



# "THUS SAITH THE LORD..."

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)

## The Ten Commandments (Exodus 34:28)



### Are the Ten Commandments just an object?

In light of the recent issues in Alabama, we do agree that the ACLU is going a bit out of their way to rid Christian symbols from government

property and that is wrong. But equally troubling is how many Christians have raised a voice and even their bodies to stand in the way of removing the symbol and yet are not keeping the very commandments they are defending. Many had greatly sacrificed for support of the Ten Commandments remaining on display including chaining themselves and performing other anti-ruling protesting methods, yet, there were examples of these Christians not keeping the commandments. To this, God says, "to obey [is] better than sacrifice" (1 Samuel 15:22).

It seemed heroic to go and defend an object representing the original Ten Commandments which were written by the finger of God (Exodus 31:18), but instead of defending an inanimate object and yet not keeping the commandments, God says, "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people" (Hebrews 8:10).

With that in mind, let us look at the Ten Commandments and pray that they enter into our hearts.

**Exodus 20:3** Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

**Exodus 20:4-6** Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness [of any thing] that [is] in heaven above, or that [is] in the earth beneath, or that [is] in

the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God [am] a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth [generation] of them that hate me; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

**Exodus 20:7** Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

**Exodus 20:8-11** Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates: For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

**Exodus 20:12** Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

**Exodus 20:13** Thou shalt not kill.

**Exodus 20:14** Thou shalt not commit adultery.

**Exodus 20:15** Thou shalt not steal.

**Exodus 20:16** Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

**Exodus 20:17** Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that [is] thy neighbour's.

Over the next ten issues or so, we will

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

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

### MISSION STATEMENT:

Strengthen faith in God's Word.

### MISSION FOCUS:

To strengthen the faith in God's Word by reaching out to the communities through our newsletter (since 1998) as well as through our evangelistic seminars (since 1994). It is to help keep those that are discouraged about things they see inside the church from leaving, to ground those that are new or have not heard of these things before, and to strengthen those that are already grounded. And to reach out to those that are searching for a meaningful relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ.

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## WEB SITES

### WWW.TSTL.NET:

- No changes

### WWW.TSTLSTORE.COM:

- Updated blanket drive information
- Added details for donating a car

### WWW.TSTLSEMINARS.COM:

- Created a Microsoft Office training session web page

## 2003 FINANCIAL STATUS

As of August 15, 2003

<b>DONATIONS:</b>	\$10,188.53
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	18,108.88
<b>NET RESULT:</b>	<b>(\$7,920.35)</b>

The above figures do not reflect the loans, donations, or expenses for the new building, the seminars or the store. These figures only reflect the budgeted items, such as newsletters, internet, Bible studies, operating, etc..

The official registration and financial information of "Thus Saith the Lord..." Ministries may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania 1 (800) 732-0999

Registration does not imply endorsement.

investigate each one of the commandments individually. Although we are not saved by keeping the commandments, we sure are deceiving ourselves if we think born again Christians can enter the kingdom while breaking them. *"For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries"* (Hebrews 10:26-27).

What is sin? 1 John 3:4 says, *"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."*

But keeping the commandments of God is not as simple as reading them over and deciding to do them. There is a certain motive that God requires. *"If ye love me, keep my commandments"* (John 14:15). And this is not something new that Jesus taught. He was quoting from the commandments: *"And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments"* (Exodus 20:6).

Further, if we truly love God, then:

*"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him"* (John 14:21)

*"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love"* (John 15:10).

*"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous"* (1 John 5:2-3).

*"And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it"* (2 John 1:6).

Let us love Him and study these things out.

## BIBLE STUDY



### Binding On Earth

1. What was Peter given?  
**Matthew 16:19**

2. What do they represent? **Luke 11:52**

3. What specifically would be known?  
**Matthew 13:11**

## ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

### Gift of Prophecy – Dead or Alive?

1. What type of people would exist in the last days? **Acts 2:17** *"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and*

*your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams."* Prophets, visionaries, and dreamers would be instruments of God in the last days.

2. How long are prophets necessary? **Ephesians 4:11-13** *"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ"*
3. Which last day prophets did Jesus not want us to listen to? **Matthew 7:15** *"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."* Please note that here and in Matthew chapter 24 Jesus stresses not to follow the false ones. He did not say to not follow any, concluding that there would be true ones.

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



**Topic: Bathing**

Through out the book of Leviticus, there are bathing guidelines, especially in situations of uncleanness, spiritually speaking. Even though we may not understand such

guidelines, it is a fact that regular bathing promotes health.

Scrupulous cleanliness is essential to both physical and mental health. Impurities are constantly thrown off from the body through the skin. Its millions of pores are quickly clogged unless kept clean by frequent bathing, and the impurities which should pass off through the skin become an additional burden to the other eliminating organs.

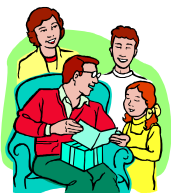
Most persons would receive benefit from a cool or tepid bath every day, morning or evening. Instead of increasing the liability to take cold, a bath, properly taken, fortifies against cold because it improves the circulation; the blood is brought to the surface, and a more easy and regular flow is obtained. The mind and the body are alike invigorated. The muscles become more flexible; the intellect is made brighter. The

**Crock-pot Oatmeal**  
 [This recipe is for a mini-crock-pot (3 servings), we triple this and cook it overnight in a 6qt crockpot. Plenty for company or for extra hot cereal ready to warm up in a saucepan with a bit of milk.]  
 1/3 c rolled oats  
 2/3 c oat Groats (steel cut oats)  
 1/4 t salt  
 2 c water (or up to 3 c for desired consistency)  
 Cook on low heat overnight

bath is a soother of the nerves. Bathing helps the bowels, the stomach, and the liver, giving health and energy to each, and it promotes digestion.

Upon rising in the morning, most persons would be benefited by taking a sponge or hand bath. This will remove all impurities from the skin, and keep it moist and supple, thereby aiding the circulation. Persons in health should on no account neglect frequent bathing. Whether a person is sick or well, respiration is rendered more free and full by bathing.

**TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO: AND WHEN HE IS OLD, HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT** (Prov. 22:6)



**Practical Applications for Character Development in Children**

**Character Examples From the Bible – Andrew**

John 1:40-42 One of the two which heard John [speak], and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus.

John 6:8-9 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are

they among so many?

Andrew not being afraid to tell others about Jesus is a good character trait. Sometimes we do not want to offend non-Christians by telling our young ones to stop saying what they are saying. Just remember, "And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?" (Matthew 21:16).

Andrew also tried to help in helpless situations. Andrew knew the people were hungry, instead of waiting around, he found a boy that had some food. He then brought Him to Jesus, which is an example of bring all, even small offerings of our efforts, to Jesus, and He will multiply it.

**IN THE CHILDREN'S NEWSLETTER**

**PAGE 1** — New Testament Lesson in children's language.

**PAGE 2** — Old Testament Lesson in children's language.

**PAGE 3** — Character Lesson — Application of character attributes from both Bible lessons.

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

**PAGE 5** — Health Lesson — Watching what, when, and how much we eat.

**PAGE 6** — Coloring Page — Alternating between either the Old or New Testament

**PAGE 7** — Puzzles — Matching from both Bible lessons.

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

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## SUDDEN DESTRUCTION NEWS

The following are "sudden destruction" news items that appeared between July 16 and August 15, 2003. [Preview future "sudden destruction" news snippets at [www.tstl.net/suddendestruction](http://www.tstl.net/suddendestruction).]

### ▶▶ CBS, August 13, 2003 - Feds: Deal Involved 50 Missiles

Calling it "an incredible triumph for the war against terrorism in this country," federal prosecutors Wednesday announced charges against three men in a plot to sell up to 50 anti-aircraft missiles to an undercover agent posing as a terrorist.

**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."*

### ▶▶ WND, August 7, 2003 - Iran, Cuba zap U. S. satellites

State sponsors of terrorism not only threaten U.S. interests on land, at sea and in the air, but now they have teamed up to attack U.S. assets in space. The Bush administration, meanwhile, appears paralyzed about how to cope with this latest threat, which one U.S. official likens to an "act of war."

**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."*

## 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 July 16 and August 15, 2003. [Preview future news snippets at [www.tstl.net/news](http://www.tstl.net/news).]

### ▶▶ The Charlotte Observer, August 14, 2003 - Human, rabbit DNA are fused

Scientists in China have for the first time used cloning techniques to create hybrid embryos that contain a mix of DNA from humans and rabbits, according to a report in a scientific journal. Although scientists in Massachusetts had previously mixed human cells and cow eggs in a similar attempt to make hybrid embryos for stem cells, those experiments were not successful.

**COMMENT:** Genesis 1:25 says, *"And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good."* This creative attempt is not only trying to be like God but even to try to show up God. The world then was destroyed by a flood when they messed around with amalgamations. The time is so near to repeat, but this time it will not be water.

### ▶▶ CBN, August 13, 2003 - Survey Shows More Girls Smoking

The authors of the Global Youth Tobacco Survey say current estimates are drastically underestimating future deaths from smoking. As more girls take up smoking, more women will face heart disease, lung cancer and premature death.

**COMMENT:** Deuteronomy 29:17-18 *"And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which were among them:) Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood."* And "wormwood" is defined in Revelation 8:11 *"And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."* The word bitter obviously is more than taste. It kills. God calls poisonous herbs and roots taken into

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the body an abomination. Though the Bible does not directly say people are not to smoke, the Bible is clearly identifying the principle that the more than sixteen poisons in tobacco products are to be set aside.

### ▶▶North Korea and Iran Discuss Developing Nuclear Warheads

North Korea may sell long-range missiles to Iran, and the two nations are also talking about developing nuclear warheads together. A Japanese newspaper says the members of President Bush's axis of evil have been negotiating for about a year. The paper says an agreement could be reached in mid-October. If Iran acquires the North Korean missiles it would be able to hit targets in Europe.

**COMMENT:** 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."*

### ▶▶CNN, August 6, 2003 - Fears of split follow gay bishop vote

The Episcopal Church on Wednesday is coming to terms with reaction to its appointment of the first openly gay bishop -- a decision that some opponents have said could split the church domestically and internationally.

**COMMENT:** Leviticus 18:22 *"Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination."* Since the lifestyle is an abomination, what does that say for a minister that has such a lifestyle? His ministry would be an abomination even if people can quote all the good. Even the good is tainted by the abomination. Further, all the supporters and those that voted for his new position would also be in abomination.

### ▶▶CNN, July 30, 2003 - Rape law permits changing mind during sex act

A new rape law in Illinois attempts to clarify the issue of consent by emphasizing that people can change their mind while having sex. Under the law, if someone says "no" at any time the other person must stop or it becomes rape. The National Crime Victim Law Institute said it believed the law is the first of its kind in the country.

**COMMENT:** 1 John 2:7 *"Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the*

*word which ye have heard from the beginning."* Exodus 20:14 *"Thou shalt not commit adultery."* Five simple words. Man uses consent to permit adultery, which includes people who are single, and there is a never ending series of laws as a result.

### ▶▶CNS, July 22, 2003 - Miss Michigan pageant winner says she had divine help

Before the pageant began that led to her crowning as Miss Michigan, Madonna Emond says she prayed, "God, dance with me tonight and help me find the words when I'm asked a question." Emond, 22, a member of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in suburban Redford Township, also wore a small medallion of St. Anthony during the opening number of the competition in Muskegon June 14 and prayed her rosary before going on stage for the talent competition as a jazz dancer. "I thanked God for letting me get this far in the Miss Michigan pageant," Emond recalled. It was her third try for the title in the pageant that is part of the Miss America organization. "I started wondering why I wasn't winning. Then this year I said to my mother, 'I'm leaving it in God's hands.' It turned out to be our motto during the week of the pageant," Emond told the Michigan Catholic, Detroit archdiocesan newspaper.

**COMMENT:** God was not the one that answered the question. How do we know? First, God does not contradict His Word. With that premise, God's Word states *"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel"* (1 Timothy 2:9) and such contests are not completely modest. Second, God is not into games of competition because we are to always live for the glory of God and would not be able to fulfill Philippians 2:3 *"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."*

### ▶▶NewScientist.Com, July 17, 2003 - Masturbating may protect against prostate cancer

The team concludes that the more men ejaculate between the ages of 20 and 50, the less likely they are to develop prostate cancer. (This is in the context of masturbation over having a sexual partner.)

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



**QUESTION #1 – Hershey, PA – I feel**

**uncomfortable of how deep some Christians are into certain violent sports – hockey, football, and others. What does God say about this?**

**ANSWER #1 – “Do violence to no man”** (Luke 3:14). *“And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth”* (Genesis 6:13). These are but a couple of texts showing that a love of aggressive sports reveals the heart of a person needing conversion. For a Christian to view a sporting event and mouth, “Hit him hard”, “Knock him out”, “Smash him”, etc. is inconsistent with *“love thy neighbour as thyself”* (Matthew 19:19), especially when such “hits” can even cause permanent damage. Such is no different than the bloody events held during the early Christian era when they built great arenas to witness violent games.

**QUESTION #2 – Harrisburg, PA– I belonged to a certain denomination because I**

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(Continued from page 5)

was born into it. Now that I have studied the Bible, I find many inconsistencies between the Bible and what is taught in this denomination. I want to find another denomination that is closer to the teachings of the Bible yet I want to "honor thy father and thy mother" as we are commanded. They will not want me to leave our denomination. What shall I do?

**ANSWER #2** – This is the beauty of true Bible study. When we read such a verse and exclude it from every other verse, we put into it our own interpretation. The Ten Commandments are a concise version of the will of God. The rest of the Bible expounds upon each of the commandments. Tracing the commandment regarding the honoring of parents, we find Ephesians 6:1. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right." It is not the will of the Lord for us to follow error (2 Thessalonians 2:10). Your parents are either directly or indirectly going against the Lord and therefore, on this issue should not be obeyed. Directly would be where they are making the statement that all churches have problems and would not therefore consider searching for another church. Indirectly would be that they are unstudied and do not know what the Bible teaches. In either situation, you have an obligation to follow Mark 10:29. "And Jesus

(Continued on page 7)

**COMMENT:** God ordained the marital relationship for the exercise of sexual activity between partners -- not alone, nor with same gender, but that is a different subject. 1 Corinthians 7:8-10 "I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, it is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn. And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband."

▶▶ CBN, July 17, 2003 - New Poll Finds Surprising Beliefs in Presbyterian Church USA

A new survey finds many members of the Presbyterian Church USA reject the biblical teaching that Jesus is the only way to salvation.

**COMMENT:** John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

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(Continued from page 6)

*answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life."*

**QUESTION #3 – Duncannon, PA – Which prophet is Jesus referring to in Matthew 21:4?**

**ANSWER #3 –** Matthew 21:4-5 says, "All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass." Looking up the word "colt", we found Zechariah 9:9, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he [is] just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass."

**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.**







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SEPTEMBER 2003

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And more...

## BIBLE THOUGHT

### *Sheep Clothing*

Matthew 7:15 *Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.*

Have you ever examined the sheep's clothing? Matthew 7:21-23 identifies them. *"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."* Notice that prophesying makes them prophets. So just because someone declares to be a voice for God and is doing many wonderful works does not mean they are of God. Notice the only test is in doing the will of the Father. Psalms 40:8 reveals the will of the Father. *"I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law [is] within my heart."* It is the Ten Commandments. What are you supposed to do if anyone preaches against the Ten Commandments and yet works miracles? Isaiah 8:20 *"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them."* You are to reject them and not make excuses.

## Eshenhaur's Annual Blanket Drive

- ◆ This year the drive is September 22 through November 1.
- ◆ The new Carlisle drop off location is TSTL's Secondhand Goods and Educational Seminars at 700 Clay St., near the Fairgrounds.
- ◆ Drop off bin available 24 hours, 7 days a week.



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