- 📄 Online secured donation form through PayPal®.
- 📄 Easier menu system.
- 📄 Help screen.
- 📄 Privacy statement.
- 📄 AOL friendlier.
- 📄 More viewable body text area to help you see more of what you are looking for.
- 📄 Ability to set colors, text size, and more and save those personal preference settings.
- 📄 AND MORE...

BIBLE STUDY



How Do We Remember Jesus? (John 16:4)

1. How do we remember the broken body, not bones, of Jesus? 1 **Corinthians 11:23-24**
2. How do we remember the shed blood of Jesus? 1 **Corinthians 11:25**
3. How do we remember Jesus' death and resurrection? **Romans 6:4-5**

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

How Important Are God's Commandments? (John 14:15)

1. What do we show God when we keep His commandments? **John 14:15** "If ye love me, keep my

(Continued on page 5)

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



HEALTH SNIPPET:

Topic: Mind Supreme

As they more fully understand the human body (3 John 1:2), the wonderful work of God's hand (Ecclesiastes 2:24), formed in the image of the divine

(Genesis 1:27), they will seek to bring their bodies into subjection to the noble powers of the mind (1 Corinthians 9:27).

The body will be regarded by them as a wonderful structure, formed by the Infinite Designer (Genesis 2:7), and given into their charge to be kept in harmonious action (1 Corinthians 6:19). The obligation

we owe to God in presenting to him clean, pure, healthy bodies is not comprehended (Romans 12:1).



HEALTH SNIPPET:

Vitamin B-6 is active in the production of blood, in central nervous system metabolism, and in amino acid metabolism. Deficiencies are rare but may cause anemia and convulsions. Oral contraceptives cause vitamin B-6 deficiency in about 25% of the users. Whole grain cereals, legumes, bananas, oatmeal, and potatoes are very good natural sources of B-6.

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 February 16 and March 15, 2005. [Preview future news snippets at www.tstl.net/news.]

►►My Way, March 14, 2005 - Judge Says Calif. Can't Ban Gay Marriage

A judge ruled Monday that California's ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional - a legal milestone that, if upheld on appeal, would open the way for the most populous state to follow Massachusetts in allowing same-sex couples to wed.

COMMENT: Yet another step towards becoming like Sodom. "Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" (Jude 1:7). Remember, "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone

from heaven, and destroyed [them] all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." (Luke 17:28-30).

►►The Jamaica Observer, February 28, 2005 - Pastor blasts skimpy dress

A Seventh-day Adventist pastor warned yesterday that he will stop officiating at funerals at his Hagley Park church if female mourners, especially of young murder victims, continue to turn up in skimpy dresses and the men smoke ganja and drink beer and other alcoholic beverages on the premises.

COMMENT: "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel" (1 Timothy 2:9).

►►CBS News, February 27, 2005 - Man Accused Of Cattle Fornication

A 63-year-old man is charged with sexual gratification with an animal for allegedly having sex with calves.

COMMENT: Other than disgusting, does the Bible actually forbid this act? "Neither

shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it [is] confusion" (Leviticus 18:23).

►► **IC Wales, February 25, 2005 - Accident ruling over bungee jump death**

AN EXPERT has warned that bungee jump safety may be fatally flawed. An inquest in Swansea heard yesterday that Chris, who lived with Helen in Canton, Cardiff, weighed 132kg, or 20st 10lb. But an expert investigation discovered that the rope holding him had a maximum load weight of

just 90kg, and should not have safely held more than 70kg.

COMMENT: "And all the people shall hear, and fear, and do no more presumptuously" (Deuteronomy 17:13). Although this applies to something else, the key focus is that people are not to move presumptuously. You are the temple of God (1 Corinthians 3:16), to put it at unnecessary risk is to act presumptuously. Getting such thrills is not only a shame that the young man died but is a sin.

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



QUESTION #1 – Carlisle, PA – Where is Satan?

ANSWER #1 – He is not the warden of hell right now. The Bible says, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). "And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it" (Job 1:7). He is with us, looking for weak individuals to lead away from having a close relationship with Jesus Christ.

QUESTION #2 – Harrisburg, PA – I do not speak in tongues though I want to. Since I cannot for whatever reason, I was told that I am not a real Christian. Am I lost?

ANSWER #2 – Some denominations and people take the words, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and [of] the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5) and "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether [we be] Jews or Gentiles, whether [we be] bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:13) to refer to having the gifts of the Spirit. They do not realize two things.

The first is that "the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another [divers] kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will" (1 Corinthians 12:7-11). In other words, the Holy Spirit does not give everyone the ability to speak in tongues.

You may even have a gift mentioned in the second list. "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. [Are] all apostles? [are] all prophets? [are] all teachers? [are] all workers of miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way" (1 Corinthians 12:27-31). So if you can teach but not speak in tongues, you still have the gift of the Spirit.

Also notice that the gifts are given by the Spirit and not us calling on a particular gift.

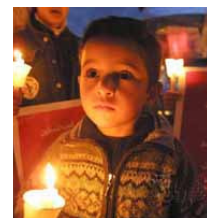
(Continued from page 4)

commandments."

2. What will Jesus do for us if we keep His commandments?
John 14:16 "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;"
3. What shall we receive if we keep the commandments?
John 14:16 "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;"

NEWS FOR CHILDREN OF LIGHT

(1 Thessalonians 5:5)



The following are "sudden destruction" news items that appeared between February 16 and March 15, 2005. [Preview future "sudden destruction" news snippets at www.tstl.net/suddendestruction.]

►► None

(Continued on page 8)

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.

PAGE 3 — Question and Answer.

PAGE 4 — Nature Lesson — Learning from God's nature.

Health Lesson — Taking care of the body.

PAGE 5 — Coloring Page — New Testament

PAGE 6 — Coloring Page — Old Testament

PAGE 7 — Puzzle and Definitions — Matching from both Bible lessons and answers to questions.

PAGE 8 — Learning Activities — Object lessons in our work and in our play.

FREE CHILDREN'S NEWSLETTER

Child's Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Send to TSTL, 700 Clay Street,
Carlisle, PA 17013

What Does The Bible Reveal Will Happen To The Word In The Last Days?

(Below is a portion of the first pamphlet in a 3 pamphlet series. If you appreciate this information or believe it will be useful to others, use the order form to order the whole series.)

Chapters

Introduction

What Role Will the Bible Play In the Last Days?

What Will the Reaction Be Towards the Last Day Gospel?

How Is the Preaching Described In the Last Days?

What Mysterious Part of the Bible Will Become Understood At the End of Time?

What Is the Final Issue?

What Will the Last Days Be Like?

Conclusion

Introduction

This pamphlet is the first of a three part series. For further study, see pamphlets 005b (Can I Trust the Bible?) and 005c (How Does One Properly Study the Bible?). In this pamphlet we are going to look at those verses dealing with the Word of God pertaining to the last days. This will place in perspective the importance of the Word and answer the question, "Why are there so few people studying their Bibles?"

What Role Will the Bible Play In the Last Days?

Matthew 24:14 says, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

Here we see that right before the end comes, this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world. What is the purpose? The Bible says, "For a witness unto all nations." The Bible does not say that the world will be converted, but it says that the world will be witnessed to.

Why? So that when Jesus appears, no one will be able to say that they did not know. Everyone will have the opportunity to accept or reject the gospel.

But what does it mean to accept or believe the gospel? James 2:19 says, "Thou be-

lievest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." There is a reaction to belief.

The devils tremble, what do Christians do? 1 Peter 4:17 says, "For the time [is come] that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if [it] first [begin] at us, what shall the end [be] of them that obey not the gospel of God?" We see that obedience is part of the gospel. If a Christian believes, they will obey the gospel.

What specifically will they obey? Matthew 28:20 "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, [even] unto the end of the world." Everything that Jesus says to do and not do, we are to obey.

What does obedience reveal? Romans 6:14-17 says, "For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." Obedience shows which side you are on.

Now which gospel will go to every nation? Rev. 14:6 says, "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."

Are we sure this is the last day gospel? Revelation 14:14-15 says, "And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud [one] sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe." This is symbolic of the second coming. So before Jesus shows up, the messages contained in Revelation 14:6 and onward are to be understood and preached.

What are those messages? Revelation 14:7-12 says, "Saying with a loud voice,

Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."

What does each of these points mean? That is beyond the scope of this study. Please request our other Bible Study Guides.

What Will the Reaction Be Towards the Last Day Gospel?

Mark 13:10-11 says, *"And the gospel must first be published among all nations. But when they shall lead [you], and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost."* The public will not appreciate the messages.

What shall be the reaction of the church? Mark 13:9 says, *"But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them."* Have you noticed that it is already happening? Priests, ministers, and even laity are being removed from good standing status from churches across the land. Over what? Taking a stance for the Bible.

What example do we have of such treatment? Matthew 10:16-25, *"Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and*

harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against [their] parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all [men] for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come. The disciple is not above [his] master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more [shall they call] them of his household?" Did you catch the last part? Since they accused Jesus of being of Beelzebub or the Devil, we should expect the same treatment today. Such treatment may include being called a fanatic, heretic, cultic, or satanic, which is enough to "tic" someone off, but remember to turn the cheek.

BIBLE THOUGHT

Becoming A Mad Man

Acts 26:24 *And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.*

Paul just got done saying, *"That Christ should suffer, [and] that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles"* (Acts 26:23). For this Paul was considered mad, that is, seriously mentally ill.

Now a true Christian does not regard what non-Christians think. What matters is what God thinks.

- Do you believe in the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ?
- Do you believe as a Christian you are compelled to tell others about this?

If you answered yes to both, you are on the right road.

If you answered no to either, then you either are not a Christian or are a Christian in name only and will be greatly disappointed in the judgment.

If you answered no to both, then we need to talk and study.

Bible Revival Pamphlet Series

Pamphlet #1 (9 pages): What Does The Bible Reveal Will Happen To The Word In The Last Days?

Pamphlet #2 (21 pages): Can I Trust the Bible?

Pamphlet #3 (24 pages): How Does One Properly Study the Bible?

All 3 pamphlets with shipping is \$3.50.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Qty: _____ x \$3.50 = _____

Mail To: TSTL, 700 Clay Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

APRIL 2005

The new
www.TSTL.net
website has been
released!

Donation receipts are mailed monthly. If you did not receive yours and your check has not cleared, more than likely it has been lost in the mail.

(Continued from page 5)

Now the second and most important is the misunderstanding of what it means to be baptized by the Spirit. To be baptized with the Spirit is not the outward signs. We are not known as Christians because we can speak in tongues but "*Ye shall know them by their fruits*" (Matthew 7:16).

"Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them" (Matthew 7:20). What is the fruit? "*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another*" (Galatians 5:22-26). Having a right character is the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

So if someone speaks in tongues and loses their patience, they are not baptized in the Spirit. The devil is

providing the tongues while they exercise murder. If someone is a prophet and yet is not temperate in their eating, drinking, and other habits then they are getting messages from the devil while being a glutton. The Spirit does not give gifts to those that do not have the fruit for the gifts are given to those that live in obedience (John 14:15-16).

**QUESTION #3 –
Sacramento, CA –
John 3:5 states that we are to be born of water and spirit. Is the water the water birth or something else?**

ANSWER #3 – If Jesus meant your physical birth as a newborn baby, then He would be speaking of a requirement that is already met. Since Jesus is putting it in the context that these are two things you need to do, then He is talking about

the physical baptism.

Is there a "Thus Saith the Lord" for the requirement of a physical baptism? "*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned*" (Mark 16:16).

But what if you cannot be baptized physically? The thief on the cross represents this situation (Luke 23:39-43). Then Jesus' baptism covers the lack thereof (Matthew 3:13-17). But if you can be physically baptized, then the Eunuch that Phillip baptized represents what we need to do (Acts 8:26-40).

