

"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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He That Soweth To The Spirit Shall Of The Spirit Reap Life Everlasting (Galatians 6:8)



In many of our newsletters, we have brought up the subject of eternal salvation. We have stated through the

Word that eternal salvation is a choice that we have to make every day, and that although no one can take it away (John 10:28-29), we may freely reject it at any time by choosing one day to cease from obeying the condition of always following Jesus and not serving sin and Satan (John 10:27). Let us now look at what Paul says about the subject in a verse-by-verse of Galatians 6:1-10.

Galatians 6:1 *Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.*

Notice that a person can be overtaken. This is not a worldly person for they are not overtaken by a fault. A worldly person is overtaken by many faults. They live in sin and choose not to accept their Lord and Savior. Notice the use of the word "restore". Restore means that the person had a certain status but because of giving into a fault, they lost that status. As one will see later in this study, it is eternal life. So one can believe they are saved, but if they one day decide to return to a particular sin, they have then chosen to give up salvation.

But not all is lost. Notice that a particular person can pull them back - a spiritual person. A person with a heavenly perspective and not a Christian coated worldly person for such a person would say to the one committing the fault, "It's

OK. No one's perfect." And then that does not help the person but rather confirms them in their sin.

God says, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48) as well as "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). So the spiritual one will lead the one in fault to "confess our sins," for "he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

But be careful spiritual one; notice the end of the verse. No one is superhuman. Each of us has weaknesses and the devil knows it. Get help from others or turn that person over to another if the area of saving the one at fault is an area that we may also be tempted to fall as well.

Galatians 6:2 *Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.*

Do not laugh at someone who is struggling with what we see as nothing. We are to put ourselves into that person's thoughts and deal with the situation from their perspective for "thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matthew 22:39). This fulfills the second section of the commandments. The first four commandments are for our relationship with God. The last six are our relationship towards our fellow man.

Galatians 6:3 *For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.*

WHO ARE WE?

We are not a church but rather a ministry, encouraging church attendance, 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.*

Debt Reduction Progress

Over our 10 year history, \$80,000 has accumulated in debt both from short periods of time of not being able to cover all of the ministry expenses and the over 4 year period (Jan. 2004 - May 2007) when Jerry lost his job due to religious conflict. Now financial blessings are occurring in his employment but it requires very long hours, especially with traveling home each night to see his family (1.5 hr drive), and then he must stay up late to do the work. Can you help lower this debt faster?

2007 STATS:

\$80,000 2/07 Balance
- 6,911 Readership
- 16,148 O'Donnell's
\$56,941 Current Balance

DEC. STATS:

\$58,098 Prior Balance
- 224 Readership
- 933 O'Donnell's
\$56,941 Current Balance

Any request to be removed from our mailing list because you cannot assist us or feel guilty will not be honored. That is not what this appeal is about.

WEB SITES TO CONSIDER



TSTL.NET is for the general public



TSTL4MINISTERS.NET is for any minister, bible worker, teacher, etc.



TSTL4CHILDREN.NET is for the children and the contents will be a transfer of children's material from TSTL.NET to this new site.

And if we think we can enter into any situation and are above all, we are deceived. This is the danger that many have from this century old thought – we cannot lose salvation. Please take note that the thought of having eternal salvation and not being able to lose it is not a long believed theology. People think they can go into strip clubs with the smell of alcohol, cigarettes, loud music, drugs, and of course women and do a ministry for God. Jesus stayed far from those places. We would be a fool to think we are not going to fall into lust.

Galatians 6:4-5 *But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden.*

Do not compare with others. So what if an evangelist is drawing the thousands, we are to focus on our own work that the Lord has given for us to do. We should be able to rejoice in our own work for the Lord.

Galatians 6:6 *Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.*

Notice that we are to be taught by the Word of God. Believe it or not, church opinion does not supersede the Word. Even the minister's word does not supersede the Word.

Galatians 6:7-8 *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

Then God is very plain. Committing sin, which is what the flesh is, shall end in corruption, which is a reference to hell. Why? Because the next part is the opposite, which is live to the Spirit and we shall have life everlasting.

Galatians 6:9 *And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

And this answers the question of how long are we to obey in doing good and not evil. The answer is until due season. Elsewhere the Bible is quite clear when that will be. *"He that endureth to the end shall be saved"* (Matthew 10:22). Luke 12:42-43 confirms the definition of "due season". *"And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom [his] lord shall make ruler over his household, to give [them their] portion of meat in due season? Blessed [is] that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing."*

Galatians 6:10 *As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all [men], especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*

Amen!

ART THOU IN HEALTH (2 Samuel 20:9)



3 John 1:2 clearly states, *"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."*

How is your health? The Bible says, *"If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee"* (Exodus 15:26). That promise holds today.

God is interested in your health. Do not con-

sider the subject lightly. Do not criticize those of the faith that promote a healthy lifestyle. In fact, from the pulpits, you should be hearing about good health. To ignore good health is to go against the Word of God.

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which [temple] ye are" (1 Corinthians 3:16).

We will return to a monthly health article this year so as to enable you to be used by God as healthy examples to the unhealthy.

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.



What Are The Scriptures Good For?

1. All Scripture is given for what purpose? **2 Timothy 3:16**

6. What will happen to those that think they do not need to ever change their ways?
Proverbs 15:10

2. What do people need to live? **Proverbs 4:13**

3. What is another way for God to say that if you reject His Word, you shall be lost? **Proverbs 15:32**

4. Which book of the Bible really examines the contrast between those going to destruction and those living forever? **Ecclesiastes 12:9**

5. Who should you chose to share information that you know with? **Proverbs 9:9**

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

Hate

1. What do fools hate? **Proverbs 1:22** "How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?"
2. What are God's people to hate? **Proverbs 8:13** "The fear of the LORD [is] to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."
3. What does a righteous person hate? **Proverbs 13:5** "A righteous [man] hateth lying: but a wicked [man] is loathsome, and cometh to shame."
4. What do parents who do not correct their children hate? **Proverbs 13:24** "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes."
5. What will happen to those that think they do not need to ever change their ways? **Proverbs 15:10** "Correction [is] grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: [and] he that hateth reproof shall die."

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



WND, December 15, 2007 - Vatican: Away with the manger

Christmas eve visitors to St. Peter's Square at the Vatican expecting to see a traditional nativity scene will be surprised to find no stable, no manger, no hay, no sheep and definitely no Elvis. In a move Vatican officials say is meant to "reflect a return to the story of the nativity as told by Matthew," Joseph, Mary and the infant Jesus will be shown in Joseph's Nazareth carpentry workshop and not in the Bethlehem stable. Moving the Christmas story 70 miles north from Bethlehem to Nazareth was inspired by Matthew 1:24-25 as rendered in the Catholic Bible translation: "When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home; he had not had intercourse with her when she gave birth to a son; and he named him Jesus."

COMMENT: This is an example of why we have so many different divisions among Christians. People stop reading too soon and

build a whole doctrine on it. If people would just keep reading. Matthew 2:1 says, "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem." Even in the book of Matthew, Jesus was not born in Nazareth. Another example is people using Peter's vision as permission to eat anything they want. Keep reading Acts 10:28 states that the dream is solely to represent ceasing calling non-Jews unclean. Has nothing to do with what we eat. But once again, people stop reading too soon.

The Scotsman, Dec 10, '07 - Girls taught value sex over achieving and intelligence

Teenage girls would rather be sexy than clever, according to a book which blames celebrities such as Paris Hilton, Christina Aguilera and Britney Spears for the phenomenon.

COMMENT: 1 John 2:16-17 "For all that [is] in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust

(Continued on page 4)

Think On These Things

Are You A New Creature?

Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we [him] no more.

Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things [are] of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech [you] by us: we pray [you] in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him [to be] sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. (2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

Many people make New Year's resolutions only to be broken in about two weeks and forgotten until next year. They include giving up smoking, eating better, dieting, doing more for others, etc.

Well God works with those that make New Year's resolutions. But there are two things. First, it is not about a single item as it is the whole person. Being a new creature is one that lives like Jesus and not like Satan. "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?" (Rom. 6:16)

The second thing that is different with God's resolutions is that you do not have to wait until New Year's Day to start again. Every day you can renew being a new creature in Christ.

**What Did Paul Teach On
Eternal Salvation?**

(Main Article)

How's Your Health?

(See page 2)

**Are You a New
Creature?**

(See page 3)

(Comments on the News continued from page 3)

of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." Girls, please do not participate in this worldly attraction. Men, look out! Just before the Israelites entered the Promised Land, there was a lustful situation that caused many to lose their lives. We are told that it would be repeated again.

» **CNS, Dec. 7, 2007 - Papal preacher: Giving in to lust hurts other people**

Giving in to lust hurts both the individual and other people, the preacher of the papal household told Pope Benedict XVI and top Vatican officials. Offering an Advent meditation Dec. 7, Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa said often those who justify their life of impurity say "it is not hurting other people, it does not infringe on the rights and freedoms of others unless it entails carnal violence." But such reasoning is wrong, he said, because carnal sin not only violates God's fundamental laws governing his creatures, but it threatens everyone. Father Cantalamessa used an example from a Jewish holy book to illustrate how even one individual's personal sin affects the entire community. Quoting the Talmud, he said: "A number

of people are sitting in a small boat. One man begins to drill a hole under his seat. The other passengers ask him, 'What are you doing?' He retorts, 'What does it matter to you? I'm drilling the hole under my own seat.' But they reply, 'Yes, but the water will come in and drown us all.'"

COMMENT: Way to preach it. Keep with the sound doctrine despite those who want to live in lust. *"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).

» **Telegraph, Dec. 3, 2007 - Study finds acrylamide link to cancer in women**

Fresh fears have been raised over the safety of cooked foods as a wide-ranging study found for the first time that a common chemical caused by frying, roasting or grilling can double the risk of cancer in women. Now a study involving 120,000 people - half of whom were women - has established a direct link between consumption of the chemical and the incidence of ovarian and womb cancer.

COMMENT: Genesis 1:29 *"And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which [is] upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which [is] the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall*

be for meat." Food should be MOSTLY consumed in the natural state as God intended.

» **KFVS12, November 13, 2007 - 8-Year-Old Donates Birthday Presents**

Local charities continue to report, there's a growing need for help this season. An 8 year-old girl from Kelso might just lead the way when it comes to that needed generosity. On Mariah Dirnberger's birthday she asked her friends to bring gifts, not for her but for kids at a local women's shelter. It's only the beginning of what she hopes will be a domino effect.

COMMENT: *"And a little child shall lead them"* (Isaiah 11:6).

» **BrietBart, November 25, 2007 - Natural disasters have quadrupled in two decades: study**

The world suffered about 120 natural disasters per year in the early 1980s, which compared with the current figure of about 500 per year, according to the report.

COMMENT: *"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places"* (Matthew 24:7). We always had disasters, but the frequency includes more places than it used to be.