

FEBRUARY 2022
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The Evangelist

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**WATER BAPTISM:
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SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 10

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Youth Pastor Paris Ragan baptizes Maliah Crooks during a recent Crossfire Youth Ministries service.

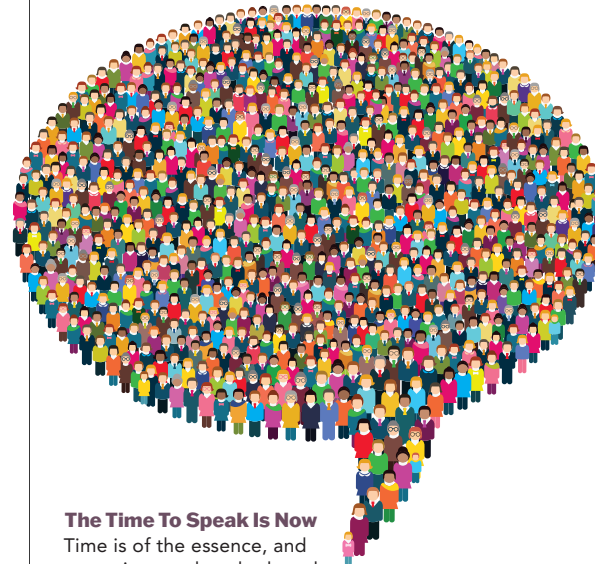


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The Time To Speak Is Now

Time is of the essence, and our voice needs to be heard. The time for silence is over. Let us stand together, united in faith and declare the goodness of God to those around us.

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The Law

PART II

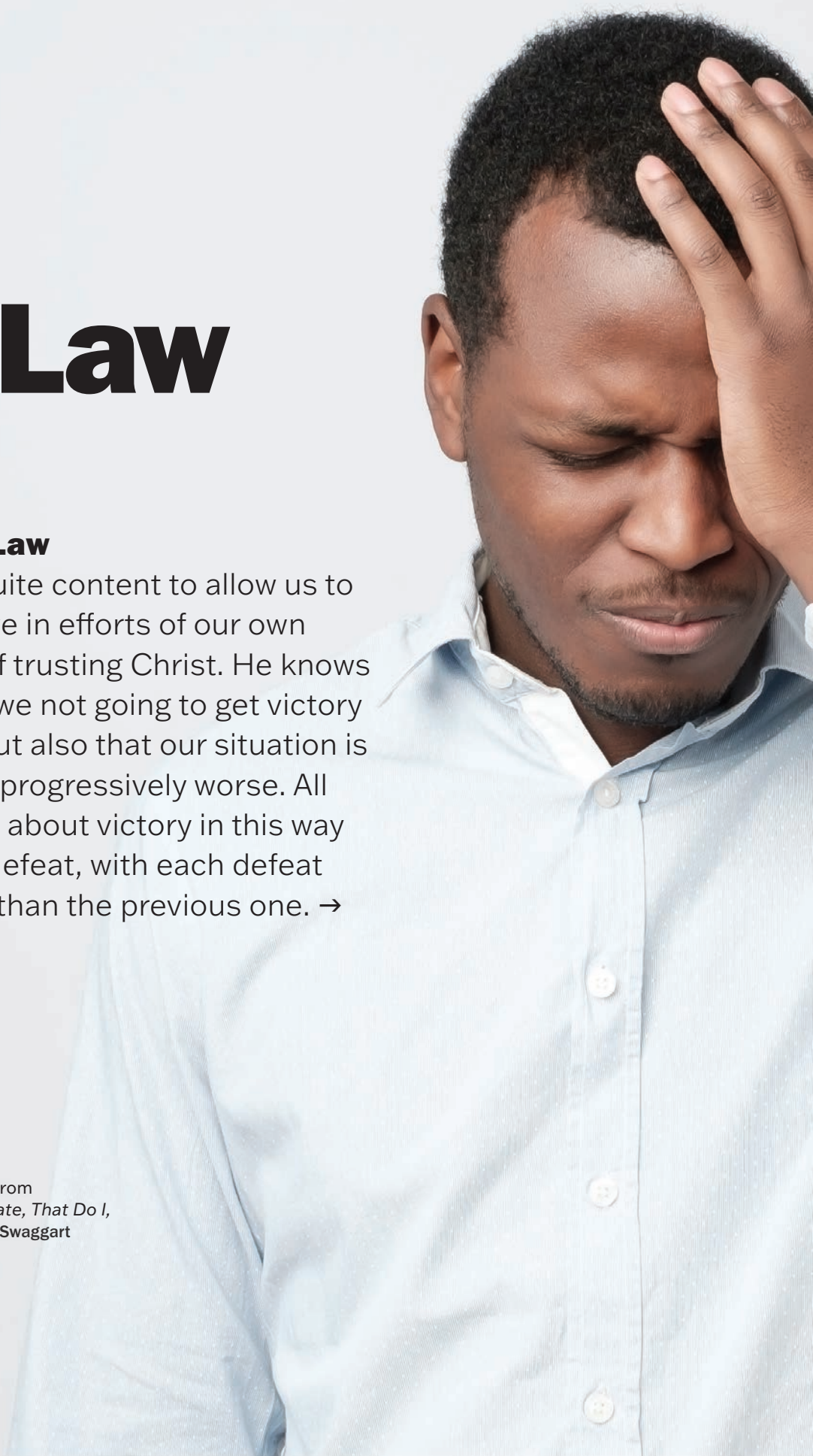
Satan And The Law


The Evil One is quite content to allow us to struggle and strive in efforts of our own making instead of trusting Christ. He knows that not only are we not going to get victory in that manner, but also that our situation is going to become progressively worse. All attempts to bring about victory in this way can only lead to defeat, with each defeat becoming worse than the previous one. →



09-175

Excerpt from
What I Hate, That Do I,
by Jimmy Swaggart





Satan is very content for man to be religious—even very religious—for the simple reason that he knows there is no victory or salvation in that sector. He even encourages these efforts. But the moment the believer begins to depend totally on Christ, that's when the war begins. Strangely enough, most of the opposition will come from fellow Christians. That is sad, but true!

In this chapter, Paul is going to open his soul as few preachers ever have. He is going to portray his own failures and the reason for those failures. While we are studying this, do not forget that the reason for his failures is the reason for our failures as well. If the great apostle could not bring about victory by his own efforts, do any of us seriously think that we can succeed where he failed?

How Is It That The Law Has Dominion Over A Man As Long As He Lives?

The heading addresses the individual who attempts to live for God by the means of law, whether the law of Moses or laws devised by us or by our churches. Any person who seeks such a direction—and virtually the entirety of modern Christendom does—is going to find law dominating him, which destroys grace and brings with it a curse.

Paul said, *“For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse”* (Gal. 3:10).

Actually, this is a far cry from Bible Christianity and is, in fact, a miserable existence, as should be obvious.

If a person attempts to gain victory by using law (in his own strength and power), he will find that the law has dominion over him. He will not obtain that for which he is seeking—victory over the flesh—but rather the very opposite. So Paul is now going to press home the point that the believer is no longer under law and the Christian who puts himself under law and fails to avail himself of the resources of grace is a defeated Christian. This was Paul's own experience after his conversion before he came into the knowledge given to him by Christ, which he gave us in Romans 6 (and in all of his writings).

However, the law will incite the Christian to more sin, which is the very opposite of what he wants. Yet the law is not responsible for that sin, but rather the sin nature that is in the believer. It is the sin nature that the law incites, which it is intended to do.

The Corruption Of Man's Nature

The idea is that as good as the law of Moses was, in itself and the divine intention, instead of it helping to make man good, it actually did the very opposite. This is because of the corruption of man's nature, which God knew all along. That sounds strange to the Bible student, doesn't it?

One might ask, “If the law of Moses stimulated sin in God's people, how could it be called good?”

Once again, the problem was not in the law, but in the corrupt nature of man. The Lord desired to show man just how corrupt he really was, and this was the best way to portray that fact.

It is somewhat like placing a certain type of medicine over a boil on the human body; the medicine draws the corruption to the surface. The medicine did not cause the boil, nor is it the reason for the corruption; it just merely portrays the fact that the corruption

is already there by drawing it to the surface. So it is if man tries to gain victory by attempting to keep the law; he will have no more success than all who preceded him. The reason is simple: man has no power or ability to keep the law.

Then we must understand that Jesus has already kept the law for us, and He did it in every respect. In other words, He never sinned—not even one time in word, thought, or deed. He did it all as our representative man, keeping the law perfectly, which He did for us. This means that when we come to Christ, we step away from the position of lawbreaker into the position of law keeper—all because of Christ and what He did for us at the cross.

If God Demanded That The Law Be Kept, Which He Did, Why Did He Not Give Man The Power To Do So?

To the natural mind it seems unfair that God would give a law and demand that man keep it, all the time knowing that he could not. It becomes even more serious when we realize that there is a severe penalty attached to not keeping the law. Of course, for the law to truly be law, there must be a penalty attached for disobedience.

While it is true that God did not give man any power to keep the law, He did this for a purpose and reason.

Man's problem has always been pride, which was actually the cause of the fall in the garden of Eden. If God had given man the power to keep the law, he would have been lifted up further in his pride and seen less need of God instead of more, which was the intention to begin with. The law was intended to show man his inability, his weakness, and his efforts to be woefully insufficient, not increase his problem with more pride.

Did God Not Know That Israel Would Respond To The Law Wrongly?

Of course He did! But the law did exactly what it was intended to do:

- The law gave man a correct pattern for living.
- The law pointed out sin and defined what it was.
- The law showed man his gross inadequacy to keep or obey

the simplest of commandments.

- The law pointed to the ideal.
- The law addressed every single thing that pertained to man—economically, physically, socially, and above all, spiritually.
- The law portrayed man's obligations to his fellow man and his obligations to God.

So, even though the law of Moses must be addressed in what seems to be a negative way, the law was, in fact, not negative at all but the very opposite. As stated, the problem was on the part of man and not the law. In fact, some few Israelites down through the centuries treated the law of God as it was intended, and they were blessed abundantly.

For The Woman Which Has An Husband Is Bound By The Law To Her Husband So Long As She Lives

"For the woman which has an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband" (Rom. 7:2).

Let me say this again: if the believer doesn't understand the cross of Christ relative to sanctification, no matter the instruction, he will not properly understand the great doctrines of the Bible, at least as he ought to.

Let's say it in another way: to understand the great work of the cross relative to our everyday living for God also opens up to us the understanding of the great doctrines of the Word of God. The statement of this particular Scripture presents the first statement of an analogy used by Paul to describe the law and believers under the new covenant. First, the Bible student must understand that Paul is not teaching here on the subject of divorce and remarriage, but rather using this as an analogy or comparison. Even though it seems somewhat confusing at first, as we go along it becomes clearer as to why the Holy Spirit chose this particular illustration.

The husband is here likened to the law, and the woman (wife) is likened to the believer. As long as her husband (law) is alive, then she (the believer) is bound to him (bound to the law, which was the state of Israel before Christ).

But If The Husband Be Dead, She Is Loosed From The Law Of Her Husband

The heading simply means that she is now free in the eyes of God and man to marry again, if she so desires.

Continuing with that analogy, the law is now dead—fulfilled by Christ—at least dead to the child of God. Consequently, the believer is no longer bound by the law simply because it no longer exists (in Rom. 7:4, Paul changes this analogy a little bit, which tends to confuse the reader, but which is done with purpose).

The argument here is, just as death is the only force that could liberate from the demands of sin (the death of Jesus), so is it the only force that can liberate from the demands of the law.



The cross of Christ satisfied the law in every respect (Rom. 10:4). However, it satisfied the law only as the believing sinner places his or her faith exclusively in Christ and what He did for us at the cross, and maintains it accordingly.

So Then If, While Her Husband Lives, She Be Married To Another Man, She Shall Be Called An Adulteress

“So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man” (Rom. 7: 3).

This presents the very opposite of Romans 7:2. Here, Paul uses the analogy of the husband not dying, but rather his wife leaving him and marrying another

“Let me say it again:
anything other than our
faith in Christ and the
cross is looked at by God
as spiritual adultery.”

man. Divorce is not actually mentioned, so in a sense this means she now has two husbands—the law and Christ. Really, this the gist of the entire analogy.

Paul is using this to portray the believer attempting to serve two husbands—the law and Christ—which is a literal impossibility, but where most believers find themselves.

Paul is also saying that irrespective of what man may say of the woman (the believer), God calls her an adulteress. That means if the believer attempts to serve Christ, and at the same time tries to hold on to some type of law, the believer is, in effect, committing spiritual adultery. Please understand, anything in which we place our faith, irrespective as to how scriptural it might be in its own right, God looks at it as spiritual adultery; we are in effect serving two masters. The believer is to look exclusively to Christ and the cross and nothing else.

Some time back I looked at a book written by a particular brother, and in no way did I question his love for God. But he was telling people that if they fast so many days, they will have victory over sin. While fasting is definitely scriptural and will bless the person, it will not give one victory over sin. As somebody has said, after a while we’re going to have to start eating again.

Let me say it again: anything other than our faith in Christ and the cross is looked at by God as spiritual adultery. That means that if the believer attempts to serve Christ, but at the same time tries to hold on to some type of law, then that believer is committing spiritual adultery. The believer has pledged himself in totality to Christ, but as well is playing footsie with another effort or law, attempting to obtain results that only Christ can give. The believer won’t gain anything by this action, and he will greatly hurt himself—not only in the results but also in his relationship with Christ. ✎

The Priceless Corner

We have set aside this corner of *The Evangelist* to show God’s plan of salvation. If you are unsure where you will go when you die, please listen to what God has said in His Word:

1. GOD LOVES YOU!

“For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

2. MAN IS A SINNER, AND SIN HAS SEPARATED HIM FROM GOD

“For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not” (Eccl. 7:20).

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23).

3. JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONLY REMEDY FOR SIN

“For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God...” (1 Peter 3:18).

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

4. YOU MUST RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR PERSONAL LORD AND SAVIOR

Jesus calls this experience the new birth. He told Nicodemus: “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3).

We invite you now to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. “But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name” (John 1:12).

WE BELIEVE:

- The Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative written Word of God (Ps. 119; Matt. 4:4; Luke 24:27).
- There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (1 John 5:7).
- In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years (Jn. 1:1-4; Eph. 2:13-18; Rev. 19-20).
- In the blessed hope—the rapture of the church at Christ’s coming (1 Thess. 4:13-18).
- The only means of being cleansed from sin is through Repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ (Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:8-9, 13-18).
- Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation (John 3:5-8; Titus 3:5).
- The redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer (Ex. 15:25-26; James 5:14-15; 1 Peter 2:24).
- The baptism with the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4 is given to believers who ask for it (Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:1-7).
- In the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by Whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life (Rom. 6:3-14; 8:1-2, 11).
- In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation (Rev. 20:5-6, 11-15).

PRAY THIS PRAYER AND MEAN IT WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART:

“Dear Lord Jesus, I now realize that I am a sinner. I accept the fact that You died for me on the rugged cross of Calvary. I now open my heart’s door and receive You as Savior and Lord of my life. Please take full control of me and help me to be the kind of Christian You want me to be. Amen.”

If you prayed this prayer in all sincerity, you are now a child of God. So that we might rejoice with you, we invite you to fill out this coupon and mail it to Jimmy Swaggart Ministries, P.O. Box 262550, Baton Rouge, LA 70826-2550. In Canada, mail to Jimmy Swaggart Ministries of Canada, P.O. Box 1020, Niagara Falls, Ontario, L2E 6V9. We will send you a free copy of Jimmy Swaggart’s book *What Must I Do To Be Saved?* This book will help you grow in grace and knowledge.

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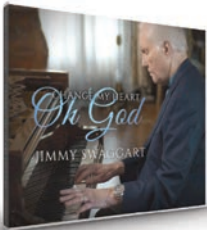
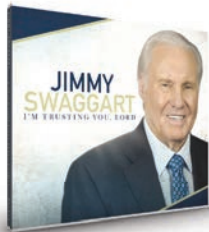
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ARTICLE BY **Frances Swaggart**

Q&A WITH SISTER SWAGGART

Q. Do I need to be baptized in water to be saved?

A. No. Water baptism has never saved any soul. It is a person's faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ that saves the soul.

A person is baptized in water simply because he has already been saved—not to be saved.

It is not possible for a person who trusts in the Lord Jesus to be only partially saved until he is baptized with water and then be completely saved. The very moment an individual trusts Jesus Christ as his Savior—at that moment the person is saved—instantly, totally, and completely. He can never be more saved, no matter what else he may or may not do.

Water Baptism Is A Symbol

In truth, water baptism is a sacred, holy, and precious symbol that a person should, by all means, follow after. But he should partake of it for the reason that he has already been saved, and with the understanding that water baptism is an outward symbol of what has already taken place in his heart. Water baptism does not save; it is a public confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ of that which has already been brought about in the heart by the acceptance of Christ as one's Savior, which constitutes salvation.

Ceremonial In Nature

All water baptism, whether by Jesus, by John, or presently, is exactly like the theocratic washings and purifications of the Old

Testament—ceremonial in nature—a symbol whose design was to point to the purging away of sin on whom the rite was performed (Matt. 3:6; John 3:22-25).

The rite of water baptism as the outward testimony of the inward fact of a person's salvation, and that it follows his act of receiving Christ as Savior (not a prerequisite to receiving salvation), is seen in the use of a Greek proposition in the first part of Matthew 3:11. In the King James Version, the verse was translated, "I indeed baptize you with water *unto* repentance," but it should have been translated, "I indeed baptize you with water *because* of repentance." They translated the Greek word *eis* as "unto" when they should have translated it as "because."

John's baptism was in response to the repentance of the individual—a spiritual experience already performed (Matt. 3:11). It connected with his message of an atonement for sin that was to be offered in the future, and the necessity of faith in that atonement (Acts 19:4). Whereas John's baptism looked ahead to a coming Savior, Christian baptism—identical in ceremonial nature—now looks back to a Savior who has died and has arisen again (Acts 19:5).

If Water Baptism Were Essential To Salvation...

Then why would the apostle Paul have blatantly announced that he had only baptized two converts? He wrote, "I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius" (I Cor. 1:14). A few verses later, we hear Paul's priority: "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." (I Cor. 1:17-18).

Remember the thief on the cross? The dying thief constituted the very first believer to come in on the finished work of Christ, for Jesus died before him, thereby, fulfilling the requirements.

"And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom" (Luke 23:42).

The dying malefactor hanging next to Jesus had not been baptized in water, could not take the Lord's Supper, and he didn't belong to any church, yet he was instantly saved. This tells us that while these things are possibly very important in their own rite, they have nothing to do with one's salvation. Salvation is so exact that if any of these other things had been a necessity, this man could not have been saved.

Consequently, those who claim that one must undergo these or other rituals to be saved are preaching a false gospel. Paul called it "another gospel" (Gal. 1:6). The record is clear that the only requirement on the part of this man was faith in Christ (Eph.

2:9). For those who claim that such is too easy, we would remind them that it is not easy at all, considering the terrible price paid by Christ at Calvary.

Thank God that the soldier dying on the battlefield can call out to Christ in faith and be instantly born again. Likewise, the man or woman who has rebelled and turned from God for a lifetime can, with his or her last breath, repent and immediately receive eternal life. The Bible says, “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Rom. 10:13). The only requirement for salvation is faith in Christ and Him crucified.

A Mere Figure Has No Salvation

Water baptism does not save us, but the “like figure” of baptism in water does save us (I Pet. 3:20-21) How? Is it the water that saves or the thing that it is a figure of? It was not the water that saved the eight persons in Noah’s Ark, it was the ark itself that saved them from drowning in the flood, which was borne up by the water. So baptism in water does not save the soul, but faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ—which baptism is a figure of—does save the soul (Rom. 6:3-5, I Cor. 15:1-4, Eph. 1:14, Col. 1:20-22).

A Word On Infant Baptism

Infant baptism is not a scriptural doctrine. Moreover, infant baptism is probably responsible for

causing more people to be eternally lost than perhaps any other doctrine or religious error. It is a terrible thing when a person has been erroneously led to believe that him being baptized as a baby constitutes his salvation and that he consequently is on his way to heaven.

Baptism By Immersion

“And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him” (Acts 8:38)

This verse tells us that water baptism is by immersion and not by mere sprinkling as taught by some. One must be immersed for the correct symbolism to apply. Water baptism typifies the death (going into the water), burial (being put under the water), and resurrection of Christ (being brought up out of the water). As well, water baptism is symbolic of the believer’s conversion to Christ. He goes into the water, which typifies his death to the world and the old man. He is placed under the water, which typifies the burial of the old man (when living in an unconverted state). And he is then brought out of the water, which typifies one as a new creature in Christ—a new man (Rom. 6:3-5).

Water Baptism Formula

There is not a single incident in the book of Acts where any particular baptismal method is given. There is no record of the dialogue of the baptizer while standing in the water with the convert. You will look in vain for any Scripture which would state, “I baptize you in the name of Jesus Christ” (or any other variation of the precious name of our Lord). If one would produce such an explicit procedure, we would be thrilled to admit that we have a scriptural right to baptize that way, but it cannot be produced. It doesn’t exist.

The Reason We Accept The Matthew 28:19 Baptismal Formula

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Matt. 28:19)

Matthew 28:19 can be used as the formula—and the baptism still be in the name of Jesus Christ—because the Son is Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the sphere, the foundation, and the ground for trinitarian baptism. Belief in, and confession of, Christ is the very heart of our baptism. Consequently, the words spoken by most ministers of the gospel, baptizing according to Matthew 28:19, follow this pattern: “On the confession of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” Praise God! 🙌

“...water baptism is symbolic of the believer’s conversion to Christ.”

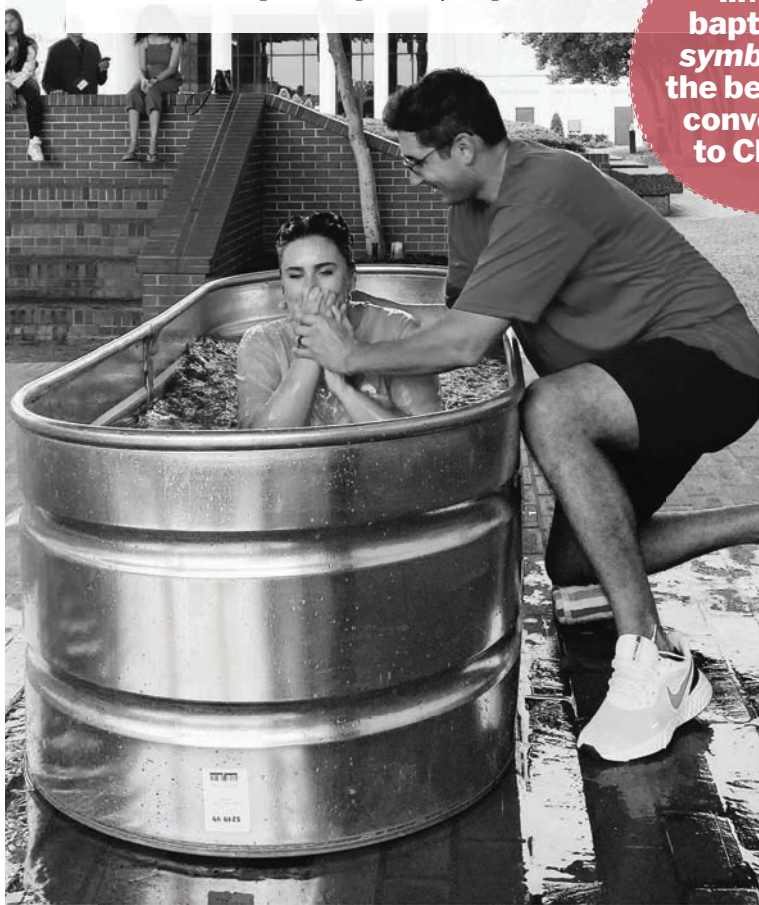


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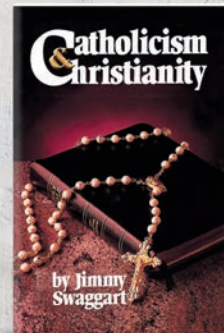
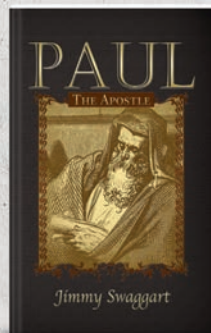
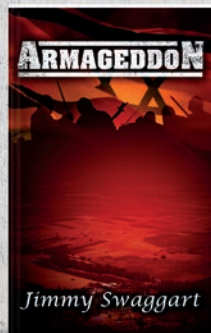
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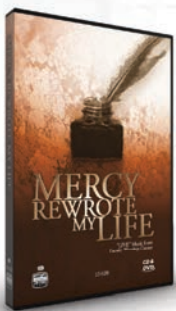
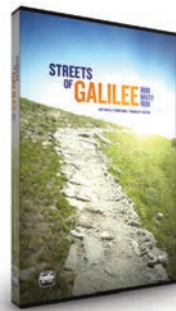
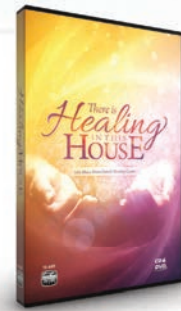
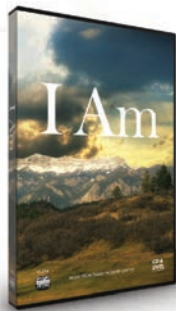


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ARTICLE BY **Donnie Swaggart**

Mercy, Peace, and Love

**“Mercy unto you, and peace, and love,
be multiplied.”** —JUDE 1:2

JUDE, ALONG WITH James, the senior pastor of the church in Jerusalem and the author of the epistle of James, was a brother of the Lord. Actually, I think it would be better to say he was a half brother of the Lord. I say half brother because the Lord was not born through the union of Joseph and Mary, but as the Holy Spirit came upon Mary.

The book of Jude has been called the most neglected book in the New Testament. Why that is I cannot say, but Jude’s epistle needs to be read and heeded by all believers. Jude emphasizes a fixed core of truth known as “the faith”—a singular faith, a specific faith “that was once delivered to the saints”—meaning that the truth of the gospel has been delivered, and it must be defended at all costs.

Jude warns us of the consequences of mixing error with truth, as Jude brings

out with his scathing denunciation of false prophets and their false doctrine.

In this second verse, Jude gives to us a triple benefit—all through grace.

Mercy

The phrase, “Mercy unto you,” presents mercy as a product of the grace of God.

In the Greek, the word *mercy* is *eleas*, and it means “the pity of God on underserving humans.”

At some point in time in the distant past, God determined that He was going to deal with humanity on the basis of grace. Therefore, God must grant mercy to man as mercy is a product of grace. Simply put, in the choosing of grace, mercy naturally follows.

Theologian A. A. Hodge said, “God’s mercy ... is the divine goodness exercised with respect to the miseries of his

creatures, feeling for them, and making provision for their relief, and, in the case of impenitent sinners, leading to long-suffering patience.”

Psalm 103:8-18 gives us a beautiful description of the mercy of God.

Peace

The word for *peace* in the Greek is *eirene*, and it means “to join.” To make peace is to join together that which has been separated. There are two types of peace presented to us in the Bible: justifying peace and sanctifying peace.

Through the shed blood of our Lord on the cross, He has made peace between a thrice-holy God and sinful man by joining together a holy God and the believing sinner. Once the believing sinner is joined together with God, one is justified and has justifying peace.

“The phrase, ‘be multiplied,’ plainly tells us that these attributes can grow and multiply with no limit placed on the mercy, peace, and love that the believer can walk in.”



Sanctifying peace, which Jude is addressing in our text, is a state of tranquility, well-being, and security in the midst of life's trials. Sanctifying peace can only be experienced when one truly puts his faith in the victory of the cross, not just for salvation but also for our day-to-day living.

When you put your trust in the cross, you are, at the same time, not trusting in self. To trust in self will always translate into fear because the Holy Spirit cannot and will not help our trust of our own self-will.

John 14:27 says, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

This is sanctifying peace.

Love

The phrase, "and love," is agape love—the God kind of love. It is the love that is shed

abroad in the heart of the yielded saint. The greatest example of salvation is the love of God that is in us and flows from us. Because of the love of God in us, we are able to show compassion, tenderness, and sympathy to those around us.

In I Corinthians 13:13, Paul said, "And now abideth faith, hope, charity [love], these three, but the greatest of these is charity [love]."

Believers are to be controlled, constrained, and motivated by the love of the Lord. The love we speak of is never guided by selfish interests or personal gain, but only to be a reflection of Christ.

Multiplied

The phrase, "be multiplied," plainly tells us that these attributes can grow and multiply with no limit placed on the mercy, peace, and love that the believer can walk in. ✚

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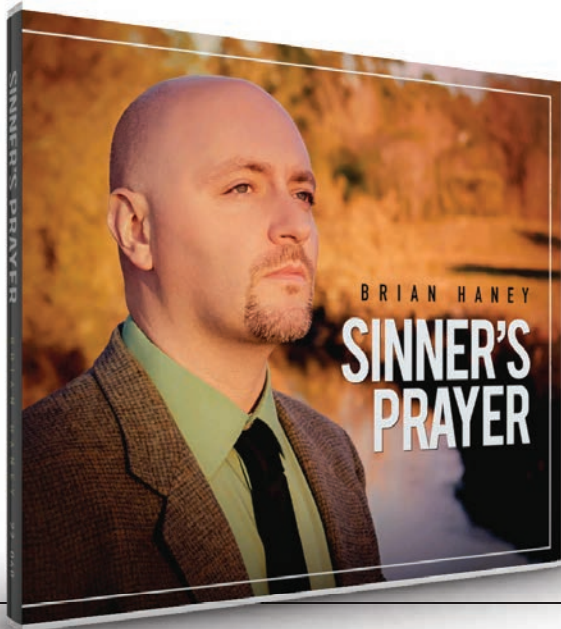
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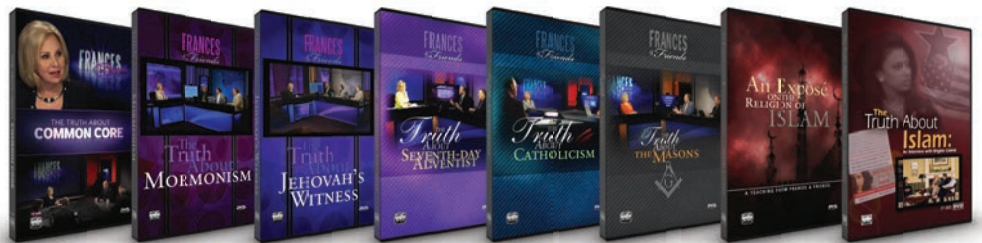
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ARTICLE BY **Gabriel Swaggart**

THE BOOK OF ACTS is one of the most exciting and enlightening tomes found in Scripture, for it gives us the blueprint of what the church should be. The church, as a whole, should not be cold, stagnant, liturgical, or dull, but rather it should be dynamic, expressive, Spirit-filled, and full of life.

The Time To Speak Is Now

ACTS PROVIDES Christians with doctrine in action—doctrine with specific earmarks that distinguish it from every other entity on earth, and those earmarks are: the preaching of salvation by the blood of Christ, preaching on the baptism with the Holy Spirit, preaching of divine healing, and preaching on the soon return of Christ.

Luke wrote Acts as a continuation of the gospel that bears his name. The gospel of Luke was written to exhibit the work of Christ during His earthly ministry, whereas Acts is the work of the disciples during the early church. As well, there is a common style and themes that unite the two books together: miracles, messages, defenses, and sufferings run parallel throughout the two books. The fact that the end of Luke and the beginning of Acts are nearly identical in verbiage

and that His trusted witnesses continue everything that Christ began to do and teach leads us to recognize the authorship of Luke.

Themes Found In Acts

There are three major themes found in Acts that are brought to our attention: the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, miracles, and persecution. The first miracle performed by the early church is found in Acts 3, the healing of the lame man at the Gate Beautiful. The ensuing chapter addresses the first time the early church faced persecution, and it came from the most devastating place. There are three significant antagonists to the true Bible-believing church: the world, the state (civil authorities), and organized religion.

The persecution that Peter and John

faced in Acts 4 came from organized religion, a group known as the Sadducees. These were members of a Jewish sect that bitterly opposed Christ during His ministry. They vehemently denied the resurrection and grew enraged at the fact that these “unlearned and ignorant men” used the name they bitterly hated to perform this miracle. After the death and burial of Christ, they assumed that they were done with this man called Christ, and yet, they find that these Galileans used this name in the healing of the lame man and promptly placed Peter and John under arrest.

Religion

Taking a side quest, let us confront the issue of religion. We need to grasp the idea that there are scores of people who are sitting in churches across our great country who have never accepted Christ as Savior. I understand that some of you may find that to be far-fetched, but unfortunately, it is the truth. They have never made a profession of faith in Christ but feel that they belong to an organization that deems them fit for heaven when the only requirement to make it to heaven is to accept Jesus Christ as Savior.

However, some within the church who have never declared faith are opposed to those who follow Christ. Take a look

at the ministry of Christ and the early church. Both were labeled as insurrectionists by religious leaders and targeted for destruction. It is no different today. Religionists are deceived into believing they are doing God a service by persecuting the true believer and destroying the platform, in whatever capacity that may be, given by God. That is why religion is one of the greatest hindrances to the work of God. In fact, it is Satan's business to stop the gospel from progressing, and at times he will use organized religion to do his dirty work.

The Holy Spirit

So, what should our response be to the persecution of the saints? I believe we have a blueprint on how to handle persecution found in this fourth chapter of Acts as Luke writes, "*Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost*" (Acts 4:8). The Holy Spirit is the power of the church, for without the Holy Spirit, nothing can be done for Christ. I did not say little can be done, but without the Holy Spirit nothing can be done for the cause of Christ.

Without the Holy Spirit, the church has no power to combat the forces of darkness, and neither can the church see people brought out of sin. Without the Holy Spirit, the church would be non-existent. If Peter and John needed the Holy Spirit, then how much more do we need the infilling of the Holy Spirit today? It is God's will that every born-again believer go through to the infilling of the Holy Spirit because power is needed to be a proper witness for Christ (Acts 1:8).

It was under the unction and anointing of the Holy Spirit that Peter spoke directly to the heart of the issue with the Sadducees. He stated that it was through the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth that brought about this miracle; that it was

them (Sadducees) that crucified Christ; and that God, who raised Christ from the dead, had the power to raise this lame man and make him whole. He declared that it should have been the Sadducees who were building the kingdom when they had rejected the chief cornerstone and that there was no other means of salvation other than Jesus Christ. This infuriated the religious leaders. However, they could not repudiate what took place, for it was apparent to all that a miracle of note happened. As a result, the religious leaders conferred together and used the message of fear to try and stop Peter and John from preaching the name of Jesus anymore.

The Time To Speak Is Now

What would Peter and John do? Would they acquiesce to the demands of these religious leaders? Once again, we go back to the fact that these two men had been with Jesus and now were walking with power from the Holy Spirit. They did not obey the commands of these evil men but spoke with authority and asked them a question that we should be asking ourselves now—should we obey men or obey God? Of course, the answer was relatively obvious; they would obey God regardless of the consequences.

Today, I'm afraid that too many Christians are choosing to remain silent out of fear of what others may think or say. Too many have decided to close their mouths in obedience to men when God says otherwise. Peter spoke and calmly articulated that they could not help but speak the things they had seen and heard. They had seen the miracles performed by Christ and through the name of Christ, and they had heard the words of Christ that spoke

**The
time for
silence is
over.**

life to the masses. These men were not the originators of this message yet were eyewitnesses of this message.

Today, there are two types of Christians: those who will not speak and those who cannot

help but speak. And it seems to me that there are more who will not speak than those who cannot help but speak.

The time is now for Christians to stand up and be counted as those who cannot help but speak what they have seen and heard. We are not the originators of this message but essential eyewitnesses to the work of Christ, and we must not be silent. In reality, there should never be a quiet Christian, whether in word or deed. Time is of the essence, and our voice needs to be heard. The time for silence is over. Let us stand together, united in faith and declare the goodness of God to those around us. ✚





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3:00:00 AM				
3:30:00 AM				
4:00:00 AM	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics
4:30:00 AM				
5:00:00 AM				
5:30:00 AM	FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
6:00:00 AM				
6:30:00 AM	Family Worship Center - Associate Pastor Broadcast	A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word
7:00:00 AM		FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
7:30:00 AM	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	The Message of the Cross (Live)	The Message of the Cross (Live)	The Message of the Cross (Live)
8:00:00 AM				
8:30:00 AM	Preachers, Patriots & Providence	FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
9:00:00 AM		Insight (Live)	Insight (Live)	Insight (Live)
9:30:00 AM	A Study In The Word	Frances & Friends (Live)	Frances & Friends (Live)	Frances & Friends (Live)
10:00:00 AM				
10:30:00 AM	Family Worship Center Sunday Live Service			
11:00:00 AM				
11:30:00 AM		FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
12:00:00 PM		A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word
12:30:00 PM	FWC Music		Family Worship Center - Associate Pastor Broadcast	
1:00:00 PM		Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast		Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast
1:30:00 PM	Generation of The Cross E/I			
2:00:00 PM			FWC Music	
2:30:00 PM		FWC Music		The Story Behind The Song
3:00:00 PM	Family Worship Center Morning Service (Repeat Of AM Service)			FWC Music
3:30:00 PM		Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Donnie Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics
4:00:00 PM				
4:30:00 PM	FWC Music			
5:00:00 PM				
5:30:00 PM	Crossfire Service E/I	Insight (Re-Air)	Insight (Re-Air)	Insight (Re-Air)
6:00:00 PM		A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word
6:30:00 PM				
6:30:00 PM	Family Worship Center Sunday Evening Live Service			FWC Music
7:00:00 PM		Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	
7:30:00 PM				Family Worship Center Live Service
8:00:00 PM	FWC Music			
8:30:00 PM	The Story Behind The Song	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	FWC Music
9:00:00 PM				
9:30:00 PM	Family Worship Center Morning Service (Repeat Of AM Service)		Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)
10:00:00 PM		Donnie Swaggart Broadcast		
10:30:00 PM				
11:00:00 PM				Frances & Friends (Re-Air)
11:30:00 PM	FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music	

Preaching the Cross | 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Family Worship Center - Associate Pastor Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast
FWC Music		
Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics
FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	Family Worship Center - Associate Pastor Broadcast
FWC Music	FWC Music	
The Message of the Cross (Live)	The Message of the Cross (Live)	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)
FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
Insight (Live)	Insight (Live)	The Story Behind The Song
Frances & Friends (Live)	Frances & Friends (Live)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)
FWC Music	FWC Music	
A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	Generation of The Cross E/I
Family Worship Center - Associate Pastor Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast
FWC Music		
Donnie Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Donnie Swaggart Broadcast
Insight (Re-Air)	Insight (Re-Air)	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)
A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	
Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)
The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	Preachers, Patriots & Providence
Crossfire Service E/I	Donnie Swaggart Broadcast	Family Worship Center Wednesday Night Service (repeat)
FWC Music		FWC Music
	FWC Music	Crossfire Service E/I

Hour (ET)
 1:00:00 AM
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UNITED STATES CABLE, SATELLITE, & DIGITAL LISTINGS NATIONWIDE

MEDIACOM	
24/7	215
DIRECTV® NETWORK	
24/7	344
DISH NETWORK	
24/7	257
VERIZON FIOS	
24/7	797
GLORystAR Covers:	
<i>US/Canada/Mexico/ Central America</i>	
24/7	125
GALAXY 19 Covers:	
<i>US/Canada/Mexico/ Central America</i>	
24/7	125
ROKU AND APPLE TV	
24/7	
AT&T U-VERSE	
24/7	580
SPECTRUM	
24/7	Check Local Listings

UNITED STATES CABLE AND OVER-THE-AIR (DTV) LISTINGS

A	Channel
ALABAMA	
<i>Anniston</i>	
Cable One	91
<i>Berry</i>	487
<i>Birmingham</i>	
Spectrum	257 / 1257 HD
OTA	24
<i>Fayette</i>	
OTA	15.4
<i>Mobile</i>	
OTA	48.2
<i>Montgomery, Selma</i>	
OTA	5 / 29.2
<i>Statewide</i>	
Spectrum	157 / 776
ALASKA	
<i>Anchorage</i>	
OTA	31
ARIZONA	
<i>Phoenix</i>	
OTA	22.3 / 50.3

<i>Safford, Show Low</i>	
Cable One	91
ARKANSAS	
<i>Ft. Smith, Fayetteville</i>	
<i>Springdale, Rogers</i>	
OTA	16.2
<i>Little Rock</i>	
OTA	14.2 / 49.3

C Channel

CALIFORNIA	
<i>Bakersfield</i>	
Spectrum	499 / 1499 HD
OTA	34.6
<i>Beaumont</i>	
Spectrum	470
<i>Burlington</i>	
VolPPTV	115
<i>Fresno</i>	
OTA	7.2 / 35.3
<i>Los Angeles</i>	
Cox	483
Spectrum	470
OTA	20.1
Verizon	297
<i>Palm Desert, San Diego</i>	
Spectrum	470
<i>Redding/Chico</i>	
OTA	41.2
<i>Sacramento</i>	
OTA	9.1 / 49.6
<i>Salinas</i>	
OTA	27.4
<i>San Rafael</i>	
Lucas Valley Cable	487
<i>San Francisco/San Jose</i>	
Comcast	103 / 1099
Wave Division	15
San Bruno Cable	23
Google Fiber	42
Charter Communications	23
OTA	38.3
DirecTV/DISH/AT&T Inc.	42
<i>Santa Maria, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara</i>	
OTA	40.2

COLORADO	
<i>Denver</i>	
Comcast	91
OTA	5.1 / 16.3
CONNECTICUT	
<i>Hartford, New Haven, Manchester</i>	
Spectrum	129 / 854
Comcast	1096
OTA	43.2

D Channel

DELAWARE	
<i>Wilmington</i>	
Comcast	487
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	
<i>Washington DC</i>	
RCN	55

Cox	28
Comcast	Check local listings
OTA	49.5

F Channel

FLORIDA	
<i>Astor, Astatulosa, Lakes of Mt. Dora, Magnolia Point</i>	
Florida Cable Inc.	168
<i>Fort Myers-Naples</i>	
OTA	22.3
<i>Pensacola, Fort Walton Beach</i>	
OTA	48.2
<i>Gainesville</i>	
OTA	2
<i>Jacksonville</i>	
OTA	24
<i>Miami</i>	
OTA	16.2
<i>Orlando</i>	
Spectrum	231 / 1116 HD
OTA	55.4
<i>Tallahassee</i>	
OTA	4
<i>Tampa (Hillsborough, Manatee, St. Petersburg)</i>	
Spectrum	199 / 1116 HD
OTA	43.1
<i>West Palm Beach</i>	
OTA	57.3

G Channel

GEORGIA	
<i>Atlanta</i>	
Comcast	28
OTA	16.2
<i>Milledgeville</i>	
Bulldog	112
<i>Savannah</i>	
OTA	34.5
<i>Statewide</i>	
Spectrum	157 / 782

H Channel

HAWAII	
<i>Statewide</i>	
Spectrum	406 / 1406 HD

I Channel

IDAHO	
<i>Boise</i>	
OTA	41.3
<i>Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls</i>	
Cable One	91
ILLINOIS	
<i>Champaign</i>	
OTA	46
<i>Chicago</i>	
RCN	270
WOW (Wide Open West)	194
Comcast	115 / 365

OTA	35.2
<i>Hamilton County, Dahlgren</i>	
Hamilton County Communications Inc.	16
Highland	
Hamilton Communications Services	161
<i>Metamora</i>	
MTCO	201
<i>Peoria</i>	
Comcast	74
<i>Rockford</i>	
Comcast	103
INDIANA	
<i>Indianapolis</i>	
Spectrum	257 / 1257 HD
OTA	30.5
Comcast	90
<i>South Bend</i>	
Comcast	111
<i>Terre Haute</i>	
Spectrum	TBA
IOWA	
<i>Des Moines, Ames</i>	
OTA	14 / 19.2 / 36.2
<i>Sioux City</i>	
Cable One	91

K Channel

KANSAS	
<i>Dodge City</i>	
United Telecom	162
<i>Emporia</i>	
Cable One	91
<i>Wichita, Hutchinson Plus</i>	
OTA	40.4
KENTUCKY	
<i>Bowling Green</i>	
OTA	39.4
<i>Independence</i>	
Cincinnati Bell	265
<i>London, Owensboro</i>	
Spectrum	TBA
<i>Louisville</i>	
OTA	21 / 25.6 / 50.1
<i>Paducah</i>	
OTA	27.2

L Channel

LOUISIANA	
<i>Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Lafayette</i>	
Cox Cable	273
<i>Baton Rouge</i>	
OTA	14.1, 47.4
<i>Monroe</i>	
OTA	39.4
<i>Plaquemine</i>	
Clear Choice Cable	225
<i>Prairieville, Gonzales</i>	
Cox Cable	389
<i>Shreveport</i>	
OTA	14

M Channel

MAINE
Augusta, Bangor, Portland, York, Saco
 Spectrum 489

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston
 OTA6..... 2.2
 Comcast 1096
 Spectrum 129 / 854
 Beld Broadband 20 / 520
 Shrewsbury
 Community 24 / 1231
Worcester
 Spectrum 129 / 854

MICHIGAN
Detroit
 Comcast 389
 Spectrum 158
 WOW (Wide Open West)..... 194
 OTA 14.5 / 19.2 / 47.3
Flint, Saginaw, Bay City
 OTA 49.2
Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek
 OTA 54.2
Oakland County, Livonia
 Spectrum 179 / 379

MINNESOTA
Duluth, Superior
 OTA 27.2
Minneapolis
 Comcast 191
Minneapolis, St. Paul
 OTA 25.2
Rochester
 Spectrum 150 / 705
Thief River Falls
 Sjoberg's Inc. 182

MISSISSIPPI
Biloxi, Columbus, Grenada
 Cable One 91
Greenville, Greenwood
 OTA 15.3
Jackson
 OTA 23.2

MISSOURI
Cape Girardeau, Harrisburg
 OTA 27.2
Higginsville
 Citizen's Cablevision 122
Joplin, Pittsburg
 OTA 49.3
Kansas City
 Spectrum 470
 OTA 21.3
Kirksville
 Cable One 91
St. Louis
 Spectrum 109 / 775
 OTA 7.2
Springfield
 KRFT-LD TV8..... 8.7

Excelsior Springs
 New Dawn Fiber..... 15

N Channel

NEBRASKA
Auburn, Columbus, Fremont, Lincoln
 Spectrum 470
Norfolk
 Cable One..... 91
Omaha
 OTA 48.4

NEVADA
Las Vegas
 OTA 30.3
Reno
 Spectrum 139 / 890

NEW ENGLAND
Region-wide
 Spectrum 470

NEW JERSEY
Audubon, Burlington, Central Gloucester, Jersey City, Meadowlands, Monmouth, Ocean County, Plainfield, Pleasantville, Princeton, Somerset, Hillborough, Trenton, Union, Vineland
 Comcast 190
Long Beach Island
 Comcast 22
Northwest
 Comcast 280
Toms River
 Comcast 19

NEW MEXICO
Albuquerque
 Comcast 91
 OTA 32.3
Rio Rancho
 Cable One..... 91

NEW YORK
Albany, Binghamton (Montros, Bath, Jamestown), Buffalo, Syracuse, New York
 Spectrum 470
Buffalo
 OTA 26.2 / 56.6
 Spectrum 470
Cobleskill
 OTA 41.4
Carmel
 Comcast 191
New York
 Cablevision 15
 Spectrum 22 / 470
 Comcast 19 / 27 / 15
 Frontier 43
 RCN 39 / 270
 OTA 42.1 / 43.1
Rochester
 Spectrum 470

NORTH CAROLINA
Asheboro, Denton, New London
 Randolph Telephone..... 257
Charlotte
 Comporium 391
 Spectrum 81 / 470
 OTA 14.7
Fayetteville
 OTA 15.3
Asheboro, Greensboro, Raleigh
 Spectrum 470
Raleigh-Durham
 OTA 16.3
Wilmington
 OTA 43.2

NORTH DAKOTA
Enderlin
 MLGC Enderlin 150

O Channel

OHIO
Akron
 OTA 27.3 / 41.3
Akron, Canton, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Dayton
 Spectrum 388 / 1388 HD
Cincinnati
 OTA 25.6
Cleveland
 WOW (Wide Open West)..... 193
 OTA 27.3 / 41.3
 Spectrum 388 / 1388 HD
Columbus
 Spectrum 388 / 1388 HD
 WOW (Wide Open West)..... 193
Toledo
 Buckeye 109
Wapakoneta
 Telephone Service
 Company, Inc. 75

OKLAHOMA
Altus
 Cable One..... 91
Clarksdale, Batesville
 Cable One 91
Duncan
 Cable One..... 91
Oklahoma City
 OTA 22.2
Ponca City
 Cable One..... 91
Tulsa
 OTA 48.2

OREGON
Medford
 Spectrum 173 / 802
Portland
 Comcast 99 / 1099

P Channel

PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia
 Comcast 193 / 1095

OTA 25.2 / 51.3
 Blue Ridge Comm. 8 / 24

PUERTO RICO
Region-wide
 Claro 24
 Dish 7
 Liberty Cable 41
 Choice Cable..... 41
San Juan
 OTA 25.2 / 42.1

R Channel

RHODE ISLAND
Providence
 Cox Cable 70

S Channel

SOUTH CAROLINA
Charleston
 Comcast 270
Columbia, Statewide
 Spectrum4 70
Rock Hill, Fort Mill, Lancaster, York, Chester, Clover, Lake Wylie
 Comporium Cable..... 391
Spartanburg, Greenville
 OTA 16.3

SOUTH DAKOTA
Beresford
 Beresford Cablevision 487
Huron, Mitchell
 OTA 12.3
Sioux Falls
 OTA 7.3

T Channel

TENNESSEE
Dyersburg
 Cable One..... 91
Jackson
 OTA 27.4
Memphis
 OTA 26.5 / 44
Nashville
 OTA 31.3

TEXAS
Abilene
 Harris Broadband 17
Alma-Garret
 Spectrum 12
Amarillo
 Cable One..... 91
 OTA 22.3
Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Waco, Killeen
 Spectrum 470
Austin
 OTA 17.3
Balch Springs
 Suddenlink 20 / 107HD

Bryan	
OTA.....	34.6
Carrollton	
Spectrum	14
Dallas	
OTA.....	47.5
KODF	26.5
KHPK	28.1
KTXD.....	47.5
Spectrum	470
Denton	
Spectrum	6 / 749 HD
Duncanville	
Charter	13 / 749 HD
Ennis	
Spectrum	12 / 750 HD
Greenville	
Geus Cable	551
Greenville (Commerce)	
Spectrum	22 / 742 HD
Houston	
Comcast	76
OTA.....	10.2
Lubbock	
OTA.....	29.4
Odessa	
OTA.....	22.3
Park Cities	
Spectrum	3 / 749 HD
Pilot Point	
Suddenlink	97 / 197 HD
Port Lavaca, Aransas Pass, Texarkana	
Cable One.....	91
Rockwall	
Spectrum	14 / 749 HD
Sherman	
Suddenlink	95 / 714
Temple	
OTA.....	34.6
Throckmorton, Lake Graham, Newcastle	
TGN Cable.....	487
Waco	
OTA.....	34.6
Waxahachie	
Spectrum	12
U	Channel
UTAH	
Salt Lake City	
Comcast	91
OTA.....	23.2
W	Channel
WASHINGTON	
Bellingham	
OTA.....	24.2
Goldendale	
J&N Cable	487
Seattle	
Comcast	81
Frontier	24

OTA.....	24.2
Tacoma	
OTA.....	24.2
WASHINGTON DC	
Washington DC	
RCN.....	55
Cox	28
Comcast	Check local listings
OTA.....	49.5
WEST VIRGINIA	
Riverton	
SKSRT	34
Wheeling	
Comcast	190
WISCONSIN	
Green Bay	
Spectrum	388 / 1388
Madison	
OTA.....	8.3
Milwaukee	
Spectrum	388 / 1388 HD
AT&T.....	68 / 1068
OTA.....	68.8

**INTERNATIONAL
CABLE, SATELLITE
AND FREE-TO-AIR
(FTA) LISTINGS
ALL LISTINGS
OPERATING 24/7**

A Channel

ASIA & INDIA	
ABS 1	sonlifetv.com for more info
AFRICA	
<i>Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde Islands, Central African Republic Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial, Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali Mauritania, Mauritius, Mayotte, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Reunion, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania & Zanzibar, The Gambia, Togo, Uganda, Zambia (partial)</i>	
Multichoice Platform	345
Intelsat 20	
Thaicom 5	
Northern Africa	
Hot Bird 6	sonlifetv.com for more info
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND	
OPTUS D2	sonlifetv.com for more info

AUSTRALIA	
Foxtel® NATIONWIDE186	
Terrestrial Television Channels:	
New South Wales	
Canberra, Wollongong, Orange, Dubbo, Wagga	
Excludes Sydney	55
Northern Territory	
Darwin, Central	74
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Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Maryborough, Toowoomba, Excludes Brisbane	55
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(Spencer Gulf Area), Loxton, Mt. Gambier, Griffith, Mildura, Excludes Adelaide.....	54
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Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo	
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BULGARIA	
Dcable, 3 Air Media	

C Channel

CAYMAN ISLANDS	
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CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA / CARIBBEAN	
Hispasat 1E	sonlifetv.com for more info
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D Channel

DENMARK	
Viasat.....	205

E Channel

EUROPE	
Hot Bird 6	sonlifetv.com for more info

F Channel

FINLAND	
Viasat	205
FRANCE	
WEBSERVICE - Play Media	
Canal Sat	

G Channel

GERMANY	
Kabel Deutschland	847
Unity Cable.....	238
Kabel BW	302
Sky Deutschland	975
Stadtwerke	442
HD+.....	983
Zattoo	
Astra 1	sonlifetv.com for more info
Cologne, Dusseldorf, Bonn & Aachen	
Net Cologne.....	409

I Channel

ISRAEL	
Hot Cable	180
Hot Bird 6	sonlifetv.com for more info

ITALY	
Tivu.....	79
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M Channel

MIDDLE EAST	
Hot Bird 6	Eutelsat 25
sonlifetv.com for more info	

N Channel

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Canal Digital	208
NEW ZEALAND	
Sky	203
OTA.....	Hill Nelson-26
OTA.....	Takaka Hill-27

P Channel

POLAND	
Korbank	MGK

R Channel

RUSSIA & EASTERN EUROPE	
Amos	24° West
RUSSIA WEST	
Yamal 1	sonlifetv.com for more info

S	Channel
SLOVAKIA	
Skylink	265
SOUTH AMERICA	
Intelsat	21
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SPAIN	
Canal+	463
SWEDEN	
Viasat	205
SWITZERLAND	
Zattoo	
T	Channel
TANZANIA	
Push Media	
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	
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UNITED KINGDOM	
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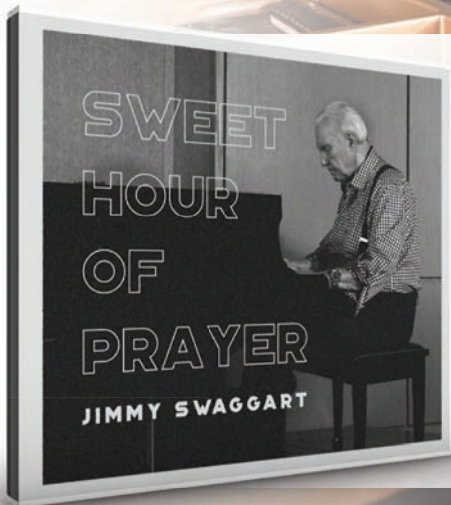
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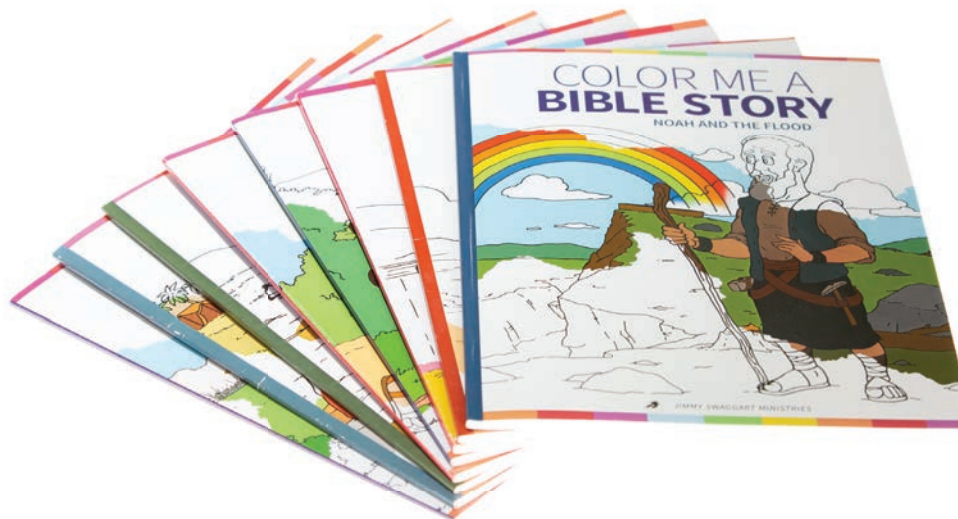
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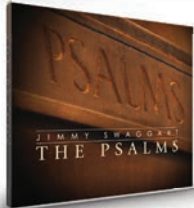


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Amazing Grace / He Hideth My Soul / Standing Somewhere In The Shadows
The Old Rugged Cross / He'll Hold My Hand / When My Savior Reached Down For Me
There Is A Fountain / Blessed Assurance



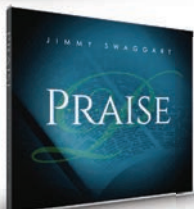
The Psalms (02-208)

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The Old Rugged Cross / In The Garden / Farther Along / Draw Me Lord
I'll Never Be Lonely Again / I Am Thine, O Lord (Draw Me Nearer)
How Beautiful Heaven Must Be



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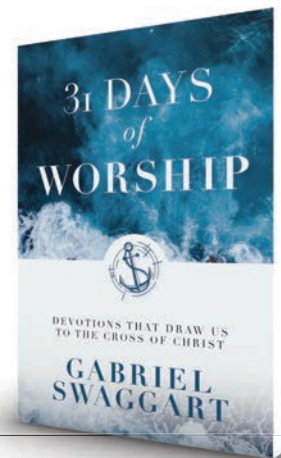
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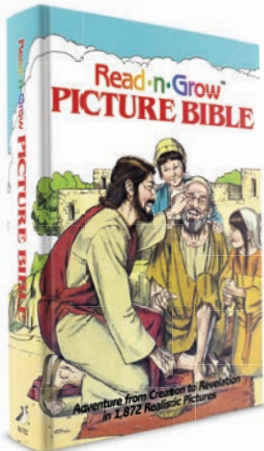
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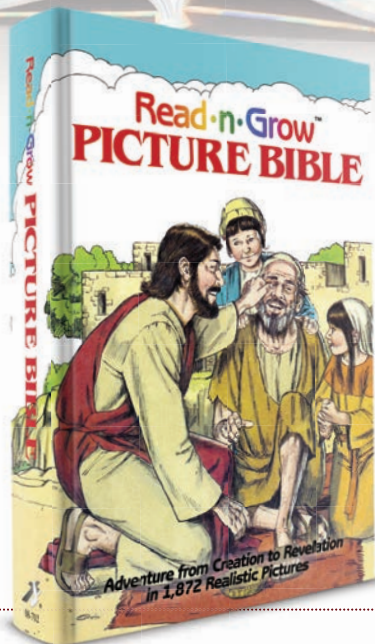
LETTERS FROM THE AUDIENCE



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08-702

Dear Evangelist I purchased the Read-n-Grow Picture Bible for my grandkids. What a wonderful illustration and explanation of Bible stories. God laid it upon my heart to do a weekly grandkids Bible study using this amazing tool. They get excited learning about God and Jesus prompting their questions to me! I had the privilege of praying the sinner's prayer with them after reading the part about "Sin Enters the World." My grandkids are twelve and ten. Thank you for creating a way to infiltrate the cross to my grandkids! Keep telling and teaching the truth. Love you guys; we support your ministry.

—WASHINGTON

“False doctrine is a scary thing and is definitely leading people toward eternity away from God. This discussion hits home with me on a personal level. **You all are making a difference with your discussions!**”

All letters are current and may have been edited for space.

Dear Evangelist I just wanted to drop you all a note thanking you once again so much for this ministry. I know you hear it all the time, but I really want you to know that this message “literally” saved my life. I am a pastor, and we are some of the folks that order Expositor Study Bibles and send them to the prisons. I am currently pastoring a congregation teaching this great message. Our city is ravaged with drug addiction, but the Lord is sending these folks to us so we can give them this great message. Also, I am now enrolled in the Bible college which is great. Looking forward to being a part of what the Lord will do in 2022! —Email

Dear Evangelist I just wanted to send this brief message to thank you all for the godly teaching you provide through SBN. I was brought up in a certain doctrine, and I knew that things didn't line up scripturally, but was always told, “Well, it's what we've been taught so we do it.” And as you know, countless other Scriptures were misinterpreted. But after watching SBN each day, I was able to build up the courage to leave and to fully see the error of their teaching, and thankfully I was able to break free! Brother Donnie always said, “If you get the Godhead wrong, you get it all wrong,” and I want to thank him for that statement. It helped me to look deeper and move out of that legalistic movement. Now I am a pastor at a

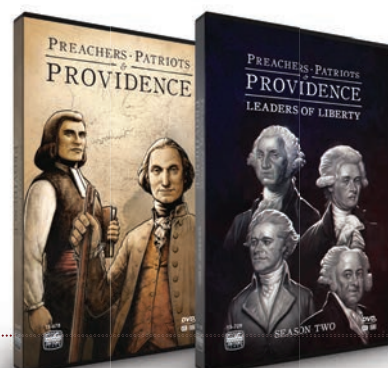
Pentecostal church, and I am so excited. This new chapter has been amazing! And if people will be open to the leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit, He will lead you into all truth; and sometimes that means going against man-made teachings. False doctrine is a scary thing and is definitely leading people toward eternity away from God. This discussion hits home with me on a personal level. You all are making a difference with your discussions! I could go into much more detail, but I hope to meet each of you in person sometime when the border is fully opened. —Canada

Dear Evangelist This email is to thank you for the study of Jude this morning. Brother Donnie was exactly correct in what he stated and the way to overcome the attack from Satan. I, for many years, was attacked by Satan because I allowed it and did not rebuke Satan with Scripture. When I first began listening to Son-life Broadcasting Network approximately ten years ago, I learned so much about God's Word from all the pastors and staff! It was the Word of God that set me free and enabled me to break the bondage of depression. Praise God! Brother Donnie's devotional and words this morning were spot-on regarding this topic. They should certainly be a healing balm for any that may suffer during this season. I am a living testament—the message of the cross and

what the Lord Jesus Christ did at the cross is the solution to a victorious life coupled with a thorough and informed study of the Word of God. The Expositor's Study Bible is a never-changing companion. In summation, thank you for the Bible study of Jude, and for all the informed Bible studies, which open up the Word of God, that you have given on *Frances & Friends*. They are excellent! —Email

Dear Evangelist Brother Donnie, my wife Esther and I take part in the Sunday service regularly. We have *The Story Behind The Song* on auto play for Sunday evenings. It's our TV highlight of the week, ranking just ahead of the Sunday service and *Preachers, Patriots & Providence*. Thanks for the joy and inspiration we get from all the services and programs of JSM. —Oklahoma

To order seasons one and two of *Preachers, Patriots & Providence*, visit our website at www.shopjism.org.



Season 1: 15-690

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ARTICLE BY **Dr. Don Paul Gray**

Understanding This Journey of FAITH

“Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.” —REVELATION 1:5-6



WHEN ONE OPENS the pages of the book of Revelation, we find the elderly John, about ninety-five years young, living on a small Island called Patmos, not too far from the mainland of what is now called Turkey. Several years ago, my wife Donna and I were with a tour group from the United States that visited Patmos Island. We walked in the cave where they said John lived. We were there where he received this vision.

The Roman government had exiled him to this island as punishment for preaching the gospel and to limit his influence concerning His faith and witness. The other apostles were now martyred. John was still living. Paul and Peter had been martyred during the reign of Nero in 65-66 AD.

The emperor of the Roman Empire during John’s time on Patmos was Domitian, who ruled Rome from AD 81-96. He was born in Rome, Italy. As a general, he

had fought in Gaul (France) and Germany with some success. During his reign, he organized a multitude of games in the great Roman coliseum. He was a womanizer, loved poetry, arranged for extravagant parties, and was considered greedy and cruel. In AD 96, citizens and leaders of Rome formed a mob and stabbed him to death.

At about AD 95, while exiled on Patmos Island, John writes in Revelation 1:10, *“I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book.”*

And that is what the apostle did.

Consequently, we have the awesome book of Revelation. In Chapter 1:19, John hears these words, *“Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which*

are, and the things which shall be hereafter.”

In Revelation 2 and 3, we read of what Christ says to the beloved pastor about the seven churches of Asia, in their current condition. Christ’s words are convicting, encouraging, disturbing, and assuring. Very likely, the beloved John was the bishop over all these congregations. He knew the pastors and churches quite well. From Revelation 4 through 22, John writes of future events.

For this article, I want to focus on how John describes the three dimensions or revelations of the Christian journey of faith highlighted in Revelation 1:5-6.

Unto Him Who Loved Us

As one starts down the road of knowing God and serving God, it is imperative that

he understands and believes that God truly loves him, no matter what he has done or who he is. This truth is so important and foundational.

John 3:16 declares, *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son.”*

John 15:13 reads, *“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”*

The apostle Paul wrote in Ephesians 2:4-5, *“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins.”*

John writes in I John 4:10, *“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”*

Please, dear friend, know that God loves you and all of mankind.

God loves us and will never stop loving us, no matter what has happened to us. The apostle John wants everyone to know

that God loves each person—whether rich, poor, a prisoner behind bars, or someone bound

by drugs or alcohol. Believe me friend, God loves you. Take a few minutes to read the brief epistles of John. You will be blessed.

And Washed Us From Our Sins In His Own Blood

Now read the rest of Revelation 1:5: *“and washed us from our sins in his own blood.”*

John continues to write and say that our sins, mistakes, failures, and stupidities are forgiven and removed from the record by our blessed Lord.

If you are truly repentant, the Word of God teaches that there is no record of your sins in the Lamb's Book of Life. Some scholars show that the Greek word for *washed* really means that we are “set free, loosed from, or delivered from” our sins.

Paul clarifies this point in Colossians 2:14: *“Blotting out the handwriting of*

“IF YOU ARE TRULY REPENTANT, THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT THERE IS NO RECORD OF YOUR SINS IN THE LAMB’S BOOK OF LIFE.”

ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross.”

My, my, my, my! When Christ declared on the cross of Calvary, “It is finished,” please know that the price of your sins were paid. All you need to do is simply thank Him and praise Him because He has truly “washed us from our sins in his own blood.”

It's over. We confess to Him, not man, our sins. Christ is quick to forgive us *“and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (I John 1:9).

Look at Psalm 103:12: *“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.”*

Rejoice that your sins are gone. All of them—forgiven, washed, blotted out, removed. In Christ, we are now *“whiter than snow”* (Ps. 51:7). Hallelujah!

And Has Made Us Kings And Priests Unto God And His Faither

Revelation 1:6 says, *“And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father.”*

John declares that God loves us with an undying love; He washes us and cleanses us from all sin, and He has also *“made us kings and priests unto God.”*

Please carefully analyze what John is writing here.

First, we must be convinced that He loves us completely. Second, we are convinced that He has forgiven us and washed our sins away totally.

Third, did you know you are predestined for greatness?

You may think you are a nobody. Paul taught in Ephesians 2:6, *“And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”*

I Peter 2:9 says, *“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”*

The apostle Paul stated in Ephesians 1:5 that we are predestinated and adopted by Jesus Christ to Himself.

In Ephesians 1:11, Paul writes, *“In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.”*

Dear friend, when you surrendered your life to God, repented of your sins, and determined by faith to serve God and walk in His ways, you placed yourself in a position to be blessed abundantly by God.

Revelation 1:6 says that the believer will be made by God, *“kings and priests unto God and His Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”*

In Genesis 37-50, the incredible story is told of a young boy sold into slavery by his cruel brothers. In spite of family betrayal, lies, and prison, Joseph never wavered from his faith in a loving, merciful God.

Our Father desires to love us, wash us completely, and then make us kings and priests unto our God and unto our fellow man.

I challenge you to give the Lord your whole life and expect God to bless you richly in all ways. 🦋





ARTICLE BY **Loren Larson**

“For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”

—GALATIANS 5:13-14

Liberty and Responsibility

THE BELIEVER IS the beneficiary of many blessings as a result of his union with Christ. Two of the primary benefits free the Christian from the dominion of the sin nature and freedom from the authority and responsibility to the Mosaic law.

However, having received these great liberties ushers the believer into a position of responsibility. The apostle Paul teaches plainly in his writing that along with our freedoms comes the responsibility to maintain these freedoms and advance ourselves in that which they can produce. With great liberty comes great responsibility.

Freedom From The Sin Nature

Believers have been liberated from the sin nature. In Romans 6:1-11, the apostle Paul declares that the believer has been set free from the power of the sin nature because of his union with Christ. Paul declares that the new believer has been crucified with Christ. This means that the person that we once were, dominated by the sin nature,

has been crucified, buried, and raised up with Christ to live in Him.

The new power source becomes the person of the Holy Spirit. He lives inside every believer and works to conform the believer into the image of Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit is free to operate as the result of the believer's faith in Christ and will continually work to transform the believer as long as the believer's faith is centered upon Christ crucified.

Having been freed from the power of sin, we are then called upon to live a holy and righteous life. This can only be done by the help of the Holy Spirit. Each believer has the responsibility and privilege of maintaining faith in Christ and Him crucified so that the Holy Spirit has the legal right to transform him into the image of Christ.

Freedom From The Law

Believers have also been liberated from the Mosaic law. In Romans 7:1-6, the apostle Paul writes that Christians have been liberated from the authority and

responsibility to the Mosaic law. Because all men are born under law, only death can free them from its authority and dominion. It is our union with Christ that has afforded us this freedom.

In Romans 7:1, Paul says that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives. He goes on to say in Romans 7:4 that the believer is dead to the law due to his union with Christ. This means that believers are no longer responsible to the old covenant. The law of Moses was vital to the old covenant community because they had no supernatural means by which to recognize right and wrong. Neither did they have the power to perform what was right. But when the Holy Spirit moves into the heart of the new covenant believer, He replaces the need for the Torah with His ability to reveal truth to the believer. He guides the believer into all right and wrong. He directs the believer toward a higher plane of holiness which the types and shadows of the Mosaic law could never achieve.

The fulfilling of the law is accomplished



as the believer places his faith in Christ crucified. It is there that the Holy Spirit enables the believer to reach the highest potential of righteousness. We have been freed from the law in order to bring forth fruit unto Christ. This fruit can never be developed under the law but only as one serves Christ in the newness of the Spirit.

Indulging The Flesh

Believers are responsible to live free from the pull of the flesh. The flesh is a very complex term to define. Simply put, the flesh is man minus the influence and help of God. The flesh will pull believers away from faith in Christ as the means of life and living.

In addition, it will pull believers toward actions and attitudes that are contrary to righteous living. We have been set at

liberty from sin and from law but not so that we might consistently yield to the negative impulses of the flesh. To do so is to indulge the flesh or, as Paul says, give an occasion to fleshly influence.

As the believer places his or her faith in Christ and the cross, the Holy Spirit helps suppress the influences of the flesh. The believer must learn to maintain the proper object of faith so that his actions and attitudes come in line with the will and Word of God.

We have not been given liberty in order to yield to the whims and designs of the flesh. We have not been set free so that we might give in to the stimuli of sin.

The Fruit Of The Spirit

Believers are also responsible to see that the fruit of the Spirit is developed in their

lives. The foremost fruit of the Spirit is love. Love is, as defined by Paul, a selfless God-kind of love. It is impossible for man to produce this kind of love. That's why it is referred to as the fruit of the Spirit.

Every aspect of the fruit of the Spirit is only experienced by the supernatural power of God's grace. To rise to the highest aspect of this love will cause every shadow or type found in the Mosaic law to reach its fulfillment in the life of the believer. So then, the believer has been freed from the power of sin and the authority of the Mosaic law.

All this has been done to produce a Christian who loves God with all of his heart and loves his neighbor as himself. With great freedom comes great responsibility. ✚

“Every aspect of the fruit of the Spirit is only experienced by the supernatural power of God's grace.”



ARTICLE BY **John Rosenstern**

**PART
VII**

We have traveled through some of the history of the modern church and the cultural revolution that

has syncretized the way of the modern church with the world system. They are nearly indistinguishable. One cannot be factitious in discussing the next aspect of this synchronization—social justice. In and of itself, the term is not inappropriate.

The Bible is the only true book where true justice can be found and understood; especially how it must be evaluated within society. The concepts of equality, discrimination, fairness, and equity are being challenged and redefined today. Can the church effectually change society by using the system of the world that made society? It is no surprise to see that in the woke culture of today. Colleges are blaming our Founding Fathers on all of society's ills.

Although preposterous, history has been rewritten to now claim that the rich slave owners who formed our government in America did so to protect their monopoly of slave and land ownership. To better understand the modern elements of social justice, let us first look back and see when and how it began.

Origins

Social justice was formally known as the Social Gospel movement. It sought to remedy a broad array of social ills, including poor working conditions, child labor, and illiteracy.

Social Gospelers exhorted Christians to stop focusing only on individual sins and to recognize the devastating impact of more complex social sins. Focusing on “social sins,” the Social Gospelers promoted justice and equal opportunity in society. Also known as “social Christianity,” the movement included a diverse array of proponents. They consisted of women and men, blacks and whites, theological liberals, mostly Protestant; moderates and conservatives, socialists and capitalists, pastors and laypeople, and Republicans, Democrats, and Progressives.

These all served in the Social Gospel army. Most of the advocates of the Social Gospel believed that God's kingdom could be established on earth. (The seedbed of the modern Kingdom Now theology was birthed out of this movement). They all agreed that Jesus Christ emphasized this concept in His public ministry and commanded Christians to construct His kingdom on earth. Creating a more righteous and just social order was a central aspect of the biblical mandate and a vital part of

advancing God's kingdom on earth. Christians must work to restructure society so that justice, freedom, equal opportunity, brotherhood, and service could flourish.

Most of the Social Gospel advocates insisted that Jesus did not endorse any particular economic system or political agenda. All Christians were called both to convert individuals and improve social conditions. Redeemed individuals who understood biblical teaching and strove to implement it could reform society. Social service was a natural byproduct of conversion, commonly explained by Calvinists as perseverance—the observation of good works. Conversion, Social Gospelers contended, was not simply a personal experience that removed an individual's sin and guilt, reconciled him to God and guaranteed that he would go to heaven. Rather, it should also be a life-changing event that motivated people to faithfully follow Jesus in every area of their lives and to work to regenerate the social order. This can be accomplished by removing barriers that inhibited people from hearing and responding to the gospel.

In essence, social ministries were a type of evangelism. An interesting thought—during this time the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was taking place in the Azusa Street Revival. Out of that revival came

CULTURAL REVOLUTION:

The Social Gospel

the birth of Pentecostal churches and the teaching on the rapture of the church.

The Social Gospel movement made its greatest impact during the Progressive movement. During this time, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and Woodrow Wilson were the presidents of America. Also during this time, the Federal Council of Churches was founded to help improve employer-worker relations. The Federal Council of Churches was created by thirty-three denominations in 1908. Together they adopted a twelve-point “Social Creed of the Churches.” The social creed was the most widely endorsed summary of the movement’s aims and goals.

Consequently, the Social Gospel did not speak or act with a single or unified voice; it was a diverse movement with many participants and components that make it hard to classify precisely. The teaching was that Christians must labor to reconstruct the entire social order, not simply reduce particular social maladies. Many Social Gospelers insisted that destitution was the root cause of many other social ills. They argued that poverty usually sprang not from defective character but rather from exploitation and lack of opportunity and worked to change the economic and social circumstances that produced it.

Theologian Walter Rauchenbusch pushed the Social Gospel agenda through his popular books, *Christianity and the Social Crisis* in 1907 and *A Theology for the Social Gospel* in 1917. The aims and

objectives of the movement influenced religious organizations, theology, and public initiatives to address social problems.

Proper Understanding

Because things have changed, it is imperative we look at social justice and what it means for today. To begin, social justice and Christian benevolence should not be confused. When God speaks of benevolence through the Scriptures, He directs His instruction to each person as an individual. The social justice movement defines itself as a means to establish laws that support its goals and aspirations.

For example, a report by the United Nations says, “Social justice is not possible without the strong and cohesive redistributive policies conceived and implemented by public agencies.”¹ The same report goes on to say, “Social justice may be broadly understood to be the fair and compassionate distribution of the fruits of economic growth.”²

Today many activists list the following among the rights that all should have: free access to healthcare, free college education, free childcare, a guaranteed income, guaranteed reproductive rights (right to abortion).

Many argue that corporations, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, churches, and governments at all levels should have demographic quotas to ensure that the employment of people of different races, genders, sexual orientations, and lifestyles are represented in

proportion to their respective ratios found in the society at large. Further, many social justice proponents insist that all these rights should be afforded to every individual regardless of his or her ability or willingness to work.

How are these so-called rights secured and enforced? Supporters of social justice today believe the means of achieving social justice is large and powerful government bureaucracies, expansive and draconian laws and regulations, high taxation, and wealth redistribution. Social justice is not just another means of generosity. Its adherents view social justice as the belief that a strong central government with far-reaching laws and regulations, high taxation, and wealth redistribution is the solution to societal inequity.

In other words, it is the surrender of individual liberty and free will not to Jesus Christ but to an authoritarian state which ostensibly has the power to bring about a fair and just society.

There are prominent Christian teachers, preachers, and publications that tout social justice as benevolence. It is not. As we continue this series, we’ll address how the social justice movement became the means to spread communist principles into society. ✎

SOURCES:

¹ Department of Economic and Social Affairs, The International Forum for Social Development, “Social Justice in an Open World: The Role of the United Nations” (2006).

² Ibid.

“In other words, it is the surrender of individual liberty and free will not to Jesus Christ but to an authoritarian state which ostensibly has the power to bring about a fair and just society.”



ARTICLE BY **Mike Muzzerall**

TRUTH. It either is or it isn't. Many things are presented as truth but cannot stand the test of time. Sooner or later, they are exposed as being anything but the truth. There are times when the false narrative is appealing to the masses. They want it to be true so much that they accept it as truth without any further investigation.

Survey Says...

SIMPLY BECAUSE THE majority says it is true, many accept it as truth. Truth should never be determined through surveys. The more important a statement is, the more important it is to make sure that its truth is based on its own merit and not determined by "Survey says!"

True Doctrine Will Always Be True Doctrine

True doctrines are teachings that are based on the proper interpretation of the Bible. This is called objective truth. It would be the same for you as it is for me. It would be the same from one generation to another. Objective truth is not based on opinion. It is not based on popular social trends, and it is certainly not based on up-to-date surveys.

Truth By Consensus

There is a move in the church today that is undermining the authority of God's Word. It challenges the traditional doctrines of Christianity. It is commonly called "truth by consensus." It begins with discussing Scripture in a group setting. Opinions are presented and discussed. The group establishes the truth only when an overall consensus is arrived at as to the meaning of that Scripture. It is, in effect, another form of "survey says." The clear and obvious danger is the possibility of the group being swayed by a silver-tongued orator. Although the arguments may be compelling, the conclusions attained may not be the biblical truth.

Tearing Down Of Christianity

One of the groups promoting "truth by consensus" advocates the deliberate

tearing down of traditional Christian doctrine. Why? So they can rebuild a more modern relevant Christianity. In the process, many of the established truths of Christianity are falling by the wayside: the virgin birth, gone; the born-again experience, gone; Jesus as being the only way to the Father, gone; and, as a result, a holy walk before God, gone.

New And Improved Christianity

They advertise a Christianity that is friendly to all religions. One of the leaders affirms that one could be a Hindu Christian without accepting Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. All doctrines are on the table. All are subject to change. This new and improved Christianity is neither new nor is it improved. Will we even recognize

Christianity at all at the end of their quest? Is this not another Jesus, another gospel, another Spirit (II Cor. 11:4)?

Rightly Dividing The Word

Paul, anointed by the Holy Spirit, wrote most of the New Testament. Not only did Paul teach the precious message of the cross, but he was the scribe God used to give us some of the major doctrines of the New Testament church. No wonder Paul warned Timothy to make sure that he properly interpreted the Holy Scriptures. He said, *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain*

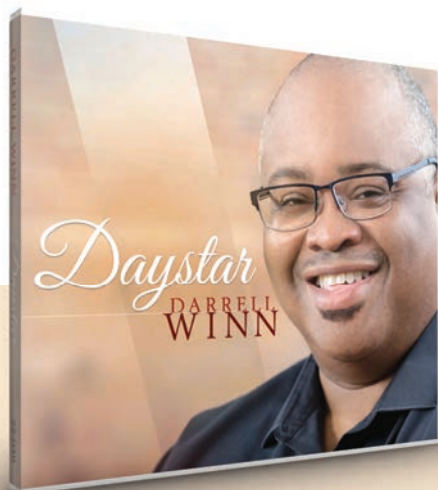
God’s truth is neither by “survey says” nor by consensus.

babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness” (II Timothy 2:15-16).

In the Greek, “rightly dividing” is *orthotomounta*. Literally, it means, “cutting straight.” Paul, a tent maker, knew the importance of cutting straight to have an acceptable finished product. The Levitical priests knew the importance of cutting straight to make sure the sacrifice was acceptable. The Christian needs to “rightly divide” God’s Word to walk in the truth and not in error. God’s truth is neither by “survey says” nor by consensus. God’s truth is arrived at by allowing the Holy Spirit to help us rightly divide the Word of Truth. ✚

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ARTICLE BY **Dave Smith**

THE FAMILY is the most important institution because it was the first institution to be established by God (Gen. 1:25-31), so it is the basis of the other institutions, which are the church (Acts 7:38, Eph. 3:15, Col. 1:18) and civil governments (Rom. 13:1-7).

Attacks On The Family

AS THE FAMILY goes, so goes the church and civil governments, because they are all based on the family.

Some of the attacks on American families are the welfare systems (set up by the war on poverty) and easy divorce, which causes major decreases in the number of fathers in homes and leads to serious problems.

In his article, “The War on Poverty: 50 Years of Failure,” Robert Rector identifies a source of attack on families. He said, “When the War on Poverty began [1964], 7 percent of American children were born outside marriage. Today [2014] the number is 41 percent.” He went on to say that “President Obama plans to spend \$13 trillion over the next decade on welfare programs that will discourage work, penalize marriage, and undermine self-sufficiency.”¹

In his article, “War on Poverty Revisited,” Thomas Sowell wrote, “The black family, which had survived centuries of slavery and discrimination, began rapidly disintegrating in the liberal welfare state that subsidized unwed pregnancy and changed welfare from an emergency rescue to a way of life.”²

Jerome Hudson, who is a member of Project 21, said “Instead of providing a mere safety net for families in need . . . These welfare programs foster defeatism, disincentivize two-parent homes and set ablaze an American underclass now seemingly

trapped in a never-ending cycle of poverty.”³

Republicans on the U. S. Senate Joint Economic Committee released a 2020 report titled, “The Demise of the Happy Two-Parent Home.”⁴ It states that most welfare programs that “provide cash, food, housing, medical care, and social services to poor and lower income Americans ‘penalize marriage.’” Also, they increased “the problem of family instability by making single parenthood a more viable option and by discouraging marriage among those receiving the benefits.” The report goes on to say, “A safety net marginally reduces the costs of single parenthood, nonmarital childbearing, and divorce. It also can create a significant tax on marriage because the addition of a spouse with income typically reduces safety net benefits.”

For example, “In 1962, 71% of women between the ages of 15 and 44 were married. That figure dropped to 42% in 2019.”⁵

Senator Mike Lee of Utah, who was the chairman of the committee summarized on Twitter that “The problem isn’t just that federal welfare spending enables women to choose govt programs over a husband, it is that the eligibility requirements force women to choose. In many cases if a woman gets married, they lose these benefits!”⁶

Another attack on the family is easy, or no-fault divorce.

According to Wikipedia, no-fault divorce is, “is a divorce in which the dissolution of a marriage does not require a showing of wrongdoing by either party. Laws providing for no-fault divorce allow a family court to grant a divorce in response to a petition by either party of the marriage without requiring the petitioner to provide evidence that the defendant has committed a breach of the marital contract.”⁷

The most common ground for a no-fault divorce is “irreconcilable differences” or a “irreparable breakdown of the marriage.” No-fault divorces are easier because they cost less, take less time, and do not involve the use of witnesses.

No-fault divorce began in California in 1969, and by 1985 all but one state had adopted it. Obviously, since no-fault divorce makes it easier to get out of a marriage, it weakens the necessity of commitment at the beginning and throughout the marriage.

So, as a result of how the welfare system

has been set up and easy divorces, they have gone against God’s pattern for the family, which is made up of both the husband and the wife (Gen. 1:27-28). Whenever God’s pattern is not followed, there are major problems. One of those problems is increased fatherless homes.

According to the U. S. Department of Justice⁸, problems related to fatherless homes include:

- Sixty-three percent of youth suicides
- Ninety percent of all homeless and runaway youths
- Eighty-five percent of children who exhibit behavioral disorders
- Seventy-one percent of all school dropouts
- Seventy percent of youths in state institutions
- Seventy-five percent of adolescent patients in substance abuse centers
- Eighty-five percent of rapists motivated by displaced anger

And, we could add, seventy-one percent

of pregnant teenagers, according to the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services.⁹

So some of the things that are attacking biblically-based homes in America are the existing welfare system and easy divorce, which result in the lack of fathers in many homes, and that is causing serious problems in society today. ✚

SOURCES:

- ¹ Robert Rector, “The War on Poverty: 50 Years of Failure,” The Heritage Foundation, (2014).
- ² Sowell, Thomas. “War on Poverty Revisited.” *Capitalism Magazine*, August 17, 2004.
- ³ Project 21 Black Leadership Network, “LBJ’s ‘War On Poverty’ Hurt Black Americans,” January 8, 2014, <https://nationalcenter.org/project21/2014/01/08/lbjs-war-on-poverty-hurt-black-americans/>.
- ⁴ Joint Economic Committee – Republicans, “The Demise of the Happy Two-Parent Home” (2020).
- ⁵ Ibid.
- ⁶ United States Senator Mike Lee, “Great work by the Joint Economic Committee, Republicans team,” Facebook, July 23, 2020.
- ⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No-fault_divorce
- ⁸ U. S. Department of Justice, “What Can the Federal Government Do To Decrease Crime and Revitalize Communities?” (1998).
- ⁹ U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, press release, (1999).

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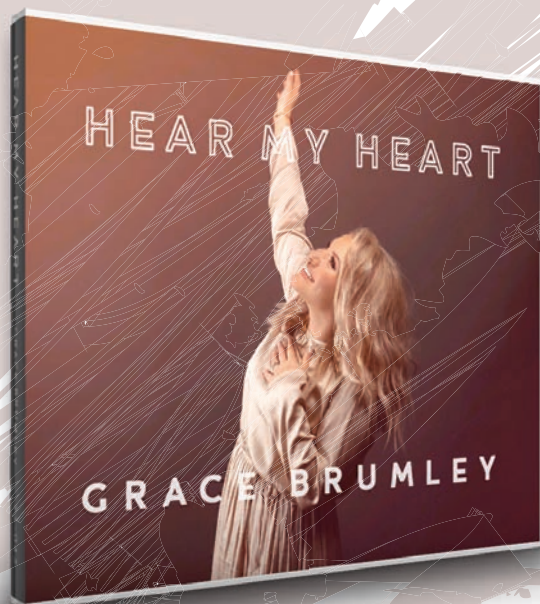
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FROM ME TO YOU

Jimmy Swaggart



THE SALVATION OF SOULS

The salvation of souls is the single greatest thing that can ever happen on the face of this planet. The reason is because the soul of man is eternal. In other words, whatever it is you are, you will be forever and forever. I realize that's a long, long time, but it happens to be the truth.

While the physical body goes back to dust, the soul and the spirit of man exists and lasts forever.

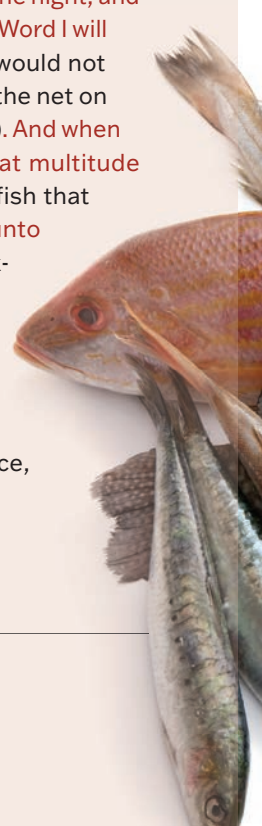
So, when a person dies, his soul and his spirit instantly goes to heaven or to hell, depending on his knowledge and acceptance of Jesus Christ, or the lack thereof.

Morning Prayer

Every morning when I go to the office to get ready for the program, which begins at 7 a.m. (CT), I spend about an hour before the Lord in prayer and study of the Word.

This particular morning, I could not seem to pray. It seemed like heaven was brass. But all of a sudden, it came to my mind the illustration of Jesus performing a miracle that resulted in two boats being completely filled with fish. I am going to quote the entire passage here from The Expositor's Study Bible:

“AND IT CAME TO PASS, that, as the people pressed upon Him to hear the Word of God, He stood by the lake of Gennesaret (the Sea of Galilee), And saw two ships standing by the lake (two among the many): but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets (Peter, Andrew, James, and John had fished all night and caught nothing). And he entered into one of the ships which was Simon's (proclaims Him borrowing this vessel to serve as a platform or pulpit), and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And He sat down (the custom then), and taught the people out of the ship. Now when He had left speaking (had finished preaching and teaching), He said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught (came as a surprise to these fishermen; they had fished all night and caught nothing, so they must have wondered as to what He was doing; in effect, He will pay for the use of the boat; God will owe man nothing). And Simon answered and said unto Him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at Your Word I will let down the net (the idea is that Peter would not have bothered himself to have let down the net on the word of anyone else other than Jesus). And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake (so many fish that it broke the net). And they beckoned unto their partners (Peter and Andrew beckoned to James and John), which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both ships, so that they began to sink. (Christ had the same power over the fish of the sea as he had over the frogs, lice, and locusts of Egypt)” (Luke 5:1-7).



“It is a **powerful thing** when the Lord addresses Himself to an individual.”

The Lord Spoke To My Heart

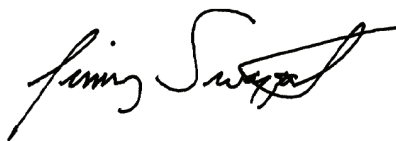
It is a powerful thing when the Lord addresses Himself to an individual. There are times that this happens, and you feel it is the Lord, and then there are times when you know it is the Lord. I knew this was the Lord speaking to me because His presence came all over me. He told me, “As I worked a miracle for My disciples regarding the fish, I am going to work a miracle regarding this ministry. You are going to see more souls saved than you ever have, in fact, more than the church as a whole has ever seen.” I knew it was the Lord. And I believe it has already begun.

But—and I say this over and over again—irrespective as to what the Lord does, I cannot get anything done without your help. I thank God for the many of you who are so faithful with

your prayerful support and your financial support—thank you!

I want you to pray with me on a daily basis that this thing will come to pass speedily. I believe it is going to be done, and it is going to be miraculous, and it is going to result in more souls saved than we have ever seen. In the 1980s, I believe we saw more people saved than had ever been saved before. Keep believing!

In the Master’s service, yours



“And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake (so many fish that it broke the net).”

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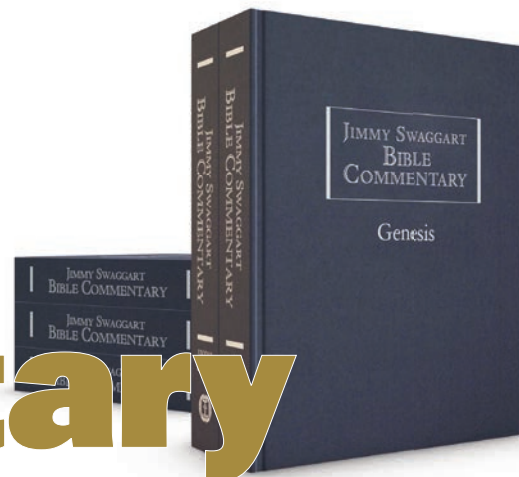
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479.438.0108
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Loren Larson

Office: 225.768.3890
Email: info@jsbc.edu

FEBRUARY 26-27, 2022 – PALESTINE, TX

Pastor Clint Bass
Christ Community Church
5625 N. Loop 256, Palestine, Texas 75801
870-773-1234
Service Times:
→ **SAT 6 PM**
→ **SUN 10 AM**



Dr. Dave Watts

Office: 225.768.8300
Email: info@jsm.org

MARCH 18-20, 2022 – CUBA, MO

Pastor Mike Mounce
At the Cross Family Worship Center
60 Christina Ln Cuba, MO 65453
573.259.1877
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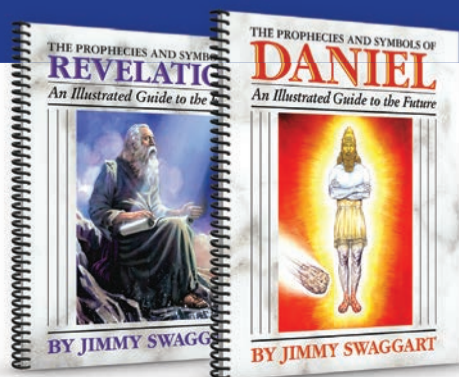
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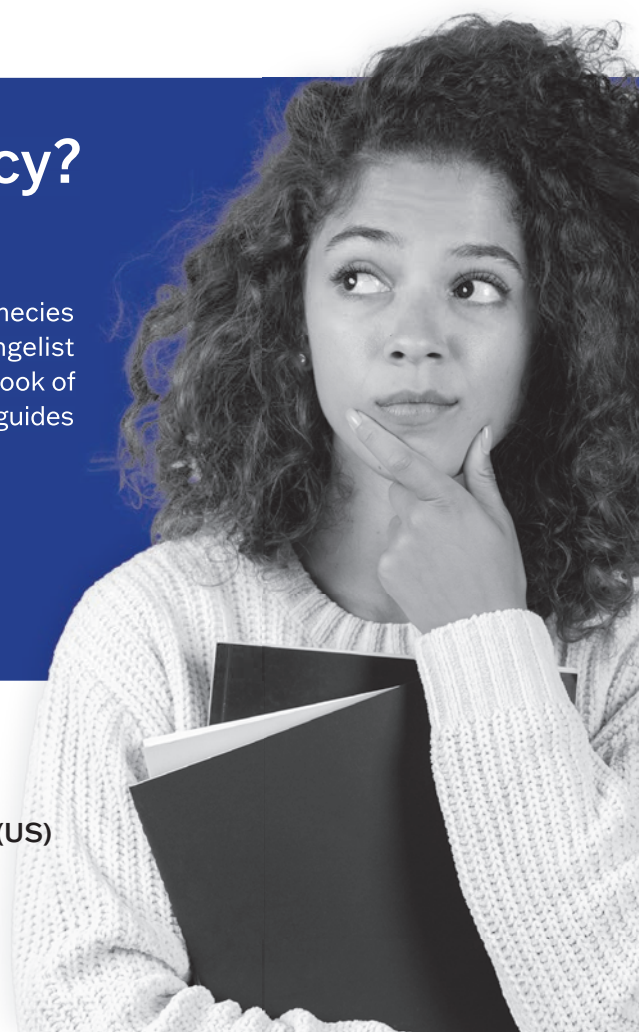
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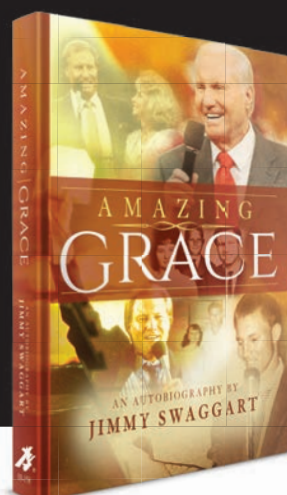
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