DID I COMMIT THE UNPARDONABLE SIN?
FRANCES SWAGGART'S ARTICLE
PAGE 12

The Cross must be understood if there is to be a correct knowledge of God.
Heaven's Jubilee (13-006) Includes The Following Songs:

A Crown of Thorns  I Shall Not Be Moved
Behold the Lamb    I Wanna Be Ready
Blessed Assurance  I Was on My Way
Come into the Ark   I’ll Fly Away
Congratulations Are in Order I’ll Never Be Lonely Again
Cornerstone       I’m Nearer Home
Don’t Let Me See    It’s a Privilege
Friendship with Jesus I’ve Never Been This Homesick Before
God Took Away my Yesterdays Jesus, Just the Mention of Your Name
Haven of Rest       Jesus Now More Than Ever
Headin’ Home        Jesus on the Mainline
Heaven’s Sounding Sweeter Just a Little While
He grew the Tree     King Jesus
He Washed my Eyes with Tears Let Me Lose Myself
He was There All the Time Let Me Touch Jesus
He’ll Understand and Say “Well Done” Let the Lower Lights Be Burning
He’s Never Failed Me Yet Let your Living Water Flow
How Beautiful Heaven Must Be Life’s Railway to Heaven
I’m Goin’ Through    Look for Me (I’ll be There)
I Am Thine O Lord    Mercy Rewrote my Life
I Keep Falling in Love with Him More of You
I Know my Lord’s Gonna Lead Me Out No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus
In the Shelter of His Arms Oh Say but I’m Glad
I Owe it All to Jesus   Oh I Want to See Him
I See a Crimson Stream Only for His Eyes
Our Lord is Coming Back to Earth Again
Pass Me Not
Praise Him
Rise and be Healed
Royal Telephone
Since I Laid My Burdens Down
Someone to Care
Sweet Beulah Land
The Galilean
The Healer
The Last Mile of the Way
The Savior is Waiting
There’s a Whole Lot of People Going Home
Touching Jesus
Turn your Eyes upon Jesus
We’ll Never Grow Old
We’ll Talk it Over
What a Beautiful Day
What a Lovely Name
When I Get to the End of the Way
When I Say Jesus
Where Could I Go?
Where the Roses Never Fade
Win the Lost
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In point of reference, the new covenant is Jesus Christ. More particularly, one might say it is “Jesus Christ and Him crucified” (I Cor. 1:23). Furthermore, the new covenant, unlike any and every other covenant that God has ever made with man, cannot be broken. It is absolutely impossible for it to be marred, weakened, or broken. So, how is this possible?

A covenant, of necessity, is an agreement between two or more parties. In this case, it is between God and man. Every other covenant which God has made with man, we find that man has broken it almost before the proverbial ink is dry. So, how is it possible that the new covenant, which is a covenant between God and man, cannot be broken? We can certainly understand how that God always keeps His promises, but knowing the frailty of human flesh, the question looms large as to how this covenant, considering that man is a part of it, cannot be broken?

JESUS CHRIST

The answer to this question, as complicated as it might seem, is actually very simple. It cannot be broken simply because it is all in Jesus Christ. He is both God and man. Paul referred to him as the “last Adam,” and the “second Man.”

In effect, Jesus Christ was and is our representative man. He did for us what we could not do for ourselves. For instance, in His life and living, He kept the law perfectly in every respect, not sinning even one time in word, thought, or deed. He did it all for us! And then when it came time to address the broken law, of which all of us were guilty, He offered Himself as a sacrifice, in effect, a perfect sacrifice, on the Cross of Calvary, shedding His life’s blood, paying a price that we could not pay, and which was accepted in totality by God the Father. As it regards the broken law, for all who will believe, the slate was wiped clean.

THE FULLNESS OF THE GODHEAD BODILY

Paul addressed this by saying:

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit (anything that pulls the believer away from the Cross is not of God), after the tradition of men (anything that is not of the Cross if of men), after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. (If it’s truly after Christ, then it’s after the Cross.) For in Him (Christ) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. (This is Godhead as to essence. Christ is the completion and the fullness of deity, and in Him the believer is complete.)

HE IS THE HEAD OF ALL PRINCIPALITY AND POWER

And you are complete in Him (the satisfaction of every spiritual want is found in Christ, made possible by the Cross), which is the head of all principality and power (His headship extends not only over the church, which voluntarily serves Him, but over all forces that are opposed to Him as well [Phil. 2:10-11]): In whom also you
are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands (that which is brought about by the Cross [Rom. 6:3-5]), in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ (refers to the old carnal nature that is defeated by the believer placing his faith totally in the Cross, which gives the Holy Spirit latitude to work): Buried with Him in baptism (does not refer to water baptism, but rather to the believer baptized into the death of Christ, which refers to the crucifixion and Christ as our substitute [Rom. 6:3-4]), wherein also you are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who has raised Him from the dead. (This does not refer to our future physical resurrection, but to that spiritual resurrection from a sinful state into divine life. We died with Him, we are buried with Him, and we rose with Him [Rom. 6:3-5], and herein lies the secret to all spiritual victory.)

THE LAW WAS SATISFIED

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh (speaks of spiritual death [i.e., ‘separation from God’], which sin does), has He quickened together with Him (refers to being made spiritually alive, which is done through being born again), having forgiven you all trespasses (the Cross made it possible for all manner of sins to be forgiven and taken away); blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us (pertains to the law of Moses, which was God’s standard against us, simply because we are unable to keep its precepts, no matter how hard we try), and took it out of the way (refers to the penalty of the law being removed), nailing it to His Cross (the law with its decrees was abolished in Christ’s death, as if crucified with Him);

TRIUMPH

And having spoiled principalities and powers (Satan and all of his henchmen were defeated at the Cross by Christ atoning for all sin; sin was the legal right Satan had to hold man in captivity; with all sin atoned, he has no more legal right to hold anyone in bondage), He (Christ) made a show of them openly (what Jesus did at the Cross was in the face of the whole universe), triumphing over them in it. (The triumph is complete and it was all done for us, meaning we can walk in power and perpetual victory due to the Cross) (Col. 2:8-15).

JESUS CHRIST WAS AND IS OUR REPRESENTATIVE MAN. HE DID FOR US WHAT WE COULD NOT DO FOR OURSELVES. FOR INSTANCE, IN HIS LIFE AND LIVING, HE KEPT THE LAW PERFECTLY IN EVERY RESPECT...

WAS IT WHO HE WAS OR WHAT HE DID?

Generally those who ask the question, “Was it who He was or what He did?” are in some way denigrating the Cross of Christ. They are claiming that it is insignificant. The answer to that question is simple: it was both who He was, and what He did.

There is no one else that could have carried out this great sacrifice but the Lord Jesus Christ. No human being who has

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 Saviour 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 L2G 4V9. 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.

DEAR JIMMY: TODAY I ACCEPTED JESUS AS MY LORD AND SAVIOUR.

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ever been born could have done such a thing. Man, due to Adam’s fall in the garden of Eden, is born in original sin. He is born with the Adamic nature, which can be referred to as the “sin nature.” As such, he is polluted, to say the least. And, as such, our Lord said, if man is to be saved, he must be born again (Jn. 3:3). Thus, man is shot down before he even begins.

So, if man were to be saved, God would have to save man, because He alone could perform this task. Therefore, God became man, the Man—Christ Jesus—and did so for the purpose of going to the Cross.

WHO HE WAS

Please understand this: Jesus Christ is God and, in fact, always has been God. As God, He had no beginning, was not created, was not born, was not made, and was not formed, but has always been. Admittedly, that is beyond the comprehension of a human being. When God became man, the Lord Jesus Christ, He never ceased to be God. As someone has capably said: “While Jesus Christ laid aside the expression of His deity, never for a moment did He lose possession of His deity.”

He was very God and very man. But yet, as the Man, Jesus Christ, He never used His powers of deity, not even one time, in the performing of miracles and all the great things He did. He did all of these things by the power of the Holy Spirit. As God, no anointing was needed to do anything, but as a man, the Man, Christ Jesus, our Lord definitely needed the anointing to heal the sick, and to do all the great things that He did.

The Scripture says: “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power (as a man, Christ needed the Holy Spirit, as we certainly do as well! In fact, everything He did was by the power of the Spirit): who went about doing good (everything He did was good), and healing all who were oppressed of the Devil (only Christ could do this, and believers can do such only as Christ empowers them by the Spirit); for God was with Him (God is with us only as we are ‘with Him’)” (Acts 10:38).

But, as we have stated, only as God, as glorious as that is, still, no souls were saved, no lives were changed, and no redemption was affected. To be sure, considering that God can do all things, He didn’t have to go to the Cross; however, the Godhead definitely determined that the Cross was the way in which man would be redeemed.

WHAT HE DID!

• While the deity of Christ was absolutely necessary, that is if man were to be redeemed, still, had it ended there, not a single soul would have ever been saved.

• While the conception of Christ in the womb of Mary, without the benefit of man and decreed by the Holy Spirit, was absolutely necessary, still, had it stopped there, not a single soul would have been saved.

• While the perfect life of Christ was absolutely necessary in that He did not sin one single time in word, thought, or deed, still, had it ended there, not a single soul would have been saved.

• While the miracles that Christ performed in healing all manner of diseases and even raising the dead were absolutely necessary, still, had it ended there, not a single soul would have been saved.

• For man to be saved, God had to become man, had to be born of the Virgin Mary, had to live a spotless, perfect life, and had to be a miracle worker, but for that which brought about redemption, that which made it possible for man to be redeemed from sin and death, Jesus Christ had to go to the Cross. It was at the Cross that the sin debt was forever paid. It was at the Cross that all sin was atoned. It was at the Cross where Satan, demon spirits, and fallen angels were totally and completely defeated, and done so by every sin being atoned. With sin being the legal means that Satan had to hold man captive, and with that legal means removed, which it was at the Cross, Satan has no more right to hold anyone in bondage.

All of this is why the Apostle Paul said to the church at Corinth, and to all of us as well: “For I determined not to know anything among you (with purpose and design, Paul did not resort to the knowledge or philosophy of the world regarding the preaching of the gospel), save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified (that and that alone is the message, which will save the sinner, set the captive free, and give the believer perpetual victory)” (1 Cor. 2:2).
FULL-POWER STATIONS

Baton Rouge, LA ..................... 88.5 (WJFM)  
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Lake Village, AR/Greenville, MS .... 95.9 (KUUZ)  
Covering parts of Western Mississippi and Eastern Arkansas

Bowling Green/Toledo, OH ....... 730 AM (WJYM)  
Covering parts of Northern and Central Ohio, Eastern Indiana, and the Southern tip of Michigan

Atlanta/Texarkana, TX .......... 100.1 (KNRB)  
Covering parts of Northeastern Texas, Northwestern Louisiana, Southwestern Arkansas, and Southeastern Oklahoma

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Covering parts of Southern Tennessee and Northern Georgia

Camden, AR ....................... 1450 AM (KNHD)  
Covering parts of Southern Arkansas

Grenada, MS ..................... 95.7 (WTGY)  
Covering parts of Northwestern Mississippi

Bentonia/Yazoo City - Jackson, MS .... 92.1 (WJNS)  
Covering Central Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana

Guthrie, OK ..................... 1490 AM (KMFS)  
Covering Oklahoma City, Edmond, and parts of Central and Northern Oklahoma

Jonesboro, LA ..................... 104.9 (KTOC)  
Covering Northern Louisiana

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Covering South Central Nebraska

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Covering Lakewood and Jamestown, NY

Corrigan/Lufkin, TX ................ 99.3 (KYTM)  
Covering Corrigan and Lufkin, TX

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Bristow, OK ...................... 104.9 (KREK)  
Covering Bristow, Sapulpa, Cushing, Drumright, Okmulgee, Chandler, and the southside of Tulsa, OK

TRANSLATOR STATIONS

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Eufaula, AL ........... 88.9
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Chambersburg, PA ... 89.7
Franklin, PA ....... 90.3
Lock Haven, PA ... 89.3
Mansfield, PA .... 91.5
Andrews, SC ...... 88.7
Clinton, SC ...... 88.3
Manning, SC ...... 88.7
Winnsboro, SC .... 91.9
Brookings, SD .... 89.7
Mitchell, SD ...... 89.3
Watertown, SD .... 90.1
Yankton, SD .... 90.7
Pikeville, TN .... 91.3
Bonham, TX .... 91.1
Columbus, TX .... 91.1
Midland, TX .... 91.7
Palestine, TX .... 90.7
THE CROSS OF CHRIST,
THE VERY FIRST DOCTRINE

To begin with, it is perfectly proper to refer to the new covenant as a doctrine, inasmuch as it was referred to as such by the Holy Spirit.

Through Paul the Spirit said, “But God be thanked, that you were the servants of sin (slaves to the sin nature, what we were before we were saved), but you have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine (Jesus Christ and Him crucified; understanding that all things come to the believer from God by the means of the Cross which was delivered you (the Lord gave this ‘form of doctrine’ to Paul, and he gave it to us in his epistles)” (Rom. 6:17).

FORM OF DOCTRINE

Incidentally, the word form in the Greek is “tupos” and means “a shape, a model, a fashion, a figure, a pattern.” To be sure, this is a pattern or form drawn off by the Holy Spirit, which means that it must not be tampered with, must not be changed, and must not be added to or taken from. This means it is an exact doctrine, and in every respect.

In effect, it has to do with a blueprint. If the blueprint is followed, as it must be, the intended result will be achieved and done so 100 percent. The problem with the modern church, and actually, it is a problem that has always existed, man, and especially religious man, seeks to change the form, i.e., “deviate from the blueprint.” Momentarily we will deal with that which is the blueprint, relating as to exactly what it means.

THE CROSS OF CHRIST,
THE VERY FIRST DOCTRINE

By the very first doctrine, we are referring to that which the Godhead has established first of all.

Peter gave us this information:

Forasmuch as you know that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold (presents the fact that the most precious commodities [silver and gold] could not redeem fallen man), from your vain conversation (vain lifestyle) received by tradition from your fathers (speaks of original sin that is passed on from father to child at conception);
THE CROSS OF CHRIST

But with the precious blood of Christ (presents the payment, which proclaims the poured out life of Christ on behalf of sinners), as of a lamb without blemish and without spot (speaks of the lambs offered as substitutes in the old Jewish economy; the death of Christ was not an execution or assassination, but rather a sacrifice; the offering of Himself presented a perfect sacrifice, for He was perfect in every respect [Ex. 12:5]):

FOREORDAINED BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD

Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world (refers to the fact that God, in His omniscience, knew He would create man, man would fall, and man would be redeemed by Christ going to the Cross; this was all done before the universe was created; this means the Cross of Christ is the foundation doctrine of all doctrine, referring to the fact that all doctrine must be built upon that foundation, or else it is specious), but was manifest in these last times for you (refers to the invisible God who, in the person of the Son, was made visible to human eyesight by assuming a human body and human limitations)” (I Pet. 1:18-20).

ALL FALSE DOCTRINE HAS ITS ORIGIN IN AN IMPROPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE CROSS

Due to the fact that it is so important, let us state it again: Inasmuch, even as the Holy Spirit proclaimed through Peter, that the doctrine of the Cross was actually formed in the mind of the Godhead from before the foundation of the world, this tells us that as far as redemption of mankind is concerned, the doctrine of Christ crucified is the very first doctrine formed. That being the case, this means that it is the single most important doctrine in the entirety of the Word of God. It also means that every Bible doctrine is based squarely upon the foundation of the Cross of Christ.

If men come up with a doctrine, any kind of doctrine, that is not based squarely on the Cross, this means that doctrine is spurious. In fact, this is the way all false doctrine begins. It is because the doctrine of the Cross is ignored, or else denied, or else given an improper place. In other words, every false doctrine has its beginning because of a misinterpretation, a denial, or a misunderstanding of the Cross of Christ. Understanding that, we surely should understand how so very important this “form of doctrine” actually is.

THE MEANING OF THE DOCTRINE OF THE CROSS

We find the core meaning of the doctrine of the Cross in Romans, Chapter 6. In the first two verses, even as we shall see, the Holy Spirit through Paul tells us that the problem is sin. Whatever label may be attached, whatever other types of claims may be made, still, the Holy Spirit has said that the problem is sin. It doesn’t matter whether it’s the redeemed or the unredeemed, the problem is sin.

And then, in verses 3 through 5 of Romans, Chapter 6, we are told how that we literally become a part of this form of doctrine, which is probably explained better than ever by the words “in Christ.” But it refers to being “in Christ” by virtue of His death, burial, and resurrection. In these three particulars, we are placed in Christ in His death, in Christ in His burial, and in Christ in His resurrection. In fact, the entirety of Romans, Chapter 6, is given over by the Holy Spirit to inform us as believers as to how to live for God. If one doesn’t understand this great sixth chapter, then simply put, one doesn’t understand how to live for the Lord. To be sure, such can cause all types of problems. This article will be continued in the July issue of The Evangelist.

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God Rides On The Wings Of Love
I Call Him Lord

(22-29M)

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He's As Close As The Mention Of His Name
He's So Good To Me
His Name Is Life
Jesus, Lord To Me

(22-23M)

The Blood Bought Church
No Other Word For Grace But Amazing
I Never Shall Forget The Day
Though Your Sins Be As Scarlet
I Call Him Lord
Robe & Crown
How Jesus Loves
I'm Going Home
O For A Thousand Tongues
The Love Of God

(22-33M)
DID I COMMIT THE UNPARDONABLE SIN?  BY FRANCES SWAGGART

Mark 3:28-30 — “Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation: because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.”

One of the most common questions we receive comes from people desperate to know whether or not they have blasphemed the Holy Spirit. Each month, I get 10 or more emails expressing concerns similar to this dear lady’s note:

“I cannot tell you the tears of repentance that I have cried. Have I committed the unforgivable sin? Have I blasphemed the Holy Spirit? In my spirit I feel so ashamed and convicted that I can hardly stand it. Is it too late for me? I should have known better, not to hurt the Holy Spirit like I did.”

A large percentage of people—and I’m talking about people attending church—are tormented by this fear of having committed the unpardonable sin.

What exactly does it mean to blaspheme the Holy Spirit?

The word blaspheme, as it applies to the Holy Spirit means ‘to speak reproachfully, to rail at, revile, calumniate.’ Wuest says: ‘It is used specifically of those who by contemptuous speech intentionally come short of the reverence due to God or to sacred things. Here the words speak of the action of the scribes, who, knowing that our Lord was performing miracles in the power of the Holy Spirit, deliberately and knowingly attribute them to Satan, and do this in an attempt to break the attesting power of the miracles our Lord was performing. This is the unpardonable sin.’ The only record in the Word of God of anyone blaspheming the Holy Spirit is found among these professors of religion called ‘scribes and Pharisees.’ There is no record of unsaved people committing this sin” (Jimmy Swaggart Bible Commentary, Mark).

“I do not find in the Word of God that a person who has never made any profession of religion can blaspheme the Holy Spirit. If remarks are made by such individuals about the Holy Spirit, as oftentimes happens, it is done in ignorance, simply because such people don’t know enough about the Holy Spirit to blaspheme Him” (Brother Swaggart, Here Is My Question About The Holy Spirit).

A LACK OF FAITH IS A SIN. PEOPLE DON’T TRUST THE LORD OR BELIEVE HIS WORD BECAUSE THEY THINK THAT THEY’VE COMMITTED A SIN THAT’S TOO BAD, TOO HARD, OR TOO DIFFICULT...

THE SIN OF BLASPHEMING THE HOLY SPIRIT

“And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casts He out devils” (Mark 3:22).

So, as the scribes and Pharisees demonstrated, a person who does commit this sin is so hardened of heart that he has no concern for its eternal
consequence, nor does he seek counsel or help to repent because he simply does not care.

How anyone could knowingly and deliberately blaspheme the Holy Spirit is difficult to comprehend, especially when you think of His role in the Trinity.

The Holy Spirit—represented throughout the Bible as the gentle dove, living water, oil, wind, and fire—does the work of Almighty God. He is the promise of the Father sent by the Lord Jesus Christ, named the Comforter, and sent to reveal Jesus and the ways of God to the hearts of believers. He moves in mighty and marvelous ways to accomplish the purposes of God.

I THINK I’VE BLASPHEMED THE HOLY SPIRIT—CAN I STILL BE SAVED?

If a person wants to be saved, my husband said it is the Holy Spirit who has placed that desire in such a heart:

“The Holy Spirit would not place such a desire in a person and then refuse to save him, that is if he wants to be saved. Anyone who wants to be saved—and I mean anyone—can be saved. All they have to do is believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that He died on the Cross of Calvary for their sins and, thereby, accept Him as their Saviour and their Lord. Doing that, they will be instantly born again, and that is guaranteed. If the Holy Spirit draws an unsaved person to Christ, all that remains is for that person to say yes to Christ, and they will be saved. So, the idea that a person would desire to be saved, and they cannot be saved, because they think they’ve blasphemed the Holy Spirit, is not scriptural, or plausible. Unfortunately, Satan has used this ploy on many people, trying to make them believe, that despite the desire to be saved, that they simply cannot be saved, because of something they did or said in the past. As long as he can get them to believe that lie, he will have succeeded in his purpose, and they will die eternally lost, if they continue in that vein. But the moment they believe, and that capacity is theirs, they will be instantly saved.”

“Once again, it doesn’t matter how evil, how wicked, how sinful, how reprobate that a person is, if that person wants to be saved, the very desire that is in their heart, has been placed there, as stated, by the Holy Spirit, and to be sure, that person can be saved. There are millions of people all over the world, and down through the ages of time, who have done some terrible things as it regards sin and iniquity, but there came an hour that they gave their heart and life to Jesus Christ. And when they did, every sin was cleansed and every iniquity was purged.”

That is the power of Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

THE SERIOUSNESS OF SIN

While the clarification of intentional blasphemy narrows the number of those who actually do commit the unforgivable sin, Christians should take to heart the seriousness of all sin.

“But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear” (Isa. 59:2)

Sin causes separation from God. Immediately after the fall of man, we find Adam hiding from the Lord when He calls, “Where are you?”

Adam responded, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid.”

Why was Adam afraid? Consider the following comments from these Bible scholars:

Calvin said, “[Adam’s] consciousness of the effects of sin was keener than his sense of the sin itself.”

Lange said, “This is the first instance
of that mingling and confusion of sin and punishment which is the peculiar characteristic of our redemption-needing humanity.”

Luther said, “The words, ‘Where are you?’ are words of divine law, directed by God to Adam’s conscience. God wanted Adam to know that he who hides himself from Him is never hidden from Him, and that he who runs away from Him can never escape Him.”

According to my husband, this type of fear that Adam expresses in Genesis 3:10 is a fear brought on by guilt.

“That’s why guilt is such a hazard,” he said. “It carries with it a tremendous amount of negative baggage. This type of fear sees God in a completely erroneous way. It sees Him as someone to be dreaded, someone to be avoided. But understand this: Sin is a horrible business, actually the cause of all sorrow, heartache, and destruction in this world, and as well always brings heavy guilt. However, sin should be taken to the Lord, as distasteful and shameful as it might be. There’s no one else who can do anything about one’s sin, except the Lord of Glory. And His answer for sin is the Cross, which is the greatest example of love that humanity has ever known.”

A LACK OF FAITH

While discussing this topic on Frances & Friends, Dave Smith made an excellent point. He said, “It’s the lack of faith that leads to the act of sin. You cannot separate the two. And placing our faith in something other than Christ is the basis of all sin. So, we are not concerned just about the act of sin—that’s bad enough—but you need to go to the root of the problem: where you place your faith. There is a peace that can come about when we put our faith in the Lord and what He did on the Cross.”

A lack of faith is a sin. People don’t trust the Lord or believe His Word because they think that they’ve committed a sin that’s too bad, too hard, or too difficult, and the Lord will not forgive them.

Carl Brown said that when the Lord prayed for Peter in Luke 22:32, He didn’t pray that Peter would not fail; He wanted to make sure that Peter’s faith stood after he failed.

“People doubt God,” Brown said. “So they doubt God’s love for them. ‘If He doesn’t love me,’ they say, ‘then how can He forgive me?’ Thank God for Romans 5:8, because if He loved us as sinners, then surely He loves us as believers. And for us to doubt God, we are doubting what He introduced to us through what Jesus accomplished at Calvary.”

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).

I asked the panel this question: Which is worse—an actual sin committed, or the lack of faith or unbelief in the Lord to forgive and to cleanse that person from sin?

Unbelief, they said, was worse.

DID THE LORD REALLY FORGIVE ME?

The Bible calls Satan the accuser of the brethren. To that point, Smith said, “Satan tries to convince unsaved people that they haven’t sinned and don’t need to be forgiven, and he tries to convince believers that God won’t forgive them. But that’s Satan doing that. The person asking if they’ve committed the unpardonable sin has to choose who to believe—the Devil who says ‘you’re not forgiven,’ or God who says in His Word: ‘If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (I Jn. 1:9).’”

The Word of God also tells us that the Lord is close to those who are of a broken and contrite spirit (Ps. 34:18). When we go before the Lord with a contrite spirit over something we’ve done, He forgives us.

“There is going to be an initial realization that says, ‘I have been forgiven,’ Brown said. “There has to be. When you genuinely repent before the Lord, right then, you know it. But whether or not you maintain it, that’s the thing. You can start to rely on feelings and that’s when the enemy really plays on your emotions.”

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 16]
**The Truth About Seventh Day Adventist (15-632)**

There is nothing in the world worse than a false way of salvation. Regrettably and sadly, even though there are many good Adventist people, still, its direction is unscriptural. Every believer needs to know what this particular doctrine teaches. Follow along as Frances & Friends’ panel member, Mike Muzzell, shows and explains the various teachings of this religion.

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**The Truth About Catholicism (15-634)**

Is Catholicism Christian? Are Catholics saved? Regrettably and sadly, if one believes the Bible, then no, Catholics aren’t saved. While there are many Catholics who do definitely come to Christ, if and when such happens, to maintain their position in Christ, they are going to have to leave Catholicism.

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**An Exposé on the Religion of Islam (15-622)**

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**The Truth About Mormonism (15-606)**

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**The Truth About Jehovah’s Witness (15-607)**

Christians should know and understand the method of false doctrines. The teaching taken from Frances & Friends will spell out the direction of these false ways. Every believer needs to know the truths that are vain in presentation. People perish for lack of knowledge. We are very proud to be able to offer material on this all-important subject that will be a blessing to any believer.

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**The Truth About Common Core (15-648)**

In this four-segment series, Frances Swaggart and her distinguished panel of educators discuss the subject of the Common Core State Standard Initiative, now adopted by 46 states to standardize public school curriculums. Learn how this educational reform is hurting students.

---

**The Truth About Islam: An Interview with Brigitte Gabriel (17-003)**

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Smith added, “Forgiveness is not based on feelings. Our feelings change—they go up and down. If we repent, we have to simply believe that God has forgiven us.”

Psalm 51 is probably the greatest prayer of repentance that’s ever been prayed. It is also the intercessory prayer of Christ on behalf of His people. Anyone who has prayed for God’s forgiveness but still struggles with guilt over a confessed sin would greatly benefit from studying Psalm 51, which begins: “Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of Your tender mercies blot out my transgressions” (Ps. 51:1).

SIN HAS CONSEQUENCES

“Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight: that Thou mightest be justified when Thou speakest, and be clear when Thou judgest” (Ps. 51:4).

In his book, David, my husband writes: “David had already repented of the deed; nevertheless, the Lord would now tell him what he would suffer because of this terrible sin. While forgiveness definitely restores fellowship, which is all important, it does not negate the penalty.”

“Sin is not just a game,” Smith said. “Sin is destructive, and anytime anyone sins, there are going to be consequences—broken relationships, legal issues, etc. But Jesus provides reconciliation, where the debt is paid, and these people who think they have committed the unpardonable sin or sins too ugly (we don’t minimize sin) need to realize that the debt for their sin has been paid.”

Brown agreed. “It is a bona fide fact that there are consequences to sin, but Christians sometimes believe or think that once they ask the Lord to forgive them, they don’t consider the after-effect or the consequences that come. People need to realize that every act of sin was paid for at Calvary and it cost something to ask God to forgive us—it cost the life and blood of Jesus Christ—and we can go to Him and ask for that forgiveness.”

CONCLUSION

God will forgive any sin, no matter how despicable. In fact, any person who comes to Him, He will in no wise cast him out (Jn. 6:37). I’ll close this article with one of the greatest illustrations to this point, found in Luke 15:17-24:

“And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father’s have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of your hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight, and am no more worthy to be called your son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.”

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14]

• Frances & Friends, March 16, 2016.
• Cross of Christ Study Guide Series: The Holy Spirit, From Genesis To Revelation
• Jimmy Swaggart, Jimmy Swaggart Bible Commentary/Genesis (World Evangelism Press, 2006).
• Jimmy Swaggart, David, page 147.
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GET UP, EAT AND DRINK; FOR THERE IS A SOUND OF ABUNDANCE OF RAIN

I Kings 18:41 — “And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain.”

FOR THREE AND A half years, there had been a famine in Samaria (another name for Israel). This famine, in the physical effects upon the nation, portrayed the spiritual condition of the nation.

A FAMINE IN THE LAND

Today there is a famine in the land and a famine in the church. It is a famine of the Word of God, a famine of the moving of the Holy Spirit, and a famine of the Message of the Cross. When the church forsakes the Cross, the only thing left is a false doctrine, and “another Jesus, another gospel, another spirit.”

When the church forsakes God’s way, which is the Cross, and depends on works and services that are nothing more than social gatherings, then no one is going to be transformed by the power of God.

As well, as the church goes so goes the nation. Our nation is in pitiful shape—where evil is called good, and good is called evil. We can’t just lay the blame on our political leaders; we must also lay the blame on preachers who no longer preach the gospel.

However, we are not to lose hope because the Lord has great plans for the future. He promised us in Acts 2:17-18: “And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. And on My servants and on My handmaidens I will pour out in those days of My Spirit; and they shall prophesy.”

This tells us that a move of God is coming, and I am telling you: “Get up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain” coming. Water is a type of the Holy Spirit and the rain is coming. However, before the rain can come, certain things must take place, and in 18th chapter of I Kings we are given God’s way for revival. So, let’s see what the church must do.
Elijah Repaired the Altar of the Lord That Was Broken Down

The altar was and is a type of the Cross—a type of our Lord’s death on Calvary’s Cross to atone for man’s sin. The church must “repair the altar of the Lord that has been broken down.” Simply put, the church must come back to the Cross—a complete dependence and faith solely in what Christ did for us on the Cross.

12 Stones

Elijah took 12 stones to rebuild the altar. Twelve is God’s number for government and this tells us that the foundation of God’s government is the Cross and the Cross alone.

The Trench

Elijah then dug a trench completely around the altar. The trench represented separation, so why did he do this? We are in this world, but we are not to be a part of the world; there must be separation. The Cross separates us from the world, the flesh, and the Devil.

Wood

Then the Bible says that he “put the wood in order.” The wood typified the Cross. It’s amazing how many Christians think that when you say “the Cross” you are talking about a piece of wood. How ridiculous an assumption!

I guess the Apostle Paul was wrong when he wrote I Corinthians 1:17-18. There is no saving grace in the wood, but it is what happened on that wooden Cross—Jesus Christ atoning for the sin of man. The Holy Spirit, by instruction to Elijah as it regards putting the wood in order, was using that to point us to the future sacrifice of Christ. Also, by the use of the word order, He is telling us that God has a divine order to everything He does.

The Bullock

Elijah then took a bullock and cut it into pieces and laid it on the wood. The bullock cut into pieces typified the sacrifice of Christ—His body broken for our sins.

Four Barrels of Water

Then he told them to, “Fill four barrels of water and pour it on the burnt sacrifice and the wood.” (I Kings 18:33) The water represented the washing of the Word of God, with the number four representing all corners of the compass and what Jesus did for all people of all nations.

Pour the Water on the Sacrifice

Regarding the water, the text said, “pour it on the burnt sacrifice and wood.” This tells us that the Word of God represented by the water covered everything Jesus would do in His earthly ministry. Every single thing that our Lord did was based on the Word of God, and everything we do must be based on the Word of God.

Three Times

Elijah then told them to pour the water on the altar and the sacrifices not once, not twice, but three times. Why? Because the number three represents the Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Altar Was Saturated

The text also says that the water filled the trench. For the trench to be filled, the altar had to be saturated by the water, once again telling us we must be saturated by the Word of God daily.

The Fire Fell

The text said: “Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.” (I Kings 18:38) In other words, the fire of the Lord consumed everything with nothing left. The fire was a type of the judgment of God that would fall on Christ at Calvary, meaning that the work was accomplished, Satan was completely defeated, and all sin atoned for—past, present, and future.

The Rain Came

Then Elijah would proclaim to Ahab, “Get thee up and drink: For there is a sound of abundance of rain.” The rain speaks of the Holy Spirit; it speaks of life. The famine was over, the ground was no longer parched, and crops could now grow. The only hope for our nation and the church is for the rain to fall. However, the rain will not come until the “altar is repaired.” The church must come back to the Cross, and when the altar is repaired, the Lord will not just send us a trickle of rain, but an abundance of rain.

God has divinely raised up the SonLife Broadcasting Network to help “repair the altar of the Lord that was broken down.” With your help and prayers, we have been faithful, and, please hear me: a move of God is coming. So, “Get up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain” that is coming to those who will believe.

The rain is coming, so get ready and receive your blessing.
LOSING YOUR IDENTITY  BY GABRIEL SWAGGART

II Chronicles 4:17-18 – “In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredathah. Thus Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance: for the weight of the brass could not be found out.”

In my daily Bible study, I have been reading about the construction of the temple by Solomon, David’s son. It would be the most beautiful temple ever created with much gold, silver, and precious jewels adorning the edifice.

THE TEMPLE

David longed to build a house for his God, but the Lord would not allow him to do so. In prayer, the Lord expressed His feelings to David about this desire and forbid him from going forth with the plan, for David’s hands were stained with the blood of men from expanding the kingdom to distances never known before (I Chron. 22:8). In this declaration to David, God would decree that his son, Solomon, would be the one to build the temple, to which David acquiesced. When Solomon was old enough for David to declare him king of Israel, one of the first things David did was to give Solomon the divine instructions that would be used to construct the temple.

NEVER DEVIATE FROM THE PLANS

Even though it was David who would charge Solomon, and it was David who would lay the plans in front of his son, still, the plans came from the Lord Himself. Solomon was given the charge to never to deviate from these plans.

As many of you know, every morning, after I drop my daughters off at school, I like to get alone with God, to seek His face and to read and study His Word. It’s a time that I cherish, for I feel that this is the best way to start my day. In prayer, I generally ask the Spirit of God to illuminate the Word that I may know Him more, find direction, and gain understanding of something I had not known before.
What David would present to Solomon, and what Solomon would go on to construct, could not be added to by what they saw fit, in any way that they saw fit. David and Solomon had to stay within the plans arranged by God Himself. There was a reason for this—every part of the temple would portray to man, in some way, the sacrificial, mediatorial, or intercessory work of Christ. It all pointed to Christ and what He would do for lost humanity. That is why it was so important, and crucial, for David to express to Solomon that these plans were given to him by God and were to be followed to the proverbial T.

If anything was added to, or taken away, from the temple, then it would cease to represent Christ and His redemption plan. It would take away what it foreshadowed—the Cross.

The problem with the modern church today is that it has, by and large, ignored the Cross of Christ. The church today has a modicum of understanding regarding the Cross of Christ for salvation, but if I can be completely honest, it is losing that with each day that passes. However, when it comes to our everyday life and living, the church has no understanding whatsoever of the Cross of Christ, which means that it has no understanding of how to truly live for God. The result is that many Christians around the world are living defeated Christian lives, and they are living far beneath what God has provided. Many Christians around the world are struggling just to make it through this Christian experience. They understand that there is a problem, but they do not know how to solve that problem. The fact is that the sin problem has already been solved for them, but they fail to take advantage of God’s prescribed order of victory, which is the Cross, and this leads them to rely upon their own strengths and abilities, which are always woefully inadequate to combat sin.

THE WAY TO VICTORY

We must surmise that the only way to absolute victory is through the very means that brought us into the family of God to begin with—the Cross of Christ. The Cross of Christ is the path that got us in, and it is the path that keeps us in. For anyone to offer a different path will only constitute catastrophe. The Cross of Christ is the foundation of the gospel; without the Cross there is no salvation, and neither will there be any sanctification. If the believer does not know or understand God’s prescribed order of victory, then that believer is going to resort to dependence upon rules, regulations, or self-effort of many stripes, which the church is full of self-help schemes which will do nothing for the believer except place them under condemnation.

If we add anything to the Cross of Christ, then we frustrate the grace of God (Gal. 2:21). If we take away anything from the Cross of Christ, then we are left with nothing more than a philosophy. The Cross is the key by which the sinner can come to Christ, and the saint can live for Christ in total and complete victory.

THE SPOILS OF WAR

In preparation, David would begin to bring the items together that were needed for the construction of what would be the most beautiful building ever built—the temple. David would charge Solomon as soon as his son took the throne as to what to do with the plans of the temple.

Let’s fast-forward several years: Solomon has begun construction, the pieces were all together, and individuals chosen to perform certain tasks. One task that stood out to me relates to the spoils of war—the gold, silver, brass, precious jewels, and the like. All of that had been taken by a conquering David, brought back to Jerusalem, and stored for a specific reason—to use in the temple. But how could this be? Much of the gold, silver, and brass were used by heathen nations regarding idol worship. Did that mean that David was going to bring false gods into the temple for the worship of Jehovah?

Under the instructions of the Holy Spirit, Solomon would take the gold, silver, brass, and other precious jewels that were once used for the worship of heathen idols and melt them down, which means that they would lose their old identity.

WE MUST SURMISE THAT THE ONLY WAY TO ABSOLUTE VICTORY IS THROUGH THE VERY MEANS THAT BROUGHT US INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD TO BEGIN WITH—THE CROSS OF CHRIST.

Think about that for a moment. When David defeated these nations, he would take, as spoils of war, all that was used for the worship of a false god, which was done during that time. He would bring them back to Jerusalem and store them in a warehouse, if you will, awaiting the construction of the temple. At the Word of the Lord, Solomon would take these items—golden altars, rails, gold or silver idols, etc.—and would completely melt them down and would use the gold, silver, brass, and precious jewels, for a different purpose.

MELTING US SO WE LOSE OUR OLD IDENTITY

This is a perfect picture of what the Lord does with us. Before we accepted Christ as our Lord and Saviour, we were used for the purpose of self-glorification. That means whatever talent we had before our salvation, whatever prosperity we had, or whatever it may be, held no weight with God whatsoever. There was nothing
that we could offer that would please God, and because of that, every trace of the world in our lives had to be eliminated, and there is only one way that can happen: self-denial.

There are many reasons as to why most people will not accept Jesus Christ as Saviour, but one of the main reasons is pride, or the thought that they personally do not need a Saviour. Satan has hoodwinked much of the human race into believing that if they are good, or do good things, that the doing of those good things will bring salvation.

However, we know that this could not be further from the truth. The fact is, much of the human race will die lost because they fail to take advantage of God's redemption plan, which is the Cross. The Cross of Christ is the way of salvation, and the only way of salvation. Any other way is a farce.

Going back to these golden vessels and such, in order for this to be carried out that these pieces were used in the temple, there had to have been a melting down in a furnace. This took place, as the Scripture says, in the plain of Jordan. All of the gold was assembled into one pile, the silver assembled into one pile, and the brass into one pile. A furnace was set ablaze, and in order, these vessels were each placed into the furnace. As would be obvious, as soon as the metal was consumed by the furnace, its former appearance would melt away.

This means that no matter how beautiful it once was, under the fire, that beauty melted away, and that which had been melted would then be poured into a different mold, a mold that would be suitable for use in the construction of the temple. This means that everything these items once represented has now been completely destroyed, and the identity of each item is now melted away.

What we used to be before our salvation, no matter how wonderful we think we might be, or how grand we consider ourselves to be, we, in that condition, cannot be used for the His purpose. What we used to be has to be melted away, so the Holy Spirit can make us into what He wants us to be.

At salvation, our old man was crucified with Christ (Rom. 6:3-5), and our old identity was melted away, with a new identity established in Christ. At the same time, there is a continual process of the Holy Spirit melting away all of our old nature, which is dependence upon the flesh, as the Holy Spirit desires that we depend upon Christ to meet our every need.

The melting away process that was done by Solomon was a necessity, just as it is a necessity in our everyday lives. This article will be continued in the July issue of The Evangelist.
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<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 AM</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 AM</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
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<td>1:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
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<td>5:00 AM</td>
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<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
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<td>Generation of The Cross E/I</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
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<td>6:00 AM</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Morning Service (repeat)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Live)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Live)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Insight (Replay)</td>
<td>Insight (Replay)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Sunday Evening Live Service</td>
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<td>8:30 AM</td>
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**Family Worship Center Live Service**

- **Thursday**
- **Friday**
- **Saturday**

**Service (repeat)**

- **Classics**

**Swaggart (Live)**

**Swaggart (Pre-recorded)**

**Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart**

**Frances and Friends**

**Donnie Swaggart**

**Backstage w/Donnie Swaggart**

Family Worship Center Morning Service (repeat)

**Classics (Replay)**

24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK

PREACHING THE CROSS

SBN
SONLIFE BROADCASTING NETWORK

PROGRAM LISTINGS

[24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK]

PREACHING THE CROSS

[24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK]
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<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
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<tr>
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<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
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<td>FWC Music</td>
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<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
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UNITED STATES (NATIONWIDE) CABLE, SATELLITE, & DIGITAL LISTINGS

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UNITED STATES (REGIONAL) CABLE LISTINGS

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<td>Safford</td>
<td>Cable One</td>
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<td>Show Low</td>
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<td>California</td>
<td>San Rafael</td>
<td>Lucas Valley Cable</td>
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<td>Colorado</td>
<td>Denver</td>
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### UNITED STATES (REGIONAL) CABLE LISTINGS [CONTINUED]

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### UNITED STATES OVER-THE-AIR (DTV) LISTINGS

For those of you who are not familiar with digital television, these are free “old fashioned TV channels” that are able to be picked up with a digital tuner and antenna. Most new televisions are equipped with built-in digital tuners or you can purchase a tuner from your local electronics store (Best Buy®, Radio Shack®, etc.). As well, you can purchase the proper antenna at your local electronics store. Many viewers under the broadcast signal of the television station can use a small, digital antenna inside the home. For those on the outer edge of the signal or to receive the best signal, an outdoor antenna may be required. Both indoor and outdoor antennas are available for less than $50!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CITY</th>
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### INTERNATIONAL LISTINGS

**INTERNATIONAL CABLE & SATELLITE LISTINGS**

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Until a channel comes to your area, enjoy your favorite radio and television programs by visiting www.sonlifetv.com. You can already view live services and prerecorded programming online!
Thanksgiving Campmeeting
2016

November 23-27, 2016

A Meeting for All Ages!
EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE!

WEBCS PRECAMPMEETING SESSIONS
(Located in the SonLife Radio Building)

Monday .............................................................. 1-4 PM & 6-8 PM
Tuesday .............................................................. 1-4 PM & 6-8 PM
Wednesday .............................................................. 9 AM – 12 PM

CAMPMEETING SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
(Located in Family Worship Center • Please Note the Changes to the Service Times)

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<tr>
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<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Bob Cornell</td>
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<td>7 PM</td>
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BELIEVER EXPERIENCES BLESSINGS WATCHING SBN ON THE INTERNET

DEAR EVANGELIST: Thank you for your faithfulness, obedience, and service to our great God. Without each of you and your work for the Lord, I would not have the privilege of seeing and hearing you all each week via the Internet. There is nothing more precious to me than each one of you at JSM and FWC. I look forward to seeing your familiar faces each service, and I so enjoy listening to the singers and musicians. Thank you for the many blessings that I have experienced in my life because of your commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ and the Message of the Cross.

—Canada

BELIEVER SAVED IN NIGERIA

DEAR EVANGELIST: I am from Nigeria and watch the SBN international now. During the altar call, I gave my life to Jesus today! Thanks, I am saved.

—Nigeria

SUNDAY SCHOOL USES JSM MESSAGE TO TEACH TEENS

DEAR EVANGELIST: I just received your DVD, I Will Remember, and watched it tonight. I teach teenagers in Sunday School and we have been learning about worship. This Sunday’s lesson is on the role of music in worship. God is so good to have blessed me with this message to help me with my lesson. Thank you so much for being obedient to the calling on your life.

—Email

COUPLE BLESSED BY MINISTRY OF SBN

DEAR EVANGELIST: My husband and I both enjoy your TV program. We want to come to your Thanksgiving Campmeeting in the fall. When I can’t sleep, I listen to SBN late at night and enjoy the church services. You bless us every time we watch you! You are in our prayers, and we love you!

—Email

TIRE REPAIR RESULTS IN SBN CHURCH SERVICE

DEAR EVANGELIST: I am a recent Family Worship Center Media Church member and have been saved through SBN. Like many others, I was lost and alone one night and flipping channels. I know that God made me stop on your station, and I was mesmerized by it. Shortly thereafter, I was saved! Praise God! One day, I saw that I had a flat tire on my car. I had the spare put on so I could go to the church and right after went to a car shop to have the tire repaired. When I walked in, there was a TV and a big man sitting there watching bowling. I knew it was time for SBN’s Sunday service to begin and patiently waited. Soon, he left. So, I quickly went to sit in the chair which had the remote. I put on SBN. No one in the waiting room at that time but me and the car repair guys going in and out. So, I sat there watching SBN’s service and turned up the volume. Soon, people started coming in for their appointments. I wasn’t really paying much attention to them and watched the wonderful service. When they came to me and said that my tire was fixed and my car was ready, I turned around and there must have been 15 or more people—mothers, fathers, and children—standing behind me with their eyes fixed on SBN! I stood up and started to leave, and these people started to take seats there and continued watching SBN’s Sunday service! I had a great feeling as I left, knowing that God was at work, reaching out to more and more people to come to God before He returns soon! Praise God!

—Wisconsin

BELIEVERS WATCHING, SPREADING MESSAGE OF THE CROSS IN MYANMAR

DEAR EVANGELIST: I want to let you know that as the Lord wanted us to spread the Message of the Cross in our country, and SBN TV is already available to watch in our country, Myanmar. Now many of our people watch and listen to the Message of the Cross in towns and cities of Myanmar! Please give thanks to the Lord; He has done great thing for SBN for His glory. Indeed our pastors and ministers and teachers all are hungry for spiritual food that is the Word of God, especially about the Message of the Cross. Thank you!

—Myanmar
YOUR MESSAGE AND MINISTERING HAS CHANGED MY LIFE

DEAR EVANGELIST: Dear Brother Swaggart, I have heard you preach off and on all my life. I have been a Christian since I was a child, but I never believed or felt that I was really saved or that I was good enough or doing what I needed to do to be a Christian. I would even ask my minister if it was “real.” But I found SBN a few years ago, and I want to tell you that your message and your ministering has changed something; it was so very different that I could not stop watching or listening to you. The Lord has truly given you something in the last few years that is life-changing and undeniable, and it has changed my life! I understand the Word of God now and what it means to live for God because of your ministering to me. I have never been so blessed by the Word of God, your ministry, and the Message of the Cross. I no longer have fear of whether or not I am saved, and I understand God’s Word. I have more faith, more peace, and the answers to all my questions. I support the ministry with my prayers and tithes and thank God for SBN. I pray that God’s Word is spread by JSM and SBN. I love all the programs and the blessed music. I just wish that A Study In The Word was longer each morning. God bless you, and I believe that Gabriel is someone very special and has a gift of God. I just wanted you to know that when you received the Message of the Cross, it changed you, physically, and your ability to minister to the world. The change is a blessing to us all. I thank God for you!

—West Virginia

TESTIMONY OVER SBN RADIO INSPIRED HUSBAND TO QUIT SMOKING

DEAR EVANGELIST: I just want to say thank you for all that you and your family are doing to get the Word of God to all the world. I love listening to your radio station and the wonderful music and preaching. I am especially grateful for your station because it has helped my husband and me to draw closer to the Lord in every way. The other night, we heard a brother giving his testimony about quitting smoking, and it inspired my husband to quit! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

—Email

BRAZILIAN BELIEVER RECEIVES THE HOLY SPIRIT WATCHING SBN

DEAR EVANGELIST: I am Brazilian from Sao Paulo. I am a born-again Christian, and I received the gift of tongues from the Holy Spirit at home when I was watching Pastor Jimmy Swaggart two months ago! Every time I pray deeply, I start to speak in tongues.

—Florida

MESSAGE OF THE CROSS IS ALL A BELIEVER NEEDS TO KNOW

DEAR EVANGELIST: We appreciate what you doing through SBN down here in Nigeria. The Message of the Cross is what all true believers need to know, preach, and live. It is nothing but the truth about the whole new covenant mission of God for mankind. This is all a believer needs to know! We always mention you in our prayers, and God bless you abundantly.

—Nigeria

GRANDFATHER BLESSES FAMILY WITH EXPOSITOR NEW TESTAMENTS

DEAR EVANGELIST: I just wanted to pass on a word of thanks. This past Christmas, my grandfather purchased 20 copies of The Expositor’s New Testament Counselor’s Edition Bibles. He gave them to all of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren for Christmas gifts. It was wonderful! We are a church family, but I know some of these Bibles went to people who need salvation, so we’re praying for a move of God. I personally am saved; I preach and teach. This little Bible is just so comforting; I love it! My oldest son who is 12 was saved about two months ago, and both of my children are into God and their new Bibles; it is great. This is the third Bible I’ve received from my grandfather. I have the JSM large print hardback Bible also. He has given everyone in this family multiple Bibles over the years. So I just wanted to thank your ministry and let you know I’m praying you.

—Virginia
JIMMY SWAGGART
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SELF DENIAL  BY LOREN LARSON

John 12:24-25 — “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.”

JESUS AS OUR EXAMPLE

As one studies the life and teachings of Christ, the theme of self-denial appears again and again. Jesus said that a lifestyle of self-denial was one that must be embraced if a person truly wanted to be His disciple.

The kenosis of Christ is recorded in Philippians 2:5-8, wherein Jesus denied all rights to self and, operating as a man in total obedience to His Father’s designs and revealed will, became obedient unto Calvary. In the garden of Gethsemane, He asked the Father if there was any other way to carry out the redemption plan for man. Then, fully knowing the mind of the Father, He freely surrendered His will to the will of the Father and entered into the greatest act of self-denial ever recorded. In this, Jesus became the greatest example of what it means to die to self.

THE LEGITIMATE SELF

Every human being is a legitimate self. We never lose the right of being a free moral agent. Self is the part of man where choices, both physical and moral, are made. Man is always free to decide what he will do, say, or believe. So then it is correct to say that the moral center of man resides in the legitimate self. Each person has both the right and the responsibility to choose for himself what he will depend upon, what he will do, how he will act, what he will say, and what he will believe.

The decisions made by the legitimate self are influenced greatly by those who have access to our hearts and minds. Every person can be influenced either positively or negatively, toward right or toward wrong.

Positive voices available to the Christian are:
1. The Word of God properly interpreted.
3. The right teachings a person hears and embraces.
4. The company of faithful believers he surrounds himself with.

Negative voices that influence a Christian in a wrong way are:
1. Wrong interpretation of God’s Word.
2. Quenching or grieving of the Holy Spirit.
3. Wrong teaching.
4. The bad company he surrounds himself with.
5. The world.
6. The flesh.
7. The Devil or powers of darkness.

In addition, man, who is self-centered as a result of the fall, must deal with thoughts prevalent in the corruption of his human nature. Such influences include self-preservation, self-aggrandizement, positioning of self, promotion of self, prosperity of self, and the pleasing of self.

We alone are responsible to sort through the influences around us, place it all onto the scales of moral code, and determine to follow the way that is biblically right.
THE WAY OF SELF-DENIAL

True self-denial can only be accomplished by having self “hidden” in Christ. This can only be carried out by placing one’s faith securely and exclusively in the finished work of Christ. Then and only then, will the grace of God that supernaturally empowers us to live the crucified life start to flow. Our will is involved, but only in the matter of choosing how to die to self. If we choose the way of faith in Christ’s Cross, then grace will flow and help us to allow our will to be swallowed up in the will of our Master.

If we attempt to live the lifestyle of self-denial by counting on the power source of our own will, then we will fail miserably. One cannot count on himself and deny himself at the same time! So, our Cross—the place where we are figuratively put to death—can only be experienced by daily choosing to renew our faith in Christ and Him crucified.

THE RESULT OF SELF DENIAL

Jesus proclaimed that if a corn of wheat fell into the ground and died, it would bring forth much fruit. Even so, if the Christian will die to self, then the Holy Spirit will provide exponential power.

Not only will the spiritual growth of the believer be affected by this lifestyle of self-denial, but also the work that God has designed for that believer will also bring forth much fruit. The born-again experience brings the power of the Holy Spirit to the Christian that effects regeneration—the power that overcomes the sin nature (thus, acts of sin)—and begins the process of progressive sanctification. The baptism with the Holy Spirit produces power for service.

Both events, salvation first, and then the second subsequent work of being baptized with the Holy Spirit, are all carried out by one and the same Spirit. A life of self-denial—choosing Christ and the Cross as our consistent object of faith—gives the legal right to the Holy Spirit to work both in us and through us. Therefore, sanctification, as well as power to accomplish our ministries, depend upon and demand a lifestyle of self-denial or faith in Christ and the Cross.

Jesus said that if a man would lose his life he would keep it unto life eternal. Two different Greek words are used for our one English word, life. The first word regarding the life we must lose is psyche and indicates the feelings and emotions of man. It represents what we want, what we think is best, or what we desire. The second word for life is zoe. It represents the life that only God can give, a God kind of life. So, if the believer will deny himself and lose his design and desire, then he will gain the benefit that can only come through the person of the Holy Spirit. That is abundant life, or a God kind of life. So deny yourself, take up your Cross, and begin to follow Jesus in the abundance that only a God kind of life can possess.
SUPERSESSIONISM PART V  BY JOHN ROSENSTERN

JUNE 2016  THE EVANGELIST

**THE JOURNEY TOWARD STATEHOOD** by the Jewish people was trodden with suffering and hardships. Aspirations of many Jews were evidenced at every Passover meal as they prayed, “Next Year in Jerusalem.” Jews learned to adapt to every climate and culture.

Moses Hess wrote in his popular book *Rome to Jerusalem* of how Jewish nationality was connected inseparably with the Holy Land and the Eternal City, Jerusalem. In 1876, George Eliot, a pseudonym for Mary Ann Evans, wrote *Daniel Deronda*. The impact of her work affected Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, a Russian Jew. He would later be responsible for reinventing and modernizing the Hebrew language. Several movements throughout Europe and Russia sought to return to Palestine/Israel. Few were successful, and many of those who were died due to inclement conditions.

The fervor of Jews gained momentum as a Hungarian-born Jew, Theodore Herzl, would envision a national homeland of Jews. Herzl witnessed the rise of anti-Semitism in France at the time of the Dreyfus affair, when a Jewish officer was guilty of treason, a charge that was later found to have been false.

Herzl would found his World Zionist Organization (WZO) to inspire Jews to seek a national identity and national homeland. Herzl’s WZO, with its program at the Basel Congress, instigated a zeal for Jews throughout the world to contemplate a national homeland. At the WZO’s second congressional meeting in Basel, a Russian Jew, Chaim Weizmann, a chemistry student at a nearby Swiss university, was influenced to get onboard with the Zionist cause. He would later be instrumental in inventing synthetic acetone—a gunpowder that assisted the allies in their defeat against the Germans in World War I.

**BABY STEPS**

Step by step, the Jews were beginning to see the light of opportunity at the close of World War I. After a year of continuous negotiations between the Zionists and the British government, a letter sent by A.J. Balfour to Lord Rothschild, dated Nov. 2, 1917, became known as the Balfour Declaration.

Toward the close of World War I, the Jewish national home depended upon the fate of the Balfour Declaration. It had to be accepted by the victorious powers, as well as in the mandates provisions of the League of Nations. Fortunately, at the Paris Peace Conference, it was agreed to grant the Palestine Mandate to Britain, and to accept the promise of the Balfour Declaration in order to establish a Jewish national home in Palestine. Twenty-seven years after Herzl’s passing, his dream would come true.

**COMPLICATIONS**

The Arab community in Palestine previously was opposed to Jewish immigration and now with an increase of Jews populating the area much contention would rise. The Balfour Declaration included a phrase that nothing should be done with regard to establishing a Jewish national home that might be to the detriment of other communities in Palestine.
The Arabs began to riot in 1920 and 1921. Early Jewish settlers who tried to protect Jews by carrying weapons found themselves getting arrested. Ze’ev Jabotinsky was arrested and imprisoned. Many years later, he would start the conservative Likud party in Israel. The volume of setbacks and confrontations are too numerous to detail here, but the Arab hostilities would increase against the Jews. This was done through the Mufti of Jerusalem.

Although the British were well aware of the Arab propaganda it became difficult for the British to quench the hatred of the Arabs towards Jews. In 1929, riots and violence of Arabs against Jews became heightened. The British government set up a commission of inquiry to examine the causes of Arab unrest. In brief, the outcome of the critical report blamed the Jews for disrupting the Arab community through mass immigration. The Arabs did not accept the mandate, and wished for the abandonment of the Balfour Declaration with the idea that future Jewish immigration would need curtailed. This would come at a time when heightened anti-Semitism in parts of Europe, especially in Germany and Poland, would affect the lives of millions of Jews.

**HITLER**

On January 30, 1933, Hitler came to power in Germany. His anti-Jewish political campaigns were quickly translated into action. The physical attacks and exclusion from their professions drove large numbers of Jews to Palestine/Israel. Their motive was to escape persecution. The German Jews were sympathetic with the aim of the Zionists though. They soon were found in all the various professions. The Jewish population continued to grow in Palestine. Efforts were made by Zionists to come to some agreement with the Arabs. In July of 1934, David Ben-Gurion met Abdul Hadi, the leader of the movement devoted to Palestinian Arab independence. Ben-Gurion asked, “Is it possible to reconcile the ultimate goals of the Jewish people and the Arab people?”

In next month’s article, I will continue to explain the events that ultimately led to the rebirth of the nation of Israel.
II Timothy 3:16 — “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”

SAINTS BEWARE! BY MIKE MUZZERALL

The church needs God’s Word. The preachers need God’s Word. The saints of God need God’s Word. The sinners need God’s Word. No wonder Satan has tried to ban it, burn it, and banish it from the face of the earth. He has also tried adding to it. Saints beware.

PSEUDEPIGRAPHA

From the inception of the church, Satan has attempted to lead the saints astray through extra biblical writings. Pseudepigrapha (false inscription) writings began to spring up throughout Christendom. These letters were distributed as if they had been authored by one of the apostles. In fact, they were not. Contained within these letters were false doctrines meant to lead the elect astray.

The First Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus Christ

This troubling piece of fiction suggests that Jesus talked to Mary while still an infant in the crib, and, as a child, He also named the two thieves who would be crucified on the right and on the left of Him. It’s interesting that other pseudepigrapha books can’t even agree on their names. This work of fiction also speaks of a demon-possessed boy who slapped the child Jesus. That boy was later revealed to be the young boy called “Judas.”

Children Killed for Offending Jesus

“Another time, when the Lord Jesus was coming home in the evening with Joseph, he met a boy, who ran so hard against him, that he threw him down; To whom the Lord Jesus said, ‘As thou hast thrown me down, so shalt thou fall, nor ever rise.’ And that moment the boy fell down and died” (Infancy, 19:23, 24).

This boy was killed for knocking Jesus down, yet Jesus later taught, “Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also” (Matt. 5:38-39).

It seems that a lot of people were killed for offending Jesus. “Then said Joseph to St. Mary, henceforth we will not allow him to go out of the house; for everyone who displeases him is killed” (Infancy 20:16).

The History of Joseph the Carpenter

This pseudopigrapha writing presents the life of Joseph, the husband of Mary, as supposedly told by Jesus to His disciples on the Mount of Olives. It starts off with a troubling introduction: “The history of the death of our father, the holy old man, Joseph the carpenter. May his blessings and prayers preserve us all, O brethren! Amen.”

The notion that someone who had died could be a mediator between God and man goes clearly against God’s Word: “For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (I Tim. 2:5).

It’s not Joseph’s blessing that we seek, it’s God’s blessing!

Mary Had No Other Children

They went on to say that Jesus didn’t have brothers or sisters through Mary. They stated that those mentioned in the Bible were from Joseph’s previous marriage. However, the Greek word for “brother” (adelphos) literally means “from the same womb” and discredits their notion.

Pseudepigrapha or Sola Scriptura?

Should we believe the pseudepigraphal books or the Bible? Jesus answered this question in the gospel of Matthew: “But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God” (Matt. 4:4).

Saints beware!
JIMMY SWAGGART

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WHAT REPENTANCE IS NOT

Repentance is not just saying words, expressing emotions, showing emotions about getting caught, or facing consequences. It is also not trying to hide or cover up the sin, or blaming others or circumstances for the sin.

Pharaoh said, “I have sinned” (Ex. 9:27), but when the hail and thunder stopped, “he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart” (Ex. 9:34). When the plague of locusts came, Pharaoh said, “I have sinned against the Lord.... Now forgive, I pray you, my sin.” But Pharaoh hardened his heart again and did not let the children of Israel go (Ex. 10:16-20).

Judas “repented himself” (Mat. 27:3) of betraying the Lord, but this was only regret and remorse about the consequences of his sin, and not for the sin itself.

King Saul said, “I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice” (I Sam. 15:24, 30). So, he feared the punishment and humiliation of sin and blamed the people rather than repenting from the heart of the sin itself.

Esau was upset and wept about not receiving his inheritance, but he was not repentant about selling the birthright for food (Heb. 12:17).

Instead of taking responsibility for their sin, Adam and Eve tried to avoid its results by covering up, hiding, and blaming others (Gen. 3:7-13).

WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

Repentance, or metanoia in the Greek, is usually defined as a turning around, or a change in attitude and purpose that involves the intellect, emotions, and will. It is like a person who made a wrong turn in driving. In order to get to their intended destination, they must do several things.

First, they must realize and be convinced that they made a wrong turn and are going in the wrong direction.

Second, they must admit or confess that they made a wrong turn. To confess means to say the same thing that God says about it and, in essence, ask God for forgiveness (I Jn. 1:9).

Third, the person must stop going in the wrong direction.

Fourth, they must turn and face in the right direction.

Finally, they must start going in the right direction to reach their original destination.

Since all sin comes from the heart (Mat. 15:19-20; Mk. 7:21-23), and it is an act of faith in the wrong object, then repentance must also come from the heart and be a turning to the only right object of faith, which is the Cross, and will result in a change to biblical obedience.

It is not only necessary to confess, but it is also essential to forsake, or leave, refuse, depart from, let alone, abandon, let go, and desert sin (Prov. 28:13). Jesus told the Pharisees and Sadducees that they should bring forth fruits to prove their repentance (Mat. 3:8; Luke 3:8).

When the publican Zacchaeus got saved, he showed it by restoring fourfold to anyone he had defrauded, which was the restitution required of a sheep stealer (Ex. 22:1).

The Prodigal Son not only said he would arise, go to his father, and tell him he had actually sinned, but he actually did it (Lk. 15:17-21).

When Peter began sinking because he feared the storm and took his eyes off Jesus, he cried out to Him, and Jesus caught and lifted him back up (Mat. 14:28-33).

When God saw the Ninevites turn from their evil ways, He did not destroy their city (Jonah 3:10).

The Israelites not only had to say they had sinned, but they also had to look in faith at the brazen serpent to be saved from the fiery serpents (Num. 21:5-9). The Israelites not only confessed they had sinned, surrendered to the will of God, and prayed for deliverance, but they also put away the idols and served God before they were forgiven and reconciled to God (Judg. 10:10-16).

For the resulting victory to be maintained, the individual must continue keeping their faith in the Cross so that they will keep on receiving the power of the Spirit to obey God.
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- Jesus, Hold My Hand
- Near The Cross

(02-205) God Leads Us Along
- God Leads Us Along
- When The Redeemed Are Gathering In
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DONNIE AND GABRIEL

The rallies they are conducting all over the nation are a must, regarding your presence, at least if one is nearby and it’s possible for you to be there. These are meetings unlike anything else in the world today, as far as I know. And I think those of you who have attended—and the buildings have been full—will agree with me. I personally think they’re going to get bigger and bigger.

You’ll have to forgive me for my prejudice, but I do believe that both Donnie and Gabriel are two of the finest preachers of the gospel in the world today. In fact, all of the preachers that we have at the ministry fall into that category. They are excellent preachers and teachers, and we thank the Lord for that.

So, whenever Gabe and Donnie, plus Loren, Bob, and David, etc., come your way, you must attend their meetings.

83 MILLION HOMES

I’m speaking of the homes that the Sonlife Broadcasting Network goes into in the United States. That’s 83 million homes, and for these we give the Lord the praise and the glory.

As it regards the balance of the world, we have no way of knowing, exactly, how many homes we reach, considering that we are on basically all of the satellites that cover the world, plus the Internet, etc. One thing I do know—we are getting emails from all over the world, more than ever before, from places that we never dreamed we were covering, but we are.

Let me tell you what I think is coming soon.

MOVING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

I believe that the Lord is about to give us one of the greatest movings of the Holy Spirit that the world or the church has ever seen. I believe it’s going to sweep hundreds of thousands—if not millions—into the kingdom of God. I believe untold numbers are going to be baptized with the Holy Spirit, plus the sick healed of every disease, and deliverance effected for those in bondage. I believe it will be the greatest move of God that the world has ever seen. I realize that’s saying something, but I believe it to be true. Also, I believe it will be the last great move before the coming great tribulation. So, that means that the rapture of the church is very close.

Unfortunately, there are millions in the modern church who claim to not believe in the rapture. Please understand the following: The rapture and the resurrection are just two words for the same event. So, every Christian believes in the resurrection, that being the case, you believe in the rapture, because they are one and the same.

Incidentally, get the book that we’ve offered in this edition, entitled Brother Swaggart, Here Is My Question About Bible Prophecy. It will open up the subject regarding these great events, which are very soon to come about and upon this world.

ACTUALLY...

I would pray that you would avail yourself of getting as many of the offers we are making in this edition as possible. We believe these are some of the finest products in the world, whether it’s music, Bibles, or books, etc. The material that we send to you—that you order, rather—we do our very best to make sure it’s of the finest production quality. And then, above that, the content of these materials help you to understand the Word of God better. So take advantage of these offers, especially considering that we’ve cut the price to the bone. You won’t be disappointed.

PRAY FOR US

I earnestly solicit your prayers. As Paul said, “Pray for us that the gospel will have full course.”

As well, we get so many requests from you desiring to become a part of the Family Worship Center Media Church. There is only one requirement, and that is that you are born again.
That being the case, we would love to have you. All you have to do is make the request, and it will be done.

Also, for those of you on vacation, come by Baton Rouge, and more particularly, Family Worship Center. I promise you this, you will know that you have been to church.

We love every one of you, and thank you so very, very much for the help that you are giving us to take the gospel to the world, and, as well, to fill the world with The Expositor’s Study Bible.

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We love every one of you, and I mean that.

In the Master’s service, yours,

Jimmy Swaggart
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