



# "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

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



### A study of Matthew 5, 6, and 7.

Continuing our study of Matthew 5,

6, and 7, in learning what it means to be "a wise man, which built his house upon a rock" (Matthew 7:24), we pick up in Matthew 5:9.

**Matthew 5:31-32** It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery. (Matthew 5:31-32)

Many Christians looking for divorce will quote Deuteronomy 24:1 "When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give [it] in her hand, and send her out of his house." It looks like God permits divorce, even when a man is tired of his wife. But that is not so.

The same people were tired of being vegan vegetarians and begged God for meat to eat. That was not God's purpose, but God did grant their request, however, it was not without consequence. Numbers 11:31-34 says, "And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let [them] fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits [high] upon the face of the earth. And the people stood up all that

day, and all [that] night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread [them] all abroad for themselves round about the camp. And while the flesh [was] yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague. And he called the name of that place Kibrothhattaavah: because there they buried the people that lusted."

So why did God permit divorce? "He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so" (Matthew 19:8).

From the beginning, it was intended for people to stay together once they were married. But the reality is, there is more divorce in the church than outside of the church – about 6% difference according to the news media a few years ago.

Jesus says that there is only one reason for divorce. "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except [it be] for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery" (Matthew 19:9).

And Jesus was not talking spiritual fornication either. Some will say, "Well, I caught my spouse confiding in another of the opposite gender. His heart has committed spiritual fornication." And automatically the divorce papers appear. Jesus did not say if a person were to give their heart to another. He said, "Fornication." And this is but one excuse that has widened the door for the divorce rate to be so high, in the church.

Now for abusive situations, God does permit separation, but that is a different

**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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### 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.

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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

March 16 and

April 15, 2006. [Preview future "sudden destruction" news snippets at [www.tstl.net/suddendestruction.](http://www.tstl.net/suddendestruction.)]

► WorldNetDaily, April 12, 2006 - Iran 1 step from atomic bomb

Confounding the predictions of many Western analysts, Iran's announcement yesterday that it successfully enriched uranium was the third major development this year on the way to producing an atomic bomb, leaving only one more step. That next

story. Our point is that the divorce rate should be much lower in the church and divorce should not be over leaving the seat up, belching too much, illnesses, etc. Divorce should only be over fornication and even then, reconciliation is the desire of God.

**Matthew 5:33-37 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.**

Some of these words that Jesus spoke come from Isaiah 66:1, "Thus saith the LORD, The heaven [is] my throne, and the earth [is] my footstool."

Jesus condemned their practices, declaring that their custom in oath taking was a transgression of the commandment of God. Our Saviour did not, however, forbid the use of the judicial oath, in which God is solemnly called to witness that what is said is truth and nothing but the truth. Jesus Himself, at His trial before the Sanhedrin, did not refuse to testify under oath. The high priest said unto Him, "I adjure Thee by the living God, that Thou tell us whether Thou be the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus answered, "Thou hast said" (Matthew 26:63, 64). Had Christ in the Sermon on the Mount condemned the judicial oath, He would at His trial have reproved the high priest and thus, for the benefit of His followers, have enforced His own teaching.

There are very many who do not fear to deceive their fellow men, but they have been taught, and have been impressed by the Spirit of God, that it is a fearful thing to lie to their Maker. When put under oath they are made to feel that they are not testifying merely before men, but before God; that if they bear false witness, it is to Him who reads the heart and who knows the exact truth. The knowledge of the fearful judgments that have followed this sin has a restraining influence upon them.

But if there is anyone who can consistently testify under oath, it is the Christian. He

lives constantly as in the presence of God, knowing that every thought is open to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do; and when required to do so in a lawful manner, it is right for him to appeal to God as a witness that what he says is the truth, and nothing but the truth.

Jesus proceeded to lay down a principle that would make oath taking needless. He teaches that the exact truth should be the law of speech. "But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil" (Matthew 5:37).

These words condemn all those meaningless phrases and expletives that border on profanity. They condemn the deceptive compliments, the evasion of truth, the flattering phrases, the exaggerations, the misrepresentations in trade that are current in society and in the business world. They teach that no one who tries to appear what he is not, or whose words do not convey the real sentiment of his heart, can be called truthful.

If these words of Christ were heeded, they would check the utterance of evil surmising and unkind criticism; for in commenting upon the actions and motives of another, who can be certain of speaking the exact truth? How often pride, passion, personal resentment, color the impression given! A glance, a word, even an intonation of the voice, may be vital with falsehood. Even facts may be so stated as to convey a false impression. And "whatsoever is more than" truth, "is of the evil one" (Matthew 5:37).

Everything that Christians do should be as transparent as the sunlight. Truth is of God; deception, in every one of its myriad forms, is of Satan; and whoever in any way departs from the straight line of truth is betraying himself into the power of the wicked one. Yet it is not a light or an easy thing to speak the exact truth. We cannot speak the truth unless we know the truth; and how often preconceived opinions, mental bias, imperfect knowledge, errors of judgment, prevent a right understanding of matters with which we have to do! We cannot speak the truth unless our minds are continually guided by Him who is truth.

Through the apostle Paul, Christ bids us, "Let your speech be alway with grace." "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the

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use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers." (Colossians 4:6; Ephesians 4:29). In the light of these scriptures the words of Christ upon the mount are seen to condemn jesting, trifling, and unchaste conversation. They require that our words should be not only truthful, but pure.

Those who have learned of Christ will "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness." Ephesians 5:11. In

## 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 – Daniel (Chapter 1)

Short version of Daniel 1: Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon besieged Jerusalem.

And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring [certain] of the children of Israel in whom [was] no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as [had] ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans. the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king. Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs. And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which [are] of your sort? then shall ye make [me] endanger my head to the king. Then said Daniel to Melzar, Prove thy servants ten days with pulse to eat, and water to drink. So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days. And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

speech, as in life, they will be simple, straightforward, and true; for they are preparing for the fellowship of those holy ones in whose mouth "was found no guile" (Revelation 14:5).

### To be continued...

We will continue our verse-by-verse study next month, but for now, may we love our spouses through thick and thin and be honest in our conversation.

As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king. And in all matters of wisdom [and] understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians [and] astrologers that [were] in all his realm.

Daniel was taught early on what food was good for the body and what was not. He was taught what was allowed and what was not. While many today claim that Jesus says to eat whatever is placed before you, forgetting that the audience were Jews therefore it was only the clean meats that Jesus was addressing, Daniel shows an example of standing for principle.

Very few people, even of Christians, have principles that they stand upon. They are always quick to compromise because they do not want to be called stubborn, legalist, hard to get along with, etc. But Satan also knows that a true Christian will not do the thing they are not to do. Therefore Satan coordinates a series of compromises that appear to be mostly in favor of the Christian perspective, but later Satan will introduce follow up compromises to the compromises, and so on. Then eventually the Christian has compromised so much that what used to be an issue is no longer an issue. And now anything is allowed on that subject. Unfortunately, Satan attacks on multiple subjects in the same manner.

development – metalizing the enriched uranium to fit it into a warhead – could come as soon as four months from now, says author Jerry Corsi, who has watched the predictions in his book "Atomic Iran" unfold since it was published one year ago.

**COMMENT:** Mark 13:7 "And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for [such things] must needs be; but the end [shall] not [be] yet."

### ►► BBC, March 20, 2006 - Rabbi calls for 'UN of religions'

The Chief Rabbi of Israel, Yona Metzger, has called for the creation of a world body with representatives from the major religious groups. The imams and rabbis at this conference, which opened on Sunday, say the world is in crisis and it is time they acted to restore justice, respect and peace. At the end of the opening ceremony, the Muslim delegation sang an oration to the Prophet Mohammed before resuming discussions about the ideas they plan to present to their Jewish counterparts.

**COMMENT:** Revelation 12:9 "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Who is deceiving the world? Satan. Ignited on September 2001, the world has been thrown into a crisis that politics does not seem to have the answer. Where does one turn? Religion. Unfortunately, most of the world are not informed of their own religion and will accept any form of peace, making way for the final movements agreed by committee and not by what says the Lord.

## BIBLE STUDY



Putting It In  
Your Heart

1. What does God have for the righteous?  
**Proverbs 3:32**

2. What does one do if they have the item from God? **Psalms 64:2** (HINT: the wicked will not be able to find them)
3. What is to be in a person's heart to help them remain among the righteous? **Psalms 119:11**
4. What are we to be if the item is in the heart? **James 1:22**

### ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

*Desert Symbolism?*

1. What was to come from the rock in the time of Moses?  
**Exodus 17:6** "Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel."
2. What did Jesus tell the woman at the well He

Therefore, what we learn from Daniel is that children should be brought up to not compromise with evil. And anything short

of the perfect will of God is evil. God does not compromise with evil and neither should His children.

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



### Topic: Heredity

Wherever the habits of the parents are contrary to

physical law, the injury done to themselves will be repeated in future generations (Exodus 34:7). You should move out from principle, in harmony with natural law (Romans 2:14), irrespective of feeling. To make plain natural law, and urge the obedience of it, is the work that accompanies the third angel's message to prepare a people for the coming of the Lord (Revelation 14:12). A flower of the field must have its root in the soil (Matthew 6:28); it must have air, dew, showers, and sunshine. It will flourish only as it receives these advantages, and all are from God. So with man. God calls for reformers to stand in defense of the laws he has established to govern the human system, and to maintain an elevated standard in the training of the mind and culture of the heart.

**Health Tidbit: Juicing** The quality of your life begins with the quality of the foods you consume. For a healthier, more energetic, disease-free lifestyle, begin with a diet rich in natural foods like whole grains, legumes, fruits and vegetables. Fresh juices also provide the proteins, carbohydrates, essential fatty acids, vitamins, and minerals that are vital to your health.

Increased energy, strengthened immunity, reduced risk of disease, strong bones, and a glowing complexion is evidence of a

healthier lifestyle. Ultimately, eating your daily intake of fruits and vegetables in its raw "whole" form is best. However, in seasons when fruits and vegetables are not as plentiful and when you are combating an illness or weakened immune system, juicing can help. Juicing provides nutritional advantages of plant foods in a concentrated form that is easily absorbed by the body, and is an efficient way to increase your consumption of these life-giving foods. Because of its concentrated form, 1 cup of juice is made up of far more fruits and/or vegetables than you would desire to eat in one sitting. Because liquids with a meal hinder the digestion process, it is best to drink juices either 15 minutes before the meal, sip it slowly with the meal, or enjoy it with the lighter meal (third meal of the day).

Buying juices from the store will not give the same health benefits as listed above with fresh juices. Reason being, the juices in the store are pasteurized and during that process the enzymes and much of the nutrients are lost. Further there are added ingredients, artificial flavors and colors, preservatives and artificial sweeteners.

If you are in the market for a juicer, shop carefully. We were amazed at the differences in not only prices, features of the machine, and most importantly the quality of the juice. There is no one machine that is best for all, each families needs are different so do not just buy the one your neighbor is happy with, shop wisely.

## 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 March 16 and April 15, 2006. [Preview future news snippets at [www.tstl.net/news.](http://www.tstl.net/news.)]

» **Scripps Howard News Service, April 5, 2006 - Poll: Most don't believe in body's resurrection**

Most Americans don't believe they will experience a resurrection of their bodies when they die, putting them at odds with a

core teaching of Christianity.

**COMMENT:** John 20:27 *"Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust [it] into my side: and be not faithless, but believing."* 1 Corinthians 15:55 *"O death, where [is] thy sting? O grave, where [is] thy victory?"* Jesus, our example, had a physical body after the resurrection. Further, the only thing put into a grave is a body. Therefore, to gain victory over the grave, the body must come out. What complicates this matter is that Christians have a hard time understanding why people go to heaven or hell right away and then at the end of time need to be reunited with a body seeing they are already experiencing life after death. There is one explanation that solves this dilemma and that is existence only occurs when a body has the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). At death, the person sleeps in the grave unconsciously just like when the light of a light bulb goes nowhere but out when electricity is cut off. When the breath is reunited with a glorified body, then the light comes on again, i.e., who the person is comes alive again. This is supported by 1 Thessalonians 4:14 *"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."* When do the dead live again? 1 Corinthians 15:23 *"But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming."* 1 Thessalonians 4:16 says, *"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first."* John 6:40 says, *"And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."* John 6:44 says, *"No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."* John 6:54 says, *"Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day."* Remember, Lazarus said nothing of a "life after death experience" that Christ returned him from. His body was simply asleep in the grave until God returned the breath of life to it and awoke it with His voice.

► **WorldNetDaily, March 24, 2006 - Is Easter latest holiday hijack?**

This week in Minnesota's capital, a toy

rabbit, pastel-colored eggs and a sign with the words "Happy Easter" adorning the entrance to the St. Paul City Council offices were ordered to hit the bunny trail by the city's human-rights director who claimed the items might offend non-Christians.

**COMMENT:** Easter is not the day Jesus rose. He rose the Sunday after Passover, which does not always land on Easter. As Christmas, Easter has pagan origins. From our study guide, *Antichrist and 666*:

How about Easter? Where do chocolate bunnies and eggs come from? Babylon: "Ishtar was the principal goddess of the Babylonians and Assyrians. Worshipped by the Sumerians as Inanna and by the Phoenicians as Astarte, she was both the compassionate mother of all life, who brought fertility and relief from sickness, and the lustful goddess of sexual love and war. The best-known legend about her is that of her imprisonment by Ereshkigal, queen of the underworld, where Ishtar had gone to visit her lover Tammuz (Dumuzi), the god of vegetation. The union of Ishtar and Tammuz represented the reawakening of life in the spring." *1993 Grolier Electronic Publishing, Inc.* Of course the egg is the symbol of fertility while the rabbit is the most prolific reproducer.

Well, the Babylonians passed it to the Medes and Persians who passed it to Greece: "Expressed as invocations, incantations, prayers, hymns, processions, dances, and sacred dramas, these ritual activities were believed to be closely connected with the processes of nature. Symbolizing death and the return of vegetation and life, this myth was recorded as early as 3000 BC in the Babylonian cult of Ishtar and Tammuz. Another example, recorded by 700 BC, is the death and resurrection of the Phoenician-Greek deity of Adonis, beloved Aphrodite. The Greek myth of Demeter and Persephone (Kore) represents the same theme." *1993 Grolier Electronic Publishing, Inc.*

Greece then passed it to Pagan Rome: "Cybele, like her Semitic counterpart Ishtar, she was associated in myth and rite with a young consort, Attis (Tammuz in Babylonia). It is chiefly from Cybele's cult in Rome, dating from the late 3d century BC and reaching a peak of popularity throughout the empire in the 4th century AD, that the mysteries of the Anatolian goddess are known. The spring festival

could provide? **John 4:14** *"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."*

3. What did the rock represent? **1 Corinthians 10:4** *"And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."*

## UPDATES & STATS TO WWW. TSTL.NET

The latest updates include:

- New Bible Study released: **The Issue That Divides The Entire World.**
- Newly released **April through July 2003 Newsletters** are now online.
- Newly released **April through July 2003 Children's Newsletters** are now online.







**Since March 2005...**

- The main page has been seen by nearly 35,000 visitors; up nearly 3,000 since March 15, 2006.
- Children's coloring pages have been accessed by over 410,000 people, up 34,000 since March 15, 2006.
- Over 9,000 content searches; up 700 since March 15.
- Children's activities, prayer requests, information about us, viewing forums, and contact pages are still among the top visited web pages.

## NEW ONLINE BIBLE STUDY!



### THE ISSUE THAT DIVIDES THE ENTIRE WORLD!

-  There are only two sides in the Bible, what are they?
-  What separates us?
-  What is the main issue that divides the entire world?
-  How can you know that you are on the right side?
-  How can you know others are on the right side?
-  What can you do about it?

These and many more questions are answered in the newest online Bible Study at [www.tstl.net](http://www.tstl.net) and clicking on **Study Tools** and then **Online Studies**.

These studies are also in print form and available upon request.

All studies must be performed in sequence as the Bible is a building block of information.

honoring her commemorated Attis's death and culminated in a joyful celebration of resurrection." 1993 *Grolier Electronic Publishing, Inc.*

Pagan Rome passed it onto Papal Rome. Constantine professed to be a convert to Christianity, but really he was the tool that brought many pagan beliefs into the church. Motivated by a good end result, the means were questionable. He tried to unify the Roman Empire. He had the pagans worshipping the goddess of Cybele in the springtime. He figured the way to get the pagans over to Christianity was to get the Christians to hold some type of spring festival as well. He then remembered that Jesus rose some time in the spring and thought, "Why not have a resurrection celebration?" So the whole world follows Easter which is set by the constellations and not on the Biblical Passover time frame.

As Spring and the new life it brings arrives, its beauty should draw us closer to our Creator. Enjoy the birds arrival and the lovely flowers. Even smile as you watch the many bunnies run around the yard. But why lie to the children about some Easter Bunny when *"lying lips are an abomination to the Lord"* Proverbs 12:22.

Further, at the time of Passover, remember how the Lord died as that Passover Lamb. Remember the saddest Sabbath ever as His body laid asleep in the tomb, and remember His glorious resurrection and victory over the grave.

A true Christian will not mix the "holy" with the "unholy". Easter is a pagan holiday honoring spring mixed with the sacrifice of our Lord and Saviour.

#### ► **The Independent, March 23, 2006 - Yoko rages over 'tacky' TV seance to contact Lennon**

If John Lennon had been as good as his word, he would have been in touch from the afterlife by now. But, though he and the other Beatles came to an understanding that any of them who died would send back a

message, Sir Paul McCartney is still waiting. "He knew the deal, but I never had a message," he once said.

**COMMENT:** Paul is going to be waiting awhile. It is very likely that John has forgotten about the agreement.

*"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do [it] with thy might; for [there is] no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest"* (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

#### ► **Telegraph Group, March 19, 2006 - Father seeks right to cut ties with child he didn't want**

In what could be a landmark case in the American legal system, Matt Dubay, a computer programmer, is asking the courts to absolve him of all the responsibilities of fatherhood. For Mr Dubay, 25, news that he was about to become a father came as an unwelcome shock. It followed a night spent with a student, Lauren Wells, who he claims told him that she was infertile and using contraception. His lawsuit, filed in a federal court, claims that men who face fatherhood without their consent should be able to opt out of their responsibilities.

**COMMENT:** There is one sure way not to be a father. Exodus 20:14 says *Thou shalt not commit adultery*. This commandment includes sex between unmarried people. Here is another case of God is right but society has silenced Him. Take God out of society and there are constant issues that need address.

#### ► **MSN, March 17, 2006 - Pregnant waitress gets \$973.65 tip**

A 28-year-old widow called Newkirk's boss to say she'd left the tip because she "didn't need it," and wanted to give it to someone who did.

**COMMENT:** Colossians 3:12 *"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;"*



## ANSWERS FOUND IN THE SCRIPTURE OF TRUTH

(Daniel 10:21)

**QUESTION #1 – There are so many denominations and even in the denominations, people have great differing opinions of what the Bible teaches. How can we be sure this is**

**God's Word when we do not all believe the same thing?**

**ANSWER #1 –** This is probably the second most popular reason why

disbelievers remain as disbelievers and even why people in the church are lazy spiritually. The first most popular reason is the many who call themselves Christians are living lives like the lost. Non-Christians are really turned off from Christianity. *“For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known [it], to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them”* (2 Peter 2:21).

In reality, we all should believe the same thing. The reason we do not is because *“many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many”* (Matthew 24:11). *“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears”* (2 Timothy 4:3).

If we all followed the one true method of understanding the Bible, we would believe the same. *“Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? [them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little”* (Isaiah 28:9-10).

In Isaiah 28:10, the word line is mentioned four times and precept four times. That is eight references. And then you add in little here and there and you are over eight references. But many or most of the denominations base their beliefs on a verse or two and not upon the eight minimum references.

The second reason we do not believe the same is that people do not look at the Bible as a book that does not contradict. In other words, many Christians believe that there are errors and contradictions. For instance, many could think that man was created after the first week according to Genesis chapter 2. But they do not realize that chapter breaks occurred after the Bible was written and were not inspired. If chapter 1 were to end after Genesis 2:3, then chapter 1 and chapter 2 of Genesis do not contradict. And there are many like scenarios throughout the Bible.

So on these two points alone, not requiring enough references in the Bible for a belief and believing the Bible contradicts will give Satan the glory and keep us differing on the understanding of the Bible and keep us

in separate denominations.

**QUESTION #2– Why have you not reported things like the ports deal that could have a profound impact upon the nation?**

**ANSWER #2–** We restrain to include such items because usually all the facts are not in. If we reported and commented upon news that first breaks, which includes speculation, it has a tendency to change more than once. In regards to the specific request, notice how it appeared to be a done deal in that the Arabs were going to take over six major United States ports on American soil. Then congress was going to block it. As of March 15, the ports deal has been withdrawn by the Arab company. So it is not an issue anymore.

There has been other news as well that we restrained ourselves. Countless items we have seen where one state legislature house passes potential controversial laws while the following week it fails in the other house. Why create a sense of panic from our publication when there is nothing concerned. We do not want to become a speculation publication.

**QUESTION #3– I have trouble speaking before people on certain subjects because I have not gained the full victory in my life yet it needs to be said. How can one speak on a subject and not be a hypocrite?**

**ANSWER #3–** A hypocrite is one that tells other people what they are doing is wrong while excusing the same behavior in themselves. But if you believe what you are doing is wrong and believe that if you do not cease from doing it and believing *“the wages of sin [is] death”* (Romans 6:23), please proceed to preach hell and brimstone to the unrepentant knowing that you may be included in the group of the lost. Of course the best preaching is through right actions.

Unfortunately it really is challenging even in right action. If you are not being considered a hypocrite then you get accused of being better than every one else. These souls are simply and unknowingly aiding the enemy. They forget that the job of everyone, not the minister alone, is to call each other to a higher standard.

# BIBLE THOUGHT

## Vain Man

*Psalms 60:11-12 Give us help from trouble: for vain [is] the help of man. Through God we shall do valiantly: for he [it is that] shall tread down our enemies.*

Who is your enemy? And do not say no one is your enemy. *“The enemy that sowed them is the devil”* (Matthew 13:39).

Even people, contrary to what many Christians think today, are your enemy. *“O full of all subtilty and all mischief, [thou] child of the devil, [thou] enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?”* (Acts 13:10) Anyone that misrepresents Christ is an enemy. A supposed Christian that uses foul language, loses their temper, dresses and does immodest things, and gets drunk is obviously not a friend of God, but a servant of the devil. This may be an extreme case, but any that misrepresent Christ is an enemy. They make your work of proclaiming the gospel harder because the non-Christian will use these examples to excuse them from coming to God.

But just Satan alone is enough to realize that all of our attempts, even with the help of others is in vain without God. You cannot stop sinning without the help of God. *“With God all things are possible”* (Mark 10:27). *“If thou canst believe, all things [are] possible to him that believeth”* (Mark 9:23). If you believe it is possible to overcome sin, with God, you can walk sinless.

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**MAY 2006**

**What does Jesus say about divorce ?**

(read the main article on page 1)

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**How can your parents affect your life even if they don't raise you?** (read the health article on page 4 )

\_\_\_\_\_

**Most Christians don't believe in a bodily resurrection!**

**Easter being hijacked?**

(read these in the general news section that begins on page 4)

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**WHAT IS TSTL.NET USED FOR?**

- ▶ The primary purpose of our website is to assist you in your personal and group Bible studies.
- ▶ Visit our website and use the SEARCH box to search for a particular verse or words in a verse.

**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.
- ▶ Question of the Month
- ▶ Memory texts

**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** — Puzzles — Puzzles to reinforce the lessons.

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

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