

"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 XV (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 continue from last month.

Matthew 7:3-5 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam [is] in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

Notice what Jesus said and not what people think Jesus said. A person may catch another using euphemisms in their speech while the first person uses the four letter words. By the way, a euphemism is saying the four letter word by using what appears to be a kinder version such as darn instead of damn. Both are actually foul words and wrong to use as a Christian. But for our example, there are people who look to the sins of others and are zealous about it but are not concerned about their own greater sin. Now be careful, it does not say leave the one using euphemisms in their sin, but before the person with the four letter words helps the other, they need to clean up their own life. When they do that, they are to help the other. We are not to leave our brothers and sisters in sin. "Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins" (James 5:20).

But even so, it is not our duty to be searching out sins in others, however, if a sin is made known, we are to deal with it. And deal with it is in the way Jesus dealt with it. "Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14). "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more" (John 8:11). It was not a "in your face" confrontation.

It was a method of assistance out of sin.

Matthew 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

Jesus once said, "It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast [it] to dogs" (Matthew 15:26). Here, Jesus was referring to the fact that He, who is the Bread of Life (John 6:35) and the Word made flesh (John 1:14), was "sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matthew 15:24). Those not of the House of Israel chose to stay in their pagan life. No use in feeding them. It would be a waste of food, spiritual food. But every now and then, there is an exception. "Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table" (Matthew 15:27).

Likewise, the Word of God is not for those who choose to stay in their sins. Only those that desire a better life. Those that choose to stay in their sins simply mock the Word of God. But those that desire to be taught, start off with the crumbs.

So sharing the gospel starts with a relationship. Do not cast the Holy Word before them. If they like your company, they will begin to ask for the spiritual food, because they will know you are different, and they will want what you have.

Matthew 7:7-8 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

This is true, for God has said it. But if you ask for a million dollars, if you seek after riches, if you constantly pray for wealth, you probably will not receive it. That is because "seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). We are to ask, seek, and knock with this principle in mind. "All these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33) does not include your wants, just your needs.

Matthew 7:9-11 Or what man is there of you,

WHO ARE WE?

We are not a church but rather a ministry, encouraging church attendance, but not as blind pew warmers but rather as searchers of a TSTL — "Thus Saith the Lord"

The "Thus Saith the Lord..." General Newsletter is published monthly by "Thus Saith the Lord..." Ministries

MISSION STATEMENT:

To strengthen the faith in God's Word by enabling you to have a "Thus Saith the Lord..." for all that you believe.

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Do You Have A TSTL For That???

If someone asked you "why do you believe that or why do you do that" could you give them an answer from the Bible — a TSTL?

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.















UPDATES FOR WWW.TSTL.NET

All newsletters are now available in PDF format online!

We worked out a lot of the bugs that existed from switching to the new server for our website. Thank you to several of our readers who worked through various interactive parts of the website.

Please report any other problems that you may encounter. Thank you

ONLINE BIBLE STUDIES SO FAR!

-  The Coming New World Order
-  The Great Red Dragon
-  The Seed of the Woman
-  On the Eve of Armageddon
-  Nailing It To His Cross
-  Revelation's Book of Life
-  The Hour of God's Judgment
-  Jesus, Beelzebub?
-  The Issue That Divides the Entire World
-  The Greatest Cover Up
-  Antichrist and 666
-  Revelation's Two Witnesses
-  The Dragon With Lamb-like Horns
-  Marked, Sealed, And Delivered

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whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

In Luke 11:13, Luke writes, *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall [your] heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"*

Ask for the Holy Spirit, the best gift of all. Of course one needs to be prepared to receive the Holy Spirit. For *"when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment"* (John 16:8). The primary purpose of the Holy Spirit is not to have a good time or even to use gifts. The primary purpose of the Holy Spirit is to make us the best examples of Christians that we can be.

Matthew 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

This goes both ways. You want someone to be kind to you, be kind to others – even if they do not deserve it. *"If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink"* (Proverbs 25:21). It is not simply forbidding the aggressive acts.

Matthew 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Is the church you attend restrictive? If anything is allowed, then it is not the strait truth. Sins will not enter heaven. *"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death"* (Revelation 21:8). Anything on that list permitted in your church? "Oh, our church teaches to believe and be saved!" Is that before or after the youth watch *Harry Potter* (sorcerer) movies sponsored by the church? Is that before or after Santa Clause (idol and encouraging lying) is welcomed? Just what are you "believing" in?

Matthew 7:15-20 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither [can] a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by

their fruits ye shall know them.

Notice how false prophets come – in sheep's clothing. "Our minister is so kind!" Kindness can kill. *"No marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light"* (2 Corinthians 11:14). Anyone telling their congregation that they are saved in their sins, stay as they are, and anything else that permits sin to continue is going against the gospel message. And telling people to stay as they are takes on many forms. That includes making the church comfortable for sinners to attend. That means the church becomes worldly. Brother, sister, you are saved from your sins! You need not sin anymore! That is the power of the gospel. Live as if you believe it.

Matthew 7:21-23 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. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

So despite recognizing Jesus as Lord, the fact is that the majority of Christianity believe they are saved by saying, "I believe" or "Just have faith" and yet are going to be sadly disappointed when Jesus appears. Many Christians claim the ability to cast out evil spirits, prophesy in the name of Jesus, even have other spiritual manifestations, but in the end, they neglect the fact that doing the will of the Father is required. "Works" is associated with faith and belief. "No works" no salvation. We are not saved by works. But we are not saved by just saying words either. *"Shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works"* (James 2:18). *"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth"* (1 John 3:18).

Conclusion

Matthew 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

And that brings us to where this long series started. We are not only to listen, but we are to do everything Jesus said in Matthew 5, 6, and 7. Good news, if you have been deceived by thinking you are saved by a one time event of saying magical words, you can start today on the strait path stated by Jesus.

May God bless you and keep you. May His light shine upon you. May we meet on the sea of glass.

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 3

Everyone else is doing it!

Daniel 3:10-12 *Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image: And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, [that] he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.*

At some point a child learns many ways to try and get their parents to allow them to do what was

originally not allowed. One of the popular methods is to compare to a friend who is allowed to do it, despite the fact that another friend is not allowed. And if that fails, then there is the old stand-by, "Everyone else is allowed" or "Everyone else is doing it." That may be true, but that does not mean it is right.

Everyone else was bowing down to the golden image. Today, everyone else is disobeying God. They choose the wrong music. They choose the wrong activities. They are following what everyone else is doing. But God points to the three Hebrew boys as the example of obedience to Him despite everyone else.

In the end, you see who was rewarded. Everyone else may be doing it, even church members. But that does not mean they will receive the ultimate reward – heaven.

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



Free Radicals: They have been mentioned, but do you know what they are? Free radicals or oxidants are molecules in substances with an unpaired electron that

react with "healthy" molecules in cells and rob them of electrons, thus causing the cell to become damaged, weak, and mutated which leads to sickness, disease, and cancer. Free radicals suppress the immune system's response to fight infections and to destroy damaged cells and cancer cells. They are also believed to be responsible for the aging process and degeneration of our body. The following are some of the disease-causing factors that contain free radicals or increase free radical activity in your body. Radiation from radon, x-rays, computers, televisions, microwaves, excessive exposure to ultraviolet light from the sun and tanning beds and from the irradiation of meat and some fruits to kill bacteria. Some of these mentioned contribute less than others so for example, with computers and televisions, avoid excessive exposure and simply include antioxidant foods in your diet while avoiding the higher contributors.

More disease causing factors that contain free radicals or increase free radical activity in your body include: Pollutants in smog and especially tobacco smoke; electrical magnetic waves from electrical appliances, electric blankets, and especially power lines. Chemical substances

such as benzene, coal tar, rubber, and some plastics can cause cancers of the blood cells, kidneys, bladder, and liver. Pesticides, food dyes or artificial color, caffeine, nicotine, fluorine, and chlorine are chemicals that almost all people are exposed to every day. A study by the National Cancer Institute found that drinking chlorinated water may double the risk of bladder cancer. Scientists also have discovered that chlorine reacts with organic material in water, such as decaying leaves or compost to produce hundreds of hazardous chemical by-products, including chloroform.

Did you know that your body produces substances called antioxidant enzymes that are free radical scavengers? These antioxidants neutralize free radicals by binding up their free electron, preventing cell damage? But, when your body is overwhelmed with excess free radicals, the antioxidant enzymes cannot completely stop free radical damage to the cells. Antioxidants come largely from raw plant foods. A diet that is high in fat can increase free radical activity, especially cooking fats at high temperatures, particularly frying foods in oil. Animal fats, alcohol, white sugar, and coffee all contain substances that produce toxins, which cause damage and mutation of cells.

Remember, *"I am the Lord that healeth thee"* (Exodus 15:26).

May God bless you as you endeavor to live a healthful life all to the Glory of Him who created you.

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DO YOU HAVE A TSTL FOR THAT?

The purpose of these Bible studies is to help you seek for a TSTL—"Thus Saith the Lord..." for all that you believe. May you go forward in this study with that goal.

As It Was In the Beginning

1. How does Jeremiah see the earth? **Jeremiah 4:23**
2. What does Jeremiah see tremble which is the beginning of the seventh plague (see Revelation 16:17-20)? **Jeremiah 4:24**
3. How many people are living on earth at the time of Jeremiah's vision? **Jeremiah 4:25**
4. What happened to all the eagles and vultures that feast on the lost when Jesus returns in Revelation 19? **Jeremiah 4:25**
5. What causes all the destruction, fruitful places becoming wilderness, and cities being utterly destroyed? **Jeremiah 4:26**
6. How do we know that following the destruction at the second coming, a period of time will exist? **Jeremiah 4:27**



ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

An Abundant Sin

1. In the days of who will the time before Jesus return be like? **Luke 17:28** "*Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;*"
2. What city did Lot live in? **Genesis 14:12** "*And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.*"
3. What was the city abundant in? **Ezekiel 16:49** "*Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.*"
4. What is the result of practicing it or continuing in it? **Proverbs 19:15** "*Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.*"
5. What two sins can result from it? **1 Timothy 5:13** "*And withal they learn [to be] idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.*"
6. What would the Lord have us do instead? **Matthew 20:6-7** "*And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle? They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, [that] shall ye receive.*"

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 October 16 and November 15, 2006. [Preview future news snippets at www.tstl.net.]

▶▶ **WorldNetDaily,**

November 14, 2006 - Fox News reporters freed for \$2 million

Palestinian terror groups and security organizations in the Gaza Strip received \$2 million from a U.S. source in exchange for the release of Fox News employees Steve Centanni and Olaf Wiig, who were kidnapped here last summer, a senior leader of one of the groups suspected of the abductions told WND. He said he expects the payments for Centanni and Wiig's freedom will encourage Palestinian groups to carry out further kidnappings.

TSTL: Proverbs 24:20 *"For there shall be no reward to the evil [man]."* They never should have given the money. That is much like parenting. To shut up a child, give them something. Guess what, next time they also will expect something.

▶▶ **Fox News, November 9, 2006 - British Man Injured After Lighting Firecracker in**

A 22-year-old man suffered internal injuries after lighting a small firecracker he had inserted into his buttocks, paramedics said Thursday.

TSTL: Proverbs 10:23 *"[It is] as sport to a fool to do mischief: but a man of understanding hath wisdom."* This may be foolish, but how more foolish are the ones that do not consider eternal life?

▶▶ **WorldNetDaily, November 5, 2006 - Evangelist Admits to 'Sexual Immorality'**

Saying that he was a "deceiver and liar" who had given in to his dark side, the Rev. Ted Haggard confessed to sexual immorality Sunday in a letter read from the pulpit of the megachurch he founded. The disgraced former president of the National Association of Evangelicals, which represents 30 million evangelical Christians, apologized and said "because of pride, I began deceiving those I love the most because I didn't want to hurt or disappoint them."

TSTL: 2 Peter 2:1 *"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that*

bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction." We have one that has admitted to being a deceiver.

Unfortunately there are many, many who do not tell the Christians at large what the truth is.

▶▶ **Breit Bart, October 31, 2006 - Nearly half of Americans uncertain God exists: poll**

The survey conducted by Harris Poll found that 42 percent of US adults are not "absolutely certain" there is a God compared to 34 percent who felt that way when asked the same question three years ago. Among the various religious groups, 76 percent of Protestants, 64 percent of Catholics and 30 percent of Jews said they are "absolutely certain" there is a God while 93 percent of Christians who describe themselves as "Born Again" feel certain God exists.

TSTL: Psalms 46:10 *"Be still, and know that I [am] God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."* God has a lot of work to do, but the good news is that He is God. Stand back and watch.

▶▶ **Time, October 31, 2006 - In Touch With Jesus**

Sugarcoated, MTV-style youth ministry is so over. Bible-based worship is packing teens in pews now. Believing that a message wrapped in pop-culture packaging was the way to attract teens to their flocks, pastors watered down the religious content and boosted the entertainment. But in recent years churches have begun offering their young people a style of religious instruction grounded in Bible study and teachings about the doctrines of their denomination. Their conversion has been sparked by the recognition that sugarcoated Christianity, popular in the 1980s and early '90s, has caused growing numbers of kids to turn away not just from attending youth-fellowship activities but also from practicing their faith at all.

TSTL: Ecclesiastes 12:8-10 *"Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher; all [is] vanity. And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, [and] set in order many proverbs. The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and [that which was] written [was] upright, [even] words of*

truth." Now that Time Magazine has put it into print, I wonder if the other pastors will finally agree with what we have been saying all along. Entertaining to win souls has never made converts – just church attendees. All of that is vanity. Let us get back to the Word, the Word of truth.

▶▶ **WorldNetDaily, October 20, 2006 - Discriminate against tattoos, piercings at your own risk**

You run a fashionable restaurant with a dress code for employees and customers that discourages pierced tongues and noses. You are a personnel director at an upscale department store known for customer service and refuse to hire women with prominent tattoos. You supervise a supermarket and require those with pierced body parts who handle food to remove the piercings before reporting to work. According to legal experts in employment law, if you fit any of these categories, you are setting yourself up for lawsuits from members of a new activist lobby representing the ever-growing population of those into "body modification."

TSTL: Isaiah 3:16-25 *"Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing [as] they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts. In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of [their] tinkling ornaments [about their feet], and [their] cauls, and [their] round tires like the moon, The chains, and the bracelets, and the mufflers, The bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings, The rings, and nose jewels, The changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins, The glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the veils. And it shall come to pass, [that] instead of sweet smell there shall be stink; and instead of a girdle a rent; and instead of well set hair baldness; and instead of a stomacher a girding of sackcloth; [and] burning instead of beauty. Thy men shall fall by the sword, and thy mighty in the war."* Looks like society is repeating history. God was displeased then; He cannot be pleased today.

HAVE YOU BEEN BLESSED?

If this newsletter is a blessing to you, please consider sending a love gift to help further the work. More blessed are those who give.

When this ministry began we had a salary that provided for us and all the needs of the ministry.

As the ministry grew and needed more funds we did yard sales, flea markets, and then the thrift store.

When the salary was lost the ministry struggled on it's own, and when the dollar stores and free outlets moved in, the thrift store closed.

Now our personal income barely meets our needs, and so the Lord is depending on you to support this ministry just as He depended upon his friends when he had no place to even lay his head. This ministry is financially where Jesus' ministry was, depending upon you, His friends.

This ministry can no longer survive without the financial support of it's readers—Thank you!

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



The following are "sudden destruction" news items that appeared between October 16 and November 15, 2006. [Preview future "sudden destruction" news snippets at www.tstl.net.]

►WorldNetDaily, Nov., 15, 2006 - Young adults in U.S. abandoning biblical faith

New study shows many 20-to-40-year-olds don't believe in absolute truth. Young adults were more likely than older adults to reject the concept of absolute truth. They were also significantly less likely to believe, as their elders do, that human beings should determine what is right and wrong morally by examining God's principles. Also, young adults were twice as likely as older adults to believe ethics and morality are based on "what is right for the person."

TSTL: 2 Thess. 2:10 *"And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved."* When Jesus returns, many Christians are going to be surprised because a whole lot of them will perish. Going to church does not make a Christian. Saying "I believe" does not make a Christian. It is being a Christian that makes you a Christian. Being Christlike, which is to do what Christ would do and that is absolute truth. You only get that through *"truth: thy word is truth"* (John 17:17). Having a whole generation that may perish because they do not love the truth is fulfillment of prophecy. Now the sad part is, that is someone's child. Please pray that they will love the truth.

►WorldNetDaily.Com, November 14, 2006 - Ten Commandments stunner: Feds lying at Supreme Court

"Between the images of the people depicting the Majesty of the Law and Power of Government, there is a tablet with ten Roman numerals, the first five down the left side and the last five down the right. This tablet represents the first ten amendments of the Bill of Rights," she said. One official Supreme Court document, he found, cited a letter from sculptor Weinman that said the "pylon" carved with Roman numerals I to X "symbolizes the first ten amendments to the Constitution." But the letter was anomalous; it didn't have a number of certifying marks that were typical of others. So he continued looking and after calling in some assistance in his hunt for evidence, he found a 1975 official U.S. Supreme Court Handbook, prepared under the direction of Mark Cannon, administrative assistant to the chief justice. It said, "Directly above the Bench are two central figures, depicting Majesty of the Law and Power of Government. Between them is a tableau of the Ten Commandments..."

TSTL: Psalms 119:126 *"[It is] time for [thee], LORD, to work: [for] they have made void thy*

law." In the name of not offending, the truth is being covered up. The silent war marches on, and the law continues to be trampled upon.

►Haaretz, November 14, 2006 - Netanyahu: It's 1938 and Iran is Germany; Ahmadinejad is preparing another

Drawing a direct analogy between Iran and Nazi Germany, Benjamin Netanyahu asserted that the Iranian nuclear program posed a threat not only to Israel, but to the entire western world. There was "still time," however, to prevent Tehran from acquiring nuclear weapons, he said. The Iranian president "denies the Holocaust."

TSTL: Matthew 24:6 *"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all [these things] must come to pass, but the end is not yet."*

►WorldNetDaily, October 31, 2006 - Muslim insurgents behead 14-year-old Christian boy

The youth was identified as Ayad Tariq, who lived in Baqouba, Iraq, and was at work when a group of "disguised Muslim insurgents" went into the power plant shortly after his shift began at 6 a.m. The website reported the insurgents asked him for his identification and, according to other witnesses who hid and stayed alive to report on the attack, questioned his identification card's reference to him as a "Christian." Are you truly a "Christian sinner," they asked. "Yes, I am Christian but I am not a sinner," he replied. The insurgents then called him a "dirty Christian sinner," grabbed his limbs and held them while beheading him, the witnesses reported. They were shouting, "Allahu akbar! Allahu Akbar!" during the murder, witnesses said.

TSTL: *"Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only"* (James 2:24). See how this 14 year old died for his faith. The two Fox News reporters should be ashamed of themselves lying that they would convert to Islam just to be left go. If a 14 year old is willing to die, how much more should an adult!

►WorldNetDaily, October 27, 2006 - College removes cross – from chapel!

The cross from the altar area of the chapel at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va., has been removed to ensure the space is seen as a nondenominational area, explains Melissa Engimann, assistant director for Historic Campus. "In order to make the Wren Chapel less of a faith-specific space, and to make it more welcoming to students, faculty, staff and visitors of all faiths, the cross has been removed from the altar area," announced in a staff e-mail.

TSTL: *"They are the enemies of the cross of Christ"* (Philippians 3:18). The crusades of the past was physical fighting, but the latest crusade involves a non-blood tactic. Instead of killing people, anything Christian is being neutralized.

ANSWERS FOUND IN THE SCRIPTURE OF TRUTH

(Daniel 10:21)



QUESTION #1– Can you explain how if we are to be keeping the law of God today, then why is it said that those that lived before the cross

were saved by the law and those after are not saved by the law?

ANSWER #1– That is pretty easy to answer. The statement of being saved by the law prior to the cross and by grace after the cross is an utter lie. Both are saved by grace and here is why. If people of the Old Testament were saved by the law, then no one is saved in the Old Testament. Adam and Eve sinned. They broke the law. To excuse their sin even by repentance and even by the act of slaying an animal involves grace. Hebrews 10:4 says, *“For [it is] not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.”* So no blood of animal took their sin away.

Then there is Noah who sinned after the ark landed by getting drunk. Abraham lied. His wife laughed at God. Moses struck the rock twice. David committed adultery. Maybe Daniel might be saved. But if we accept that people are saved by the law in the Old Testament and grace in the New Testament, then only perfect obedience in the Old Testament would have earned heaven. But *“all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God”* (Romans 3:23). So they too were saved by grace. The problem is that most ministers today think grace came at the cross, and they tell the flock the same thing. Grace did not come at the cross. *“Grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began”* (2 Timothy 1:9). Since grace was available before Adam and Eve, that means that all of the Old Testament people were under grace.

And keep in mind, the definition of grace is actually found in the Old Testament. Grace is *“pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for thine inheritance”* (Exodus 34:9). In other words, wash us from our sin and grant us eternal life even though we of ourselves do not deserve it. Even *“Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD”* (Genesis 6:8).

Now with that side settled that means New Testament people are no less responsible for keeping the Ten Commandments. Sure the slaying of animals under the ceremonial laws have ceased *“for the law having a shadow of good things to come, [and] not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect”* (Hebrews 10:1). But *“whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all”* (James 2:10).

Yet since *“all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God”* (Romans 3:23) and *“if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for [the sins of]*

the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments” (1 John 2:1-3). So *“if we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us”* (1 John 1:10). We admit that. We have sinned – past tense. Nowhere does Jesus say you can go to live in sin now. He says to us all, *“go, and sin no more”* (John 8:11).

Do you know what sin is? *“Sin is the transgression of the law”* (1 John 3:4). Therefore, as the Old Testament people were to keep the law of Ten Commandments but were provided with grace when they confessed their sins and repented of them, which is to desire not to commit the sin again, we too are under the same grace and are expected to *“establish the law”* (Romans 3:31).

QUESTION #2–**Christmas has become very pressured in giving gifts. The debt is enormous across the nation. Where in the Bible are we told to be doing this?**

ANSWER #2– Nowhere.

The argument for giving gifts is represented by the kings of the east presenting gifts when Jesus was born, but it falls apart real quickly. There is no other representation of gift giving at Christ’s birth. The shepherds came, saw, and went preaching. And then there is the question of who did the kings give their gifts to and why? *“And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh”* (Matthew 2:11).

Even though Christmas day is not really Christ’s actual birthday, it is the day that we remember His birth and so gift giving should be towards God. It is to be a thank offering. How thankful are you *“that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him”* (1 John 4:9)? Maybe an extra \$20 in the collection plate while you spend hundreds upon each other?

Do you think God wants people in debt so they can please each other with the latest gadget? Acts of kindness are not always acts of God. Satan uses kindness to forward his kingdom every day. Greed, selfishness, and the like are what this season is mostly accomplishing.

Now the Bible does not forbid the giving of gifts. God would have it be done proportionately. Give as much or more to God, and do not incur debt to satisfy the wants of others. Satisfy their needs. Doing this, you will definitely not overspend.

Think On These Things

The Winter

Psalms 74:17 *Thou hast made summer and winter.*

You may have heard that God speaks through nature. Look for the seasons and you will be taught. Even the seasons tell the truth. Spring time is the Christian’s new birth experience. Summer is the testing time filled with trials. Harvest in Autumn is the gathering time of which last month we discovered that it was a most fitting representation of the second coming.

As for winter represented by desolation, it is a fitting picture of what this earth will be like. All vegetation virtually ceases. The trees are bare; the grass is dying, many of the animals hibernate or sleep.

Capturing the events after the second coming, Jeremiah 4:23-27 says, *“I beheld the earth, and, lo, [it was] without form, and void; and the heavens, and they [had] no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, [there was] no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place [was] a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, [and] by his fierce anger. For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end.”*

This planet is not destined for a millennial reign of Christ but a prison house of Satan where even the lost hibernate and sleep until after the millenium. Revelation 20:5 *“But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.”*

DECEMBER 2006

CONCLUSION TO BUILDING UPON THE ROCK
(Main article on page 1)

WHAT ARE FREE RADICALS?
(Heath section on page 3)

NEARLY 1/2 OF AMERICANS DON'T KNOW IF GOD EXISTS
(News section on page 5)

TIS THE SEASON TO BE IN DEBT????
(Questions on page 7)



BUT THE END OF ALL THINGS IS AT HAND (COMETH), BE YE THEREFORE SOBER, AND WATCH UNTO PRAYER

(1 PETER 4:7)



Looking down through the ages to the close of time, Peter was inspired to outline conditions that would exist in the world just prior to the second coming of Christ. "There shall come in the last days scoffers," he wrote, "walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they

were from the beginning of the creation." But "when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them." 1 Thessalonians 5:3. Not all, however, would be ensnared by the enemy's devices. As the end of all things earthly should approach, there would be faithful ones able to discern the signs of the times. While a large number of professing believers would deny their faith by their works, there would be a remnant who would endure to the end.

Peter kept alive in his heart the hope of Christ's return, and he assured the church of the certain fulfillment of the Saviour's promise, "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself." John 14:3. To the tried and faithful ones the coming might seem long delayed, but the apostle assured them: "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to usward, not

willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. "

"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. "



GOTTA QUESTION?

We are always in need of questions for newsletters.

