



# "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 11

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## Built His House Upon A Rock - Part II (Matthew 7:24)

**A continued study of Matthew 5, 6, and 7.**



Last month, we covered Matthew 5:1-4 in learning what it means to be "a wise man, which built his house upon a rock" (Matthew 7:24). We continue from that point in this message.

**Blessed [are] the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.**

For as much as Christians try to live as "New Testament" Christians, there is a lot of Old Testament messages that are in the New Testament. A lot of people think Jesus taught something new. He did not. In fact, it is contrasted very well in John's writings.

"A new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you" (1 John 2:8). Now at face value, this looks like we just contradicted ourselves. But read the rest of the verse to find out why old material appears new. "Because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth". Evidently people were in the dark on various subjects, much like today. Back then, they just listened to whatever the preacher preached. Very few had the scriptures in their possession to research for the truth. So the Pharisees and Sadducees as well as the Lawyers and the Scribes were able to easily deceive the people.

Today, we may have the scriptures but there is great ignorance among Christians as to what the scriptures say. They either do not read it, or it appears to them to be exactly as the minister said, even though it was taken out of context.

Are we sure that new material was not being presented? Again, John writes "I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning" (1 John 2:7).

As one person put it, the Old Testament is about Jesus coming the first time, and the New Testament is the application of the Old Testament that He indeed came.

Take for instance the message about the meek. Psalms 37:11 says, "But the meek shall inherit the earth." Therefore, it is no new message but a bringing out of darkness the truth.

One particular soul is in heaven and that is Moses. We know this because he appears at the transfiguration (Matthew 17:3). Do you know how Moses is described? "(Now the man Moses [was] very meek, above all the men which [were] upon the face of the earth)" (Numbers 12:3).

A meek person will be guided and be taught. "The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way" (Psalms 25:9). In contrast to the wicked, the meek obey (Psalms 37:10-11). The meek seek the Lord (Zephaniah 2:3) and not self. A quiet spirit is also associated with a meek person (1 Peter 3:4).

When do the meek inherit the earth? Right after "the new heavens and the new earth" (Isaiah 66:22) "for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea" (Revelation 21:1). I sure do not want to inherit this planet. But to inherit the one Adam and Eve walked before sin would be an honor.

**Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall**

**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:

PO Box 10607  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

### TELEPHONE NUMBER:

Voice - 717-249-8785 (TSTL)

### E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Info@tstl.net

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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.**

## NEWS FOR CHILDREN OF LIGHT

(1 Thessalonians 5:5)



The following are "sudden destruction" news items that appeared between

September 16 and October 15, 2005. [Preview future "sudden destruction" news snippets at [www.tstl.net/suddendestruction](http://www.tstl.net/suddendestruction).]

### » WorldNetDaily.com, September 29, 2005 - Senator: God judging U.S. with disastrous hurricanes

"The Lord is sending appeals to us," he said. "As harsh as it may sound, those hurricanes do say that God is real, and we have to realize sin has consequences." Erwin said the catastrophic storms are part of a pattern evident in the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, claiming God has removed an umbrella of protection from America due to an increase in abortion, pornography and prostitution.

**COMMENT:** In not so many words, Alabama State Sen. Hank Erwin agrees with our ministry. We stated that September 11 was the beginning of the rug being pulled out from under America in that Americans are so bent on believing that God is with them in their sins, yet His Spirit is actually being removed permitting these situations. Our ministry labels it 'Sudden Destruction'. That is because the reactions of even Christians by name is out of darkness. *"For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape"* (1 Thessalonians 5:3).

### be filled.

There is a difference between asking for, desiring, and even hungering and thirsting for righteousness. A person in a desert who has not seen food or water for days, when he finally has access to it, there will be just about nothing stopping the person from grabbing a hold of it and taking it in. While another person who just had a meal a few hours ago may argue over who may go first at the meal. It may go along the way of, "No you go first. I insist."

As righteousness is compared to the food scenario, the person hungering is not going to stop at a little satisfaction. Yes, Jesus' robe of righteousness freely given to us is our salvation. But that taste sparks something else in us. *"If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him"* (1 John 2:29). *"Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous"* (1 John 3:7). And on the contrary, *"whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother"* (1 John 3:10).

So hungering for righteousness is not simply claiming, "Jesus saves" and let it go at that. A person that has Jesus will do righteous things. Now he will not do it to offset any ounce of selfishness. He will put far from him all unrighteousness as was stated by John in different words.

Again, a righteous person in Jesus does righteous things only. To do unrighteous things is a lack of Christ's righteousness.

Also again, this statement of Jesus is not new. It is a different form of Psalms 106:3, *"Blessed [are] they that keep judgment, [and] he that doeth righteousness at all times."* And another Old Testament verse is, *"He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour"* (Proverbs 21:21). If one that follows after righteousness finds it, then he is filled.

### Blessed [are] the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Again, this is not a New Testament only statement. Jesus was using 2 Samuel 22:26 as His basis. *"With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful."*

What does it mean to be merciful? We turn to God for an example to follow. *"And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as [his] eyes unto heaven, but*

*smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner"* (Luke 18:13). Mercy is connected with forgiveness. This publican deserved to die *"For the wages of sin [is] death"* (Romans 6:23). So God does not treat the person as they deserved. However, we must remember that God is balanced. He *"will by no means clear [the guilty]"* (Exodus 34:7). A person continuing in the practice of sin should not expect the mercy of God upon him until he has truly repented.

So having mercy upon others will allow God to have mercy upon you. In Matthew 18 we have an example of God being merciful but if we are not merciful just as the servant who was forgiven much debt was not, then His mercy ceases. *"So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses"* (Matthew 18:35).

So Jesus' statement stands. Those that are merciful will receive mercy from God.

### Blessed [are] the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Is this based upon Old Testament text as well? The place where the pure in heart will see God is described in Psalms 46:4, *"[There is] a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy [place] of the tabernacles of the most High."* He dwells in the holy place.

Therefore the answer is – yes. Psalms 24:3-4 *"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully."*

It is very easy to do good works when everyone else is looking, and especially if there is something to be gained. Jesus saw a group of people like that. He compared them to *"whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead [men's] bones, and of all uncleanness"* (Matthew 23:27).

A pure heart is one that is motivated out of unselfish, not prideful, no alterative motives, without sensuality, and is even childlike to do good.

### To be continued...

We will continue our verse-by-verse study next month, but for now, let us seek these blessings.

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



**Topic: Learn in Youth**

It is of the highest importance that men and women be instructed in the science of

human life (Matthew 11:29), and in the best means of preserving and acquiring physical health (3 John 1:2). Especially is youth the time to lay up a stock of knowledge to be put in daily practise through life (Proverbs 22:6).

Those who have occupied positions of influence have not appreciated the work which has been so long neglected. . . . They consider it far more important to become learners upon subjects of less consequence to the human agent. Thousands upon thousands know nothing of the body, and how to care for it. David declared, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalms 139:14). And when God has given us such a habitation, why should not every apartment be critically examined?

It is best for those who claim to be sons and daughters of God (Galatians 3:26) to avail themselves, while they can (John 12:35), of the opportunities now presented to gain a knowledge of the human system,

and how it may be preserved in health. . . . The Lord will not work a miracle to preserve any one in health who will not make an effort to obtain knowledge within his reach concerning this wonderful habitation that God has given. By the study of the human organism we are to learn to correct what may be wrong in our habits, and which, if left uncorrected, will bring the sure result, disease and suffering, that make life a burden (1 Corinthians 10:31). . . . Let the mind become intelligent, and the will be placed on the Lord's side (2 Corinthians 8:12), and there will be a wonderful improvement in the physical health. But this can never be accomplished in mere human strength (Matthew 19:26).

**HEALTH SNIPPET: Zinc**

Zinc deficiency is characterized by retarded growth, loss of appetite, skin disease, reproductive problems, and poor wound healing. A zinc deficiency can be aggravated by excess copper, estrogen therapy, and increased iron intake. In addition, a diet high in calcium could predispose to zinc deficiency. Also, in prostate disorders, zinc has been found to be beneficial. Zinc is present in all natural foods, especially peas, carrots, whole grains, wheat germ, and sunflower seeds, although not as high in fruits, vegetables,

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## 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 – Noah Builds Anyways**

Genesis 6:13-14, 7:1 *And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.*

In chapter 6, Noah is told to build an ark. By chapter 7, it is finished. Now imagine the situation. He is to build the biggest boat

ever known to mankind since the days of Adam and Eve. He is to build it in such a manner that it can withstand much water, which is basically a boat without many openings. He is to build it quite a distance away from any large source of water, meaning it appeared to be a land vessel. By building the ark, it was a message that a flood was coming. Now at the time he built, not a storm cloud had ever appeared. The waters never left creek, stream, river or ocean. They never saw rain. The dew was all that was necessary to water plants. The people mocked him and jeered him and called him all kinds of names.

Now in modern times, a child is given a chore to do. Sometimes the chore appears

## BIBLE STUDY



*Slothfulness  
Does Not Pay*

1. What is the way of a slothful person?

**Proverbs 15:19**

2. What is a slothful person a brother of? **Proverbs 18:9**

3. What happens to someone that refuses to work and is able to? **Proverbs 21:25**

4. What will happen to someone that likes to sleep in? **Proverbs 24:30, 33, 34**

### ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

*The Demoniacs Teach Us Salvation*

- The men in the tombs were possessed of devils. Whose servant are people until converted? **Romans 6:16** "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?"
- The men lived where dead people were placed. What state are the unconverted? **Ephesians 2:1, 5, Colossians 2:13** "And

(Continued on page 5)

meaningless. Sometimes friends stop by to distract the child from the chore. Sometimes friends coax the child to cease doing the chore by calling him names and making fun of him. It is at this moment that he must resist and do the chore anyways. So when a

child appears to not be into doing his chores, teach them how Noah did what appeared to be a silly chore for 120 years, but it turned out to be one of the most important chores.

## 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 September 16 and October 15, 2005. [Preview future news snippets at [www.tstl.net/news/](http://www.tstl.net/news/).]

### ► This Is London, October 13, 2005 - Madonna's parenting secrets

Madonna is a worldwide pop icon, once notorious for her desire to shock. But as she nears 50, she has become a puritanical parent who is a disciplinarian with her children, nine-year-old Lola and Rocco, four. The woman who made her name as a mass media idol, continues: "My kids don't watch TV. We have televisions but they're not hooked up to anything but movies." "TV is trash. I was raised without it. We don't have magazines or newspapers in the house either." Bad behaviour is repaid by chores. Madonna is strictest of all about Lourdes's clothes.

**COMMENT:** It's bad when such a person that has had a bad influence on society turns out to show up the church. Ephesians 5:27 says, "That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." There was a point that all churches banned going to the theatre. Now it comes into the home. Worse yet, shows are used as an example from the pulpit. If that's not bad enough, where do the churches stand on clothes? Last we checked, anything goes including bathing suits, see through blouses, and more. And where do the churches stand on chores? Last we checked, most Christian young people hang out with the rest of the crowd. Society does not want church coming down to their level, church is to bring people up. Let us repent and do our job.

### ► ANANOVA, October 12, 2005 - Visitors flock to see image of dead priest

The image of what appears to be a priest holding a child has mysteriously appeared on the wall of a church in Chile. Visitors from all over the country are flocking to see the figures at the Cristo Rey de Tome Church in Santiago, reports Las Ultimas Noticias.

**COMMENT:** Jesus said in John 12:32, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all [men] unto me." Instead, this apparent image draws all men to Father Hurtado, at least in Chile. That means then "they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty" (Revelation 16:14), which is battle for the mind.

### ► Detroit News, October 6, 2005 - After farmer dies, friends harvest crops

Frank Leist was a farmer, livestock owner and auctioneer who supported the local agriculture community for many years. Following his death Aug. 13, fellow farmers are returning the favor. Friends and relatives turned out this week to help Leist's wife, Ruth, harvest their crops on hundreds of acres near Horton Bay. Frank Leist "was respected by many," Wade said. "Farmers in the area looked to him for advice and help. When somebody needed something, he was there, with money or equipment." He even left money to establish a fund for farmers in need.

**COMMENT:** Ephesians 4:32 "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Evidently the fruit of Frank Leist points to him being a very kind gentleman. Here is an example of which obviously he expected nothing in return. The real motive to all deeds of kindness ought to be this.

### ► Detroit News, October 6, 2005 - She refused boat ride -- and lived

"Why didn't anybody else see what I saw?" she asked herself. Drobot returned home on the tour bus Tuesday with about 13 other Michiganians, just a fraction of the 50 who left the week before for a scenic tour of fall colors. And on that fateful Sunday afternoon, Drobot was one of three from the group who stayed on land.

**COMMENT:** Mark 8:18 *"Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not?"* The physical pain is bad enough to witness or miss loved ones during this sad boating experience. But on a greater scale, many, even of Christians may be subject to the same blindness. Why can't anyone else see it? Have you asked yourself that? Then you are in good company because the truth of the matter is, only few, even of Christians, will be entering the kingdom (Matthew 7:14). Do not follow popular teachings.

► **SFGate, October 6, 2005 - Ala. Church Youth Swallow Live Goldfish**

The First Assembly of God Church has a Fear Factor ministry that had youths swallowing live goldfish — if they were up to it. The church's youth minister says it teaches children about fear, but a grandparent questioned it and a pet shop owner called it animal cruelty.

**COMMENT:** When we read this article, all we could think of is John 2:16 *"And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise."* We do not even have the space to provide all that is wrong with this. First, since when should television be influencing the church? Second, show us in the Bible where youth have been entertained. Third, nowhere in the Bible are we to destroy innocent life. Fourth, even the manager at Pet Depot has been turned off setting a poor example. Fifth, nowhere does the Bible show competition between ministers, servants of the Lord, nor even children. And the list could go on.

► **UPI, October 6, 2005 - Unwed moms likelier to stay that way**

A provocative new study suggests women who have children out of wedlock have a harder time marrying than those who don't -- and that those who do find a spouse often end up on the wrong side of a mismatch.

**COMMENT:** 1 Thessalonians 4:3 *"For this*

*is the will of God, [even] your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication".* Although God forgives all manner of sin, the seeds sown are usually not reversible.

► **Times Online, October 5, 2005 - Catholic Church no longer swears by truth of the Bible**

THE hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church has published a teaching document instructing the faithful that some parts of the Bible are not actually true.

**COMMENT:** Daniel 10:21 says that the scriptures are true: *"But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth".* When we finite human beings try to tell which parts of the Bible are true, are stories, are in error, then you might as well throw out the whole thing. First, that means everyone is dependent upon other people for interpretation. Nowhere is that supported in the Bible. Other people may enlighten us to other understandings, but the scriptures are interpreted by the scriptures. Second, if people call into error various parts of the Bible, then how do we know that the part about God existing is true? How do we know that eternal life is true? Is it because that is what we want to believe is true? Atheists have a field day when we Christians choose what is and is not accurate in the Bible.

► **WorldNetDaily.com, September 30, 2005 - Girl, 17, sentenced to no sex**

A judge in Sherman, Texas, prohibited a 17-year-old girl from having sex as part of her probation. Blake has prohibited body piercings, tattoos, earrings and clothing associated with drugs from people on probation. There is question as to how she will go about enforcing rulings such as the sex ban. Lawyers also have been subject to the rulings of Blake, who has told female lawyers not to wear sleeveless shirts or show cleavage in her courtroom, according to the Dallas paper.

**COMMENT:** Praise the Lord! A judge who is enforcing at least some of the principles in 1 Timothy 2:9. *"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array."* Now if only the churches would. Skin on males or females should not be revealed via low cut blouses, shorts, miniskirts, midriffs, tight clothing, see through clothing, etc. We are in church before a holy God; not to be a distraction to

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*you [hath he quickened], who were dead in trespasses and sins; Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;"*


3. When the men approached Jesus, He did not turn them away even after they uttered what they uttered. How does Jesus treat sinners that are practicing sins? **John 6:37** *"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."*
4. The devils were cast out of the possessed men. What is cast away from the converted? **Micah 7:19** *"He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."*
5. The ones possessed of the devils were clothed in their right mind. What are converted people clothed with? **Job 29:14, Revelation 19:8** *"I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment [was] as a robe and a diadem. 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."*
6. The ones possessed of the devils were to go tell about the great things Jesus did. What are converted people to do today? **Mark 16:15** *"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."*


## 2 NEW ONLINE BIBLE STUDIES NOW!




### On the Eve of Armageddon

 2005 has seen the most number of hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean.


 The disasters happening one right after another is unprecedented in number and timing.


 Are we living in the last days?


 Outside of weather and earthquakes, are there other signs?




### Nailing It To His Cross

 In Leviticus 23, there are seven specific feast days identified.

 What were they all about?

 How do they parallel Jesus' ministry?

 How detailed do they parallel?

Both studies include quite a few brand new questions and answers that never were presented in this series before. The truth has never been made more plain.

\* Both studies are part of a sequential series of study. Prerequisite studies are required.

others trying to worship God.

### ►WorldNetDaily.com, September 29, 2005 - Sex industry grows exponentially, but who is buying it up?

The advent of the Internet has made it effortless to access pornography, and the business of sex has grown exponentially, generating close to \$1 billion per year, with projections nearing \$7 billion in the next three years.

**COMMENT:** Other articles have reported that a big purchaser of Internet porn is Christians. Why? Most Christians know that to deal with stress, the release through alcohol and drugs is not an answer. But pornography seems to be an innocent release. "It's just a picture." Statistics reveal that 92% of Christians masturbate. Most men use a stimulus – pornography. But here is the real reason why pornography is an issue for Christians as we near the time of the heavenly promised land. It was prophesied by Paul regarding the experience in the desert. 1 Corinthians 10:11 *"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."* What experience? On the verge of entering the earthly Promised Land, *"Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab"* (Numbers 25:1).

### ►WorldNetDaily.com, September 27, 2005 - Dan Rather unrepentant: Story on Bush 'accurate'

More than a year after his controversial report calling into question President Bush's National Guard service – a story based on forged documents – former CBS news anchor Dan Rather is standing by the broadcast. "One supporting pillar of the story, albeit an important one, one supporting pillar was brought into question."

**COMMENT:** 2 Thessalonians 2:10-11 *"And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie."* Ever wonder how anyone, especially a large number of people, could believe a lie, knowing it is a lie? Dan Rather, politics aside, insists on believing a lie. The most important "pillar" to his news story, the one that if removed would cause the entire story to crumble, was removed as being a

lie. Yet, faced with this, he persists in believe the lie.

On a religious note, the quoted Bible verse stated is in the context of the last days people being presented with the truth and people rejecting it for a lie. For those that do not take the Bible as it reads should wake up to this Bible reference. This Bible quote tells us that there has to be a standard of truth and human beings are not it. The only source of truth is God's word (John 17:17). How could anyone argue truth against lies and errors if the one in error says, "The truth is... because the Holy Spirit told me"? We know of multiple occasions that two separate people were told opposite information, and each stated that they refuse to change their beliefs because the Holy Spirit speaks personally to them. Stealing people away from the Word of God is the whole Antichrist war in a nut shell – truth versus lies or errors (1 John 2:18-22, 1 John 4:1-6, 2 John 1:7-9).

### ►Rapid City Journal, September 24, 2005 - Court: Man falsely accused cannot sue

A split state Supreme Court has refused to reinstate a lawsuit filed by a former Sturgis man who was falsely accused of rape and kidnapping after three children made up a story. He spent 86 days in jail.

**COMMENT:** Exodus 20:16 *"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."* This may be an extreme case but what people call fooling around, jesting, joking is not appropriate either. If you are one prone to doing such, keep in mind the emotional distress, the wasted time, and sometimes even money.

### ►The Wall Street Journal, September 23, 2005 - Why German Nudists Are Wearing Frowns As Others Disrobe

About 2,000 Berliners once frequented this community. On a guard tower, members kept watch against unwanted stares. Now membership has dwindled to 850, and there are hardly any Peeping Toms to chase away. Germany is so awash in nakedness -- from magazine covers and television shows to sunbathers baring it all in public parks -- that the country's traditional nudist clubs are in decline.

**COMMENT:** 1 Timothy 2:9 *"In like manner*

also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel" Public nudity or even that which is in a group is not Christian. The good news is, such camps are on the decline. The bad news is that it is because nudity is more available and desensitizing.

► **WorldNetDaily.Com, September 19, 2005 - New book promotes sex with children**

A new book published by Haworth Press features multiple Ph.D. "experts" claiming that sex with children "can benefit" boys and even serve a "mentoring function." Pederasty, or sexual relations between men and adolescent boys, is condemned in our society as an unqualified evil that maims and destroys. In ancient Greece, samurai Japan, and numerous other cultures, pederasty was seen as the noblest of human relations, conducive if

not essential to nurturing the adolescent's successful intellectual and physical maturation. "It's amazing that, to this day, Kinsey, who is now known to have been a full-bore sexual psychopath, is still glorified as a scientific pioneer and cultural hero," added Kupelian.

**COMMENT:** Though the Bible does not explicitly identify every deviant sexual relation behavior, it is clear that the intent of both at creation and when Jesus walked on this earth in physical form that "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). And "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife" (Mark 10:7). Outside of the single male to single female married relationship, any other form of sexual conduct is an abomination unto the Lord.



## ANSWERS FOUND IN THE SCRIPTURE OF TRUTH

(Daniel 10:21)

### QUESTION #1 – Why are the signs of the second coming generic – earthquakes instead of number of earthquakes, pestilences instead of which diseases?

**ANSWER #1** – Matthew 24:42 sheds some light on this. "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." We are to be ready every moment for the second coming. If Jesus would have said, "When day after day there are twenty large earthquakes per day, then I will come again within weeks," complacency would happen. Events alert people. But if there is a specific period of recognized time, and that time is not now, then other than taking the risk of killing over by some unsuspecting situation, why not party now and when one is old then live a godly life. "Party on," they would say.

The Bible even says that a person that is godly in the end would be saved despite living an ungodly life. Isaiah 55:7 says, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Ezekiel 18:21 says, "But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die."

Another reason is that it would affect the ministry. If we think people are living ungodly now, with more specific knowledge of the time of the second event, this world would be in even greater darkness. There would be no need of preachers until closer to the end? In other words, the ministry would suffer for lack of preachers.

### QUESTION #2 – Jesus taught against eye for eye and more on forgiveness. Does that not make the New Testament a different type of religion than the Old?

**ANSWER #2** – Many Christians see the Old Testament as made up of rules and regulations, but the New Testament seems to appear more loving, more merciful, more forgiveness, more of all that makes people happy. But this is not true.

Exodus 21:24 does state that it should be "Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot" while Jesus said, "Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also" (Matthew 5:38-39).

But this is not a New Testament concept. Proverbs 24:29 says, "Say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render

## BIBLE THOUGHT

### Doing God's Will

Matthew 7:2 *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.* Psalms 40:8 *I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law [is] within my heart.*

The will of a person determines eternal life. Jesus paid the price and offers a free gift, but if you do not WILL to receive it, you will lose it. The will is strong and deceptive. The will is where the battleground is. The will is between self or Jesus. Will you submit your desires, your wants, your actions, your words, to His will? Of course you need to know what God's will is. Evaluating if something is good or not is not good enough because we honestly do not know the full goodness of something. Helping an old person across the street is a good thing, unless motivated by a reward. Now the Bible inside and out about God's will is not something that can be learned in a day, week, month, or even a year. So God narrowed it down to ten easy rules. The will of God is for you to do His Commandments. "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments" (1 John 5:2). Will you will to do His Commandments? God will help your will if you ask Him. And if you do not have the will to do them, pray for that will.

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*to the man according to his work.*" This verse speaks in essence of not doing to someone what they did to them – it speaks against eye for eye.

For those that think these concepts contradict each other, civilly we are to extract no more than an eye for an eye or a tooth for a tooth. If someone takes your coat, the authorities are to make him give it back – not ten coats. But personally, we are to forgive the person even if they do not give it back.

### QUESTION #3 – *Where do dreams come from?*

**ANSWER #3** – Ecclesiastes 5:3 says, "*For a dream cometh through the multitude of business.*" Business is everyday activity or busy work. The person that does the dishes in the home may have a dream about running water, having to clean the plates at a restaurant for thousands of people, or the inability to clean a particular plate. Of course other business deals also affect dreams. So not every dream, in fact, most of our dreams have nothing to do with messages from God.

One particular test of many is to see if a dream reoccurs and then ceases after you do what you are impressed to do. A dream of Biblical events may be tested by studying the Bible on that subject to see if the dream matches what the Bible reveals.